**INDUCTION SPEECH**

**FOR**

**CANDY MAXEY**

Hello everyone and thank you for that warm... **BIENVENUE**!!! That’s how “Welcome” is said in French... and tonight I feel welcomed, humbled by your vote of confidence, and eager to work with all of you, through this association and beyond, to perpetuate a lasting and positive impact on our industry. As times change and trends shift, it is more important and more crucial than ever to be connected... to information... legislation...and tips and tricks that will expand our effectiveness within our macro... and micro communities. What we do here in this part of Texas has an effect on thousands of people. To have access to state-wide, national, and possibly even global intelligence and information is critical in these times. Every phase of life, business, and commerce is moving and changing quickly. As a proactive, involved, cohesive community, we have the undeniable opportunity to remain... “on top of the news and ahead of the times...” And now more than ever, our mandate is to do that **together**.

We are here, tonight, celebrating and renewing the strength and endorsing the future of, the Apartment Association of Tarrant County. The upcoming year will provide challenging, informative opportunities for growth for us, our clients, our tenants, our suppliers... everyone. None of us exist in a bubble... we are neither isolated nor autonomous... we rely on one another for support and collaboration. While I appear to stand here as the incoming president of this association, I want to be very clear... I am here to serve and to facilitate whatever processes need to occur to strengthen and maintain the outreach and effectiveness of this organization and industry. While some people may go through life closing half an eye to conditions around them and the solutions to implement to create better, stronger environments, that’s not who I am. While I am pretty sure that “I don’t know what I don’t know” is a valid point to ponder, I believe I **DO** want to know... and I want to do whatever is possible to make sure all of you are as informed and connected as possible. In order to do that, we must be involved in this process **together**.

I think it’s important that we hold the mission of this organization close to us so that we have a foundation upon which to grow. Our mission is, “To educate, advocate, network and inspire!” Since its inception, over fifty years ago, this organization’s mandate has been to inspire those we represent with a commitment to award-winning education curricula, exemplary public advocacy initiatives, access to effective communication media and to provide a diverse network of forums for business exchange—each designed to define our unique marketplace

J.P. Morgan said, “Go as far as you can see; when you get there, you’ll be able to see farther.” The purpose of this organization is to continually go farther, see farther, and increase the effectiveness and impact this organization has on its members and its beneficiaries. A little bit of research tells us that while the population of Texas was about 10.6 million back in 1967 when this organization began, by 2010, estimates place that number at over **25 million**... and in 2019, projected population is almost **30 million.**  With growth comes growing pains... we need to identify issues, address them head on, and find **solutions** to the issues and conditions that multiply geometrically along with “progress,” population, and every increasingly detailed process. We need to find the tools to support what works and to find the wherewithal to revise procedures and systems that are no longer as effective as they once were. We need to address contemporary conditions while identifying and pursuing future growth and awareness.

One way to prevail in this climate of change is through **partnership**... through working **together**... strengthening our base... addressing issues as a group, and finding solutions as a team. To paraphrase the legendary basketball player, Bill Bradley, “Leadership is the ability to unlock peoples’ potential to become better, stronger, more effective.” As our communities grow, so does our experience and our ability to face and conquer challenges. As we continue to grow as an effective, essential organization in our industry, we will be required to know more, do more, reach more.... that takes a call to action... it’s time for “**All hands on deck**!” It’s time for us to take steps to investigate new legislation, research the impact that new procedures have on our clients and communities, and to encourage growth and participation from our rank and file. I am proud of our new team of officers and advocates. I’m even prouder of our new members who are hopefully eager to explore, learn, and understand how vital it is to have “renewable energy” both within our organization and throughout the neighborhoods we serve. ... and I’m going to be **OVER THE MOON** as I see my own personal mandate fulfilled... to grow this organization, encourage new membership, and to provide fresh, exciting new perspectives and energy.

As this is a volunteer project, fueled and administered as an expression of commitment to our communities and members, I am aware of the fleeting and precious little time we all have to devote to this group... I am also very aware of how participation here informs and supports our “day jobs.” It is my intention that participation in the AATC fosters knowledge, understanding, and growth for all. I envision forums in which we participate to strengthen knowledge and effectiveness. I see the creation and growth of mentoring programs and guest events to inform and include our younger members while attracting new, potential members. I see break out groups and sessions designed to bring diverse areas of our industries together in constructive, innovative conversations... all maintaining the goal to make this the most productive, proactive, supportive group... for **ALL OF US**.

I want to thank you in advance for your participation and encouragement as we go forth and build a greater AATC. Thank you all!!