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From: cfhla@memberclicks-mail.net on behalf of CFHLA
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Volume 3
Edition 5

May 25, 2017

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REGISTER
TODAY

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The CFHLA-PAC Reception is only
TWO WEEKS AWAY!

Don't miss this unique opportunity to network and interact with your local elected officials while enjoying complimentary wine, beer and hors d'oeuvres at the [Loews Sapphire Falls Resort at Universal Orlando.](#)

To date, the following elected officials have confirmed their attendance:

Kamia Brown
State Representative

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[Florida Governor Rick Scott](#)

[State of Florida Senate](#)

[State of Florida House of Representatives](#)

[Orange County](#)

[Osceola County](#)

[Seminole County](#)

[City of Orlando](#)

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[City of Sanford](#)

Peggy Choudhry
Osceola County Commissioner

Lee Constantine
Seminole County Commissioner

Bob Cortes
State Representative

Jim Gray
Orlando City Commissioner

Bryan Nelson
Orange County Commissioner

Tony Ortiz
Orlando City Commissioner

Rene Plasencia
State Representative

Jay Wheeler
Osceola County School Board Member

Click the flyer below to register





Political Action Committee

CENTRAL FLORIDA HOTEL & LODGING ASSOCIATION

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

RECEPTION

Thursday, June 8, 5:30PM - 7:30PM

Loews Sapphire Falls Resort at Universal Orlando
6601 Adventure Way, Orlando, FL 32819

Complimentary Self-Parking Provided

Featuring Wine, Beer & Hors d'oeuvres - Networking - Live Auction - Cash Bar

Admission: \$40.00 per person*

*Admission Includes 2 Beverage Tickets (Redeemable for Wine & Beer)

NOTE: The admission fee is a contribution to the CFHLA Political Action Committee

Enjoy "White Glove Service" by the following confirmed Elected Officials:

Kamia Brown - State Representative	Jim Gray - Orlando City Commissioner
Peggy Choudhry - Osceola County Commissioner	Bryan Nelson - Orange County Commissioner
Lee Constantine - Seminole County Commissioner	Tony Ortiz - City of Orlando Commissioner
Bob Cortes - State Representative	Rene Plasencia - State Representative

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THIS RECEPTION, PLEASE CONTACT CFHLA PUBLIC POLICY DIRECTOR KEVIN CRAIG AT PUBLICPOLICY@CFHLA.ORG OR (407) 313-5035

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DEMINGS

Orange County Sheriff Jerry Demings joined CFHLA's Governmental Affairs Committee on Wednesday, May 10th at [Universal Orlando Resort](#) to discuss a range of Orange County public safety initiatives which include protecting **Central Florida's 68 million annual visitors**.

Sheriff Demings, a longtime friend of the Hospitality Industry, has spearheaded a number of Orange County Sheriff's Office programs over the years to ensure that

visiting from around the world, including the **Tourist Oriented Policing Squad ("TOPS")**.



(left to right) CFHLA Historian and CFHLA Governmental Affairs Committee Chairman Peter Kacheris of the Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek and Waldorf Astoria Orlando with Orange County Sheriff Jerry Demings and CFHLA 1st Vice Chairman and CFHLA Governmental Affairs Committee Vice Chairman Fred Sawyers of the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort

On June 14th, the Governmental Affairs Committee will meet with **State Representative Rene Plasencia**, who will provide a Legislative Session recap to the GA Members at the [Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort](#).

TOURISM

Earlier this month, CFHLA coordinated four official "**proclamations**" recognizing **National Travel and Tourism Week**, in **Orange, Osceola** and **Seminole** counties, in addition to the **City of Orlando**, declaring **Sunday, May 7, 2017** through **Saturday, May 13, 2017** National Travel and Tourism Week.

Each year, CFHLA proudly partners with [Experience Kissimmee](#), [Orlando North Seminole County Tourism](#) and [Visit Orlando](#) to ensure that Central Florida's Hospitality Industry is recognized for the positive economic and community impact that tourism generates for the region.



(left to right) CFHLA President/CEO Rich Maladecki, U.S. Travel Association President/CEO Roger Dow, City of Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer, CFHLA Board Chairman David Bartek of Loews Hotels at Universal Orlando, Ed Gilbert, Head Thinker of Absolute Thinking, Inc., CFHLA Secretary Keith Wolling of the B Resort & Spa Lake Buena Vista and CFHLA 2nd Vice Chairman Brian Comes of the Hyatt Regency Orlando



CFHLA Public Policy Director Kevin Craig (left) with Osceola County Commissioner - District 1 Peggy Choudhry and Experience Kissimmee President/CEO DT Minich



Orange County Officials presented their National Travel and Tourism Week Proclamation to CFHLA President/CEO Rich Maladecki and Visit Orlando President/CFO George Aoniel



(left to right) Orlando North Seminole County Tourism Marketing and Meetings Manager Gui Cunha, Seminole County Commissioner - District 4 Carlton D. Henley, CFHLA Public Policy Director Kevin Craig, CFHLA Board Member Bruce Skwarlo of the Orlando Marriott Lake Mary and Orlando North Seminole County Tourism Director of Sports Tourism Danny Trosset celebrating the Seminole County Proclamation declaring May 7 - May 13 National Travel and Tourism Week

ALCOHOL

On Tuesday, May 9th, the **Orange County Board of County Commissioners** unanimously approved a CFHLA-proposed change to the County's **alcohol ordinance** relating to hours of sale and service.

This effort, initiated by CFHLA with the support of former **Commissioner Scott Boyd** nearly 2 years ago, now allows alcohol sale and service at **Orange County hotels and dining establishments** to begin as early as **7AM**, four hours earlier than the previous "start" time of 11AM.

The Commissioners and Mayor Jacobs agreed that this change will **level the "playing field"** between Orange County hotels and restaurants with businesses in neighboring **Osceola** and **Seminole** Counties, as well as within the **City of Orlando**, where alcohol sales and service currently begin at 7AM.

This amendment provides added customer service to the region's **68 million visitors** as it relates to brunch opportunities and catering to sports enthusiasts who may desire an early morning beverage while watching European soccer matches that traditionally air prior to 11AM here in the United States.

CFHLA expresses sincere thanks to **Bertrand Daluzeau**, Director of Food and Beverage at the **Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes** and **Eduard Propst**, Food and Beverage Director at the **Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress** for their statements of support at the May 9th County Commission meeting.

Please [CLICK HERE](#) for an Orlando Sentinel article on this development.

AUCTION

SAVE THE DATE!

The CFHLA Political Action Committee (CFHLA-PAC) will be conducting its annual **CFHLA-PAC Online Auction** from **Wednesday, May 31st at 2:00PM to Wednesday, June 7th at 2:00PM.**

This year's auction features a number of exciting deals including multiple-night stays at some of Central Florida's finest lodging establishments.

The funds raised by this online auction will allow the CFHLA-PAC to maintain its mission of **financially supporting and electing "Hospitality-Friendly" candidates.** This is extremely important after recent efforts in Tallahassee to damage the state's Tourism Industry by drastically reducing VISIT FLORIDA's budget by over \$50 Million.

CFHLA Salutes the 2017 Online Auction Sponsor:



SUBLETTE

On Friday, May 5th, over 25 CFHLA Members met with **Orange County Public Schools Chairman, Bill Sublette**, at the CFHLA offices for the inaugural CFHLA "Coffee Club" meeting.

This new CFHLA program will feature quarterly meetings with influential community leaders to discuss **policy and Central Florida's political landscape.**



(left to right) CFHLA 1st Vice Chairman Fred Sawyers of the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort, Orange County Public Schools Chairman Bill Sublette, CFHLA Secretary Keith Wolling of the B Resort & Spa Lake Buena Vista and CFHLA Treasurer Jesse Martinez of the Alford Inn at Rollins.

Chairman Sublette and CFHLA Members in attendance had an engaging 90 minute discussion with topics including **public school funding**, **job training**, **homelessness**, **public safety** and other issues confronting Orange County residents.

Chairman Sublette also discussed CFHLA's recent award from Orange County Public Schools *recognizing CFHLA as an "Outstanding Partner in Education"* for the Association's Adopt-A-School and CFHLA Cares programs.

VISIT FL

Governor Rick Scott will soon have to decide whether to sign or veto [HB 5501](#), a bill that would bring significant challenges to VISIT FLORIDA.

The bill would issue VISIT FLORIDA a **67%** cut in funding (reducing state funding from \$76 million to \$25 million) and would implement numerous new regulations on the state's tourism marketing agency that would **severely limit the agency's ability to compete with other destinations to attract travelers to Florida**.

House Speaker Richard Corcoran, the architect of this bill, tied VISIT FLORIDA funding to onerous regulations being proposed so that if the Governor were to veto HB 5501, VISIT FLORIDA would receive no state funding whatsoever.

For more information regarding this topic, please [CLICK HERE](#)

LINKS


political interests of the Hospitality Industry:

[Proposed Budget Kills Program Meant to Boost U.S. Tourism](#)

[TSA Fees Up, Teams that Patrol Airports Down in Budget Proposal](#)


[Haitians Get 6 Months of Protection from Deportation - but Told Prepare to Leave U.S.](#)

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