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Samm Simpson Campaign

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### **Simpson Responds To St. Petersburg Times Stinging Editorial**

July 20, 2008 - "We should concentrate on working together to help families victimized by corporate greed and government malfeasance, not on accusations made against our campaign," remarked Ms. Samm Simpson, Democratic candidate for Congress in FL-10, in response to a St. Petersburg Times Sunday editorial entitled [Politics at its Worst](#).

The editorial claims that the Simpson campaign staff was involved in self-promoting activities at the expense of hurting families. It quotes portions of a [letter](#) that State Representative Rick Kriseman sent to Simpson last week.

Rep. Kriseman also sent the letter to the St. Petersburg Times before Simpson had a chance to respond to its inaccuracies and sharp accusations.

Simpson asks, "Representative Kriseman didn't call to check his facts, and didn't email me with his concerns. Was his motive to share constructive criticism and protect constituents or to defame and debase my character and campaign? I applaud his work on behalf of the homeowners, but cannot abide by the public smear."

Ms. Simpson, who is running a grassroots campaign as a "voice for the people" agreed that sign waving at a May 30th Raytheon meeting was inappropriate and it was stopped. Simpson also felt uncomfortable when her volunteer coordinator asked about Congressman Young's involvement. She remarked, "As I responded in my [letter](#) to Rep. Kriseman, "If an apology is in order, I am happy to comply."

Overall, the experience has been an eye-opener for Simpson, who was virtually ignored by the Times in her 2006 run. "Being attacked twice - first in a letter and now an editorial - must mean our campaign is making waves, and that's good news."

As for the sincerity of the campaign, Simpson said, "There are thousands of District 10 residents who know I would lay my life down to protect and defend the Constitution, and that I am an advocate for accountability, justice, and truth. My hope is that Representative Kriseman and the St. Petersburg Times will concentrate on the serious issues that face us all, rather than engage in attacks and distractions."

Dunedin resident and independent-thinking Democrat, Ms. Samm Simpson qualified in March 2008 with over 5,000 voter signed petitions as a candidate for Congress in Florida's 10th District. Samm's other endorsements include the St. Petersburg Democratic Club PAC, Pinellas County StoneWall Democrats, the National Progressive Democrats of America (PDA) and Women's Actions for New Directions (WAND) (<http://www.wand.org>). Visit the official campaign website at <http://www.sammsimpson.com>.

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