



As a fellow business owner, I hope you had a great Thanksgiving season. Christmas will be here soon, and I hope you have a blessed time as we remember what the season is really all about. I also want to express thanks for the confidence many of you have placed in me over the past 7 years on the Tuscaloosa County Commission.

Earlier this month, I announced my candidacy for Probate Judge of Tuscaloosa County. We have accomplished a lot, but there is still more to be done. As Probate Judge, which also serves as Chairman of the County Commission, we need to be open, accessible, and proactive in recruiting business and providing opportunities for growth. There is a reason we still have nearly 10% unemployment in Tuscaloosa and West Alabama, despite having Mercedes, the University, DCH and other wonderful employers. **It's because small businesses are getting slammed by excessive regulations, burdensome tax systems, and a lack of visionary leadership.** Leadership that should be concerned about EVERY BUSINESS in Tuscaloosa County. We don't need to act passively or play favorites with your tax dollars like Congress or good ol' boys!

As a CPA, my professional experience in dealing with taxes, estates, and business will allow me to bring a fresh perspective to the duties of Probate Judge. Having spent 20 years working with small businesses and taxpayers, you will have an advocate from Congress, to the Legislature and the City Council if I am elected. **My experience as a small business owner, as opposed to those who have spent a lifetime in government, will allow me to speak with clarity on these issues.**

As a Commissioner, I have worked hard to expand quality drinking water to citizens negatively impacted by development and drought. I have led in developing first class school facilities, including the new Center for Technology, to handle growth and prepare students for the future. We have built 2 PARA Activity Centers, made upgrades to little league parks, and strengthened law enforcement. Roads have been improved, assistance to tourism provided, all while others have been actively opposed or strangely silent. As Commission Chair it is an important position as it relates to serving the people, as you can see. Ultimately, I was convinced by my daughter to run. She simply asked, **"Daddy, who will serve the people better?"** I knew then I had to run.

Politically, I am pro-life, pro-second amendment, believe in private property rights, and free market economic principles. I believe those values are best represented in the Republican Platform and is why I have worked within the Republican Party to promote those values. **I am a conservative businessman, not a Career Politician, and I ask for your support in the Republican Primary.** This race is important for the future and we can work together to make Tuscaloosa County a better place for all of us to live, work, and worship!

Don Wallace, CPA