



**JUSTIN KISKA FOR FREDERICK**

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## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

For Immediate Release  
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### **JUSTIN M. KISKA, BUSINESS OWNER & FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE GOLDEN MILE ALLIANCE, ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR AT-LARGE COUNTY COUNCIL SEAT**

FREDERICK, MD (December 5, 2017) – Frederick County business owner and former President of The Golden Mile Alliance Justin M. Kiska, earlier today, released a video announcing his candidacy for the Frederick County Council in the 2018. The 38-year-old business executive and theatre producer will be running for one of the two At-Large council seats.

Frederick County has been Justin's home since he was five years old. Growing up in Walkersville, he graduated from Walkersville High School then attended The George Washington University where he earned a degree in Communications and studied Political Science.

While still in college, Justin joined the Presidential Campaign of Former Transportation and Labor Secretary Elizabeth Dole, starting as a volunteer and working his way up to joining the Campaign Finance team. Following the campaign he went to work for Jack Kemp and Bill Bennett as a Policy Intern at the conservative think tank Empower America. He returned to Elizabeth Dole's office in 2000, where he served as Secretary Dole's Special Assistant and Scheduler for the next two years.

Having "grown up" at the feet of such luminaries and true public servants as Jack Kemp, Bill Bennett, and Bob and Elizabeth Dole, he learned how service and doing what is right is far more important than politics. Serving one's community, at any level, is a serious responsibility, requiring leaders who are willing to show up and make difficult decisions.

Always interested in business and government, Justin was also very involved with the area's theatre community. He returned to Frederick when his family purchased The Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre in 2002, where he is currently the company's President and Managing Director. He is also the Chairman of WOB *LIVE!* Entertainment, the division of Way Off Broadway that handles all of the company's activities outside of the theatre itself. His years in business have only strengthened his belief that practical, common sense solutions are what are needed in a leader.

Active in the community, Justin was appointed to the Board of Directors of what would become The Golden Mile Alliance in 2012 by Frederick City Mayor Randy McClement. The organization was originally created as an ad hoc committee of the city with the purpose of helping to revitalize the Golden Mile Corridor. Upon the group's incorporation into an independent 501(c)3, Justin was elected to the Executive Committee where he became the Secretary of the Board. In 2014, he was elected President of The Golden Mile Alliance - a position he held for three terms until 2017.

Drawing on his time as both a business owner and community leader, Justin's campaign is going to focus on bringing a new form of leadership to the County Council. In addition to issues dealing with future growth and development, education, and budget matters, he is also going to focus on replacing the petty personal disagreements that have arisen amongst members of the Council over the last several years. Those issues, along with the current Council's actions which have made them subservient to the County Executive as opposed to a true check and balance, were key factors in Justin's decision to enter the 2018 County Council race.

Believing it's the job of local government to 'keep the trains running on time,' Justin says, "As a business owner for the last 15 years, the idea of actually accomplishing things has become more and more important to me. I'm not interested in fighting political and ideological battles at Winchester Hall. I want to work on finding ways to enable and encourage the county and its residents to thrive as we continue further into the 21st Century."

In 2014, Justin was a candidate for the newly created Frederick County Council, receiving the endorsements of then-Burgess of Walkersville Ralph Whitmore, the *Emmitsburg News Journal*, and the *Woodsboro/Walkersville Times*. He was also the only Republican Council candidate to be endorsed by the Frederick County Teachers Association.

## **CAMPAIGN INFORMATION**

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