FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CFHLA RECOGNIZES ORANGE COUNTY MAYOR TERESA JACOBS AS PUBLIC SERVANT OF THE YEAR

ORLANDO, FL (February 22, 2018): On Wednesday, February 21st, the Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association (CFHLA) recognized Orange County Mayor Teresa Jacobs as the Association’s 2017 CFHLA Public Servant of the Year. This award was presented at CFHLA’s February Membership Luncheon at the Hilton Orlando.

Each year, CFHLA recognizes a community leader for their dedication to the advancement of Central Florida’s Hospitality Industry. During her 8 years in office, Mayor Jacobs has served as a committed “tourism champion.” Mayor Jacobs played an integral role in revising the Venues Agreement to enhance essential tourism and community projects such as the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, the Orange County Convention Center and Camping World Stadium.

Additionally, Mayor Jacobs has recently spearheaded the development of both the Orange County Tourist Development Tax Grant Application Review Committee and the Orange County Tourist Development Tax Sports Incentive Committee. These advisory boards will serve as important “checks and balances” on the future expenditure of Orange County Tourist Development Tax funds and will work to promote the Central Florida destination.

During Mayor Jacobs’ time in office, the International Drive corridor, a crucial segment of Central Florida’s Hospitality Industry, has experienced substantial development. Thanks to Mayor Jacob’s commitment to the International Drive area and efforts such as the I-Drive 2040 Vision, hundreds of additional hotel rooms have been added in the past year, along with popular visitor attractions such as Andretti Indoor Karting and Games and Topgolf Orlando.

In attendance to recognize Mayor Jacobs were a number of her Orange County colleagues: Commissioner Pete Clarke, Supervisor of Elections Bill Cowles, Comptroller Phil Diamond, County Administrator Ajit Lalchandani, Commissioner Jennifer Thompson, and Commissioner Betsy VanderLey.

Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association President / CEO Rich Maladecki, CFHLA PAC/PC Board Chair Jay Leonard, General Manager of the Wyndham Lake Buena Vista Resort, 2017 Public Servant of the Year Teresa Jacobs, Orange County Mayor, and CFHLA Board Chair Fred Sawyers, Complex General Manager of the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort

To learn more about CFHLA, please visit our website: www.cfhla.org