

Keith Barnes

I come before you seeking the vacant Tucson City Council position in Ward 2. I have spent the last twenty years dedicated to public service for both my county, in the U.S. Air Force, and my community as a Sheriff's Deputy. I have lived in Tucson since 1991, when I was assigned to Davis-Monthan AFB. In 1997, I separated from the Air Force, took a position with the Tucson Police Department and am now currently working with the Sheriff's Department. I am married to my wife, Debra, for 6 years. Debra is a teacher with the Tucson Unified School District. I have two children; my son, who starts high school next year, is active in lacrosse and the Civil Air Patrol, and my step-daughter, who also starts high school next year and plays soccer and softball. My training and experience as a law enforcement officer, as well as, my involvement in the community will make me an able and fourth right representative for the citizens in Ward 2.

I want to take this opportunity, not to tell you about myself, but rather to tell you what I think is important in city government, especially as directed to the citizenry of Tucson's Ward Two. As a Law Enforcement Officer I have developed a real understanding of what is important to the citizens I protect. When I speak with business owners, they are interested in how activities are going to affect their business, such as, if there is crime in their area, a new ordinance, or if the new road construction is going to affect them. If you speak with parents involving in their children's school, they are concerned with the safety of their children, both when they are at school and on their way home. When you meet with other citizens they explain their concerns; everything from neighborhood crime, to the high flow of traffic on their streets. I have broken these concerns down into three main areas that I would like to expand upon; Public Safety, Infrastructure, and Economic Development. These are areas where I believe that local government and the City of Tucson need to focus.

Public Safety: The first priority of government is its protection of its citizens. Protecting the citizens allows them to go fourth work, learn and succeed in their activities. When the citizens are oppressed due to high crime, poor or inadequate emergency services, the citizens are unable to reach their full potential. Tucson needs to ensure that its police officers and fire fighters are the most dedicated and receive the best training. Tucson needs to ensure its citizens that they are going to be safe and that there are enough emergency personnel to protect them. Tucson needs to ensure that staffing levels are equal to or above the national averages for a city this size. During economic crisis, such as the one we are facing now, items such as training and community outreach programs seem to be one of the first items cut from the budget. Both of these items are an integral part of the success of a community and are a cost savings, in the long run. Additionally, we need to retain dedicated and highly qualified personnel in the form of a benefits package that will keep them employed with the city.

Infrastructure: With out a strong infrastructure, within the city of Tucson, businesses and individuals cannot thrive. This is more than just fixing pot holes in the road; although that still needs to be completed. Tucson needs to focus on long term strategic goals and planning. These plans need to take into account the expected population growth rate. Tucson needs to find more modern ways to move traffic through the city, which should include a better mass transit system and focus on traffic flow patterns. Tucson needs to ensure that there is enough power and water to allow new industries and businesses to relocate to our city. If businesses cannot rapidly get their products to market, nor have the resources available to meet their demands those businesses and industries will not stay in or relocate to Tucson.

Economic development: Tucson government needs to be active in the economic development of the city. We need to become more attractive and seek out new businesses and industries. Tucson needs to invest in a “Tucson First” mind set, by utilizing local contractors and suppliers for city usage and contracts. The more city dollars spent in the city; the more those dollars will stay in the city. Tucson government needs to further promote Tucson as a tourist destination. The City should vigorously work with business groups and community organizations to obtain Japanese spring training in Tucson. This has the potential to be a windfall for local businesses from Old Tucson Studios, to Pinnacle Peak restaurant. Additionally, the airport fees from more flights, rental cars, and hotels rooms will increase city revenues during the spring training period. Tucson also needs to relook at the Rio Nuevo project to develop further strategic plans. Possibly looking at what other cities have done, such as San Antonio Texas and Tempe. Tucson does not need to replicate those city’s ideas but instead needs to focus on how they have completed their city revitalizations. Without strong government support for economic development Tucson will continue with its stagnant economy.

Within the City of Tucson, there are more areas of concern that are equally important, than the three that I have listed. I look forward to learning all that I can about the inner workings of Tucson, and to take a leadership role. I appreciate this opportunity to come forward and apply for this position. You can be well assured that I will strive for excellence in my community and for my constituents. Additionally, I will represent Tucson and Ward Two with vigor and drive.

Keith Barnes

SUMMARY:

I have twenty years of dedicated public service. Twelve of those years have been dedicated to law enforcement. I am currently a Deputy with the Pima County Sheriff Department, assigned to the Rincon District. Prior to this assignment, I was a Task Force Officer with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.), Border Enforcement Security Task Force, a Task Force Officer with the Drug Enforcement Administration (D.E.A.), an Agent with the Tucson Counter Narcotics Alliance, and a Criminal Investigator with the Pima County Sheriffs Department. I have demonstrated a focused expertise in complex criminal investigations to include: money laundering, financial investigations, fraud, narcotics trafficking, asset forfeiture, white collar crime, and identity theft.

EDUCATION:

- Completion of Basic Peace Officer Course, Tucson Regional Training Center, 1997
- B.S. Business Administration and Management, University of Phoenix, 1996
- A.A. Fire Science, Community College of the Air Force, 1996

CERTIFICATIONS:

- AZ POST Certified Police Officer, 1997
- AZ POST Certified General Instructor, 2001

TRAINING:

- Sheriff's Department Field Training Officer, 2007
- Basic Asset Forfeiture Investigation: Drug Enforcement Administration, 2006
- Money Laundering Investigation: Multi-Counter Drug Task Force, 2006
- Economic Summit: National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C), 2005
- National Incident Management System: Pima County Sheriff's Department, 2005
- Methamphetamine Symposium: Tucson Police Department, 2005
- "Inside the Tape" Death/Homicide Investigation, 2004
- Basic Incident Command System: Federal Emergency Management, 2004
- Auto Theft Investigators Conference: Western States Auto Theft Investigators Assn., 2003
- Vehicle Theft Investigations: Arizona Auto Theft Investigation Association, 2001
- AZ POST General Instructor School: Pima County Sheriff's Department, 2001
- Special Investigation Units Seminar: Arizona Auto Theft Investigators, 2001
- Killology: Southern Arizona Law Enforcement Management, 2000
- Spanish for Law Enforcement: Partners in Law Enforcement, 1999
- Interview and Interrogation; Criminal Investigation; Courtroom Testimony; 4th Amendment and Search Warrants: Pima County Attorney's office, 1999
- Flying Armed: Federal Aviation Administration, 1998

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Pima County Sheriff Department: *Deputy*

1750 East Benson Highway, Tucson, AZ 85714

Present

Assigned to Rincon District Force I

- Initiates, organizes and conducts complex investigations, of State and Federal Law violations, within defined parameters
- Develops and maintain liaisons with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies to include the FBI, BATF, DHS, DPS and TPD.
- Acquires, debriefs and reports on confidential sources of information
- Organizes, and/or assists with clandestine operations to include physical and electronic surveillance, working undercover assignments and handling confidential informants
- Effective communication with the U.S. Attorney's office, Arizona Attorney General's office and the Pima County Attorney's office, regarding complex criminal investigations
- Demonstrates proper procedures when arresting subjects and preparing/serving search warrants
- Conducts interviews and/or interrogations with witnesses and suspects of criminal investigations
- Analyzes and authors investigative reports integral to criminal investigations
- Ability to provide expert testimony at court hearings and to Grand Juries
- Prepares lesson plans and conducts trainings for basic law enforcement training and basic detective training

Tucson Police Department: **Police Service Operator**

201 South Stone Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85701
1997-1998

- Answered inbound 911 Emergency calls and determined the proper response level

U.S. Air Force: **Fire Protection Specialist (E4)**

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Tucson, AZ
1990-1997

- Member 355th CES/DEF (Fire Protection Specialist)
- Received training and certification NFPA Fire Fighter I, Fire Fighter II, Driver Operator Structural vehicle, Driver Operator Crash Fire Rescue, Airport Fire Fighter, Haz-Mat Technician
- Awarded Expeditionary Forces Medal for service in Southwest Asia/ Southwest Asia Service Medal
- Supervised 4 – 12 personnel with direct reporting and completion of periodic evaluations
- Honorable Discharge on August 2, 1997

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

- Coach, Sahuaro Fast Pitch softball 2009
- Team Parent, Tucson Lacrosse
- Community Resources Unit assistance as "McGruff" the Crime Dog 2004 – present
- Parent volunteer for Saguaro Girl Scout Council, Troop 2981 2003 – present
- Parent Teacher Organization member for Holladay Intermediate Magnet School 2006 – 2007
- Member of E.L.G.H.E.K.O. Neighborhood Association 2004 – 2005
- Career Day presentation at Holladay Intermediate Magnet School 2004 – 2005
- Pima County Sheriff's Department Auxiliary Volunteers crime/fraud prevention presentations 2000 – 2005