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From: cfhla@memberclicks-mail.net on behalf of Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association
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ENDORSEMENTS

On Wednesday, April 18, the **CFHLA Political Action Committee Board of Directors** **approved** the following early endorsements of "**Hospitality-Friendly**" **candidates** seeking election and re-election in Central Florida races:

RELATED LINKS

LINKS OF INTEREST

Florida Governor Rick Scott

State of Florida Senate

State of Florida House of Representatives

Orange County

Osceola County

Seminole County

City of Orlando

City of Kissimmee

City of Sanford



Kamia Brown
State Representative, House District 45



Tina Calderone
Seminole County School Board



Bob Cortes
State Representative, House District 30



Jerry Demings
Orange County Mayor

To view all 2018 CFHLA Endorsements to date, please [click here](#).

STARGEL

The CFHLA Governmental Affairs Committee met on Wednesday, April 11 with **State Senator Kelli Stargel** (Senate District 22) at the [Omni Orlando Resort at ChampionsGate](#) (Thank You, Robert Stanfield).

Committee members thanked Senator Stargel for serving as a **“Tourism Champion”** in Tallahassee during the 2018 Session, as the Senator led efforts in the final hours to preserve the **integrity of the Tourist Development Tax in Central Florida** and **refined a dangerous amendment** that would have negatively impacted crucial tourism venues such as the Orange County Convention Center and Downtown Orlando venues.

The CFHLA Political Action Committee has **formally endorsed** Senator Stargel’s 2018 reelection campaign and looks forward to the Senator’s continued leadership and Hospitality support in Tallahassee in the coming Legislative Sessions.



CFHLA Governmental Affairs Committee Vice Chair Jon McGavin, General Manager of the Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes, State Senator Kelli Stargel, CFHLA Board Chair Fred Sawyers, General Manager of the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort and CFHLA Board Member Robert Stanfield, General Manager of the Omni Orlando Resort at ChampionsGate

The next meeting of the CFHLA Governmental Affairs Committee will occur on **Wednesday, May 9** at **SeaWorld Orlando**, where the Committee will host CFHLA-PAC endorsed candidate for re-election, **State Representative Bobby Olszewski** (District 44).

HEYER

On Friday, April 20, the **Orange County Membership and Mission Review Board** committee unanimously voted to recommend CFHLA Board Assistant Treasurer **Jorg Heyer** of the **Sheraton Vistana Villages** to serve on the **Orange County Tourist Development Council**.

This recommendation now moves forward to the **Orange County Board of County Commissioners** for final approval. If supported by the County Commission, Jorg Heyer will replace former CFHLA Board Chairman Doug Gehret on the Tourist Development Council, who is “termed-out” effective April 30.

CFHLA looks forward to Jorg Heyer’s **leadership and tourism expertise**, especially relating to the **Orange County’s “timeshare” industry**, on the Tourist Development Council for years to come.



OSCEOLA

CFHLA Members attended the April 12 **Osceola County Legislative Delegation Update**, produced annually by the **Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber of Commerce**.

Vista South, featured 2018 Legislative “Recap” remarks by **State Senator Victor Torres** and **State Representatives John Cortes** and **Mike La Rosa**. Additionally, a 2018 “election overview” presentation was provided by University of Central Florida Political Science department associate professor, **Dr. Aubrey Jewett**.



CFHLA Board Member Brad Boland, General Manager of CLC World Resorts & Hotels, State Senator Victor Torres, CFHLA Board Member Wade Michael, General Manager of Quality Suites Royale Parc Suites and CFHLA PAC Board Member Ron Silveira with F.P.I.S., Inc., Brochure Distribution & Travel Marketing

STUART

The **CFHLA Foundation** proudly served as a “Table Sponsor” at the April 17, 2018 **Metro Orlando Golden Eagle Dinner**, which featured the recognition of community leader **Harvey Massey** of **Massey Services, Inc.**

Each year, CFHLA Members support and attend this community dinner and are joined by a Central Florida elected official. At this year’s event, CFHLA leaders were accompanied by **City of Orlando Commissioner Robert Stuart, Sr.** and his wife, **Ann Stuart**.

Over \$650,000 was raised at the 2018 Golden Eagle Dinner, funds that will support further scouting opportunities in the Central Florida area.



(bottom center) City of Orlando Commissioner Robert Stuart Sr. and his wife, Ann Stuart with (left to right) Rich Maladecki, President/CEO of the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association, and CFHLA Board Member Keith Odza, General Manager of Wyndham Grand Vacations, CFHLA Board Treasurer Sonja Giselbrecht, General Manager of the Sheraton Suites Orlando Airport, and CFHLA Board 2nd Vice Chairman Jesse Martinez, General Manager of the Alford Inn at Rollins

MINA

On **Friday, May 4**, CFHLA Members will have the opportunity to meet with **City of Orlando Police Chief John Mina** at the next **CFHLA “Coffee Club”** meeting to discuss his candidacy and “vision” relating to his 2018 bid for **Orange County Sheriff**.

Chief Mina, who has met regularly with CFHLA Downtown Lodging Members to provide public safety and tourism updates, will now meet with CFHLA leaders to share his priorities if elected Sheriff of Orange County and to answer questions relating to safety within the tourism corridor in Central Florida.



SAVE THE DATE

On **Wednesday, June 6**, the annual **CFHLA-PAC Reception** will occur from **5:30 PM - 7:30 PM** at the newly renovated **Avanti Palms Resort and Conference Center Orlando** (Thank You, Rod O'Connor and Chuck Simikian).

This annual PAC fundraising event features networking opportunities between CFHLA Members and prominent Central Florida elected officials. This year, a new format will be introduced as Elected Officials will challenge each other in a game of "**Hospitality Feud**," to test which local elected leaders know the most about Central Florida's Tourism Industry!

The CFHLA-PAC thanks the following sponsors for their support of this important event:



Beverage Sponsors:



LINKS

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

[Central Florida Hoteliers endorse Bobby Olszewski, Rene Plasencia, Victoria Siplin](#)

[Orlando International Airport drops dispute with TSA over security lines](#)

[WrestleMania, Special Olympics on Orange County's radar for future sports events](#)

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