

For Immediate Release

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CHRISTOPHER R. ALTO NAMED GENERAL MANAGER AT THE MELROSE HOTEL, WASHINGTON, D.C.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. – (April 20, 2005) – John J. DePaul, vice chairman and chief executive officer of Melrose Hotels announced today that Christopher R. Alto has been named general manager of The Melrose Hotel, Washington, D.C. Alto comes to the Washington, D.C. property after almost four successful years as general manager of The Melrose Hotel in Dallas. This move is Alto’s second time with the Washington, D.C. Melrose. He served as hotel manager for a year, helping with the transition to the Melrose brand, prior to heading to Dallas in 2001.

“Over the years, Chris has demonstrated a strong work ethic and an unflagging loyalty to Melrose Hotels,” continued DePaul. “His experience and dedication to consistently delivering the highest level of service have given us the utmost confidence in Chris’s ability to do great things for the Washington, D.C. property.”

As general manager in Washington, D.C., Alto’s responsibilities will include management and oversight of all aspects of hotel operations, including The Landmark Restaurant and The Library Bar. He will evaluate operational needs and work to implement strategies that will increase productivity, enhance quality and improve cost efficiency.

From 1985 through 1999, prior to joining Melrose Hotels, Alto held various positions with the Doubletree Lincoln Centre in Dallas, including director of food & beverage, assistant director of food & beverage, group sales manager, catering sales manager and manager of restaurants and lounges. He also spent time in his early career working in various positions with Four Seasons properties in both Philadelphia and Boston.

“Since it’s opening in 2000, our Washington, D.C. property has been steadily climbing in numbers and name recognition,” said Mark. S. Lahood, senior vice president of operations for Melrose Hotels. “Adding Chris to the team will serve only to take the property to the next level in terms of both hotel operations and a food and beverage.”

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Alto earned a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice from Northeastern University in Boston, Mass. In addition, he served in the United States Army from 1989 to 1993 as an M1-A1 Tank Commander. Alto also served in Operation Desert Storm where he earned the National Defense Medal and the Desert Storm Service Medal.

About the Melrose Hotel, Washington, D.C.:

The Melrose Hotel, Washington, D.C. is located on Pennsylvania Avenue between historic Georgetown and the White House. The Landmark Restaurant and The Library Bar are located in the hotel and offer “Elegant Comfort Cuisine” and famous martinis. Melrose Hotels include Melrose Hotel, Dallas, Melrose Hotel, New York City and Westin Great Southern Hotel in Columbus, Ohio.

About Melrose Hotels:

Melrose Hotels was established in 2000 with the purchase of the historic Melrose Hotel in Dallas, Texas. The company continues steady growth with several subsequent acquisitions, including The Melrose Hotel, Washington D.C., The Melrose Hotel, New York City and The Westin Columbus in Columbus, OH. For more information or to make a reservation, visit www.melrosehotel.com.

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