



WAKEFERN FOOD CORP. ALERTS STAKEHOLDERS TO MISUSE OF COMPANY NAME FOR FRAUDULENT PURPOSES

Keasbey, NJ, September 14, 2009 – Wakefern Food Corp. has recently been informed by the New Jersey Better Business Bureau that the Wakefern name has been misused by unauthorized individuals for fraudulent purposes and is alerting its stakeholders to this scam.

The nature of this misuse is a “secret shopper” scam in which individuals are sent checks by postal mail bearing the name “Wakefern Consumer Reports.” Recipients of these checks are advised to deposit the checks and forward a portion of the proceeds to a third party via Western Union or other wire transfer service. Recipients are then told to go to a particular store as a “secret shopper” and to evaluate their experience. “Secret shoppers” are promised approximately \$300 in payment for these services and are instructed to take this payment from the funds remaining after the wire transfer. However, there are never any funds remaining because the initial check is fraudulent, and the “secret shopper’s” bank account is charged for the amount sent by wire to the third party.

Wakefern Food Corp. is not affiliated in any way with “Wakefern Consumer Reports” or the fraudulent scheme. Wakefern Food Corp. does not send checks to consumers to act as “secret shoppers” on its behalf and is not responsible for any losses incurred by consumers who deposit or wire money as a part of this scam.

Wakefern Food Corp. takes consumer fraud very seriously and is working with the appropriate regulatory authorities to investigate this scheme.

Wakefern Food Corp. is advising the public that if they receive any communication similar to the one described above that they should not cash or deposit these checks as they are fraudulent. If anyone has been a victim of this fraudulent scheme involving the Wakefern name, please contact the local police department, the New Jersey Better Business Bureau at 1-609-588-0808, Phone Busters (Canadian fraud task force) at 1-888-495-8501, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC)'s Consumer Help Line at 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357), and the U.S. Postal Office’s Mail Fraud Unit at <https://postalinspectors.uspis.gov/forms/MailFraudComplaint.aspx>.

About Wakefern Food Corp.

From a small, struggling cooperative with eight members – all owners of their own grocery stores – Wakefern Food Corporation has grown into the largest retailer-owned cooperative in the United States and one of the largest employers in New Jersey. The cooperative is comprised of 45 members who individually own and operate supermarkets under the ShopRite banner. Today, Wakefern, the merchandising and distribution arm of the company, and the more than 200

ShopRite stores located throughout New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland employ more than 50,000 people.

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