

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: Julie A. Carson

Office Sought: City of Wilton Manors Commissioner

Campaign Mailing Address: 1908 Coral Gardens Dr., Wilton Manors, FL 33306

Campaign Phone: 954-288-8174

Candidate Phone: 954-288-8174

Campaign e-Mail: reelectjuliecarson@gmail.com; jcarsonwmfl@gmail.com

Campaign Website:

Campaign Facebook URL: Julie Carson for Wilton Manors Commissioner!

Campaign Twitter:

Please answer the following questions:

Are you a member of the Dolphin Democrats? **Yes.**

Are you a member of the Florida LGBT Democratic Caucus? **Yes.**

Do you identify as LGBT? **Yes (L).**

Are you a member of the Broward Democratic Executive Committee? **Yes.**

Would you condemn instances of hate speech in your district? **Yes, I do condemn hate speech.**

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

Yes, consistent with Federal Decision in Roe v Wade. I disagree with the continued chipping away of a woman's reproductive rights and will fight against same.



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?

Yes. Stonewall over the last 8 years.

Do you support legislation that would require background checks for all gun purchases? Yes.

Do you believe it should be illegal for anyone on the No-Fly list to purchase a gun? Yes with some concerns.

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, subject to any state pre-emption against such policy.

Do you support legislation to ban clips that hold more than ten rounds? No. I believe that military use should not be banned.

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...or deny them any other rights because of their sexual orientation or gender identity or expression – health care.

Would you oppose legislation that restricts access to restrooms and other sex-segregated facilities for transgender persons? Yes. And I support non sex-segregated restrooms in public facilities and the inclusion of gender neutral restrooms in county, state and municipal building codes.

Do you support marriage equality for same-sex couples? Yes.

Do you support domestic partner benefits for unmarried public employees? Yes, and I fought to retain the rights of domestic partner benefits in Wilton Manors and in Broward County.

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. The City just passed an ordinance banning conversation therapy for minors. However, I think banning conversion therapy for adults is beyond the purview of our City law.

Would you support legislation requiring fair and equal access to essential healthcare for transgender persons? Yes. I do and will continue to fight (albeit unsuccessfully) for equal access to essential healthcare for transgender persons who are municipal employees, specifically including Gender Confirmation Surgery.

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, but I do not think the current state administration is equipped to do so.**

Would you support legislation creating a statewide needle exchange program? **Yes, but more specifically, I would like to focus on a Countywide needle exchange program.**

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? **Absolutely and I would like to see the inclusion of "preferred name" in all applications or other requests for information.**

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, but all employees – not just public safety.**

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, and I have attended numerous Pride Day events Transgender Day of Remembrance Events.**

Do you support a living wage for all municipal employees? **Yes, and I have verified that the City does pay a living wage to its employees.**

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, but with some clarifications regarding the requirement to provide healthcare to non-full time employees.

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? **No, not across the board. Vacation should be based on a number of criteria including but not limited to the number of hours worked, the term of employment, other contractual agreements, etc.**

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? **Yes, and I think we currently do provide such with our City's Broward After School Program.**

Do you support after school and sports programs being offered by your municipality? **Yes, and we currently do offer after school and sports programs.**



Do you support legislation requiring healthy food options at day care facilities and municipal after school/sports programs? **No, I do not think legislation is required at this time. However, as a City we do so.**

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

I believe an uncomplicated permit should be required, specifically in light of the recent tragedy at the Pulse. Public Safety continues to be a priority in our City.

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, or a moment of something – thought, reflection, contemplation.**

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.

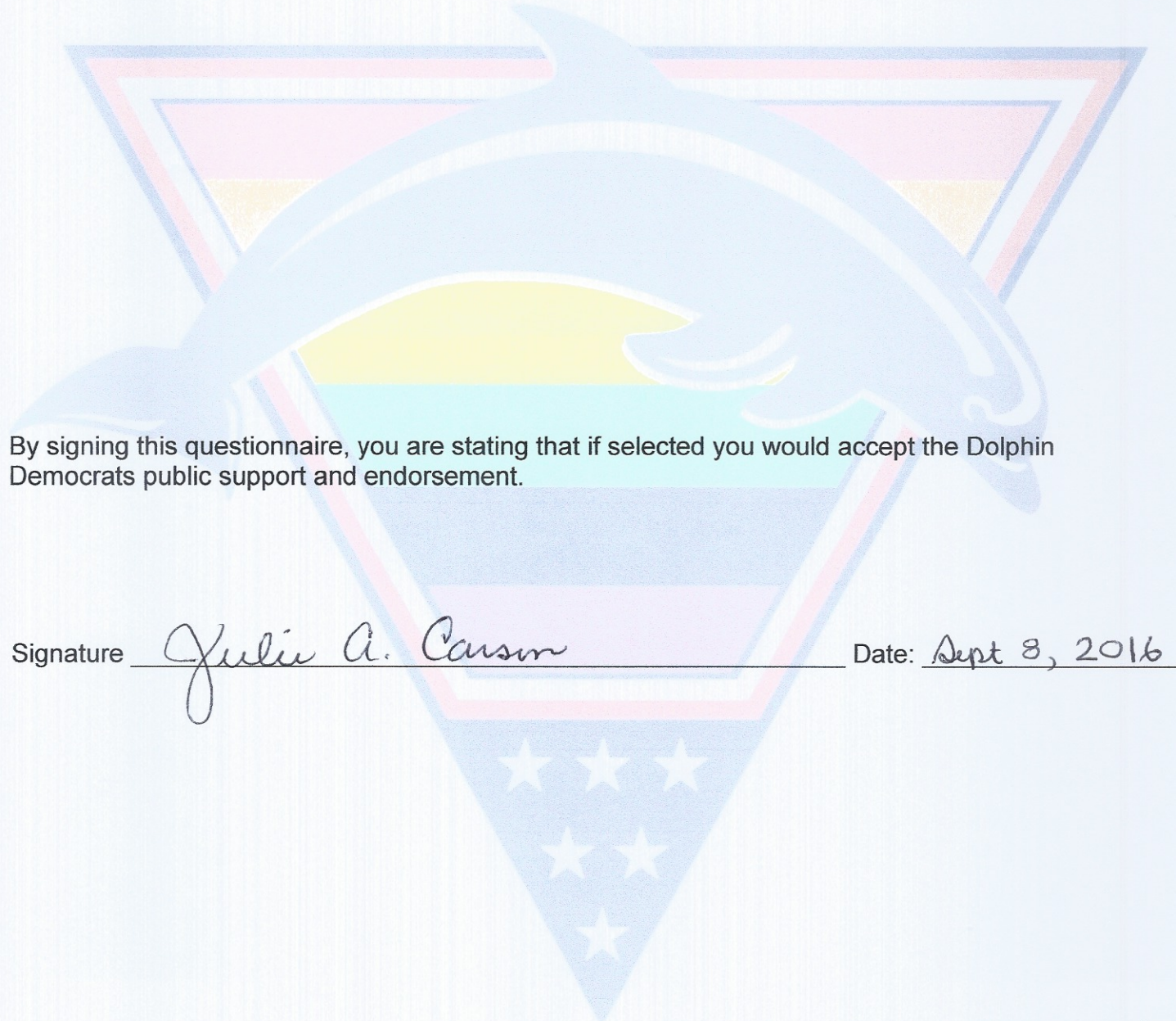
During my tenure, I have, among others, taken the following actions:

1. Proposed and Enacted Wilton Manors Tax Equity Policy;
2. Proposed and Enacted an Ordinance providing for Vendor Non-Discrimination against Domestic Partners;
3. Proposed and passed - subject to finalizing - Civil Citations for possession of 10g or less of Marijuana by Minors and Adults. (I wanted it to be mandatory for minors but did not get support).
4. Voted in favor of Ordinance banning Conversion Therapy for Minors in the City;
5. Proposed on several occasions but without support from colleagues inclusion in insurance policy coverage Gender Confirmation Surgery for City Employees.
6. Proposed and enacted a Broward County Vendor Preference Policy.
7. Supported efforts by Equality Florida to strengthen the Domestic Partner Policy in Broward County.
8. Worked with Broward Sheriff Counsel to create a Vendor Non-Discrimination Policy.



9. Opposed strict laws (without much support) against panhandling because I believe they target the homeless and LGBTQ Youth.
10. Opposed stringent laws against marijuana dispensaries because I believe they are unconstitutional and overbearing.
11. Opposed the marginalization and branding of felons who have made reparation and paid their dues to society.

Please see attached Resume for additional information.



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

Signature Julie A. Carson Date: Sept 8, 2016

JAC

JULIE A. CARSON
1908 Coral Gardens Drive
Wilton Manors, Florida 33306
954-288-8174 jcarsonwmfl@gmail.com

EXPERIENCE:

CITY OF WILTON MANORS, FLORIDA

2020 Wilton Drive
Wilton Manors, Florida 33305

Wilton Manors City Commissioner

Re-Elected to Office November 6, 2012

Vice Mayor 2012-2014

Interim City Commissioner (Appointment) - 11/08 to 2/09

- Establish the annual priorities and fiscal integrity of the City through its Strategic Plan and implement such priorities in an Annual Budget of approximately 31 million dollars.
- Collectively govern; oversee department actions; approve budgets, expenditures, and audits; establish and manage the implementation of master park plans and business improvement districts; comply with ethics requirements and attend required ethics training; guide planning, zoning, and code enforcement activities; ensure public safety through an adequately trained, diverse, and responsive Police Department; safeguard the infrastructure, public utility, pedestrian walkability, and transportation components of the community; oversee grant applications; human resources; risk management; adequacy, revision and enforcement of ordinances; and marketing of the Island City as a nationwide tourist destination.
- Engage municipal government, County, State, and Federal officials and social service agencies, in the sharing of policies, plans and *Best Practices*.

NICHOLS NEWMAN LOGAN GREY & LOCKWOOD, PC

1131 King Street
Christiansted, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands 00820

Paralegal – Independent Contractor

November 2015 - Current

- Engage in residential real estate acquisitions, sales and financing and certain commercial transactional work in the United States Virgin Islands.

KATIE A. EDWARDS, P.A.

500 NW 6th Street
Okeechobee, FL 34972
7/15 – 11/15

Paralegal – Independent Contractor

- Assist in agri-business and water management district regulatory and permitting legal matters and provide paralegal support in commercial and residential real estate transactional work; zoning and code enforcement issues; landlord-tenant disputes; cattle grazing and agricultural leasing.

RE-ELECT KATIE EDWARDS FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 98

P.O. Box 16174

Plantation, FL 33318

1/15 thru 6/15

Campaign Manager

- Manage Campaign activities; engage in public ambassadorship; serve as liaison to constituents; review pending legislation and Delegation positions and convey the corresponding environmental, human rights, and judicial legislative impact on the District and State; attend political, social, legal and legislative events on behalf of Representative Edwards in anticipation of the 2016 election.

MARCUS & MILLICHAP REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT SERVICES

The Hunter Kristol Group

5900 North Andrews Avenue, Suite 100

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309

2/13 to 12/31/14

Transaction Coordinator

- Coordinate the listing, marketing, contract, transaction and closings processes for properties listed by the HK Team of Brokerage Professionals, focusing on multifamily properties in South Florida.
- Coordinate site inspections; review, abstract and document tenant leases, Letters of Intent, and Offers to Purchase; oversee Tour Dates and Calls for Offers; track critical contract dates; manage, organize and deliver due diligence materials; verify escrow deposits; remove contingencies; allocate brokerage commissions; submit and distribute final closing documents.
- Track, compile, and organize marketing data, statistics, and offers to purchase and circulate weekly Marketing Status Update Letter to each Seller from Listing through Contract.

GATOR INVESTMENTS

1595 NE 163rd Street

North Miami Beach, Florida 33162

7/01 to 2/13

Senior Paralegal

- Engage in commercial real estate transactional work including negotiating for and the acquisition, sale, leasing, investment, exchange, management and financing of commercial and residential properties nationwide.
- Conduct multi-state, multi-million dollar commercial real estate transactions, together with prerequisites of negotiating, preparing, drafting, reviewing and/or obtaining letters of intent; Purchase and Sale Contracts; title objection letters; escrow agreements; due diligence materials; conveyance and financing documents (including IRS Section 1031 and 1033 Exchanges); loan assumptions; leases; condemnation and right-of-way actions; surveys and plats; restrictive covenants; title commitments; easements; zoning and planning requirements; service contracts; authorization and organizational documents including partnership and operating agreements and foreign qualifications; settlement statements, post-closing and long term follow-up.
- Manage and respond to complex multi-state litigation, real property tax assessment appeals, insurance matters and cases arising from the ownership and management of investment real estate.
- Negotiate, draft, and review Shopping Center Lease Agreements and Amendments.

STITES & HARBISON, PLLC successor by January 2001 merger to
FARRIS, WARFIELD & KANADAY, ATTORNEYS AT LAW
Nashville, Tennessee
3/93 to 7/01

Transactional Paralegal/Title Examiner

- Performed multi-state commercial real estate transactional work (and related title and survey reviews) including the acquisitions, sales, and financing of office buildings, apartment complexes, hotels, restaurants and healthcare facilities.
- Developed, administered and conducted statewide foreclosures of residential and commercial properties from default to sale.
- Assisted in litigation, corporate, bankruptcy, tax, domestic relations research and client development.

EDUCATION:

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY, Murfreesboro, Tennessee
1983 Graduated *Summa Cum Laude*
Awarded Bachelor of Arts Degree
Major: Foreign Language; Minors: Political Science and Women's Studies

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND INVOLVEMENT:

- 2015 Achievements in Excellence Award from SFGN Magazine
- 2015 Equality Florida Community Partner for Equality Award
- East Neighborhood Association, Vice President (2009 – 2010), Member
- Broward Democratic Party Management Committee
- 2014 Trans-Equality Award for Service to the Community
- Dolphin 2013 Democrats Political Trailblazer Award
- National Voices for Equality, Education, & Enlightenment 2012 Voices of Leadership Honoree
- PEO, an International Women's Philanthropic Organization
- 2012 Community Award for Outstanding Service, The Aqua Foundation for Women
- Broward County Management & Efficiency Study Committee (MESC), Vice Chair; Chair of MESC Subcommittee to Study Office of Broward County Sheriff; and Member of the Service Delivery Subcommittee (Appointment by Broward County Mayor, District 4, (2009 - June 2011))
- Historical Society of Wilton Manors, Florida, Member
- NAACP, Ft. Lauderdale Chapter, Member
- Fraternal Order of Police Associates Lodge 47, Wilton Manors, Florida, Member 2010-2013
- Friends of the Library, Wilton Manors, Florida, Member
- Association of Florida Sheriffs, Member
- Broward County Democratic Black Caucus, Member
- League of Women Voters – Broward Chapter
- Avid Equestrian & Triathlete