

RLJ Lodging Trust Wins for the Second Consecutive Year "Best Conversion" Award from Hilton Worldwide

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BETHESDA, Md.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Jul. 15, 2013-- RLJ Lodging Trust (the "Company") (NYSE: RLJ) today announced that Hilton Worldwide ("Hilton") selected the Company's Hilton Garden Inn Los Angeles/Hollywood ("the Hotel") as a winner of the 2012 "Best Conversion" award for the Hilton Garden Inn brand.

"We are honored to be the recipient of Hilton Garden Inn's Best Conversion award for a second consecutive year," said Thomas J. Baltimore, Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer. "This award is a testament to the strength of our in-house team of professionals' ability to navigate complex renovations in an urban setting while adhering to Hilton's premium brand standards."

The Company purchased the independent 160-room hotel in Hollywood, California, in December 2010 for \$29.4 million. The Hotel underwent an extensive \$7.9 million renovation, primarily in the fourth quarter 2011 through the first quarter of 2012, and remained opened during its transformation. The Company's Senior Vice President of Design and Construction, Carl Mayfield, and his team leveraged their vast experience and developed creative and innovative solutions to address various complex city and brand requirements. Upon completion, the Hotel was converted from an independent hotel to a high-quality, premium-branded Hilton Garden Inn in the first quarter of 2012.

The reinvention of the Hotel includes an enlivened palette of vibrant colors and accents. The guestrooms received new custom case goods, local tailored artwork, and fully renovated bathrooms with new flooring and finishes. The Hotel's non-prototypical public space received new custom décor, a state-of-the-art glass enclosed library, and a generously sized fitness center.

The Hotel's brand conversion was part of the Company's 2011 and 2012 comprehensive \$210.0 million capital improvement program.

About Us

RLJ Lodging Trust is a self-advised, publicly-traded real estate investment trust focused on acquiring premium-branded, focused-service and compact full-service hotels. The Company's portfolio consists of 150 properties, comprised of 148 hotels with more than 22,300 rooms and two planned hotel conversions, located in 22 states and the District of Columbia.

For additional information or to receive press releases via email, please visit our website: <u>http://rlilodgingtrust.com</u>

Source: RLJ Lodging Trust

RLJ Lodging Trust Leslie D. Hale, 301-280-7774 Chief Financial Officer