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EL POLLO LOCO OPENS FIRST RESTAURANT IN SANTEE
Citrus-Marinated, Fire-Grilled Goodness Comes to 9714 Mission Gorge Rd., in Santee, Calif.

Santee, Calif. (December 26, 2013) – El Pollo Loco, the nation’s leading fire-grilled chicken restaurant chain, opened its first Santee-area location today at 9714 Mission Gorge Rd. This is the first El Pollo Loco restaurant in the city of Santee and the 25th to be owned and operated by El Pollo Loco franchisee business partners, Bill Engel and Chris Pingel of Peg/Lion, LLC; the second largest franchisee in the El Pollo Loco system. Peg/Lion, LLC, is headquartered in Oceanside.

At 2,926 square feet, this restaurant employs approximately 45 new hires from the local community and is open seven days a week. Dine-in and take-out service is from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and drive-thru service is extended until 11:00 p.m on Fridays and Saturdays. El Pollo Loco also specializes in catering for all occasions with complimentary food delivery, onsite meal presentation set-up, and serving utensils available upon request. Catering packages include El Pollo Loco’s signature fire-grilled chicken, a choice of two large sides, a selection of hand-made salsas, tortilla chips and hot flour or corn tortillas.

The restaurant features a vibrant exterior, colorful, comfortable booths and large windows to allow natural sunlight into the dining area. An exhibition kitchen showcases the preparation of El Pollo Loco’s signature chicken which is deeply marinated in a proprietary blend of lime, fruit juice, garlic, spices and seasoning then expertly grilled on an open flame by the restaurant’s Grill Masters.

A focal point of the dining room is the self-serve salsa bar which features a variety of salsas that guests can use to customize their menu selections. All of the salsas are hand-made and prepared fresh in the restaurant every day.

“We are so proud to bring El Pollo Loco’s signature cuisine along with rewarding jobs to the greater San Diego area,” said Bill Engel, partner, Peg Lion Enterprise. “The city of Santee and its residents have

(more)

been so welcoming to us and the El Pollo Loco brand. We look forward to personally greeting our customers, continuing our commitment to serving healthful, great tasting food while contributing to this community in meaningful ways.”

Through El Pollo Loco Charities, the new Santee restaurant plans to give back to the Santee community in a number of ways including volunteering in local neighborhoods, hosting fire-grilled fundraisers in which a portion of the restaurant proceeds benefit a local organization, or sponsoring organizations in need.

About El Pollo Loco

[El Pollo Loco](#) is the nation’s leading fire-grilled chicken chain which operates nearly 400 company-owned and franchised restaurants in Arizona, California, Nevada, Texas and Utah. Headquartered in Costa Mesa, Calif., El Pollo Loco masterfully citrus-marinates and fire-grills chicken and hand-crafts entrees using fresh ingredients inspired by authentic Mexican recipes. Entrees are available in individual, family and catering-sized portions. Some say the lengths we go to create fresh, delicious food are crazy. We say it’s Crazy You Can Taste.

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