

Greg,

I'm honored that you reached out to me. At first I thought it was a "joke", and I took some time to "vet" you. 😊).

Here are my responses to your questions... Also, please check out our website at:

www.choices4oconee.com

You can see our pledge and six bi-partisan candidates, including Suzannah Heimel and myself. I am so proud of us!

You're one of at least three Republicans running in Oconee County as a Democrat. Why did you make that decision?

First of all, why do you think I am a Republican? I am an Independent – a fierce one at that! Both parties are letting us down and cannot seem to solve problems – even ones with simple solutions.

For instance – it is not rocket science to know how to close the border (fencing, razor wire, drones, armed guards, etc.) For goodness sake – the Dominican Republic manages to do this on the island of Hispaniola. Other "poorer" countries south of us have a fortified border. Also, the supposed constituents of the Democratic Party, minorities that I have taught for 28 years, are not well served by the influx of illegal immigrants who depress wages, and they well know this. In fact, the Democratic Party is losing these younger minorities by the truckload.

Second instance – both parties have loudly complained in past elections that there is voter fraud. Let's clean this up, starting with paper ballots. People are fast losing faith in the activity of voting, which does not bode well for our Republic. Poorer nations do a much better job with fair elections, so I've heard.

So, I am politically marooned (credit to Del Bigtree for this term). I really do not see a difference between the parties – both spend money prolifically. Neither can affect policies to help the average American – clean food, air and water, effective and honest health care with options outside of allopathic medicine, fair and equal justice, good education focused on the three R's, etc. The Republicans in the Georgia legislature are full of bad ideas – Dark Money bills, Mobile phone gambling, etc – WHAT constituents are asking for these?

I'm here to help with practical solutions.

How would you describe your politics? Conservative? Liberal? Pro-Trump? Pro-Biden?

Independent. Conservative. Practical. Honest. Pro good ideas, regardless of the person or party. Most political leadership has let us down. Are they compromised? Bribed? Inept? Something!

Should partisan affiliation matter in a race like yours?

Absolutely not. Good question.

Do you think we will see more conservatives running as Democrats in races like yours to give voters different options?

I certainly hope so! And by the way, I think most minorities, which the Democrat Party thinks they represent, are very conservative. They are so poor, how could they not be?

Greg, thank you for your interest in our local races. If it's not too much trouble, I am curious where my comments may appear.

Sincerely,

Laura King

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Bluestein, Greg (AJC-Atlanta) Mon, Apr 15, 11:46 AM (20 hours ago)

to me

Great! I wanted to wait until now to respond since I wanted to give you the weekend! You're one of at least three Republicans running in Oconee County as a Democrat. Why did you make that decision? How would you describe your politics? Conservative? Liberal? Pro-Trump? Pro-Biden? Should partisan affiliation matter in a race like yours? Do you think we will see more conservatives running as Democrats in races like yours to give voters different options?
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Thank you!

Greg

From: Laura King <king.laura.cpa@gmail.com>

Date: Friday, April 12, 2024 at 3:55 PM

To: Bluestein, Greg (AJC-Atlanta) <Greg.Bluestein@ajc.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Atlanta Journal-Constitution

I'm happy to email with you.

Laura

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 12, 2024, at 1:43 PM, Bluestein, Greg (AJC-Atlanta) <Greg.Bluestein@ajc.com> wrote:

Laura,

I just caught word about your campaign and would love to talk to you more! I can email or call – whatever is easiest for you!

Thanks,

Greg Bluestein

Atlanta Journal-Constitution

404-444-4077

@Bluestein

<http://bit.ly/FlippedTheBook>