

Randy Foster, County Commission, District #3

Randy Foster, a retired U.S. Air Force veteran, is a resident of Palm Bay and candidate for Brevard County Commissioner, District 3 in 2016. He has received endorsements from Palm Bay Councilwoman Michelle Paccione and Rockledge Councilman Richard “Dick” Blake. A former Brevard County Public School employee, Foster is also proud to have a longtime military and law enforcement career which spans over 20 years on the federal and state levels.

Before retiring as a Supervisory Deputy Marshal from the U.S. Department of Justice, Foster was promoted to a Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshal in charge of 80 Deputies U.S. marshals and administering a budget over one million dollars. His primary duties was fugitive operations, responsible for prisoner transport, the protection of officers of the court and operation protection of the judiciary Marshal Foster. Foster also responded to Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans as a Federal Air Marshal to save over 3,000 lives. In addition, while serving as a National Guardsman Member, he responded to assist the Honduras government with Hurricane Mitch in Honduras. As a Deputy U.S. Marshal, he protected U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and Former U.S. Attorney General Michael Mukasey; investigated Wanted Federal Fugitives; and performed several protection detail at the World Trade Center bombing trial in New York.

Foster’s education background includes attending University of Maryland and is a graduate of Texarkana College, Texarkana, Texas.

List of Employment, Military and Community Service:

Detention Officer - Brevard Juvenile Detention Center

Chief Loss Prevention Officer - Marriott Corporation

Former CEO of Non Profit - Preston Street Community Center Inc. in Texarkana, AR.

Florida Life and Health Insurance License

Retired Member of Maryland Air National Guard - over 24yrs. (Security Forces)

Commendations:

- Air Force Achievement Medal
- Air Force Reserve Meritorious Service Medal
- Naval Reserve Meritorious Service Medal
- Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
- Army Good Conduct Medal
- National Defense Service Medal; 2 Service Star
- Army Service Ribbon

- Overseas Service Ribbon
- Texas Service Medal - U.S. Armed Forces

U.S. Army and U.S. Naval Reserve
Retired Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshal
Former Police Officer (Fayetteville North Carolina)
Former Federal Air Marshal
Former City of Palm Bay Library Advisory Board Member
Current City of Palm Bay Recreation Advisory Board Member
Volunteer Greater Palm Bay Senior Center - Palm Bay
Member, American Legion Post #191 - Melbourne
Member, Spanish American Veterans Association - Brevard
Member, Brevard NOW - National Organization Women
Member, South Brevard - NAACP - Melbourne/Palm bay
Member, Space Coast Progressive Alliance -Melbourne
**Member, Melbourne Regional Chamber of East Central Florida
Member, Florida Progressive Democrat Caucus
Member of Florida Veterans Democrat Caucus

1) Assuming you are elected to the County Commission, what will be your primary area of interest and what do you hope to accomplish in this area?

My primary area of interest for our county is to focus on, improve and manage the challenges we already have now and will face with our growing infrastructure, road, transportation and water system needs in Brevard. Our challenges in these areas include providing better services with an increase in population, budget for older systems which need repair/ replacement at a cost now and even more later.

2) In the next 10 years, what do you believe will be the top three most important critical needs of Floridians/Brevard Country residents? What do you propose we do to cope with these critical needs?

The top 3 important needs for Brevard residents are:

- 1- Jobs
- 2- County Infrastructure (County Roads, Transportation, Waters System)
- 3 - Environment (Restore Indian River Lagoon)

I propose we take care our critical needs now with viable solutions we outline and approve immediately. It is our responsibility as elected officials to do our job and not put off addressing these priorities for the next term for the county commission board.

3) Recently, there was a legal opinion from the counsel for the Charter Review Commission that opined the Charter cap may be unconstitutional. Do you support the repeal of this language that would ultimately give the county commission full authority and discretion to set its budget as it see fits?

Yes, I strongly support the repeal of this language in our current charter. It is always good practice to review charters periodically to address and meet any overall changes or needs a county will understandably have over time. Charter reviews are meant to be positive and I believe this change in language will enable the county commissioners to better budget to serve its citizens in 2016 and beyond, move the county forward and manage any critical needs in a timely manner.

4) How would you reduce the budget to save taxpayers money?

I would begin by closely reviewing the current budget and reallocating any unused dollars toward the most needed areas/programs in the districts. I believe we can find budget dollars now in some areas. We also need to protect the county taxpayers money by putting a County Inspector General in place. In this role, the primary duties are to help prevent fraud and waste within the county government.

1. The Business community should support my candidacy because: _I am in familiar with and understand their challenges, needs and concerns as part of our growing district. I am accessible and already participate with local businesses in my advisory and planning roles.