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**FIRST HOSPITALITY GROUP, INC. RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING 2016 PERFORMANCE  
AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

*Eight recognized with all-expense paid trip and one given free car or rent for a year*

**ROSEMONT, Ill.**, February 11, 2017 — As part of the company’s commitment to internal recognition and team-building, Rosemont, Ill.-based First Hospitality Group, Inc. (FHG) recently recognized at its annual conference and awards dinner a number of its top performers, including its Inner Circle Trip honorees—the top performers from across the company’s 46 hotel portfolio and corporate headquarters who will enjoy an expense-free international trip, as well as its Live Free/Drive Free program winner—an employee recognized for their outstanding attendance record that will receive their choice of a car or free rent for a year. First Hospitality Group, Inc. President and CEO Robert Habeeb made the announcement.

“We pride ourselves not only on our ability to deliver outstanding results at each of our properties, but our emphasis on our culture and people,” said Habeeb. “We are proud of our ability to provide great experiences to our hotel guests and we know that without our team members, that would not be possible. It is our pleasure to recognize the hard work and dedication of these individuals.”

This year, the Inner Circle honorees will embark on a week-long group trip to Switzerland. The trip will include airfare, spending money and accommodations for each team member and a guest, and does not count against employees earned vacation time.

The honorees include:

- Nicholas Johnson – General Manager, Hilton Garden Inn, Milwaukee, Wis.;
- Tammie Bock – General Manager, Hampton Inn and Suites Kokomo, Ind.;
- David Laukonnen– General Manager, Hilton Garden Inn, Oakdale, Minn.;
- Sean Hanlon – General Manager, Fairfield Inn & Suites, Bloomington, Ind.;
- John Fields – General Manager, Hilton Garden Inn, Louisville, Ky.;
- Ryan Wilkins – General Manager, Residence Inn Downtown, Ann Arbor, Mich.;
- Casey Illig – General Manager, Fairfield Inn & Suites Columbus Airport in Ohio and;
- Roger Baker – Chief Financial Officer, FHG Corporate

The Live Free/Drive Free program was open to all hourly associates who have perfect attendance not having used any sick time or reported any tardiness for an entire quarter. This year's winner was Lionel Cuevas, a laundry attendant at the company's Hampton Inn & Suites Chicago North River hotel.

In addition to the Inner Circle Trip winners and the Live Free/Drive Free winner, the company recognized more than 180 other top performers, directors of sales and general managers across an additional 38 award categories.

First Hospitality Group, Inc. (FHG) was recognized in Forbes America's Best Midsize Employers 2016. FHG received a #28 ranking out of the 250 best midsize employers in the country, #1 in the travel category and #3 amongst all of America's best travel companies. For more information about FHG, visit [www.fhginc.com](http://www.fhginc.com) or follow them on Facebook at @FHGinc and Twitter at @FHGroup\_Inc.

***First Hospitality Group, Inc. (FHG) is a leading hotel management, acquisition and development company with more than 30 years of award-winning experience. FHG's unique people-driven professional culture fosters a team of highly skilled and motivated hospitality experts who consistently deliver outstanding property level performance, as well as memorable and engaging guest experiences. Headquartered in Chicago, FHG's portfolio features 19 brands and 46 properties throughout the Midwest. Recognized in Forbes America's Best Midsize Employers 2016, FHG received a #28 ranking out of the 250 best midsize employers in the country, #1 in the travel category, and #3 amongst all of America's best travel companies. For more information, visit, [www.fhginc.com](http://www.fhginc.com).***

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