

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Media Contact: Jennifer Kelley 504.913.5980 cell jkelley@valencellc.com

DRAGO'S ANNOUNCES THIRD LOCATION

Jackson, MS Welcomes World-Famous New Orleans Eatery

NEW ORLEANS, LA. (July 11, 2014) – Drago's Seafood Restaurant—home of the Original Charbroiled Oyster and one of New Orleans' most recognized eateries—has announced plans to open their third restaurant location in Jackson, MS. The restaurant will be located at 1005 East County Line Road, adjacent to the Hilton Jackson Mississippi at Interstate 55 and County Line Road, just 13 miles from the Jackson-Evers International Airport and only a few minutes from downtown Jackson. The grand opening is scheduled for mid-October.

Drago's new location will bring authentic New Orleans cuisine to Jackson residents, many of who have requested a local Drago's presence in the region over the years. "We are pleased to expand our family's fine seafood to the great state of Mississippi," said Tommy Cvitanovich, owner/manager of Drago's. "We have been fortunate that the people of Jackson have supported our New Orleans locations for years. We are thrilled to bring fresh seafood, signature dishes and new jobs to the state's capitol." The new location will not only bring world-famous dishes like their Original Charbroiled Oysters and Lobster Marco to the Jackson market, it will also create approximately 150 new jobs, with an estimated economic impact of over \$8 million in annual sales.

"There are no oysters like charbroiled oysters, and no better place to enjoy them than Drago's," said Skipper Westbrook, General Manager of Hilton Jackson Mississippi. "It will be our pleasure to have the 'First-Family' of New Orleans seafood enhancing the Hilton guest experience while also creating new hospitality jobs for our community."

First opened in 1969 by Drago and Klara Cvitanovich, Drago's builds on a family legacy of oyster fishing and offers an authentic family-oriented dining experience, serving Louisiana-inspired seafood at reasonable prices. The announcement of this third Drago's location coincided with Drago Cvitanovich's 92nd birthday, a fitting present for a lifetime of hard work, community service and well-fed families. Those attending the press conference were treated to a birthday serenade by Drago himself, along with a birthday cake to celebrate the announcement.

Hiring for the new Jackson location will begin soon. To apply, visit <u>www.dragosrestaurant.com</u> to view job openings and submit an application online.

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About Drago's Seafood Restaurant

Drago's Seafood Restaurant officially opened in February 1969. Owners Drago and Klara Cvitanovich are part of a close-knit Croatian community that has thrived in New Orleans since the 1800s. Their son Tommy, who helped Drago open the family's second location at the <u>Hilton New Orleans Riverside</u>, now runs the Metairie location. For more information on the Drago's tradition and commitment to community giving, visit www.dragosrestaurant.com. Follow on Twitter or on Facebook.