Who should be state attorney?

Larizza said during his time as state attorney, crime has gone down every year throughout the 7th Judicial Circuit, which includes Flagler, Putnam and St. Johns counties in addition to Volusia. “We've been very successful in my 12 years as state attorney in terms of the crime-reduction rate,” Larizza said. “I want to continue that trend.”

But Dempsey said the need for reform in the criminal-justice system. For instance, he said, Larizza’s office is too quick to seek lengthy sentences, especially for first offenders and those convicted of minor or second-degree crimes such as drug possession.

“A lot of people are getting lengthy sentences, especially for first offenders and those convicted of minor or second-degree crimes such as drug possession,” Dempsey said. “My complaint isn’t with law enforcement, but once a case goes to the State Attorney’s Office.”

Dempsey said prosecutors are pressured to ask for longer sentences because it enhances the State Attorney’s Office.”

The race, and the job

The race for Volusia County state attorney begins with Larizza entering the race as an incumbent with no opposition. But any man at any age ought to know better.

A series of unfortunate choices

A woman of 61 years old. But any man at any age ought to know better.

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