

Concluding a 30-year Career, Shirlene Lopez, President and COO, Announces Plans to Leave Del Taco
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Del Taco announced that Shirlene Lopez, president and chief operating officer, plans to leave Del Taco later this year. Lopez's 30 year career with Del Taco has been marked with tremendous accomplishment.

Saying the time has come to begin exploring the next chapter in her life, Lopez will transition from the business by November 17th, her 30th anniversary with Del Taco.

'Clearly, I have mixed emotions about this decision,' Shirlene Lopez said. 'I am excited at the prospect of having the time to explore new interests and opportunities but at the same time I am leaving many great colleagues and friends within the Del Taco family.'

Nick Shepherd, chairman and CEO of Sagittarius Brands, parent company of Del Taco, will assume Lopez's duties with no immediate plans to fill the vacant role of president.

Lopez will continue to serve the business in a consulting capacity. Primarily, she will be working with senior management in such areas as menu development and government relations, particularly legislative issues.

'While I'm sad the business will no longer have the daily infusion of passion that Shirlene provides, I'm happy she is allowing herself the occasion to go and write the next chapter of her life. She is a constant promoter of the brand, and we'll all miss her,' said Nick Shepherd.

The Lopez Legacy

In today's business world, a career path that begins with mopping floors at 14 and concludes with becoming president at 42 - all at one company - is a rare and remarkable accomplishment.

During the time Lopez has been a senior executive and leader of the company, Del Taco has more than doubled its number of restaurants and more than doubled its total sales.

Lopez leaves a distinct legacy at Del Taco. She has inspired the brand to focus on the customer in all areas of the business, which has helped Del Taco build a cult following throughout the U.S. She has also nurtured a great team. From restaurant shift leaders and general managers to executives in the corporate office, Lopez has coached and encouraged people to do their best and love their job the way she does.

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