THE WESTIN MICHIGAN AVENUE CHICAGO HOTEL OPENS BRAND NEW EXECUTIVE LOUNGE

Located on the 14th floor, the new Executive Club Lounge offers Breathtaking Views of Downtown Chicago plus Upgraded Amenities

Chicago, Ill. – July 2015 – The Westin Michigan Avenue Chicago Hotel today announced the opening of its brand new Executive Club Lounge – a key component of the hotel's comprehensive \$23 million renovation project. Operated by Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. (NYSE: HOT), The Westin Michigan Avenue Chicago Hotel has also completed renovations to half of its 752 guest rooms, with the other half scheduled for completion in March 2016. The renovation project is part of the Westin brand's efforts to continuously refresh its rapidly growing global portfolio, which topped 200 hotels in 2014.

"We are delighted to open this sleek, new Executive Club Lounge on the 14th floor, where business travelers can unwind and rejuvenate after a day of meetings," said Peter Simoncelli, General Manager of The Westin Michigan Avenue Chicago Hotel. "The new Executive Club Lounge offers all of the brand's signature services and amenities, as well as breathtaking views of downtown Chicago and one of the greatest avenues in the world, The Magnificent Mile."

The Executive Club Lounge serves complimentary breakfast and hors d'oeuvres, featuring Westin SuperFoodsRXTM options, and beverages to club-level guests. Featuring fresh, contemporary design, the new Lounge features separate seating areas for work and socializing, and a variety of upgraded amenities including 55" plasma televisions, complimentary magazines and newspapers, high-speed Internet access, computers and printing stations.

The Westin Michigan Avenue Chicago Hotel provides a sensory-rich environment and all of the brand's signature amenities and services designed to inspire well-being. When renovations are complete, all rooms will feature the Westin Generation IV room design, which creates a modern-day oasis from the rigors of travel with a soothing color palate, plus a variety of Chicago-inspired design touches. Rooms are outfitted with the Westin Heavenly[®] Bed – with lush sheets, down cushioning and a patented pillow-top mattress which cradles and contours to the body for complete comfort. Another industry first, the Heavenly[®] Bath creates an invigorating spa-like experience, enhanced with the brand's Heavenly[®] Shower, Heavenly[®] Robe and exclusive White Tea Aloe bath amenities. In-room, refrigerators, high-speed Internet access and an ergonomic work space offer travelers convenience and productivity in a tranquil setting.

A popular choice for meetings and weddings, The Westin Michigan Avenue Chicago Hotel provides 37,000 square feet of state-of-the-art meeting facilities, including the 7,800 square-foot Great Lakes Grand Ballroom. The hotel's full-service restaurant, The Grill on the Alley, serves classic American favorites, as well as evening cocktails, appetizers, and Westin SuperFoodsRXTM options, while Café a la Carte in the lobby brews Starbucks coffee and offers

an enticing selection of freshly baked breads. In addition, guests can stroll to a variety of worldclass restaurants within close proximity of the hotel.

Ideally situated on the corner of North Michigan and Delaware Place, The Westin Michigan Avenue Chicago Hotel opens directly onto Chicago's famed Magnificent Mile shopping district, right across from The John Hancock Building, Bloomingdale's and Water Tower Place. The hotel is walking distance to Rush Street and the lakefront, and minutes from Grant Park and Navy Pier. Other nearby attractions include Chicago Theater, Field Museum, Shedd Aquarium, Art Institute of Chicago and Wrigley Field – home of the legendary Chicago Cubs baseball team.

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 The Westin Michigan Avenue Chicago Hotel, please visit <u>www.thewestinmichiganavenue.com</u>, <u>Facebook</u>.

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About Westin Hotels & Resorts

Westin Hotels & Resorts, a leader in wellness and hospitality for more than a decade, lives its philosophy "For a Better You[™]" through the Westin Well-being Movement's six pillars: Feel Well, Work Well, Move Well, Eat Well, Sleep Well and Play Well. At more than 200 hotels and resorts in nearly 40 countries and territories, guests can experience offerings that include the iconic Heavenly® Bed, RunWESTIN[™] and Westin Gear Lending with New Balance®, delicious and nutritious SuperFoodsRx[™], the innovative workspace Tangent, Westin Weekend signature experiences, and Heavenly Bath and Heavenly Spa. Westin is proud to offer Starwood Preferred Guest®, the industry's leading loyalty program. To learn more, visit <u>www.starwoodhotels.com/westin</u>. Stay connected to Westin: @ westin on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u> and <u>facebook.com/Westin</u>.