

ABC 25 Speaks to Bonnie Heatzig about Voting in a Swing State

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Real Estate agents say people are rushing to move to Florida



PALM BEACH COUNTY, Fla. —There’s nothing new about people from the north moving to Florida.

It’s hard to beat spending your winters at the beach.

But political consultants and real estate agents now say it’s no longer just the sunshine that has people racing to the Sunshine State.

“I think there’s one more climate this year driving voters to come down here to Florida,” said Rick Asnani, president of a political consulting firm called Cornerstone Solutions. “And that’s the political climate.”

Asnani said another thing about Florida that’s attracting new residents is the opportunity to vote in a swing state.

“This is a big election year, and a lot of people are motivated to sit there and cast a vote in a state that could ultimately make the decision in who becomes President of the United States,” Asnani said.

Asnani said this is a new phenomenon, something he hasn’t seen in his more than 20 years of consulting.

It's also new to real estate agent **Bonnie Heatzig**.

"Never. I have never seen that," **Heatzig** said. "I've never heard anything like it."

Heatzig works with an agency called BEX Realty, based in Boca Raton.

She said back in May, she started hearing clients say they were leaving states where the presidential election is essentially decided to come to a state that's up for grabs.

"We are seeing a trend of people accelerating their plans to move down here to have an effect on the 2020 Presidential election," **Heatzig** said.

Heatzig said the first time she heard it, she shrugged it off.

But then she heard it again.

And again.

And again.

"On both sides of the aisle," she said. "I'm seeing them come both Republicans and Democrats."

Asnani said it's unclear at this point just how much of a difference the new residents will make.

But he said it is another indication of just how important Florida will be in choosing the president.

"In this particular election, it's all about Florida and whether people in Florida are going to decide who the next president is going to be," he said.

The last day to register to vote in Florida is October 5.