

NEWS RELEASE

For Additional Information Contact:

AB&B Marketing / Media Relations

Office: 419-691-5058 / Mobile: 419-345-5206

For Immediate Release May 20, 2015

Sandy Drabik Collins to Announce Mayoral Bid

(Toledo, OH) --- Sandy Drabik Collins, the widow of late Toledo Mayor D. Michael Collins, is expected to end months of speculation and officially announce today that she will run for Toledo mayor in the November election to fulfill the remaining two years of her late husband's term.

The announcement will take place at 10:30 a.m. at the campaign headquarters located in Foundation Park at the corner of Glendale and South Byrne Road. It's the same campaign headquarters used by Mr. Collins for his 2013 mayoral campaign.

Polling conducted in April gave Mrs. Collins some encouragement about running. The polling conducted by Stan Odesky & Associates in April sampled 200 Toledoans who voted in at least one of the last three non-presidential November elections --- 2011, 2013, and 2014. Those sampled included Democrats – 60 percent; Republicans – 16.5 percent; and Independents – 23.5 percent. The breakdown of those polled included female – 55.5 and male 45.5. The age group breakdown was 18-54 year olds – 43 percent, and 55 and older – 56.5 percent. The margin of error was plus or minus 6.9 percent with a confidence level of 95 percent.

The poll showed overwhelming support --- 68.5 percent --- to continue the platform and policies of Toledo's late Mayor D. Michael Collins.

"I helped develop Mike's platform when he was elected in 2013. I know what has been accomplished. I know what parts of the platform still need to be met. I know what his next steps would have been. The fact that this research shows that voters want Mike's platform and policies continued made me feel more confident about running for mayor in November," she said.

The polling showed strong support for Mrs. Collins as a potential candidate. She shows 44.5 percent awareness. Mrs. Collins strongest support is among women and likely voters 55 years and older. Overall, she shows a 44.2 percent approval rating.

Some of the reasons voters said they would support Mrs. Collins include Good person and they know her; Good vision for Toledo; and following in her late husband's footsteps.

m-o-r-e

"Overall the polling research provided my committee with a clearer understanding of what voters want in the next mayor. It shows strengths and areas we have to work on. It was refreshing to see the continued support for Mike and his goals for Toledo. All this will help my campaign," Mrs. Collins said.

Mrs. Collins, who attended the University of Toledo for her first two years of college, graduated from The Ohio State University earning Bachelor of Science, Master of Science, and Juris Doctor Degrees. In 35 years of public service she worked as a teacher, a lawyer, and as an administrator. Mrs. Collins held a cabinet position as Director of Administrative Services for the State of Ohio under Governor George Voinovich. She held various positions at The Ohio State University, the State of Ohio, with her last position being Vice President of Administrative Services and General Counsel for the University of Toledo. She retired in 2006.

Mrs. Collins met her husband D. Michael Collins while both worked at the University of Toledo. They were married in 2005. After retiring, she worked to help get Mr. Collins elected to City Council in 2007. Mrs. Collins continued to assist him behind the scenes in his work. She says as First Lady when Mr. Collins became Mayor, she felt privileged to accompany and assist him in his responsibilities to the people of Toledo.

###