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Kelli Stargel Wins Florida House District 64

By [Robin Williams Adams](#)

The Ledger

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LAKELAND | Kelli Stargel easily won election Tuesday to the Florida House of Representatives District 64 seat.

Final results showed the Lakeland Republican activist with 48,508 votes, or 95 percent.

Calling for accountability in education and school choice, Stargel, 42, was the only candidate for that seat whose name appeared on the election ballot. She had two write-in opponents — Alton C. Smith, a Democrat, and Gordon Wayne Watts, a Republican. They received a total of 2,567 votes.

She had strong opposition in the Republican primary, from challengers Jack English and Phillip Walker, but she won that race with 52 percent of the vote.

“I’m excited; obviously the stressful part of my race was the primary,” Stargel said of her win. “I’ve been able to take this time to prepare and plan to hit the ground running. There’s a lot to be accomplished.”

Only Republicans were able to vote in the District 64 Republican primary on Aug. 26 because of the two write-in opponents she had in Tuesday’s general election, which was open to all registered voters in District 64.

Stargel will replace Lakeland Republican Dennis Ross, who could not run again because of term limits.

She is the second Stargel to win that seat, which has an annual salary of \$31,932. Her husband, Circuit Judge John Stargel, held it before leaving in 2006 to run for the judicial position

Stargel received \$119,441 in campaign donations and spent \$92,774, according to her latest finance filing.

[Kelli Stargel Wins Florida House District 64](#)By [ROBIN WILLIAMS ADAMS](#)



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