SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

2020 MAY 11 AM 11: 26



ST JOHNS COUNTY VICKY OAKES

May 11, 2020

The current situation of our world during this pandemic has been challenging to say the least. None of us could have possibly predicted these events. We, as people, always plan, we did the same in planning and predicting a specific course for our campaign. All of us have felt the effects of social distancing, multiple closures/cancellations and arising health issues.

It is with a heavy heart that I withdraw my candidacy for Sheriff of St. Johns County. It was not an easy or light decision to make but with many closures and cancellations related to the health and stability of our community during Covid-19, it has made it an insurmountable challenge to complete the petition quota required to continue. Our campaign entered this race late and over a very short period progressed further than we ever anticipated but then Covid-19 happened. Even though recently Governor DeSantis has now allowed the petitions to be completed electronically, the goal of May 11, 2020 at noon was unachievable.

It has been, Gigi's and my greatest pleasure, meeting so many residents in our county, which we love so much, with the same vision of making and keeping St. Johns county the greatest county in Florida if not the country. I want to thank all of you who have supported me and a special thank you to Team Perniciaro for believing in me.

I know that my fellow candidates running for Sheriff will not disappoint you and will continue to strive for excellence, protection and safety of the residents within our community. This election needs to be about who will best lead the St. Johns Sheriff's Office into the future and not a popularity contest as most elections unfortunately have become. Please continue to be safe during this time and practice social distancing for your and your family's safety.

Thank you and God Bless

Keith Perniciaro

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