

**Joseph Howarth
27 Erindale Drive
Marlton, NJ 08053**

September 5, 2014

It is with deep regret that I am officially withdrawing my name from the ballot for the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders general election on Tuesday, November 4, 2014.

As those close to me know, I have long-battled Crohn's Disease, a chronic medical condition involving the digestive system that affects as many as 700,000 Americans.

A worsening of the condition required me to undergo surgery this week. While my long-term prognosis is good, recuperation from the procedure will make it impossible for me to hit the campaign trail with the same passion and energy that have been hallmarks of my past successful campaigns for Evesham Township School Board, Evesham Township Council and County Freeholder.

A competitor by nature, and someone who is immensely proud of the work done by our Republican majority on the Freeholder Board to cut property taxes, reduce county spending and still provide key services to middle-class families, seniors and veterans, this is not an easy decision. But it is the right one.

I wish the best to my running mate and friend, Bruce Garganio, and trust that the County Republican Committee will find a strong candidate to replace me on the ballot.

Lastly, I am hopeful that my announcement helps to bring heightened awareness to the fight against Crohn's Disease.

I will remain on the Freeholder Board and serve out my full-term, and look forward to continuing in public service to the people of this county in the future.

Sincerely,

Joseph Howarth
Freeholder