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Former California Gubernatorial Candidate Makes a Bid for Sheriff of Lee County Citing Illegal Activities of His Opponent

FORT MYERS, Fla., May 30 /PRNewswire/ -- Vowing to reveal why his opponent is unfit to represent the residents of Florida, a former California gubernatorial candidate will announce his candidacy for sheriff of Lee County on Saturday, May 31, at 2 p.m. at the Matlacha Oyster House on 3930 Pine Island Road, in Matlacha, FL 33993. **Christian Meister**, 39, who ran for governor in the California 2003 Special Election against Arnold Schwarzenegger, stated that incumbent Sheriff **Mike Scott** is not fit to be the people's sheriff because Scott has violated the very principles of what a law enforcement agency ought to stand for.

Meister said that the Sheriff's Office employs a deputy sheriff who has a criminal record and that the sheriff intentionally falsified the job performance evaluations of Lee County Sheriff's employees. Meister also said that the sheriff unlawfully discriminated against him because he has an Austrian accent.

Meister, who was a sheriff's employee in 2004 and 2005, has since, in 2006, sued Sheriff Scott in his personal and official capacity in order to address his grievances. The lawsuit is currently pending in the United States Federal District Court in Fort Myers.

Meister has invoked the U.S. Constitution Fourteenth Amendment's protections of the substantive due process clause and has sued for the fundamental right that employees be fairly evaluated by their governmental employers. The suit also raises the issues of equality under the law, Meister said, and the inalienable right of all people to be free of discrimination and free of abuse by government.

"I will not tolerate it that the sheriff falsifies employee performance," Meister said, "and no person who has the authority of the badge has the right to step on the rights of the little people."

Meister vowed to shed light on Sheriff Scott's conduct when he announces his candidacy tomorrow.

A Veteran of the United States Coast Guard, Meister was awarded the Humanitarian Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, CG Special Operations Service Ribbon, and the CG Meritorious Unit Commendation Award in 1992 and 1993 for his work as a Third Class Petty Officer while serving aboard a 210-foot Coast Guard law enforcement vessel during Operation Desert Storm. The ship's mission was to interdict drug traffickers in the Caribbean Sea and rescue Cuban and Haitian migrants in the Florida Straits.

Meister, after his service at the Lee County Sheriff's Office, moved to Cutler Ridge in Miami-Dade County, Florida, in 2006 and, just recently, returned to Fort Myers.

See www.meisterforsheriff.com for additional information.

"The information will be uploaded on www.meisterforsheriff.com on the day of the announcement of candidacy for Sheriff," Meister said.

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