



John
Acardo

Daily Chronicle questionnaire: John J. Acardo

Primary race: County clerk (Republican)

Age: 26

Bio: Oversees human resource and information technology for Hanover Township in Bartlett, a position he took after serving as State Rep. Bob Pritchard's district office director in Sycamore; a certified human resource manager; active in church and community; holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Northern Illinois University; pursuing a master's in business administration from Keller Graduate School of Management; lives in Sycamore with his wife Megan.

Why are you seeking the office of county clerk?

I am passionate about public service. My background in human resources and information technology provides a unique skill set that will allow me to continue to provide excellent service and improve technology for the office.

What distinguishes you from the other candidate in this primary?

My passion for public service and my qualifications for handling the challenges of this office distinguish me from my opponent. I have a unique perspective on how best to meet the needs of individuals and have spent several years in my professional career doing just that. My educational background has prepared me to identify and attack efficiency problems and financial constraints common in government.

If elected, what is your top priority?

My top priority is ensuring accountability and fiscal responsibility. We are in lean times, and it is imperative that we make the most efficient uses of our resources, while not sacrificing services.

What, if any, changes need to be made to modernize the office of County Clerk?

Digitizing documents and other data are already underway. The next step is to work with area stakeholders to update and improve the online resources for individuals and businesses that regularly use the office. Providing essential services online saves time and money for taxpayers.

How will you implement changes without putting a strain on the office's budget?

My background in information technology, management, and finance prepares me to be watchful of the office's budget while improving and streamlining services to keep costs down. Further, collaboration with communities will help provide the essential services of the office directly to residents without placing a strain on the clerk's budget.