

**Sarah Alexanderson**

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

On Wednesday, June 6 the CFHLA-PAC conducted the sixth annual **CFHLA-PAC Reception** at the newly-renovated **Avanti Palms Resort and Conference Center Orlando** (Thank you Rod O'Connor).

New for 2018, this year's PAC Reception featured an exciting game of **"Hospitality Feud" trivia**, in which the "Stars" team, comprised of **Orange County Comptroller Phil Diamond**, **Orange County Clerk of Courts Tiffany Moore Russell** and **Orange County Tax Collector Scott Randolph** narrowly defeated the "Stripes" team of **State Representative Kamia Brown**, **Orange County School Board Member Linda Kobert** and **State Representative Rene "Coach P" Plasencia**.

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

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Members of the winning “Stars” team received autographed photos of **CFHLA-PAC Chairman Jay Leonard** of the Wyndham and Wyndham Garden Lake Buena Vista Disney Springs Resort Area.

Other elected officials in attendance included **State Representatives Amy Mercado** and **Bobby Olszewski**.

The CFHLA-PAC thanks the following sponsors for this year’s successful event:



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Please find below photos from the reception:



State Representative (District 50) Rene Plasencia with his wife Marucci Guzman and CFHLA Board Member and CFHLA-PAC Reception Host Rod O'Connor, General Manager of the



Orange County School Board Candidate Karen Castor Dentel with CFHLA-PAC Chairman Jay Leonard, General Manager of the Wyndham and Wyndham Garden Lake Buena Vista Disney Springs Resort Area



Joanna Del Moral of BRPH Architects & Engineers and CFHLA Board Member Ross Burke,



CFHLA Board Member Brad Boland, General Manager of CLC World Resorts & Hotels and State Representative (District 44) Bobby Olszewski



CFHLA VIP Members and CFHLA-PAC Reception Corporate Sponsors Mac Cochran of



CFHLA Board Member Duane Winjum, General Manager of the Melia Orlando Suite Hotel with State Representative (District 45) Kamia Brown



Orange County Comptroller Phil Diamond, Orange County Clerk of Courts Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Tax Collector Scott Randolph and CFHLA-PAC Chairman Jay Leonard, General Manager of



State Representative (District 48) Amy Mercado and CFHLA Board Chairman Fred Sawyers, Complex General Manager of the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort

## ELECTIONS

CFHLA encourages all Members to exercise their democratic rights and **VOTE** in upcoming 2018 elections!

Please take note of the following important dates this election year:

### **Primary Election Day: Tuesday, August 28**

Primary Election Vote by Mail Ballots Distributed: July 24

Primary Election Early Voting Begins: August 17

### **General Election Day: Tuesday, November 6**

General Election Vote by Mail Ballots Distributed: October 2

General Election Early Voting Begins: October 22

Register to "Vote by Mail" for these important upcoming elections by visiting your appropriate Supervisor of Elections website:

**Orange County residents:**

<https://www.ocfelections.com/votersguide.aspx#wavs>

**Osceola County residents:**

<https://www.voteosceola.com/en-us/How-to-Vote/Vote-By-Mail/Request-a-Mail-Ballot>

**Seminole County residents:**

<https://www.voteseminole.org/Voters#VoteByMailRequest>

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## INTERVIEWS

During the **week of June 25**, CFHLA will be conducting interview sessions for several important Central Florida races and invites any interested CFHLA Members to serve as **“Candidate Interview Panelists.”**

Below, please find an overview of all candidate interview sessions scheduled to date:

- **Session 1 - Monday, June 25 - AM Session (9:00AM-12:00Noon): Orange County Commission District 2 Interviews**
- **Session 2 - Monday, June 25 - PM Session (12:30PM-4:00PM): Orange County Commission District 3 Interviews**
- **Session 3 - Tuesday, June 26 - AM Session (8:00AM-12:00Noon): Orange County Commission District 4 Interviews**
- **Session 4 - Tuesday, June 26 - PM Session (12:30PM-4:30PM): FL House Districts 28 & 29 Interviews**
- **Session 5 - Wednesday, June 27 - (12:00Noon-3:30PM): Seminole County Commission Districts 2 & 4**
- **Session 6 - Thursday, June 28 - PM Session (12:00Noon-3:30PM): FL House Districts 47 & 49**

Please note that each interview session will take place at the **CFHLA Offices**, with the **exception of Session 5**, which will be conducted at the **Orlando Marriott Lake Mary** (Thank you **Bruce Skwarlo**).

If you are interested in serving as a **“Panelist”** for any of the above interview sessions, please email **CFHLA Public Policy Director Kevin Craig** at [publicpolicy@cfhla.org](mailto:publicpolicy@cfhla.org) no later than 12 Noon **this Friday, June 22** to confirm your participation.

For your information, several CFHLA-PAC Board Members participated in **Orange County School Board interview sessions** with other community business associations on May 30 and June 7 and will be submitting their endorsement recommendations to the full PAC Board of Directors on July 11.

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## ENDORSEMENTS

While the CFHLA-PAC will be endorsing new candidates following the

“**Hospitality-Friendly**” candidates on the ballot this year.

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

On **Wednesday, July 11** the CFHLA-PAC will review the recommendations from interview panels and finalize endorsement decisions.

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## LOVE

The **CFHLA Governmental Affairs Committee** met on Wednesday, June 13 with newly-appointed **Orange County Commissioner Rod Love** (District 2), who began serving the remaining months of former Commissioner Bryan Nelson’s term when Nelson was elected Mayor of the city of Apopka in April.

Commissioner Love met with GA Committee Members at the **Walt Disney World Dolphin Resort**, courtesy of meeting host and **CFHLA Board Chairman Fred Sawyers**.

The GA Committee had a productive conversation with Commissioner Love relating to the **importance of the Hospitality Industry** to Orange County’s economy and the strategic uses of the County’s Tourist Development Tax (TDT) funds.



CFHLA Board Member Bruce Skwarlo, General Manager of the Orlando Marriott Lake Mary, Orange County Commissioner Rod Love (District 2), CFHLA Board Chairman Fred Sawyers, Complex General Manager of the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort, and CFHLA-PAC Board Chairman Jay Leonard, General Manager of the Wyndham and Wyndham Garden Lake Buena Vista Disney Springs Resort Area

Next month, the GA Committee will be meeting with **State Senator Randolph Bracy**, a longtime champion of Central Florida’s Hospitality Industry on **Wednesday, July 11**.



## LINKS


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

[Jerry Demings submits required resignation letter as sheriff to run for Orange County mayor](#)

[North Brevard Republicans favor Rene Plasencia in HD 50](#)


[Jerry Demings says polls show he could win in August](#)

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