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Lt. Governor Guadagno and Community Stakeholders Visit Safeway Group in Vineland

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Event Celebrates Agribusiness and Food Processing Award from Expansion Solutions Magazine

Trenton, NJ – Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno today continued her efforts to connect New Jersey’s businesses to the communities they call home by leading a delegation of local economy stakeholders on a visit to the Safeway Group in Vineland.

“Innovative food companies like the Safeway Group are critical to New Jersey’s economy, providing tens of thousands of jobs to New Jersey’s residents and strengthening not only their industry but also their communities,” said Lt. Governor Guadagno. “We are looking to make it easier to connect community organizations with local businesses. Today’s delegation seeks to forge relationships and truly make a difference in our communities.”

Lt. Governor Guadagno was joined by representatives from the Greater Vineland Chamber of Commerce, Cumberland County Workforce Development, Southern Regional Food Distribution Center, Cathedral Kitchen, Cumberland County Community College, New Jersey Community College Consortium, Cumberland Salem Workforce Investment Board and the New Jersey Food Council, among others. During the visit, the Lt. Governor presented Safeway with a proclamation honoring its leadership in the food processing industry and in the community.

“The Tedesco and Safeway Family graciously welcome Lt. Governor Guadagno to our Big Kitchen,” said Frank Tedesco, Safeway President and Co-Owner. “We are honored to receive the proclamation and proud to be leaders in food manufacturing in the city of Vineland, the county of Cumberland and the state of New Jersey.”

A third-generation farmer, Sal Tedesco bought Safeway in 2009 with his sons, Frank and Sam. With over 35 years of experience in the food industry, the Tedesco family has remained focused on providing the highest standards of quality and service in their food chain handling, which has expanded to include four major divisions: Freezer Storage, Fresh Foods, Distributors and Sunnyside Farms.

Today’s visit, like her visit to Kontos Foods in January, also celebrated New Jersey’s national recognition as a 2014 “Top Five” Agribusiness & Food Processing Award winner from *Expansion Solutions Magazine*. The Magazine connects key site selection consultants and corporate real estate brokers with information about progressive communities and the benefits they offer. The award highlights New Jersey’s thriving \$105 billion food and agriculture sector, which includes nearly 2,000 food manufacturing companies that employ about 31,000 people.

Businesses considering a move or in need of assistance are encouraged to call New Jersey’s Business Action Center at (866) 534-7789 or visit the State’s Business Portal at www.newjerseybusiness.gov.

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