Darden Restaurants to Serve Hope and Help With Dine for America on Wednesday, Oct. 5

Nearly 1,400 Darden Restaurants Across North America Will Donate 100% of Profits to Hurricane Relief Efforts

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WHO:    Red Lobster, Olive Garden, Bahama Breeze, Smokey Bones and Seasons 52 restaurants throughout North America.


WHAT:    Will donate 100% of profits on Oct. 5 to Dine for America, a fundraising effort for the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund, which will provide aid to those affected by Hurricane Katrina, and other hurricane relief efforts.

Nearly 1,400 Darden restaurants serve close to a million meals a day.

After Sept. 11, 2001, Darden Restaurants raised $1.5 million for the Dine for America relief effort.

WHEN:    All day, Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2005

WHERE:   All Red Lobster, Olive Garden, Bahama Breeze, Smokey Bones and Seasons 52 restaurants throughout North America. To find the closest restaurants, visit http://www.dardenrestaurants.com/rest_locator.asp

WHY:     The restaurants of America, their employees and guests, along with the National Restaurant Association, are uniting to support hurricane relief efforts and help the victims of this year's devastating storms.

ABOUT DARDEN: Darden Restaurants Inc. (NYSE: DRI) of Orlando, Fla., is the nation's largest casual dining company, owning and operating nearly 1,400 Red Lobster, Olive Garden, Bahama Breeze, Smokey Bones and Seasons 52 restaurants across North America and employing more than 150,000 people.

SOURCE Darden Restaurants, Inc.

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