**Greater Pensacola Chamber**

**2020 Candidate Questionnaire**

**Sheriff’s Race**

1. What would you say is the biggest public safety concern in Escambia County?

From a law enforcement perspective, violent drug related crime is currently the biggest public safety concern within Escambia County. Drawing on my years of experience in narcotic and violent crime apprehension, I have the background necessary to combat this threat. In an effort to address this, I will create a robust enforcement strategy that includes partnerships with local, state and federal authorities.

1. Do you feel the crime rate has increased or decreased in Escambia County? Why or Why not?

Statistically speaking, crime is decreasing within the confines of Escambia County. However, those that are involved in drug trafficking continue to look for places in which they can profit from their violence-laden activities. Staying abreast of the violent crime trends is important to prevent opportunistic drug traffickers from gaining a foothold in our neighborhoods.

1. What new safety measures could be implemented to make Escambia County a safer place to live? Be specific.

As crime evolves, so should the technology and training utilized in the fight against it. A modern and integrated body camera system to supplement the in-car cameras already in place will help provide an additional layer of protection for both civilians and officers alike. Having implemented the very first body camera program at the Pensacola Police Department, I have the experience necessary to see this to fruition. Any community finds itself safer through the use of well-trained law enforcement professionals. As Sheriff, I will implement increased training to include proper use of force, conflict de-escalation and employee wellness. Promoting transparency by implementing an engagement strategy that involves every neighborhood along with the establishment of a community advisory committee to ensure input and feedback is an integral part of creating a safer community. I pledge to review and add sub-stations to enhance engagement within the community, which will lead to decreased response times and allow us to provide better services to our citizens.