



El Pollo Loco Announces the Grand Opening of New Houston Area Restaurant

New location in Kingwood, owned and operated by franchise Partner AA Pollo, Inc., marks 12th Houston area restaurant

COSTA MESA, Calif., June 2, 2016 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- El Pollo Loco (Nasdaq:LOCO), the nation's leading fire-grilled chicken chain, opened its newest location in Kingwood, TX today. The new restaurant, owned and operated by franchisee partner AA Pollo, Inc. is located at 25806 Loop 494. This location marks the 12th restaurant in the greater Houston area and the 22nd in the state of Texas.

"We are thrilled to open our newest restaurant and provide another convenient location in Houston to enjoy El Pollo Loco's healthy, delicious and craveable Mexican inspired entrees," said Atour Eyvazian, Vice President of AA Pollo, Inc. "We've been a franchise partner with El Pollo Loco since 2014, and it's been an honor contributing to the brands growth in Texas. It's a rewarding experience opening the doors of a new restaurant, serving new communities and creating new El Pollo Loco fans that are just as crazy about our chicken as we are."

"At El Pollo Loco we feel it is extremely important to cultivate strong and lasting relationships with our franchise partners and we're thrilled to work with experienced and trusted partners like AA Pollo to grow the concept," said Steve Sather, Chief Executive Officer at El Pollo Loco. "Atour Eyvazian and the entire AA Pollo team have been a tremendous partner for our brand and we are excited to see them open the doors of their seventh El Pollo Loco restaurant."

The 2,909 square foot restaurant has seating for 84 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 is open seven days a week from 10:00 a.m. to 10 p.m.

El Pollo Loco is currently seeking highly qualified, multi-unit operators in Northern California, Arizona, Colorado, Nevada and Texas. For more information visit <https://elpolloloco.com/franchising/>.

About El Pollo Loco

[El Pollo Loco](#) (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 430 company-owned and franchised restaurants in

Arizona, California, Nevada, Texas and Utah, El Pollo Loco is expanding its presence in key markets like Houston and Dallas through a combination of company and existing and new franchisee development. Visit us on our website at ElPolloLoco.com.

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