

Tenacity and Self-fulfilling Prophecy

“See, I told you so!”... “Well, what did you expect?”... “Wow, how’d you do that?”... “I don’t believe I just saw that!” “That’s what I’ve been trying to tell you, but you wouldn’t listen.”

You know exactly what I’m talking about here.

It never ceases to amaze me how people shoot them self in the foot and then can’t believe it hurts or what they just did – buyer’s remorse.

How does failure succeed? I believe the answer to the question is tenacity, commitment, dedication, resolve and rightness have all failed!

It’s entertaining and amusing but more troubling to me when I see people practice the “known-quotes” paths again and again and they complain about the position in which truth places people. This insanity, doing the same thing again and again yet expecting different results, is exactly what has brought the U.S. voters to the brink of the precipice the stand.

U.S. political reality has seemingly become mere selling of your point. If you collect enough money to convey your slogan enough times to enough people they will finally allow you to prevail – even though logic and wisdom shout to them the opposite should occur.

This is actually all tied to politics in 2010 and my commitment to run another sheriff’s campaign in San Diego, California.

Before deciding to run another campaign I was approached by supporters and asked to run again.

When I’ve committed to something I am tenacious about its success.

Wisdom demands there should be justification for a commitment to action; even though it might be slight there should be some reasonable evidence for success.

When I entered the political arena in 1994 I was relatively unknown. I was a thirteen year law enforcement veteran and five year supervisor, but I’d never run for any office before.

I ran a sheriff’s campaign against an incumbent sheriff’s administration because of the chaos they had created. Unbeknownst to the deputy sheriffs, including me, the Deputy Sheriff’s Association Board of Directors had secretly invited and promised an endorsement of the association to a former police chief for the city of San Diego. This chief had left under a cloud in the 1980s but at the time he had been appointed to head of the California Youth Authority (CYA). The appointment was from his personal friend and governor of California – Nepotism for sure – the chief had had no prior experience in the CYA.

In the final vote, in 1994, the former police chief & head of the youth authority won the election.

“Get Ruff on Crime”

A new day’s dawning – be a part of it!

Although I had lost I knew I had only spent \$3-thousand dollars on a county wide campaign. The votes I received were over 57-thousand and against some very formidable opponents.

The predictions I made in 1994, by 2002, had become truths. People could clearly see my assertion, that only huge amounts of money would be spent by the new administration and there would be no advancement in philosophy or performance, so I ran another campaign.

In the 2002 campaign I grew my vote base to over eighty seven thousand – so the icon incumbent was losing ground to me – slight but still true.

So in 2006 I again opted to run another campaign. I was able to tell the voters they had spent over \$6 billion dollars to have a department that was 60% less able to serve their total needs than they had in 1994. I explained they had been, and were being, misled, deceived and I added that they were going to be betrayed by the incumbent just past the first half of his next term if the voters re-elected him. They did and he did!

In 2006 I grew my vote numbers to 30.25% of the total vote - receiving 131,673 votes.

The majority of voters sent the incumbent back for another 4-year term that began in 2007.

In May of 2009, just over half term, the incumbent suddenly announced he needed to resign/retire. He said he needed to care for his ill wife – he was in his 70s. It was soon reported in the local paper they had immediately applied for passports upon his resignation/retirement.

On his way out the door the incumbent suggested his friend, and personally groomed undersheriff - whom he'd brought into the department just 5 years earlier, should take his seat.

Becoming complicit in the betrayal of the voters three of the five county supervisors announced they would give the remaining time in the term to the incumbent's friend. This was in spite of the fact the friend had never practiced law enforcement in California; was one of fifteen members of the FBI who were not granted immunity from testifying in a wrongful death investigation arising out of a killing in Ruby Ridge, Idaho that was investigated by the U.S. Senate. The U.S. taxpayers ultimately paid \$3.1 million dollars to settle that case.

Several years later a subsequent Congressional investigation found that this same person, as the head of the San Diego FBI office at the time of the 09-11-2001 terrorist attacks, had failed to adequately investigate information available about the two terrorists who flew the plane into the Pentagon building – and had trained for their mission in San Diego and there was an informant.

So three supervisors told 131,673 voters, who had sent them to office too, the supervisors didn't care what the voters had said in the 2006 election. They didn't give the job to the next highest vote receiver from 2006 - they appointed the friend of the abandoning sheriff. The appointee was also known to be a candidate for sheriff in the 2010 sheriff's race.

The final point arises from my frustration. There are former supporters who now have now decided to shift their support from my candidacy to another candidate who is a career politician and was the undersheriff for the sheriff I have seen defeated in 1994.

So I say to the voters in all locations: Changing your support from someone who has worked for years to build a base will almost certainly guarantee you will finally be right – it's just you will be right your former candidate will fail again because you have abandoned them when they needed your continued support for all of you to prevail.

Do you wonder why we keep slipping down the slope here in America?

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