


First Coast

Tiger Bay Tracks

March 2023 The First Coast Tiger Bay Club, Inc. P.O. Box 2608, Jacksonville, FL 32203



The 2023 Jacksonville Elections: What's at Stake?

A.G. Gancarski and Andrew Pantazi

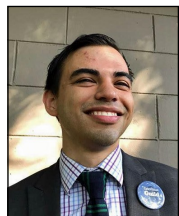
March 17, 2023

With Jacksonville elections scheduled for March 21, the **March 17th First Coast Tiger Bay Club** program will focus on the major races. These include the Mayor's race, by far **the most expensive political contest in Jacksonville's history**, as well as the other executive and city council offices.



For analysis we turn to two leading experts on Jacksonville politics. **A.G. Gancarski** has covered Jacksonville for eight years for *Florida Politics* (<https://floridapolitics.com/>)

and has a recurring column in **Jacksonville Today** (<https://jaxtoday.org/>). He is a frequent guest on local and national outlets discussing local politics and state affairs. A.G. lived in Jacksonville for nearly four decades and currently resides in Avondale.



For eight years **Andrew Pantazi** reported for his hometown newspaper before helping found Jacksonville's first digital-only nonprofit news site, **The Tributary** (<https://jaxtrib.org/>). He specializes in using data to tell stories about why things go wrong and has exposed many corrupt and incompetent public officials. Taking time to tell detailed narratives, he has revealed corruption in the Public Defender's office and exposed inhuman prisoner treatment like jail rapes and other predatory practices. He has developed extensive databases to add depth to his stories.

We look forward to the analyses of our guests as they elucidate the idiosyncrasies of Jacksonville politics. The Mayor's

race involves both spectacular spending and a good deal of old-fashioned mudslinging while most of the other executive officer contests should be tame by comparison. Of those four executive offices (Sheriff, Tax Collector, Property Appraiser and Supervisor of Elections), only the Property Appraiser has more than a single candidate who qualified. Except for the Sheriff, the other executive officer elections seem like a rotation game of "musical chairs" once term-limits have been reached. However, there is a real contest in the race for Property Appraiser.

There are contested city council races too. For each of the executive and city council races all candidates, regardless of party, run together. If no candidate wins a majority in this election, a runoff election will follow on May 16th between the top two candidates in each race. For a complete list of all candidates who qualified see: <https://www.duvalelections.com/Candidate-Information/Candidate-Qualifying>

We hope you can join our March 17th dialogue on the elections: Democracies thrive only when citizens participate.

2023 Tiger Bay Officers

Tom Collins, President
 Dr. Stephen Baker, Vice President
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FIRST COAST TIGER BAY CLUB meets for lunch every month, except June, July and December, on the 3rd Friday at 11:30 at The River Club, 1 Independent Drive, 34th Floor. Cost for the event, which includes the wonderful buffet and parking, is \$30 for Members and \$35 for Non-Members.

Reservations are required: E-Mail: fctigerbay@gmail.com

The First Coast Tiger Bay Club is a multi-partisan political forum that promotes free and open debate but does not support any candidates or issues.

*Dr. Stephen Baker, Newsletter Editor
 Henry Cordes, Publisher*

**Reservations are REQUIRED. Please RSVP by
 Monday February 13, 2023
 E-mail: fctigerbay@gmail.com .**

The First Coast Tiger Bay Club is a multi-partisan political and civic forum designed to explore crucial issues of the day by interacting with outstanding speakers in an open format. The club is non-partisan, never supports particular candidates, nor take sides on issues.