

El Pollo Loco, Inc. Announces the Grand Opening of New Restaurant in Kingwood, TX

New location marks the 2nd restaurant in Kingwood and 11th operated by franchise partners Atour Eyvazian and Anil Yadav.

COSTA MESA, Calif., April 19, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) – <u>El Pollo Loco</u> (Nasdaq:LOCO), the nation's leading fire-grilled chicken chain, opened its newest location in Kingwood, TX today. The new El Pollo Loco restaurant, located at 3112 W. Lake Houston Pkwy., is owned and operated by experienced franchise partners Atour Eyvazian and Anil Yadav under AA Pollo, Inc. This location marks the second El Pollo Loco restaurant in Kingwood and the 11th operated by AA Pollo, Inc.

"El Pollo Loco is an amazing brand that serves high quality food and a variety of healthier options which is what initially drew me to the concept," said Atour Eyvazian, Vice President of AA Pollo Inc. "We are thrilled to continue expanding the brand with this new Kingwood restaurant and offer another convenient location for the community to enjoy our delicious food and great service."

"Anil, Atour and their team have been devoted franchise partners since 2014 and continue to contribute exponentially to the success of our brand," said Steve Sather, Chief Executive Officer at El Pollo Loco, Inc. "They exemplify what we look for in new and existing franchisee relationships - great operators who align with our vision - and we look forward to continuing this partnership and opening even more El Pollo Loco restaurants with AA Pollo in the future."

The 2,999 square foot restaurant has seating for 84 guests and incorporates the brand's new 'Vision Design,' which highlights an authentic, Mexican-inspired atmosphere and encompasses El Pollo Loco's menu and brand identity. The new design features warm textures, rustic elements and a focus on the El Pollo Loco's signature open kitchen layout which allows for guests to view the chicken as it is firegrilled. The restaurant and drive thru are open from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

For promotions and news on the new Kingwood location, fans can follow the restaurant's local Facebook page. El Pollo Loco fans are encouraged to join the new Loco Rewards Loyalty Program and will receive a free chicken avocado taco after signing up. Loco Rewards members will be able to earn points, redeem rewards and manage offers directly from the new El Pollo Loco mobile app, which is available for download in both the Apple App Store and Google Play Store.

About El Pollo Loco, Inc.

El Pollo Loco, Inc. (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 www.elpolloloco.com.

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