

NEWS



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JOHN P. SILVIA APPOINTED PALMER HOUSE HILTON'S NEW RESIDENT MANAGER

(Chicago, IL) - John P. Silvia, a 30-year veteran of the hotel industry, 20 of which with Hilton Hotels, has been appointed to the position of Resident Manager of the Palmer House Hilton, the longest continuously operating hotel in North America. The announcement was made by J. Peter Lynn, Palmer House Hilton General Manager. Silvia's most recent position was at the Hilton Chicago O' Hare Airport -- ranked one of the finest airport properties in the world, as the hotel's Executive Assistant Manager. Prior to that, he functioned as Director of Food and Beverage at the hotel.

Silvia, who holds a doctorate in Culinary Arts, trained and worked as a Chef at virtually every level -- from Saucier, Restaurant Chef to Hotel Executive Chef at some of America's most important hotels.

It was with Sheraton Hotels Corporation that Silvia began his culinary career at such hotels as the Sheraton Boston; Sheraton Wayfarer (New Hampshire), Sheraton Russell, Sheraton Center, and Sheraton City Squire in New York. The Parsippany Hilton and Novi Hilton were among the Hiltons where Silvia functioned as Executive Chef.

It was during the reopening of the Hilton Chicago O'Hare Airport when Silvia was put on the reopening team, that his skills and talents as a manager in areas other than food and beverage surfaced, and were quickly recognized by Hilton senior management.

Silvia has distinguished himself and earned a reputation with Hilton through his awards the company's most significant honors, including winning for two years Hilton Hotels Leadership Award. In addition he was selected to serve on Hilton's Nutritional Development Team for creating healthy recipes. Moreover, Silvia was chosen as an American visiting chef for the Hotel Conrad in Brussels. He is a recipient of the YMCA Black Achievement Award and has made numerous appearances on television because of his culinary expertise.

Among associations and affiliations, Silvia has served on the Illinois Restaurant Association Advisory Council, Chicago Public School Educational Assistance Program and celebrity judge for countless culinary competitions benefiting charities.

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"John joining the Palmer House Hilton is a significant plus for us especially at this time," said J. Peter Lynn. He has served our company well in acquiring the skills necessary for his responsibilities as Resident Manager of one of the most important hotels in the world. As the Palmer House Hilton enters the 21st century, and with our \$160 million restoration and renovation project well underway, it became clear that a third senior management person would be necessary. John joins myself and Dean Lane, Hotel Manager in what we're calling the Palmer House Hilton triumvirate. With John in place, our goal is to provide our guests the absolute finest hotel experience in the world," Lynn said.

"Coming to the Palmer House Hilton is a tremendous honor for me," Silvia said. "To be affiliated with an American institution that has been through the 19th and 20th centuries and be part of the 21st century team is a challenge and privilege that's hard to describe. I feel very fortunate to be here and be a part of it. I look forward to my new responsibilities with great enthusiasm and pride."

With the completion of the hotel's historic top-to-bottom restoration initiative currently in progress, the Palmer House Hilton will reclaim its rightful place as Chicago's premier hotel as well as one of the most outstanding hotels in the world.

A native of New York, Silvia is a graduate of John Wales University and is the father of four children. He makes his home in Naperville, Illinois with his wife Dora.

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