

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Ryan Kearney, General Counsel, 617-523-1900

RAM Loss Prevention Committee Announces Departure of Long Time Chairman

[Boston, MA] January 23, 2017—Retailers Association of Massachusetts (RAM) announced the resignation of its Loss Prevention Committee Board Chairman, Kevin Plante. A leader in the loss prevention community, Kevin is responsible for spearheading the creation of RAM's Loss Prevention Committee as a network for information sharing, educational efforts, partnership building and advocacy for retailers in Massachusetts and the New England region. Early in his chairmanship, Kevin served as the architect of the annual New England Loss Prevention Expo which, after celebrating its eleventh year in September of 2017, remains the region's premiere loss prevention event. He also authorized the creation of the New England Organized Retail Crime Alliance (NEORCA.org), an industry run web portal that provides real time case information, trend tracking and communication capabilities to the New England LP community and law enforcement partners. And through the committee's persistent advocacy efforts, Kevin's tenure as chair also saw the successful adoption of much needed Organized Retail Crime Statutes in Massachusetts in 2014.

"Kevin Plante's contributions to RAM and the LP Committee cannot be understated," said RAM President Jon Hurst, "His experience, expertise and relationships within the industry have proved essential to the ongoing success of our loss prevention efforts."

The RAM LP Committee extends its thanks to Kevin for his many years of service to the Retail and LP community.

In the wake of Plante's departure the LP Committee Board unanimously voted Brendan Fitzgerald, Vice President Asset Protection for BJ's Wholesale Club, to the position of Committee Chair. A long time RAM LP Committee Board member, Fitzgerald's career in retail spans almost two decades, with the past fifteen years specializing in the Asset Protection field. During that time Fitzgerald has worked in single store, multi-unit and corporate office roles primarily focusing on physical security, shrink reduction, internal and external investigations, ORC, staffing and development of teams and security management.

"I have been fortunate enough to work alongside Kevin for nearly ten years on the RAM LP Committee Board, Kevin's passion for the industry and the people in it is unrivaled," said Fitzgerald, "Over the years Kevin has gone above and beyond providing the loss prevention community with quarterly meetings, our annual conference, NEORCA, ORC legislation enacted, stronger than ever public/private partnerships and most importantly a network that promotes career growth and development."

The RAM LP Committee is scheduled to host its first quarterly meeting of 2018 on Wednesday, February 21, 2018 from 9:30am to 12:00pm at the Burlington Wegmans, 53 3rd Ave, Burlington, MA 01803. Interested attendees are asked to kindly RSVP at info@retailersma.org.