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**FIRST HOSPITALITY GROUP, INC. ANNOUNCES DEVELOPMENT OF  
AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION HOTEL IN DOWNTOWN COLUMBUS**

*Adaptive reuse project will convert the historic Leveque Tower building into a modern hotel*

**ROSEMONT, Ill.**, July XX, 2014 – Rosemont, Ill.-based First Hospitality Group, Inc. (FHG) announced today that through a joint venture partnership with Robert J. Meyers and Don M. Casto, it will be converting the historic Leveque Tower building in Columbus, Ohio, to an Autograph Collection hotel scheduled to open in late 2015. First Hospitality Group, Inc. President and COO Robert Habeeb made the announcement.

The 47-story 155-guest room hotel will be FHG's first Autograph Collection property. A boutique Marriott brand, Autograph Collection hotels are each distinctively unique and known for quality, bold originality, rich character and uncommon details.

"The Columbus Autograph Collection is a very exciting addition to our ever-growing hotel management portfolio," said Habeeb. "Not only is Columbus a great travel market, but this unique project affords us the opportunity to make an impact on the community by applying our adaptive reuse expertise to create a thriving future for this treasured piece of city history."

The 555.5-foot, art deco LeVeque Tower, a Columbus icon, was the tallest building between New York and Chicago when it was constructed in 1927 (known then as the American Insurance Union), and remained the tallest building in Columbus until 1974 when the Rhodes State Office Tower was built.

FHG has completed several other adaptive reuse hotel conversion projects in the Midwest, including the Loyalty building in downtown Milwaukee, Wisconsin, now a Hilton Garden Inn; the Liberty Building in Des Moines, Iowa, now a Hyatt Place; and the Federal Building in Omaha, Nebraska, now a Residence Inn by Marriott. FHG continues to manage all of these properties as a part of its 62-hotel national portfolio. Bob Meyers and Don Casto have partnered together on several other Columbus properties including the NiSource Building, 250 Civic Center and 200 Civic Center.

***First Hospitality Group, Inc., is a national, experienced, and established hospitality management, and development company serving the investment and real estate industries. Since 1985, FHG has been an award-winning pioneer in the hospitality industry. FHG has successfully developed, marketed and managed over 16 brands and 62 properties throughout the Midwest. Visit [www.fhginc.com](http://www.fhginc.com).***

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