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Joe Andl, Chairman Burlington County Democratic Committee.  
[Burlcocandidate@gmail.com](mailto:Burlcocandidate@gmail.com)

Dear Chairman Andl:

Most people call me Rick, I am currently a gubernatorial appointee to the New Jersey Pinelands Commission and have actively served the public in a variety of official capacities since 2002.

I am writing you to express my interest in being considered by the Burlington County Democratic Committee as their appointee to the expected Burlington County Freeholder Position vacancy. I live in Pemberton Township, which historically has been a big supporter of Democratic candidates and causes. I am a strong supporter of demonstrating to the public that their views count during public comment and when meeting them walking door to door during elections. I carefully prepare before I cast any vote and have had perfect attendance at Commission meetings and Council meetings while I served in that capacity for ten years. I think being a team player is very important.

My ancestors arrived in the city of Burlington in 1695, after traveling across the Atlantic aboard the Amity. My descendants were Quakers and farmed the soil throughout Burlington County for the last four hundred years. I think sustainable agriculture and farmland preservation is very important and am very proud that Burlington County has been recognized nationally for their effort in these areas.

I am interested in and have experience with all aspects of municipal government and in a Board members' role implementing the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan. I serve and have served on a variety of committees related to personnel, budgeting, agriculture and policy. I think I have a great deal of experience to offer the residents of Burlington County as a Freeholder.

I commend the Democratic Committee for inviting fellow Democrats who have an interest in serving as Freeholder, to send in their documentation to the Committee for their consideration.

I am interested in participating in a forum where Committee members could compare my attributes with others interested in serving as their appointee to the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Prickett

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## **Relevant History**

**2012 to present** – I was sworn in as a gubernatorial appointee to the New Jersey Pinelands Commission. I am the Pinelands Commission Designee to the Pinelands Development Credit Bank Board and a member of the Policy & Implementation, Personnel & Budget and Agriculture Committees. I have also been a Pinelands Short Course speaker on topics related to Whitesbog, the birthplace of the domesticated high bush blueberry.

**2003 through 2017** - I served as a Trustee on the Whitesbog Preservation Trust Board. I served as President of the Trust's Board from 2000 to 2004 and during the 2017 year.

**2002 to 2012** – I served on the Pemberton Township Council and served as Council President in 2002 and 2006.

**2003-2005** – I served on the Pemberton Township Planning Board.

**2006** - I retired after teaching high school science in the Lakewood School District in Ocean County for 26 years. There, I taught advanced placement biology, environmental science, physical science and chemistry. I was named the Lakewood Township Teacher of the Year in 2004, and was recognized by the Pinelands Preservation Alliance as an outstanding Pinelands educator in 2005.

## **Volunteerism**

Currently I am working on a Christmas display at Smithville with four other volunteers associated with the Whitesbog Preservation Trust. This year's theme highlights the connection between the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, H.B. Smith Company and J. J. White and his daughter Elizabeth. We have been representing The Whitesbog Preservation Trust during the holiday season at Smithville for the last five years.

On demand, I do presentations on the insect eating Purple Pitcher Plant, which I grow and donate to groups interested in establishing bog gardens for the public to enjoy. The bog garden at Fenwick Manor contains beautiful pitchers that I donated to the commission.

I was an active volunteer with the Pemberton Township Historical Society, working at the North Pemberton Train Station when it was a museum. I represented the Pemberton Township Council with the support from the historical society, when the township

negotiated with the Freeholders, in trading the train station to be used as a museum and county trail system visitor's center for county land next to the township's municipal building.

I was a member of the Browns Mills Improvement Association and their Vice President for many years. I also was a member of the Pemberton Township Lion's Club for about five years.

### **Education**

I hold a bachelor's degree in Life Sciences from Rutgers University and an associate's degree in Psychology from Burlington County College.

### **Political Affiliation**

I am a registered Democrat and have been most of my life. I was the President of the Pemberton Township Democrat Club from 2005 - 2006. In 2010, I became affiliated with the Republican Party until 2016. I served as a Republican Committee member until 2016 and ran for Council twice and for Mayor in 2014 as a Republican.