

- ◆ We support our armed forces with resources as well as rhetoric.
- ◆ We advocate military strategy that protects our troops with adequate numbers, strong alliances and winnable missions.
- ◆ We support those who serve and have served honorably in our armed forces.

OPPORTUNITY

- ◆ Our cultural and economic vitality depends on equal access to a quality education.
- ◆ Our schools must foster academic achievement, parental involvement and educator excellence, and be supported with the financial resources necessary to produce the best-trained workforce in the world.
- ◆ Our commercial culture should attract responsible investment, improve employment prospects, enhance our quality of life, and reward the initiative and entrepreneurship of our workforce.
- ◆ Our communities must create a long-term plan for prosperity that balances our economic and environmental interests.



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Douglas County Democratic Party VALUES STATEMENT

Our VALUES are what set the Douglas County Democratic Party apart from the other Major Parties in the County.

Just what does it mean to be a Democrat?

We share the values of most Americans that have made our country great. We cherish our freedoms, champion the equal rights of all, and commit to responsible stewardship of our economy and environment.

Douglas County Democrats value a quality of life that balances our neighborhoods and livelihoods, our principles, and our prosperity.

We believe in local leadership that is accountable for results, and policies that invest in our future and promote our common interests. Our county deserves officials who respond to the concerns of our citizens, respect our natural resources, and reward responsible development.

ACCOUNTABILITY

- ◆ Civic leaders must be open, produce results and insist on integrity.
- ◆ Businesses should add long-term value to our communities.
- ◆ Access to affordable healthcare ensures quality of life for all.
- ◆ Responsible development planning balances the interests of our neighborhoods and livelihoods.

DIVERSITY

- ◆ We cherish the unique character of our citizens and celebrate the diversity that enriches our communities.
- ◆ A diverse community finds its common value in individual differences.
- ◆ Promoting cultural and commercial diversity in our communities will attract financial and intellectual capital.

ENVIRONMENT

- ◆ We champion the right of all Americans to a safe and healthy environment.
- ◆ Responsible stewardship of our soil, air, open space and water considers the long-term needs of our citizens and communities.
- ◆ We support policies and practices that foster responsible agriculture and development that preserves the ecological diversity and future viability of our land.

- ◆ Waste and water policies must reward eco-friendly practices and penalize negligence.
- ◆ Incentives must be offered to expand the use of renewable and alternative energy.

ETHICS

- ◆ Respect for individuals will serve the greater good and revive civic involvement.
- ◆ Requiring fiscal fairness and discipline will ensure our ongoing solvency.
- ◆ Enforcing ethical standards will improve our results and reputation and restore faith in leaders and institutions.

FREEDOM

- ◆ Freedom is the foundation of democracy and is the light of hope for a better future.
- ◆ Freedom of speech and of the press allows us to publicly discuss local, national and global issues.
- ◆ Freedom of religion allows us to believe as we wish and to respect the beliefs of others.
- ◆ Our system of free enterprise allows us to provide for our families, our communities and ourselves.
- ◆ Our civil liberties, such as the freedom to marry, to have families, and to educate ourselves and our children, inspire the world.
- ◆ Civil rights, such as those that protect privacy and equality, should not be forsaken in times of national crises.

JUSTICE

- ◆ Access to our judicial systems must be provided fairly and equally for all.
- ◆ Fair and impartial administration of justice fosters economic efficiency and ethical actions.
- ◆ Courts must enforce the rights, freedom and safety of all citizens equally.
- ◆ Discrimination based on economics or demographics undermines our collective conscience and individual initiative.
- ◆ Military justice that insures the fair treatment of soldiers and prisoners enhances the safety and reputation of our armed forces.

NATIONAL SECURITY

- ◆ We advocate the use of statesmanship and diplomacy as our first line of national security.
- ◆ We urge foreign policy that enhances our effectiveness and esteem in the diplomatic community.
- ◆ We condemn any manipulation of national security concerns that erodes civil liberties, that reduces administration accountability or that creates an unwarranted justification of lethal force.
- ◆ We support the development of a national energy policy that strengthens our national security by fostering renewable and alternative energy sources and conservation to reduce our dependence on non-renewable fuels.