

EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION SPOTLIGHT NOMINATIONS



KACILYNN ZIMMERMAN NOMINATED BY MICHELLE HOLDEMAN

Kaci consistently gives 110% to every client, going above and beyond to meet their needs—even when it means managing late site visits, lengthy calls, or requests outside the typical scope of her role. Her “anything for you” attitude, empathy, creativity, and ability to anticipate client needs build trust from the very first interaction and create lasting relationships. She is also a true team player, always willing to support coworkers at events and tastings, even when they are not her own clients. She recognizes that every client is ultimately a client of FFT’s and treats them with the same care and attention. Her willingness to go the extra mile strengthens client retention and contributes to positive recognition of both her and the company.



MARKETING DEPARTMENT NOMINATED BY TIM GARCIA

The person I would nominate is a team for demonstrating FFT’s value of “Deliver on Our Promises” it is our Marketing Team: Jessica, Joey, Kelly, Tina in New Jersey, and Val, who works remotely (and new addition Logan). The Marketing Team understands that a deadline is a commitment made by the Sales Team, Store Managers or Department representative. Through their Slack communication channels, they work collectively to manage deadlines, coordinate the details of the projects, keeping everyone informed and as a department accountable. They will divide projects among team members to support one another and make sure the work is completed on time. Their projects have many moving parts and rely on outside vendors to produce, other departments to apply, multiple contributors, and coordination, yet the final product comes together seamlessly and on deadline. The team’s collaboration, attention to detail, and commitment to continuous growth and excellence allow FFT representatives to consistently deliver on its promises. Although they work across different locations and have select areas of responsibility, they operate as one team, produce work that represents FFT and maintain the brand standards at its best. I thank them and congratulate them on their high level of communication and the required attention to detail they exhibit on every deliverable.



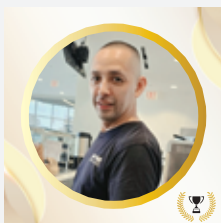
BECKY STEENSTRUP NOMINATED BY KATIE CAPACCIO

While the numbers tell one part of the story, I believe clients speak best about a salesperson—and Becky’s client feedback consistently reflects the care and ownership she brings to every relationship. Becky is on track to finish the year at approximately \$1.4M in sales, compared to \$1.18M last year and a \$1.2M budget, across 890 individual orders averaging approximately \$1,300 each. Over the past year, Becky has also grown tremendously in her skills and creativity. She has taken on challenging, out-of-the-box requests—from creating a vintage carnival holiday party to designing a diner experience inside a tech company’s office, complete with tablet ordering. She consistently finds ways to bring a client’s vision to life. One client recently described Becky as “incredibly responsive and attentive,” noting that she understood what they were hoping to achieve, offered thoughtful options, and helped them make the selections that worked best for their guests. On the day of their event, Becky was there making sure everything was set up and in order. The client said the presentation was beautiful, everything tasted wonderful, and they “would not hesitate to recommend Becky and Food For Thought for future events.” Becky’s growth, creativity, and commitment to her clients make her a great example of what it means to achieve client goals and objectives.



MARC VITELLO NOMINATED BY JEFF KLOSOWSKI

Marc Vitello is an excellent example of FFT’s strategy to Establish Long-Term Relationships through the strong partnership he has built and maintained with Rosalind Franklin University. Over the years, Marc has developed a trusted relationship with the university by consistently focusing on understanding their needs, delivering on commitments, and working collaboratively with the client to support their goals. His ability to build trust and maintain open communication has helped create a strong partnership that extends well beyond the day-to-day operation. Marc’s commitment to the relationship has played an important role in maintaining a long-term contract with Rosalind Franklin University. He understands that successful partnerships are built over time through consistency, responsiveness, and a genuine commitment to the client’s success. His work is a great example of how establishing and maintaining strong relationships can create lasting value for both the client and FFT.



GELASIO ORTEGA NOMINATED BY JEFF KLOSOWSKI

Gelasio Ortega is an outstanding example of FFT’s purpose to Inspire Confidence. With more than 25 years of dedication to Food For Thought, Gelasio has built an incredible level of knowledge and experience that makes him a trusted resource for both the company and his fellow team members. As the leader of our Commissary operation, Gelasio brings his knowledge, hard work, and dedication to everything he does. His consistency and commitment give those around him confidence that the operation will be successful and that the job will get done the right way. What makes Gelasio especially deserving of this recognition is the way he supports, teaches, and inspires the next generation of FFT leaders and employees. He willingly shares his knowledge and experience, helps others develop their skills, and leads by example every day. His impact goes beyond the Commissary—he helps strengthen the entire organization by investing in the people around him. Gelasio’s more than 25 years with FFT are a testament to his dedication, but his greatest contribution may be the confidence he instills in others. Through his leadership, work ethic, knowledge, and willingness to support others, he continues to make a lasting impact on FFT and the people who have the opportunity to work alongside him.