

# Constance Deneweth

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December 5, 2024

RE: Business referral for Dave Sears

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong endorsement of Dave Sears, with whom I have had the pleasure of knowing for the past seven years. As the Managing Member of Copper Ridge LLC and the former President & CEO of Traverse City State Bank, I have witnessed firsthand Dave's exceptional capabilities as both a depositing and borrowing customer for his business, Fresh Coast Market and Deli in Traverse City, Michigan.

In 2017, Dave acquired a local party store with twelve employees and successfully transformed it into an award-winning gourmet market. His business has not only received numerous national and congressional accolades but has also made a significant positive impact on our community. Dave's commitment to community engagement is commendable; he has created a flourishing business that has generated more than 30 FTE jobs and doubled its sales within just four years. His ability to elevate a traditional party store to a high-end boutique market is a testament to his vision and dedication, attracting customers from far and wide.

Throughout our professional relationship, Dave has consistently met his financial obligations and has even paid off debts ahead of schedule. I am confident that his leadership qualities and extensive business acumen will enable him to succeed and emerge as a valuable community figure in his future endeavors in Alabama.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Connie Deneweth", written in a cursive style.

Constance Deneweth