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JODY MADEIRA ANNOUNCES RUN FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3

Bloomington community advocate Jody Madeira has announced that she is running for Monroe County Commissioner, District 3.

Madeira is deeply committed to transforming this community through communication, collaboration, and creativity. “When I moved into Monroe County in 2007 with my family, I felt like I had come home. Growing up in a military family meant constant change. I’m so proud to live in and work for this remarkable community. I’m privileged to serve it as a teacher, legal professional, researcher, and advocate, and cherish it as a resident and a mother of school-age children.”

Madeira offers a strong record of leadership, expertise, and advocacy. She is a tireless national and state advocate for reproductive rights, from working to oppose Indiana’s abortion ban to helping victims of reproductive medical fraud pass civil and criminal laws to protect them and hold perpetrators accountable in 11 states. Madeira has also spearheaded several ground-breaking community and university initiatives, from leading a team to develop a smart phone app that helps college students track mental health and substance use, to designing educational modules for treatment courts to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion. She spends several hours each week educating the public about diverse legal issues through public lectures and media appearances and volunteers hundreds of hours each year as a USA Swimming meet referee and a high school official.

As a county commissioner, Madeira will apply the same ethics and humanitarian values that motivate her professional work, advocacy, and volunteer activities to serving Monroe County. Among her highest priorities are improving city-county relationships, repairing and reinvigorating Monroe County’s health and human services infrastructure, reinvesting in quality of life for county residents, and increasing access to integral community resources. “It’s time to re-center community, mutual respect, care, and shared belonging in how county government responds to the needs of the people who make this place home.” This sounds like a simple idea, but its consequences for Monroe County residents are profound. In the context of health and human services, this entails collaborating to improve county-city relations, ensure that community offices are adequately staffed, maximize public access to community resources, and

find sustainable solutions to the county's shortage of affordable housing and services for individuals who are unhomed. It also involves reinvesting in our county to improve quality of life for all residents. This means performing deferred maintenance on beloved county properties like Karst Park to creating new opportunities through partnerships involving Monroe County, the city of Bloomington, Indiana University, and private employers."

Madeira is a lawyer, professor, and communication expert, specializing in family law, law and medicine, reproductive law, firearms law, and torts, and is a faculty member at IU. Before moving to Bloomington, Madeira was a fellow at Harvard Law School and practiced law in Pennsylvania. She is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Law School (J.D.), the University of Pennsylvania Annenberg School for Communication (Ph.D.), Georgetown University (MSc), and Millersville University of Pennsylvania (BA, BS).

Madeira credits several life experiences for inspiring her to serve her community as a county commissioner. "Having lost family members to substance use and death by suicide with firearm, I give as much time and effort as I can to understanding and solving the devastating problems that ravage midwest communities like ours. I've worked my way up. My father died on active duty when I was a young child, leaving my mom to raise me as a single parent. I put myself through college and graduate school, driven by a desire to understand how law affects human lives, and how the law can be changed to improve them. That's why my campaign is based on a simple idea: we can't transform our community until we change how we show respect for and communicate with one another."

