

**NAME: Smythe DuVal**  
**PARTY: Libertarian**  
**SEEKING: Secretary of State**



**Why are you seeking your office?**

The US system of representation government is at a crossroads. We will either choose to address the challenges that we face or ignore them at our peril. I am running because I could not sit on the sidelines any longer. I will advocate for election reform including redistricting reform, ranked choice voting, ballot access, same-day voter registration, etc. I will also advocate for voting machine replacement that requires hand-marked ballots, is secure and auditable, and provides value to Georgia Voters. I am an IT professional, project manager, and former RN. I am the only citizen candidate in the race.

**What do you expect to accomplish if elected?**

The most urgent issue facing Georgia elections is the replacement of the hackable voting machines. I will represent voters by insisting on a hand-marked ballot system with optical screen readers. This system is approximately \$100m LESS than the touch-screen systems, faster, more secure, auditable, and a better deal for Georgia. The most dangerous long-term issue facing Georgia is "21st century gerrymandering". Fast computers, powerful mapping software, and voter predictability, have made it possible to rig a permanent majority in the State Legislature. As SOS I will provide leadership and support the grassroots push for effective redistricting reform.

**What distinguishes your candidacy?**

I am not a professional politician, I am a citizen candidate. The Democrats and the Republicans are either unwilling or unable to address the most pressing issues in Georgia. We need leadership that represents the people, not the parties. I am the only candidate who can be truly independent of the two major parties. As the Secretary of State oversees the elections it is important that this officer be unbiased and impartial. I can do that and I can ensure all voters are fairly represented, including the 44% of Georgians who are not Democrats or Republicans.

**How can we improve school safety?**

I served in the US Army in Germany during the 1980s as a Military Police Officer. At that time we were challenged with providing counter-terrorism security to military bases. From that experience, in terms of preventing campus shootings, the pinnacle of security is mandating controlled access to the campus. That solution is neither cheap nor easy. Another solution is to engage and train community clinicians, social

workers, teachers, law enforcement, and parents, to learn how to assess and act on warning signs that a potential active shooter is imminent. As SOS I would support efforts to improve school safety.

**Pick one issue. Expand on how you will address it.**

Why would Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) benefit Georgia Voters?

In the November 2016 election, 83% of Georgia House Members did not face an opponent. Georgia elections have the highest unopposed rate in the nation. RCV would encourage political competition by allowing minor party and independent candidates to participate in the political process without a “spoiler” penalty. RCV would also save Georgia taxpayers millions of dollars. How? Georgia requires majority representation, which is a good thing. However, Run-offs are very expensive. With RCV, voters can provide all the information necessary so that a separate run-off election is no longer necessary. RCV (100)

**Please give a 100 word summary on your background**

I am not a professional politician, I am a citizen candidate. I have years of experience in project management in Information Technology including managing “Request for Proposal” process, vendor management, as well as cybersecurity risk management. As a Registered Nurse and a former IT Director, I possess professional and life experience that has prepared me for this role. I believe that once voters know who I am, why I am doing this, they will come to agree that I am the best choice to represent the interests of Georgia voters.