

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Luke's Lobster Signs Lease with Douglas Development

New York-based seafood restaurant will open early summer 2011 at 624 E Street, NW

Washington, DC — April 25, 2011 — Douglas Development just announced that Luke's Lobster, New York City's revered lobster roll and New England seafood joint, has leased 700 square feet in the Douglas Development-owned property at 624 E Street, NW. The owners plan to open the shop in early summer 2011.

The Penn Quarter shop will serve as Luke's Lobster's premier location in the District and its largest to date. Luke's Lobster is a family affair – brothers Luke and Bryan Holden, along with business partner Ben Conniff, get their lobster directly from father Jeff Holden's sustainable seafood company in Maine. The Luke's Lobster menu will mimic that of the eatery's three New York City locations, which serve a variety of lobster, crab, and shrimp rolls, in addition to other New England specialties. The DC shop will feature building materials and furniture sourced from Maine, including counter tops made of lumber specifically pulled from Maine's Moosehead Lake. Luke's Lobster will also display a coastal themed mural painted by family friend and artist Cullen Winkler.

Bryan Holden, who will run the newest location, gives some insight into the group's decision to expand to Washington, DC: "My brother and I both previously lived in DC, so we're excited to be back here sharing our passion and expertise. We felt that people in this area would appreciate our offerings." Holden continues, "We couldn't ask for a livelier location than the Chinatown and Penn Quarter area. After meeting with Douglas Development, we knew we'd found the perfect spot for our first Luke's Lobster in the District."

Norman Jemal, Vice President and Principal of Douglas Development, adds, "We're confident that Luke's Lobster is going to be a hit with the crowd in Penn Quarter. They chose a prime location – right in the middle of DC's thriving downtown – and will see an enormous amount of traffic from locals and tourists alike." Jemal continues, "As a family-owned business, we're delighted to work with another close-knit group like the team at Luke's Lobster."

Luke's Lobster will join a rapidly growing number of restaurants and retail shops occupying Douglas Development-owned properties in DC's East End, including celebrity chef Mike Isabella's restaurant Graffiato, Sixth Engine, Carmine's, District ChopHouse, Rasika, Crumbs Bake Shop, Anthropologie, H&M, Zara, Forever 21, Anthropologie, GUESS, the International Spy Museum, and Madame Tussauds.

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For press and media inquiries:

Kira Bates, Account Director

KiraBates@BraveryCorp.com

202.204.2184