

As current County Commissioner, Greg Hansen, has stated he will not seek re-election for his seat in the 2026 election, I'm excited to announce I'll be running for County Commission District Two. I want to thank Commissioner Hansen for his dedicated life of service—both to our Country and to our County. He has led with passion and integrity, and he and his family should be very proud of the legacy he is leaving behind as he steps away from public life.

Flagler County and its northeast communities—including the Hammock, Beverly Beach and areas east of I-95 to the ocean—deserve a commissioner who will protect our quality of life and ensure thoughtful leadership as we continue navigating a period of rapid change.

I have proudly served on the Palm Coast City Council during a challenging time, working tirelessly to stand up against growth that is outpacing infrastructure. I have lowered our property tax rate each year while in office, increased sheriff's deputies to keep our community safe, and supported our firefighters to improve their pension plan. Working closely with City staff, I have introduced and secured funding for new methods to repave over 60 miles of local roads at a fraction of historical costs, improved our parks and ball fields for our children, created plans to refurbish our existing infrastructure, and spurred changes to our City building codes and policies to improve stormwater conditions and reduce flooding.

As your County Commissioner, I will champion a fiscally conservative approach and prioritize economic vitality, public safety, and essential infrastructure, while controlling spending, keeping taxes low, and balancing growth. I will insist on transparent budgeting and careful oversight of every tax dollar, and I look forward to collaborating with business leaders, our advisory boards, educators, stakeholders, and state partners to improve economic sustainability, diversify the tax base, attract light industrial and professional employers, and expand workforce training so that young residents and returning students can find good-paying jobs close to home.

I pledge to work hard with fellow commissioners, our neighboring cities, County Staff, and our state and federal partners to create a sustainable beach management plan to restore and maintain healthy beaches and dunes, recognizing that beach nourishment is essential for storm protection, economic vitality, and tourism. I will stay focused to ensure growth is guided by sound planning principles and will work tirelessly to protect natural areas such as the Hammock. Smart growth means preserving our natural beauty and quality of life while allowing thoughtful development that benefits everyone.

I promise to continue to listen to constituents, hold regular town halls, work hard, govern with integrity, and lead with strength, passion, and the mindset of a servant leader. I look forward to the campaign trail and to earning the support of our community.

**Short Bio:**

Theresa Pontieri is a partner in Lesak, Hamilton, Calhoun & Pontieri, PLLC and practices in the areas of real estate law, contract law, family law, and business litigation. Mrs. Pontieri earned her Juris Doctor, graduating magna cum laude, from Florida Coastal School of Law. She actively contributed to the legal community as a mock trial coach, adjunct professor, and Pro Bono Chair, reinforcing her commitment to legal excellence and advocacy. Before law school, Mrs. Pontieri obtained her undergraduate degree in Legal Studies from the University of Central Florida, minoring in sports and entertainment law.

Mrs. Pontieri holds a third-degree black belt, and she was a member of the United States Karate Team, competing internationally and winning multiple team World Championships in Madrid (2000) and Munich (2002) and becoming an individual Silver Medalist at the World Championships, a Bronze Medalist at the Pan-American Games, and a Bronze Medalist at the Goodwill Games in Tokyo, Japan.

Mrs. Pontieri lives in beautiful Palm Coast with her husband, Rick, a lieutenant with 18 years in the fire department, their young son, and their dog and rescue cat. In her free time, Ms. Pontieri enjoys staying active, working out on her Peloton, exploring the outdoors, and cheering on her UCF Knights.

“As a leader, attorney, and lifelong advocate for my community, I am committed to being a voice for Palm Coast on our County Commission and ensuring that our County remains a place where families and businesses can thrive,” said Pontieri. “I look forward to working with residents and community leaders to build a brighter, stronger future for all.”