

Rick Cardenas '92| Elected Director



Ricardo Cardenas '92 was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Darden Restaurants in May 2022. Previously, he served as Chief Operating Officer. In this role, he was responsible for all restaurant operations as well as supply chain, development, franchising & international and consumer insights. Previously, Cardenas served as Chief Financial Officer for Darden Restaurants. As CFO, Cardenas lead all financial functions for the company including finance and accounting, corporate reporting, corporate tax, treasury, and investor relations.

Prior to that he served as Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer. He began his career with Darden as an hourly team member in 1984, before joining the restaurant support center team in 1992.

Cardenas graduated summa cum laude from the University of Central Florida with a bachelor's degree in Finance and Accounting. He also earned an MBA from The Amos Tuck School of Business Administration at Dartmouth College. Rick currently serves as a member of the Board of Director of Tractor Supply Company, and, in 2019, he was inducted into the UCF College of Business Hall of Fame.