

Statement of Jan Swift
November 7, 2023

I ran for Mayor-President because of my love of Lafayette. I stood up because I believed that Lafayette has been headed in the wrong direction under the leadership of Josh Guillory. That belief is just as strong today as it was when I announced my candidacy. And my love for Lafayette is still rock solid.

I do not believe that Lafayette can endure another four years of poor leadership under the current administration. My goal in running was to restore the notion of public service to our community and to revitalize community engagement in a strong Lafayette, to rebuild our city and parish as a place that would offer thriving business opportunities for all, fund meaningful support for our arts and culture, and to restore morale in our first responders and in the dedicated workers of Lafayette Consolidated Government.

We had a very low voter turnout in the primary election. Over two-thirds of registered voters didn't show up to vote. I believe it is because so many people feel disconnected and don't believe they make a difference. My fear is that even fewer may show up on November 18th for the general election.

I'm standing here today to say that you do matter. We all matter. Our voices are heard when we vote. But they are heard just as strongly when we don't. Staying home and not voting is just as much an endorsement of the past four years of mismanagement as it is to show up and vote for the incumbent.

Many people have shared privately with me that they may not vote in this general election. I am standing here to encourage my supporters to get out and vote. As I said after the primary, my supporters are educated and engaged people and they can make up their own mind.

But yet many are still wondering who I will vote for. I will vote for Monique Blanco Boulet and am encouraging my supporters to do the same. I could not remain on the sideline in this all- important change election.

I hope you will join me in voting for Monique and let's move forward in accomplishing what my campaign was all about. It's about you. It's about our community. It's about restoring the notion of public service to elected office. Thank you for your time, and for those that supported me, I'll never forget your kindness and dedication to building a better future.