



PRESS RELEASE  
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Contact: Lilliana Gonzalez  
Office: 210-233-3247

## San Antonio Water System Renews Partnership with The Eatery Culinary Group

SAN ANTONIO, TX—San Antonio Water System (SAWS) has renewed its food service contract with The Eatery Culinary Group (ECG), a San Antonio-based, woman-owned small business, for an additional three-year term.

Owned and operated by Denise and Mark Hernandez, The Eatery Culinary Group reflects San Antonio’s entrepreneurial spirit. The agreement highlights SAWS’ commitment to engaging local businesses as partners in delivering high-quality services—such as campus dining—that help define a world-class utility.

The renewed partnership highlights how collaboration allows small, local, community-based companies to go above and beyond. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, SAWS worked with ECG to adapt food service operations when traditional models were disrupted. Together, they transformed the on-site café into a micro market serving SAWS employees exclusively, providing access to essential household and food items during a time of scarcity while allowing ECG to retain jobs and continue operations.

Since its founding, The Eatery Culinary Group has expanded its services to major institutions, including University Health, University of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio Independent School District, and Baylor University.

“SAWS is proud to continue our partnership with The Eatery Culinary Group,” said Jaime Castillo, senior vice president of operations. “Their resilience, innovation, and commitment to service align with our mission to support the community we serve. By investing in local, woman-owned businesses, we are helping create opportunities that strengthen San Antonio’s economy and workforce.”

“The leadership at SAWS saw our potential early on and trusted that we would execute at the highest level,” said Denise Hernandez, CEO and owner of The Eatery Culinary Group. “Their partnership has been instrumental to our company’s growth.”

SAWS and The Eatery Culinary Group will continue working together to deliver high-quality food services while demonstrating how local investment and community-focused leadership can create lasting benefits for San Antonio.

*San Antonio Water System provides water and wastewater services to more than 2 million customers in the San Antonio region and continues to set the standard for service and water conservation within our industry. SAWS is the national leader in water innovation with the largest direct recycled water system in the country, a state-of-the-art inland desalination plant, and the largest groundwater-based Aquifer Storage & Recovery facility in the nation. For more information, visit [www.saws.org](http://www.saws.org).*

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