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Five Reasons to Elect Darrell Bonapart for City Council District 5

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Sent: Monday, August 21, 2017 3:53 PM

To: Darrell Bonapart [darrell.bonapart@gmail.com]

Good afternoon and I hope that all is well! As a Civil Rights Leader, here in Charlotte, I must weigh in on the importance of this upcoming City Election. **A nightmare occurred in the not to distant past with the November 2016 Presidential Election.** Let us not forget the results caused by the actions and/or non- actions that many voters took. **We must exercise our right to vote and remember our fallen leaders that fought for our rights to vote.** Another action of voter suppression is occurring during this early voting period whereas the number of polls and hours have been drastically reduced. Let's send our message that we will not allow for voter suppression to overtake us. As a Bi-racial, African American, Transgender Female I state that we must fight back with our actions.

Let's pause for a moment and congratulate the various candidates running for the local elections in 2017. As many of you are aware the City Council District 5 elections are very intense. For that reason I have decided to weigh in on this particular race. **Although all 6 candidates are very nice people we must stop and consider who is actually "the most qualified" candidate to help move both the east side and the city forward!**

After hearing from the candidates on several occasions I have discovered 5 reasons for supporting Darrell Bonapart as the best candidate for City Council District 5:

1) As a veteran of the United States Marine Corps **I have a deep level of respect for Darrell Bonapart's military experiences. He served 2 years in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and during his time of service he suffered a severe injury that left him temporary paralyzed. Darrell's military experience also included his service as a Platoon Sergeant which also broadened his leadership skills.** Mr. Bonapart fought diligently to protect and serve our country. After returning from Iraqi Freedom, **Darrell fought for the veterans that were homeless in efforts to give them the benefits that they deserve for protecting our country.** Darrell currently serves as the **Commander of the American Legion** here in Charlotte. He also serves as the **Chairman of the Board of Directors for the North Carolina Military Veterans Hall of Fame**, which is also headquartered here in Charlotte.

2) Darrell has **fought for the civil and human rights for the citizens of Charlotte for 18 years, which is longer than any other of the District 5 candidates.** He and I serve in some of the same organizations and therefore I know that this man had been dedicated to the rights of all. Such organizations include " Mom's Demand Action" and the Coalition of United Progressives CharMeck. Darrell has a **very diversified family which includes El Salvadorian and Cambodian so he and his family have taken on the fight of deportation. During the 2011 election Darrell and a member of his campaign team encountered a racial issue where several Caucasians stated that they would "Never have a negro represent East Charlotte." As a Steering Committee member of our Coalition of United Progressives CharMeck, Darrell has thoroughly supported the Mayfield Housing Project, which leads into my 3rd point for supporting Mr. Bonapart's election bid.**

3) In my opinion **Darrell is the only candidate that has a comprehensive workable plan for ending the homeless dilemma and creating good paying Green Energy Jobs.** The Mayfield Project, led by Pastor Peter Wherry, is a project that brings various churches together to donate their excessive lands to build housing units that will help eliminate the homeless issue. This even gets better, these housing units will be built with solar panels and other energy efficient items that will help reduce customer expense and create good paying Green Energy Jobs. **Darrell also plans to implement models that cities like Memphis, Tennessee and other cities across the nation have in handling the homeless issue.**

4) Darrell is the **only candidate** that I have heard speak **about the Human Trafficking issue that we face here in Charlotte.** As he points out the Charlotte to Atlanta corridor is the most widely used corridor in the Eastern United States. Charlotte is the 6th worst city in the United States for Human Trafficking. He states that the city needs to focus on this issue in efforts to protect our youth.

5) **By Darrell Bonapart being born and raised here in Charlotte he knows the thorough history of Charlotte and the needs and desires of the citizens. Darrell's 48 years of Charlotte experience has allowed him to have the best understanding of Charlotte; more-so than any other District 5 candidate. There have been many elected officials, both city and county wide, that stated "This is Darrell's time. He has demonstrated a lifetime to making Charlotte a better place for all.**

While there are many other reasons to support Darrell Bonapart for City Council District 5 for time sake I only highlighted 5 reasons.

I ask that you join me in standing with Darrell Bonapart as he continues to fight for you and I. For further information please also join me in visiting Darrell's website at <https://www.darrellbonapart.com/>.

Thanks and Love,

Jade X. Jackson
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