

Mike Ryan Declares: “I will run to be Elected Mayor of the City of Sunrise!”

Sunrise, Florida: Today, Mike Ryan, a long time City of Sunrise resident, announced his decision to run for the Office of Mayor of the City of Sunrise. “I have been involved in many important issues in the City of Sunrise for years. I have worked with hundreds of families across the City and County to try to save our full-time School Resource Officers, worked to organize residents opposed the garbage transfer station some Commissioners wanted to put right next to a place of worship, submitted my views regarding the proposed Charter Review Board changes, and worked on a broad array of educational issues. My decision to run for the Office of Mayor is an extension of my dedication to the families, employees and businesses in the City of Sunrise,” said Mike.

Mike, husband and a father of two children ages 12 and 10, is a nearly 10 year resident of Sunrise. Mike is finishing his second term as PTA President for Sawgrass Elementary and is starting his second term as Chair of the City of Sunrise Education Advisory Board. In addition, Mike has been a volunteer coach in the City of Sunrise youth programs, including baseball, flag-football and multiple seasons of boys and girls soccer. “I understand, no matter where you live in the City, we share the common bond of wanting great schools in safe neighborhoods, security and safety for all residents and visitors, well-trained and motivated first responders, respect for our precious environment, and a prosperous local economy where responsible businesses can thrive and generate good jobs,” explained Mike.

On the legislative side, Mike helped write legislation with State Representative Ari Porth known as the “Klee Bill”, opening the doors of the courthouse for crime victims. The “Klee Bill” is presently awaiting the Governor’s signature. Mike also worked on legislation to improve “school zone” signage, a task he credits State Senator Nan Rich with spearheading after Mike brought his concerns, as a then member of the Safety Committee for the Broward County Council of PTAs, to Senator Rich’s attention.

Mike attended Broward County public middle and high schools. After attending The George Washington University, where he graduated with Distinction obtaining a B.A. in Finance, Mike joined the Federal Home Loan Bank Board as a Bank Examiner. Mike’s job was to examine the accounting and regulatory practices of financial institutions with assets totaling in the hundreds of millions of dollars. “That experience, including analyzing bad and risky investments devised by those pushing the limits of questionable investment strategies, cemented my views that we must be extremely wary of exotic projects and investments that seem too good to be true”, offered Mike.

Mike then attended law school at the Case Western Reserve University School of Law on a full-scholarship and graduated, Summa Cum Laude, in 1992. “My law school years are where I really began to understand the impact of politics and law on the individual”, explained Mike. Mike’s work in law school earned him accolades from professors and students alike, where he received numerous academic and extra-curricular awards at graduation, including “Student of the Year” and “The Martin Luther King, Jr. Award” for his work on many anti-discrimination projects. In addition, he also received the National Award “Outstanding Law Student of the

Year” from Who’s Who based upon his academic performance, volunteerism and work on the national Haitian Refugee Asylum Project which he co-created while in Law School.

After law school, Mike accepted a coveted job as a Law Clerk to a United States District Court Judge. After a few years in the state and Federal public defender offices, Mike joined the law firm of Krupnick Campbell Malone Buser Slama Hancock Liberman & Mckee. As a Partner in the firm, Mike has specialized in helping families involved in catastrophic cases and has lectured nationally to lawyers and judges on different topics. In 1999 Mike was nominated as one of the National finalists for the prestigious “Trial Lawyer of the Year” Award by the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice, based upon his work and that of his firm in a civil rights case involving the treatment of brain injured patients by the State of Florida.

Mike has also demonstrated his commitment to community through charitable work. “After I hit 40, my brother, who is a Commander in the U.S. Navy serving in the Middle East, convinced me to start running for charities. But, I don’t think I had run two miles in my entire life. Soon, motivated by my brother and great causes, I was running marathons for charities such as The Michael J. Fox Foundation and various wounded soldiers charities.” Last summer, Mike and his brother started a charity event where they traveled 902 miles in 8 days 10 hours for wounded soldiers and their families. His brother was in a wheel chair and Mike was on a bike. “I learned we can overcome mountains we would have thought impossible,” explained Mike.

“I have had many successes in courtrooms throughout Florida and the United States. But, some of my greatest moments have been helping the people of Sunrise. Our work on the School Resource Officer program galvanized the community and families around the unshakable belief that children thrive in safe schools. The multi-cultural, multi-faith opposition to the wrong-minded garbage transfer station was a moment of great success for Sunrise residents over those who were pushing a project the community so clearly did not want or need. Working with Sunrise families and businesses to gather supplies and goods for both of my trips to Haiti after the January earthquake and to a military hospital overseas with my son to visit wounded soldiers, proved residents of Sunrise have an incredible reservoir of compassion. Riding a bus all night to Tallahassee with children, parents and teachers as one of the organizers for the Broward County Council of PTAs trip to the Capital in support of public education, taught us and our young people that being involved in government is a right to be cherished,” outlined Mike.

As Mike summed up, “I have demonstrated my commitment to issues important to the City of Sunrise and the residents. I have been to Tallahassee and Washington, D.C. to work with legislators to find solutions to all sorts of problems. Now, I want to engage residents in a process to help preserve build public confidence through transparency of government, fiscal responsibility, and a commitment to responsible business growth tempered by the best interests of the residents and next generation.”

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