



NEWS SPORTS LIFE OPINION THINGS TO DO OBITUARIES CELEBRATIONS SUBMIT YOUR NEWS E-EDITION SWITCH TOWNS FROM

# Schlegel won't seek re-election

Elbert County District 2 commissioner decides not to pursue second term

By George Lurie  
Posted 1/1/14



Schlegel

Saying that his idea of public service is to "get in, do what you can and get out," Elbert County Commissioner Kurt Schlegel confirmed on Dec. 31 that he does not plan to run for re-election in 2014.

During his first three years in office, the District 2 commissioner has been a lightning rod for controversy. The blunt-spoken, retired Marine has been the target of lawsuits and a short-lived recall effort in 2012.

"I've done the best I can and think I've helped move the county forward," Schlegel said. "I learned long ago that you can't make everybody happy. I know not everybody likes me but I hope everybody respects me."

Schlegel, 56, said recently that he continues to spend more time than he would like "reacting" to accusations and criticism from constituents.

"Going in to this, I knew what I was taking on and that it was going to be a difficult job," Schlegel said. "I've never shied away from challenges...But now I realize why people don't run for elected office."

Schlegel, who worked as a firefighter for much of his career - and was one of the earliest and most vocal proponents of the Tea Party in Elbert County - lives in Elkhorn Ranch, in the northwest corner of the county.

In addition to the \$49,600-a-year salary he's paid as a commissioner, he also owns a public safety consulting firm and travels frequently.

"These last few years while I've worked for the county, I've taken a little hit in my bank account," he said several months ago. "I've only got so many good working years ahead of me."

Schlegel said he informed his fellow commissioners and county Republican chairman Scott Wills of his decision several weeks ago.

"I'm at a point in my life where my business is doing better and I can see some new doors opening for me," Schlegel said. "I'll finish out my fourth year and move on. It's time to make way for other ideas and fresh faces."

PRINT EMAIL Tweet 0 g+ 3 Share 0 Share

NO COMMENTS ON THIS STORY | ADD YOUR COMMENT

**High Plains Liquor**  
Saturday, January 11th - 11:00 AM  
Synergy Realty Group, Inc.  
719-418-5000

Liquor to be purchased for personal consumption only for parties 21 years of age  
**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
6741 Lavell Avenue, Elbert  
LIQUOR INVENTORY/HOME BREW INVENTORY  
WALK IN COOLER/FURNITURE/FIXTURES/EQ INC ANTIQUES

SHOP CLASSIFIEDS | PLACE A C  
LOCAL PRINT ADS | PRESS RELEASE  
SUBSCRIBE | LOGIN

ADVANCED SEARCH

Click ads to learn

Community MORE LIKE THIS  
DC HOUSE ACCOUNT FOR SPACE/SPONSORSHIP



Community MORE LIKE THIS  
DC HOUSE ACCOUNT FOR SPACE/SPONSORSHIP



House & Home MORE LIKE THIS  
Applewood Plumbing



REAL ESTATE MORE LIKE THIS  
REMAX Alliance



Find more local  
Shop Local Col