



September 8, 2023

## Patriot Day Remembrance Breakfast



Earlier today, CFHLA hosted our annual **Patriot Day Remembrance Breakfast** at the [DoubleTree by Hilton Orlando at SeaWorld](#) (Thank you **Joe Cardone, General Manager**).

Today's breakfast, which was sponsored by [Radio One - A CSE Crosscom Company](#), honored the memories of those who were lost or affected due to the tragic events of September 11, 2001. In addition, CFHLA recognized the heroism and bravery of our local law enforcement, EMS, and fire rescue, as well as hospitality security personnel for their incredible service and actions above and beyond in the line of duty.

This year, we were honored to welcome more than **500 attendees**, including **180 first responders** from across the Central Florida region. A special thank you to **Seminole County Sheriff Dennis Lemma** for serving as our 2023 Honorary Chair, NYPD and FDNY retired **Jimmy Brown** for serving as our key note speaker and **Nancy Alvarez** of [WESH-2 News](#) for serving as our Mistress of Ceremonies.

A complete video from today's Remembrance Breakfast will be available by clicking [HERE](#), courtesy of our partners at [Orange TV](#). Be sure too check out next week's Back of House for a photo album from today's event.



Please join us in congratulating the following Central Florida First Responders and Hospitality Security Personnel that were honored and recognized at today's event:

**Heroism Award - Fire Rescue/EMS**

*(Orange County Fire Rescue)*

**Captain Troy Broadway**

**Lieutenant Steven Parkes**

**Engineer Nathan Ward**

**Engineer Christopher Zambito**

**Firefighter Ramiro Cipullo**

**Firefighter Juston Jones**

**Firefighter Julius Odom**

**Firefighter Daniel Ronan**

**Firefighter Neal Stanley**

**Firefighter Ryan Wall**

**Heroism Award - Law Enforcement**

*(Orange County Sheriff's Office)*

**Corporal John Kirkland**

**Deputy Peter Callin**

**Deputy Eddie Cruz**

**Deputy Paul LeCompte**

**Distinguished Service Award - Law Enforcement**

**Corporal John Kirkland**

*(Orange County Sheriff's Office)*

**Distinguished Service Award - Fire Rescue / EMS**

**Lieutenant Benjamin Wootson III**

*(Orlando Fire Department)*

**Life Saving Award - Law Enforcement**

**Officer Omar Valle-Torres**

*(Ocoee Police Department)*

**Life Saving Award - Fire Rescue / EMS**

*(Seminole County Fire Department)*

**Lieutenant Paul Hammerl**

**Lieutenant Ryan Hart**

**Firefighter Jackson DeCuir**

**Firefighter Rick Montejano**

**Firefighter Steven Schwartz**

**&**

**Angela Bass**

*(Seminole County Sheriff's Office)*

**Deputy Douglas Mactye**

**Life Saving Award - Hospitality**

**Michael Gifford**

*(Signia by Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek & Waldorf Astoria Orlando)*

**Lifetime Achievement**

**Lieutenant James Napier**

*(Kissimmee Police Department)*

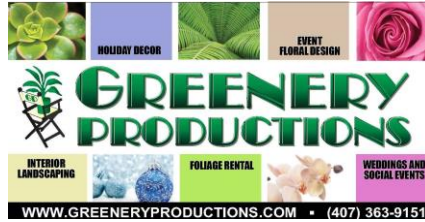


Lastly, we would like to thank our 2023 Patriot Day  
Remembrance Breakfast Corporate Sponsor:



And Thank You to Our In-Kind Sponsors:





CFHLA would also like to recognize the following Members who donated a table for our event honorees and first responders from across the Central Florida region.

Our 2023 Heroes Table Sponsors included:

AT&T

Clean Tec Outsourcing

Clean Tec Services

Discover USA Tours, Inc.

Doubletree by Hilton Orlando at SeaWorld

Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport

Mainscape, Inc.

Milner, Inc.

Minuteman Press

Premier Oracle Elevator

System Tech Services

Tecta America Southeast Services, Inc.

United State Security Services, Inc.

Vacation Villas at FantasyWorld

Vulcan Surfacing

Waste Management Inc. of Florida

---

## Patriot Day Adopt-A-Station

As a reminder, in honor of Patriot Day, we encourage our Members to show their support and gratitude to our first responders by donating a meal to your local Fire, EMS or Law Enforcement station.

Please be sure to send us your photos, so that we can share them with our Central Florida community next week!



---

**HEAT - Relive the Comic Universe**



Once again, thank you to the more than 700 Lodging professionals and over 200 Allied Members who joined us last week for another successful **HEAT Tradeshow!**

In addition, we thank the eight Member properties who showcased their top culinary skills and fantastic dishes, during this year's Ultimate Chef Competition!

Relive the fun of the Comic Universe and all the incredible costumes and themed booths, by [CLICKING HERE](#) to view the event photos.

---

**Sold Out Camping World Kickoff Game Kick Starts Football Season**





Congratulations to CFHLA partners [Florida Citrus Sports](#) and [Camping World Stadium](#) for helping kickstart the 2023 NCAA Football season with a sold-out [Camping World Kickoff](#) game, which **drew 65,429 fans**, in addition to a national television audience.

The contest which featured an impressive victory by Florida State over LSU is yet another example why events like this at Camping World Stadium, continue to make a significant and positive economic impact on our local economy.

The 2023 game is part of a successful multi-year agreement between Florida Citrus Sports and ESPN Events and had a remarkable economic impact, surpassing \$30 million and generating 45,000 hotel room nights over the Labor Day weekend, thanks to visitors from across the country.

---

[Register for Upcoming Active Assailant Training](#)



# ACTIVE ASSAILANT TRAINING

**Thursday, September 21, 2023**

**9:00am-11:00am, \$35 per person**

**Caribe Royale Orlando**

*8101 World Center Dr., Orlando, FL 32821*

**Two-Part Training  
Seminar Featuring:**

**Standard Operating Procedures to create an Active  
Shooter Plan tailored to your property**  
*Presented by the Orlando Police Department*



**Creating an Active Assailant Awareness Program**

*Presented by Greg Moore, Security Director, Mall at Millenia*

- Targeting non-security employee awareness
- Elements of a program tailored to your business
- Techniques for a successful awareness program
- Essential principles for surviving and active assailant event

**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)**

**For questions, please contact Erin Walsh at [erin.walsh@cfhla.org](mailto:erin.walsh@cfhla.org) or 407-313-5012.**

Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association | 6675 Westwood Blvd., Suite 210, Orlando, FL 32821  
[www.cfhla.org](http://www.cfhla.org) | 407-313-5000

## Florida Governor's Conference on Tourism

Thank you, [VISIT FLORIDA](#), for inviting our President/CEO **Robert Agrusa** and Senior VP of Membership and Industry Relations **Erin Walsh** to the **2023 Florida Governor's Conference on Tourism** this week in Orlando.

This premier educational conference brings together close to 1,000 tourism industry professionals, advertising agencies, travel experts and state leaders

to network and to explore the latest trends and opportunities for the tourism industry.

The conference also provides significant value in order to help tourism industry leaders drive change within their local communities, increase awareness of the tourism and hospitality industry and help serve our future guests and visitors even better. The ultimate goal is for attendees to leave the Florida Governor's Conference on Tourism with tangible takeaways about latest trends, opportunities, and actionable strategies for challenges in addition to new connections and growth opportunities.

Thank you again to our partners at [Visit Orlando](#) and [Experience Kissimmee](#) for your hospitality, and it was great to catch up with Visit Florida President/CEO **Dana Young**, too!





**Join us at the September After Hours Networking Reception; Registration Currently Open**



## After Hours Networking Reception

Wednesday, September 27 2023

5:00PM - 6:30PM

### Delta Marriott Hotel Orlando Celebration

2900 Parkway Blvd., Kissimmee, FL 34747

This event is open to all active 2023 CFHLA Members.

Cash bar will be available.

Complimentary light appetizers provided by:



DELTA  
HOTELS

MARRIOTT

ORLANDO CELEBRATION



COAQUA



[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

PLEASE NOTE THAT REGISTRATION WILL CLOSE AT 5PM ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 OR WHEN SPACE REACHES CAPACITY. SORRY, NO WALK-INS.

All attendees MUST be at least 21 years of age or older to attend.

For more information please contact Faith Moore at [faith.moore@cfhla.org](mailto:faith.moore@cfhla.org)

Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association | 6675 Westwood Blvd., Suite 210 | Orlando, FL 32821 | [www.cfhla.org](http://www.cfhla.org) | 407-313-5000

## Orange County Sets Cutoff Date for Small Business BOOST Grant Applications

*ARPA Funded Small Business, Home-Based Business and Gig Worker Grants Application Deadline is September 15, 2023*

**Orange County Government will close the application portal** for small business, home-based business, and gig worker BOOST grants available

through American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding on **Friday, September 15, 2023, at 11:59 p.m.**

Since July, the Orange County Small Business BOOST program has processed some 2,500 applications, with many more in the queue. Pending grants will continue to be reviewed through September 30, 2023, but new applications must be fully completed by September 15, 2023.

Small businesses may receive up to a \$10,000 grant, home-based businesses may receive up to \$3,000, and gig workers may receive up to \$1,400. For each of the programs, applicants must provide documented business losses between 2020-2023. BOOST Grants are reserved exclusively for businesses located in Orange County, and gig workers with residency in Orange County.

Full BOOST grant eligibility requirements and program criteria are available online in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole at [ocfl.net/BOOST](https://ocfl.net/BOOST). Additionally, if residents are unable to access the internet or have a language barrier, they are asked to email [BOOST@ocfl.net](mailto:BOOST@ocfl.net) or call (407) 836-3111 for assistance.



---

## CFHLA Heart of Hospitality

The Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association would like to congratulate this week's **"Heart of Hospitality"** professionals!

If you haven't been following us on our social media channels this summer, you should! We've been sharing the stories of our incredibly diverse hospitality professionals who are truly the "Heart of Hospitality" throughout Central Florida. Each industry professional has also been recognized and highlighted on the [CFHLA WEBSITE](#).

[Click here to learn more](#) about the recognition series and please help us share their amazing stories! Do you know someone that is the "Heart of

Hospitality" and should have their story shared? If so, please email us at [communications@cfhla.org](mailto:communications@cfhla.org).



**Carlos Martinez**  
**Holiday Inn Club Vacations -**  
**Orange Lake Resort**



**Michael Gifford**  
**Signia by Hilton Orlando**  
**Bonnet Creek**

---

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR  
SEPTEMBER MEMBERS OF THE MONTH**



**Joseph Delgado**  
**Celeste Hotel Orlando,**  
**a Tribute Portfolio Hotel**



**Camila Kerver**  
**Helpro Cleaning Services**

---

## MEET THE SILVER

**Did You Know...** [Prestige Contractor Services, Inc.](#) has over 20+ years of experience and has grown to become a leader of Painting and Restoration companies in Florida. The satisfaction of our clients is our priority, and we proudly stand behind all our work with a 100% satisfaction guarantee. We will be glad to assist you in evaluating your property and determining the best solutions for your individual needs.



---

## UPCOMING EVENTS

For more information on upcoming events, or to register, just click on the button below.

- [Leadership Mentoring Subcommittee Meeting \(9/11/2023\)](#)
- [Allied Relations Council Board Meeting \(9/12/2023\)](#)
- [Allied Relations Council Breakfast \(9/12/2023\)](#)
- [CFHLA Executive Committee Meeting \(9/12/2023\)](#)
- [CFHLA Leads Groups \(9/13/2023\)](#)
- [Vacation Ownership Council Meeting \(9/13/2023\)](#)
- [Security & Safety Council Meeting \(9/14/2023\)](#)
- [CFHLA Adopt-A-School & CARES Committee \(9/14/2023\)](#)
- [High School Outreach Subcommittee Meeting \(9/15/2023\)](#)
- [Governmental Affairs Meeting \(9/20/2023\)](#)
- [Security & Safety Council Active Assailant Training \(9/21/2023\)](#)
- [Employee Relations Committee Meeting \(9/21/2023\)](#)
- [CFHLA Board of Directors Retreat \(9/27/2023\)](#)
- [September After Hours Networking Reception \(9/27/2023\)](#)
- [CFHLA PAC/PC Meeting \(9/28/2023\)](#)

[Click Here to View  
Upcoming](#)

---

## JOB OPENINGS



Check out the latest hospitality employment opportunities in Central Florida.

[VIEW JOB POSTINGS](#)

## CONNECT WITH CFHLA



[WWW.CFHILA.ORG](http://WWW.CFHILA.ORG)

THIS NEWSLETTER IS PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:

 INTERIOR LANDSCAPING	 HOLIDAY DECOR	 <b>GREENERLY PRODUCTIONS</b>	 EVENT FLORAL DESIGN	 WEDDINGS AND SOCIAL EVENTS
 FOLIAGE RENTAL	 FOLIAGE RENTAL	 FOLIAGE RENTAL	 FOLIAGE RENTAL	 FOLIAGE RENTAL

**25+ Year CFHLA Member**  
**CFHLA VIP Member and MVP**

SERVING THE CENTRAL FLORIDA  
COMMUNITY SINCE 1988 WITH THE HIGHEST  
LEVEL OF CUSTOMER SERVICE, PRODUCT  
QUALITY AND CUTTING-EDGE FLORAL,  
FOLIAGE AND DECOR.

[WWW.GREENERYPRODUCTIONS.COM](http://WWW.GREENERYPRODUCTIONS.COM) (407) 363-9151

About CFHLA

6675 Westwood Blvd #210, Orlando, FL 32821

The mission of the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association is to represent the Central Florida Hospitality Industry, by setting the standard of excellence through advocacy, collaboration, education, recognition, and service.