FORM 3

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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 Ad Munoz He | • | F | 2. Date of Event Requiring Stater Month/Day/Yea | ment | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol El Pollo Loco Holdings, Inc. [LOCO] | | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------|--|--------------------|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| (Last) C/O EL POLI 3535 HARBO (Street) COSTA MESA (City) | | (Middle) LDINGS, INC. | 12/01/2018 | 4 | | tionship of Reporting Pers all applicable) Director Officer (give title below) Chief Marketing (| 10% Owne Other (spe below) | (Mo | nth/Day/Year) ndividual or Join licable Line) Form filed b Person | t/Group Filing (Check y One Reporting y More than One erson |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | | | | | | ally Owned (Instr. 4) | 1 | | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) | |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | | | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | d 3. Title and Amount of Secur Underlying Derivative Secur 4) | | | 4. Conversion or | Form: | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
| | | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Amount Price or Deriv Number Secu | | Exercise Price of Derivative Security | Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | | |

Explanation of Responses:

Remarks:

No securities are beneficially owned.

/s/ Edith R. Austin, as attorney in fact 12/06/2018

** 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 5 (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.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Rhow all by these presents, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints each of Edith R. Austin of El Pollo Loco Holdings, Inc. (the "Company"), and Andrea L. Nicolas, Sophie X. Chang and Bryant H. Park of Skadden, A

(1) prepare, execute in the undersigned's name and on the undersigned's behalf, and submit to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") a Form ID, including amendments thereto, and any other documents

(2) execute for and on behalf of the undersigned, in the undersigned's capacity as an officer, director, and/or 10% owner of the Company, Forms 3, 4, and 5 in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange

(3) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to complete and execute any such Form 3, 4, or 5, complete and execute any amendment or amendments thereto

(4) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned hereby grants to each such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform any and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary, or proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and

This Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file with respect to the undersigned's holdings of and transactions in securities issued by the Company, unless earli

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of December 3, 2018.

/s/ Hector A. Munoz Name: Hector A. Munoz