

# SEMINOLE COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS



## *MICHAEL ERTEL* *SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS*

Michael Ertel has been Supervisor of Elections for Seminole County since February, 2005.

Since he took office, the office has made significant improvements in services to voters and candidates under the office's new mission statement: Efficient Elections — Excellent Service — Fiduciary Conservatism — Voter Confidence.

Prior to becoming supervisor Ertel spent eight years in the U.S. Army with stints as a public affairs representative during the Los Angeles riots, Macedonian, and Bosnian operations. After the Army, he was in public affairs field, including serving as Seminole County government's first public information professional, as the director of public relations for a 185-location bank, and conducted post-disaster public relations for the State of Florida's tourism marketing agency Visit Florida.

Mike is a highly sought expert on elections issues, speaking to state, national and international election official organizations. He has testified before the State of Texas Legislature and the National Conference of State Legislatures on voter identification laws. He has spoken about election law to conventions of the American Bar Association and the American Association of Political Consultants. In 2011 Ertel was a speaker at the Heritage Foundation concerning military voting rights, and was the only U.S. elections administrator to present at *the International Electoral Affairs Symposium* in London, where he facilitated the discussion on rebuilding voter trust. In 2011, he was chosen as one of ten inaugural recipients of *Campaigns and Elections* magazine's *Innovator Awards* for his voter outreach activities. Ertel was featured internationally on the Fox News Channel in 2008.

The 42-year-old Ertel is a homegrown elected official, attending Red Bug, Sterling Park and English Estates elementary, Tuskawilla middle and Lake Howell high and the University of Maryland University College. He has completed the Harvard crisis communications module *How to Deal with an Angry Public* and the American University Election Management Institute. In an effort to detect absentee fraud, in 2011 he became Florida's first elections official to complete a course from West Virginia University on forensic document examination.

Mike, his wife Michelle, Zane, 17, Gillian, 15 and their dogs Winston and Betty live in unincorporated Seminole County. In his spare time, Mike is an active member of the VFW, enjoys racquetball, Revolutionary history and the music of the Rat Pack.

[www.VoteSeminole.org](http://www.VoteSeminole.org)

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