

May 15, 2023

The Florida Capitol

Re: Resignation

To the people of the State of Florida:

Serving as the Press Secretary for the Office of Governor Ron DeSantis has been the honor of a lifetime. I am proud of the work we have done, and I truly believe that because of our work Florida will be a safe, prosperous, exceptional, and successful place for our children and posterity to live for generations. Together, we have irrevocably enshrined freedom and truth into Florida's institutions and law.

Governor Ron DeSantis deserves all the credit for these successes, and I sincerely thank the governor for granting me this extraordinary opportunity to be a part of these achievements. Through my interactions with both Governor DeSantis and First Lady Casey DeSantis, I have had the great pleasure of coming to know these two individuals for the principled leaders and courageous fighters that they are. I have seen Governor DeSantis presented with many choices over my tenure, and I can confidently say he consistently chose to do what was *right*. He sets the tone and vision for his team and guides us to achieve success, with integrity, while defending us from attack. I have always felt secure on this team knowing that Governor DeSantis has my back and has thoroughly rejected the lies of the media and political opponents.

Most importantly, Governor DeSantis is a true and principled conservative, and has assembled a team of true conservatives around him. Because Governor DeSantis ensures that the people around him understand and *personally hold* the principles and values he leads by, he ensures the success of his objectives. The team here is a group of people I am now proud to call my friends. They are extraordinarily good and committed people who are dedicated to serving Floridians and who have exceeded every expectation I held upon joining state government.

While I have been serving as Press Secretary, Florida has accomplished extraordinary things. Though too numerous to list here in full, I want to highlight a few important achievements:

- Florida has rejected politicized education. In Florida, K-12 education and institutions of public higher learning will definitively be based on academics and truth. Notably, Florida's K-12 education also now emphasizes civics, which may be the most important ingredient to the revival of patriotism, brotherhood, and compassion in this country. These things have made Florida the nation's leader in education.
- Florida has unapologetically stood for families, parents, and children. And because of this, Florida has become the nation's optimal destination to live, have

a family, and raise children who will be safe from both physical harm and nefarious radicalization.

- Florida has built itself into a bulwark against government overreach by legislatively prohibiting the newest frontiers of undemocratic behavioral control, including ESG, central bank digital currencies, and the DEI bureaucracy.
- Florida answered the call of the needs of those impacted by Hurricane Ian and other unforeseeable disasters with earnest commitment and intent, and in doing so showed the nation that our country can still accomplish great things by rebuilding the Pine Island Bridge and Sanibel Causeway in record time to help stranded residents.
- Florida has refused to accept the ideological capture of its institutions and has systematically battled the entrenched ideologues to wrest back the control of academia, enterprise, and the healthcare industry and return it to the people.
- Finally, Florida's example under Governor DeSantis during and after COVID in rejecting power grabs and falsehoods served as the impetus that turned the tide and pushed our country back towards freedom and sanity. Without Florida and without Governor DeSantis, the courage to stand up, fight back, and speak truth against the establishment narrative might not have prevailed within our nation for years.

All of these things that Governor DeSantis has accomplished in Florida *can* be replicated nationwide. However, our nation is currently burdened with historic challenges. This includes a national demoralization and abandonment of our shared values and purpose. We can build, achieve, and do great things as a country again, but we must first believe that. This defeatist attitude is owed to institutions that have been captured and gutted by ideological extremists, a rogue and untamed federal bureaucracy that fosters dependency, and a toxic trend in politics that ignoring fixable problems is somehow acceptable in the name of ideology.

The challenges can be overcome, and America is worth the fight. I believe that Governor DeSantis is the only leader who can see us to victory at this critical moment in American history. Because of this, I am stepping away from this role to pursue other avenues of helping to deliver the governor's success to our country. If I can be even a small part of the revival and restoration of our great nation, then I am prepared to give it my all.

May God bless the State of Florida and the United States of America.

With most sincere thanks,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Bryan Griffin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bryan" and last name "Griffin" clearly distinguishable.

Bryan Griffin