



QUESTIONNAIRE & RESPONSES

FIRST NAME: LAST NAME:
SEEKING TO BE ELECTED TO:

GENERAL QUESTIONS

- 1. While in office, what will be your top priorities?** Tackling our insurance and energy costs crises, safe and secure elections, criminal justice and corrections reforms, promoting local efforts on addressing economic and social issues.
- 2. What influenced you to run for office?** I'm a retired Police Lieutenant with an extensive business background. I've also been working with legislators on bills that will strengthen our state's election security and processes for the past few years. More recently I've been working with experts on our energy issues and trying to find answers to our insurance crisis. I've felt that while we have good state Reps, I could contribute more from the inside. More importantly, I realized that God wanted me to use the skills I had to serve The People and work to help heal the division in our communities.
- 3. Who do you look to for advice and consult when making decisions that will affect the public?** Currently, my small Florida elections reform team: one is a software developer/small business owner, and the other is a retired financial auditor; my husband, a retired Police Captain; a handful of community members who provide sound advice; experts in industries; and the most important advisors...the residents and business owners in the three counties District 27 covers.

GOVERNMENT / BUSINESS REGULATIONS

- 1. What are your thoughts on government's involvement with regulations for businesses?** There needs to be a balance. I'm a big supporter of smaller state and federal government power and influence, and that cities and counties know the needs of their communities more intimately. The Live Local Act and the "Homeless Bill" had good intentions, but the cost to taxpayers is unfair and they took authority away from local governing bodies. Regulations ARE necessary though to keep industries and orgs in check. I'm watching a current SCOTUS case that could dismantle the Chevron deference. There are pros and cons to that, but it will force legislators to be clear and concise with the laws they make, which helps to prevent unelected regulatory bodies from defining them.
- 2. Where do you see yourself on taxes and fees? What is your opinion on the current structure?** Our current structure needs to be reformed. While I appreciate Florida's lower tax rates and the lack of a state tax, more can be done. I'd like to see income taxes abolished on a federal level, but the proposed sales tax rates the promoters are pushing seem unreasonable.
- 3. Do you believe businesses play a pivotal role in our community?** Absolutely! Especially small, local businesses. Larger industries provide jobs, but those mom and pop stores promote community!
- 4. What role do you see for yourself in helping to grow businesses of all sizes in your position?** Promote local training in trades and business ownership. Strengthen business incubation orgs. Offer tax and fee incentives for start ups. Encourage cooperation. With my retail shop we joined forces with 3 other similar shops and a quirky bistro in our small city. We were no longer competitors...we became a destination and had visitors from all over the state. By the way, this wasn't my idea...it was suggested by another shop owner. Also keep in mind the infrastructure needs and community input on new business locations.
- 5. What are the most pressing issues in the office you are seeking as it relates to local businesses?** I would ask local businesses what THEIR most pressing issues are. When I started a retail store after I "retired" from law enforcement I was helped so much by our local SBA. I know that regulations seem to hurt local businesses the most. Advertising and promotions is expensive, but I like how our CEP helps with that...they hold events at the businesses and promote them.
- 6. What does growth mean to you as it relates to business?** That a business owner has built something with a solid structure that's financially sound and a positive in the community.

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7. **What have you done to enhance the business community in your area?** I HAD been shopping local and sharing on social, until I started campaigning.
8. **What are your thoughts on tax structures for local businesses?** This is an area I need to research more and get input from current legislators and local businesses.

RESILIENCY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

1. **Given our geographical area, what do you believe are some best practices for resiliency, and how do you believe our businesses can play a role?** Preparation and protection. Beyond that I need to become more knowledgeable about this subject: I live inland, and Marion County hasn't been affected as much as Volusia. Our approach to storm preparation is similar, but not nearly as complex.
2. **Climate resiliency is becoming a heated topic of discussion as it relates to our community given the natural events that occurred over the past two years. If elected, how do you see your office assisting to alleviate and reduce some of the detrimental effects of such occurrences?** We must first look closely at the funding and influence of industries and special interest groups on climate-related initiatives. FPL/NextEra received approval from the state's PSC to harden the grid, which resulted in millions of dollars in costs to ratepayers over the next several years. There were investigations into unlawful campaign contributions over this, and Florida's Supreme Court challenged the PSC to explain why they failed to do their job in advocating for Floridians. We must do whatever possible to alleviate and reduce negative effects of natural climate-related disasters, but it must be done with the best interest of Floridians in mind.

WORKFORCE HOUSING / LIVE LOCAL ACT / EMPLOYMENT

1. **There have been conversations about workforce housing in our area, and the need to keep those that are working in the community, living within the community. Where do you see the need? And what are your thoughts on the Live Local Act?** I touched on the LLA in a previous question, and I see the need for affordable workforce housing. The Act gives too much power to developers and special interest groups, and takes away the voice of the residents/local elected officials. The prices I've seen for some of the "affordable housing" isn't affordable for much of the workforce either.
2. **Workforce housing is only a part of the problem. How can we hire the best employees? How do we attract good applicants?** In order to attract and hire the best employees there has to be good pay and benefits. The issue with that is most businesses have to raise their prices to the consumers to afford more qualified employees. To take that burden off business owners, state government could offer businesses long-term incentives...which increases the tax burdens on our residents. I'd need to research this more and talk to experts before making a more qualified statement.

* ** For State Candidates Only ***

PROPERTY INSURANCE (STATE CANDIDATES ONLY)

1. **Name ways that you believe your office can assist with the cost of property insurance.** The current OIR Commissioner has made some progress through enhanced regulations, but current legislation seems to be just a bandaid on a cut artery, and the well-intended fraudulent litigation bill will also hurt homeowners with valid claims that aren't being addressed. Citizens Insurance was never intended to be the state's main insurer, and they've been forcing homeowners into other costlier policies. I've seen where CEOs receive millions in annual bonuses, which isn't good business sense when your company is losing money. The information I've found doesn't lead to answers, and I need to sit down with the insurance experts and lawmakers to find solutions that work.
2. **Do you believe current measures taken to lower insurance, such as, reducing frivolous lawsuits, will have a positive impact? If not, how so and how can it be fixed at the local level?** I touched on this in my previous answer, but the law appears to be overly broad and hurts homeowners who have legitimate claims. When state-regulated insurance companies ignore or deny valid claims, they shouldn't end up in our courts anyway. At this time I don't have enough information to be able to speculate on appropriate fixes at the local level, but one of my strong points has always been that I'm a quick learner with strong research and investigatory skills.