

CINCY2021

Dr. Najoli
for **Mayor**
Cincinnati

Friends of Najoli
Campaign for Mayor of Cincinnati

March 3, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Debates, Forums, and the Democratic Committee ruling.

WEST PRICE HILL, OH – This week my campaign received information that the Cincinnati Democratic Committee has cracked down on candidate endorsements and will instead use the forums or debates to determine who gets what kind of backing. We learned that they have issued rulings with strict guidelines for their candidates to follow if they are to seek endorsements. What is being organized is a coordinated campaign of advertising along with the passing out of slate cards at the polls. It is essentially a machinery, which prevents a pioneering Independent like me from being elected.

Given that I am not a Democrat, I cannot participate in any of the forums or debates this election cycle as their candidates will simply be seeking to separate from each other and garner the endorsements of groups that align to their positions. I have no party-ties at all. I am running to serve all fairly, so I will focus on direct outreach to voters. As the machinery of this party committee uses coordinated debates and forums to interview, vet, and endorse their candidates, I will focus on meeting voters in their communities.

Last year I ran for a County office. One of my opponents in that race declined to participate in any of the debates or forums. I participated in every single one that I was invited to. However, through exit polling at the Board of Elections and some polling locations, many voters stated that they did not watch the debates and/or forums. What we know is that viewers of the forums or debates in an election primary of this nature will be party faithful, so even if I participated, I would have little chance of a fair hearing.

For that matter, my team and I have concluded that it is best to focus our efforts on grassroots canvassing for this segment of the election. If we end up as one of the top two vote-getters, we will reconsider this position for the general election. We are deeply grateful for the many organizations who have invited us or had planned to invite us to any primary election joint forums or debates with Democratic Party candidates. We decline the invites at this moment. We view all the planned forums and debates as family matters for the Democratic Party candidates as they seek to nab endorsements.

We remain so thoroughly honored and humbled to be on the ballot. We will continue campaigning diligently in all 52 neighborhoods. Many thanks to so many who signed petitions for my candidacy, not just this year but also in 2020, 2019, and 2018. The journey of American democracy is phenomenal and transformational. May it thrive.

For more information, contact Dr. Herman Najoli at candidate@drnajoli.com.