Muldoon Announces For Lieutenant Governor, Calls Candidacy a “Choice, Not an Echo:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ALEXANDRIA, VA – Patrick C. Muldoon, an attorney and farmer from Virginia’s “fighting 9th” Congressional District, today officially announced his candidacy for Lieutenant Governor of Virginia.

Muldoon, no stranger to challenging political contests, joins Republican incumbent Bill Bolling in seeking his party’s nod for the Commonwealth’s second statewide office. The 43 year old specialist in intellectual property law has a message for the Republican Party.

Muldoon referenced former Republican presidential candidate Barry Goldwater as he opened his campaign, saying: ”I offer a choice not an echo”:

“I am running for the Republican nomination for Lieutenant Governor of Virginia because I believe the brightest days for our Commonwealth are ahead. These are difficult times – a massive budget deficit has replaced the surplus we once enjoyed. College costs are rising and family incomes are shrinking. Local governments are raising taxes on cash-strapped families to compensate for their own budget shortfalls. And hard-working Virginians are left wondering whether the changes coming in 2009 will be better or worse for them personally.”

“Republicans face a choice between business as usual and being consigned to minority status for the foreseeable future or returning to our core principles and fighting for the honest, open, limited government our fellow citizens expect.”

“I grew up in rural Virginia but I work right outside our nation’s Capitol. I’ve found that the political elites have a tendency to complicate things. I learned a few simple truths growing up: ‘when you’re in a hole; stop digging’ At the grassroots level, Virginia Republicans know that it is time to stop digging and start changing the way we do business in Richmond.”

“I understand the rough and tumble of politics. I know a convention challenge is a bit like stirring a bees’ nest. But we simply cannot continue the path we are on.”

“No one is entitled to a nomination. And, as the highest-ranking elected Republican in our Commonwealth, the incumbent has an unfortunate record of passivity at a time when we need forward-thinking leadership.”
“For the future of the party and the good of the Commonwealth we need to regain the focus, passion and unity of purpose fostered through healthy debate. I believe in the core Republican principles of limited constitutional government, the sanctity of life, the 2nd Amendment, free enterprise and protecting our Constitutional liberties for the next generation. I am committed to advancing those principles to the best of my abilities.”

“Sadly, a handful of political operatives in Richmond wish to forestall any internal discussion about the direction of the party. From the top down, they want to slate candidates based on traded favors, brokered promises, and their own career plans. This government of the insiders, by the insiders, for the insiders costs our party what it cannot afford – the trust of the voters across our beloved Commonwealth.”

“The Republican creed recognizes the intrinsic benefits of competition. In education and healthcare and business, competition is the consumer’s friend. Can any less be the case in American government? Now is the time for a debate across Virginia with my opponent on what it means to be a Republican and conservative. Over the next several months I look forward to this debate of the principles that are the backbone of the Republican Party.”

“My life has been about bringing different aspects of what makes Virginia work together. I worked my way through college, grad school and law school as a construction worker and maintenance man. I grew up raising beef in rural Virginia. Now I help turn great ideas into reality through patent law. I’m a Republican but a Conservative first.

As Senator Barry Goldwater so memorably said in his 1964 presidential campaign, I am offering “a choice, not an echo.” To my fellow Virginians, I pledge to work with all people of good faith to guide our Commonwealth through the difficult changes ahead to a prosperous future. And, I will never put personal gain ahead of the principles that unite us.”

“Over the next six months, I will be traveling around the Commonwealth. I look forward to in depth discussions with local Republican volunteers who are already leading our party into a victorious 2009. I ask for your support and your renewed commitment to work for the future of shared ideals.”