



Volume 2  
Edition 7

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## ENDORSEMENTS

On Wednesday, July 20th, the **CFHLA-Political Action Committee Board of Directors** met for two hours and discussed twenty 2016 races for local and state office.

Following lengthy deliberations, the CFHLA-PAC is proud to announce its endorsement of the following **"Hospitality-Friendly" Candidates**:

### FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

District 30: **Bob Cortes**  
 District 39: **Neil Combee**  
 District 43: **Ricardo Rangel**  
 District 45: **Kamia Brown**  
 District 48: **Amy Mercado**  
 District 49: **Carlos Smith**  
 District 50: **Rene Plasencia**

### FLORIDA SENATE

District 11: **Randolph Bracy**  
 District 13: **Dean Asher**  
 District 15: **Bob Healy, Jr.**  
 District 27: **Lizbeth Benacquisto**

### ORANGE COUNTY COMPTROLLER

[State of Florida  
House of  
Representatives](#)

[Orange County](#)

[Osceola County](#)

[Seminole County](#)

[City of Orlando](#)

[City of Kissimmee](#)

[City of Sanford](#)

**Phil Diamond**

**ORANGE COUNTY COMMISSION**

District 1: **Betsy VanderLey**

District 3: **Pete Clarke**

**OSCEOLA COUNTY COMMISSION**

District 1: **Peggy Choudhry**

District 3: **Brandon Arrington**

**SEMINOLE COUNTY COMMISSION**

District 1: **Bob Dallari**

District 5: **Brenda Carey**

To view all CFHLA-PAC endorsements to date, please visit:

[www.CFHLA.org/PAC-PC-Endorsements](http://www.CFHLA.org/PAC-PC-Endorsements)

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## LA ROSA

On Wednesday, July 13th, the **CFHLA Governmental Affairs Committee** met with **State Representative Mike La Rosa**, an advocate in Tallahassee for Central Florida's Hospitality Industry.

During the meeting, a range of issues was discussed with GA Committee Members including the potential "sunset" or **repeal of Tourist Development Tax expansion legislation** that passed in the Capitol during the 2016 Legislative Session. Representative La Rosa has long stood with CFHLA in **preserving the integrity of the Tourist Development Tax (TDT)** and the Association appreciates his continued support in protecting this fund to promote tourism in the State.

Representative La Rosa also shared with the GA Committee his support of funding **VISIT FLORIDA** and establishing a "**level playing field**" relating to regulations and taxation between **Shared Lodging** companies and professionally managed lodging establishments.

***CFHLA salutes Representative La Rosa for his steadfast support of Central Florida's Hospitality Industry.***



(from left) CFHLA Board of Directors 2nd Vice Chairman Fred Sawyers of the Walt Disney World Swan & Dolphin Resort, CFHLA Governmental Affairs Committee Chairman Bruce Skwarlo of the Orlando Marriott Lake Mary, State Representative Mike La Rosa, CFHLA Board of Directors Secretary Keith Wolling of the B Resort & Spa Lake Buena Vista and CFHLA Board of Directors Treasurer Jetse Pottinga of the Melia Orlando Suite Hotel at Celebration



State Representative Mike La Rosa discussed the Tourist Development Tax with members of the CFHLA Governmental Affairs Committee

Additionally, CFHLA recognizes the 2016 Governmental Affairs Committee Meeting Sponsor:



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## GOLF

The 2016 CFHLA Political Committee's "**Tee It Up for Tourism**" **Golf Outing & Luncheon** is set to occur on **Thursday, September 29th** at the [Waldorf Astoria Orlando Golf Club](#).

This annual CFHLA-PC fundraiser features over a dozen of Central Florida's most respected legislators and allows CFHLA Members the opportunity to **network with Elected Officials** both at lunch and on the course.



State Representative Mike Miller

This year's Keynote Speaker, **State Representative Mike Miller**, is a CFHLA-Endorsed candidate who is one of the Hospitality Industry's strongest voices in Tallahassee.

The CFHLA Political Committee thanks the following Allied Members for serving as sponsors of this activity:

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A golf foursome can be purchased for \$500 (or \$150 for an individual) and includes a luncheon prior to the shotgun start at 1:30PM.

***If you're interested in only attending the Luncheon prior to golf, you may purchase tickets at \$35 per person.***

**[Please click here to register today and support the CFHLA Political Committee!](#)**

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## PANELISTS

Over the past two weeks, the **CFHLA Political Action Committee** has **interviewed nearly 50 candidates** seeking local and state office over the course of nine candidate interview sessions.

The purpose of the candidate interview process is to both identify **Hospitality-Friendly candidates** for office and to educate many candidates on Hospitality Industry priorities, most important of which is the **preservation of the Tourist Development Tax**.

***CFHLA humbly thanks the following 42 CFHLA Members for participating in the CFHLA-PAC candidate interview process:***

**Cindy Andrews**, [Sunbrite Outdoor Furniture, Inc.](#)

CFHLA Chairman: **David Bartek**, [Loews Hotels](#)

**Mark Bastis**, [Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport](#)

**Jackie Bozzuto**, [Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor, & Reed, P.A.](#)

**Ross Burke**, [Blue Heron Beach Resort](#)

**Ron Caimano**, [Past CFHLA Chairman](#)

**David Chilton**, [Sunshine Recycling](#)

**Frank Cirrincione**, [Hilton Orlando / Altamonte Springs](#)

**Brian Comes**, [Hyatt Regency Orlando](#)

**Amy Diehl**, [Awnclean USA](#)

**Ruthann DiLauri**, [Minuteman Press](#)

**Don Dougherty**, [Westin Lake Mary Orlando North](#)

**Pat Engfer**, [Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress](#)

**Alan Fickett**, [Global Sourcing International, LLC](#)

**Maureen Haggerty**, [Spinout Guest Laundries](#)

**Denis Hanks**, [Florida VRMA](#)

**Michael Hanley**, [Wealth Management Strategies](#)

**Chadwick Hardee**, [APDC Servies, Inc.](#)

**Frank Irons**, [Bags Parking & Guest Services](#)

**Steven Jamieson**, [The Mall at Millenia](#)

**Dan Kline**, [Magical Memories Villas - Orlando](#)

**Jay Leonard**, [Wyndham Lake Buena Vista Disney Springs Resort Area / Wyndham Garden Lake Buena Vista Disney Springs Resort Area](#)

**John Luke**, [Hilton Orlando](#)

**Joe Mahoney**, [HospitalityStaff](#)

**Jon McGavin**, [Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes](#)

**Ron Nagy**, [Bohemian Hotel Celebration](#)

**Keith Odza**, [Wyndham Vacation Rentals](#)

**Rick Patterson**, [Associated Planners Group](#)

**Mark Politte**, [DoubleTree by Hilton at the Entrance to Universal Orlando](#)

**Jetse Pottinga**, [Melia Orlando Suite Hotel](#)

**Jamie Ross**, [Residence Inn by Marriott Orlando / Lake Mary](#)

**Fred Sawyers**, [Walt Disney World Swan & Dolphin](#)

**Ben Shank**, [Four Seasons Resort located in the Walt Disney World Resort](#)

**Laura Sherman**, [CLC Regal Oaks / Encantada Resort](#)

**Ron Silveira**, [F.P.I.S. Brochure Distribution & Travel Marketing](#)

**Chuck Simikian**, [Paramount Hospitality Management](#)

**Bruce Skwarlo**, [Orlando Marriott Lake Mary](#)

**Cindy Staley**, [Sheraton Lake Buena Vista Resort](#)

**Jeff Swirsky**, [Floridays Orlando Resort](#)

**Rembert Vonk**, [Excellent Vacation Homes](#)

**Keith Wolling**, [B Resort & Spa Lake Buena Vista](#)

**Brian Wong**, [Celebration Suites Hotel](#)

Additionally, CFHLA recognizes CFHLA-PAC Board Member **Alan Fickett** of Global Sourcing International for participating in 8 of the 9 candidate interview panels!

***Thank you Panelists for your time and commitment!***

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## INTERVIEWS

The final **CFHLA-PAC candidate interviews** of 2016 will occur next Friday, July 29th from 12Noon to 2:30PM at the CFHLA Offices, as members of the CFHLA-PAC will be interviewing the two candidates for **Orange County Property Appraiser**: Incumbent **Rick Singh** and his challenger **Edward DeAguilera**.

While the CFHLA-PAC has not made endorsements in past Orange County Property Appraiser races, should the interview panelists recommend that the CFHLA-PAC make an endorsement in this race, the CFHLA-PAC would vote in the following days to confirm an endorsement.

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## OSCEOLA

On Friday, July 15th, a number of Osceola County Lodging Members and Members of the CFHLA-PAC Board spent four hours interviewing **Osceola County Commission candidates in District 1 and District 3.**

This candidate interview session was graciously hosted by **Ron Nagy**, General Manager of the [Bohemian Hotel Celebration](#), who provided the interview panelists with a tremendous breakfast and participated in the interview process.

On Wednesday, July 20th, the **CFHLA-PAC Board of Directors** accepted the two recommendations of the Osceola County Interview Panel, formally endorsing **Peggy Choudhry** in the Commission District 1 race and Commissioner **Brandon Arrington** for reelection in the District 3 race.



CFHLA Members interview a candidate seeking the Osceola County Commission District 3 seat at the Bohemian Hotel Celebration.

## SEMINOLE

Seminole County Commission Interviews for Districts 1 and 5 were held on Friday, July 8th at the [Hilton Orlando / Altamonte Springs](#), courtesy of general manager **Frank Cirrincione**.

Seminole County Lodging and Allied Members were in attendance to ask Commission candidates to share their views on a number of **Seminole County Hospitality issues** including the new **Seminole Sports Complex**, the rebranding of the **"Orlando North" Seminole County CVB** and the appropriate uses of **County TDT funds**.

On Wednesday, July 20th, the **CFHLA-PAC Board of Directors** accepted the two recommendations of the Seminole County



Interview Panel, formally endorsing incumbent **Commissioners Bob Dallari (District 1) and Brenda Carey (District 5)** for reelection.

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## SINGH

On Tuesday, July 19th, **Orange County Property Appraiser Rick Singh** provided a presentation to a number of CFHLA Lodging Members at the CFHLA Offices detailing property valuation trends and forecasts.

Following the steep increase in Orange County lodging establishment property valuations in 2015, Mr. Singh assured CFHLA Members that he would meet annually with the Association to provide updates relating to **property values** and open lines of communications between the Hospitality Industry and the Property Appraiser's office.

***CFHLA thanks Mr. Singh and his staff for their hour long presentation to CFHLA Members.***



Orange County Property Appraiser Rick Singh addresses CFHLA Lodging Members

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## LINKS

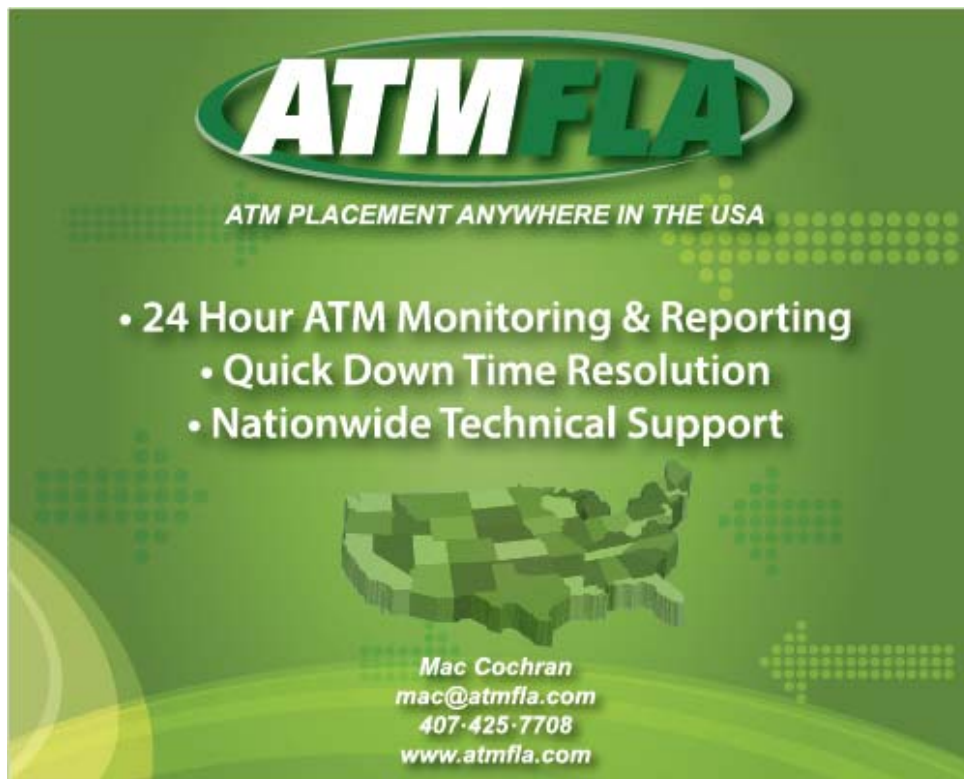
**Below please find news articles, relating to the political interests of the Hospitality Industry:**

**BETSY VANDERLEY GETS ENDORSEMENT  
OF HOTEL ASSOCIATION IN ORANGE  
COUNTY COMMISSION RACE**

**REGIONAL OFFICIALS BUCK STATE PLANS  
FOR MORE TOLLS-WITHIN-TOLLS**

**ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL WINS  
SERVICE TO HAVANA**

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The advertisement features a green background with a stylized map of the United States in the center. The text is white and green, with the logo 'ATMFLA' in large, bold letters at the top. Below the logo, it says 'ATM PLACEMENT ANYWHERE IN THE USA'. A bulleted list of services is provided, followed by contact information for Mac Cochran.

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