



Noland seeking re-election county treasurer position

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With 15 years of experience under her belt, current Harrison County Treasurer Jamie Marie Noland says she's more than capable of tackling the challenges that lie ahead. The Democratic candidate is seeking reelection for the seat.

"I have the experience," said Ms. Noland. "I know what the position entails."

A "lifetime resident of Harrison County," the county veteran earned a



JAIME MARIE NOLAND

bachelor's degree in business administration from Baylor University, majoring in finance and financial services. She's also received additional certifications at East Texas Baptist University and became a certified investment officer through the Texas Association of Counties. She's also received up to 20 hours of continuing education each

year and receives up to ten hours of investment education every two years. "I have investment training," said Ms. Noland. "I'm familiar with what is required in the job and I know how to do the job."

As the county treasurer, Ms. Noland provides "important" checks and balances for the handling of the county's dollars and serves as the "chief custodian" of county fund, accounting for all of the county's money.

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Ms. Noland also receives and keeps records of money that's collected by each of the county offices, including state fees, she said.

Last year, the office collected nearly \$1 million in state funds and "sent" them to the state comptroller.

Harrison County has an annual budget of \$24.5 million — all of which is received and distributed through the Treasurer's Office, according to Ms. Noland.

The county veteran's other duties entail monitoring account balances to ensure that the county's bank has "adequate collateral pledged to cover those balances that exceed the (Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation) insurance and handling all of the investment of county funds. Ms. Noland wrote the county's investment policy, which was approved by commissioners.

"Every department deposits their money with my office and then it goes into the particular fund that it's designated to, whether it be a bridge fund, a jury fund, a general fund or security fund," she said. "We put them into the correct funds and we eventually input all of the bills and pay all of the bills for the county."

Since Ms. Noland began her tenure, the office has seen many changes. The office has since added accounts payable and now pays jurors in cash, which "cuts down on the tax dollars that we use to spend before when we would send out \$10 checks," said Ms. Noland. She said some jurors did not cash their checks in the past resulting into outstanding checks.

"We would have to go back and reconcile those with the bank statement. It took a lot longer," she said. "Plus, we had postage that was wasted

and now we save taxpayer dollars on the postage."

Also during her tenure, Ms. Noland has been able to develop a solid rapport with other county officials.

"I have a lot of good relationships with other county treasurers," said Ms. Noland. "If there's something new that comes up, then we have a good network that we can call other county treasurers and find out how to deal with something. I have a good working relationship with the other elected officials that are there and the other departments."

Ms. Noland's vast experience also serves as an advantage over someone who may be new to the job, she said.

"I know the position," she said. "I know how to do the reports that are required by the state. Someone else would not and it would take them a while to get up to speed and learn how to do that."

Outside of the office, Ms. Noland serves as a member of the St. Joseph's Catholic Church, the Marshall Symphony League and Marshall Chamber of Commerce.

She currently serves as the president of the Friends of Trinity Episcopal School and has served as the president of the Marshall Pilot Club in the past. Ms. Noland is married to local attorney Michael C. Smith and has three sons.

"I think that I've done a good job and I hope citizens of Harrison County think that I've done a good job," said Ms. Noland.

Candidates have until Jan. 4, 2010, to file for an office, according to the Texas Secretary of State Web site. The Texas primary will be March 2, 2010.

The last day to register to vote is Feb. 1, 2010, with early voting starting Feb. 16, 2010.

So far, no one else had filed to run for the position.