

NAME: Matthew Holtkamp
PARTY: Republican
SEEKING: County Commission, District 4

1. Why are you seeking your office?

Being brought up by parents who believed in giving back to the community, it was just a matter of timing as to when I would run for office. Being new empty nesters, and having an incredible leadership team at my company, I am now ready to serve at a higher level. Like most growing communities, Gwinnett needs leadership closely connected to the everyday challenges of its citizens. Having a thriving business which exists to serve locally, I get a unique daily dose of frank conversations about how we can move towards a brighter future!

2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

Nationwide there are more job openings than applicants. Gwinnett Gov't is feeling this shortfall in all departments. This is having an effect in its ability to meet the expectations of our citizens. My professional career has been in the trades, and this has been a paradigm we have lived in for over 20 years. This unique experience will allow me to help Gwinnett recruit and retain the next generation of Gwinnett team members, team members who are committed to a great place to live and work.

3. What distinguishes your candidacy?

Having moved here in 1985, one week after graduating from vocational college, I showed up with only \$20 in my pocket. I have since, experienced every facet of the American Dream right here in Gwinnett. It is my desire to ensure that anyone, no matter your place or circumstances, with hard work and determination, can also experience the same today.

4. Pick any one issue. Expand on how you will address it.

Short staffing at the 911 call center. Imagine for a moment you need to call 911 and instead of getting help, you get a "on-hold" message. This is exactly what will happen today, for an average of 30 seconds. Sometimes, you may not have to wait, sometimes you might wait 3-5 minutes. This in my opinion, is unacceptable. I will not rest as a new commissioner until this problem is resolved. I will provide all support and resources to immediately hire these open positions.

5. What are your ideas on curbing all the many area-wide shooting?

Along with the understaffing at the 911 call center, our police departments are also short staffed. We currently have just over 600 officers, when our population and geography would call for over 1200.

You read that right, half of what we should have! This understaffing is having an effect on proactive policing, leaving us with reactive policing.

If we are really serious about solving the shootings taking place, we have to get serious about what it takes to compete in the 1st responder marketplace. We are being out flanked by every local jurisdiction and state. We **MUST** enable our Gwinnett (100).

6. Give a 100 word summary on your background.

- Founder & President, Holtkamp Heating & Air Conditioning (1996 to present)
- President, Metro Atlanta Air Conditioning Contractors Association (2007)
- Board Member, Gwinnett Technical College Foundation (2014-2018)
- Board Chair, Gwinnett Technical College Foundation (2018-2020)
- Board Member, Conditioned Air Association of Georgia (2016- present)
- President, Conditioned Air Association of Georgia (2021-22)
- Leadership Gwinnett, Class of 2017
- Overall Winner, [Impact Regional Business Awards](#), Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce (2018)
- Executive Board, Gwinnett County Republican Party (2021-22)
- Appointed by Governor Kemp, Board Member, State Construction Industry Licensing Board, Division of Conditioned Air Contractors (2021 to present)