

El Pollo Loco Announces the Grand Opening of New Restaurant in San Antonio, TX

New location marks 10th restaurant owned and operated by franchise partner AA Pollo, Inc.

COSTA MESA, Calif., July 17, 2017 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- El Pollo Loco (Nasdaq:LOCO), the nation's leading fire-grilled chicken chain, opened its newest location in San Antonio, TX today. The new restaurant, located at 151 W Bitters Road, is owned and operated by franchise partner AA Pollo, Inc. The new restaurant marks the seventh location to open in San Antonio and the 10th El Pollo Loco restaurant for franchisees Anil Yadav and Atour Eyvazian, owners of AA Pollo, Inc.

"We are very excited to open our newest El Pollo Loco in San Antonio and offer another convenient location for the local community to enjoy our delicious food and great service," said Atour Eyvazian, Vice President of AA Pollo, Inc. "El Pollo Loco is such a great brand and has been a tremendous partner to us over the years. We are honored to be able to help expand the brand into more communities and are thrilled to welcome area residents and visitors of San Antonio to come visit our new restaurant and enjoy our signature citrus-marinated, fire-grilled chicken and other authentically prepared Mexican-inspired dishes."

"We are thrilled to continue to expand our presence in San Antonio with the help of our trusted franchise partner, AA Pollo," said Steve Sather, Chief Executive Officer at El Pollo Loco. "Anil Yadav, Atour Eyvazian and their team have worked tirelessly to ready this restaurant for opening day. They have proven to be great partners since first joining us as a franchisee in 2014 and we look forward to continuing to work together with them as we expand our presence throughout the state."

The 2,999 square foot restaurant has seating for 108 guests and incorporates the brand's hacienda design, which features an open kitchen layout designed for customers to view El Pollo Loco's signature chicken as it's being fire-grilled. The restaurant will be open seven days a week from 10:30 a.m. to 10:30 pm.

El Pollo Loco has exclusive multi-unit franchise opportunities available for highly qualified operators in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Louisiana and Arkansas. For more information, visit www.elpolloloco.com/franchising.

About El Pollo Loco

<u>El Pollo Loco</u> (Nasdaq:LOCO) is the nation's leading fire-grilled chicken restaurant chain renowned for its masterfully citrus-marinated, fire-grilled chicken and handcrafted entrees using fresh ingredients inspired by Mexican recipes. With more than 470 company-owned and franchised restaurants in Arizona, California, Nevada, Texas and Utah, El Pollo Loco is expanding its presence in key markets through a combination of company and existing and new franchisee development. Visit us on our website at <u>ElPolloLoco.com</u>.

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