

John Persons, President and Chief Operating Officer, Tops Markets

John Persons currently serves as president and chief operating officer for Tops Markets, which operates 157 full-service supermarkets and 60 gas stations in New York, Pennsylvania, and Vermont.

John's supermarket career began as a cart clerk in 1984, but it was his promotion to store manager in 1992 that started him down the path toward roles of increasing responsibility and leadership within the organization.

Over his 36 years with Tops, John's roles have encompassed oversight for various aspects of the organization, including operations, sales and marketing, and real estate, all leading up to his appointment to president and COO in 2015. He also served on the board of directors from 2013 until 2019.

Outside of Tops, John has served on the board of numerous not-for-profits, including his current role as vice chairman of the Women and Children's Hospital of Buffalo Foundation.

John is a Western New York native and holds a B.A. and M.B.A. from the State University of New York at Buffalo. He and his wife, Amy, are the parents of four children and live in Clarence, N.Y.