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For Immediate Release

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"Kentucky Restaurant Association Selects john conti Coffee Co. As Supplier of the Year"

The Kentucky Restaurant Association (KRA) has selected the john conti Coffee Company to be the inaugural recipient of it's **Supplier of the Year** award.

The award criteria for nomination was a minimum of three years serving the Foodservice industry, actively contributing to the KRA, civic involvement, industry education and having fun. Ballots were sent to all operating KRA members and voted upon by the State Board of Trustees.

Chief Operating Officer Mark Nethery has served on the KRA for 24 years. His service includes the offices of treasurer, vice president and president of the Louisville Chapter KRA. The john conti Coffee Co.'s management team all serve on civic and charitable boards as a part of their commitment to Chairman and Founder, John Conti, whose legacy of serving the community in many philanthropic ways spans decades. This year the Company logged in hundreds of hours of civic involvement and it's team members raised over \$1,000,000.00 for local charities. The Company also holds periodic educational classes for foodservice students and KRA members, at their headquarters, called "The conti College of Coffee Knowledge", where coffee history, cultivation, and preparation are taught.

Stacy Roof, President and CEO of the KRA states that "john conti was nominated by multiple KRA members. We're proud of john conti and appreciate their contribution to the industry."

"We are very proud of winning this award," states Mr. Nethery. "We feel we have built a team of coffee professionals that serve not only our industry, but our community." It is a great accomplishment for our Team members.

john conti Coffee® Co. currently serves over 5,000 office, restaurant and institutional customers through it's extensive route network throughout Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Tennessee and West Virginia. The company is the leading importer and roaster of high quality gourmet coffees for offices, restaurants, supermarkets and specialty stores.

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