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Jeffrey Kerekes - Mayor (independent)

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Editor's note: The Register has invited all candidates on the ballot in Greater New Haven to submit profile information to elections@newhavenregister.com

Name: Jeffrey Kerekes

City: New Haven

Party: Independent Democrat

Occupation: Clinical Social Worker, Small Business Owner

Office sought: Mayor

Website: <http://www.jeffrey2011.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/jeffrey.kerekes>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/jeffreykerekes>

What sets you apart from other candidates?

After eighteen years, it is easy to see what we have, and easier to predict what we will get if DeStefano is re-elected. New Haven has crises on many fronts. Our 51% graduation rate understates our education crisis. Twenty-six homicides understate the loss, not only to the families involved, but to the community that lives among violence. Taxes doubling over the last seven years make New Haven more unaffordable than ever for middle class families. Eighteen years is long enough.

What sets me apart from DeStefano is part of what defines him: cronyism, patronage, waste, complacency, and avoidance of issues. We placed the city in the hands of someone who has been using it as a springboard to further his own self-interested personal agenda. The results are in, and they are not good. If elected mayor, I will work tirelessly to make New Haven better for the people who live here, not just those who run it. This means I will work for greater transparency, accountability, and financial sustainability. I will work to ensure schools work for kids, not just adults. I will treat gunshots in Newhallville like ones downtown. I will treat every dollar like a precious resource, not as a path to power. Most importantly, I will treat this city as one I live in, rather than one I reign in.

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