



**PABLO BUDET:
NEW EXECUTIVE CHEF
AT THE PUERTO RICO CONVENTION CENTER**

San Juan, Puerto Rico - - Pablo Budet, a well known Puerto Rican chef, was appointed Executive Chef of the Puerto Rico Convention Center (PRCC) in Miramar.

Budet, who as a member of Puerto Rico's national culinary team helped bring home Gold and Silver medals for the island, joins the Convention Center after a long and successful career in the local hospitality industry.

Prior to his appointment at the PRCC, Budet - a native of Rio Grande - was the Executive Chef at the Sheraton Hotel in Old San Juan. He previously worked on the island in prestigious hotel chains like Hilton, Marriott and Westin.

His career began in 1987 at the San Juan Hotel in Isla Verde, "washing dishes." It was in the kitchens of the San Juan Hotel, he says, where his interest in food preparation began. He then studied at the Isla Verde Hotel & Tourism School and later enrolled at the Culinary Institute of America in New York.

He describes his new appointment, as an excellent opportunity.

"Super ... This is the largest yacht in the Caribbean area," says Budet, who is in charge of a team of 35 sous chefs and line cooks at the PRCC. "The facilities here are magnificent ... This is the dream of every chef, I'm behind the wheels of a Cadillac."

Budet is a fan of Mediterranean dishes and Creole food. He prefers local products and spices, "and cannot live without saffron, annatto, garlic, basil and oregano."

The husband and father of three children ages 22, 21, and 12 highly values feedback from diners.

"For me it is crucial what people think and feel when they test my dishes," he said. "*Feedback* is always positive: If you compliment me, it means we were successful ... But if you do not like something we prepare, it is also positive that we know about it because by telling us you are giving us the opportunity to improve and grow as professionals. "

In his spare time, Budet enjoys metal rock music and practices the sport of surfing in Luquillo and Fajardo shores.

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