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**FIRST HOSPITALITY GROUP, INC. RECOGNIZES HAMPTON INN & SUITES  
DOWNTOWN CHICAGO LAUNDRY ATTENDANT FOR PERFECT ATTENDANCE  
WITH NISSAN ALTIMA**

*Reward part of FHG's Live Free/Drive Free program, which recognizes an employee for outstanding attendance*

**Rosemont, Ill.** - March 29, 2017 – Rosemont, Illinois-based First Hospitality Group, Inc. (FHG), a leading hotel management, acquisition and development company, announced today that it has awarded Lionel Cuevas, a laundry attendant at its Hampton Inn & Suites Downtown Chicago, located in the River North area of the city, a Nissan Altima and a check for \$1,000 to help cover insurance and other costs. Cuevas was announced as FHG's Live Free/Drive Free 2016 winner at the company's annual conference and awards dinner in February 2017. President and CEO Bob Habeeb made the announcement.

The Live Free/Drive Free program is 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, Lionel Cuevas, has been with First Hospitality Group for five years. The company also recognized more than 180 other top performers, directors of sales and general managers across an additional 38 award categories at the annual conference and awards dinner this year.

"As a leader in the hospitality industry recognized by Forbes as one of America's Best Midsize Employers, and number one in Travel, we also recognize and reward our employees for their hard work. It is important to us as we boast a people-driven culture that we are extremely proud of," said Habeeb. "Lionel has been a dedicated employee for years and we could not be more thankful to have him at our Hampton Inn & Suites Chicago North River hotel. We are happy to acknowledge his hard work at FHG."

"I am honored to be able to work for a company that gives me the opportunity and tools to personally improve myself and make life-long friends while I'm doing it," said Cuevas. "I have been without a car for some time now, so to have my hard work recognized with something that I was in desperate need of, I couldn't ask for anything else."

For video footage of Cuevas being named the Live Free/Drive Free winner at the FHG annual conference and awards dinner, visit: <http://bit.ly/2o8fSFm>.

Located just north of the Loop, the Hampton Inn & Suites Downtown Chicago in River North is just steps from the Magnificent Mile, the L-Train Grand Red Line subway stop and a half-mile from the Riverwalk. The only downtown Hampton with a year-round indoor swimming pool, the Hampton Inn & Suites Chicago River North is conveniently located near McCormick Place, Wrigley Field, United Center and a number of museums.

First Hospitality Group, Inc. (FHG) was recognized as **#1 in Travel** in Forbes

America's Best Midsize Employers 2016. FHG received a #28 ranking out of the 250 best midsize employers in the country 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 42 properties throughout the Midwest. Recognized as #1 in Travel in Forbes America's Best Midsize Employers 2016, FHG received a #28 ranking out of the 250 best midsize employers in the country and #3 amongst all of America's best travel companies. For For more information, visit, [www.fhginc.com](http://www.fhginc.com).***

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