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## **FIRST HOSPITALITY GROUP, INC., CELEBRATES GROUNDBREAKING OF HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON – LOUISVILLE / MEDICAL DISTRICT**

**LOUISVILLE (October 6, 2016)** – Rosemont, Ill.-based First Hospitality Group, Inc. and Louisville based Weyland Ventures, LLC. announced today they have started construction on the new Home2 Suites by Hilton – Louisville / Medical District. Mayor Greg Fischer and Councilman David Tandy will join the developers in breaking ground on the new hotel at the corner of Hancock and Jefferson Streets in Nulu on Thursday, October 6 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The Home2 Suites by Hilton will add 100 guest rooms to the popular Nulu district and provide a walkable, extended-stay option for visitors to Louisville’s Regional Medical district. Designed as a five-story building, the new hotel will feature approximately 750 square feet of meeting space, a “Spin2Cycle” fitness center, pool, and a guest laundry facility. Plans for the ground-up prototypical Hilton Home2 began in August 2015 and is slated for completion in June 2017.

“As we continue to expand our footprint across the Midwest, we look forward to bringing this exciting property to downtown Louisville,” said First Hospitality Group, Inc. President and CEO Robert Habeeb. “This new and hip hotel concept is the perfect fit for business and leisure guests alike that are staying in the downtown Louisville area. We look forward to celebrating the groundbreaking with Weyland Ventures and the community.”

The lobby will feature an “Oasis” space, designed for guests to lounge socially, as well as a 24/7-convenience market, Home2 Mkt. Guests will enjoy a pullout sofa in each guestroom, as well as a “working wall,” which serves as a kitchenette and desk. Each guestroom will also include a half-size refrigerator, microwave, sink and dishwasher, as well as assorted cookware and china/glassware.

Located at 240 S. Hancock St., Home2 Suites by Hilton – Louisville / Medical District is in Nulu, an area in Louisville known for its art galleries, specialty stores, antique shops and a number of local, upscale restaurants. The hotel is also within close proximity to a number of local attractions, including Churchill Downs, Louisville Gardens, Louisville Palace, Louisville Science Center and the Louisville Slugger Museum. It is within walking distance of a number of restaurants, as well as the many hospitals in the Louisville Medical District, including KentuckyOne Health University of Louisville Hospital, Norton Hospital, and Jewish Hospital.

“The new Home2 Suites builds on prior relationships and development projects that have been realized over the past eight years,” commented Bill Weyland, Chief Strategy Officer for Weyland Ventures. “The new hotel is a capstone in our efforts to connect the medical district with Nulu to create a dynamic, mixed-use neighborhood along the eastern edge of downtown.”

Studio A Architecture is the architect for the Home2. Sabak, Wilson, & Lingo, Inc., Schaefer, Inc., and Interior Image Group are providing engineering and interior design services. Bosse Mattingly Constructors is serving as the general contractor on the project.

Project financing has been provided by Associated Bank.

***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. For more information, visit, [www.fhginc.com](http://www.fhginc.com).***

***Weyland Venturse is a multi-disciplinary real estate development firm known for creating unique mixed-use properties in Louisville's downtown, incorporating residential, commercial, retail, and entertainment uses. In-house staff includes representatives from architecture, urban planning, preservation, asset management, property management, marketing, event production, construction coordination, and commercial and residential real estate. Each of these disciplines support the vision of creating and maintaining new urban neighborhoods by preserving Louisville's unique heritage and creating new urban places. [www.veylandventures.com](http://www.veylandventures.com)***