

From the desk of
Former Surfside Mayor Charles Burkett

Greetings Surfsiders:

In a few short weeks, we have an election and I would like to share my vision for our Town. As you may know, the choice is: are Surfside's best days behind us as my opponent has said, or will we preserve the magnificent lifestyle we currently have, while taking smart steps to make that quality of life even *more* special?

The answer is relatively simple as I see it.

If we follow the giveaway development path of the last two years, coddle billionaire builders, appoint badly conflicted, or in one case a former felon, to our most important town boards, rewrite our zoning code to permit bigger buildings with more units and traffic, ignore and mistreat residents who come to speak at our meetings, and look the other way while an elected official and a Planning & Zoning chairwoman rewrite our laws to feather *their* business nests by profitably flipping homes, our best days *are* probably behind us!

We are a small town, and everyone is very plugged in. In the two years before my opponent was elected by just 25 votes, I led our town through its two worst disasters in its history, *Covid* and the *Champlain collapse*.

While managing those two huge issues, I also wrote, got passed by our commission and had residents approve several key ballot questions, one which came in very handy recently. You see, my opponent believes that he should be able to spend your tax money, without asking you. He believes that so fervently, that he put a question in front of you recently to "*undo*" the ballot question I wrote preventing politicians from burying our town in debt. Your vote recently taught my opponent a good lesson – do not pull fast ones on our voters.

My opponent constantly flies to Tallahassee and even halfway around the world, to hobnob with his pals and kiss up to billionaires. He has been overcome with his own importance, even going so far as kicking our police out of *their* new gym, to reward himself a large, newly decorated, private, corner office in town hall.

On the contrary, during all my time as your mayor over the last 20 years, I have never spent a dime of our money flying anywhere; that is what we pay our lobbyist in Tallahassee for, and more importantly, I have never begged developers for anything– they always came to us. As far as utilizing town hall for free office space, with all the trimmings, that self-serving idea never crossed my mind.

It is *not* the brilliance of our current leaders and their supplicative sycophancy towards some developers flashing big money that has made our little town the one-of-a-kind gem that it is, and the envy of all around us, rather, it is the high-quality decisions, and fiscal and zoning discipline that my predecessors and I have undertaken over the last decades, that has made Surfside into a unique, world-renowned destination!

There are powerful forces that want to see my opponent stay in office so the gravy train can continue to run, and they have put their money where their mouth is, providing my opponent with more money than any other candidate has ever seen in this town's history!

Running our town is not complicated. Keep it affordable, keep it friendly and efficient, keep it safe, keep the kids entertained, keep our seniors active, stop the speeding, stop the cut-through traffic, encourage world class, compatible development, keep your promises and keep it beautiful. That is what I did and what I will do.

Trust and integrity are a must. Lie about one thing, and a question mark must be put next to everything else said. My opponent will tell you I am a slumlord, a deadbeat dad, a predator landlord and a generally terrible person. Sadly, I am not surprised that he would say the nastiest, most horrible things to win.

What my opponent will not tell you is that the "slum" he refers to, is a \$14M Miami Beach trophy property, that got smashed by hurricane Irma, needed massive repairs, but is back better than ever (*go see it at 2001 Bay Drive*), or that I have always been a loving and supportive dad, ask any Surfside resident who knows my family, or that pointing out an eviction, or a business dispute in court, *over a 40 year-period*, is just silly – but then again, it's not about truth for my opponent and his monied donors, it's only about winning!

My hope is that residents and voters will see through the grift. Rather than pointing out that a landlord with thousands of tenants, over 40 years has had evictions, or that a national investment company, in eight US States has had legal disputes in court, my opponent might want to stop avoiding questions about him, like...

Why have you refused to provide answers or receipts for global trips to see developers? How do you earn a living if you spend all day, every day in your misappropriated town hall office? According to your financial disclosure all your income comes from a manufacturing business located in your home? What are you "manufacturing" in your home? Why would you fraternize with, and have our Town Commission honor the very Florida Representative who sponsored the law that could bring 12 story affordable housing to every corner of Surfside? Why would you treat the two women on our Commission so poorly? For that matter, why would you treat the families of the 98 Champlain dead so poorly?

Those questions above have not, and probably will not be answered. On the contrary, all the questions asked of me are answered. I am not perfect, but I am honest. I have never come to a meeting with the decision to an issue already worked out ahead of time. All our Commission issues, were worked out in front of residents (sometimes noisily). The same cannot be said for my opponent and his allies on the Commission and on our Boards.

There is a significant choice in March. Will we follow down the path of greed and hyper-development, or will we protect our small-town identity, all while making our little town better than anyone could imagine?

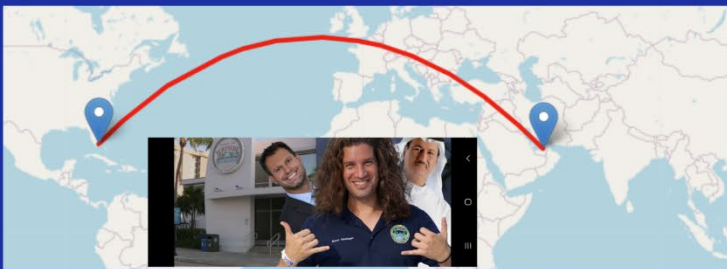
This Can Be Fixed In March!



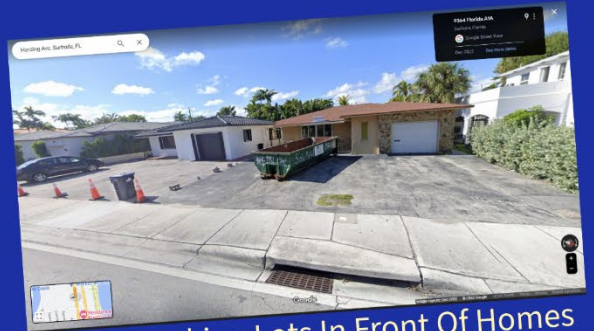
No Secret Meetings



No Police Removing Residents



No World Travel to Kiss Up to Billionaire Developers



No Parking Lots In Front Of Homes



No Broken Promises



No Cookie-Cutter/Identical Homes In Our Residential District



SHLOMO DANZINGER
Mayor

Tuesday, July 5, 2022

To Whom this may concern,

Go fuck yourself.

Sincerely,

Shlomo Danzinger
Mayor

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No Disrespect