

NAME: Desmond Nembhard
PARTY: Democratic
SEEKING: Gwinnett Commission Chair

1. Why are you seeking your office?

I moved to Gwinnett County 12 years ago and instantly fell inlove. We are a county that is so rich in cultural diversity and talent. We need a leader that's capable of working with all Gwinnettians, one that's able to unit us as one Gwinnett in moving our county forward. A leader that will see every single resident of Gwinnett as an equal partner in which together we will bring prosperity to all Gwinnettians. As a small business owner here in Gwinnett, for those reasons I am running to lead our county's government for the next four years and beyond.

2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

I intend to vigorously support our small businesses here in Gwinnett, work hard on creating jobs for Gwinnettians, create an inclusive Government so we can better understand, work with and support our diverse community, improved our fragile infrastructure and our current transportation system that is not available to the majority of our county, through partnership with HomeFirst Gwinnett, the United Way, Salvation Army, our Faith base community among others, we will find a solution to our homeless problem, and finally, prioritized our partnership with our law enforcement team in stemming our crime problem here in Gwinnett before it mature.

3. What distinguishes your candidacy?

I am not a lawyer, nor am I a politician, however, what I am is a businessman. A businessman that started a rather complex business, a restaurant, in the heat of one of the worse recession to ever hit our country in 2008. Today, 12 years later we beat the odds and again we are doing it all over during this Coronavirus pandemic. While many restaurants have closed down, I chose to craft ways of staying open and continue to serve our community. Gwinnett needs a leader that can weather the toughest of storms, and that leader is Desmond Nembhard.

4. Pick any one issue. Expand on how you will address it.

Crime: This monster needs to be brought under control before its gets any bigger. In the first week of my leadership role as Chair, I will prioritize an emergency meeting with our new Sheriff and all of our police Chiefs. In this meeting, they being the experts in crime fighting, I expect to hear exactly what resources are needed to advance the fight and defeat

the crime monster. Crime is detrimental to any economy, therefore, tackling it now while it's a "flesh wound" is better than waiting until it becomes a "major sore". Just being proactive.

5. Suggest ways to jump-start the economy after COVID-19.

COVID-19 will have a long lasting effect on our economy and on our daily lives. In jump starting our economy, one of the first thing I intended on doing is meeting with one our most important partners, the private sector. Bringing them to the table at this time is extremely important as to how the Government and the private sector can partnership in our economic recovery. COVID-19 will force many businesses to permanently close their doors, therefore it won't be and can't business as usual. We'll have to work with the private so that they can invest in our economy.

6. Please give a 100 word summary on your background.

I'm Jamaican born, came to the USA at 18 years old. I earned an Associate and a Bachelors degree in Business and Economics respectively from the Community College of Morris and Rutgers University in NJ. I moved to GA, Gwinnett to be precise 12 years ago. Opened and operating a restaurant in Lawrenceville for 12 year now, expansion to another due to COVID-19. Ran for Dist 2 Commissioner seat in 2018. I'm a team player and a solution oriented leader