



Stand 4 Jax

“Duty is ours ...
results are God’s”

The Stand4Jax Mission

Stand4Jax is a grassroots Christian coalition seeking to inspire, educate, and engage citizens to elect Godly leadership in Jacksonville, Florida and unite the church in Jacksonville in standing for righteousness in light of a Biblical Worldview.

Two Errors Christians Make Regarding Politics

- **1. Some Christians make the error that they should not be involved in civic engagement as it is a secular field and thus avoid it entirely.** Those holding this view forget that God's word applies to all areas of life, including government and public policy; they separate their faith from the real world. They forget civic engagement is simply yet another area for Christians to minister in. There is no area in which God's word should not be our authority.
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Two Errors Christians Make Regarding Politics

- **2. Other Christians choose to engage, but instead of taking the Word of God, they take a man-made ideology and use it as their guide for political involvement.** Those holding this view take a party platform (GOP or DEM), a political ideology (conservative, liberal, etc), or a political movement (MAGA, BLM, etc.) and use that as their standard to engage in politics. While there may be truth and helpful ideas in some of the above positions, Christians standing on those ideas make the same mistake of separating their faith from the civic arena, forgetting that God's Word, not a man-made party or ideology, should be their foundation for engaging in the public arena. **God's Word has all the answers for civic engagement.**
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What Stand4Jax is Not

- **We are not here to support a political party; we do not owe our allegiance to a party**
- **We are not here to support political personalities**
- **We do not define ourselves as conservative or liberal; such labels are subject to change and provide no solid standard**
- **We reject the idea that public policy can save people; only salvation in Jesus Christ can**
- **We do not accept that political involvement is the ultimate answer to mankind's problems; the Word of God is**

What Stand4Jax is

- **We are a Christian organization who believe the Word of God holds truths and principles that apply to every area of public policy, whether it be fiscal, social, or foreign policy, and everything in between.**
- **We believe that as Christians win others to Christ through the gospel, and as those new believers apply the Word of God to their lives, that change will permeate into the culture at large, including government.**
- **We believe as was discussed earlier, that engagement in civil government is simply one field of ministry for us as the body of Christ to participate in.**
- **We believe that compartmentalizing our faith from the civil arena or any other area of public life is not only incorrect, but is also a sin.**
- **We believe that change starts at home as parents raise their children to know and serve the Lord and in turn will impact the culture as a result.**

Stand4Jax Candidate Ranking Tiers

- **Tier 1: Champion Vote**
 - **Tier 2: Ally Vote**
 - **Tier 3: Reliable Vote**
 - **Tier 4: Swing Vote**
 - **Tier 5: Opposition Vote**
- **Tier 6: Extreme Opposition Vote**

Tier 1: Champion Vote

- A **Champion Vote** is a staunch advocate for our issues; is motivated personally to support our issues; will speak out and lead on good legislation; will be the lead sponsors of our issues; and desire to educate the public and win others to our side; and is ready to take on opposition

Tier 2: Ally Vote

- An **Ally Vote** is with us on the issues and will help when asked; will work behind the scenes to help push good legislation and fight bad legislation in committee by negotiating with other members; will many times cosponsor good bills and be a support to front line champion reps

Tier 3: Reliable Vote

- A **Reliable Vote** agrees with us and will be a consistent vote for good legislation and against bad legislation, but will do little beyond that; will have different priorities and focuses than ours

Tier 4: Swing Vote

- A **Swing Vote** is subject to external pressures (lobbyists, public polling, media); will not be grounded and can swing in various directions depending on circumstances

Tier 5: Opposition Vote

- An **Opposition Vote** opposes us on almost all our core issues; they will vote against us, but tend to be diplomatic and are open to discussion, even though they will not change (the vast majority of the time); will tend to be focused on serving their constituents, rather than pushing an agenda

Tier 6: Extreme Opposition Vote

- An **Extreme Opposition Vote** is diametrically opposed to our core issues; tend to be abrasive and fiery, using little tact and hold their agenda as paramount even ahead of procedure; will tend to represent the far left stream of politics

School Board District Plan



Legend

— Major Roads

— River

School Board DISTRICT

1

2

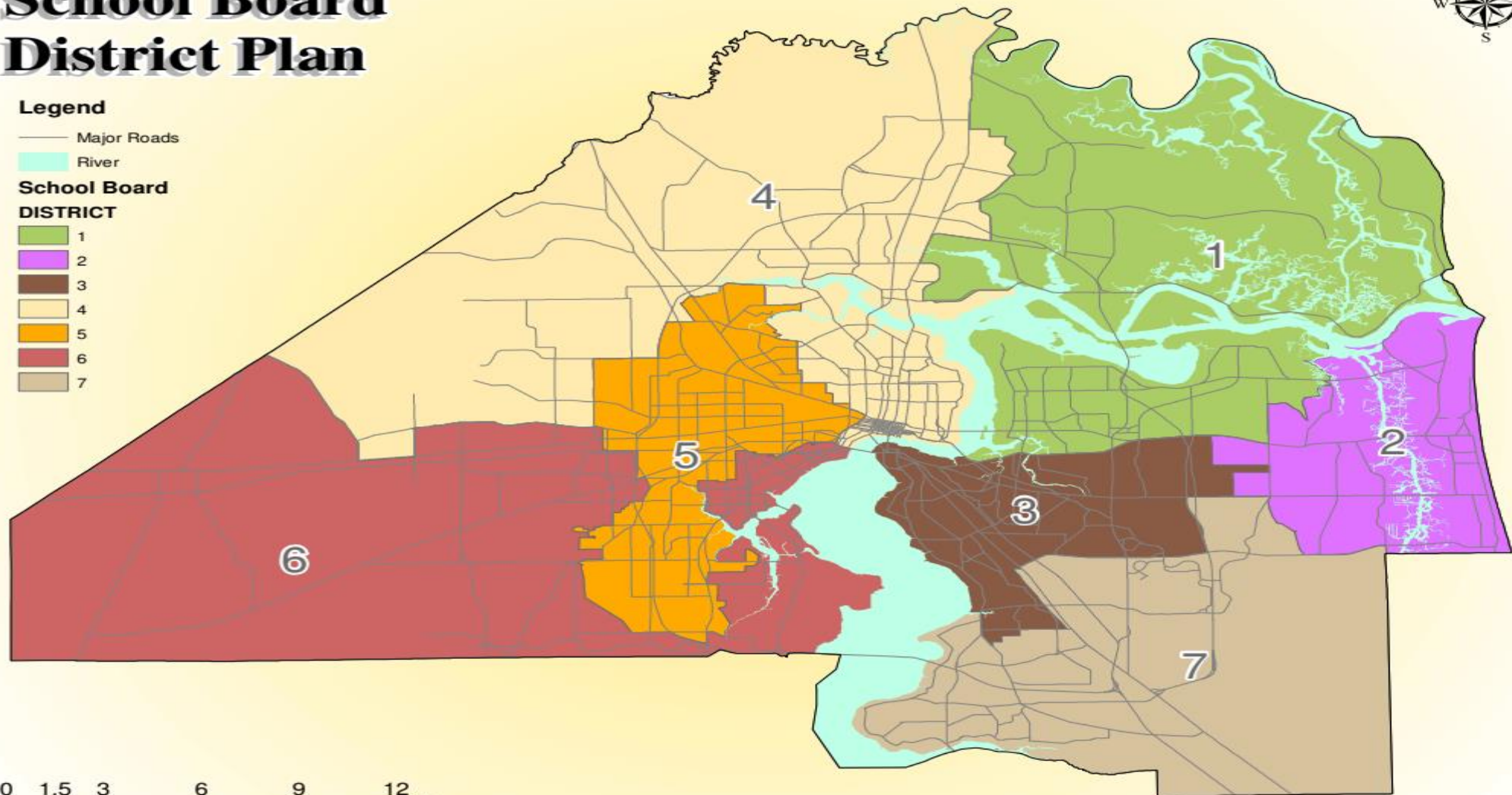
3

4

5

6

7



0 1.5 3 6 9 12 Miles

School Board Election Highlights

Between 2014-2016, of the 7 school board seats up for elections, 3 of the 7 had candidates winning with no opposition

- 2014 District 2 runoff candidates determined by 4 votes**
- 2016 District 7 runoff candidates determined by 200 votes**
- 2018 District 2 runoff candidates determined by 600 votes**
- 2018 District 4 election won by 1,600 votes in a presidential**

School Board Election Highlights

- **School board races are too often overlooked and even left blank**
- **The primaries especially have extremely low voter turnout**
- **They often require fewer resources than other races to be successful**

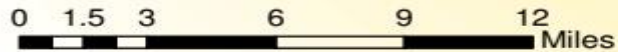
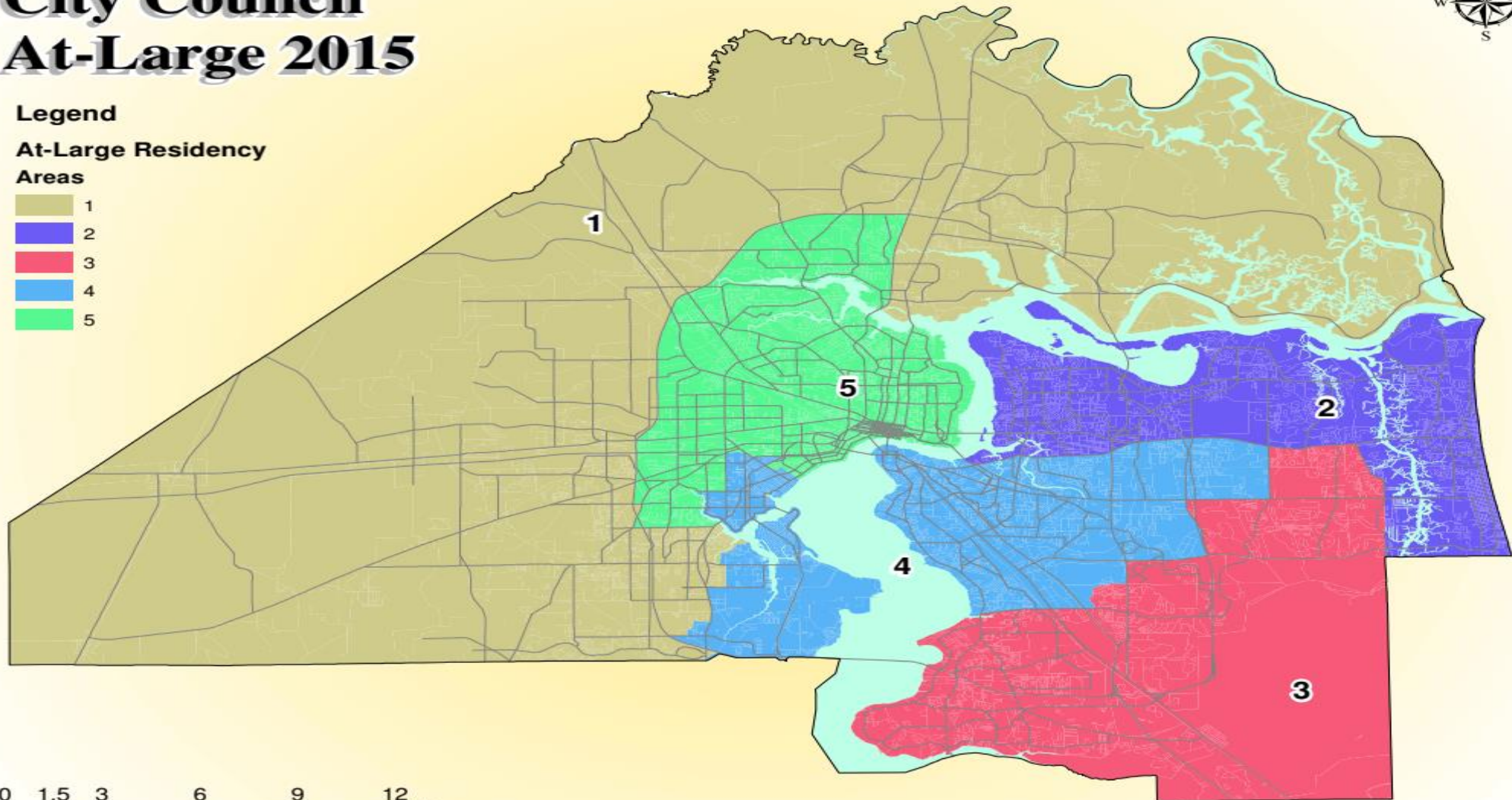
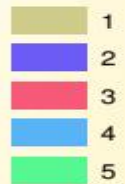
The key is recruiting the right candidates and informing like-minded voters to support those candidates; we can impact these races.

City Council At-Large 2015



Legend

At-Large Residency Areas



2022 Soil and Water Elections

- **Soil and Water District Board 1, 3, & 5**
- **All 3 seats are At-Large (they cover the full city and will be voted on by the entire city)**
- **The S&W Commission does not currently hold much power, but it has been a launching pad for runs for higher office (city council, school board, State House, etc.). It is crucial for us to field candidates for these seats as well.**

2023 Constitutional Officer Elections

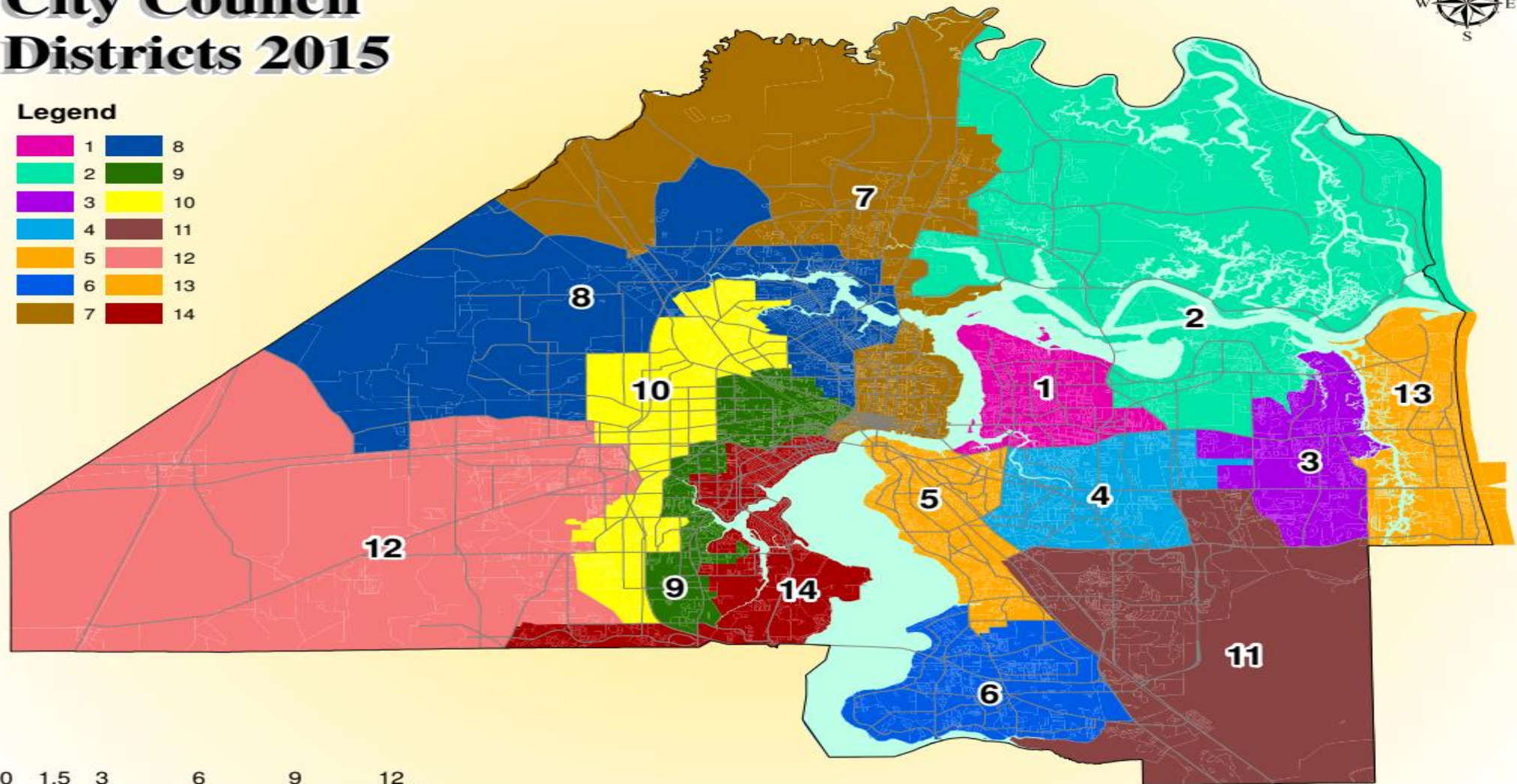
- **Mayor (open seat)**
- **Sheriff (open seat)**
- **Tax Collector**
- **Property Appraiser (open seat)**
- **Supervisor of Elections (open seat)**

City Council Districts 2015



Legend

1	8
2	9
3	10
4	11
5	12
6	13
7	14



0 1.5 3 6 9 12 Miles

City Council Election Highlights

- **Between 2015 and 2019, 7 council seats were filled without opposition**
- **In 2015, 10 out of 14 district council members were elected by less than 3000 votes or faced no opposition**
- **In 2019, 11 out 14 district council members were elected by less than 3000 votes or faced no opposition**

City Council Election Highlights

- **2015 District 1** won by **700** votes
- **2015 District 7** won by **300** votes
- **2015 District 8** won by **300** votes
- **2019 District 1** won by **300** votes
- **2019 District 14** won by **250** votes

City Council Election Highlights

- **City Council races are held in off year elections, resulting in very low turnout**
- **This low turnout would allow a coalition like ours to have a tremendous impact on our city council's elections**
- **But there is a problem...**

The Problem?

The problem primarily is not that good, Godly candidates are losing; the problem is that Biblically-minded candidates are not running.

In 2019, out of 19 council races, only 6 races had even somewhat decent candidates. That means over two-thirds of our council races had no good candidates to vote for.

The Importance of Candidate Recruitment

- **Right now, we as Christians (the few that choose to even vote) wait until elections come around to make our selections for candidates.**
- **This leads to bad options.**
- **After the election, it is many times too late.**
- **We at Stand4Jax desire to change that through recruiting and vetting godly men and women of character.**

The Stand4Jax Foundation: The Gideon 300 Network

- **The Gideon 300 network boils down to this:**
- **We all know like minded individuals who like us are concerned about what's going on in our city, and who we have influence over.**
- **In this sphere of influence, whether it's 10, 50, 100, or more people, we can make a definite impact through that sphere.**
- **Individuals within the Gideon 300 network commit to staying informed by the Stand4Jax coalition on upcoming elections and then informing those within their sphere on the elections and the godly vetted candidates for them to support.**

The Stand4Jax Foundation: The Gideon 300 Network

- Here's how it would work and dramatically impact our city:
- Let's assume 100 members in the Gideon 300 network committed to reaching out to their spheres of influence on the elections. Let's assume each member has 20 Duval voters in their sphere to contact on the elections. That would equate to **2000 votes**.
- Let's now assume 300 members contact 50 voters each; that would equate to **15,000 votes!**
- Remember, in 2015 and 2019, 10 and 11 out of 14 district council members were elected by less than 3000 votes or faced no opposition. **The Gideon 300 network could absolutely change the course of our city's elections!**

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The Reality of Ministry

We want to emphasize again, that what we are talking about here is not mere politics; it is about engaging in the ministry of civic engagement.

This is about bringing the authority of Christ into every area of life, including public policy and government.

God's Word applies to every area of life, and we as Christians should search for and seek to impact culture with the truth of the Bible.

Failing to do so as believers not only fails to honor the Lord, but also shows severe compromise on our part.

This Takes All of Us Serving Our Small Part

This isn't about us signing up people to serve 40 hours a week; this is about each of us holding up our individual torches and doing our small part in rebuilding the wall of righteousness in our city.

Future Stand4Jax Engagement Strategies

- **Setting up a Candidate Recruitment Committee**
- **Preparing Candidate Vetting and Local Voter Guides**
- **Bringing Together a Pastors' Alliance to Unite the Body of Christ in Jax**
- **Creating a Christian Business Leaders' Alliance**
- **Establishing Christian Worldview Education & Training**
- **Connecting Pastors with Civil Leaders for Prayer and Ministering to Their Spiritual Needs**
- **Tracking City Council and School Board Legislation and Plans and Informing and Calling our Network to Action**
- **Many more as God brings...**

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John Quincy Adams