

**FOR RELEASE ON MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2017**

**PENRY GUSTAFSON IS SUSPENDING CAMPAIGN, SUPPORTING THE AMERICAN PARTY CANDIDATE**

(CAMDEN, SC, March 11, 2017) Penry Gustafson of Camden, SC has suspended her campaign to run for U.S. Congress. She had previously announced publicly she would be filing as a Republican in an already expansive race to fill Mick Mulvaney's 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District seat. This statement clarifies the reasons for her decision and the change in plans for her political future.

"Where and when one starts politically is essential. I want to make absolutely certain to choose the right place for my personal beliefs and political ideology. More importantly, my family has always come first before career, and at this moment, I am needed more there than anywhere else."

Her desire to bring back decency and common sense to public office is what drove her to enter the race. "I could not turn away from this wonderful opportunity to prove that the average citizen can seek public office along with the career politicians that seem to drive every single election." Her slogan "Voice for All" refers to all citizens, all voters, all potential voters. She claims "Open, balanced solutions to complex problems is what is needed right now to calm the rocky waters."

Her platform issues included bringing back trust, respect, and honor to our publicly held positions; providing an alternative choice for voters outside establishment candidates; supporting and implementing term limit legislation for all publicly held positions; working toward racial reconciliation; and using a fiscally responsible approach towards a workable balanced budget.

Having never run for office, Gustafson naturally decided that the Republican Party would be her best chance at winning any future elections in South Carolina and was advised that doing otherwise would be "political suicide." She has been a voting Republican since 1988. However, after intense review and consideration, Gustafson is now supporting and plans to represent the third largest certified party in the state, the American Party. A modern and moderate party founded in 2014 in SC, The American Party, addresses our growing political dysfunction and offers more choices for the voting public.

Jim Rex, American Party Chairman says, "The American Party welcomes the involvement and support of Penry Gustafson! The Party was created by former Republicans, Democrats, and Independents who believe we need a new choice and approach to politics in our State and Nation. Penry Gustafson's considerable talents and attributes-along with her unselfish patriotism-will be an important addition to our efforts to fix a broken system."



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Gustafson intends to support Josh Thornton, a Rock Hill educator and American Party candidate. Finally, Penry proclaims, “We need viable candidates not beholdng to special interests, lobbyists, or the two-party system, who can truly represent everyone.”

If you would like more information, please contact Penry Gustafson at 803-669-6364 (cell) or [penrygustafson@yahoo.com](mailto:penrygustafson@yahoo.com).

Note to the editors:  
Photo attached

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