

JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

As the week unfolded prior to July 4th I felt it was extremely ironic that our Board of County Commissioners were busy enacting executive orders to restrict our freedoms. July 4th, our nation's birthday, the day our founding fathers declared independence from a tyrannical British Government. Their first act of trampling on our freedoms was to declare no commercial fireworks displays in Nassau County to celebrate our freedom. Now I have seen, in the past, some idiotic decisions come from that board room, and this one ranks right at the top of the stupidity list. Do those elected and hired individuals understand that fireworks displays are an outdoor event? Fireworks can and are viewed from multiple locations. Thousands of people are not crammed into a small area; they are spread far and wide. When they made that decision they totally ignored two key factors. One is common sense! Of course most of us realize that left the elected governing body a long time ago. The second is the true meaning of Independence Day. When we the people are forced by the government to change our long time tradition of celebrating our independence from a tyrannical government, then perhaps we need to do what our ancestors did in

1776, replace the ones in office. They are our servants, they work for you and me, and they are not elitists that are above us.

Then came the "mask" Executive Order, two commissioners and the County Attorney/Manager were pushing hard for it. Once again, government is telling how we must live. The three that originally opposed the mask order caved and went along with the leaders of the pack. It was a true political circus. There is good news though; this August we have the opportunity to replace three of the commissioners currently in office. Two will definitely be new as one of the current commissioners is not running for re-election (Dist.3) but he has chosen the candidate he wants to replace him. A second commissioner is not seeking re-election (Dist.5) because he is seeking to be elected as the Supervisor of Elections. The third commissioner (Dist. 1) who may or may not even live within the district boundaries is seeking re-election. Pick your candidates very carefully, do a little research into who is funding their campaign, it may just shed a light on whether we will have more of the same or finally some non-crony representation.

As always...that's just my opinion!