

Rich Santos Campaign announces major law enforcement endorsements

Fraternal Order of Police, the largest police union in the country, and Retired Sheriff Kevin Beary endorse Rich Santos for Florida House District 36.

SANFORD, FL, UNITED STATES, July 26, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- SANTOS FOR FL HOUSE 36 RELEASES LAW ENFORCEMENT ENDORSEMENTS

Rich Santos, 24 year law enforcement veteran, is the clear choice to replace termed out Rep. Scott Plakon in Florida House District 36 in North Seminole County

The Rich Santos Campaign has announced the following major endorsements:

The Fraternal Order of Police

Retired Orange County Sheriff Kevin Beary

“

I'm the clear choice to keep us safe. I've been doing it my whole life, and I'd be honored if you sent me to Tallahassee to fight for us.”

Rich Santos

The Fraternal Order of Police is the world's largest organization of sworn law enforcement officers, with more than 364,000 members and 2,100 lodges. The Florida State FOP ranks as the third largest state lodge and represents over 24,000 certified law enforcement officers.

The FOP endorsement comes after a comprehensive



The graphic is a dark blue rectangular poster with a yellow border. At the top, a yellow star is centered above the text "RICH SANTOS" in large, bold, white capital letters. Below this, in smaller white capital letters, is "FOR FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES" and the website "www.VoteRichSantos.org". On the left side is the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) seal, which is a yellow five-pointed star with a blue center containing a shield and the words "FIDELITY BRAVERY INTEGRITY". To the right of the seal, the text "Fraternal Order of Police endorses Rich Santos for Florida House of Representatives" is written in white. Further right is a small portrait of Rich Santos in a police uniform. Below the seal and text, there are two paragraphs of white text. The first paragraph states: "The Fraternal Order of Police is the world's largest organization of sworn law enforcement officers, with more than 364,000 members and 2,100 lodges. The Florida State FOP ranks as the third largest state lodge." The second paragraph states: "The FOP endorsement comes after a comprehensive interview process, where a panel of over a dozen Police Officers, Deputy Sheriffs, and Corrections Officers from all over the state grilled Santos and his opponent over legislative priorities, crime issues, and policing philosophies. Santos, a 24 year law enforcement veteran, was the clear winner." At the bottom left, the text "JOIN THE FIGHT BY GIVING" is written in white, followed by a red arrow pointing to a circular QR code. To the right of the QR code, the text "SCAN WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE CAMERA TO GIVE SECURELY" is written in white. At the very bottom, in small white text, it says "Political advertisement paid for by Rich Santos (R), Candidate for Florida House of Representatives District 36".

FOP endorses Rich Santos - the choice of law enforcement.

interview process, where a panel of over a dozen Police Officers, Deputy Sheriffs, and Corrections Officers from all over the state grilled Santos and Rachel Plakon over legislative priorities, crime issues, and policing philosophies. Santos, a 24 year law enforcement veteran, was the clear winner.

Orange County Sheriff (Ret.) Kevin Beary also endorses Santos.

Beary, had this to say about Santos, the veteran lawman he hired as one of his Deputies in 1997:

"Rich put murderers, rapists, and child molesters behind bars, and gave crime victims and their families the justice they deserved... Rich is a combat veteran, a Naval officer, and a cop's cop. There is not a challenge that he is afraid to take on."

Santos offered the following comments on the endorsements:

"I am proud of the endorsement of the Fraternal Order of Police endorsement . My opponent touts an endorsement from the Police Benevolent Association, and I have some serious questions about it's legitimacy, and about the judgment of PBA Legislative Director, Matt Puckett, who apparently had the unilateral discretion to award the endorsement. Ms. Plakon filed to become the heir apparent to her 6-term incumbent husband Scott Plakon in January 2021, a mere 70 days after her husband, Scott Plakon won re-election to a 6th term. Looks like the PBA is ok with cronyism, nepotism and business as usual in the swamp. Maybe the PBA should stick with supporting our nation's heroes and stay out of politics.

The PBA endorsement came months before Scott Plakon's 2021 legislative session even began, and almost immediately the Florida PBA endorsed her. I have no idea what PBA's legislative screening process for endorsements is. No one talked to me or asked any questions. In fact, on June 20, 2022, when I spoke with the Florida PBA President, John Nazajian, he told me that the legislative screening process for our District 36 race had not even been scheduled yet. What I do know is that in order to compete for the FOP endorsement, Ms. Plakon and I sat in interviews and were grilled by real cops on real issues, and I came out on top. Is the PBA endorsement of Rachel yet another example of the cronyism and dysfunction that runs rampant in Tallahassee?

The advertisement is set against a dark green background. At the top, a yellow star is centered above the name **RICH SANTOS** in large white letters. Below this, in smaller white text, is "FOR FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES" and the website "www.VoteRichSantos.org". A yellow border frames this top section. Below the star, two portraits are shown: Sheriff (Ret.) Kevin Beary on the left and Rich Santos on the right. Between them, the text reads "Sheriff (Ret.) Kevin Beary endorses Rich Santos". Below the portraits, a quote from Sheriff Beary is displayed in white text: "Rich put murderers, rapists, and child molesters behind bars, and gave crime victims and their families the justice they deserved... Rich is a combat veteran, a Naval officer, and a cop's cop. There is not a challenge that he is afraid to take on." followed by "Sheriff (Ret.) Kevin Beary". At the bottom left, the text "JOIN THE FIGHT BY GIVING" is followed by a red arrow pointing to a circular QR code. To the right of the QR code, it says "SCAN WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE CAMERA TO GIVE SECURELY". Below the QR code, a blue banner contains the text "AMERICA NEEDS LEADERS. NOT POLITICIANS." in white. At the very bottom, in small white text, it says "Political advertisementt paid for by Rich Santos (R), Candidate for Florida House of Representatives District 36".

RICH SANTOS
FOR FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
www.VoteRichSantos.org

Sheriff (Ret.) Kevin Beary endorses Rich Santos

"Rich put murderers, rapists, and child molesters behind bars, and gave crime victims and their families the justice they deserved... Rich is a combat veteran, a Naval officer, and a cop's cop. There is not a challenge that he is afraid to take on."
Sheriff (Ret.) Kevin Beary

JOIN THE FIGHT BY GIVING →

SCAN WITH YOUR
SMARTPHONE CAMERA TO
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AMERICA NEEDS LEADERS. NOT POLITICIANS.

Political advertisementt paid for by Rich Santos (R), Candidate for Florida House of Representatives District 36

Retired Sheriff Kevin Beary endorses Rich Santos for FL House 36

It sure looks that way. Citizens are left with the question whether the PBA endorsement should even be taken seriously, given the secretive manner in which it was granted.

These endorsements I have announced are real endorsements by real cops who took the time to sit down with me and my opponent and ask the hard questions. These endorsements were not just handed to me as a political favor; they are the direct result of my personal experience and sacrifice serving the citizens of Florida. The FOP recognized who the better candidate is, and Sheriff Beary speaks from personal experience about my qualifications. I am humbled and honored by the faith that the FOP and Sheriff Beary have in me to get the job done."

If you would like more information you can contact Rich Santos at (407) 617-8232 or Debi Stolte at (407) 463-0684.

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