



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Mauro responds to negative attacks**

(Des Moines, IA) – Polk County Auditor Michael Mauro, the Iowa Democratic nominee for Secretary of State, today responded to negative and misleading attacks by his opponent this morning.

"It is troubling that Miss Hanusa, who has not lived in Iowa in the last five years and is an employee of the Bush administration, would question the ethics of anyone." Mauro stated earlier today. "Instead of offering anything about her qualifications or vision for the office of Secretary of State which she is pursuing she readily admits she has no experience."

As far as her allegations of investigations and ethics, all individuals were cleared by the United States Department of Justice in the 1999 press release issued by United States Attorney Don Nickerson.

Mauro has bipartisan support of many of his fellow county auditors and stands behind his twenty-three years of election experience and cooperation with Democrats, Republicans and the media.

In 2003, Mauro was designated from a field of more than 21,000 election officials to receive the distinguished Certified Elections/Registration Administrator (CERA) title. He is one of only a handful throughout Iowa that has received such a designation.

Mauro earlier this week welcomed his opponent to the race and offered to set up a series of debates. Hanusa's campaign has yet to respond to his request.

"While I was running what the Des Moines Register Editorial Board referred to as a 'pristine office,' my opponent was working for an administration mired in scandals."

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