



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## UFCW LOCAL 7 AND SAFEWAY, ALBERTSONS REMIND CUSTOMERS TO WEAR MASKS

**DENVER** – Following [reports](#) of increasing COVID-19 cases across Colorado and Wyoming, UFCW Local 7 and Safeway, Albertsons joined forces to remind grocery store customers to wear masks while shopping.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, essential workers have been on the front lines to provide families in Colorado and Wyoming with the food and services they need. Closely following the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control, the region's Safeway and Albertsons stores have implemented health and safety protocols to make each shopping trip as safe as possible, including requiring customers to wear masks.

The Centers for Disease Control [recommends](#) mask-wearing in all public spaces to prevent the airborne passage of COVID-19. The virus can be spread by people who do not know they are infected, even if they are not showing any symptoms.

Safeway and Albertsons recognize that following the CDC's guidance to wear masks can help protect their communities and their customers. As such, they require associates to wear face coverings, including masks or shields, at all times while at work.

Safeway and Albertsons have been committed to reinforcing the safety of all associates and customers throughout this pandemic. They have established cleaning protocols, installed new equipment such as Plexiglas barriers at the check stands, and implemented a zero-touch checkout experience with Contactless Pay through their store apps.

**Kim Cordova, President of UFCW Local 7, which represents more than 17,000 grocery workers in Colorado and Wyoming, issued the following statement:**

“Colorado and Wyoming’s grocery workers have been consistently working throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to provide essential food and services for our communities. Without their hard work and commitment, these communities would face challenges trying to feed their families or access other essential services, like pharmacy and banking, during this pandemic. Grocery workers wear masks at all times while on the job. Safeway-Albertsons shoppers are our families, our neighbors, and our community members, and we ask that they show respect by wearing a mask to protect others.”

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*[Local 7](#), the largest Union in Colorado is affiliated with United Food and Commercial Workers International Union which represents over 1.3 million workers in the United States and Canada, and is one of the largest private sector Unions in North America. UFCW members work in a wide range of industries, including retail food, food processing, agriculture, retail sales, and health care.*

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