

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

STANFORD COURT APPOINTS BRIAN AKER AS HOTEL MANAGER

SAN FRANCISCO (March 8, 2016) – <u>Stanford Court</u>, San Francisco's modern 393-room hotel poised atop famed Nob Hill, today announced the appointment of Brian Aker as hotel manager. With a distinguished history working for notable hotels throughout the country and more than 12 years of experience in the hospitality industry, Aker has proven his ability to successfully coordinate and administer hotel services, while increasing guest satisfaction. In his new role, Aker will focus on enhancing the visitor experience, in part by training employees to provide the best customer service.

"With his dedication to improving each guest's experience, we're confident Brian is perfectly positioned to elevate the hotel to new levels of excellence," says Michael Baier, Stanford Court's general manager. "His leadership, initiative and knowledge of the industry ensure the property will continue to provide a unique San Francisco-centric experience."

Throughout his career, Aker has demonstrated pronounced leadership capabilities and established a proven track record of improving guest satisfaction. Before joining the team at Stanford Court, Aker served as the director of rooms at Pacific Beach Hotel in Honolulu where he had a direct impact on guest experience ratings, improving the hotel's online reputation by engaging with guests both during and after their stay. Prior to moving to Hawaii, Aker worked at Palms Casino Resort in Las Vegas as hotel manager where he managed all front office operations and assisted with owner relations, guest relations, the bellhop desk, and valet services. His career also includes senior management positions at the W New York Times Square in New York City and The Westin St. Francis in San Francisco, among others.

"I am excited to return to San Francisco after six years away and look forward to building on Stanford Court's status as a distinguished, modern hotel in the iconic Nob Hill neighborhood," said Aker. "It's an honor for me to join this incredible team and share the best practices I've learned throughout the course of my career."

Stanford Court is committed to catering to today's on-the-go business traveler as well as savvy leisure visitors to San Francisco. Complimentary high-speed WiFi is available property-wide, and also accessible via the lobby's courtesy iMac and iPad kiosks. Powermat charging spots are available in the lobby for visitors to charge their iOS and Android devices, and Zipcars and electric car charging stations are accessible in the front courtyard. With its strong connection to the surrounding community, Stanford Court also features a curated selection of artwork by emerging Bay Area artists and offers a slew of exciting tech-centric amenities such as JAMBOX speakers for guests to rent and Foli, a digital content mobile distribution platform that allows guests access to countless digital magazines and e-books via iPads during their stay.

Stanford Court is located at 905 California Street in San Francisco. For reservations or more information, please call 415.989.3500 or visit www.stanfordcourt.com.

About Stanford Court

Located atop San Francisco's famed Nob Hill at the corner of California and Powell streets, Stanford Court hotel is steps from the city's best dining, shopping, entertainment and cultural attractions. The hotel features 393 well-appointed rooms and suites, offering comfortable accommodations for leisure and business travelers in a prime location. Stanford Court's services and amenities include free ultra-high-speed wireless Internet, complimentary Apple iMac computers and iPads in the lobby, locally sourced food and beverage offerings in Aurea Lounge, a 24-hour fitness center, business lounge, and expertly-staffed concierge desk. With a storied history dating back nearly 140 years, Stanford Court sits on the historic site of renowned "Big 4" railroad mogul, university founder, and U.S. senator Leland Stanford's elaborate private mansion. Leland Stanford was at the forefront of innovation in his era, and today's Stanford Court hotel pays homage to his legacy by representing the new frontier of innovation for the 21st century. For reservations or more information, please call 415.989.3500 or visit www.stanfordcourt.com.

About Highgate Hotels

Highgate is a premier operator of hotels. Highgate manages approximately 60 hotel properties and has a significant presence as an operator of full-service hotels in several major markets including Honolulu, Miami, San Francisco and Boston and is the largest operator of hotels in New York City. Headquartered in Dallas, Highgate has additional offices in New York City and London.

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