

Candidate Responses – Orange County Board of Supervisors

D.J. Anglin III

Question 1: Position Seeking:

DA: O.C. Board of Supervisors District 2

Question 2: Have You Previously Held This Position?

DA: No

Question 3: Will you be attending the August 23, 2023, Orange County Candidate Showcase?

DA: Yes

Question 4: What is your plan for fostering business growth in the community for the next 5 years?

DA: What we must have in order to attract and grow business is a qualified labor force. This means we need to create a long overdue trade/vocational school. We need to have existing and new businesses partner with our schools to establish apprentice programs. We do not need a state of the art multi million dollar facility to open a vocational school. There have been and are suitable properties that can be purchased and suitably renovated to achieve these goals to maximize the citizens rate of return.

We also seriously need to look into the current county development plan. What has been working temporarily for other jurisdictions is not sustainable and does not align with Orange's rural values.

Question 5: According to the 2017 Census of Agriculture, Orange County has nearly 100,000 acres of farmland, and is home to approximately 417 farms of all sizes and types. How do you envision your role can best support all types of agricultural operations?

DA: Keeping the government off the backs of the farmers is a good start. By not imposing more regulations, repealing unnecessary ones, and making sure the ones we have are clear and specific so they are not burdensome. We should also focus on more of a regional marketing plan for the county to help all of our agricultural operations grow and thrive. This area may be the key to the type of growth truly needed for the future success of Orange.

Question 6: What specific steps do you believe could be taken by the Board of Supervisors, other county officials, or others in the county to help the county attract businesses that will improve the economic well-being of the county without a negative impact upon the quality of life for the county citizens?

DA: I will repeat myself. The most important goal should be to open a vocational school without increasing an already staggering tax load on the citizens. Maybe we should begin by thinking outside the box creatively and create a plan to grow OC on its strengths Cutting back on unnecessary regulations

Question 7: What steps do you think are most important to support existing businesses and encourage healthy growth?

DA: We have to create an environment where people want to do business in Orange. We need to streamline the bureaucracy. It should not take 3 months to get a permit. It should take no more than 7-10 days and most permits or county business should be done in one day. We also need to train all personnel what being of service actually means. Responding to citizens with a smile. When they don't know an answer, saying I don't know or passing the buck should not be an option, instead they should work with the citizens to find the answer. It's what being of service means going the extra mile to help out our community and businesses.

Question 8: How do agriculture and forestry contribute to your vision for economic growth and development within the County?

DA: The smartest thing we can do is use the assets we have. We have done what everyone else has tried to do. It didn't work very well for them and it hasn't worked for us and it won't. The one big asset the county has is its rural and historic character. We have not even begun to mine the wealth that tourism can bring. We have never had an aggressive, sophisticated, creative or serious marketing plan. We are an hour and a half from two of the most horribly congested urban areas in the country. We have never mined that treasure. We have never researched or marketed what is called "niche" farming. That is smaller farms that grow very specific and unique agricultural products. There has been a boom in recent years and we have never explored that. That is one of the things I mean when I talk about creative use of our assets or thinking outside the box.

Question 9: How do you define "social justice" and, from your perspective, how can the BOS ensure fairness for all Orange County residents?

DA: The Declaration of Independence tells us all we need to know about equality and justice. It does state that we are all equal in the eyes of God. But it does not mention equity which is an entirely different concept - which is demanding that one is forced, however subtly or overtly, to give to another. So that the success one has earned through hard work and perseverance is inevitably diminished in order to raise up someone else who has not taken advantage of the opportunities afforded each one of us.

It is always valuable to say the words aloud again, these words that are our foundation, our bedrock: and the reason why America has endured for so long and worked hard to correct her errors within the bounds and without destroying the Declaration or the US Constitution. We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.
