

From: Jacob Ramos <ramosjacob4@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2018 3:53 PM
To: Enjoli White <ewhite@hcsoc.org>
Subject: Withdrawing from the race for Tampa City Council, District Five

To whom it may concern,

It is with a heavy heart that I, Jacob Ramos, must withdrawal from the 2019 race for Tampa City Council, District Five. This decision is spurred by a lesson that I learned in high school marching band. At the end of my first season during freshman year, the incoming Head Drum Major told me that I should audition for Assistant Drum Major. Despite marching for just a year, I got the position and was ready to assume the responsibilities.

Only hindsight offers the expectation of what was to come. Earning the upperclassmen's respect was a precipice and at every moment I was challenged, having to constantly prove myself worthy of the position. With this challenge, I grew more as a person and leader than I did with any other leadership position.

While I sometimes wonder how it would have played out had I waited an extra year to audition, the most empowering lessons are taught in the hardest of ways. Now, I have the perspective that only hindsight would have offered me then and can choose to follow the better path, one which allows me to give back to the community which has given me everything.

I thank my friends and family for their support and I look forward to proving my dedication and commitment to Tampa.

Best,
Jacob Ramos