

MONTICELLO NEWS

Wednesday, July 24, 2024

Section B

2024
ELECTION
Choose Well
Jefferson County

Candidates for U.S. Senate

Aug. 20 Primary for Each Party

Republican Primary Winner Faces Democratic Primary Winner on Nov. 5



Rick Scott
Incumbent (R)
rickscott.com



Keith Gross
(R)
keithgross.com



John S. Columbus
(R)
columbusforcongress.com



Stanley Campbell
(D)
stanleyforflorida.com



Rod Joseph
(D)
rodjoseph.org



Debbie Mucarsel-Powell
(D)
debbieforflorida.com



Brian Rush
(D)
rushforsenate.com

Candidates for U.S House of Representatives

Aug. 20 Primary for Republican Party
Republican Primary Winner Faces Democratic Party Candidate on Nov. 5



Neal Dunn
Incumbent (R)
nealdunn.com



Rhonda Woodward
(R)
rhondaforfl.com



Meghann Hovey
(D)



Corey Simon
Incumbent (R)
simonforflorida.com



Kimblin NeSmith
(D)
kimblinnesmith.com



Daryl Parks
(D)
darylforflorida.com

Candidates for Florida Senate District 3

Aug. 20 Primary for Democratic Party
Democratic Primary Winner Faces Republican Party Candidate on Nov. 5

Candidates for Florida House District 7

Nov. 5 General Election



Jason Shoaf
Incumbent (R)
jasonshoaf.com



Kenny Beasley
(D)
kennyb4florida.com



Candidates for Florida House District 9

Nov. 5 General Election



Allison Tant
Incumbent (D)
allisontant.com



Spencer Brass
(R)
votespencerbrass.com

★ VOTE ★ ★ ★ 2024

LOCAL RACES

Candidates for Clerk of Court/Comptroller Aug. 20 Universal Primary Contest



Cecil M. "Trey" Hightower III (R)



Kirk Reams (R)



Chris Tuten (R)



John "JT" Ward (R)



Mac McNeill Incumbent (R)



Andrew Fischer (R)

Candidates for Superintendent of Schools Aug. 20 Republican and Democratic Primary Republican Primary Winner Faces Democratic Primary Winner on Nov. 5



Eydie Tricquet Incumbent (R)



Al Cooksey (R)



LaClarence Mays (D)



Jackie Pons (D)

Candidates for School Board Aug. 20 Nonpartison Election

District 1



Gladys Roann-Watson Incumbent



Joy Beth Frisby

Candidates for Tax Collector

Aug. 20 for Republican Party
Republican Primary Winner Faces Democratic Candidate on Nov. 5



Shanna Boutwell (R)

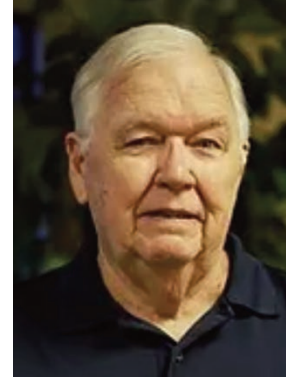


Nicholas Roberts (R)



Sharon Woodson-Enoch (D)

District 4



Bill Brumfield Incumbent



Kendra Burrus

Candidates for County Commission

District 1

Aug. 20 Universal Primary contest



Jessica (Lane) Gramling (R)



Jessica Robinson (R)



J. T. Surles Incumbent (R)



C.P. Miller (D)

District 3

Nov. 5 General Election

Candidates for Property Appraiser Nov. 5 General Election



Angela Gray Incumbent (D)



Stephen Byers (R)

1. What elected office are the campaigning for and why?

I am running for the Clerk of Court/Comptroller role for Jefferson County because of my desire to restore people's trust in this office. I love this county and want to use the skills I have acquired over the last 18 years to serve our citizens by protecting their tax dollars and delivering exceptional customer service.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

An important role for Clerk of Court is being the Chief Financial Officer for our County and is responsible for the disbursement of payments, processing payroll, investing County funds and preparing annual reports, among other duties. Having worked for Farmers and Merchants Bank and the City of Tallahassee Treasurer-Clerk's Office I have acquired the knowledge in private banking and government finance to fulfill these job duties. The prior duties I had at Farmers and Merchants Bank were balancing general ledger accounts, working overdrafts and return checks, cash handling, ACH and wire processing, online banking and debit card support, and fraud monitoring. My current duties in the City of Tallahassee Treasury-Management Division include balancing several accounts for the City and Consolidated Dispatch Agency, handling investments/contracts for City funds, preparing agenda items for City Commission



Candidate for Clerk of Court/Comptroller
CECIL M. "TREY" HIGHTOWER
Trey Hightower for Jefferson County Clerk of Court (on Facebook)



implement checks and balances or modify/reinforce the ones in place to ensure we are getting the appropriate results. Current processes need to be reviewed to see if we can increase security, improve efficiency, or lower costs.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

If elected to this office I would use all means possible to provide the highest level of customer service by offering as many services as allowed through our website, but also being able to assist people who would rather come in-person. Additionally, if elected I would invest the County's funds to bring in additional income to allow the County to provide additional services for our residents. One option is to invest in a local government investment pool with low risk, daily available cash, with some currently paying over 5%. Being a smaller county with a smaller budget we must make every dollar count.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?
My detailed work experience in finance sets me apart from other candidates in this race and I believe that is vital for the position. Not only would I have the experience to oversee the day-to-day operations, but I would have the ability to be hands-on and investigate any problems first-hand. Attention to detail, especially with financials, would help quickly identify any discrepancies or anomalies that warrant further consideration.

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

I am campaigning for the office of Clerk of Courts and Comptroller. I was first elected to this office in 2006. I am running for this office again as I would like to continue working for and serving the people of this great county.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

I have both my Masters in Business Administration and my Juris Doctor in Law from FSU. My education aligns with the duties of the Clerk in both overseeing the court system and as serving as the county's Chief Financial Officer. I have extensive experience having served as your Clerk since being elected 18 years ago.



Candidate for Clerk of Court/Comptroller
KIRK REAMS
reams38@gmail.com



establishing a better working relationship with the Board of County Commissioners. I would like to meet with each individually to address any concerns or questions he/she may have so that we can move forward together instead of using public meetings as a means of political posturing and finger pointing.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

I have always been supportive of and involved in the local community and would continue to do so from this leadership position.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?
No other candidate in this race has the level of relevant education and experience as the Clerk of Court.

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

I am running for Clerk of Court/Comptroller. I have been a Commissioner since 2020, during my time on the board it became clear that the financial reporting and accounting was lacking which was leading the Board of Commissioners to make poor financial decisions. The little to no accountability and transparency was putting a strain on the relationship between the Board and Clerk and destroying the public trust in both. I made the decision to run because I have seen the issues and will work diligently to restore the relationship with the Board and regain the public's trust.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

I have served as a Commissioner since 2020, working directly with the county's budget. I also serve on numerous boards and committees that oversee \$55+ million dollars and assets. I have worked with and created great relationships with county staff and Constitutional Officers which I feel



Candidate for Clerk of Court/Comptroller
CHRIS TUTEN
ctuten07@gmail.com



contract an outside CPA firm, but from January through April they have very little availability because of working on W-2s for tax season. That same time period is when we are at the height of our budget season and it's crucial to have a CPA readily available at all times.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

I want to create more transparency to the public when it comes to finances, contracts and all other public records. I feel that this will lead to accountability which will in turn lead to public trust.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?
I have 4 years experience working directly with the county budget and finances. I have created great working relationships with county staff and Constitutionals. During my time on the board I have lobbied on the county's behalf in front of multiple State Representatives and Committees. This experience is important as the Clerk is asked and expected to do the same during legislation on behalf of the Clerk of Courts Corporation.

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

I am running for the Office of the Clerk of Court & Comptroller. My background and experience best parallel the skills needed to be a successful Clerk of Court, and I feel that this is the position in the county where I can impact the most positive change.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

I earned a degree in Food and Resource Economics from the University of Florida, which is an applied economics degree focusing on Supply Chain Management and Natural Resource Utilization. This degree is very applicable for the analytical and financial portions of the Clerk's role. For most of my professional career I have worked in the Commercial Construction Industry as a Project Manager. A Project Manager's role is heavily reliant on experience with financial accounting, statutory compliance, and the ability to problem solve in a fast paced, dynamic environment.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened and when?

No, nor do I ever plan to be.



Candidate for Clerk of Court/Comptroller
JOHN "JT" WARD
Ward for Clerk 2024 (on Facebook)



seems like a monolith, and they are unsure how to go about seeking the help that is offered there. There are multiple platforms to help achieve this, but often the most effective avenue is face to face communication and an open door.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?

My education and professional career have given me a very well-rounded skill set, and relevant experience in fields that are applicable for the role of the Clerk. Some of those being Financial Management, Regulatory Compliance, Personnel Management, and Leadership.

4. What is an issue relevant to the office you seek, and how would you address it if elected?

I think the most relevant issue facing the office of the Clerk of Court is a perceived lack of public trust, due to issues with financial transparency. The first step in rectifying this would be to implement new financial accounting best practices; this would help ensure future accountability and clarity for community members and/or auditors when reviewing the county budget.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

Fostering community involvement to help citizens better understand how the office of the Clerk of Court functions would be a high priority. For some citizens of the county, the courthouse





1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

As the current Jefferson County Sheriff, I am running for re-election. For approximately the past 6 1/2 years, I have held the Office of Sheriff, and it has been an honor to serve and protect our community. I want to continue to have the opportunity to make Jefferson County a better and safer place to live and raise a family.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

Besides being your current Jefferson County Sheriff, I served 4 years in the United States Marine Corps obtaining the rank of Sergeant. I also have a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice, attended Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Leadership Training, obtained numerous Criminal Justice Standards & Training Commission (CJSTC) Instructor Certificates, and attended CJSTC and outside training courses during my 27 year law enforcement career. I am also on the Board of Directors for the Florida Sheriffs Association and the Florida Sheriffs Youth



Candidate for Sheriff

MAC McNEILL
macmcneill.com



5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

As your Sheriff for the last 6 1/2 years, we have worked to make our community safer, championed for millions of dollars in state appropriations and grants to help fund our agency with less burden on our county taxpayers, been at the forefront of the planning and recovery from the numerous hurricanes and storms we have experienced, and been an integral part of supporting our local community events, fundraisers, and outreach efforts.

6. What is one way you stand out from others seeking the same office?

The way I stand out from my opponent is my education and my 27 years of law enforcement experience with a majority of that time in a supervisory role. I also have numerous local, state, and federal endorsements for my re-election, and my diverse law enforcement background and experience has allowed me to form relationships in our state legislature which has helped benefit our county and citizens greatly during my tenure. Finally, I have the experience of being your Sheriff for the past 6 1/2 years.

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

Jefferson County Sheriff, I want to be the Sheriff because I feel there needs to be a culture change in law enforcement. We need to bring back law and order, but also be able to Community Police in a way that shows humanity and compassion. I also feel I have life experiences that will help the relationship between the community and law enforcement.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

I have served in a law enforcement (United States Air Force and local Police Agency) capacity since March of 2006. I have held different leadership positions in both. I hold FDLE certifications as a General Instructor and Firearms Instructor. I feel my experiences will help me to communicate clearly and effectively.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened?

No

4. What is an issue relevant to the office you



Candidate for Sheriff

ANDREW FISCHER
fischerforsheriff.com



Superintendent to game plan a way to intervene with youth offenders. Something that has been brought to my attention is the Police Athletic League (PAL). Helping find activities for youth in the county could be a help to lower youthful offenders. All Government Agencies, Schools and families have the same overall goals of a bright future for the youth. Why not work together and have more resources available to achieve the same goal.

6. What is one way you stand out from others seeking the same office?

I have 18 years of experience within the Law Enforcement community. I acknowledge perspectives will be different from members of the community. I am willing to be transparent to ALL, to the best of my ability. Perspectives can be different from the rookies to the veterans at the Sheriff's Office. I am willing to listen, communicate and supply Deputies with the tools they need to be the BEST in Florida. I will not be able to make everyone happy with my decisions and actions, but I'm willing to be there for the team and members of the community as your next, Sheriff of Jefferson County.

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

I am seeking re-election for the position of Superintendent of Schools to continue the work I have begun. I believe another term is necessary to fully restore our district and establish a solid foundation. Over the last four years, I have challenged the Department of Education to regain local control of our schools, revamped operational systems, established policies, and nearly completed developing procedures. I have essentially reconstructed the school system from scratch. My goal is to safeguard our schools from state takeovers, as recovering control once lost would be extremely difficult. Maintaining consistent leadership in this role is critical to the prosperity of our school system.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

With 37 years of experience in public education, including the most recent four years, I am well-equipped for this position. Throughout my career, I have served as a classroom teacher, assistant principal, principal, secondary reading coach, director of a project benefiting Jefferson County, and most recently as a superintendent. Additionally, my background in accounting has provided me with the skills to comprehend budgets and



Candidate for Superintendent of Schools

EYDIE TRIQUET



academically often experience mental health challenges and low self-esteem. When students view themselves as less intelligent, their personal goals and ambitions are limited. My goal is for all students to feel confident in their abilities.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the community?

In this role, I will persist in guaranteeing that students receive top-notch education, leading them towards successful college and/or career paths. This includes incorporating CTE, apprenticeship programs, dual enrollment options, and adult education opportunities to further enhance their learning experiences.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?

Setting myself apart from my competitors, I possess experience in every aspect of the school system except transportation. I stand alone as the sole candidate who has held every position within the district. Over my 37-year career, I have immersed myself in various roles at both the school and district levels. The only role I have yet to undertake is that of a bus driver. Given our district's limited resources and staff, it is imperative that the Superintendent be well-versed in all areas and capable of performing any role. In my first two years, I dedicated myself to learning all the essential responsibilities required to effectively manage a district.





1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?
 Superintendent of Schools

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?
 My background as an educator, school administrator, State Finance Administrator, and Director of Budget and Chief Financial Officer will allow me to navigate the district and lead with experience as well as ensure our resources are used for the enhancement of the Schools to support students' educational experience.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened and when?
 No



Candidate for Superintendent of Schools

LaCLARENCE MAYS

maysforsuperintendent.com



forums to make sure we are communicating with all stakeholders while making sure we are honest and transparent, as we develop partnerships.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?
 We will implement our workforce readiness plan for Jefferson 9-12, Homeschool, and Private Schools. Then through a collaboration with the City and County commission, we will expand for the county.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?
 I have experience as a Teacher, School Administrator, State Finance and Administration, School Director of budget and Chief Finance Officer for a school District.

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?
 I am running for Superintendent of Schools because I want to continue to build upon the success that we have had while I served as principal of Jefferson K-12 for the past three years. During that time period, we improved our school grade to a "C" and I was recognized by the Florida Department of Education as a Transformational Principal. I also want to create a positive learning environment in our entire school system where we continue to retain and recruit the best teachers and staff in the state of Florida.

2. How is your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?
 I would draw upon my tenured experience of a high performing, majority-minority school district as the superintendent of schools for ten years. I hold a master's degree in educational leadership from Florida A&M University. I am certified in as a school principal. I formerly served as a principal, assistant principal, teacher, and athletic director for more than 30 years. I have been recognized as a principal of the year by the Jo Glick Award given out by the association of teachers. I also have been recognized by Florida A&M University as a member on their Wall of Distinction for Educational Leadership. During my experience as Superintendent, I improved the graduation rate for African American students by 22% as well as students with disabilities. As a result, the district became the number one high performing majority-minority school district in the State of Florida.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened and when?
 No.



Candidate for Superintendent of Schools

JACKIE PONS

Jackie Pons for Superintendent (on Facebook)



includes all government agencies and especially our Jefferson K-12 Foundation. Through this coalition we could build strong mentoring programs for our students, engage business partners, and create a volunteer program. I would also form a partnership with all early learning providers in order to share resources to ensure that our incoming kindergarteners come to school ready. I would also involve the faith-based community to seek their assistance with providing volunteers and mentors for the students. Expansion of our community school is critical so we can remove all barriers for attendance and work with students to close the achievement gap. Furthermore, to increase attendance and decrease absenteeism, I will enhance our music, art, and athletic programs to further engage students to attend school which will improve their overall academic performance.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?
 I stand out with broad experience. I am the only candidate that has led a high performing school district for 10 years. I was one of only fourteen principals to be named as a U.S. Blue Ribbon principal. I have successful, responsible experience with overseeing budgets from 3 million up until 500 million dollars, while also maintaining the required reserve. During my tenure as Superintendent, I led a school district during a recession when the State took back 111 million dollars out of the base budget and I directed all resources to the school to protect the classroom and not lose one teaching position. During my 10 years of serving as a Superintendent I had to develop and strengthen my communication skills by solving significant problems within our community. Due to the strength of my communication skills, I was awarded the NAACP Leadership Award. These valuable 10 years of Superintendent taught me how to be an effective school/district leader. I also have experience with collaborating with school board members and community leaders so that we address problems immediately through strong, consistent communication in order to improve our entire district.

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?
 Superintendent of schools. To improve Jefferson county schools and the lives of students

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?
 Past superintendent with 4 years of experience

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened?
 No

4. What is an issue relevant to the office you seek, and how would you address it if elected?
 School grades are unacceptable. We owe the parents and students a better education. Re-establish the pride of Jefferson county tigers

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?
 A better education will improve everything. Reach out to the community to support all students improvement together it can be done

6. What is one way you stand out from others seeking the same office?
 I stand out because I graduated from Jefferson. All 6 family members did also. I have lived here most of my life so I believe in this county and the public schools. I don't make excuses. We will change the outcome.



Candidate for Superintendent of Schools

AL COOKSEY



Meet and Greet

**at Homestead Barn
 519 Whitehouse Rd.
 Thursday, July 25
 6 p.m.**

Food • Music • Fun

Al Cooksey
 for Superintendant of Schools

Paid political advertisement, paid for and approved by Al Cooksey, Republican, Candidate for Superintendant of Schools.



1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

I am campaigning for the office of Jefferson County Tax Collector. I have 34 collective years of experience in the fields of what the Jefferson County Tax Collector's responsibilities are: 12 years with the Florida Department of Motor Vehicles and 22 years working at the Leon County Tax Collector's Office. I am a Jefferson County resident and a people person who enjoys helping others. I am eager to bring my experience, knowledge, customer service skills, integrity, and dedication to serving our Jefferson County community. But what drives me the most is my genuine passion for this work-I would love nothing more than serving the citizens of my community.

2. How are your education, work/life experience, and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

34 years of collective years of experience; working with The Department of Motor Vehicles (12 years) and Leon County Tax Collector (22 years)
Providing exceptional Customer Service
Good Communication skills



Candidate for Tax Collector

SHANNA BOUTWELL

Shanna Boutwell for Jefferson County Tax Collector (on Facebook)



Multi-tasking abilities
Conflict resolution skills with complaints, difficult situations and problem solving
Knowledge of Policies & Procedures for Motor Vehicles, Driver licenses, Hunting & Fishing, Birth Certificates, Concealed Weapons & Property Taxes.
Experience in training new employees and auditing title work and driver license for accuracy

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened and when?

No

4. What is an issue relevant to the office you seek, and how would you address it if needed?

I would like to have all employees cross-trained to serve more citizens efficiently and to

offer friendly, efficient, and effective service to all citizens of Jefferson County.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

Besides cross training employees in the office, my goal is to get the road skills test back in Jefferson County to keep our citizens from having to drive to other counties to take a driving test.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?

The one way I stand out from other candidates is all my years of experience working with The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles for 12 years and The Leon County Tax Collector's office for 22 years. I am currently serving in a manager's position at the Leon County Tax Collector's office.

It's my commitment to making a difference and always ready to listen to any of your concerns and serve you with integrity. I believe working together we can all make a difference in our community.

I would appreciate your vote so that I may bring my experience and knowledge to the office of The Jefferson County Tax Collector's office and to the citizens of Jefferson County.

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

I'm running for Tax Collector because I want to serve my county by helping our community continue to grow into a place our citizens are proud of, and that other communities strive to be like.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

I graduated from Aucilla Christian Academy and then attended Tallahassee Community College where I obtained my Associate of Arts degree. This allowed me to then attend EMT school and the Tallahassee Fire Academy where I earned my State of Florida Firefighter Certificate. I then served at the Jefferson County Fire Department for a year and a half. I am currently at the Tallahassee Fire Department where I have been for the past 4 years. On my days off I work for my family's Construction Company, M&R Construction and Siding, Inc., here in Monticello. The knowledge I have gained through my education and the exposure and relationships created with individuals in this county have taught me the necessary skills



Candidate for Tax Collector

NICHOLAS ROBERTS



needed to serve my community.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened?

I have no criminal background.

4. What is an issue relevant to the office you seek, and how would you address it if elected?

I believe one of the main issues is that the wait time to be seen is too long. We need more employees working in office to be able to solve this problem. I plan to start with this issue and hire well trained people within our county to assist our residents in a timely manner. I want the office to be more involved with the community because I

believe this would make our citizens feel more welcomed and comfortable when they do come into our office for help. I plan to create this positive relationship by putting on events to show the citizens that we are here, and we care.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

I plan to do outreach to make the Tax Collector office more accessible and to do fundraisers to help our youth continue their paths in education.

6. What is one way you stand out from others seeking the same office?

I believe my age and wanting to make our community the best it can be is what makes me stand out. I have many years ahead of me that I can dedicate to this community. I was born and raised here, and Jefferson County is where my own family will be born and raised. I am deeply rooted and invested in this county. Not only do I want to help our community better itself, but I want it done at a rate that we keep our core values that have always made Jefferson County what it is. I don't want to uproot this community; I want to water it and help it thrive from its existing roots.

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

I am seeking your vote to become the next Jefferson County Tax Collector. With 14 years of dedicated service in the Jefferson County Tax Collector's office, I bring unmatched experience and a proven track record of excellence to this position.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

Proven Experience as a Tax Collector
As the current Assistant to the Tax Collector, I have honed my skills in balancing and distributing funds to various State Agents and Taxing Authorities. My responsibilities include managing accounts receivable and payable, overseeing the day-to-day operations of the office, and assisting clerks with complex transactions. I am also in charge of the Tax Certificate Sale and Tax Deed Applications. My expertise spans across office management, Tag and Title services, Driver's License examination, and Property Tax processes.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or



Candidate for Tax Collector

SHARON WOODSON- ENOCH

Sharon Woodson Enoch for Jefferson County Tax Collector (on Facebook)



disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened?

Integrity and Commitment

I have a spotless record, having never been convicted of any crime or disciplined for any misconduct. My commitment to maintaining the highest standards of integrity and professionalism is unwavering.

4. What is an issue relevant to the office you seek, and how would you address it if elected?

I am confident in the current operations of the office and am always open to suggestions that can enhance our services. I am dedicated to finding the

best solutions for our customers and ensuring their needs are met efficiently.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

Vision for the Future
If elected, I will continue to ensure the return of excess fees generated by the Tax Collector's office to benefit our county. My goal is to maintain an open-door policy, welcoming and assisting customers from other counties, which in turn generates additional revenue for Jefferson County.

6. What is one way you stand out from others seeking the same office?

My extensive hands-on experience across all duties of a Tax Collector means no training will be necessary. This experience, combined with my commitment to fairness, honesty, and professionalism, sets me apart from other candidates.

I believe in making every visit to the Tax Collector's Office a pleasant one. My familiarity with the community and dedication to service ensures that I am a friendly and welcoming face for all who need assistance.



1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

I'm running for County Commissioner, District 1 because I believe that we need strong, proven leadership to balance the growth that's coming to our county while protecting our heritage and unique way of life. We need someone who will serve with the highest degree of ethical standards and integrity. Jefferson County residents need someone who will advocate on their behalf and protect the rural characteristics of Jefferson County and values they hold dear. I will ensure that the county will utilize fiscally responsible policies to ensure our taxpayer dollars are being spent effectively and efficiently. I'll support the policies and procedures the current Board of County Commissioners and County Manager have implemented while looking for new ways to better serve the community. I will also ensure that our county policies are followed by everyone equally and fairly, including myself. I've worked in government since 2016 and I know what it takes to keep us accountable, focused, and on track.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

I have proudly served Jefferson County as a Planning Commissioner for over two years and have learned how to manage land-use types versus protecting our natural environment and rural way of living. As a planning commissioner, I strive to achieve aesthetically pleasing and compatible land developments without compromising the charm of Jefferson County.

In 2018, I started attending Jefferson County Republican Party meetings and was elected as Precinct Woman in 2020. Since 2021, I have served the Jefferson County Republican Party as Treasurer. Through this role, I developed the leadership skills necessary to implement policies that were effective in redefining the role of the Jefferson County Republican Party in our community.



Candidate for County Commissioner District 1
JESSICA GRAMBLING

Jessica Lane Gramling For District One County Commissioner (on Facebook)



Serving on the board of the Jefferson County Historical Association has given me insight and understanding in our heritage and the importance of tradition in Jefferson County. One of the educational programs we offer is our "Who We Were" series in which representatives from our founding families share their family's stories and the role they played in the development of our community. I am still learning the valuable contributions and legacies our generational families have provided in making Jefferson County as we know it today.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened and when?

No

4. What is an issue relevant to the office you seek, and how would you address it if elected?

Good communication and accountability are relevant issues to being a County Commissioner. I will practice transparency and good communication during my tenure if I am fortunate enough to be elected. I have listened to my neighbors in District 1 and have heard their need to know what local government is doing to spend tax dollars wisely and respond to their various needs.

I will work with the County Manager to put better communication tools in place. One item currently in the works is a new mobile app that citizens can download and sign-up to receive updates and notifications. I will be hands on in making sure this application is utilized by our departments to post notifications about road

maintenance or upgrades, when sports activities are taking place at the recreation park, and solid waste collection site schedules.

The Commission has also taken proactive action to have more control over the budget process and ensure transparency in how tax dollars are being spent. I intend to continue these good practices and be a good steward of taxpayer dollars.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

One of the main areas I'd like to concentrate on is building better relations with our community partners and working cohesively with our local schools and Monticello's City Council. I'm committed to bringing the highest level of communication to Jefferson County by being open and accessible to our community partners and to its constituents. Building stronger relationships will allow us to achieve our common goals and strengthen our community.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?

I have a long-standing record of effectively serving Jefferson County through various organizations since 2017. I first began serving our community as a volunteer at Wag the Dog and transitioned to serving on the board of the Jefferson County Humane Society for several years. Simultaneously, I joined the Keystone Federated Republican Women in 2019 and served as Secretary from 2020 until 2021. I became a Precinct Woman of the Jefferson County Republican Party in 2020 and have been serving as Treasurer since 2021. I was appointed to Planning Commissioner and joined the Jefferson County Historical Association in 2022. Recently, I became a member of the Monticello Rotary Club, and I am excited about serving the community through this organization. Through these various roles I have developed skills for building a consensus and implementing policies for the greater good of an organization, while meeting their goals and expectations.

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

I am campaigning for the Jefferson County Commission District One seat. My goal is to strengthen our district by working alongside my constituents to find solutions to issues without compromising our values. I will lead by example and commit to educate myself and thoroughly research all questions and concerns brought to my attention.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

Since moving to Jefferson County, my husband and I have successfully established and managed three thriving businesses: Robinson Gunworks, Robinson U-haul, and Mad Man Graphics. Additionally, we oversee the daily operations of our family farm. I skillfully handle day-to-day operations, including budgeting ,payroll, and tax responsibilities.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened and when?

No

4. What is an issue relevant to the office you seek, and how would you address it if elected?

A significant issue is finding the balance between progress and preservation. I plan to address this by helping to implement proper zoning regulations that will align with our mission statement. This will ensure that development is managed thoughtfully while preserving the character values of our community. Another major concern for our county is



Candidate for County Commissioner District 1
JESSICA ROBINSON

Jessica4jeffersondist1@gmail.com



our roads. If elected commissioner, I would collaborate with our road department and county manager to develop and implement a comprehensive plan to upgrade and maintain our roads, ensuring that progress is both efficient and equitable.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

I would use my position to improve the local community by being accessible and promoting better communication between the commission and my constituents. I will advocate for issues that are important to District 1, ensuring that the community's voice is heard and considered in all decisions.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?

My family and I have lived in District 1 for eight years, consistently showing up for our community and contributing in every way we can. Our deep roots and active involvement in the community demonstrates my commitment to making this a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family.

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

I am campaigning for School Board District 1 because of my commitment to the families, children and future of Jefferson County. I want to see a billboard that says " I MOVED TO JEFFERSON COUNTY BECAUSE OF THE SCHOOLS"

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

I have worked and volunteered with so many families in this community. My family is from here. I know the roots of this community and my education and experience is relevant as well. I can handle intense situations, I am flexible as well. I also deal with local and state government entities, and I am very knowledgeable about bookkeeping and budgets. I have always been an advocate for all.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened and when?

Yes, I have. I was diagnosed with epilepsy at the age of 12. If you would like to know what I have been through or know someone that needs help, please call me or email. I know two good Irish attorneys. Also, being in the medical and criminal field, you must have compassion. We are human, and if you cannot look past rules and regulations, and see



Candidate for School Board District 1
JOY BETH FRISBY

joybethfrisby.com



someone as a human, then you have no place as a politician, especially a school board member. Please feel free to contact me anytime, (850) 590-5359 or *Bethfrisby@gmail.com*.

4. What is an issue relevant to the office you seek, and how would you address it if elected?

We have one public school in Jefferson County, and we are noticed by the Department of Education. Parents now have choices for their kids to get a quality education. I am here to make sure Jefferson County parents can obtain those resources for their kids to prosper. Also, I will make sure that accountability and communication will be maintained throughout my district. If you vote for me, you will know that I am your school board member, and your questions and concerns will be answered. Constituents will get help, and hear from me continuously about our school systems. I WILL

BE THE ADVOCATE FOR THE FAMILIES, CHILDREN AND YOUR TAX DOLLAR.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

If elected, I will work with State and local officials to make sure there are more parks and recreation facilities for our children and families to use. I will make sure that families have access to resources so they can thrive. I will continue to monitor the budget prepared by the Superintendent. I will not table any items, due to lack of education or homework. I will work on bringing more kids back to the Jefferson County school system, either private, homeschool, or Jefferson (K-12). I will always answer and advocate for all my constituents. I WILL MAKE SURE KIDS COME BEFORE POLITICS.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?

I stand out because I fight for what is right and will not be quiet. I am young and ambitious. I have kids in the school system, and I am a single mom who lives on a fixed income and must work hard for every dollar I make. I am a faithful servant of God and know the thing that will make Jefferson County thrive is in children's future. Our kids deserve it, and so does Jefferson County. KIDS ARE OUR FUTURE.

VOTE FOR FRISBY
Early voting Aug 5-17, Primary Aug 20.





1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

School Board – District 1: To advocate and sharply focus on budget management. It is essential that we optimize every dollar to maximize the educational benefits for all our students. This approach not only enhances our children’s learning experiences but also upholds my responsibility to the taxpayers of Jefferson County. Additionally, I would focus on Board policy and ensure that every decision is approached with rigor and thoughtfulness with the students foremost.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

Volunteering and serving over the years with different organizations has allowed me to become intimately involved in the lives of all members of this community. I have gained a “lay person’s” experience working with budgets both large and small by securing and managing grant funding from private and state entities. My deep sense of community is evidenced by my continued effort to enhance the education and well-being of all youth in our community.

Current community involvement includes: Jefferson County Teacher’s Credit Union (Board Chair); Jefferson County Youth Council (Chair); Jefferson County School Board (Chair); Monticello Opera House (Board Member); Howard Academy Educational and Recreational Council (Chair); Jefferson County Historical Association (Board Member); Jefferson County Education Association (Board Member); and Friends of the Community



Candidate for School Board District 1

GLADYS ROANN-WATSON



(Board Member).

Past community involvement included Boys and Girls Club of the Big Bend (Board Member); Healthy Start – Madison, Jefferson, and Taylor Counties (Chair/Board Member) and Chair of the Jefferson County Juvenile Justice Counsel. My education includes a Bachelor of Science in Health Education and Master of Science in Social Work, Florida State University. As well as Master School Board Certification and Continuing Education in School Finance and Board Policy. My work history includes 37 years as the Jefferson District School Nurse, Healthy Ways Inc for 2+ years as a Nurse/Social Worker, and Nurse/Social Worker at Madison County Health Department for 2+ years.

Other experiences include being chosen as the Grand Marshal of the Monticello Watermelon Festival in 2001 and 2023, being recognized as a Jefferson County Health Pioneer, 1991 Florida School Nurse of the Year, and in 2023 recognized by the Senior Citizen Foundation, City of Tallahassee, as a Silver Star Senior. Also appointed by a past Governor to the Florida statewide Human Rights Commission, the Judicial Nominating Commission,

and the Florida Health and Human Services Advocacy Board representing Jefferson County.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened and when?

No

4. What is an issue relevant to the office you seek, and how would you address it if elected?

The main issue relative to the duties of the School Board is policy and Budget oversight. I would actively ensure that

funds allocated by the state of Florida and Jefferson County taxpayers – at Jefferson’s K-12 school are effectively and efficiently used to support a high-quality education. I am committed to monetary responsibility and educational excellence.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

If elected I would continue to be actively involved in the school community, attending, and participating in activities to support their programs. I would encourage transparency, accountability, and open communication with the taxpayers of Jefferson County. I will always be respectful and responsive to the citizens’ inquiries and concerns.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?

My history of being a staunch advocate of all areas related to children and their needs: whether food, clothing, shelter, or health has given me a window into the unique needs of our children. I pride myself on being able to interact positively with all members of this community. I pledge to continue to be a strong voice for the students, the Teachers, and our community.

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

I am running for School Board Member for District 4. When my family and I came to Jefferson County over 40 years ago, I fell in love with this county and city of Monticello. When I started teaching that August, I found out quickly that many students were growing up the way I did, without a father figure. I felt called by God to teach 50 years ago and I quickly found why He sent me to Monticello. I am an educator for one reason, to help as many young people as I can. As a board member, I feel I can still contribute to the young people of this community and their families. That is why I am running for this position.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

A: I attended Eastern Kentucky University where I was president of my freshman class. I then transferred to Trevecca Nazarene University where I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education. I completed several hundred recertification hours and workshops for my certification. Currently, I am certified in history, driver’s education and agriculture/horticulture, but have been certified in several different areas of



Candidate for School Board District 4

WILLIAM “BILL” BRUMFIELD



teaching over the years and have served on many committees. I have taught for five decades and have had the opportunity to teach every grade from 1st through 12th. I have served as chairman of the board during my tenure and previously been superintendent. I believe all of these experiences are relevant to the position I am running for.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened and when?

No, I have never been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct.

4. What is an issue relevant to the office you seek, and how would you address it if elected?

We need fiscal responsibility. I’d like to see

more transparency with the budget and be able to give monthly reports to the public, as well as the school board. This will help ensure that we have no fiscal problems.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

A: If re-elected to the school board, I will continue what I have been doing to support the administration and the teachers. I want to help give them what they need, in order to give our children the very best education possible. I will make sure I have a continued detailed

knowledge of our district and will continue working with people within our community to advocate for the children and our school system.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?

I have been an educator all my life and I believe that I can bring much needed experience and knowledge that I have gained over the last 50 years of my teaching career. I am familiar with many programs at both the school and state level. I have been a classroom teacher, a school administrator and I am a certified FSBA Master School Board Member. I have also served as superintendent in the past and because of these things, I know what it takes to run a school district from the inside out.

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

I am running for Jefferson County School Board District 4. I am passionate about education and view the school board as a way to serve our students and families and, ultimately, our community through the educational enrichment of the developing generation.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

I have over 23 years of experience in the classroom as a teacher and leader. I have a Master’s degree in Educational Leadership and Administration and have taught elementary, middle, and high school students in both public and private school settings.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened and when?



Candidate for School Board District 4

KENDRA BURRUS

burrus4schoolboard@gmail.com



No, never.

4. What is an issue relevant to the office you seek, and how would you address it if elected?

There are multiple issues; primarily cooperation and communication; both between the school, the superintendent, and the board, as well as between the school and the parents. We need outreach in the community, communication with parents, and

programs at the school that make the students want to be there and take pride in their school.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

I will help the community by advocating for the highest quality education and opportunities in our school, by working with the superintendent, principal, and other board members to bring opportunities to our students and adults, and by remaining focused on high-quality

education.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?

One way that I stand out is the fact that I am a current Jefferson County K-12 parent. I have a vested interest in seeing our school and our students be successful. It is real for me because what happens at the school directly impacts my family.



Candidate for Property Appraiser

STEVE BYERS



1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?
 Jefferson County Property Appraiser --- I have a website for people to reference, comment, and ask me direct questions.
 See www.votestevemyers.com

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?
 I am asking my friends, neighbors and "all voters" to re-elect me for Jefferson County Property Appraiser. The Office of the Property Appraiser is fundamental to establishing fair values for property owners and accurate estimates to local governmental agencies for planning and budgeting. Our information, technology and staff knowledge are important resources used to help all county functions perform their duties.

Candidate for Property Appraiser

ANGELA GRAY

voteangelagray.com



6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?
 I would say the biggest way that I stand out from others seeking this office is experience. I am aware of the expectations of the job; I know the people in the community; and I have a proven record of success. Another way I stand out is taxpayer advocacy. As a property owner myself, I always advocate and be a voice for the taxpayer on the local and state levels.

I genuinely love serving the community and during my tenure I have taken the responsibilities of this office very seriously. I continuously challenge myself and my team to refine our processes without sacrificing customer service. Some of the ways taxpayers are benefiting from this hard work and forward thinking are by having their tax dollars returned when this office refunds unspent budget funds; the convenience of applying for Homestead Exemption on-line; and reduced wasteful spending through the elimination of redundant services.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened and when?
 No.

4. What is an issue relevant to the office you seek, and how would you address it if elected?
 A relevant issue to this office is the complicated, ever-changing legislation and court rulings that affect property values and taxes in our community.

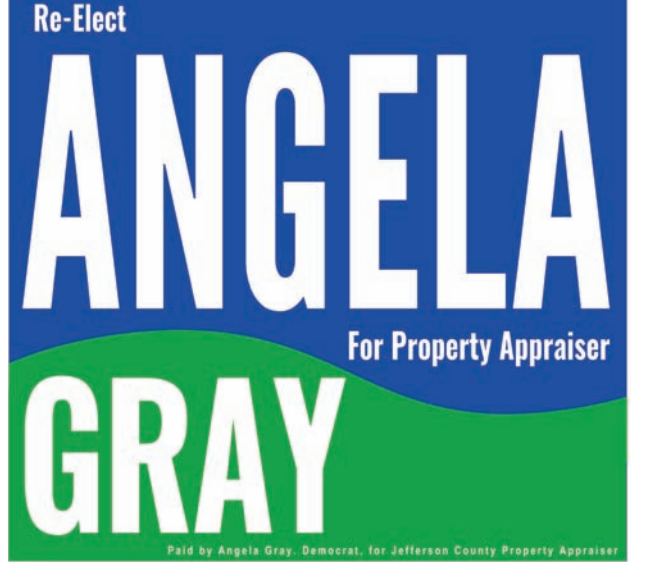
As Property Appraiser it's my job to navigate and understand these changes and make sure that my office and the community is thoroughly educated so we can continue to provide fair and equitable assessments in the County and more importantly, take advantage of any new legislation or rulings that may provide tax savings to the businesses and families in our community.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

For the past 16 years our office has had an exemplary record of fiscal responsibility, and I am one of only two Officers in the county with clean audits from the County Auditor. During my time in office, we have put hundreds of thousands of dollars back into the pockets of taxpayers through direct payments and early debt retirements. This type of stewardship is important in small communities with limited tax revenue sources.

Additionally, if re-elected we will continue to foster relationships with other government agencies in the County to promote efficient use of taxpayer money. For example: Our integration of our GIS mapping capabilities into the planning and building

Finally, I stand out through my dedication to our community through my volunteerism, including volunteering with the Sheriff and County Emergency Operations Center during hurricane season and helping get critical infrastructure restored while providing resources to community members in need. I also serve on various committees to provide statistical or demographic information to assist with grant funding or grant administration. For example, Economic Development, distribution of CARES Act funding and Broadband infrastructure. I am a long-standing community volunteer with the Jefferson County Educational Foundation, Monticello Rotary Club and Jefferson Outreach for Youth.




1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?
 Answer: I am a candidate for the Florida State Senate, District 3 and I am running to serve the residents of District 3 with moving their communities forward.

Candidate for Florida Senate District 3

KIMBLIN NESMITH

kimblinnesmith.com



4. What is an issue relevant to the office you seek, and how would you address it if elected?
 Answer: Tens of thousands of residents throughout District 3 have informed me that the number one issue is accessibility to their elected official and the opportunity to be heard. To address this issue, I would schedule townhall meetings/listening sessions throughout the District to hear directly from the constituents.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

Answer: During my time as a student attending Morehouse College and earning my Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Miami School of Law, I have been engaged in activities to uplift those in my community. From volunteering to assist those families who are food-deprived, to creating an

economic development institute as a college professor, to attending workshops, forums, and conferences regarding housing, broadband, and environmental issues, I have gained the knowledge to aid counties in growing responsibly.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened and when?
 Answer: No, I have never been convicted of a crime

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?
 Answer: If elected, I could use the Senate Office to inform the residents of District 3 about the resources that are available from their state government. State government and its many branches have a myriad of resources available for local government and its residents.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?
 Answer: Our campaign motto is, "America Great: Together We Win?" Our campaign recognizes that the citizens, businesses, local government, social services, and faith-based institutions are best positioned to enhance their communities. State government is available to assist local governments (cities and counties) in implementing strategic plans and ideas that have been developed from local voices.



1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

a. Florida Senate District 3. For too long, I've watched the elites in Tallahassee ignore the will of the voters and only focus on the pursuit of their own power. They have taken our hard earned taxpayer dollars and given them to their bigshot friends, while people struggle to pay their bills or afford groceries. It's not right, and it doesn't have to be that way.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

a. I grew up picking oranges in Polk County, and I washed dishes to put myself through college. After law school, I fought for equal rights for all people, for representation against corporate executives who profited off of the working man. Parks and Crump stood for what was right, not what was easy, and I will do the same as your State Senator.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened and when?

happened and when?

a. No, I have not

4. What is an issue relevant to the office you seek, and how would you address it if elected?

a. Florida's insurance crisis is out of control. People are being priced out of their vehicles, their homes, and their businesses, and we can't stand for it. Tallahassee's people in power had the choice to offer relief, and chose to cut a tax break for insurance companies instead. We need to hold these companies



Candidate for Florida Senate District 3 DARYL PARKS

darylforflorida.com



accountable and ensure that people can get properly insured without it being taken advantage of.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

a. Monticello, and Jefferson County as a whole, deserves more attention from the state. Smaller or more rural counties are overlooked in the state budget. We need to allocate more funding to county roads, city beautification, and small business development in rural counties, as well as ensure the public schools are properly funded so everyone has a fair shot at the American Dream.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?

a. I am the only candidate who has worked on both sides - agriculture and business. I know what it's like to get my hands dirty and work for a paycheck that will get me by, and I know what it's like to sign those paychecks for other people. North Floridians deserve someone who understands them, and I am that person.

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

a) Florida Senate District 3 b) I am running for Senate District 3 to protect individual freedoms and constitutional rights. I will continue working to find real solutions for rising housing prices and to unlock our kids' potential through quality education opportunities. Additionally, I will continue to be a voice for our rural counties, helping to attract new jobs through upgraded infrastructure to support diverse business investments.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

a) Some remember me most as a member of the Florida State Seminoles 1999 BCS National Championship team, or maybe my time in the NFL. But through all of that, I've never forgotten where I come from. My mother worked hard every day of her life to give me a bright future. She used her work address to give me access to a better education, something no parent should ever have to do. Our children should not be sentenced less opportunity simply because they don't live in the right zip code.

b) I've devoted myself to philanthropy, through Corey's Kids, a nonprofit that provided mentorship to kids within North Florida's foster care system. I partnered with Big Bend Community Based Care, Department of Children and Family Services, and played an active role at my local church. In 2020 I became the CEO of Volunteer Florida, administering AmeriCorps in Florida and connecting Floridians looking to volunteer with organizations that need



Candidate for Florida Senate District 3 COREY SIMON

simonforflorida.com



Mill closure was a huge loss to our community. We need to look at ways to diversify our economy to make sure that does not happen again. There is no one one-size-fits-all solution to this problem. In fact, there will be at least 13 different solutions to each of the district's 13 counties. I plan to work with our local communities and address their issues individually. Our communities know what is best for them and I will continue to be their voice.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

a) I plan to continue to address kitchen table issues the families of District 3 face on a daily basis. As previously stated, I will continue to work to find real solutions for rising housing prices and unlock our kids' potential through quality education opportunities. I will continue fighting for our rural communities, helping to attract new jobs by upgrading our infrastructure to support diverse business investments and working with community leaders to reduce crime in my district.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?

a) When I was elected to the FL Senate two years ago, I promised District 3 a seat at the table - something our communities never had and something no other candidate in the race could offer. I will continue to keep that promise which has allotted District 3 hundreds of millions of dollars in our state's budget to support communities, address hurricane and storm response and fund state-wide education initiatives to further opportunities for our children.

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

I am running for re-election to the Florida House of Representatives, District 9 to continue the critical work I have been doing in Jefferson County as your voice in the capitol. I forcefully bring the viewpoint of Jefferson's residents into House deliberations on taxation, workforce, business, education, agriculture and hurricane recovery.

My mother served others through our Baptist faith, which instilled in me the responsibility to serve others who are

often forgotten, left behind, or overlooked. This was urgently ignited in me by my son born with Williams Syndrome, a complex physical, developmental, and cognitive disability. The plight of families like mine is rarely understood by people not living it, compelling me to bring this issue to the capitol, along with my moral duty that we not forget "the least of these".

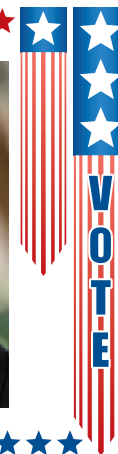
2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

I am an FSU graduate, the first in my family to go to college and have lived in HD 9 for nearly 40 years. As a college intern for Gov. Bob Graham's budget office, I saw the impact of smart, efficient, transparent government on everyday families and businesses. After graduating, I worked for the State Senate and House as a legislative aide and then as the legislative director for Governor Martinez' Department of Business and Professional Regulation. In the private sector as a Governmental Consultant I worked for top businesses, passing bills and crafting policies impacting hospitals, healthcare professionals, health insurance, financial services, budget and taxation. After my twins were born, I left the workforce, only to find it necessary to fall back on my contacts and advocacy skills to help change laws providing better access to speech, occupational and physical therapy for hundreds of thousands of schoolchildren across Florida, establishing a workforce training program later adopted statewide



Candidate for Florida House District 9 ALLISON TANT

allisontant.com



seek, and how would you address it if elected?

Homeowner and car insurance costs, hurricane resilience and home/business hardening, business rent tax relief, support for agriculture and livestock, resources for rural counties, and common sense solutions to help this community.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

I will use my office the way that I have these past years to serve the residents of this community. I am in Jefferson County at least weekly and often

more. I have stood shoulder to shoulder with everyone here after Hurricane Idahlia, bringing in tens of thousands of dollars of resources in addition to state support to provide relief in its aftermath. I am proud of the funding I have brought here:

- A backup generator for the Special needs Shelter in this county, at JCPS.
• To replace fire hydrants and valves in Monticello's water system.
• The bush trucks on backorder for Jefferson County.
• The hurricane preparedness supply funding.
• The Aucilla Research Institute funding for in-situ natural history educational instruction at JCPS and Aucilla has led to a 29-point increase in student learning gains in that school grading cell.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?

My life experiences, substantive community involvement, living my entire life in North Florida, my 20+ year background in the legislative process and legislative advocacy turned advocate for struggling families, the influence of the experiences, hardships, resilience, faith and perseverance of my family, and my work in this county set me apart from my opponent. I am deeply committed to Jefferson County and believe you deserve a representative who cares enough to know you, be present with you, understand this community and be able to forcefully bring them to the capitol.





1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

I am running for the Florida House of Representatives, District 9, because our community deserves a Representative that can actually deliver resources to strengthen schools, improve local infrastructure, increase responsible economic growth and provide more opportunities to the residents of Jefferson County and District 9. The reality is a Representative who is a member of the majority party will be the one best positioned to work hand in hand with the persons necessary to successfully obtain any funding and legislation sought by that Representative. Once elected, my priority would be to support measures that benefit all residents of District 9, regardless of party affiliation.

2. How are your education, work/life experience and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

I am not a politician, which I believe is to my advantage. Having grown up in a rural community where I was intimately involved with the FFA, 4H and Florida Cattlemen’s Association, and where I served as a combination of Chapter, District and State Presidents. I am uniquely qualified to understand and advocate for the needs of those living in Jefferson County.

Vocational school (instead of a more traditional four-year college program) gave me the opportunity to build a successful career. My experience with achieving success through hard work, allows me to appreciate the value of practical experience and the immense talent within our District that I know can be



Candidate for Florida House District 9

SPENCER BRASS

votespencerbrass.com



By creating, for example, tax credit programs, strategic public/private partnerships, necessary infrastructure updates/additions, among others, Jefferson County will become a top destination where businesses can grow and families can thrive.

5. If elected, how could you use your office to better the local community?

I am not from Jefferson County so I do not want to assume I know the issues it faces. Having grown up in a rural community myself, however, I am uniquely positioned to not only truly

cultivated into many other success stories like mine.

I believe that a community that is willing to invest in its people will be filled with people willing to invest in their community. This is the culture I know we can build within Jefferson County and the rest of District 9.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional misconduct? If so, what happened and when?

No.

4. What is an issue relevant to the office you seek, and how would you address it if elected?

One of the many issues I hope to immediately address is the lack of sufficient, long-term employment opportunities for residents to receive a competitive salary with benefits and opportunities for career advancement. I would address this issue by working with state/local organizations and government entities to develop and implement measures that will attract desirable industry and corporations capable of not only offering but also sustaining such employment opportunities to Jefferson County and District 9.

understand any issues brought to my attention, but also work directly with the people affected by them to ensure realistic and effective solutions are identified and followed through on. I only want to advocate for change in Jefferson County that is meaningful and beneficial for those who actually live there. I believe change is meaningful when it directly and deliberately seeks to benefit the people, even if just in a small way.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?

For one, as I mentioned previously, I am not a career politician. I am a constituent who just got tired of waiting for others to bring about the changes many desire to see in this District – changes I am confident I can deliver if given an opportunity to do so. There is no reason the people of District 9 should be paying in as much as they are, and getting so little in return. Many resources are already readily available, however, it will take someone with the support of the majority party in the Florida House of Representatives to effectively increase the return to Jefferson County, District 9 and its residents.

1. What elected office are you campaigning for and why?

I am running for the Florida House of Representatives, District 7.

I'm a father, small business owner and proven community leader who knows and understands our North Florida communities. It gives me a unique and familiar perspective to get the job done.

In the Florida House, I'll fight to protect our North Florida values, help our communities recover and rebuild after Hurricane Idalia. create good-paying jobs for the hard-working people of our community, and fight for the critical infrastructure improvements and workforce housing that our rural communities need. These are the principles I first ran on in 2019, and I'm working every day to ensure that Tallahassee never forgets about Rural North Florida.

2. How are your education, work/life experience, and/or certifications relevant to successfully fulfilling the duties of the office you seek?

I was born and raised in the district, which provides me with a robust understanding of the unique needs and issues that face each of the many communities in District 7. Further, I have represented District 7 in the Florida House of Representatives since 2019 where I have served on the Select Committee on Hurricane Resiliency and Recovery, the Postsecondary Education and Workforce Subcommittee. and as Chair of Higher Education



Candidate for Florida Senate District 7

JASON SHOAF

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support they deserved as our community began to rebuild. That rebuilding process is still not finished, and when I go back to Tallahassee, I will fight to make sure they don't forget about us in the State House.

5. If elected, how would you use your office to better the local community?

We need to deliver on the kitchen table issues that matter to every voter. We need to tackle the skyrocketing inflation caused by disastrous fiscal policies in Washington, we have to stand up to all parties involved with the soaring insurance costs and make sure that Floridians have

Appropriations Subcommittee.

These positions have allowed me to lead on finding solutions to some of our state and district's most pressing challenges. The relationships I have built in Tallahassee will help ensure that the constituents of District 7 get back more of their hard-earned tax dollars and that our communities continue to thrive.

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or disciplined for professional conduct? If so, what happened and when?

No.

4. What is an issue relevant to the office you seek and how would you address it if elected?

Our community still has not fully recovered from Hurricane Idalia. I led the charge in the Florida House to ensure that our farmers and small businesses got the

access to affordable home insurance, we need to ensure that we have a robust career and technical education system so that every Floridian can build a high-earning career.

Of course, the first order of business is making sure that all those impacted by Hurricane Idalia get the proper support and resources to rebuild and recover as quickly as possible. We need to get businesses and farms back on their feet to bring some sense of stability back to North Florida.

6. What is one way you stand out from other candidates seeking the same office?

Experience. Plain and simple. Looking at the issues that are currently facing our nation, state and community – We need a State Representative who is ready on day one to run to the fight and deliver real results for our district.



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