

Valerie Starkey campaigning for Board of Supervisors District 2

February 13, 2020



Valerie Starkey filed her declaration Nov. 14 to run as a candidate for District 2 on the Del Norte County Board of Supervisors in the March 3, 2020 election.

"I want to be involved, and I feel I have the education and experience to get me there and to do this," Starkey said. "I have no hidden agendas. What you see is what you get with me."

Starkey considers herself Del Norte-raised. Her family moved to the county in 1974, where her father served as a California Highway Patrol officer for 32 years.

After 30 years of working in the probation department in Sonoma County, California, Starkey returned to Crescent City in 2016 because she "just wanted to be back in this community that I love."

She spent most of her career working as a probation officer and then volunteered as a chaplain for Sonoma County law enforcement.

Her parents still live in the Crescent City, along with her sister, who teaches at Crescent Elk Middle School.

Since returning, Starkey has taken on community-centered roles that have included being a courtroom special advocate for two foster children, and an organizer for Fairy Godmother Boutique, which procures prom dresses for youth in the community.

“I feel this need to want to be involved in this community on a level that you just don’t get by volunteering here and there. It’s to be actively involved. So that is why I am running,” Starkey said.

She said she wants to see a cohesive and collaborative board of supervisors, which she does not see in the current board.

She added that she has learned the importance of relationships, working through conflict and maintaining professionalism. As a probation officer, she conducted interviews with both victims and their perpetrators and learned how to remain professional. “I’m willing and able to maintain relationships even through conflict,” Starkey said.

Starkey believes many of her duties as a probation officer and a chaplain prepared her for taking a seat in the board of supervisors. Writing pre-sentence reports taught her how to research every aspect on a topic, listen to those affected and follow the law based upon fact.

If elected, she said she would encourage economic growth by helping businesses “cut through the red tape” that often discourages them. “Practically, is that possible? I don’t know why not, but let’s try it. Let’s try something new,” Starkey said.

Starkey said she’s available by visiting her Facebook @valerieforsupervisor, emailing starkey4district2@gmail.com, or calling 707-490-9177.