



FIRST HOSPITALITY NAMES DIRECTOR OF RENOVATIONS AND FACILITIES



Ray Nugent, Director of Renovations and Facilities at First Hospitality

(CHICAGO, IL; October 29, 2019)—[First Hospitality](#) today announces the appointment of Ray Nugent to Director of Renovations and Facilities (DRF). Nugent has directed over \$1 billion in governmental, commercial, and residential construction projects throughout his 25-year career, which includes a proven track record of success in the hospitality industry as director of facilities for Bellagio Resort Las Vegas.

“Ray’s ambition and extensive background in diverse development projects is invaluable,” says Paul Eskenazi, senior vice president of development and renovations at First Hospitality. “His ability to drive projects will be key to First Hospitality’s continued success and growth heading into the new year.”

In his new role as DRF, Nugent is responsible for executing First Hospitality’s renovation program, property improvement plans, and new developments. He also manages the facility and engineering support teams and assists new and existing properties. Prior to joining First Hospitality, Nugent oversaw operations and strategy of the facilities department for Bellagio and executed significant projects for the resort, including a \$20 million suite remodel spanning 1,000 rooms and a \$12.5 million casino remodel. From 2010-2016, Nugent held the role of assistant director of facility operations for Fox Valley Park District, the second largest park district in Illinois, where he managed all facility maintenance and

construction for three community centers totaling over 550,000-square-feet of fitness, aquatic, and educational facilities.

In addition to commercial and retail projects, Nugent has experience on the residential side with significant developments such as McKinley Gardens Townhomes, a \$20 million construction project encompassing eight new buildings. In 2002, Nugent established the construction start up R and R Builders Corporation where he led the company as owner and president. Nugent holds a Bachelor of Arts in marketing from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois.

A high-res headshot is available upon request.

About First Hospitality

First Hospitality is an award-winning, nationally recognized hotel management, acquisition, development, and consulting company. Thriving for more than three decades—since Stephen L. Schwartz started the business in 1985, the company operates properties across 19 brands throughout the U.S., totaling more than 7,000 rooms. First Hospitality credits its success to a people-driven culture focused on fostering and developing skilled hospitality experts, as well as its commitment to guest experiences that excite and inspire, leaving a lasting impression. First Hospitality ranks among top employers and operates award-winning hotels—including multiple AAA Four Diamond properties. Bucking the status quo, First Hospitality redefines industry standards from the front desk to the feast, including a proven knack for immersive dining concepts, historic adaptive re-use and repositioning projects, and new builds. For more information, visit www.firsthospitality.com.

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