## **Election Recommendations and Endorsements**

### **President of the United States**

Endorsement: John McCain – Sarah Palin

Voter Guide Link: <a href="http://www.flvotesvalues.com/presidential-voters-guide.html">http://www.flvotesvalues.com/presidential-voters-guide.html</a>.

**Legislative Scorecard:** <a href="http://downloads.frcaction.org/EF/EF06J03.pdf">http://downloads.frcaction.org/EF/EF06J03.pdf</a>.

Address: John McCain 2008

P.O. Box 16118 Arlington, VA 22215 (703) 418-2008

www.JohnMcCain.com

Barack Obama has a 100% rating with NARAL (the National Abortion Rights Action League), is the most pro-abortion candidate ever to run for president, has received the endorsement of several terrorist organizations and nations, is the most liberal senator in congress, has pledged to nominate judicial activists to the court, and he want to raise Joe the Plumber's taxes (and your too!). Barack Obama also doesn't have the experience to serve as our Commander and Chief. John McCain was not the first choice of many values voters, but he has consistently defended the pre-born, has fought government waist, and has pledged to nominate strict constructionists to the court. John McCain has also reached out to conservatives in the Saddleback Presidential Forum and in picking Sarah Palin as his VP. With the addition of Sarah Palin, we now have the strongest pro-life ticket since Reagan. I endorse McCain – Palin and urge you to vote for McCain – Palin November 4 if not sooner.

#### **Get Involved!**

- Phone Calls
- Door-Knocking
- Sign Waving (Prior to Election and Election Day)
- Voter Guide Distribution
- Make a Donation

I am the St. Lucie County Chair of McCain's Americans of Faith Coalition, and I'm assisting coordinators in Indian River and Martin Counties. If you wish to volunteer, contact me at <a href="mailto:Bryan@ConservativeRep.com">Bryan@ConservativeRep.com</a> or 772-408-4356. We need help in St. Lucie, Martin, and Indian River counties.

# Representative in Congress District 16 (Check Your Voter Card to Find if This is Your District)

**Endorsement:** Tom Rooney

**Voter Guide Link:** <a href="http://www.ccfla.org/pdf/SaintLucie2008.pdf">http://www.ccfla.org/pdf/SaintLucie2008.pdf</a> and <a href="http://www.informedcatholicvoter.com/St.%20Lucie">http://www.informedcatholicvoter.com/St.%20Lucie</a> Federal.pdf.

**Legislative Scorecard:** Since he has not previously held a state or national elected office, a legislative scorecard is not available.

Address: 2336 S East Ocean Blvd. #313, Stuart, FL 34996

www.TomRooney.com info@tomrooney.com

772-463-4733

In the past week, Tim Mahoney has admitted to numerous adulterous affairs. If his wife can't trust him, how can the American people? Tom Rooney has a history of living out strong, conservative values, will work to cut spending, lower taxes, lower gas prices, energy independence, fight illegal immigration, defend the pre-born, and defend family values. I endorse Tom Rooney and urge you to vote for Rooney November 4 if not sooner.

#### **Get Involved!**

- Sign Waving (Prior to Election and Election Day)
- Donate \$50 to keep Rooney's commercials on the air.

Mike McKeever is coordinating sign waving for Rooney. Contact Mike me at Mckfever13@gmail.com or 772-337-2077.

# Representative in Congress District 23 (Check Your Voter Card to Find if This is Your District)

Recommendation: Marion D. Thorpe, Jr.

Voter Guide Link: <a href="http://www.ccfla.org/pdf/SaintLucie2008.pdf">http://www.informedcatholicvoter.com/St.%20Lucie\_Federal.pdf</a>. Legislative Scorecard: <a href="http://downloads.frcaction.org/EF/EF06J03.pdf">http://downloads.frcaction.org/EF/EF06J03.pdf</a>.

Alcee Hastings was recused as a judge for taking bribes. Now he serves in Congress where he is a liberal US Representative. He needs to go. I recommend Marion D. Thorpe, Jr and ask you to vote for her November 4.

# State Representative District 17 (Check Your Voter Card to Find if This is Your District)

**Recommendation: JD Alexander** 

**Voter Guide Link:** <a href="http://www.ccfla.org/pdf/SaintLucie2008.pdf">http://www.ccfla.org/pdf/SaintLucie2008.pdf</a> and <a href="http://www.informedcatholicvoter.com/St.%20Lucie\_State.pdf">http://www.informedcatholicvoter.com/St.%20Lucie\_State.pdf</a>.

**Legislative Scorecard:** http://www.flvotesvalues.com/legislative\_scorecards.html.

Address: 826 Spring Lake Square

Winter Haven, FL 33881 Phone: 863 297 5103 Fax: 863 297 5124

Email: info@jdalexander.com

Website: <a href="http://www.jdalexander.com">http://www.jdalexander.com</a>

After reviewing his answers on the voter guides and reviewing his voting record, JD Alexander shares most of our values though he supports gambling. Since his opponent doesn't care enough about your vote to respond to either the Christian Coalition Candidate Questionnaire or the Florida Catholic Candidate Questionnaire, we can safely assume that he supports few if any of our values. Consequently, I recommend JD Alexander for State Senator District 17 and ask you to vote for him November 4 if not sooner.

## State Representative District 80 (Check Your Voter Card to Find if This is Your District)

**Endorsement:** Debbie Mayfield

**Voter Guide Link:** <a href="http://www.informedcatholicvoter.com/St.%20Lucie\_State.pdf">http://www.informedcatholicvoter.com/St.%20Lucie\_State.pdf</a>. A Christian Coalition voter guide is not available for this race.

**Legislative Scorecard:** Since she has not previously held a state or national elected office, a legislative scorecard is not available.

Address: P.O. Box 644127 Vero Beach, FL 32964 Telephone: (772) 299-3040

Email: <a href="mailto:debbie@debbiemayfield.com">debbie@debbiemayfield.com</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.debbiemayfield.com">www.debbiemayfield.com</a>

After reviewing her answers on the voter guide, I believe that Debbie Mayfield will continue the conservative leadership of her late husband while he was in office. Since her opponent doesn't care enough about your vote to respond to

either the Christian Coalition Candidate Questionnaire or the Florida Catholic Candidate Questionnaire, we can safely assume that he supports few if any of our values. Consequently, I endorse Debbie Mayfield for State Representative District 80 and urge you to vote for her November 4.

# State Representative District 81 (Check Your Voter Card to Find if This is Your District)

**Recommendation:** Michale DiTerlizzi

**Voter Guide Link:** <a href="http://www.ccfla.org/pdf/SaintLucie2008.pdf">http://www.ccfla.org/pdf/SaintLucie2008.pdf</a> and <a href="http://www.informedcatholicvoter.com/St.%20Lucie">http://www.informedcatholicvoter.com/St.%20Lucie</a> State.pdf.

Legislative Scorecard: Since neither candidate has previously held a state or national elected office, a legislative

scorecard is not available.

Address: P.O. Box 1013

Palm City, Florida 34991

Email: diterlizzi@bellsouth.net

Website: http://www.diterlizzi.org

Telephone: 772-335-4343

In the primary, I reported that as a member of the Martin County Children's Services Counsel (CSC), candidate Michael DiTerlizzi voted to give money to Planned Parenthood. Since that time though, DiTerlizzi has committed to support prolife legislation in the Florida House and has written an e-mail asking the CSC to find another agency to run the program in question. On most issues, DiTerlizzi shares our views. Since his opponent didn't care enough about your vote to respond to either the Christian Coalition Candidate Questionnaire or the Florida Catholic Candidate Questionnaire, we can safely assume that he supports few if any of our values. Consequently, I recommend Michael DiTerlizzi for State Representative District 81 and ask you to vote for him November 4 if not sooner.

## State Representative District 82 (Check Your Voter Card to Find if This is Your District)

**Endorsement:** William D. Snyder

**Voter Guide Link:** <a href="http://www.ccfla.org/pdf/SaintLucie2008.pdf">http://www.informedcatholicvoter.com/St.%20Lucie</a> State.pdf.

Legislative Scorecard: http://www.ccfla.org/other/2008%20Scorecard%20Final%20Proof.pdf.

Address: 2244 S. Federal Highway #204

Stuart, FL 34994 Phone: 772-288-2345

**E-Mail:** <u>William.Snyder@MyFloridaHouse.gov</u> **Website:** <u>http://www.snyderforstate.com</u>

William D. Snyder is a representative who shares our values and has championed pro-life issues. Since his opponent didn't care enough about your vote to respond to either the Christian Coalition Candidate Questionnaire or the Florida Catholic Candidate Questionnaire, we can safely assume that he supports few if any of our values. Consequently, I endorse William D. Snyder for State Representative District 82 and urge you to vote for him November 4 if not sooner.

#### **Clerk of the Circuit Court**

**Endorsement:** Ed Fry

**Voter Guide Link:** <a href="http://www.flvotesvalues.com/st\_lucie\_county\_voters\_guide.html">http://www.flvotesvalues.com/st\_lucie\_county\_voters\_guide.html</a>. (When viewing online, click STA under Ed Fry's name to read his statement. Click SUP or OPP under Joseph Smith Name for documentation on questions 7 and 8.)

**Legislative Scorecard:** Since neither candidate has previously held a state or national elected office, a legislative scorecard is not available.

Address: 1816 Hazelwood Dr.

Ft. Pierce, FL 34982

Phone: 772-464-7826

E-Mail: ed@edfry4clerk.com

Website: <a href="http://www.edfry4clerk.com">http://www.edfry4clerk.com</a>

Ed Fry is the only qualified candidate in this race. Furthermore, Ed is a conservative, pro-life professional who doesn't mix his position as Clerk of the Court with a social agenda. On the other hand, his opponent, Joe Smith, helped lead the charge to bring condom education into St. Lucie County Public School classrooms. If elected, Smith will likely join the Clerk's office to the Executive Round Table so that he can continue to carry out his liberal agenda. Consequently, I endorse Ed Fry for Clerk of the Circuit Court and ask you to vote for him November 4 if not sooner.

#### **Get Involved!**

Sign Waving (Prior to Election and Election Day)

Make a Donation

#### Sheriff

Endorsement: Robert J. "Bobby" Grande

Voter Guide Link: http://www.flvotesvalues.com/st lucie county voters guide.html.

Legislative Scorecard: Since neither candidate has previously held a state or national elected office, a legislative

scorecard is not available. **Address:** 1201 White Oak Ln.

Ft. Pierce, FL 34982

Email: bobbygrandeforsheriff@gmail.com

Website: http://www.robertgrandeforsheriff.com

Robert Grande has over two decades of law enforcement experience and a business background that would greatly benefit the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Department. His opponent is qualified as Chiropractor but not a sheriff. What's more, in his May 11, 2007 Executive Round Table vote in favor of *Get Real about AIDS!*, Sheriff Ken Mascara took a publicly stand for condoms in the public schools. This curriculum mentioned condoms and contraception 210 times to only 17 mentions of abstinence and included a condom field trip. Mascara deserves our staunch opposition in his reelection effort.

Robert "Bobby" Grande, however, is pro-life, pro-abstinence, and will work to reduce crime, fight gangs, and break up gangs. Consequently, I endorse Robert J. "Bobby" Grande for sheriff and ask urge to vote for him November 4 if not sooner.

#### **Get Involved!**

- Sign Waving (Prior to Election and Election Day)
- Make a Donation

## **Race: St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners**

## **District 1 Republican - County Wide**

**Endorsement:** Jeremiah Johnson

Voter Guide Link: http://www.flvotesvalues.com/st lucie county voters guide.html.

Legislative Scorecard: Since neither candidate has previously held a state or national elected office, a legislative

scorecard is not available. 1203 SW Biltmore St.

Port St. Lucie, FL 34983

www.JeremiahJohnson2008.com

jeremiah@jeremiahjohnson2008.com

772-528-5022

Jeremiah Johnson is a Deacon at Westside Baptist church and a business man who supports most of our values. I spoke with him about the SLC Children's Services Counsel's funding of Planned Parenthood. He is against the funding and want to reduce the amount of your tax dollars funding condom education and distribution. Johnson questions why the county is giving tax dollars to so many organizations for the same purpose. The money the CSC gives to Planned Parenthood is just the tip of the iceberg. Johnson is willing to oppose this issue that so many politicians shy away from or support. I endorse Jeremiah Johnson for County Commission District 1 and urge you to vote for him November 4 if not sooner.

#### **Get Involved!**

- Sign Waving (Mondays and Fridays and Election Day)
- Make a Donation

### **District 5 Republican – County Wide**

Recommendation: Susan L. Carron

Voter Guide Link: http://www.flvotesvalues.com/st\_lucie\_county\_voters\_guide.html. (When viewing online, click STA

under Susan Carron's name to read her statement.)

Legislative Scorecard: Since neither candidate has previously held a state or national elected office, a legislative

scorecard is not available. Address: P.O.Box 881912 Port St. Lucie, FL 34988 Phone: (772) 801-9897

**E-Mail:** SusanCaron5@Yahoo.com **Website:** http://susancaron.com

Chris Craft has served as St. Lucie County Commission District 5. To his credit, Craft hasn't participated in the liberal social agenda as Joe Smith has. He has however wasted tax dollars and allowed the St. Lucie County budget to grow over 32% while claiming to have cut taxes. Susan Carron did not answer the Christian Coalition Candidate Questionnaire, but she did submit a statement that can be read by clicking the following link: <a href="http://www.flvotesvalues.com/candidate\_surveys/fl/saint\_lucie\_county/2008/Susan\_Caron.pdf">http://www.flvotesvalues.com/candidate\_surveys/fl/saint\_lucie\_county/2008/Susan\_Caron.pdf</a>. Susan Caron has also stated to me that she is pro-life and would not support tax payer funding of Planned Parenthood. Consequently, I recommend Susan Carron for County Commission District 5 and ask you to vote for her November 4 if not sooner.

#### **Get Involved!**

- Sign Waving (Prior to Election and Election Day)
- Make a Donation

## Circuit Judge, 19th Circuit, Group 4

**Endorsement:** Dwight L Geiger

**Voter Guide Link:** <a href="http://www.flvotesvalues.com/judges/fl/saint\_lucie\_county/judicial\_voters\_guide.html">http://www.flvotesvalues.com/judges/fl/saint\_lucie\_county/judicial\_voters\_guide.html</a>. **Legislative Scorecard:** Since neither candidate has previously held a state or national elected office, a legislative

scorecard is not available.

Address: POB 2160 Stuart, FL 34995 Phone: 772-232-2076

E-Mail: dwightgeiger@yahoo.com

Website: <a href="http://www.geigerforjudge.com">http://www.geigerforjudge.com</a>

Dwight L Geiger has the most experience of any candidate in the race. More importantly though, he's a constructionist, which means he won't legislate from the bench. Considering the travesty of judicial activism, which has brought us abortion on demand, homosexual marriage, and has removed the Bible, prayer, and the Ten Commandments from schools and the public square, I endorse Dwight L Geiger and urge you to vote for him November 4 if not sooner.

### Florida Supreme Court and District Court of Appeals Retention Votes

Recommendation: Vote No on All

Voter Guide Link: http://www.flvotesvalues.com/judges/fl/saint\_lucie\_county/judicial\_voters\_guide.html.

All of the judges up for retention have practiced judicial activism meaning they have legislated from the bench. Considering the travesty of judicial activism, which has brought us abortion on demand, homosexual marriage, and has removed the Bible, prayer, and the Ten Commandments from schools and the public square, I urge you to vote no on all judges November 4 if not sooner.

Race: City of Port St. Lucie, FL City Council

**City Council, District 2** 

**Recommendation:** Michelle Lee Berger

Voter Guide Link: http://www.flvotesvalues.com/st\_lucie\_county\_voters\_guide.html.

Legislative Scorecard: Since neither candidate has previously held a state or national elected office, a legislative

scorecard is not available. **Address:** 1810 SW Janette Ave
Port St. Lucie, FL 34953

Cell: (772) 801-3254 Fax: (772) 344-1797

**E-mail:** reelectmichelleleeberger@gmail.com **Website:** http://www.michelleleeberger.com

This race pits two Republicans against each other in a non-partisan race. Thankfully both candidates answered the Christian Coalition Candidate Survey. I encourage you to read their responses on the local voter guide. Michelle Berger has served on the Port St. Lucie City Council, District 2 for the past 4 years. I am concerned with the huge growth in the city's budget that was only reduced this year after housing prices tanked. The role of government has expanded under Berger as well to the point where you now need a permit to hold a yard sale. This is outrageous! I am also concerned that when given a chance February 26, 2007 to support a Nativity and a Menorah at City Hall, Berger failed to act. Both Berger and her opponent answered the candidate survey that they support displaying a Nativity and a Menorah on city property. After reviewing all of the candidates responses on the Christian Coalition Candidate Survey though, I am convinced that Berger supports our values more closely than her opponent. Consequently, I recommend Michelle Lee Berger for Port St. Lucie City Council, District 2 and ask you to vote for her November 4 if not sooner.

#### **Get Involved!**

- Sign Waving (Prior to Election and Election Day)
- Make a Donation

## City Council, District 4

Recommendation: Victoria "Huggs" Huggins

Voter Guide Link: http://www.flvotesvalues.com/st\_lucie\_county\_voters\_guide.html.

Legislative Scorecard: Since neither candidate has previously held a state or national elected office, a legislative

scorecard is not available. **Address:** Victoria J Huggins

1862 SE Erwin Rd. Port St. Lucie, FL 34952 **Phone:** 772-337-3880

E-Mail: vihuggins@yahoo.com

Website: <a href="http://www.treasurecoastvoices.com/index.php?board=88.0">http://www.treasurecoastvoices.com/index.php?board=88.0</a>

This race pits two Democrats against each other in a non-partisan race. Thankfully both candidates answered the Christian Coalition Candidate Survey. I encourage you to read their responses on the local voter guide. Jack Kelly has served on the Port St. Lucie City Council, District 4 for the past 12 years. Kelly is very knowledgeable and has dedicated himself to serving the city. Under his tenure, however, the city budget has skyrocketed. In fact, the budget went from \$273,939,202 in the 2004-2005 budget year to \$805,000,000 in the 2007-2008 budget year, a whopping 194% increase. During the same period, Port St. Lucie experienced population growth of approximately 43,000 or just over 36%. The 2008-2009 budget, the council reduced the budget to \$517,909,919.00. While this is a significant decrease over the previous year, it is still an increase of \$243,970,717 over the 2004-2005 budget or an 89% increase. The role of government has expanded under Kelly as well to the point where you now need a permit to hold a yard sale. This is outrageous! I am also concerned that when given a chance February 26, 2007 to support a Nativity and a Menorah at City Hall, Kelly argued against the Nativity and Menorah at City Hall. Victoria "Huggs" Huggins supports displaying a Nativity and a Menorah on city property. Huggins also wants to bring the budget down to size. After reviewing all of the candidates responses on the Christian Coalition Candidate Survey, I am convinced that Huggins supports our values more closely than her opponent. Consequently, I recommend Victoria "Huggs" Huggins for Port St. Lucie City Council, District 2 and ask you to vote for her November 4 if not sooner.

## **Proposed Constitutional Amendments**

### No. 1, Constitutional Amendment, Article I, Section 2

Voter Guide Link: http://www.flvotesvalues.com/florida\_constitutional\_ballot.html.

**Summary:** Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to delete provisions authorizing the Legislature to regulate or prohibit the ownership, inheritance, disposition, and possession of real property by aliens ineligible for citizenship.

**Sponsor:** The Florida Legislature

**Background:** Article I, Section 2 of the Florida Constitution provides that equal rights are for all in Florida, but creates a glaring exception for "aliens ineligible for citizenship," who can be stripped of the right to own property by the Legislature. The exception dates to the early 1900's and is common to many states' law, and was directed at Asian-American immigrants (the "Yellow Peril.") Senate Joint Resolution 166, filed in 2007, proposed this amendment. Only New Mexico and Florida still have these provisions in their constitutions, and both states' leaders are asking voters to remove the language this year.

**Position:** The legislature has never enacted laws concerning property ownership for "aliens ineligible for citizenship." I believe that the present wording should be changed to limit the size and scope of government. The illegal immigration issue can be solved soon enough by deportation, fining companies who hire illegal immigrants, and cutting off government subsidies (welfare) for illegal immigrants.

**Recommendation:** Vote yes to support Amendment 1.

### No. 2, Constitutional Amendment, Article I, New Section

**Voter Guide Link:** <a href="http://www.yes2marriage.org/learn-more/brochures-and-flyers">http://www.yes2marriage.org/learn-more/brochures-and-flyers</a> and <a href="http://www.flacathconf.org/Marriage.htm">http://www.flacathconf.org/Marriage.htm</a>.

**Summary:** This amendment protects marriage as the legal union of only one man and one woman as husband and wife and provides that no other legal union that is treated as marriage or the substantial equivalent thereof shall be valid or recognized.

Sponsor: Florida4Marriage.org

Position: Friday, October 10, the Connecticut Supreme Court struck down the state's civil union law, ruling that same sex couples have a constitutional right to marry. In doing so, Connecticut followed the lead of activist judges in Massachusetts and California in overturning state statutes and forcing homosexual marriage on the people. The Connecticut ruling proves that Florida's Statutes won't stop activist judges from forcing same sex marriage on the people of Florida.

Opponents of Florida's proposed marriage amendment argue that since Florida already has statutes on the books that protect against same sex marriage, there is no need for Amendment 2. In fact, Florida's legislature has passed three state statutes that define marriage as between one man and one woman. Those statutes will crumble, however, if Florida's Supreme Court strikes them down. Consequently, it is imperative that Floridian go to the polls November 4 and vote Yes on 2.

This is not a Republican issue or a Democratic issue. This is not a black issue or a white issue. This is an issue that crosses party, religious, racial, and ethnic barriers. Throughout history, societies have defined marriage as a union between one man and one woman, until recently. We must unite to defend traditional marriage before activist judges force homosexual marriage on Floridian.

Recommendation: Vote yes to support Amendment 2 ("Yes on 2 – One Man – One Woman").

#### **Get Involved!**

- Phone Calls
- Door-Knocking
- Sign Waving (Prior to Election and Election Day)
- Voter Guide Distribution
- Make a Donation

Contact Yes 2 Marriage St. Lucie County coordinator Pastor Steve Moore at <a href="SteveMoore@WaltonRoad.org">SteveMoore@WaltonRoad.org</a> or 772-529-8142, Martin County coordinator Pastor Darryl Orman at First Baptist of Stuart, or Indian River County contact Craig McGarvey at <a href="McGarveyCJ@Comcast.net">McGarveyCJ@Comcast.net</a>. We need help in St. Lucie, Martin, and Indian River counties.

## No. 3, Constitutional Amendment, Article VII, Sections 3 and 4 & Article XII, New Section

**Voter Guide Link:** <a href="http://www.flvotesvalues.com/florida\_constitutional\_ballot.html">http://www.flvotesvalues.com/florida\_constitutional\_ballot.html</a>.

Reference: Article VII, sections 3, 4, and a new section

**Summary:** Authorizes the Legislature, by general law, to prohibit consideration of changes or improvements to residential real property which increase resistance to wind damage and installation of renewable energy source devices as factors in assessing the property's value for ad valorem taxation purposes. Effective upon adoption, repeals the existing renewable energy source device exemption no longer in effect.

**Sponsor:** Florida Budget and Taxation Reform Commission

**Background:** Increased value of residential property based on improvements designed to improve hurricane safety could not be assessed as taxable increased value.

**Position:** Citizens shouldn't need to pay additional taxes because they purchase hurricane shutters, a new garage door, replace their roof, etc. With much of our money going to pay for oil sold to us by terrorist nations, we need tax incentives for alternative energy.

**Recommendation:** Vote Yes to Support Amendment 3.

## No. 4, Constitutional Amendment, Article VII, Section 3 and 4 & Article XII, Section 28

Voter Guide Link: http://www.flvotesvalues.com/florida constitutional ballot.html.

**Summary:** Requires Legislature to provide a property tax exemption for real property encumbered by perpetual conservation easements or other perpetual conservation protections, defined by general law. Requires Legislature to provide for classification and assessment of land used for conservation purposes, and not perpetually encumbered, solely on the basis of character or use. Subjects assessment benefit to conditions, limitations, and reasonable definitions established by general law. Applies to property taxes beginning in 2010.

**Sponsor:** Florida Budget and Taxation Reform Commission

**Background:** Numerous provisions of federal estate and tax law favor landowners who preserve their property in its natural state. This provision would provide further tax benefits to those landowners.

**Position:** Tax breaks already exist for conservational land, this amendment does not require public access to the property for the tax break, will increase taxes for others, and contains no guarantee that the land will not be developed some time down the road.

**Recommendation:** Vote No to Reject Amendment 4.

### No. 6, Constitutional Amendment, Article VII, Section 4 & Article XII, New Section

Voter Guide Link: http://www.flvotesvalues.com/florida constitutional ballot.html.

**Summary:** Provides for assessment based upon use of land used predominantly for commercial fishing purposes; land used for vessel launches into waters that are navigable and accessible to the public; marinas and drystacks that are open to the public; and water-dependent marine manufacturing facilities, commercial fishing facilities, and marine vessel construction and repair facilities and their support activities, subject to conditions, limitations, and reasonable definitions specified by general law.

**Sponsor:** Florida Budget and Taxation Reform Commission

**Background:** Access to public waterfront has been reduced as marinas and the like cannot afford to resist developers' offers to convert the land into condominium towers or other private buildings. The amendment would require those properties to be taxed based on their current use rather than on their "highest and best" use.

**Position:** All property, not just waterfront property, should be taxed based on its current use not its highest use. This amendment will prevent property appraisers from assessing a marina as if the property contained a high rise condo or hotel instead.

**Recommendation:** Vote Yes to Support Amendment 6.

### No. 8, Constitutional Amendment, Article VII, Section 9

Voter Guide Link: http://www.flvotesvalues.com/florida constitutional ballot.html.

**Summary:** Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to require that the Legislature authorize counties to levy a local option sales tax to supplement community college funding; requiring voter approval to levy the tax; providing that approved taxes will sunset after 5 years and may be reauthorized by the voters.

**Sponsor:** Florida Budget and Taxation Reform Commission

**Background:** The Legislature has allowed Miami-Dade County to levy a local-option sales tax to assist that area's community college.

Position: If you wish to pay more in taxes, please pay some of mine, but read our lips government, "no new taxes!"

**Recommendation:** Vote No to Reject Amendment 8.