



Contact:

awilkinson@nara.org

(703) 683-0155

David Kaluzny II Receives NARA's Prestigious 2024 Don Franco Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Rendering Industry

ALEXANDRIA, VA, November 11, 2024 – The North American Renderers Association (NARA) is proud to announce that David Kaluzny II, of [Kaluzny Bros., Inc.](#), has been awarded the 2024 Don Franco Distinguished Service Award, the organization's highest honor, recognizing his exceptional leadership, dedication, and far-reaching contributions to the rendering and meat industries. With a distinguished career that spans decades, David's unwavering commitment and strategic vision have profoundly influenced both the national and global landscape of the industry.

Throughout his career, David has served in numerous leadership roles that have cemented his legacy as a pivotal figure in rendering and meat processing. His role as Chairman of the then named National Renderers Association (2005-2007) was marked by his steadfast guidance through critical periods, strengthening the organization and spearheading initiatives that spurred growth and resilience in the face of industry challenges.

David has played a key role on the Executive Committees of both the North American Renderers Association (NARA) and the Fats and Proteins Research Foundation (FPRF), where his insights have been instrumental in advancing the missions of these organizations. His visionary leadership as Chairman of the FPRF has propelled groundbreaking research and innovation, emphasizing sustainability and efficiency within the rendering industry.

David's influence extends globally as well. As Chairman of the World Renderers Organization (WRO), he secured a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), granting the WRO observer status at OIE meetings. This agreement has ensured the rendering industry's interests are represented on an international stage, reinforcing its importance in a sustainable, global food system.

In addition to his industry-wide contributions, David has held influential positions in the Midwest, including President of the Chicago Midwest Meat Association (CMMA) and President of the Food Beverage and Equipment Executives of Chicago (FBEE). His leadership in these organizations has strengthened industry ties across the Midwest and fostered a collaborative community of professionals.

Currently, David serves as Chair of the NARA Legislative Action Committee, where he leads advocacy efforts to promote the rendering industry's interests within legislative channels. His leadership has shaped key initiatives, ensuring that the industry's voice resonates in legislative decision-making. He also currently leads the FPRF Nominating Committee, dedicating himself to recruiting and mentoring the next generation of industry leaders.

David's commitment is also evident in his past service on a variety of NARA committees, including the Audit and Budget Committee, Community Relations Committee, Convention Planning Committee, Environmental Committee, TSE Committee, and the FPRF Liaison Committee.

Beyond his organizational leadership, David has represented the rendering industry in the national arena, testifying before Congress on behalf of the association to advocate for the rendering industry's needs. His educational background, a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and an MBA in Finance from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, has provided a solid foundation for his impactful career.

"David Kaluzny II exemplifies the commitment, innovation, and dedication that the Don Franco Award was established to recognize," said NARA President and CEO, Kent Swisher. "His vision and tireless service have helped to shape the rendering industry. David's leadership sets a standard for excellence that will benefit the industry for generations to come."

David was presented with the award by NARA's Chairman, Michael Glenn, at the association's recent 2024 Annual Convention in Santa Barbara, California.

####

About the North American Renderers Association

The North American Renderers Association (NARA) represents the interests of the North American rendering industry to regulatory and other governmental agencies, promotes the greater use of animal byproducts, and fosters the opening and expansion of trade between foreign buyers and North American exporters. NARA publishes a bi-monthly trade magazine, *Render*. For more information, visit www.nara.org.