



Daytona Regional CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



ADVOCACY IN ACTION

11/17/2022

2022 Midterm

Election night is in the books, and the night didn't end without its share of surprising results. At last count, Volusia County saw about a 55% turnout, with 226,758 ballots cast out of the 412,286 active eligible voters. Volusia County continues to see an ongoing trend, maybe a holdout of the Covid era elections, with most voters casting their ballot by mail. Nearly 93,000 mail-in ballots were turned in during the midterm, compared to the 76,000 ballots cast on election day. And if anyone doubted it, this election showed that Florida and Volusia County are Republican strongholds. Florida, once a purple state, is now deep red. The Republican vote represented 47.6% of the total vote in Volusia County, with the Democrat vote coming in at 29.7% of the total vote.

Several new faces will be across the county, including new County Council members. The County Council will welcome five new members of the seven-member board in early 2023: Jake Johansson in the At-Large seat, Don Dempsey in District 1, Matt Reinhart in District 2, Troy Kent in District 4, and former State Representative David Santiago in District 5. Incumbent Danny Robins won his District 3 reelection bid. The Daytona Beach City Commission had three incumbents running for reelection; in Districts 3 and 5, sitting Commissioners Quanita May and Dannette Henry safely reclaimed their seats, but in District 1, the City of Daytona Beach will be welcoming a new member to the City Commission, Monica Paris. Paris, who had never run for elected office before, moved to Daytona Beach from Brooklyn, New York, in 2016, ran to help express the potential in Daytona Beach and to clean up, clearing out vagrants and getting more police on patrol.

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The State House and Senate races saw all incumbents win. In the State Senate races, Travis Hutson (District 7) and Tom Wright (District 8) won their respective seats. In the State Representative races, incumbent Tom Leek (District 28) and Webster Barnaby (District 29) both won with 60 % of the votes. We did welcome a new member to the Volusia County Delegation; former Port Orange Commissioner Chase Tramont won his with over 95% of the vote against a Write-in Candidate.

Florida saw several Statewide races in which Republicans dominated the night. Governor DeSantis won 62 out of the 67 counties in Florida, including some historical Democrat strongholds like Miami-Dade and Palm Beach. Governor DeSantis beat Charlie Crist by over 1.5 million votes and took almost 60% of the total vote in Florida. Senator Marco Rubio also had a similar showing, with him taking nearly 58% of the vote over Val Demings, who won 41% of the vote. Florida also saw three Constitution Amendments on the ballot. Amendment 1, 57% of voters voted Yes. In Amendment 2, 54% of voters said Yes, and in Amendment 3, almost 59% voted Yes. Although the three Amendments received over 50% of the votes, in Florida, amendments must receive 60% of the total vote to be added to the Florida Constitution. All amendments failed to receive the 60% threshold, therefore, failed.

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