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National Hot Dog & Sausage Council Applauds New York Jets QB Mark Sanchez's Good Deed, Good Taste

October 29, 2009, Washington, D.C. — The National Hot Dog & Sausage Council today applauded Jets quarterback Mark Sanchez for his donation of 1,000 hot dogs and hamburgers, along with buns and rolls, to the Community Soup Kitchen in Morristown, N.J. but expressed regret that he had to apologize for acting on an all-American impulse: eating a hot dog at a ball game.

Sanchez made the donation after being grilled for noshing on a dog while on the sideline during the New York Jets' victory over the Oakland Raiders.

“Sanchez made a great choice in turning to the iron-man of stadium food to stave off hunger,” said Janet Riley, president, National Hot Dog & Sausage Council. “Clearly, his food choice was a ‘wiener’ as the Jets beat the Raiders 38-0 including two touchdowns from Sanchez.”

“We not only commend Sanchez for his good taste, but for his split-second decision to follow the Council's cardinal etiquette rule of no ketchup on a hot dog, opting for mustard instead. But we especially applaud him for turning ‘Hot-Dog Gate’ into something positive with his generous donation to the community soup kitchen.”

Riley said this isn't the first time that a ball player has claimed hot dogs were linked to great sports performance. Baseball great Boog Powell once told the Council that it seemed like every time he ate a hot dog before an at-bat, he hit a home run.

For more hot dog and sausage facts and figures – including the Council's highly rated hot dog etiquette video — visit www.hot-dog.org or www.YouTube.com/hotdogcouncil.