

Press Kit

Adrian Fontes for Maricopa County Recorder

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Biography

Let me tell you why I am running for the position of Maricopa County Recorder.

I enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. Serving on Active Duty from 1992 to 1996 during which I achieved the rank of Corporal, I earned the real-life experience and discipline I needed to pursue my American dream.

Upon leaving active duty, I returned to Arizona State University to complete my Bachelor's degree with honors, then enrolled in the Sturm College of Law at the University of Denver.

I graduated in 2000 and became a prosecutor, first with the Denver District Attorney, and then returning to Arizona to work for the Maricopa County Attorney and the Arizona Attorney General.

I entered into private practice in 2005, practicing both civil and criminal law. I am also a small business owner.

Looking back, you could say I have dedicated my adult life to protecting and defending the Constitution of the United States and looking out for the little guy.

Why run?

I believe the current elected official views the position of County Recorder as a cost management problem and not as what it really is – the protector of our most sacred right as an American – the right to vote.

The current County Recorder blames the voters of Maricopa County for her own mistakes. She then only makes a feigned apology when confronted with the imperiousness of her criticism.

Since assuming office, Helen Purcell has made it harder for people to vote from one end of the county to the other. In 1988, before becoming Recorder, Maricopa County had 1,093 precincts.

Today, the county has 724 precincts, a reduction of 34% - in other words, she has reduced the number of polling locations by more than one in three.

In the same period, the population of Maricopa County has grown from 2.05 million people to 4.2 million people – an increase of 105 percent.

We've gone from one precinct per 1,874 residents to one precinct per 5,800 residents – an astonishing 210 percent increase.

Goals

We saw further proof of Purcell's failure to administer fair elections in the 2016 Presidential Preference Election with the 5-hour-long lines that ended up keeping people at the polls until midnight.

Worse yet, just weeks after the Presidential Preference Election, she failed to properly produce the ballot for the Propositions 123 and 124 elections in May.

Helen Purcell's record on keeping County residents' information private is disastrous.

For a decade, Purcell's office was posting public records on the county website, some with Social Security numbers and bank account numbers visible.

When confronted with the assertion that this practice contributed to identity theft in the county she told [ABC News](#) she did it "out of convenience."

Her decision was convenient for identity thieves. In 2006, the [Federal Trade Commission](#) reported Maricopa County had the highest instances for identity theft in a metropolitan area across the country.

Just recently, when Hackers targeted Arizona elections data, Purcell did little to reassure Maricopa County voters of their privacy.

As County Recorder, I will bring a renewed energy and vision to the office with the goal of rebuilding trust in the election system in Maricopa County. I will work to make sure that every Maricopa County citizen who is eligible to vote is able to vote, whether at their kitchen table completing their early ballot or on Election Day.

I will work to:

Lead a statewide referendum to change the office from a Partisan position to a non-partisan position, to eliminate politics from the process of managing voting and elections.

Restart the Kids Voting program to help build civic responsibility, an understanding of our obligations as Americans, and inspire generations of voters to come.

Work with civic groups to sponsor voter registration and election and political participation regardless of the political affiliation of the group.

Determine the proper number of polling places needed in our county so that no citizen is denied the right to vote by long lines extending into the wee hours of the morning.