

THE DOLPHIN DEMOCRATS

2016 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES

NOTE TO CANDIDATES:

The information you provide on this questionnaire will be posted on the Dolphin Democrats website and social media. Please include a recent photo of yourself to be posted with your questionnaire

Candidate Name: MARK A. DOUGLAS

Office Sought: Sunrise City Commissioner, Group A.

Campaign Mailing Address: 2331 North State Rd 7, Suite 106, Lauderdale Lakes, FL 33313

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Campaign Website:

Campaign Facebook URL: Facebook.com/MarkforSunrise

Campaign Twitter:

Please answer the following questions:

Are you a member of the Dolphin Democrats? NO

Are you a member of the Florida LGBT Democratic Caucus? NO

Do you identify as LGBT? NO

Are you a member of the Broward Democratic Executive Committee? NO

Would you condemn instances of hate speech in your district? yes, absolutely

Do you believe that a woman has the right to terminate her unwanted pregnancy? Please Explain.

yes, I believe in the absolute and fundamental right of a person to choose what happens with their bodies and the religious ideologies that drive the pro-life arguments have any foundation in law. The choice to abort could be what stands between a woman's life and death.

Have you ever registered to participate in a LGBT Pride parade (e.g. The Wilton Manors Stonewall Pride Parade)? If so, how many, when were they, and where were they held?

NO

Do you support legislation that would require background checks for all gun purchases? *yes, but once the person is cleared they should have a right to own a handgun.*

Do you believe it should be illegal for anyone on the No-Fly list to purchase a gun? *yes, if its not safe enough to have them fly, they shouldn't own a gun.*

Would you support a policy that lease and event contracts include a prohibition that assault weapons may not be sold on your municipalities' property at any event? *yes*

Do you support legislation to ban clips that hold more than ten rounds? *yes*

Would you support non-discrimination legislation that would make it illegal to fire someone and/or deny them housing because of their sexual orientation or gender identity and expression? *yes, I have tenants who identify as LGBT and cannot see how this should ever factor into these decisions.*

Would you oppose legislation that restricts access to restrooms and other sex-segregated facilities for transgender persons? *yes*

Do you support marriage equality for same-sex couples? *yes*

Do you support domestic partner benefits for unmarried public employees? *yes*

Would you oppose legislation allowing organizations or businesses to refuse service to LGBT persons based on personal or religious objections? *yes*

Would you support legislation to ban 'conversion therapy', a range of dangerous and discredited practices that falsely claim to change a person's sexual orientation or gender identity or expression? *yes*

Would you support legislation requiring fair and equal access to essential healthcare for transgender persons? *yes*

Would you support efforts in our public schools to provide HIV/STI prevention education? *yes*

Do you support teaching comprehensive age-appropriate sex education programs in our public schools? *yes*

Would you support legislation creating and regulating safe houses for sexually exploited youth? *yes*

Would you support legislation creating a Florida Human Trafficking Task Force including a coordinated reporting system and state hotline to report Human Trafficking in Florida? *yes*

Would you support legislation creating a statewide needle exchange program? *yes*

Do you support a municipal ordinance adding Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity as protected classes for employment, service, and housing in your municipality? *yes*

Do you support gender identity being determined by the individual? *yes*

Do you support requiring sensitivity training to address LGBT issues (which are very direly needed for our transgender municipal residents) for public safety employees in your municipality? *yes*

Do you support a LGBT pride parade (late June) and a Transgender Day of Remembrance (November 20th: for transgender around the world murdered every year because they are transgender) held in your municipality? *yes*

Do you support a living wage for all municipal employees? *yes*

Do you support contracts that require competitive bidding also require the contractor to provide a living wage and healthcare benefits to all its employees doing work for your municipality? *yes*

Do you support requiring municipal contractors to provide a minimum of two weeks paid vacation to their employees who are doing work for your municipality? *yes*

Do you support your municipal employees right to collective bargaining without any undue interference from your municipality? *yes*

Do you support child care facilities in your municipality that provide child care services to single parents being partially government subsidized? *oh yes*

Do you support after school and sports programs being offered by your municipality? *yes*

Do you support legislation requiring healthy food options at day care facilities and municipal after school/sports programs? *yes*

Do you support the right of the people to demonstrate peacefully in your municipality without complicated permits being required? *yes, absolutely*

Do you support religious exemptions for individuals providing services to the general public in a business to be able to discriminate in employment, housing, or service due to a sincerely held religious belief? *NO*

Do you support religious organizations who provide community services for the general public, funded by your municipality, still being able to administer those municipal programs if they refuse to provide those same services funded by your municipality to LGBT people? *NO*

Do you support a moment of silence rather than a benediction preceding your meetings? *yes*

Would you be available to attend one of our meetings (7:30 pm, the second Wednesday of every month at The Pride Center 2020 N Dixie Hwy, Wilton Manors, FL 33305) where we consider endorsing you for the position you are seeking? yes

Please state in 125 words or less what you feel are the strengths you bring, the primary goals you have for the office you are seeking, and why you feel the LGBT Community should support your candidacy.

I believe I bring diversity in all respects to the position of city commissioner. As an African American, who is also an Immigrant from Jamaica, I believe my perspective on many of the issues that these groups face on a daily basis would strengthen the discussions and lead to more broad based and inclusive policy decisions.

As an Attorney, who is a Former Criminal Prosecutor but who has spent years defending those accused of crimes, those ~~being~~ ^{been} deported and helping individuals with their family laws and other issues, I bring a unique insight to the office.

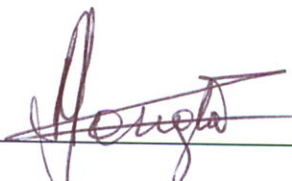
As a small business owner, Realtor and Entrepreneur, I understand the issues that those seeking to run a small business and boost employment face everyday.

I am a husband for 17 years and a Father. I have the strength of understanding humans, the problems they face and the desire and ability to make a difference.

I believe the LGBT Community should support my candidacy as I am qualified, competent, a person of integrity who is inclusive and will lead and service the needs of all people no matter their race, religion, National origin, sexual orientation or other status.

By signing this questionnaire, you are stating that if selected you would accept the Dolphin Democrats public support and endorsement.

Signature



Date:

8/11/16