

**Tiffany Hunt Nielsen**

**Candidate for Humboldt County Clerk, Recorder & Registrar of Voters**

**<http://www.electtiffanyhuntnielsen.com/>**

**1. How will you advocate for local businesses to help them navigate the current economic climate?**

The Clerk/Recorder office files Fictitious Business Name Statements (FBN) for local businesses. I assist with this process daily. I have added helpful information to the Instruction sheet and provide additional information as needed. Starting a business has lots of guidelines and some of those are not clear. When a business is inside city limits, they acquire a business license from the City, but when it is outside city limits, the business license is issued by the County Tax Collector.

Fictitious Business Name Statements and Business Licenses are not the same thing. In addition, there are a lot of ways to have FBN, using individual names, partners, LLC and a few others. It is up to the owner to determine how to do that. We do provide additional information. The FBNs expire after 5 years, so it is important to renew them on time. Our economic climate makes opening a business difficult, but also keeping the doors open. Local businesses are vital to our community and I would like to assist in any way I can to encourage and support local.

**2. How will you evaluate and leverage State and Federal initiatives to better support our local businesses?**

The County Clerk/Recorder and Registrar of Voters are Government offices, we are required to uphold the statutes and regulations provided by the State and Federal laws.

**3. How can we better work together and improve two-way communication between local businesses and City and County government to ensure that area businesses are adequately engaged and their needs considered when City and County-wide decisions are being made?**

Technology is a valuable tool for opening communication between government entities and the public. Our website is designed to be user friendly and answer "frequently asked questions" (FAQs). Any feedback from the public on our website would be welcome. Email for the busy business owner is another great tool. Our hours at the Clerk/Recorder office are 8:30 – 4:30, Monday through Friday (except Holidays) and that is not always convenient for everyone. Since I began working at the Clerk/Recorder's office, my main goal has been to improve customer/public service.