

1 May 2002

Mr. Melvin Rodrigue
General Manager, Galatoire's
209 Bourbon Street
New Orleans, LA 70130

Dear Mr. Rodrigue,

I am writing to ask you to reconsider your decision about Gilbert Eyzaguirre, who over the last 20 years or so has done a great deal to make Galatoire's the excellent and unique restaurant that it is. I have always called ahead of time to make sure Gilbert is on duty because, thanks to him, dinners at Galatoire's have always been a delightful occasion.

Gilbert knows what his customers drink, the fish they prefer, whether they like bearnaise sauce on the side with steak, their coffee black or with cream. And he manages to be both charming and efficient. In short, he is everything I would ever want in a waiter.

I can only think that the reasons for his dismissal must be based on misunderstandings or outright lies. The Gilbert I know (and I have known him as long as he has been at Galatoire's) would never do anything that would risk his position or damage his reputation or that of the restaurant.

Please reinstate him.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth F. Penfield
921 Dauphine Street
New Orleans, LA 70116