

FIRST HOSPITALITY ANNOUNCES MANAGEMENT TEAM FOR HOMEWOOD SUITES ORLAND PARK

(CHICAGO; Nov. 13, 2019)—<u>First Hospitality</u> announces the appointment of Marcus Wilson to general manager and Julie Panzella to director of sales of <u>Homewood Suites by Hilton Orland Park</u> (16245 S. LaGrange Rd., Orland Park, IL). Wilson and Panzella previously held positions with First Hospitality and have been promoted to oversee one of the company's most recent additions to its management portfolio. First Hospitality assumed management of Homewood Suites in August.

Marcus Wilson oversees the day-to-day operations of Homewood Suites and leads sales, marketing, and revenue strategies in his new role as general manager. Wilson started his career at First Hospitality in 2006 as breakfast host at the Hampton Inn & Suites Downtown Chicago. Over the last 13 years, Wilson has worked his way up to hold various leadership roles with First Hospitality including housekeeping supervisor at the Hampton Inn, guest services manager at the Hampton Majestic Chicago Theatre District, and most recently, assistant general manager at Hampton Majestic.

Julie Panzella is responsible for proactive sales and revenue generation with a focus on business transient, corporate group, leisure group, and extended stay business for Homewood Suites Orland Park – the same property where Panzella began her hotel career as a front desk agent in 2016. Prior to Panzella's appointment to director of sales, she worked as sales coordinator for First Hospitality's newly opened Hampton Inn & Suites Chicago Bridgeview. Panzella also has sales and management experience working with Hilton properties in downtown Chicago, including Homewood Suites by Hilton Chicago-Downtown where she was named employee of the year. A graduate of Southern Illinois University, Panzella has a degree in hospitality and tourism administration.

About First Hospitality

First Hospitality is an award-winning, nationally recognized hotel management, acquisition, development, and consulting company. Thriving for more than three decades—since Stephen L. Schwartz started the business in 1985, the company operates properties across 19 brands throughout the U.S., totaling more than 7,000 rooms. First Hospitality credits its success to a people-driven culture focused on fostering and developing skilled hospitality experts, as well as its commitment to guest experiences that excite and inspire, leaving a lasting impression. First Hospitality ranks among top employers and operates award-winning hotels—including multiple AAA Four Diamond properties. Bucking the status quo, First Hospitality redefines industry standards from the front desk to the feast, including a proven knack for immersive dining concepts, historic adaptive re-use and repositioning projects, and new builds. For more information, visit www.firsthospitality.com.

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