

Atty. general hopeful makes local stop

Written by Elizabeth Barrett
Thursday, 08 May 2014 14:57 -



Douglas Peterson, who's running for the Nebraska attorney general seat, campaigned in Gothenburg Thursday.

Peterson said he should be elected because he's the only candidate who has served as a deputy county attorney, a position in which he prosecuted crimes.

The candidate has also served in the attorney general's office and has 23 years of experience in private practice where he represented individuals and companies in federal and state courts across Nebraska.

Twenty-eight years of experiences makes Peterson the most qualified candidate in advocating for Nebraska, he said.

Peterson said he's also the only candidate who has pledged not to seek any other political office while serving as attorney general.

"I believe it's very important that the attorney general be focused on serving Nebraska as its lawyer and not try to calculate his or her political future," he said.

As far as strengths, Peterson said his is experience in advocating for a cause.

"I've been rated by my fellow lawyers over the last 15 years as preeminent in both skill level and in the area of my ethical standards," he said. "As an advocate, I bring both intensity and integrity in pursuing matters on behalf of Nebraskans."

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These are some of the most important attributes as the state's chief law enforcement officer, Peterson said.

Problems facing Nebraska, he said, are property taxes, federal encroachment and water law matters.

If elected as the chief law enforcement officer for the state, Peterson said he believes the most serious problem is drug abuse in all Nebraska communities.

"It's clear to me that the problems I saw when I was a young deputy county attorney in North Platte are very much the same today," he said. "Meth and now more recently, strong marijuana from Colorado, are creating both direct and indirect problems for all of our communities."

Since he's been endorsed by the Nebraska State Troopers Association, Peterson said he would work closely both with the state patrol and with federal agencies to strengthen drug enforcement efforts.

A little known fact about Peterson, he said, is that he had a brief stint while in college trying to learn how to be a bull rider.

"It became pretty clear to me that I would lose a lot of entry fee money if I tried to pursue this," he said. "In other words, the bull always won."

A native of Columbus, Peterson moved to Lincoln as a child. He received an undergraduate degree in business from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and graduated from Pepperdine University School of Law in 1985.

He was a deputy county attorney in North Platte from 1985 to 1987 and was assistant attorney general for Nebraska from 1988 to 1990. Peterson has been in private practice in Lincoln since 1990.

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Peterson is married to Sandi Peterson and the couple has three grown children.

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