

Food guru Estee reorganizing restaurant group

By Johnathan L. Wright, Reno Gazette-Journal

After a 2015 he described as “hell, just hell,” chef Mark Estee is reorganizing his restaurant group. Chief among the changes: If a deal proceeds as expected later today, Dec. 11, he will sell a 50 percent stake in Campo, his flagship restaurant in downtown Reno, to a “financial partner.” Estee declined to identify that partner or the amount of the transaction.

In an exclusive interview on the evening of Dec. 10 with Johnathan L. Wright, the food and drink editor of *RGJ* Media, Estee discussed the state of his restaurant group, which stretches from Mammoth, Calif., to Lake Tahoe to the Biggest Little City. The Campo deal was the first subject of the discussion.

“My financial partner will be running the systems at Campo, the COO (chief operating officer) stuff I’m not very good at,” Estee said. “Campo is my baby.”

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