

November 16, 2009

TO: Residents of Palmetto Bay, Pinecrest, Cutler Bay, South Miami, Miami, Coral Gables

From: Gunther (Gus) and Shirley Karger

Subject: State and Municipal elections

As you know, we will face the general election one year from now and primaries before then. This will become an extraordinary election because we all face a crisis not only on the economic front, but also in ethical conduct by politicians holding present and seeking new office. The fiscal crises experienced by communities at local, state and national governments are all well known to us and the leaders we will be electing must face and deal with this. We continue hearing about scandals involving political office holders involving ethical misconduct and just this week, suspension of a City of Miami Commissioner. This makes it extraordinarily important that each of us take the time to learn more about our elected representatives, be they mayor, council member, state representative or senator, congressmen/women or senators to Washington.

We must have people in office representing us who are focused on fiscal policy to get us through a difficult period and do this in a way that avoids ethical conduct issues. We the people must know that our elected representatives represent us and not the special interests who make major campaign contributions or put them on their payroll to render services without very upfront and clear disclosures. We must insist going forward that our political representatives stay clear of conflicts of interest and that they actually represent us, the people, instead of just telling us that they do. This has nothing to do with partylines but everything to do with who and what the candidates for office are and represent.

As the upcoming elections unfold, we will be offering comments and specific endorsements to those candidates we believe pass our standards of fiscal policy and ethical conduct. For many years, we have focused on ethical conduct and avoidance of conflict of interest witnessed by our books, reports and lectures (national effort) including appearances and references in the media. Our endorsement and recommendation of a candidate means that he/she has passed our "vetting" including knowing where they stand on fiscal policy and have no ethics issues. Our endorsement means that both of us, Gunther and Shirley Karger, personally know the candidates, have met with them and maintain direct communications with them to discuss critical issues in depth. We do not rely on recommendations by others. Our recommendations are based on our own direct analysis and conclusions and are independent on party affiliation.

At this time, we are pleased to announce (the following) *endorsement for the state legislature.

- Criminal defense and family law attorney **Lisa Lesperance**(D) to replace Julio Robaina's House seat for district 117. District 117 represents 132,000 residents in a corridor all the way from Cutler Bay to Coral Gables including a major part of Palmetto Bay. Check your voters registration card for your district. She will be running in the Democratic Primary against other candidates and already has the endorsement of many significant leaders. Check out her website at www.LisaLesperance.com

We urge each of you to take the upcoming elections more seriously than ever before because we face critical times. We must have people in office who truly represent our interests more than their own political ambitions and personal agendas. If you have a question, ask it. If you have a concern, express it and above all, have an open mind and don't be hoodwinked by biased media and narrowly focused politicians spinning **their** truth. Finally, always feel free to communicate with us .

Respectfully,

Gunther(Gus) and Shirley Karger
Residents of Palmetto Bay

(*edited in part for web site purposes only)