

Contact:

Kathleen Sebastian
Phone: 219.472.2861
Fax: 219.472.2273

701 E. 83rd Ave.
Merrillville, IN 46410
www.whitelodging.com



PRESS RELEASE

White Lodging Hires Kris Carlson as opening general manager of the Westin Austin Downtown

The hotel is scheduled to open in the summer of 2015

Merrillville, Ind. (January 12, 2014): White Lodging is pleased to announce Kris Carlson will join White Lodging as the opening general manager of the Westin Austin Downtown.

Carlson has an extensive F&B background, spending time as an assistant F&B director at a resort golf destination for three years, and as the F&B director at Norwegian Cruise Lines. He also has served as the director of F&B and engineering at the Hilton Charlotte Center City, and most recently was the general manager for both the Pittsburgh Marriott North and the DFW Airport Marriott South.

As a general manager at his previous hotels, he achieved Top 20 rankings in both guest and event satisfaction, including Top 10 rankings in sales, planning and events. He was also chosen as "General Manager of the Year" for the Hospitality Association of Tarrant County.

Carlson is a self-described F&B brat who grew up learning from his grandparents, parents, and uncle about the hospitality business in a resort town north of Chicago - Delavan/Lake Geneva.

The Westin Austin Downtown broke ground Aug. 5, 2013 and is scheduled to open in the summer of 2015 on the northeast corner of East Fifth Street and San Jacinto Boulevard. The Westin hotel is a joint venture between White Lodging Services Corporation, the Harry Whittington family and REI Real Estate Services, LLC.

Located at the center of Austin's lively downtown, the 20-story, 366-room hotel will be just one and a half blocks from the city's convention center and just footsteps from vibrant entertainment, important culture and inspiring cuisine. The famous Sixth Street entertainment district is just around the corner. Hotel facilities will include an American regional kitchen and bar, featuring and committed to local, artisan ingredients within a contemporary eclectic design. Also, the hotel will have a Westin Workout fitness studio, 15,000 square feet of meeting and banquet space with natural lighting and a rooftop pool deck.

The sensory-rich environment at Westin offers a respite from the rigors of travel and sets a welcoming tone. The Westin brand's innovative programs and instinctive service transform every aspect of a guest's stay into a revitalizing experience. All guestrooms and suites at The Westin Austin Downtown will offer the world-renowned Westin Heavenly® Bed – an oasis of lush sheets, down and a patented pillow-top mattress, which cradles and

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contours to the body for truly restorative sleep. Guests will revive in the Heavenly® Bath enhanced with the brand's Heavenly® Shower, Heavenly® Robe and White Tea Aloe bath amenities, in-room and high-speed Internet access. The hotel also will also offer the Westin brand's signature SuperFoodsRx® menu, which includes nutrient-rich and delicious options to tempt every palate.

Westin Hotels & Resorts, like all brands within Starwood's robust portfolio, is proud to offer the Starwood Preferred Guest® program, which made headlines when it launched in 1999 with a breakthrough policy of no blackout dates on Free Night Awards. SPG® offers members the ability to redeem awards at more resorts, more luxury properties, more European hotels and more golf properties than any other hotel program.

For more information on Westin Hotels & Resorts, please visit www.westin.com, Facebook or follow Westin on Twitter.

White Lodging Services Corporation was established in 1985 and is headquartered in Merrillville, Ind. White Lodging is a fully integrated hotel ownership, development and operations company focused on developing and operating premium-branded hotels in growing urban markets across the United States. The company is a recognized leader that has defined and cultivated the ability to achieve consistent, sustainable growth among mid- to large-scale hotels. Its current portfolio consists of more than 160 hotels in 21 states and encompasses representation of the following leading brands: Marriott International, Inc., Hilton Worldwide, Hyatt Global, Starwood Hotels and Resorts, Preferred Hotel Group and InterContinental Hotel Group. For more information about White Lodging, please visit www.whitelodging.com.

About Westin Hotels & Resorts - Westin Hotels & Resorts has been a leader in wellness and hospitality for more than a decade. Today, Westin has 200 hotels and resorts in nearly 40 countries and territories, and is owned by Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc., one of the leading hotel and leisure companies in the world with more than 1,200 properties in 100 countries and 181,400 employees at its owned and managed properties. Starwood is a fully integrated owner, operator and franchisor of hotels, resorts and residences with the following internationally renowned brands: St. Regis®, The Luxury Collection®, W®, Westin®, Le Méridien®, Sheraton®, Four Points® by Sheraton, Aloft®, and Element®. The Company boasts one of the industry's leading loyalty programs, Starwood Preferred Guest (SPG®), allowing members to earn and redeem points for room stays, room upgrades and flights, with no blackout dates. Starwood also owns Starwood Vacation Ownership, Inc., a premier provider of world-class vacation experiences through villa-style resorts and privileged access to Starwood brands. For more information, please visit www.starwoodhotels.com.