

## **FL-28: USN Cmdr. (Ret) Phil Ehr: Murder of Alexei Navalny Demands War Aid For Ukraine; "Republicans Are Spitting on the Graves of Democracy In Their Inaction"**

**DATE:** February 16, 2024

**MIAMI** – Retired Navy Commander and Democratic Congressional candidate Phil Ehr, who flew reconnaissance missions in opposition to the Soviet Union, condemned on Friday the murder of democracy icon Alexei Navalny and condemned Republican inaction on containing the dictator Vladimir Putin.

Following is his statement:

**"Every second that Ukraine goes without funding in their fight for democratic values emboldens the dictator Vladimir Putin, who has jailed and murdered his political opponent Alexei Navalny.**

**"Navalny represented every hope of the Russian people for the freedoms that democracy requires. This is the same hope of the Ukrainian people who are facing onslaught and whom we are abandoning because of Donald Trump's anti-democratic perversions, which Rep. Carlos Gimenez slavishly supports.**

**"Putin was surely emboldened by the fifth column of Republican chaos that has stalled aid for Ukraine in their fight. Republicans are spitting on the graves of democracy worldwide in their inaction. I mourn this martyr of democracy. It's time for Republicans to wake up to the menace to world order and democracy that is Russia."**

