

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

June 21, 2021

Ann Gugino Chief Financial Officer Papa John's International, Inc. 2002 Papa John's Boulevard Louisville, Kentucky 40299

> Re: Papa John's International, Inc. Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 27, 2020 Filed February 25, 2021 File No. 000-21660

Dear Ms. Gugino:

We have reviewed your registration statement and have the following comments. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to this letter by amending your registration statement and providing the requested information. If you do not believe our comments apply to your facts and circumstances or do not believe an amendment is appropriate, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing any amendment to your registration statement and the information you provide in response to these comments, we may have additional comments.

Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 27, 2020

## Discussion of Operating Results, page 37

1. Please revise the bolded table caption "Adjusted operating income" to "Total" or something similar to avoid labeling each column total as "Adjusted operating income."

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<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>
<u>Results of Operations</u>

**Discussion of Operating Results** 

North American Franchising Segment, page 37

2. Please quantify factors to which changes are attributed. For example, you state the increase in North America Franchising Segment was due to higher comparable sales and a higher effective royalty rate. Refer to Item 303(b) of Regulation S-K.

We remind you that the company and its management are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of their disclosures, notwithstanding any review, comments, action or absence of action by the staff.

Refer to Rules 460 and 461 regarding requests for acceleration. Please allow adequate time for us to review any amendment prior to the requested effective date of the registration statement.

You may contact Robert Shapiro at 202-551-3273 or Lyn Shenk at 202-551-3380 if you have questions regarding comments on the financial statements and related matters.

Sincerely,

Division of Corporation Finance Office of Trade & Services

cc: Caroline Oyler