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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MCALISTER'S DELI RAISES FUNDS FOR
HURRICANE KATRINA & RITA VICTIMS
THROUGH "DINE FOR AMERICA"**

Help in the Relief Effort by Dining Locally at McAlister's Deli

September 30, 2005 – Saxton Pierce Restaurant Corporation, operators of McAlister's Deli restaurants in Texas and Oklahoma, invite the public to join with them on Wednesday, October 5 to raise funds for the American Red Cross through a special nationwide restaurant fund-raiser called Dine For America. Helping those affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita is as easy as ordering from the menu. Your generosity will make a meaningful difference to survivors, victims, their families and the work ahead following the Hurricane Katrina and Rita disasters.

McAlister's Deli will be **donating 50 cents from the sale of every glass of their famous iced tea**. One Hundred percent of funds raised through Dine for America will directly support the American Red Cross Hurricane Katrina & Rita relief efforts. Iced tea is the number one selling item at McAlister's Deli.

The Dine For America event was created by restaurants and their employees from across the country, united in the effort to help those affected by catastrophic national events.

"We want to do our part, and feel that every dollar we are able to contribute, in partnership with our employees and guests, will make a meaningful difference to the relief effort, but we need our community's support. The simple fact is that the greater the participation by guests that day, the greater the contribution we can make to the relief effort. We are asking all of our regular customers to help us raise money by coming in and buying iced tea. Considering the amount of tea we usually sell, we expect to make a significant contribution" **(Adam Saxton, Saxton Pierce Restaurant Corporation)**

The idea for Dine For America began in the wake of September 11, 2001, when restaurants from around the country wanted to unify their efforts to help those effected by 9/11. Almost immediately a national "dine out" day spread throughout the entire restaurant industry, where 8,000 restaurants, their employees and guests raised more than \$20 million for this cause. It was our nation's second largest post-September 11 fundraiser.

Dine for America is promoted by the National Restaurant Association with help from participating restaurants.

This year's Dine For America is expected to bring the largest participation of restaurants to collectively raise funds, surpassing the previous effort for Sept. 11, 2001.