

OMB APPROVAL	
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Acoca Bernard</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>C/O EL POLLO LOCO HOLDINGS, INC.</u> <u>3535 HARBOR BLVD., SUITE 100</u>  (Street) <u>COSTA MESA CA 92626</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>El Pollo Loco Holdings, Inc. [ LOCO ]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>President and CEO</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>05/09/2018</u>	
	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Restricted Share Units	05/09/2018		A		96,156 <sup>(1)</sup>	A	\$0.00	96,156	D	
Performance Share Units	05/09/2018		A		72,116 <sup>(2)</sup>	A	\$0.00	72,116	D	

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						Title
Non-Qualified Stock Options	\$10.4	05/09/2018		A		120,752		(3)	05/09/2028	Common Stock	120,752	\$0.00	120,752	D	

**Explanation of Responses:**

- Consists of Restricted Share Units granted as an inducement award outside of any equity incentive plan, which will vest in four equal installments on each of the first four anniversaries of the grant date.
- Consists of Performance Share Units granted as an inducement award outside of any equity incentive plan, which will vest based on the achievement of certain per-share common stock prices, either as reflected on the NASDAQ over twenty consecutive trading days or in connection with a change in control.
- Consists of a nonqualified stock option granted as an inducement award outside of any equity incentive plan, which will vest in four equal installments on each of the first four anniversaries of the grant date.

**Remarks:**

/s/ Edith R. Austin, as attorney-in-fact

06/01/2018

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.