



**David H. Stafford**  
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SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

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The Honorable Ron DeSantis  
Governor, State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0001

Governor DeSantis,

For the past 19 years, I have had the honor of serving the voters of Escambia County as their Supervisor of Elections. It has been the privilege of a lifetime to lead a dedicated team of professionals in conducting dozens of federal, state, and local elections in the northwest corner of our great state.

However, the time has come to begin a new chapter in public service. Next month I will join the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency as an Election Security Advisor. My last day as Supervisor of Elections will be January 15, 2024.

We have seen tremendous change in election administration in Florida over the past two decades. The significant reforms that began in the wake of the 2000 election have transformed how voters register and how votes are cast and counted in Florida and around the nation. I consider myself fortunate to have been an election official during this consequential time and am proud of what has been accomplished.

As you contemplate an appointee to lead this office for the final year of my term, I respectfully ask you to consider Sonya Daniel, the current Chief Deputy Supervisor. Sonya has been an essential member of our team for more than 12 years, through three presidential and three gubernatorial election cycles. She is a Certified Elections/Registration Administrator (CERA), a Master Florida Certified Election Professional (MFCEP), and holds an Accreditation in Public Relations (APR). Prior to her work in elections, Sonya was the Public Information Manager for Escambia County during a period that included responses to Hurricanes Ivan and Dennis and the BP oil spill. She is imminently qualified and prepared to lead.

I am eternally grateful to the voters of Escambia County for allowing me the opportunity to serve for nearly twenty years and look forward to continuing to serve the public in a different role. I am especially thankful for our staff, poll workers, my colleagues, and my family for their support throughout my tenure.

Respectfully,

David H. Stafford, CERA  
Supervisor of Elections

cc: The Honorable Cord Byrd, Florida Secretary of State