

CANDIDATE PROFILE FOR DARREN TROY MULLINAX FOR JAMES ISLAND TOWN COUNCIL

Darren Troy Mullinax was born and spent most of his early life in the Charleston, South Carolina area. After graduating from Garrett High School in 1985, Mullinax attended the University of South Carolina where he graduated in 1989 with a B.A. in Political Science.

For several years upon graduating from USC, Mullinax held numerous positions involving governmental policy in both the public and private sectors. In 1989, only months upon graduating, he served on the staff of United States Congressman Floyd Spence, later the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. There, he assisted in gathering and researching information that senior members of the staff would later supply to constituents who had requested it.

In 1990, Mullinax would join the staff of The Conservative Caucus Foundation as a research analyst. Duties involved researching numerous issues for members that covered social, foreign, and economic issues. High profile assignments that he preformed during his tenure with the Conservative Caucus Foundation involved researching the background of Supreme Court nominees David Souter and Clarence Thomas, supplying that information to the Chairman, who in turn provided it to certain members of the United States Senate Judiciary Committee for use during the confirmation hearings.

Mullinax honed his interest in public service while working in both the Washington, DC and Atlanta offices of former Georgia Senator Paul Coverdell as Constituent Liaison for Military and Veteran Affairs. While serving in this capacity, it was his responsibility to assist those or the loved one of those who had issues pending before any branch of the armed services or the Department of Veteran Affairs. During his tenure, he was able to close several cases favorably.

For eleven years now, Darren Troy Mullinax is the Marketing and Public Relations consultant with *Island Life News Magazine*. He is also the author of *Lets Talk Politics*, a monthly column educating the public on issues of political significance covering the local, state, and federal levels.

Darren Troy Mullinax feels that he can bring his experience in public service to the residents of the town of James Island. He has a five-part platform in making James Island a better place to live. It is as follows:

He maintains that residents deserve all the services that they, as taxpayers, deserve. If their road needs to be repaired or if their ditch needs to be cleaned, it is the duty of the affected residents town representative to see that it be done in a prompt manner. Furthermore, the county should be pressed to provide more services than they currently do. The residents of James Island pay county taxes, they should continue to receive the services that they received during the first and second incorporations.

Mullinax realizes that James Island is an island rich in history. This history needs to be preserved and not developed for some strip mall or overpriced condo complex. There are ways that our heritage can be preserved without depleting our financial resources. If all the affected parties come together and work toward a common goal, then everyone could share in the ultimate benefits.

James Island should never be an off-ramp to I-526. First, our existing roads should be improved before any interstate system ever encroaches on James Island.

Mullinax is a strong advocate for term limits for both the mayor and members of council. Two terms for mayor and three for town council should be enough. Elected officials who serve too long tend to become detached from the public and less receptive to their needs.

Finally, town government should practice fiscal efficiency and restraint. If something is not needed for the survival of the town then it should not be included in the budget. Where the budget can be cut, it should be. As we all know, these are tough financial times. The option of tax increases is something that should never be considered.