

# VOTER INFORMATION BULLETIN

Nonpartisan Guide to November 4, 2014 General Election For Franklin County Voters

Including...

State-wide Races  
Ohio Supreme Court  
State Senator & State Representative  
County-wide Races  
Local Issue Pros/Cons



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS  
OF METROPOLITAN COLUMBUS

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**OHIO GOVERNOR CANDIDATES**

(vote for no more than one)

**FITZGERALD, EDWARD** – Democrat  
Candidate did not respond

**KASICH, JOHN** – Republican  
**Address:** 268 S. Fourth Street, Columbus, OH 43215  
**Email:** info@kasichforohio.com  
**Website:** https://www.kasichforohio.com/meet-john/  
**Education:** 1974 graduate of The Ohio State University  
**Occupation:** Governor  
**Training and Experience:** Current governor of Ohio; As chairman of the U.S. House Budget Committee I led the team that balanced the federal budget in 1997; 10 years in the private sector/business; Ohio Senate (1979-1982); U.S. House of Representatives (1983-2001); Governor (2011-present)

**Questions & Answers**

**1) What three areas of government spending would you propose decreasing or increasing? Why?**

When I came in, Ohio had lost 350,000 private sector jobs, faced an \$8 billion budget shortfall and was at risk of having its credit downgraded. My first priority was to restore Ohio's fiscal health and get people back to work. Since January 2011, Ohio has added nearly a quarter million private sector jobs, thanks in large part to these budget priorities set by my administration:

- Balanced the largest budget shortfall in state history without raising taxes
- Refilled the Rainy Day fund from 89 cents to \$1.48 billion
- Cut taxes by more than \$3 billion
- Increased state aid for K-12 education by \$1.3 billion (FY11 vs FY15) and provided the largest one-time funding increase in 10 years while also raising accountability
- Saved \$3 billion by reforming Medicaid without cutting services

**2) What should be done to ensure that all charter schools and nonpublic schools that accept local and state financial support are assuring a quality education?**

To further quality education in all our schools we implemented

an A-F report card, a 3rd grade reading guarantee, the Cleveland Plan, and we recently passed legislation to create a new mentoring program and adopt reforms to prevent high school dropouts. We're working with parents to provide better information and striving for more accountability. Quality charter schools start with quality sponsors. Our administration has made changes so that sponsors will be evaluated on outcomes, compliance with rules, and the rigor of their practices to ensure quality, and only the best will be allowed to start schools. EdChoice schools must submit annual applications and proof of compliance. Voucher students must take state tests, and now we're requiring that if 65 percent of students in a school have vouchers, then all students in the school must take these tests.

**3) What do you think is the impact of public/private partnerships on the economy of Ohio? Give examples.**

Government should be a last resort to solving society's problems and we should continually seek opportunities to partner with the private sector for the betterment of Ohio.

- Ohio's new economic development entity, JobsOhio, works with local partners to identify and pursue job growth opportunities. JobsOhio has impacted 746 projects that are expected to collectively create and retain more than nearly 255,000 jobs.

- In 2011, we faced a \$1.6 billion transportation funding gap. After nearly a year of study, we adopted a plan to raise revenue by bonding against the Turnpike. The plan is expected to generate \$3 billion for infrastructure projects without raising the gas tax and create 65,000 construction jobs.

**4) In the last few years, Ohio government spending and taxing has shifted from the state to local jurisdictions. How has this shift affected these communities?**

We inherited an \$8 billion budget shortfall that required government at all levels to tighten its belt. We balanced the budget without a tax increase, we've shrunk state bureaucracy to the lowest levels in 30 years

while providing over \$3 billion in tax relief for Ohioans. These policies are strengthening Ohio's economy and local revenues are increasing, largely without raising taxes. Since 2010, only five of 88 counties have raised their sales tax rate and only 42 of 936 cities and villages have increased their income tax rate. After the first two years of my term, 92 percent of the reporting counties, cities and villages achieved budget surpluses of more than 5 percent of revenue, altogether creating more than \$2.8 billion in surpluses. Despite reductions in the local government fund, since 2010 local government revenues are expected to have a net increase of \$829 million through the end of 2014.

**OHIO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR CANDIDATES**

(vote for no more than one)

**NEUHARDT, SHARON** – Democrat  
Candidate did not respond

**TAYLOR, MARY** – Republican  
Candidate did not respond

**OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL CANDIDATES**

(vote for no more than one)

**DEWINE, MIKE** – Republican  
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**Education:** BS Education (Miami University 1969) JD (Ohio Northern University 1972)

**Occupation:** Attorney Training and Experience: Assistant Greene County Prosecuting Attorney - 1973-1975; Greene County Prosecuting Attorney - 1977-1981; Ohio 10th District State Senator - 1981-1982; United States House of Representatives - 1983-1991; Ohio Lieutenant Governor - 1991-1995; United States Senate - 1995-2007; Ohio Attorney General - 2011-present

**Questions & Answers**

**1) What enforcement areas do you view as your priorities?**

As Attorney General, protecting Ohio families has always been

my top priority. My office has made tremendous progress in testing DNA evidence at the state crime lab, cutting the time it takes to get results back to cops from 125 days when I took office to 22 days. I've also started an initiative that has tested thousands of old rape kits that had sat on shelves for decades until I took action. That initiative has led to more than 200 men being charged with rape in previously unsolved cases. I've also worked hard to crack down on scam artists who prey on the elderly, and sending thieves and con-artists to prison. And my office has battled the prescription pill and heroin epidemic from my first day in office with a multi-faceted grassroots approach that includes cracking down on drug traffickers, community awareness, and recovery for those who are addicted.

**2) During a time of shrinking budgets for state government agencies, how would you focus resources allocated to the Attorney General's office to make it more efficient and cost effective?**

One of the most important changes I've made as Attorney General is to run the office like a business, in a far more efficient way. When I took office, I brought in business leaders from Ohio who sat down with my team to improve efficiency. For example, I discovered that evidence testing at BCI consisted of 187 steps. Working together, my team was able to eliminate inefficient steps, DNA testing now consists of 84 steps. The end result is that everything is done faster and with fewer people in a very efficient manner. Additionally, we have used that method to streamline the purchasing done in the office. When I took office, there were 12 different processes for purchasing. We eliminated ten of those and reduced it to two. Purchasing is now done 65% faster with half of the steps. This saves everyone time, which saves taxpayers money.

**3) What criteria would you use to select special counsel to assist the Office of Attorney General?**

As Attorney General, I prefer to use in-house Assistant Attorneys General on as many cases as possible. For specialized cases that require an outside lawyer, my goal is always to obtain an experienced, effective, and knowledgeable attorney for that case at the lowest cost to the taxpayers. My office also takes into considerations requests and recommendations from our client (e.g., state universities and government agencies) about potential outside lawyers.

**PEPPER, DAVID** – Democrat  
600 Vine St., Suite 2800, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

**Email:** peter@davidpepper.com

**Website:** http://davidpepper.com/meet-david/

**Education:** Yale University - B.A., Yale University - J.D.

**Occupation:** Attorney Training and Experience: Cincinnati City Council, 2001-2005; Hamilton County Commissioner, 2006-2010; following 2001 riots, helped spearhead revitalization of Cincinnati through safety, economic development efforts and improved police-community relations; also a practicing private attorney for 15 years.

**Questions & Answers**

**1) What enforcement areas do you view as your priorities?**

My priorities are tackling crime, fighting for good jobs, and protecting consumers. From violence against women to protecting kids online, the office has to modernize its approach to fighting crime, and transition from being reactive to proactive. The best example is Ohio's ineffective response to the heroin epidemic - where there is no plan today and federal treatment dollars were recently cut across the board. We need far more treatment, prevention, smarter enforcement, and coordination if we are going to solve the problem. The office can also protect Ohioans' jobs and boost the economy by enforcing laws against wage abuse and worker misclassification. And we need to ramp up consumer protection, particularly in light of new Target-style threats to Ohioans' private data in the era of widespread electronic transactions.

**2) During a time of shrinking budgets for state government agencies, how would you focus resources allocated to the Attorney General's office to make it more efficient and cost effective?**

First, I would end the wasteful, inappropriate use of public resources to carry out the Attorney General's political and ideological agenda, which happens too often today. For example, Mike DeWine entered cases all over the country on behalf of Hobby Lobby and other companies trying to stop insurance coverage of birth control. He's even in court trying to remove a marriage from a deceased Ohioan's death certificate. Instead of wasting time and money entering courts on behalf of Hobby Lobby and other partisan causes, I will use office resources to address challenges faced right here in Ohio. Second, I would end the creation of redundant services already being performed at the local level. The AG can enter into partnerships with local agencies already doing good work, instead of setting up costly, competing state services.

**3) What criteria would you use to select special counsel to assist the Office of Attorney General?**

The highly publicized pay to play and bid-rigging involved in vendor selections has tainted the credibility of the office and cost the state millions. Incredibly, there are no written criteria whatsoever in making most critical assignments, and contributions are given at the same time as proposals are being submitted and considered. Unqualified firms have replaced highly qualified ones. The office needs to start over, serving as a model of public integrity. Our plan does that by creating much needed transparency and adding objective criteria to evaluate outside vendors seeking work based on their experience, subject matter expertise, quality of prior work, and cost. And all vendors will be posted on the Attorney General's website so that the public can easily see which firms are doing work for the office. I will also create a blackout period where no fundraising can take place when vendors are being considered for work.

**OHIO AUDITOR CANDIDATES**

(vote for no more than one)

**CARNEY, JOHN PATRICK** – Democrat  
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**Education:** Bay Village High School, 1994; The Ohio State University, 1998; The Moritz School of Law at The Ohio State University, 2001

**Occupation:** Healthcare Attorney  
**Training and Experience:** Ohio House of Representatives, 2009-present

**Questions & Answers**

**1) What will be the role of your auditor's office in promoting good fiscal practices and sound financial management in counties, municipalities, boards and districts?**

The Auditor of State needs to work with local communities to achieve good fiscal practices and management. There have been drastic cuts over the past two state budgets that have hurt local governments and schools. As State Representative, I worked with Sen. Carey from across the aisle to sponsor legislation that would have helped communities engage in shared services where it makes sense. I will bring this bipartisan spirit to the Auditor's office because it is vital that we put people above party and work for the people of Ohio.

**2) How does the office of auditor serve as a watchdog against fiscal mismanagement and corruption statewide?**

The Auditor of State is the chief investigator for the state. The Auditor must put party loyalty aside to make sure the best interest of Ohioans is being served. The Auditor is the custodian of our natural resources. It is the duty of the office to ensure that our parks, lakes, rivers, and streams are being monitored. The Auditor of State also sits on the Apportionment Board with the intent of keeping the process as open as possible. In all of these matters, the Auditor has to pull back the curtain and let people see how their government is working. There is no excuse to let waste and fraud permeate our state. The Auditor has the ability to hold people accountable.

**3) What suggestions do you have for making the auditor's office more efficient?**

There has been one party rule in the Auditor's office for over 20 years. The first thing that would be done under my leadership is a top to bottom internal audit. This will provide greater transparency; it will help the public see what the office does as well as provide important information about where efficiencies can be made. It is vital to the health of the office and the state that the Auditor of State's office is looked at with a critical eye. There have been instances of wasteful spending over the past few years and we need to root them out to make the Auditor the most efficient that it can be.

**4) How would you promote greater transparency and accountability in Ohio government?**

It is the Auditor of State's job to make sure the people of Ohio know exactly how their

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**The League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Columbus Educational Fund prepared this material. Candidates were informed of the following:**

- Each response would be printed exactly as received and each candidate would be responsible for the content of the replies.
- All responses were given a word limit, and once the response exceeded the word limit then the remainder of the response was cut off.

Information and answers from the candidates have not been evaluated in any way. The League of Women Voters, in presenting this material, neither endorses nor rejects the views of any candidate quoted and does not and cannot assume responsibility for the contents of any candidate's reply or motive.

Considering all that our country has been through in recent times, it is more important than ever that our citizens be informed about the candidates and issues before them. The mission of the League of Women Voters is to encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government and to influence public policy through education and advocacy.

The publication editor is Elizabeth Grieser, with assistance from Janyce Katz, Stuart Wright, Margaret Wright, and Jacob Markey. The LWV/MC Education Fund President is Anne Hammerstein.

The information in this bulletin can also be found on the League of Women Voters website at [www.lwvcols.org](http://www.lwvcols.org) or [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org). For membership information in the League of Women Voters, please see our website at [www.lwvcols.org](http://www.lwvcols.org).

tax dollars are being spent. It is the Auditor's job to follow the money, pull back the curtain, and show taxpayers how their money is being used. It's a position that allows for the revelation of fraud and waste. As Auditor of State, it would be a priority to work with the different parts of state government to ensure there is transparency and accountability in the government. There are items at the disposal of the Auditor, such as subpoena power, that can and should be used to hold elected officials accountable to the taxpayers.

**YOST, DAVE** – Republican  
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Columbus OH 43220  
**Email:** contact@daveyost.com  
**Website:** http://www.daveyost.com/about/

**Education:** The Ohio State University, 1984, Bachelor of Arts; Capital Law School, 1991, Juris Doctor  
**Occupation:** Auditor of State  
**Training and Experience:** As a County Auditor, Prosecutor and now State Auditor. Dave Yost is uniquely qualified to root out fraud, waste and abuse of tax dollars. Finding more than \$150 million in savings across Ohio governments, Dave Yost is always on the side of the taxpayers.

**Questions & Answers**

**1) What will be the role of your auditor's office in promoting good fiscal practices and sound financial management in counties, municipalities, boards and districts?**

Immediately upon taking office, I worked with the legislature to expand the use of performance audits at all levels of government in Ohio. Performance audits examine how local governments can find savings and efficiencies for the people they govern. By realizing the savings, more money can be used to protect citizens with police and fire fighters, or be set aside in a rainy day fund for use in an emergency. As auditor, I have been developing an early warning system for local governments. By identifying certain financial indicators that are common when local governments go into fiscal emergency we will have an early warning system to prevent financial disasters.

**2) How does the office of auditor serve as a watchdog against fiscal mismanagement and corruption statewide?**

Fighting fraud has been a passion of mine since I was a prosecutor. The Special Audit Task Force at the auditor's office reviews all tips and irregularities during financial audits. No fraud is too small, and no person, regardless of their politics, is above the law. Partnering with the FBI and other law enforcement agencies, I have worked to put criminals behind bars for stealing public dollars.

The Auditor of State is responsible for reviewing the financial records of over 5,800 government entities in Ohio. My job is to ensure that those we elect are following the law, and I take that job very seriously. I am partnering with the legislature to increase training requirements of fiscal officers and make it easier to remove those that do not perform their duties.

**3) What suggestions do you have for making the auditor's office more efficient?**

I made a promise to voters that

if I were auditor of state I would expand the use of performance audits. I also promised that the office of the Auditor of State would receive a performance audit of its own. I am proud to say that I kept that important campaign promise. Performance audits are a great way to eliminate redundancies and identify practices that no longer have an administrative value. Since taking office, we have consolidated departments, combined audit regions, and reduced travel expenses. By renegotiating lease agreements, we've also been able to save over \$1 million.

While we have come a long way to increase efficiencies, the work is not over yet, and I will continue to find ways to cut costs, without cutting services to the people I serve.

**4) How would you promote greater transparency and accountability in Ohio government?**

The government works for us, the people of Ohio. Transparency allows the citizens of Ohio to review the work of government officials so we can evaluate their performance and determine if they are taking our communities in the right direction. The auditor's office conducts numerous training seminars every year across Ohio to educate elected officials on public records. Every elected official is required to attend, or send a designee, to these seminars for every term they are elected to. I would like to see increased penalties on elected officials that fail in their basic duties to attend these important training seminars.

**OHIO SECRETARY OF STATE CANDIDATES**

(vote for no more than one)

**HUSTED, JON** – Republican  
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Columbus, Ohio 43215

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**Education:** Bachelor's and Master's Degree at University of Dayton

**Occupation:** Ohio's 53rd Secretary of State

**Training and Experience:** Vice-President of Business and Economic Development at the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce.

First elected to the Ohio House of Representatives in 2000 and then elected by his colleagues as Speaker of the Ohio House in 2004...word limit exceeded.

**Questions & Answers**

**1) How would you ensure fair and impartial elections, and downplay the effect of partisan politics in the administration of elections?**

My goal is to make it easy to vote and hard to cheat. This way we give convenient access in casting a ballot, while having necessary safeguards to prevent fraud. This balance ensures fairness and increases confidence in elections. I'll remain an advocate for reforms that improve Ohio elections. This includes online voter registration which saves millions of dollars administratively, makes registration easy for voters and ensures integrity of the process. As Secretary of State in the most contested swing state, I know you can't avoid the partisan

noise but you can avoid acting as a partisan by following the law and trying to work out bipartisan solutions. This is what I have done and will continue to do.

It's my priority to treat voters fairly by setting the same voting rules across Ohio. When all Ohioans vote by the same rules, our system is protected from political manipulation.

**2) What would you do to improve voter turnout in Primary and General Elections in Ohio?**

I would tell the partisans trying to convince people it's hard to vote to stop and join me in explaining how easy it is to vote in Ohio.

In 2012, I was the first Ohio Secretary of State to send every registered voter an absentee ballot request, something I will do again this year. Fill it out and send it in and you will have nearly 30 days to cast a ballot without ever leaving home. In addition, over the course of four weeks you can cast an early in-person ballot at the board of elections, including on the last two Saturdays and the final Sunday before the election. Of course on Election Day, you can vote from 6:30am to 7:30pm at your local polling location. Voting is easy in Ohio. Share that message if you want more people to vote.

**3) To what extent does voter fraud exist in the state of Ohio, and how should it be addressed?**

Three things to remember about voter fraud in Ohio: it exists, it's rare, violators are held accountable and every day we are building a better elections system to prevent it. It's important to separate facts from fiction. That's why I compiled Ohio's first ever voter fraud report after the 2012 November General Election. Here are the facts: county board of elections found 625 voting irregularities, and 270 cases were referred for further investigation or prosecution. These cases represent a small but not unimportant number of the 5.63 million votes cast. I will continue to hold violators accountable, so the vast majority of Ohioans who are doing it the right way are confident that their votes are not diluted by those who attempt to cheat.

**4) During a time of shrinking budget for state government agencies, how would you focus resources allocated to the secretary of state's office to make it more efficient and cost effective?**

We must do more with less, and I have used technology to improve the way we serve Ohioans.

Here are the facts: I reduced overall spending by 16%, saving more than \$13 million over my first term in the office. Payroll spending is down \$3.6 million and FY14 marked the lowest payroll spending in seven years. We did all of this while at the same time improving voter services and cutting the time it takes to approve a record number of new business filings in 2012 and 2013. These technology upgrades now allow you to form a business and update your voter registration 24/7.

This is not what I promise to do; it is something I have already done. We are changing the culture of Ohio government by providing better services at a lower price.

**5) How would you balance the desire for uniform voting opportunity and the differing needs of counties with larger versus smaller populations?**

It's important to recognize that federal courts require us to treat voters equally, different rules for different counties are not and should not be an option.

It's my priority to treat voters with fairness by setting the same voting rules across Ohio. Ohioans shouldn't have fewer voting opportunities and less ballot access based on which county they live in. I have expanded voting opportunities by launching an online change of address system and am the first Ohio Secretary of State to send every eligible voter (not just some voters in certain counties) an absentee ballot request in 2012 and also this year. You literally can vote 24 hours a day for nearly a month. Between early in-person voting, absentee voting and Election Day voting, Ohioans have more opportunity than ever to cast a ballot. With these important elections improvements, access to voting in Ohio has never been more convenient.

**TURNER, NINA** – Democrat  
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**Education:** A.A., Cuyahoga Community College ; B.A. & M.A., Cleveland State University

**Occupation:** Assistant Professor of History, Cuyahoga Community College ; State Senator, 25th District  
**Training and Experience:** Executive Assistant for Legislative Affairs, City of Cleveland ; Director of Government Affairs, Cleveland Metropolitan School District

**Questions & Answers**

**1) How would you ensure fair and impartial elections, and downplay the effect of partisan politics in the administration of elections?**

There are two ways in which we can reduce the partisanship that plagues our elections process. The first is by setting simple, consistent, and convenient rules that allow voters the opportunity to cast their ballot how and when it makes sense in their schedule. We must also stop reducing the voting options that were created in the wake of a disastrous 2004 election cycle in which more than 170,000 Ohioans walked away from the polls because of long lines and disorder on Election Day. Reducing opportunities to vote without any legitimate reason to do so will inevitably raise suspicion.

We must also reform the way Ohio draws its legislative and congressional district seats to make races more competitive so candidates have to appeal to all voters, not just the extremes of their party during the primary.

**2) What would you do to improve voter turnout in Primary and General Elections in Ohio?**

I see the Secretary of State's role in encouraging voter participation similar to how a business owner might see getting customers in their store. You can't just throw open the doors and sit back. You have to meet people where they are and make the case as to why casting their ballot is important. Through partnerships with local media outlets and traveling the

state to talk to voters, I plan to emphasize to all Ohioans why their vote is important. I also want to institute a pre-registration system in Ohio for 16 and 17 year-old Ohioans. By engaging young people early, we have a better chance of building good habits and turning them into lifelong voters. Lastly, political leaders must stop reducing voting opportunities. We can't expect more people to participate if it is becoming harder to do so.

**3) To what extent does voter fraud exist in the state of Ohio, and how should it be addressed?**

Voter fraud in Ohio is very, very rare. During the 2012 presidential election, the frequency of voter fraud was less than one-thousandth of one percent, and a voter is more likely to be struck by lightning than commit voter impersonation at the polls. A professor from Loyola University Law School also conducted a comprehensive survey of voter impersonation incidents nationwide, and found that there were only 31 cases out of one billions votes cast since 2008.

Despite the infrequency of attempts to commit fraud, the security of our elections remains critical because at the end of the day everyone has to have confidence in the results. I do believe that our present laws, which include up to three and a half years in prison and a \$10,000 fine, are working. Those who have committed voter fraud have been caught and brought to justice as they should be.

**4) During a time of shrinking budget for state government agencies, how would you focus resources allocated to the secretary of state's office to make it more efficient and cost effective?**

Over the past four years, the Secretary of State's has racked up more than \$400,000 in legal expenses in the process of defending their attempts to make it harder to vote. By reversing course and working to expand access and empower voters, we save those expenses. Those funds can be used to train a lot of poll workers, upgrade polling locations, and spread the word about the importance of voting.

**5) How would you balance the desire for uniform voting opportunity and the differing needs of counties with larger versus smaller populations?**

Ohio's largest county has almost one hundred times the population as its smallest. Although the challenges election workers face in these two situations are often similar, they are on dramatically different scales. Absolutely uniform rules and hours look good on paper, but they affect different populations in different ways.

I believe that local officials are in the best position to determine the needs of local voters. The state should be setting a default voting schedule—that includes evening and weekend access—and allow election boards to tailor them to local needs only with bi-partisan support. Switching to a system such as this will not only reduce partisan conflict, but ensure that all Ohio voters have a voting system that works for them.

**OHIO TREASURER CANDIDATES**

(vote for no more than one)

**MANDEL, JOSH** – Republican  
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**Education:** B.A., The Ohio State University, 2000; J.D., Case Western Reserve University School of Law, 2003

**Occupation:** Ohio Treasurer of State

**Training and Experience:** City of Lyndhurst, Ohio, City Councilman, (2004-2006); State Representative (District17), (2007-2010); State Treasurer, (2011-present)

**Questions & Answers**

**1) What measures will you take to assure high standards in the management of state investments?**

The protection of tax dollars is my number one responsibility. My investment policy can be best summarized by ensuring that the principles of safety, liquidity and yield be followed, in that order. Only the safest investments should be made with the state's money, while keeping the portfolio liquid as needed. As Treasurer, I am proud to have earned a AAA credit rating on the \$3 billion local government investment fund I manage on behalf of Ohio taxpayers, even as 14 other state and local government investment funds were downgraded. My office navigated the European sovereign debt crisis while earning a yield on behalf of taxpayers and the Treasury's liquidity portfolio has increased by \$3 billion under my administration.

**2) How does your work experience and education prepare you to collect and safeguard taxes and fees for the state of Ohio? Explain.**

Serving in the Marine Corps for eight years, including two tours in Iraq, I have used that training to restore discipline and integrity to the Treasurer's office.

The Treasurer's ultimate responsibility is to protect, collect and invest Ohioans' tax dollars. Upon taking office I immediately launched a top-bottom review to root out waste, fraud and abuse and began working to protect Ohioans' hard earned money. My office has received a clean audit each year since taking office which shows that the hard work of our talented and dedicated staff on behalf of taxpayers is paying off.

**3) What are your three goals for improving the efficiency of the treasurer's office?**

Upon taking office, I launched a top-bottom review of the Treasurer's office that has produced \$5 million in savings for taxpayers by increasing efficiency and modernizing operations. For example, under prior administrations the office drove over one million checks per year, worth more than \$2.8 billion, from the Treasurer's office in Columbus to a bank in Cleveland for deposit. I modernized the process, ended daily check driving, and switched to eBanking - saving more than \$100,000 and keeping tax dollars more safe and secure. I also voluntarily reduced my staff overhead - from 140 budgeted positions



to 117 positions today - by reorganizing and consolidating departments and eliminating multiple positions, saving more than \$1.7 million.

**4) How can the treasurer's office influence state fiscal policy?**

As State Treasurer, I have a responsibility to taxpayers to advocate for fiscally responsible policies. Under the previous administration, Ohio's financial ranking was 43rd in the country. Today, it's seventh. I continue to voice my strong support for legislation that will simplify Ohio's municipal income tax system. Common sense reforms are needed to help create an environment where the private sector can grow and create jobs. Unfortunately, many small businesses, skilled laborers and entrepreneurs are wasting time and money on a municipal income tax system that is confusing, inconsistent and unnecessarily cumbersome. I also advocated for the elimination of Ohio's death tax, which I argued was a form of double taxation and was especially unfair to family businesses.

**PILLICH, CONNIE** – Democrat 10935-A Reed Hartman Hwy, Cincinnati, OH 45242  
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**Website:** http://www.conniepillich.com/about  
**Education:** University of Cincinnati, J.D.; University of North Dakota, M.B.A. ; University of Oklahoma, B.B.A.

**Occupation:** CURRENT: State Representative; PAST: Attorney, United States Air Force Captain Training and Experience: Veteran, eight years active duty achieving the rank of captain; Attorney who ran her own firm and practiced banking law; Member of the Financial Institutions Committee.

**Questions & Answers**

**1) What measures will you take to assure high standards in the management of state investments?**

In the Air Force there was never a Democratic or Republican way to get things done—just the right way. As a military officer with a top secret security clearance, I demanded scrupulous integrity and strict accountability from my staff; I will do the same as treasurer of state. My number one priority is to safeguard the over \$200 billion in state assets under my purview. To do that, I will hire and retain the best-qualified staff, enforce ethical business operations, and adhere to best practices in fiscal policy. I will adopt procedures to ensure that investments, contracts, and decisions provide the best benefit and security for Ohio.

**2) How does your work experience and education prepare you to collect and safeguard taxes and fees for the state of Ohio? Explain.**

As a military officer, I received the best leadership training in the world. As a business owner, I created jobs, made payroll, and balanced budgets. As an MBA and attorney, I helped people and businesses through financial crises. I also practiced in banking law. As a legislator, I've worked across the aisle to relieve the financial burdens of our state's hardest working citizens. For example, I introduced the Ohio Veterans Bonus, a small cash bonus for those who served in the Persian Gulf, Iraq, and Afghanistan. From my military experience,

education, and business background, I learned to root out waste and inefficiency and improve operating procedures to run a highly effective organization. This is what I did in the military, this is what I did in my own business, and this is what I'll do in the treasurer's office.

**3) What are your three goals for improving the efficiency of the treasurer's office?**

(1) Safeguard the over \$200 billion in taxpayer money the treasurer is tasked with overseeing. There is no question that making sound fiscal decisions regarding taxpayer money is the top priority of the treasurer.

(2) Institute an independent Inspector General for the treasury. For over a decade we have seen instances of waste, fraud, abuse, corruption, and mismanagement in the treasurer's office. It's disappointing that Ohioans have only come to know their treasurers for the scandals they create. This is the office that oversees taxpayers' money, and I cannot imagine a more important place to have an independent, nonpartisan Inspector General helping prevent and resolve the problems we have seen over the last decade.

(3) Protect our pensions. The treasurer decides which banks serve as custodians over the pension funds that 1.8 million Ohioans and their families depend on. I take that responsibility seriously.

**4) How can the treasurer's office influence state fiscal policy?**

As state treasurer, my duty to the people of Ohio is a fiduciary one. Our state fiscal policy ought to put security first—this is the people's treasury. As treasurer, I would be the state's chief fiscal officer. My duties would include weighing in and advising on all state fiscal issues, whether they be launching new debt, refinancing existing debt, or retiring old debt; reviewing and finding ways to enhance the return on our investments; or targeting investments as economic development tools. The Treasurer's office can help protect and strengthen seniors' retirement and pension security; provide financial education for veterans; find resources for schools; teach young people how to save for their first home; help students saddled with debt; aid our farmers, small businesses, and homeowners during times of natural disasters; and promote job growth.

**REPRESENTATIVES TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS**

**Questions for Representative to the United States Congress Candidates - Districts 3 and 12:**

1. What will be your top one or two priorities while in office and why?
2. What ideas do you have to deal with the sluggish economic recovery?
3. How will you reach across the aisle to address the needs of all of your constituents?

**3RD DISTRICT (vote for no more than one)**

**BEATTY, JOYCE**, Democrat 1421 Taylor Corners Cir, Blacklick, OH 43004  
**Email:** BeattyforCongress@gmail.com

gmail.com  
**Website:** BeattyforCongress  
**Education:** BA, MS, ABD, 2 Honorary Doctorate Degrees  
**Occupation:** Member of Congress  
**Qualifications for Office:** I have the knowledge, years of success in public and elected service. Incumbent. I work tirelessly for my constituents and I listen to their needs. Identified as one of the Top 10 Freshman in Congress to Watch.

**Question 1:** I've had great success these past two years in my priority areas: Women, Jobs & Economy and Healthy living. The platform "When Women Succeed, America Succeeds," which I encouraged President Obama to say in his State of the Union address motivates me to continue fighting for pay equity, affordable child care, and paid sick leave. As a member of the exclusive Financial Services Committee, I will continue to intellectually engage and assist the financial services community and build bridges to protect consumers. Of equal priority is to develop more guidelines and education on concussions in sports.

**Question 2:** I will continue to foster an environment for economic growth, job creation and support infrastructure, technology and workforce improvements funding. To help rebuild the economy, we must focus on our greatest economic engine; the education of our current and future workforce. I will work to increase financial literacy and keep tax incentives that make it possible for businesses to invest in additional hiring, work with Congress to fund programs such as Export-Import Bank and SBA that help businesses create jobs. Continue District meetings with small and large employers to listen to what's needed to move economic recovery.

**Question 3:** My journey to and in the U.S. Congress has been about building bridges and identifying ways to serve my constituents and District. Early on, I met with my counterparts from Central Ohio and we agreed that we can disagree without being disagreeable. We are working across the aisle and playing a crucial role to change the perception of Congress. Since then, I passed anti-human trafficking legislation 409-0 and worked across the aisle getting bi partisan sponsors on financial regulation, reducing concussive injuries and housing legislation. I have also participated in bipartisan panels in various parts of the district.

**ADAMS, JOHN**, Republican P.O. Box 44841, Columbus, OH 43204  
**Email:** john4880adams@aol.com

**Website:** www.johnadamsforcongress.com  
**Education:** Portsmouth High School, Portsmouth, Ohio, Graduate, 1963; Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, Graduate, A.B. Philosophy, 1972.

**Occupation:** Business owner  
**Qualifications for Office:** Served almost six years in elective office. Business owner for 36 years, Married for 42 years with two grown sons.  
**Question 1:** I believe that our nation's number one priority is to stabilize our wobbly economy. Our national debt is skyrocketing. Federal spending

is unrestrained. Our credit rating has been downgraded for the first time in our history. Millions of Americans are either unemployed or under-employed. Millions of bankruptcies have been filed along with millions of vacant homes now stand empty. Our national defense has been weakened by the downsizing of our armed forces. A weak foreign policy has encouraged our adversaries to take advantage of this weak defense posture.

**Question 2:** If elected, the first proposal that I would make in Congress would be to ask Congress, and subsequently the American people, to vote on a Constitutional Amendment to balance our federal budget. I would work to cut federal spending concerning waste, fraud and abuse. I would propose the lowering of taxes that would help to create an expansion of our free-market economy. I would work to reduce the massive number of regulations that have been enacted since President Obama was first elected.

**Question 3:** People of all stripes, be they Democrats, Republicans or Independents want, for the most part, the same things, personally. They want to be secure in their persons, secure in their property and free to pursue happiness as they perceive it. They desire a government which allows all this and promotes the general welfare. I would seek out those in Congress to pursue a common sense approach for the common good of the people.

**12TH DISTRICT (vote for no more than one)**

**TIBBS, DAVID ARTHUR**, Democrat Candidate did not respond.

**HART, BOB**, Green 6686 Thorne St., Worthington OH 43085  
**Email:** HartforCongress@gmail.com

**Website:** www.HartforCongress.com  
**Education:** Ohio State Law Degree

**Occupation:** Attorney  
**Qualifications for Office:** I have an unwavering commitment to economic and social justice with a 30 year career in public service representing poor people and prosecuting corporations that cheat consumers. I don't accept corporate PAC money so I can exercise independent judgment for people not corporations.

**Question 1:** To address growing economic inequality I will call for an immediate increase in the minimum wage and national commitment to creating good paying jobs for all able workers. To end the corrupting influence of big money on Congress I will advocate for a constitutional amendment declaring that corporations are not people with constitutional rights. To address the increasing health and environmental damage caused by our reliance on dirty energy sources like oil, coal, and fracking I will push for a national commitment to conservation along with an accelerated national transition from dirty to clean energy sources.

**Question 2:** I will fight for an immediate increase in the minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour, the poverty rate for a family of four. I will also call for a national commitment to full employment, including a public

works program, so that every worker can support their family and contribute to the economy. I will oppose fast-tracking trade agreements like the TPP, and will urge renegotiating those trade agreements that have shipped good-paying jobs overseas. Finally, I will work to strengthen laws protecting a worker's right to organize without intimidation or fear of reprisal from their employer.

**Question 3:** I will work with any member of Congress who puts the interests and needs of the people and our country before the interests and needs of their political party or the corporations that fund their campaigns. I will not "reach across the aisle" to any member of Congress who refused to compromise, who doesn't believe in open, honest civil debate, who doesn't believe in science, or who believes the government has the authority to secretly and illegally subvert our constitutional rights, especially our first amendment and privacy rights.

**TIBERI, PAT**, Republican 6830 Mahogany Dr., Galena, OH 43021  
**Email:** info@tiberiforcongress.com

**Website:** www.tiberiforcongress.com  
**Education:** Columbus Northland High School, Ohio State University - B.A. in journalism

**Occupation:** Current U.S. Representative for the 12th District

**Qualifications for Office:** I am a life-long 12th Congressional District resident and I have worked tirelessly as your Congressman to enact positive legislation, advocate on behalf of constituents and be a leader in solving local issues.

**Question 1:** Growing the economy and helping get people back to work. We can do this by modernizing and stabilizing our tax code to bring employers certainty to grow their businesses and hire workers, reining in excessive government regulation that hampers growth, and encouraging access to job training programs and educational opportunities.

Putting the country on the path to a secure future. Whether it's keeping Americans safe from the threat of violent extremism or working to ensure programs like Medicare and Social Security are sustainable for the next generation, we can encourage a brighter tomorrow for our children and grandchildren.

**Question 2:** Fundamental tax reform would help grow the economy. Our current tax code is outdated and burdensome for families and employers. We need to enact fundamental tax reform that puts American workers and American employers first. By modernizing the code we can make our tax system simpler, fairer, and more transparent. Reform would allow employers to better compete in a worldwide market. By creating certainty and a level playing field, employers are able to plan, grow their businesses, and hire more workers. A simpler, flatter system will also allow individuals and families to keep more of their hard-earned money.

**Question 3:** For too long Washington, D.C. has been dominated by political ideologues who are too intent on talking about the perfect instead of enacting the good. When

you only accept the perfect, not a lot gets accomplished and challenges remain. As I've proven time and again, I'm willing to work with colleagues across the spectrum to achieve meaningful, incremental steps towards our conservative policy goals. Whether it is passing bills that allow our employers to grow their businesses or policies that ensure all veterans get the benefits they earned and deserve, serving my constituents is a top priority.

**Questions for Representative to the United States Congress Candidates - District 15**

*Candidates for the 15th District were surveyed by the League of Women Voters of Athens County*

**Question 1:** What measures, if any, do you favor to decrease reliance on fossil fuels and increase use of alternative energy?

**Question 2:** What is your position on changing the Affordable Care Act, and what will you do to accomplish your goals?

**Question 3:** What is your position on immigration reform, and how will you work to promote that position?

**15TH DISTRICT (vote for no more than one)**

**WHARTON, SCOTT**, Democrat 7465 Chillicothe-Lancaster Rd., Amanda, OH 43102  
**Email:**

**Website:** www.whartonforcongress.com

**Training and Experience:** 1980 Graduate Ohio University BS in Computer Engineering. No prior elected office held, but I am a retired Air Force officer, a captain for Delta Airlines, a farmer, and the father of 2 adult children. I believe I have the background to represent the district better than anyone else.

**Question 1:** I am in favor of transitioning off petroleum entirely. I believe that solar, wind, geothermal, and hydroelectric energy should be pursued. I also support increased fuel economy standards for vehicles. All of which will reduce our dependency on oil.

**Question 2:** I believe that, as with any large scale legislation, the Affordable Care Act has room to be improved. I am willing to look at provisions that can be made better, without weakening the coverage offered.

**Question 3:** While I believe that those entering the country through proper channels should be favored over those entering by illegal means, there are a large number of immigrants who have been working and contributing, and are otherwise law abiding individuals. I believe there should be a path to citizenship so these people can contribute directly to the tax base and social security. I will support legislation that provides an appropriate path for these people.

**STIVERS, STEVE**, Republican Candidate did not respond.

**OHIO COURT DESCRIPTIONS**

**TRIAL COURTS**

**MUNICIPAL COURTS General Division**

This court hears traffic and criminal misdemeanors where the punishment is up to one year in jail. They also hear civil

cases in which the amount of money in dispute does not exceed \$15,000 and eviction cases. You can be summonsed to serve as a juror in this court. Judges can perform marriages.

**Environmental Division**

The Environmental Court has exclusive jurisdiction over criminal cases involving violations of the local housing, building, fire, zoning, health, waste collection, animal control, animal abuse, and pollution codes. The court also hears civil cases involving nuisance properties, local appeals, and landlord/tenant disputes.

**COURTS OF COMMON PLEAS**

In Franklin County, there are three divisions: general, probate, and domestic relations/juvenile.

**General Division**

The general division has original jurisdiction in all criminal felony cases and in all civil cases in which the amount in controversy is more than \$15,000. You can be summonsed to serve on a jury for any of these cases. General divisions also review decisions of some state administrative agencies.

**Domestic Relations/  
Juvenile Division**

This court hears cases involving divorce or dissolution of marriages, annulment, legal separation, spousal support and allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children. They hear cases involving persons under 18 years of age who are charged with acts that would be crimes if committed by an adult. They also hear cases involving unruly, dependent and neglected children and cases involving paternity, child abuse, nonsupport, contributing to the delinquency of minors and the failure to send children to school.

**Probate Division**

This court presides over the probate of wills and supervision of the administration of estates and guardianships. They hear adoption proceedings and make determinations of sanity or mental competency and certain eminent domain proceedings. Probate judges also issue marriage licenses and can perform marriages.

**APPELLATE COURTS**

The courts of appeals is an intermediate level appellate courts, their primary function is to hear appeals from and review decisions made in the common pleas and municipal and county courts. The 10th District Court of Appeals in Franklin County also hears appeals from the Ohio Court of Claims that hears and determines all civil actions filed against the state of Ohio and its agencies.

**SUPREME COURT**

The Supreme Court hears appeals from and reviews the decisions of the 12 district courts of appeals. They hear cases involving the death penalty, cases involving questions arising under the U.S. or the Ohio Constitution; and cases in which there have been conflicting opinions from two or more courts of appeals. The Supreme Court also makes rules governing practice and procedure in Ohio's courts and has authority over the admission of attorneys to the practice of law in Ohio and may

discipline admitted attorneys who violate the rules governing the practice of law.

**JUSTICE OF THE OHIO SUPREME COURT**

**Questions for all Justices of the Ohio Supreme Court Candidates:**

1. Do you think the Ohio Code of Judicial Conduct's provisions regarding recusal should be strengthened to address instances where individuals or corporate litigants before a judge have, either directly or indirectly, made expenditures on behalf of the judge's election? Please explain.
2. Estimate the number of cases that you have tried and please describe the different types of cases you have tried.
3. What qualities most impressed you in the judges before whom you have appeared? Describe which of these qualities you possess.

**FULL TERM COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2015 (vote for no more than one)**

**KENNEDY, SHARON**

Candidate did not respond

**LETSON, TOM**

545 E. Town St. Columbus, Ohio 43215  
**Email:** info@tomletson.com  
**Website:** http://tomletson.com/meet-tom/  
**Education:** Machinist Apprenticeship, Copperweld Steel; BA Kent State University; JD, University of Akron  
**Occupation:** Legislator/ Attorney

**Training and Experience:** Assistant Law Director, Acting Municipal Judge, USW Workers Compensation Committee Chairman, EMT - A, National Ski Patrol, Warren City Board of Health, Father, Brother, Husband, Grandfather, Trumbull County, Ohio State and American Bar Associations

**Question 1:** I think that we talk out of both sides of mouths. We want to elect our Judges, but we don't want them to be part of the political process that puts them on the ballot. Unless and until the process is changed to provide complete public financing of the judicial races we are stuck with needing to raise money to let people know what their choices are.

That would go a long way to eliminating the appearance of conflict when an acquaintance appears before the bench. That is not to say that Judges don't strive to be impartial in the delivery of their duties, but we are talking about perception.

**Question 2:** I have tried hundreds of cases, mostly to the bench, mostly in Family Court or Municipal Court, some jury trials in Common Pleas and Municipal Court. Most of a lawyer's job is to try to keep their clients out of court by offering sound advice beforehand.

**Question 3:** Patience, Competency, Integrity, Temperament. Those are the qualities that I have found in the Judges that I have admired. My father was an attorney so I grew up around the Bar and his friends. There were many special people that I watched all my life who taught me how to put those attributes into practice. I certainly hope that I am still learning how to reach that level I saw in my father and his friends.

**FULL TERM COMMENCING JANUARY 2, 2015 (vote for no more than one)**

**FRENCH, JUDITH**

1113 Westwood Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43212  
**Email:** justicejudifrench@gmail.com  
**Website:** http://www.justicejudifrench.com/about/  
**Education:** Ohio State University; J.D., M.A., B.A.  
**Occupation:** Justice  
**Training and Experience:** Ohio Supreme Court Justice since January 2013. Prior experience includes: eight years as appellate judge; counsel to Governor; five years as assistant attorney general, including arguments before United States Supreme Court and Ohio Supreme Court; private and corporate law practice.

**Question 1:** Corporations may not contribute to judicial campaigns. Individuals may contribute, but only to a limited extent. The limits on individual contributions ensure that a judge will not be influenced inappropriately. The Code of Judicial Conduct already addresses instances where recusals should occur, including where a party's relationship with the judge—for whatever reason—requires the judge's recusal.

**Question 2:** As a Supreme Court Justice, I have considered thousands of appeals involving all types of civil and criminal matters, including the death penalty, elections, constitutional law, and attorney discipline. As an appellate judge, I authored 800 written opinions on civil, criminal, and administrative matters and participated in thousands of appeals. As a lawyer, I argued before the United States Supreme Court and the Ohio Supreme Court. I represented public and private entities before trial and appellate courts, with particular emphasis on constitutional issues and environmental law.

**Question 3:** Intelligence, experience, fairness, and civility are the hallmarks of a good judge. I strive to demonstrate all of those qualities in every matter that comes before me as a justice on the Ohio Supreme Court. I also strive to demonstrate consistency, predictability, and restraint and to remember that my role as a judge is limited.

**O'DONNELL, JOHN**

Candidate did not respond

**Questions for all Ohio Court of Appeals and Franklin County Court of Common Pleas Judge Candidates:**

1. What are your views as to whether the court, as a whole, deals effectively with economic, gender, racial, ethnic and religious differences?
2. Describe what you believe constitutes a good judicial temperament, and describe why you feel you possess these qualities.
3. Do you support merit selection of state supreme court and state appellate judges and explain why.

**CANDIDATES FOR OHIO COURT OF APPEALS, 10TH DISTRICT**

**JUDGE, COURT OF APPEALS, 10TH DISTRICT, FULL TERM**

**COMMENCING 9-FEB-15 (uncontested race)**

**HORTON, TIM**

4497 Flower Garden Dr., New Albany, OH 43054

**JUDGE, COURT OF APPEALS, 10TH DISTRICT, FULL TERM COMMENCING 1-JULY-15 (uncontested race)**

**SADLER, LISA L.**

675 Parkedge Dr, Gahanna, OH 43230

**JUDGE, COURT OF APPEALS, 10TH DISTRICT, UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING 12-31-16 (vote for no more than one)**

**BRUNNER, JENNIFER**

200 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215  
**Email:** brunnerforjudge@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.brunnerforjudge.com

**Education:** B.S. Sociology-Gerontology, Cum Laude, Miami University, 1978; J.D. Capital University Law School, 1983, Distinguished Alumna 2008

**Occupation:** Attorney, Founding Partner, Brunner Quinn

**Qualifications for Office:** Ohio Secretary of State, 2007-2011; (retired) Judge, Franklin County Common Pleas Court, 2000-2005; 17 years private practice experience; awarded bipartisan JFK Profile in Courage Award 2008

**Question 1:** A good judicial temperament is an attitude of respect for persons and for the rule of law, being patient, showing willingness to learn and to listen, wisdom to know when it is time to decide, restraint so as to place duty and public service above self and courage to do what is required by all of this. My prior judicial service as a trial court judge and public service as Ohio Secretary of State have given me the opportunity and experience to exercise these traits on a regular basis. I have been recognized nationally for my work in public service.

**Question 2:** For the first time the Tenth District Court of Appeals will have among its judges a person of color with the unopposed election of Judge Tim Horton. I believe this is a very good development. Trial court judicial experience is the best experience for understanding economic, gender, racial, ethnic and religious differences, since a trial judge deals directly with persons in all walks of life. As a trial judge, in 2004 I started the lower court's felony drug court program, the TIES Program, which has improved rehabilitation outcomes and enhanced my understanding of these concerns.

**Question 3:** Yes and no. I believe trial judges should be elected and that appellate and supreme court judges should be fairly appointed from among the ranks of elected trial judges. Voters should elect trial court judges, because these judges work most closely with litigants and their counsel, and campaigns educate judges about their communities. Appellate and supreme court judges should face retention elections after being appointed and serving 4 to 6 years. This system would retain citizen involvement in selecting trial judges, provide appellate judges

with trial court experience and reduce unfavorable influences of money from higher court election.

**O'GRADY, AMY**

6897 Bonnie Brae Ln., Columbus, OH 43235

**Email:** judgeamyogrady@gmail.com

**Website:** judgeogrady.com

**Education:** B.S., Criminal Justice, Kent State University; Capital University Law School

**Occupation:** Tenth District Court of Appeals Judge

**Qualifications for Office:** Tenth District Court of Appeals Judge; Crime Victim Services Section Chief, Ohio Attorney General; Law Clerk, Franklin County Court of Common Pleas;

Assistant Public Defender; Endorsed- Fraternal Order of Police, Capital City Lodge 9

**Question 1:** Good judicial temperament requires ensuring that you show respect to the parties who appear before you and demonstrate a commitment to reaching justice. A judge with good judicial temperament must have compassion, patience and be free from bias. I have applied these traits throughout my legal career. As a judge, I ask thoughtful questions during oral argument, demonstrating my grasp of pertinent facts and the law. I use my prior experience as a law clerk to draft thorough, impartial decisions. My experiences working with victims and defendants allow me to understand the plight of individuals that appear before me.

**Question 2:** As an appellate court judge, I review cases from trial courts on a wide variety of issues. At times, race, gender, ethnicity, religion and economic issues are raised in a case on appeal or come up when the parties appear before me. While the law dictates the resolution of a case, I ensure that I'm always sensitive to the parties and their needs.

**Question 3:** I appreciate all efforts to improve how we select judges, but no system will be perfect. Allowing the public to choose judges is subject to attack on the grounds that the public lacks sufficient information to make good choices. Entirely taking the choice out of the public's hands is equally subject to criticism, even if it starts with a well-intentioned effort to formulate a neutral selection committee. No matter what system we have, educating voters about each candidate is critically important.

**Question 1:** A good judicial temperament requires a judge to be patient, respectful, and attentive. In every matter I've heard as a judge on the Court of Appeals, as a hearing officer and as a Court of Claims Commissioner, I was respectful to the parties, listened attentively, and afforded all litigants the opportunity to fully present their case.

**Question 2:** All persons regardless of race, gender, ethnicity or economic status must be given a full and fair opportunity to present their case before the courts. Our system needs to focus on individual litigants and ensure each is able to be competently represented by counsel and treated fairly by the judges and others in the court system. I support expanding the availability of appointed counsel for individuals involved in non-criminal cases and continuing building relationships between judges and the community.

**Question 3:** I support qualified individuals being appointed or elected to the bench. That can be accomplished by educating voters about the experience and temperament of judicial candidates and by publicizing recommendations from

**Question 1:** Justice and integrity should be more than just words thrown around at election time. They should be deeply held beliefs by our

**Question 2:** Although more women are being elected to our courts, there is a need for greater racial, ethnic, and religious diversity on the bench, which can lead to increased respect for the courts. Having represented a coalition of low income consumers in a case before the PUCO, as well as having been counsel in civil rights and race and sex discrimination cases, I understand the issues that women, minorities, and low income consumers face in the justice system in seeking redress through the courts.

**Question 3:** No, an independent, elected judiciary is best. Ohio voters have twice rejected such a change to our state constitution. Judges have great power and authority and elections are a way for the people to hold them accountable. Although elections may be imperfect, they are the best mechanism for a democracy to choose its judges. There is no guarantee than an appointment process would be free of partisanship, favoritism or bias.

**Question 1:** Good judicial temperament requires ensuring that you show respect to the parties who appear before you and demonstrate a commitment to reaching justice. A judge with good judicial temperament must have compassion, patience and be free from bias. I have applied these traits throughout my legal career. As a judge, I ask thoughtful questions during oral argument, demonstrating my grasp of pertinent facts and the law. I use my prior experience as a law clerk to draft thorough, impartial decisions. My experiences working with victims and defendants allow me to understand the plight of individuals that appear before me.

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**JUDGE, COURT OF APPEALS, 10TH DISTRICT, UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING 2-9-19 (vote for no more than one)**

**KILROY, MARY JO**

3100 Midgard Rd, Columbus, OH 43202

**Email:** kilroyforjudge@gmail.com

**Website:** http://www.kilroyforjudge.com

**Education:** J.D., OSU, 1980

**Occupation:** Lawyer

**Qualifications for Office:** Commitment to fairness and equal justice. Over 25 years of litigation and appellate experience. Former Member of Congress and Franklin County Commissioner. For more info please go to www.kilroyforjudge.com

**Question 1:** Justice and integrity should be more than just words thrown around at election time. They should be deeply held beliefs by our

judges that our courts are here to protect us and our rights in an honest, honorable and fair manner. A judge should be patient and respectful to the parties that appear in her or his courtroom. A judge should be able to listen carefully and to have an open mind. As a lawyer and as an elected official, I have worked to develop those traits.

**Question 2:** Although more women are being elected to our courts, there is a need for greater racial, ethnic, and religious diversity on the bench, which can lead to increased respect for the courts. Having represented a coalition of low income consumers in a case before the PUCO, as well as having been counsel in civil rights and race and sex discrimination cases, I understand the issues that women, minorities, and low income consumers face in the justice system in seeking redress through the courts.

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**SCHUSTER, BETSY LUPER**

4159 Belmont Pl, New Albany, OH 43054

**Email:** LuperSchuster@gmail.com

**Website:** JudgeLuperSchuster.com

**Education:** Undergraduate and law degrees from OSU

**Occupation:** Judge, Tenth District Court of Appeals

**Qualifications for Office:** served as an assistant attorney general and counsel to the Governor; presided over administrative hearings; reviewed crime victim appeals; taught as adjunct professor at Capital and OSU law schools; and "highly recommended" by Columbus Bar Association Judicial Screening Committee.

**Question 1:** A good judicial temperament requires a judge to be patient, respectful, and attentive. In every matter I've heard as a judge on the Court of Appeals, as a hearing officer and as a Court of Claims Commissioner, I was respectful to the parties, listened attentively, and afforded all litigants the opportunity to fully present their case.

**Question 2:** All persons regardless of race, gender, ethnicity or economic status must be given a full and fair opportunity to present their case before the courts. Our system needs to focus on individual litigants and ensure each is able to be competently represented by counsel and treated fairly by the judges and others in the court system. I support expanding the availability of appointed counsel for individuals involved in non-criminal cases and continuing building relationships between judges and the community.

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**Question 2:** As an appellate court judge, I review cases from trial courts on a wide variety of issues. At times, race, gender, ethnicity, religion and economic issues are raised in a case on appeal or come up when the parties appear before me. While the law dictates the resolution of a case, I ensure that I'm always sensitive to the parties and their needs.

**Question 3:** I appreciate all efforts to improve how we select judges, but no system will be perfect. Allowing the public to choose judges is subject to attack on the grounds that the public lacks sufficient information to make good choices. Entirely taking the choice out of the public's hands is equally subject to criticism, even if it starts with a well-intentioned effort to formulate a neutral selection committee. No matter what system we have, educating voters about each candidate is critically important.

bar associations and other nonpartisan groups. I do not support depriving Ohio citizens of their right to vote for the judges who preside over their courts.

**CANDIDATES FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT**

**COMMON PLEAS COURT JUDGE, GENERAL DIVISION, FULL TERM COMMENCING 2-9-15 (vote for no more than one)**

**HAYES, THOMAS F.**  
1472 Mulford Rd., Columbus, OH 43212  
**Email:** HayesforJudge2014@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.ThomasHayesforJudge.com  
**Education:** Hartwick College, B.A., 1990; Capital University Law School, J.D., 1993  
**Occupation:** Attorney, Law Office of Thomas F. Hayes, LLC., 2006 – Current; Attorney, Franklin County Public Defender’s Office, 1993-06  
**Qualifications for Office:** I have handled thousands of cases before the Common Pleas Court and have over 21 years of courtroom experience litigating complex felony cases.  
**Question 1:** A good judicial temperament is essential to the effective administration of justice. I believe I am even-tempered, yet firm; open-minded, yet willing and able to reach a decision; confident, yet not self-centered. I have the judicial temperament to be able to deal with people calmly and courteously and will be willing to hear and consider the views of all sides of a case. I am confident I can be a judge who displays all of those attributes. I credit over 20 years of courtroom experience with instilling in me the importance of being respectful and even-tempered should the voters choose me as judge.

**Question 2:** Having represented parties from all sides of the economic, racial, and religious spectrum, I believe the Franklin County Court does a meritorious job of ensuring there is no favoritism when it comes to a person’s status of race, gender, or religion. Can the Court do a better job in addressing the disparities that occur in terms of sentencing? Absolutely. Racial and economic disparity in sentencing only serves to erode the confidence that others have fought so hard to establish.

**Question 3:** There are both positives and negatives to a merit selection of state supreme and appellate court judges. However, I place great trust in the ability of an informed electorate to decide who is elected to the bench. The fact that you are reading this now shows your concern to elect professional, competent and experienced counsel to your judicial seats. Merit systems, though conceptually attractive, do not remove partisan politics from the elections, and will only serve to dilute our trust in open elections.

**FRENCH, JENIFER**  
961 Woodsedge Lane, Westerville, OH 43081  
**Email:** jfrench@lanealton.com  
**Website:** www.jeniferfrenchforjudge.com  
**Education:** Ohio State University, B.A., Criminal Justice; Thomas Jefferson School of Law, cum laude

**Occupation:** Attorney, Lane, Alton & Horst  
**Qualifications for Office:** I have been a successful civil trial attorney for fourteen years, with my trial practice mainly in the Court of Common Pleas, thus I have considerable experience at this level of litigation.

**Question 1:** Good judges should be impartial, fair and patient. They should be flexible and cooperative whenever they can be, but decisive and firm when they need to be. I pride myself on being friendly, patient and cooperative with other counsel, clients and everyone with whom I interact, but also on being firm and able to make important decisions when they need to be made. I believe these are traits that will serve me well on the Franklin County Common Pleas Court.

**Question 2:** Franklin County is a very diverse community and I believe the Court, as a whole, deals effectively with these differences. However, there is always room for improvement. I believe it is vitally important for judges to be out in the community so that they can keep their thumb on the pulse of the citizens whom they are elected and sworn to serve.

**Question 3:** There are different merit selection models, none of which are perfect to the extent that they refocus political power and influence. On the other hand, the selection process tends to filter out unqualified candidates. I generally favor the open election process although certain reforms should be considered. Chief Justice O’Connor has proposed several changes: elevate judicial elections by holding them together in odd-numbered years and moving them to the top of the ballot, better educating the voting public, and increasing the basic qualifications to serve as a judge. I would support these recommendations over adopting a merit selection system.

**COMMON PLEAS COURT JUDGE, GENERAL DIVISION, FULL TERM COMMENCING 1-1-15 (vote for no more than one)**

**WOODS, WILLIAM H.**  
1022 Blind Brook Dr., Columbus OH, 43235  
**Email:** woodsforjudge@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.woodsforjudge.com  
**Education:** The Ohio State University - B.S. in Education 1968; J.D. (Honors) 1973  
**Occupation:** Lawyer  
**Qualifications for Office:** 40 years of courtroom experience (substantial jury trial experience); author of papers cited in appellate court opinions; highest peer rating for legal ability and ethical behavior for 25 years; bi-partisan support, including 12 past Columbus Bar Association Presidents.

**Question 1:** The characteristics of a good judicial temperament are: treating all persons with courtesy; objectivity and fair-mindedness; commitment to justice and the rule of law; adherence to the highest ethical standards; patience and a calm, thoughtful, organized demeanor; ability to be a good, careful, analytical listener and reader who is motivated to learn; willingness to reserve judgment until all facts and legal arguments have been presented; ability to communicate effectively;

and commitment to making timely decisions. I believe I have developed these characteristics through my years of experience as a teacher, coach, mentor and trial lawyer.

**Question 2:** The General Division of the Franklin County Common Pleas Court is currently composed of 17 elected judges, 9 magistrates and 1 visiting judge serving a large, growing and increasingly diverse community. My view is that the court is committed to dealing effectively with economic, gender, racial, ethnic and religious differences to provide all persons with due process and the equal protection of the law. I support the court’s efforts to be proactive in dealing with diversity by developing specialized dockets and local court rules to deal with the challenges presented by an increasingly diverse population.

**Question 3:** No. While merit selection systems may appear to have some advantages, they undermine the ability of our courts to function as an independent, co-equal branch of government by placing the selection of judges in the hands of a small group of appointed officials rather than the voters. I also question the wisdom of using different methods for selecting appellate and trial court judges. Trial court decisions directly affect more people. Public confidence may be undermined by a system where the decisions of trial court judges elected by the people are subject to reversal by appointed appellate court judges.

**HOOVER, VAL**  
5972 Dunheath Loop Dublin, OH 43216  
**Email:** valoria@hooverforjudge.com  
**Website:** www.hooverforjudge.com  
**Education:** Miami University, B.A. (magna cum laude); University of Dayton, Law School, J.D. (magna cum laude)  
**Occupation:** Attorney  
**Qualifications for Office:** 22 year-lawyer; Former Ohio Supreme Court Judicial Attorney; Special Counsel, Ohio Attorney General; Former President, Ohio Women’s Bar Association; Trustee, Columbus State Community College; US Army Veteran (JAG Corp); Endorsed: FOB Lodge #9, ALF-CIO, others www.hooverforjudge.com

**Question 1:** Judges should treat all people with utmost respect, courteously and in a fair, consistent, patient, and impartial manner. Judges should listen, be independent, and well prepared. In my life, I strive to treat others as I would have them treat me: patiently with respect and dignity. I honed my listening skills, while listening to many diverse views, during my numerous leadership positions. Others have commented that I handle difficult situations well. As I take comfort in being organized, I am by necessity well prepared. Finally, I will serve the public by being a fair, impartial, independent and courteous judge.

**Question 2:** Effectively dealing with these issues depends up on the individual judge. Some judges deal with these issues very well; others do not. As a whole, the court can be improved by electing qualified, diverse judges. Electing qualified women and minorities, is a way to achieve

this goal. As a founder of the Ohio Women’s Bar Foundation Leadership Institute, a former President of the Ohio Women’s Bar Association, a Coach of Woodward Park Middle School’s Mock Trial Team and a Board Member of the Jo Ann Davidson Leadership Institute, I have continuously worked to bring the entire legal system more diversity, including judges.

**Question 3:** As Ohioans, we have elected judges for over 150 years. I support the fundamental right of Ohioans to keep judges (both supreme and appellate) accountable, as judges make critical decisions about people’s liberty and property. However, voters need to fully exercise their rights. If 40% of voters, who cast a vote for governor, do not vote for any judge, then change may be necessary to restore and maintain the public’s confidence in the judicial branch. Until we can craft a better system to ensure that highly qualified judges are accountable, direct election of judges is the best system we have.

**COMMON PLEAS COURT JUDGE, GENERAL DIVISION, FULL TERM COMMENCING 7-1-15 (vote for no more than one)**

**YOUNG, DAVID**  
6100 Wynford Drive, Dublin, OH 43017  
**Email:** davidyoungforjudge@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.davidyoungforjudge.com  
**Education:** Miami University (B.S. Accounting/Finance); Washington University (J.D.)  
**Occupation:** Judge, Franklin County Municipal Court  
**Qualifications for Office:** CBA 2014 Judicial Screening Committee Preference Poll Recommendation “Highly Recommended”; Former Assistant County Prosecuting Attorney; Endorsements: Fraternal Order of Police Capital City Local Lodge #9, Columbus Firefighters Union - I.A.F.F. Local 67, Franklin County Council of Education Associations

**Question 1:** To treat every person, organization(s) and/or litigant who appears before me with equality, dignity, professionalism, fairness, impartiality and respect. I believe that a Judge is one of the most important positions in our society, and I understand that being a Judge carries tremendous responsibilities. Members of the judiciary have a unique place in our society, as we pass judgment on the conduct of others. I believe I have demonstrated all of these qualities throughout my 25 years of legal practice and during the past 2 1/2 years as a judge serving the citizens of Franklin County.

**Question 2:** As a Franklin County Municipal Court Judge, I daily interact with the extremely diverse Franklin County community. My Court treats every person, organization(s) or litigant who appears before me with equality, dignity, respect, impartiality and fairness regardless of the racial, ethnic, gender, socioeconomic and religious differences. I serve as the Chairperson of the Specialized Docket Committee, which oversees the five specialized dockets: Drug Court, Opiate Court, Mental Health Court, Veterans Court and C.A.T.C.H.

(prostitution “Human Trafficking” court). Accordingly I believe that the Franklin County Municipal Court deals effectively with its large diverse community.

**Question 3:** I do not support merit selection for appellate judges. Any method of judicial selection whether gubernatorial appointment, with or without legislative confirmation, partisan or non-partisan elections, or “merit selection” with retention elections, may cause the public to perceive that the selected or elected judge may favor the person or entity which either selected or elected him/her. Public elections allow all voters to select who has merit and should serve. Public elections also allow citizens to change their court if they desire. While electing judges is not flawless it is the best alternate.

**NELSON, FRED**  
310 S. Stanwood Rd., Columbus, OH 43209  
**Email:** nelsonforjudge@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.frednelsonforjudge.com  
**Education:** Hamilton College (valedictorian); Harvard Law School (with honors)  
**Occupation:** Senior Advisor and Director of Major Litigation, Ohio Attorney General’s Office  
**Qualifications for Office:** Previous service as Associate White House Counsel, with U.S. Department of Justice, and as an Ohio Common Pleas Court Judge. Rated “Highly Recommended” by Columbus Bar Association’s Judicial Screening Committee.

**Question 1:** A judge must be fair, duly respectful of the parties and the public, diligent, and mindful of the significance of his or her responsibilities without being carried away by a sense of self-importance. I have had enough success in life – and enough failure – that the authority of the position will not go to my head. A sense of humor, especially regarding one’s own foibles, helps considerably. In a 2008 editorial regarding my former service as a Common Pleas Court Judge, the Cincinnati Herald praised my judicial temperament, emphasizing that, “Nelson is respectful of those who appear before him.”

**Question 2:** A fundamental promise of our nation is that everyone is equal before the law. Fulfilling that commitment takes constant work. Our system depends on judges ruling without fear, favor, or bias: good judges can and do perform that way. I was brought up to treat everyone fairly and with respect, and that is how I conducted myself as a Common Pleas Judge previously. That effort includes ensuring that people involved with the judicial system understand the process: judges must make sure that they are communicating clearly and effectively and that language barriers, for example, are addressed appropriately.

**Question 3:** Elections can serve to make the process of judicial selection more transparent than it might otherwise be, and can help citizens remove bad judges more easily. But any judicial system worthy of the name depends on judges being committed to following the law without regard to political ramifications or repercussions. Judges must interpret the law as it is provided to them by our state and federal constitutions

and by statutes consistent with those charters; they must not be influenced by partisanship or guided by their own personal policy preferences. Voters should enforce those constraints.

**COMMON PLEAS COURT JUDGE, GENERAL DIVISION, FULL TERM COMMENCING 7-2-15 (vote for no more than one)**

**BROWN, CHRIS**  
P.O. Box 20662, Columbus, OH 43220  
**Email:** www.chrisbrown4judge.com  
**Education:** Capital University Law School, Juris Doctor, 2005; Ohio State University, Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, 2002  
**Occupation:** Managing Attorney, J. Scott Weisman Law Offices, L.P.A.  
**Qualifications for Office:** Extensive felony trial experience, as both a prosecutor in the Special Victims Unit, and criminal defense attorney. Ohio Super Lawyers Magazine Rising Star, 2009. National (over word limit)

**Question 1:** Patience and active listening are the foundation of a good judicial temperament. As a former assistant prosecutor and criminal defense attorney, I have worked with many people from various backgrounds and education levels in dealing with their legal issues. My job has always required me to understand the needs and wishes of victims, witnesses, and defendants, and use that information to help resolve their cases fairly and effectively. Listening to their stories, and understanding their needs means being patient and listening actively, and I will do that as judge.

**Question 2:** A judge must understand how economic, gender, and ethnic differences affect the parties in a lawsuit or criminal case. However, a judge must also apply the law equally, without regard to gender, income, and ethnicity. The court must make the same ruling on any given case regardless of the individual’s socio-economic background, while retaining the ability to craft the appropriate remedy or sentence, accounting for the individual’s background.

**Question 3:** I believe that voters should ultimately decide their judicial representatives. I would consider a system that allows for merit selection, as long as there is a retention election or referendum put before the voters to decide if the judge should retain his or her position on the bench. A judge makes decisions that affect the voting public, and they should be called up on to decide who will serve them in all levels of the judicial system.

**GONZALES, JOHN M.**  
335 Wildwood Dr., Westerville, OH 43081  
**Email:** gonzalesforjudge@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.gonzalesforjudge.org  
**Education:** B.A. Arts/Education Marshall 1984; J.D. Capital Law School 1987  
**Occupation:** Lawyer private practice; Adjunct law professor; Mediator  
**Qualifications for Office:** Trial lawyer who has litigated over 100 jury trials; Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer; Adjunct Professor, Capital Law School; published numerous articles

and a book on trial practice. **Question 1:** Good judicial temperament requires the ability to be even tempered, firm and open-minded with a willingness to set aside personal feelings and desires to reach a fair decision. My experience as a mediator and the frequency at which I am retained suggest that other lawyers feel that I can be fair and impartial when arbitrating contested matters. **Question 2:** The Judicial Code of conduct requires judges to perform their duties without bias or prejudice. Otherwise, the fairness of a proceeding is impaired and people feel that they cannot rely upon the justice system. My experience is that most judges are professional and ethical in performing their duties and those few that are not are eventually removed from office. **Question 3:** While I am in favor of electing (rather than appointing) our judges, I believe that more needs to be done to encourage qualified candidates to run for judicial office and to inform voters of the qualifications of the candidates. The people of Ohio are more than capable of choosing our judges. Having judges participate in the election/campaign process is important, as this is one of the few opportunities for people to meet and speak with our judges.

**COMMON PLEAS COURT JUDGE, GENERAL DIVISION, UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING 1-6-17 (vote for no more than one)**

**HAWKINS, MONICA**

2815 Kingsrowe Ct., Columbus, OH 43209  
**Email:** electmonicaahawkinsforjudge@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.electmonicalawkinsforjudge.com  
**Education:** BA Criminal Justice, Ohio State University; MS Education, University of Dayton; Juris Doctorate, Capital University  
**Occupation:** 23+ year Public Servant, Franklin County Children Services; 9 years Caseworker, Licensed Social Worker; 14 years Attorney, Trial litigator; Investigator, Federal Public Defender's Office  
**Qualifications for Office:** Extensive courtroom/litigation experience; Excellent interpersonal skills; Fairness, decisiveness, fortitude, moral courage  
**Question 1:** Our judicial system, a cornerstone of our democratic form of government, depends on our citizens' faith and trust that judges will decide matters fairly and impartially, free from bias or prejudice; that's justice. Good judicial temperament is characterized by passion, compassion, sensitivity, integrity, fairness, open-mindedness, respect and moral courage. My experience gives me a proven track record of treating individuals with respect, valuing human dignity, being objective, displaying sensitivity, and honoring differences. I am committed to justice being administered equally, even-handedly, fairly and impartially to all individuals, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, religious affiliation, or socio-economic class.  
**Question 2:** While practicing before the courts as an attorney, many times I was keenly aware that the court, as a whole, was

not reflective of the community it served. Many times the only other minority individual in the courtroom, besides me, was the defendant/litigant. I cannot speculate whether the court, as a whole, is responsible for this disparity; I can only hope that we, who are a part of the system, take affirmative and proactive measures to employ individuals who represent the community or embody the knowledge, skill set, and training to effectively serve the diverse population of Franklin County.  
**Question 3:** Since 1851, Ohio has had contested judicial elections, and those elections have been officially nonpartisan since 1912. As late as 1987, voters defeated a proposed amendment that would have amended the Ohio Constitution to provide for appointment of state judges. The people have decided on the election process for judges in our democratic form of government, and until the people (voters) decide otherwise, there should be no undermining of the will of the people or erosion of American democracy, as we know it.

**O'DONNELL, COLLEEN**

1251 Northwest Blvd., Columbus, OH 43212  
**Email:** CommitteeForJudgeODonnell@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.CommitteeForJudgeODonnell.com  
**Education:** Miami University - B.A.; CWRU Law - J.D.  
**Occupation:** Judge  
**Qualifications for Office:** My reputation is as a hardworking, fair-minded judge who adheres to the rule of law. In practice, I gained civil and criminal litigation experience, at trial and appellate levels, in private and public sectors. These experiences are valuable in my judicial service.  
**Question 1:** Offering patience, fairness, and impartiality by hearing all sides of an issue constitutes a good judicial temperament. I believe I possess these qualities because I have seen cases from so many perspectives; From representing the State of Ohio in civil matters, to representing criminal defendants, and now in serving as a judge. As a judge, it is my practice to give all parties sufficient time and full opportunity to present their positions. After I hear all sides of the issues, I conduct thorough research and follow the rule of law when issuing decisions.  
**Question 2:** My judicial colleagues and I have taken oaths to treat all litigants fairly and impartially, regardless of any real or perceived economic, gender, racial, ethnic, and religious differences between the parties. AS a judge, I believe strongly in this oath. I aim to be appropriately respectful of such differences among litigants, but do not allow these differences to influence my decisions.  
**Question 3:** Ohio voters have resoundingly defeated proposals for changing our current method of judicial selection. I respect those votes, and have no position on the manner of selection of state supreme court justices and appellate judges. The Ohio Judicial Code of Conduct prevents me from offering further comments in response to this question.

**COMMON PLEAS COURT JUDGE, DOMESTIC DIVISION, FULL TERM COMMENCING 1-2-15 (uncontested race)**

**PREISSE, DANA SUZANNE**

8235 Camden Lake Blvd., Dublin, OH 43016

**COMMON PLEAS COURT JUDGE, DOMESTIC DIVISION, UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING 1-6-17 (vote for no more than one)**

**PFAU, EDWARD LEWIS**

189 West Patterson Avenue, Suite H, Columbus, OH 43202  
**Email:** eddiepfaugmail.com  
**Website:** www.eddiepfaugmail.com  
**Education:** BA, Political Science, University of Cincinnati; JD, Capital University Law School  
**Occupation:** Attorney  
**Qualifications for Office:** I have 23 years of experience practicing law in Franklin County including juvenile law, Guardian ad Litem, domestic relations litigation, probate law, adoption law, and criminal law.

**Question 1:** Good judicial temperament is learned within the unique nature and environment of our court system. It requires many years of experience and a keen understanding of the emotionally charged nature of litigation. Insight into the fears, anxieties, and confusion of litigants and lawyers is imperative. Staying calm and fair under pressure, as one applies the law with compassion, is my definition of good judicial temperament. I believe that I poses these skills after 23 years of practice in Franklin County Domestic Relations court as an attorney and Guardian ad Litem.  
**Question 2:** As a member of a marginalized group myself, I have experienced bigotry and discrimination within the court system. My belief is that the court is not yet prepared to deal with many issues related to racism, sexism, classism, homophobia, or transphobia, and that members of minority groups are under-represented as employees within our court system. As Franklin County becomes more diverse, it is important that training and diversity of representation within the court system be encouraged.  
**Question 3:** Expertise and experience should be the qualifying factors for judicial candidates rather than name recognition or political connectedness. Rules concerning the appointment process need to be reviewed by our state supreme court to protect the integrity of the court system. How we elect judges must change to protect the quality and legitimacy of our judicial system.

**BROWN, JAMES W.**

4190 Kendale Rd, Columbus OH 43220  
**Email:** vote4jamesbrown@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.vote4jamesbrown.com  
**Education:** Ohio State University; B.A. 1979; J.D. 1982  
**Occupation:** Attorney; solo practitioner  
**Qualifications for Office:** 31 years experience before the Domestic Relations Court; appeared as counsel in 41 counties statewide; lifelong resident of Franklin County; respect of the local

Bench and Bar; endorsed by diverse organizations; police, firefighters, teacher, Stonewall, Black Trade Union and Builders.

**Question 1:** "Good" judicial temperament is essentially the characteristics needed by a Judge to effectively apply his knowledge and expertise to the courtroom environment. The Domestic Relations Court is a place of extremely high anxiety and tension for the litigants. As a Judge you need to treat these individuals with patience, respect, understanding and fairness. Thirty-one years of experience has given me the knowledge, expertise and exposure to understand the myriad of issues and the skills to deal with the issues in a fair manner. Patience and respect are qualities I have long possessed which can be best attested to by my colleagues.  
**Question 2:** The Franklin County Domestic Relations Branch, as a whole, demonstrates an unbiased approach to the litigants. While each Judge has their own quirks and nuances, the overall approach is an honest attempt to apply the law in a neutral manner.  
**Question 3:** I am in support of a merit selection process for the judicial races. This is premised upon the assumption that a selection system could be drafted and ultimately implemented that would ensure openness, fairness and minimize, if not eliminate, political influence. It is our duty to ensure the public that the individuals who serve on our Benches have the necessary skills and personal qualities.

**MCNEIL DANISH, RITA**

310 Crossing Creek Dr., Gahanna, OH 43230  
**Email:** keepjudgemcneildanish@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.keepjudgemcneildanish.com  
**Education:** Howard University, BBA-Marketing; Cum Laude; The Ohio State University, J.D., 1989  
**Occupation:** Judge, Franklin County Common Pleas, Domestic Relations/Juvenile Divisions; Appointed by Governor Kasich  
**Qualifications for Office:** Former Juvenile Magistrate; over 25 years of experience in a variety of private and public sector executive leadership capacities, including City Attorney for Cincinnati and Dayton  
**Question 1:** I believe good judicial temperament requires a persistent dedication to courtesy, the respect for all parties, and thoughtful deliberation. My years of experience, beginning as a Juvenile Magistrate, continuing as an attorney in the office of the Attorney General and Governor, then as a City Attorney, and finally starting and running my own business have taught me that listening and compassion are both necessary and essential. With experience and maturity comes the understanding that a Court should treat everyone with respect, dignity and a commitment to equal justice. I believe that respect is an investment that always earns interest.  
**Question 2:** Effectively dealing with the broad range of diverse individuals that come before the court can be challenging. We can and will do better. It

is important to remember, that in recognizing we all have differences that must be respected, the goal that we seek to achieve is to treat everyone as equal before the law. People that appear in a courtroom, particularly in the Domestic and Juvenile Court, are often at their most vulnerable. Realizing that every person and every case is deserving of respect, compassion and equality of treatment can and will make a difference.

**Question 3:** Today, Judges in the State of Ohio are selected by the voters in each of the jurisdictions they serve. Our judicial system already depends in many ways on the good judgment of our citizenry. Just as I trust in the jury system which relies on the service of ordinary citizens, so do I believe in and trust the judgment of the citizens that go to the polls and cast their ballots for the judges of Ohio. I further believe this system works best when the experience and knowledge of each of the candidates is shared with the voters.

**COMMON PLEAS COURT JUDGE, PROBATE DIVISION, FULL TERM COMMENCING 2-9-15 (uncontested race)**

**MONTGOMERY, ROBERT G.**

5693 Harlem Road, New Albany, OH 43054

**Questions for all State Legislative and County Office Candidates:**

1. What will be your top one or two priorities while in office and why?
2. What is your opinion on the shift in Ohio governmental spending and taxing that has changed the relationship between the state and the local jurisdictions? Do you believe this change has affected your community, and if yes, how?
3. How would you reach across the aisle to address the needs of all your constituents?

**STATE SENATE CANDIDATES**

**3RD DISTRICT (vote for no more than one)**

**JOHNSON, STAR**, Democrat  
 6704 Kodiak Dr, Canal Winchester, OH 43110  
**Email:** info@abrighterohio.com  
**Website:** www.abrighterohio.com  
**Education:** B.S. in Marketing, Franklin University; M.Ed in Curriculum and Instruction, Concordia University  
**Occupation:** Teacher  
**Qualifications for Office:** Endorsed by: Central Ohio Labor Council, AFL-CIO; AFSCME Council 8, OAPSE Local 4, OCSEA Local 11; Columbus Professional Fire Fighters, Local 67; Ohio State Legislative Board of S.M.A.R.T.; Teamster's Local 413 and Local 284  
**Question 1:** I am running for office because the government is not working hard enough for working families. My top priorities in office will be family stabilization and fair taxes. Working families should not be paying 12% in state taxes while the most affluent are paying 8%. Working families should not be working to live and living to work without a sense of security. When families are financially, emotionally and physically supported, Ohio succeeds.  
**Question 2:** The state's recent

changes are tantamount to an abandonment of its obligations to local government. The elimination of the rollback tax credit, estate tax, and homestead exemption credit has shifted 100% of the burden for the passage of levies onto property owners and seniors. As a result, local government, municipalities and townships are losing funding. These tax changes have compromised the safety and security of our communities and lowered the quality of local government services. For example, Madison Township Fire Department is in immediate need of new trucks, safety equipment, and more manpower, but local government funding is limited.  
**Question 3:** My desire for a brighter Ohio is greater than partisanship. I will reach across the aisle by first making the ask, "Will you work with me for a brighter Ohio" A brighter Ohio is strong families, better education, and economic stability. On these issues we can all agree. Our differences may lie in how to reach these goals, but I will work for the ends and not just the means.

**BACON, KEVIN**, Republican

5325 Ponderosa Drive, Columbus, OH 43231  
**Email:** kevin@baconforstatesenate.com  
**Website:** www.baconforstatesenate.com  
**Education:** Defiance High School; Graduated 1990; Miami University; Graduated 1994. BA in political science; Capital Law School; Graduated 1998. Juris Doctorate  
**Occupation:** I am a State Senator representing the 3rd Senate District in Ohio. I am an attorney practicing in the areas of Special Needs Estate Planning; Estate Planning; and Probate.  
**Qualifications for Office:** Attorney at Law; Blendon Township Trustee: 2002-2006; Ohio House of Representatives: 2006-2010; State Senator: 2011-present  
**Question 1:** I have accomplished a lot in just over seven years in the General Assembly but there is more to do. Notably I want to continue with my efforts to strengthen job market in Central Ohio. I will continue to insure that the State of Ohio is fiscally sound and that the state does not have a deficit. I will continue my work on issues impacting people with disabilities; victims assistance; tax reform; and passing a sales tax holiday bill.  
**Question 2:** In the General Assembly we corrected a deficit of over \$8 Billion from the prior administration. We restored fiscal responsibility in the State of Ohio and we did it without tax increases. As such I believe we must restore local government funding in the next biennial budget. As a former Blendon Township Trustee I know how important these funds are and will work to make sure local government gets its fair share.  
**Question 3:** I always have and will continue to work across the aisle. I have co-sponsored many pieces of legislation with Democrat members and will continue to do so in an effort to address the needs of all constituents. Most notably I have worked hard for people with special needs and for victims with bipartisan support. These issues impact people regardless of their political affiliation and I will continue to



work with all members of the General Assembly to champion these efforts.

**15TH DISTRICT**  
(vote for no more than one)

**TAVARES, CHARLETA B.**, Democrat  
1237 Medford Road, Columbus, OH 43209

**Email:** tavares4senate@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.tavares4senate.com

**Education:** Eastmoor High School, Spelman College and OSU

**Occupation:** Executive Director, Multiethnic Advocates for Cultural Competence; State Senator, 15th District

**Qualifications for Office:** Committed public/community servant; experienced policy-maker; strong record of accomplishments and; results-oriented. I have receive endorsements from labor, advocacy and cultural organizations and; received many faith, health human services and housing awards

**Question 1:** 1. Provide leadership as co-chair of the Constitutional Modernization Commission and make recommendations to the Legislature and citizens of Ohio to improve the way we redistrict our congressional and legislative districts; provide guidance on what and how we use public funds; voter protections, strengthen the public education system and etc. 2. Continue my work to improve our behavioral/health care system by expanding and diversifying the workforce; developing policies and strategies including cultural competence to eliminate health disparities among racial and ethnic populations; authorizing technology and other strategies (telehealth) be covered in private and Medicaid insurance programs to expand care to underserved; and etc.

**Question 2:** As a former local elected official, I have witnessed the impact of state legislative decisions over 10+ years to cut taxes, reduce funding, reduce local control and increase state mandates to local governments. Local governments have been forced to increase taxes, as Columbus did, to maintain services, fill the cuts by state/federal governments in order to annually balance their budgets. In addition, the actions have negatively impacted local/state relationships, required local governments to lay-off employees while state government agencies have increased employee hires and have moved the relationship from a partnership to one that is adversarial.

**Question 3:** I will continue to work to identify Republican legislators who want to work with me to address the important and pressing issues of the 15th District and other districts across Ohio as I have successfully done in: reducing infant mortality with the passage of Senate Bills 198, 276 & 278; eliminating health disparities with Senate Bill 99 (oral cancer parity); Senate Bill 206 (Medicaid); behavioral health treatment, Senate Bill 43 (court-ordered outpatient mental health treatment); and etc. I have always worked to find solutions and build consensus with like-minded individuals to get things done for the residents of Ohio.

**HEALY, JOE**, Republican  
Candidate did not respond.

**19TH DISTRICT**  
(vote for no more than one)

**PATEL, NEIL**, Democrat  
4875 Royal County Down, Westerville, OH 43082

**Email:** info@patelforohio.com  
**Website:** www.patelforohio.com

**Education:** B.S. in Business, '78, University of Gujarat, India  
**Occupation:** Hotel Owner, Insurance Agent

**Qualifications for Office:** I've ran small businesses in Central Ohio for almost 30 years, lead non-profits, and dedicated a great deal of time to community service and getting to know the people of my district.

**Question 1:** My top priorities are to help Ohio become more competitive with the rest of the world- and to give all Ohioans the opportunity to be successful if they work hard. However, I think any effort towards achieving one also helps in realizing the other. We now must compete in a global interconnected economy.

In my view, the best way to prepare Ohio for this new era will be to encourage growth via new businesses and create a workforce that is trained with those skills that will be in most demand in the coming decades.

**Question 2:** Cutting state aid to local governments, leading them to raise local taxes, is at best a zero-sum game and reckless at worst. For taxation to be fair and effective, it must be even-handed and efficient. All Ohioans deserve quality education and adequate public safety programs, regardless of where they live. The state could have worked with local governments to manage local aid if they saw waste in local budgets. Instead, localities must look for funding wherever they can. Some have had a tougher time than others, leading to unequal quality of local public services across the state.

**Question 3:** Working across the aisle is a necessity for the 10 Democrats (out of 33) in the State Senate. Nonetheless, I will be especially equipped to work with Republicans because I am not running to grow government or undercut our traditional values. Instead, I only want to promote common-sense solutions to the issues that face our state. I am running to serve the community rather than fight for an ideology.

**JORDAN, KRIS**, Republican  
Candidate did not respond.

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATES**

**17TH DISTRICT**  
(Vote for no more than one)

**CURTIN, MIKE**, Democrat  
1370 Cambridge Blvd, Columbus, OH 43212

**Email:** mcurtin2323@yahoo.com  
**Website:** www.mikecurtin.org

**Education:** B.A., Journalism, Ohio State University  
**Occupation:** State representative, retired journalist

**Qualifications for Office:** 38-year career at The Columbus Dispatch, studying and writing about state and local government and public policy.  
**Question 1:** Public safety, positive youth programs, economic opportunity and neighborhood improvements. These are the priorities that have the greatest potential to

improve the quality of life for families and children in the 17th district, encompassing most of the West and Southwest sides of Columbus. I am in regular contact and work with the neighborhood and civic organizations, and business leaders in the district to identify opportunities to advance these shared goals.

**Question 2:** When Ohio enacted a sales tax in 1935, it did so with an explicit promise to share those tax proceeds with local governments. That is why the Local Government Fund was created. When Ohio enacted an income tax in 1971, it again did so with an explicit promise to share those tax proceeds with local governments. The current administration is in the process of rolling back those promises, by dramatically cutting the Local Government Fund. This is a historic shift, and it is putting great strain on local governments across Ohio.

**Question 3:** I have a long history of working with Democrats and Republicans at the city, county and state levels to forge consensus in the enactment of public policies and benefit our communities and our state. I also have a long history of working with business leaders and their philanthropic entities, and the leaders of our nonprofit organizations, to build partnerships to improve the quality of life in central Ohio. Whether or not I am a state representative, I will continue to be involved in these efforts.

**NEWBERN, MIKE**, Republican  
2360 Collier Crest, Grove City, OH 43213

**Email:** mike@newbernfrohio.com  
**Website:** Newbernfrohio.com

**Education:** BSISE, Naval Nuclear Power School  
**Occupation:** Engineer  
**Qualifications for Office:** As a US Submarine Veteran and Engineer dedicated to public service, I possess a unique skillset and experience as well as the drive and determination necessary to be the voice of Ohio's 17th House District.

**Question 1:** There is no better upward mobility tool than school choice. We've seen what happens with schools are only measured by standardized test scores and attendance. If we allow parents to select the schools their children attend, the schools are held accountable by the people they serve, not a bureaucrat. The money should follow the child and we need to restore the right a parents has to choose. Ohio has done a lot to encourage job growth in recent years. We can do more for business of all sizes. In our efforts to expand jobs, we cannot forget small business.

**Question 2:** Ohio's tax code is one of the more complicated in the country. The cost of compliance prevents many businesses large and small from expanding beyond one or two locations. This not only hurts state revenues, but it also hurts local revenues. More importantly, it keeps Ohioans from working. Simplifying the tax code may be difficult in the near term, but will reap larger benefits in the long term.

**Question 3:** I am an engineer. I look at policy problems the way I have been trained to look at engineering problems, methodically. The issues we face need to be solved, but in

ways that work for the people of Ohio, not hinder them. It is that kind of common sense approach to legislation that will help me work to non-partisan solutions that not only address the needs of my constituents, but the needs of all Ohioans.

**18TH DISTRICT**  
(vote for no more than one)

**STINZIANO, MICHAEL**, Democrat  
379 W. Sixth Ave., Columbus, OH 43201

**Email:** mstinziano@citizensforstinziano.com  
**Website:** www.stinziano.com

**Education:** JD, Ohio State University College of Law; Masters Degree in Public Administration, George Washington University; BA, Leadership Studies, University of Richmond

**Occupation:** Attorney  
**Qualifications for Office:** Pragmatic, Innovative, and Effective Leadership. Endorsed by a diverse group of statewide and community organizations, elected officials, business and labor leaders, the Ohio and Franklin County Democratic Parties.

**Question 1:** Creating jobs to grow Ohio's economy and restore economic prosperity, particularly to foster small business growth, to create, retain, and sustain good paying jobs, is my top priority. I will continue providing strong, energetic leadership at the State house as an advocate who fights for hardworking taxpayers, our seniors, and our kids. Together, we will promote jobs and economic development in our community and improve neighborhood safety by increasing funding for police and fire services. As your Representative, I provide excellent Constituent Service and pledge to make our community the best place to live, work, and raise a family in Ohio.

**Question 2:** The loss in state support for local government resulted in a huge negative impact on the residents and small businesses that I represent in Bexley, Columbus and Grandview Heights. It degraded each community's ability to pay for essential services, like police and fire. These communities have had to consider additional revenue options to maintain services, and they continue to evaluate alternative options just to keep services at the level they were prior to cuts. This strain on local services is why I strongly opposed measures in the General Assembly that reduced support for local governments.

**Question 3:** As Director of the Franklin County Board of Elections, I learned firsthand that Democrats and Republicans must work together to build a better, brighter future for our constituents. I have a proven record of working in a bipartisan manner to find common sense solutions to overcome the problems and uncertainties facing Ohioans today. When you have a problem, question, or whenever I can be of service to you, call me at 614-219-9224 or email me at mstinziano@citizensforstinziano.com and I will do everything I can to help. Please visit www.stinziano.com often to learn more about my work on your behalf.

**SHARRAH, ROBERT W.**, Republican  
196 South Grant Ave, Unite 507,

Columbus, OH 43215  
**Email:** votesharrah@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.votesharrah.com

**Education:** Wright State University - Bachelor, Business Management; Wright State University - MBA

**Occupation:** Internal Auditor - Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.

**Qualifications for Office:** 7 years working as an accountant & auditor for small and large business.

**Question 1:** Education Reform - creating partnerships with the private sector to better prepare students to become our modern day workforce. Small Business Development - working with state and local governments to develop a more pro-business atmosphere that encourages investors and entrepreneurs to open new businesses in Ohio.

**Question 2:** The shift in governmental spending in Ohio has and will continue to affect the community. Ultimately, Ohio's fiscal health will be determined by its economic long-term growth not by state subsidies or revenue-sharing programs. Ohio policy makers have embraced a different approach designed to empower local taxpayers and designed to increase the control over local decisions and the local government operational activities. At the moment, local governments have a rather large "rainy day" fund. It's important to continue exercising fiscal discipline so that revenue can be used to fund local services, while ensuring a healthy "rainy day" fund.

**Question 3:** One of the reason I am getting involved and running for this office is because I'm tired of watching the stalemate in politics. We need to learn to compromise and work together. No one party or person has all the answers. I consider myself a team player. One issue I would reach across the aisle to address is education reform. This is an example of a difficult issue that needs a solution not comprised of party politics. Our state is still facing many difficult issues, and we need people that are willing to work together to find the best solutions.

**19TH DISTRICT**  
(vote for no more than one)

**JOHNSTON, MICHAEL**, Democrat  
5956 McJessey Dr., Westerville, OH 43081

**Email:** Mike@MikeJohnstonForOhio.com  
**Website:** www.MikeJohnstonForOhio.com

**Education:** Masters degrees in Public Administration & Project Management, BS in Computer Information Systems  
**Occupation:** Business Development at Teleperformance & small business owner

**Qualifications for Office:** Secretary of Central College CDA; endorsements listed on website; I look forward to working for and with all the residents of the 19th District  
**Question 1:** Ohio's number one priority should be properly supporting and improving our education system. Without a solid education system, nothing else is possible. I will also focus on returning transparency to JobsOhio and making sure our local communities have funding for police and fire services.

**Question 2:** The Ohio legislature has shifted Ohio's

tax burden onto the middle and working class through direct increases in the sales and property tax, but also onto our communities with cuts to schools and Ohio's Local Government Fund. As a result, townships, villages, cities, and school districts across Ohio and the 19th District have placed multiple levies on the ballot while cutting services. Minerva Park no longer has a functioning police department, Jefferson Township is taking fire equipment out of service. Ohio can and must do better.

**Question 3:** The job of a state representative is to represent residents of the district. I look forward to continuing to engage both residents and community leaders. I will work with other legislators of either party to get Ohio back on a better path, one where Ohio works for ALL residents and not just those who happen to have political connections or deep pockets. When a resident has an issue with a government service or navigating through the bureaucracy, I look forward to being able to use my office to assist them in achieving a positive resolution.

**MONIN, CHAD**, Libertarian  
4527 Northgate Rd, New Albany, OH 43054

**Email:** chad@chadforohio.com  
**Website:** chadforohio.com

**Education:** BA Political Science; MBA Candidate 4/2015  
**Occupation:** Business Owner  
**Qualifications for Office:** Citizen, Soldier, Business Owner

**Question 1:** First, to advocate for greatly increased transparency in all government departments, starting with putting the state's checkbook online so that Ohioans can monitor and analyze every dollar that is spent in real time. Second, to restore funding and power to local governments and school districts by working to roll back the 23 percent increase in state spending of the last three budgets. If state spending goes down, taxes can follow, which leads to more economic growth and more freedom for individuals, families, small and emerging businesses, and charitable organizations.

**Question 2:** The state government closed the \$8 billion budget gap at the expense of local governments, schools, and, ultimately, taxpayers. property taxes have gone up and will continue to rise as the state budget increases; the quality of schools and local essential services have been hit hard and will continue to face shortfalls. I place greater trust in local governments and school boards to make decisions with their citizens than in a state government far-removed from local concerns imposing top-down mandates. Power needs to be returned to localities, and the money raided from local government fund should be restored.

**Question 3:** The fact that I am neither a Democrat nor a Republican means I will not be controlled by party bosses who put their political advantage above the public interest. The fact that I do not accept contributions from corporate PACs means that I will never put special interest ahead of the economic interests and individual liberty of my fellow Ohioans. I will be a citizen legislator beholden only to my conscience and the people I am privileged to represent



**GONZALES, ANNE**, Republican  
335 Wildwood Drive,  
Westerville, OH 43081  
**Email:** gonzales4ohio@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.annegonzales.org  
**Education:** Bachelor of Science, Otterbein University  
**Occupation:** State Representative 19th District  
**Qualifications for Office:** Former Mayor of Westerville; Current State Representative; Endorsed by Ohio Chamber of Commerce NFIB  
**Question 1:** Being accessible and responding to the needs of my constituents is one priority our office will continue to focus on. I will continue to focus on tax cuts for our residents and small business owners and I will continue to work with parents, teachers and administrators to fight back the confusing and unnecessary testing mandates.  
**Question 2:** I fought and secured increase funding for Westerville, Gahanna, and New Albany-Plain Township schools. I supported a balanced budget without raising taxes, supported a 10% income tax cut for all Ohioans, and a 50% income tax cut to small business owners on the first \$250,000 of income. All of these items have had a positive impact on our communities.  
**Question 3:** Most of the bills that have passed out of the Ohio House during my time as a member have been with votes from both political parties. I am proud that during my four years as a legislator most of the bills I have authored and passed have been brought to me by my constituents in the 19th House District and have passed with strong bi-partisan support. I have always believed we can accomplish more when we work together, which is why I would be honored to continue my record of serving in a bipartisan fashion in the next session.

**20TH DISTRICT**  
**(Vote for no more than one)**

**BISHOFF, HEATHER**, Democrat  
2902 Braden Way, Blacklick, OH 43004  
**Email:** heather@heatherbishoff.com  
**Website:** heatherbishoff.com  
**Education:** BS Finance  
**Occupation:** State Representative, Ohio House; Self Employed, The Bishoff Group  
**Qualifications for Office:** Mother of Four, Army Vet, Small Business Owner, Freshman in the Legislature, Ohioan  
**Question 1:** In Ohio, education affects us all. The future of our state and our communities depend on our two million school age children in school right now. Finally the finding mechanism by which we propel our educational system is broken and presents undue burden to certain segments of our population.  
**Question 2:** Yes communities feel this! The shift of our income taxes not coming back to our communities has placed a tremendous burden on our homeowners, our seniors, our farmers- communities. While our income tax has gone down, our sales tax and our business taxes have gone up, our homestead exemption has been repealed, the cost of our license plates and drivers licenses, etc have gone up - all tax increases. Property taxes have gone up to compensate

for this shift in order to sustain education, safety and to service the economy.  
**Question 3:** I have always taught my children to figure out how to get along with other students in their class. You may not agree with everyone but you can always find something in common. Leaders at the Statehouse should lead no less of an example!

**MEFFORD, DAN**, Republican  
7257 Havens Rd., Blacklick, OH 43004  
**Email:** dan@meffordcpa.com  
**Website:** www.meffordforohio.com  
**Education:**  
**Occupation:**  
**Qualifications for Office:**  
**Question 1:** As a CPA, and medical practice administrator, I have a passionate interest in fixing the problems with our health care system, particularly as it relates to the Medicaid expansion, currently almost half of the Ohio budget. I favor implementing free market concepts of insurer fee schedule transparency and health savings accounts into existing insurance products (including Medicaid), to allow patients more control over health care costs. In addition, I will act as a watchdog over the implementation of Common Core standards in order to maintain as much local control over education as possible.  
**Question 2:** Local communities have struggled to maintain services in the face of declining funding from the State of Ohio. I approve of such a shift for services of District 20 localities to be paid for by District 20 residents. We have seen in other states that low taxes at a state level serve as a magnet for business and employment growth in Ohio. In the long run, we will grow our tax revenue by having higher employment. In the short run, we should work to maintain budget neutrality of state and local taxes in each district.  
**Question 3:** My ideas do not incorporate ideas from any one party. For example, Republicans typically want Obamacare repealed and replaced. I favor repairing it by implementing free market concepts, and removing many of the mandates, which will serve to reduce the cost of health care. Many Republicans now favor repeal of Common Core. Ohioans want to keep critical thinking teaching methods, yet maintain maximum local control. I favor the latter, whether that be through implementation of Common core or some other acceptable standard.

**21ST DISTRICT**  
**(vote for no more than one)**

**VALASCO, DAWN**, Democrat  
256 Autumn Leaf Ct., Columbus, OH 43235  
**Email:** votevalasco@gmail.com  
**Website:** votevalasco.com  
**Education:** B.A., and M.A.  
**Occupation:** Educator  
**Qualifications for Office:** I have had a career dedicated to public service and education. For the past five years I have served on the Board of Trustees for the Worthington Libraries.  
**Question 1:** I will work to change Ohio's unfair, unproductive tax policy. Our legislators have made major tax cuts hoping to create more jobs, but it hasn't worked. Ohio currently ranks near the bottom in the nation in job creation.

Tax cuts are not the answer to creating good jobs. How we spend our government's money is all about values. Instead of tax cuts for the wealthy and big corporations, we should restore and expand funding to local governments, public schools, post-secondary education, and research. Construction, education, and public safety create the foundation that makes our communities and our economy strong.  
**Question 2:** I believe this shift in tax burden has been bad for Ohio communities, and most taxpayers. In the current budget, local governments will get \$95 million less, following cuts of \$1 billion in the last budget. The majority party in the Statehouse has voted to give tax cuts that benefit the wealthiest Ohioans and big corporations most. Elimination of the tangible personal property tax, estate tax, and reduction in local government funding, has made cities in my district raise taxes to offset these changes. Now the majority of their revenue comes from local income tax, and property tax.  
**Question 3:** I believe that neither party has a monopoly on good ideas. Once elected, I will reach out to the opposing party and try to find common ground on issues that are important to the people in my district. Addressing the needs of all my constituents, will require that I know what those needs are, so I plan to meet with constituents on a regular basis.

**JOHNSEN, WILL**, Green  
Candidate did not respond.

**DUFFEY, MIKE**, Republican  
645 Farrington Drive, Worthington, OH 43085  
**Email:** citizensforduffey@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.mikeduffey.com  
**Education:** BA, Political Science, University of Michigan; coursework, The Ohio State University College of Law  
**Occupation:** State Representative  
**Qualifications for Office:** State Representative, 2011-Present; Worthington City Council, 2005-2010; Dublin-Worthington Rotary; Former Trustee, Worthington Community Improvement Corp; Outstanding Legislator 2012, Ohio Society of CPAs; Endorsed by the Ohio Chamber, Ohio Manufacturers' Association, NFIB, CPAs, Right to Life (over word limit)  
**Question 1:** Job creation and streamlining government. Creating jobs not only helps Ohio families, but it also supports increased revenues for local government, helping to keep our safety services well funded, allow roads to be improved and fund services for seniors and disabled Ohioans. Streamlining government allows us to do more with less, so that we can gradually lower taxes for all Ohioans.  
**Question 2:** We made the right choice by refusing to raise taxes to fix Ohio's \$8 billion budget shortfall in 2011. Ohio has created 250,000 jobs since electing Gov. Kasich, after losing 350,000 under Gov. Strickland. Across Ohio, 97% of local government restored previous spending levels by the end of 2012. From 2011 to 2013, Dublin total revenues increased 8.3% and Worthington's total revenue increased approx.

12%. Both cities are generating surpluses. With Gov. Kasich's support, we not only lowered state income taxes but also gave our local schools a large percentage increase in funding this budget.  
**Question 3:** I have worked on a bipartisan basis since being elected to the legislature. I stand out among Republicans for the bills I have joint-sponsored with members across the aisle, as well as the strong stands I have taken on redistricting reform (I sponsored a bipartisan bill), minor party restrictions (my "no" vote was supported by libertarian, tea party, democratic and green party affiliated candidates) and alternative energy (I supported a free market approach allows alternative energy to compete against traditional energy sources). My voting record is clearly conservative, bipartisan and independent.

**22ND DISTRICT**  
**(vote for no more than one)**

**LELAND, DAVID**, Democrat  
361 Walhalla Rd., Columbus, OH 43202  
**Email:** info@friendsofdavidleland.com  
**Website:** www.friendsofdavidleland.com  
**Education:** Columbus North High School, Ohio State University, Capital University Law School  
**Occupation:** Attorney, Carpenter Lipps & Leland  
**Qualifications for Office:** Ohio House of Representatives 115th Ohio General Assembly, Columbus Clippers Board of Trustees (currently Chair Emeritus); OSU Alumni Association, Outstanding Citizenship Award. Resident of the 22nd Ohio House District for over 44 years.  
**Question 1:** a. Economic Development and Job Creation: Economists say that 70% of our GDP comes from consumers. Ohio needs policies that benefit average consumers so that they can support businesses, which, thereby, create jobs. b. Reduce Greenhouse Gas Output: Our generation is the first to understand what causes climate change and the last to be able to fix it. To do nothing would be to consign our children and grandchildren to a legacy of suffering. c. Fair, Competitive Legislative District. Creating competitive, fair districts will repair our system by bringing better representation and reducing bitter partisanship, which plagues our political

process.  
**Question 2:** The public needs to understand that recent tax cuts have been financed in part by a reduction in state spending for local government services such as police and fire. I believe that Columbus has not been as adversely affected by these policies because of the decisions made by local leaders, but many other, especially small communities have struggled. Even in light of our resilience here in Columbus, Ohio needs policies that work for its cities and its small towns, and the public should be aware of this shift in priorities.  
**Question 3:** When I served in the 115th Ohio General Assembly, the political atmosphere was not as toxic as it is today. One of the reasons I have chosen to return is my belief that we need to try to return to the days when we could disagree with another, but not be disagreeable. We can achieve positive change step by step, but only when our elected officials are committed to working together to get things done.

**HALL, ANDREW C.**, Republican  
Candidate did not respond.

**23RD DISTRICT**  
**(vote for no more than one)**

**REDFERN, RICK**, Democrat  
3513 Lake Louise Drive, Grove City, OH 43123  
**Email:** FriendsOfRedfern@gmail.com  
**Website:** VoteRedfern.com  
**Education:** High School, Port Clinton High School; College: Bowling Green State University, American Studies and Journalism; Columbus State Community College, American Sign Language  
**Occupation:** Rental Manager, Schell Scenic Studio  
**Qualifications for Office:** As a family man and worker, I understand what the average voter is experiencing in their lives. I've been involved in politics and (over word limit)  
**Question 1:** I believe government is a tool used to improve all of our lives not just the lives of a few who can afford access and I want to work toward that goal. This would include ending privatization of public assets and restoring funding to local communities that serve people directly. I want to make the use of government funds transparent in things like charter schools and JobsOhio. I want to end the attack on worker and women

that has been occurring in the last few legislative sessions.  
**Question 2:** I believe it is wrong. As I answered in #1, I want to restore funding. Everyone is reaping the benefit of the local communities and yet only the middle and working class seem to be paying for the services to any extent. The tax shift has hurt us the most. We are watching our neighbors and families lose jobs in the public sector because of low funding levels. Our students receive less adequate education due to lack of funding and funding shifts to private entities.  
**Question 3:** I believe this is important. It begins with invitations to talk. It begins with asking questions of both sides...not just what and how, but why. Why is an issue important? Why is one way the only way to achieve the sought end? We must facilitate a higher level of conversation.

**GROSSMAN, CHERYL L.**, Republican  
3143 Park Street, Grove City, OH 43123  
**Email:** grossman47@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.cherylgrossmanforohio.com  
**Education:** JoAnn Davidson Leadership Institute; National League of Cities-Leadership, Bronze Level  
**Occupation:** Full Time Legislator  
**Qualifications for Office:** 6 years Ohio House of Representatives; 12 years Grove City Mayor; 2 years Grove City Council President  
**Question 1:** My two priorities while in office will be doing all that I can to match our unemployed Ohioans with meaningful jobs. As we are able to help people lift themselves from being dependent on government it will benefit everyone. It is very important that we prioritize our veterans in finding jobs as well. We have recently passed legislation that will give them credit for training they had in the military to utilize in civilian positions. Additionally, I will remain dedicated to reducing taxes for everyone. We must make Ohio competitive with other states.  
**Question 2:** I believe that the shift in spending and taxing from the state to the local jurisdictions has caused governmental agencies to be much more efficient in how funds are spent. I have spoken to local officials that have indicated this change has required them to work in collaboration with each other,

**VOTER IDENTIFICATION**

All voters must have identification with them when they vote. Acceptable forms of ID include one of the following:

- Current and valid photo identification (Ohio driver's license, state ID card, government ID) showing your name and address (current address not required for driver's license or state ID card);
- Military identification showing your name (address not required); or
- A copy of a current utility bill, cell phone bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check, or other government document showing your name and current address.

If you do not provide one of these documents at the polling place, you will still be able to vote a provisional ballot. You will then be expected to provide identification to the Board of Elections within the 10 days following Election Day. If you do not have any of the above forms of identification, including a Social Security number, you will still be able to vote a provisional ballot by signing an affirmation statement swearing to your identity under penalty of election falsification and by casting a provisional ballot.

rather than separately. When this happens, we all benefit from that efficiency. I believe there has been an effect on the communities I represent and I do not believe we should enact additional cuts at this time.

**Question 3:** I work across the aisle on a daily basis to serve all the people of Ohio. Out of the 18 bills I have introduced in this General Assembly, 6 have Democratic joint sponsors. More than 90 percent of the bills passed by the Ohio House this GA, have received bipartisan support. I feel there is great frustration by the voters regarding the gridlock of politics on the federal level. It is important to me to support legislation that I believe will make Ohio a better place to live and work.

#### 24TH DISTRICT (vote for no more than one)

**HOFF, KATHY**, Democrat  
3246 Scioto Run Blvd., Hilliard, OH 43026

**Email:** KathyHoffoh24@gmail.com

**Website:** www.KathySHoff.com

**Education:** B.A., Psychology and Sociology, University of Mount Union, M.Ed., Administration, Xavier University

**Occupation:** University Dean

**Qualifications for Office:**

Twenty – five years in higher education administration that includes judicial services, emergency response, security, international and disability services, career services, financial aid, veteran services, third party management, budgeting and auditing. **Question 1:** Ohio was hit hard by the recession, and like many other states, we are still recovering. When elected State Representative, I will work to grow an educated, skilled workforce that is well-equipped to compete for good paying jobs in both current and developing industries that are safe, sustainable, and contribute to the long-term health of Ohio's economy. This means encouraging young people to look not only at college as an option, but also vocational training. Ohio has a number of quality apprenticeship programs and we need to make sure that access to those programs continues.

**Question 2:** We need to restore our funding back to our local communities. Just walking the neighborhoods in the full area of District 24 over the past 8 months has confirmed that. Our community has shared their growing concern of repeated local levies on the ballot, unaccountable charter schools taking their tax dollars, the ability to provide strong, safe services, and maintenance on aging streets and sidewalks.

**Question 3:** My role for 20 years on the executive board I serve has been the voice of our community. I work daily with a diverse group of professionals with one goal in mind: success of our students. We know that student success is our success. The same holds true for the state of Ohio. Ohio's success will lie in our ability to raise the success level of our constituents. It requires us to work together, to make good policy that benefits our communities and businesses. That is what the state legislature is meant to be and that is what I provide.

**NOBLE, MARK**, Libertarian  
723 Springs Drive, Columbus, OH 43214

**Email:** infor@NOBLEforOHIO.com

**Website:** http://NOBLEforOHIO.com

**Education:** B.S., The Ohio State University, 2007 in Electrical and Computer Engineering

**Occupation:** Software Engineer, Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow (ECOT)

**Qualifications for Office:**

With 18 years of experience in the private sector I've used technology to resolve issues facing businesses in Columbus's key industries. This knowledge can help lead Ohio's economic recovery and restore jobs.

**Question 1:** My top priorities are protecting the rights of Ohioans as individuals and ensuring that we are prepared to weather whatever economic challenges come our way. This is best accomplished by enabling all members of society to have abundant opportunities to achieve financial success. To this end I'd support reforms that would introduce competition to existing State services and regulatory mechanisms- allowing people to choose or create better alternatives when The State fails them. I'd also push for Ohio to reduce reliance on external funding and the restrictions that come with it. I humbly ask for your vote to begin.

**Question 2:** The State should not be picking winners and losers when it comes to Ohio communities. That's the job of Ohioans as they choose which communities to make their home or workplace. The only proper role of government in the economic realm is to protect property rights, settle disputes, and provide a legal framework in which voluntary trade is protected. All efforts by government to redistribute wealth, or to control or manage trade, are improper in a free society. Funding changes have encouraged the communities in my district and across Ohio to live within their means. Let's continue this responsible trend.

**Question 3:** The Libertarian Party Platform (adopted in Columbus, Ohio this summer - <https://lp.org/platform>) reveals that we agree with many sentiments common in the parties already represented in The State House. Ohioans understand that there are more than two sides to each issue. I have an opportunity to independently represent ideas from our community that aren't allowed to flourish under a fiercely bipartisan regime. My unique position ensures that while I must be considerate of established viewpoints, I'll also have important leverage to represent the people of my district.

**KUNZE, STEPHANIE L.**, Republican

5994 Farm Creek Ct., Hilliard, OH 43206

**Email:** kunzeforstaterep@gmail.com

**Website:** www.stephaniekunze.com

**Education:** BA, Indiana University

**Occupation:** State Representative, 24th District  
**Qualifications for Office:** State Representative, 24th District; Hilliard City Councilwoman; Endorsements: Ohio Society of CPA's; Ohio Restaurant Association; NFIB Ohio; Ohio Chamber of Commerce "Chamber Choice"; Ohio Farm

Bureau "Friend of Agriculture"; Ohio Manufacturer's Association; Ohio Right to Life

**Question 1:** My top priority, if re-elected, will continue to be economic development. Ohio's comeback starts with providing families the opportunity for gainful employment. The creation of jobs within the private sector strengthens families and our communities. With tens of thousands of new, private sector jobs and the biggest manufacturing job growth in 20 years, Ohio is moving in the right direction, but there is still work to be done.

**Question 2:** As a former Hilliard city councilwoman, I understand the challenges that are before local governments. However, with the Local Government Fund making up just three cents out of every dollar that local governments receive, it was the decision of a prior GA to tighten government belts at a time when household budgets were doing the same. Through attrition, shared services, and economic development, much of the 24th House District is rebounding from the economic downturn. Additionally, I am proud to have worked to bring \$1.4 million dollars into the 24th House District for improvements through the capital budget.

**Question 3:** My record shows that I am a proven leader in reaching across the aisle to meet the needs of all my constituents. In the year and a half I have served as State Representative for the 24th House District, I am pleased to have sponsored six bills signed into law. Of these, all passed with bipartisan support, including House Bill 144, which prohibits the sale of e-cigarettes to minors. In addition, I was proud to be one of the house leaders sponsoring the bipartisan Public Works funding resolution.

#### 25TH DISTRICT (vote for no more than one)

**BOYCE, KEVIN**, Democrat  
3184 Sophie St., Columbus, OH 43219

**Email:** boyce1@columbus.rr.com

**Website:** www.kevinboyce.com

**Education:** University of Toledo, BS; Central Michigan University, MPA

**Occupation:** Investment Banker  
**Qualifications for Office:** Former Ohio Treasurer of State; Former Columbus City Councilmember (President Pro-Tem; Finance Chairman)

**Question 1:** My top priority is to help bolster Ohio's economy to help create and retain jobs. Small businesses are engines of job creation and present the greatest opportunities for growth within Ohio. I am committed to helping businesses succeed by investing in public education and infrastructure.

I want to bring creative ideas that impact, similar to programs I introduced as State Treasurer. For example, I promoted economic development and encouraged job creation in our state by strategically leveraging Treasury investments using the investment returns to reduce loan cost for farmers, small businesses, and even homeowners that were doing energy efficiency upgrades.

**Question 2:** With the significant budget cuts that have occurred at the state level, many cities and counties have been impacted. We need to

work together to find alternative funding solutions that have the community support.

**Question 3:** I believe that my skills, professional experience, and leadership background offer a unique set of resources that can contribute to not only the health of the 25th House District but also the state of Ohio. Issues ranging from healthcare to the economy have dominated public policy discussions within our state. In an environment where term limits are having a substantial impact on issue expertise and institutional memory, I believe my candidacy will create balance that adds value to the overall strength of our legislative body.

**GOLDING, SETH B.**, Republican  
43 E. Dodridge St., Columbus, OH 43202

**Email:** sethohio@msn.com

**Website:**

**Education:** Whetstone High School, Columbus, OH

**Occupation:** Graphic Arts

**Qualifications for Office:** University Area Commissioner, Business owner

**Question 1:** My top priorities are to be a watchdog on State spending and to be fiscally responsible with taxpayer funds. I would work tirelessly to repeal the OSU Sophomore rule which mandates 2nd year students to live in dorms. The rule would raise the student and/or parent monthly payment an additional \$400.00. I believe this to be an outrageous burden to an already expensive college experience. They are increasing the monthly cost to more than the cost of a very expensive property tax. OSU is a state college and should be trying to reduce costs, not bankrupt students.

**Question 2:** I believe the more local the tax, the more transparent the usage of taxpayer funds become. Government agencies and municipalities should make the same hard decisions that private businesses have made in a struggling economy, and become fiscally responsible and accountable and not expect endless infusions of cash from the taxpayer.

**Question 3:** I consider myself to be a centrist Republican and not ashamed to say so. I do believe I could effectively work with both sides when it is in the best interest of the voters. With that said, I would vehemently guard against policies that blatantly waste taxpayer funds as has been done in the past. It has become the mindset of some policymakers both nationwide and statewide for far too long.

#### 26TH DISTRICT (vote for no more than one)

**CRAIG, HEARCEL F.**, Democrat  
1026 Linwood Ave, Columbus OH 43206

**Email:**

**Website:** www.craigforohio.com

**Education:** Franklin University, B.A. in Business Administration; Central Michigan University, M.S. in Administration; Boston University, National Leadership Fellow

**Occupation:** Columbus City Councilmember

**Qualifications for Office:** I believe that as a State Representative, I will be able to use my experience as a Councilmember to address the issues facing our state in a different way.

**Question 1:** Poverty is an overwhelming issue in the 26th House District. I have lived in this community for many years, and I know that residents deserve a partner at the Statehouse who is willing to work with them to make our community stronger. I am committed to working within our community to improve life for the residents of the 26th House district by focusing on education, economic development, and safety.

**Question 2:** As a Councilmember, I have seen the devastating impact that cuts to the local government fund have had on our community Above all else, we must work together to ensure that the economic stability of our state is addressed without placing an unfair burden on local governments. While I believe that there will be no easy solution to the economic challenges that our state is facing, I am committed to working together to achieve common sense reform that positions Ohio for success in the future.

**Question 3:** Ohioans deserve elected officials who are working together to make our state the best it can be. If elected State Representative, I will serve my constituents to the best of my ability each and every day. A core component of that service will require that I identify partnerships with those who may have differing perspectives. I would be humbled by the opportunity to serve.

**PYLES, DUSTIN**, Republican  
Candidate did not respond.

#### FRANKLIN COUNTY OFFICES

##### FRANKLIN COUNTY AUDITOR (vote for no more than one)

**SCHADEK, MIKE**, Democrat  
1537 Guilford Rd, Columbus, OH 43221

**Email:** mdschadek@aol.com

**Website:** <http://voteschadek.com>

**Education:** BA University of Notre Dame, JD Cleveland-Marshall School of Law

**Occupation:** Attorney, Long-term health specialist

**Qualifications for Office:** attorney, public servant (Upper Arlington City Council), and small business owner (serving realty community)

**Question 1:** My priorities are accountability, transparency and restoring trust in the county auditor's office.

The taxpayers deserve accountability and public employees deserve respect. Fair property valuations are a top priority as well. I am proud of my contributions to the success of economic development in Upper Arlington, and will continue my pro-resident approach. I am excited by the potential of Franklin County in its richness of diversity and human potential and intend to be proactively engaged in moving Franklin County forward.

**Question 2:** The shift in tax burdens has forced my community of Upper Arlington, where I serve on city council, to consider raising taxes in order to pay for infrastructure needs. Options at the local level are limited and perceived as less fair than those at the state level. Income tax increases affect individuals disproportionately, use fees hit those on a fixed

income, and municipal property tax increases make it harder for schools to renew their levies. My community is also considering the sale of park space in order to make up for state cuts.

**Question 3:** On city council I have a strong working relationship with other council members from both parties and a range of ideological views and backgrounds. Soliciting resident input is vital to local government function, at the city and county level. When there are disagreements I make it a practice to encourage the full expression of each stakeholders' point of view. Ultimately, the residents are the decision-makers. The ability to vote on the decisions that affect our daily lives is essential and I have worked to safeguard that right, and will continue that philosophy as your next Franklin County Auditor.

**MINGO, CLARENCE E. II.**, Republican

8406 Leisner Ave, New Albany, OH 43054

**Email:** Clarence@

ClarenceMingo.com

**Website:** www.ClarenceMingo.Com

**Education:** The Ohio State University; Moritz College of Law; B.S. in Political Science, J.D.; Graduated 1996/1998

**Occupation:** Franklin County Auditor, August 2009-present  
**Qualifications for Office:** As the Franklin County Auditor I have worked tirelessly to update office technology, cut government spending, and improve customer service for the benefit of all residents of Franklin County.

**Question 1:** My top two priorities as Auditor will continue to be providing consistent staff training, and updating the office's technology. Internally, the process of preserving institutional knowledge lost to retirement, while recruiting and training new staff must continue. Further, replacing old and antiquated legacy systems must remain a high priority to ensure effective public service. My senior leadership and I are undertaking and meeting these challenges. We have successfully recruited and trained high caliber new staff members committed to public service and are replacing all of the major real estate operating systems to enhance taxpayer services.

**Question 2:** As Franklin County Auditor, I have eliminated wasteful spending by prioritizing the operational efficiency of the office. As a result, I have returned more than \$17.5 million to the local jurisdictions within Franklin County. Reducing government spending must be a priority of all public servants in order to ensure adequate funding for essential services at all levels of government.

**Question 3:** Addressing the needs of my constituents is my foremost priority, which is why I have a record of working with any and all public servants to find creative solutions to the challenges we face. For example, when the recession caused a 42% increase in property value challenges, I collaborated with the Franklin County Commissioners and Franklin County Treasurer to devise a mediation program designed to expedite property tax adjustments and ensure fairness and convenience. This mediation program has been so successful that it now serve as a



model for other counties across the State of Ohio.

**FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONER (uncontested race)**

**BROWN, MARILYN**, Democrat  
34 W. Poplar Ave., Apt. 205,  
Columbus, OH 43215

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BALLOT ISSUES**

**BALLOT ISSUE #4: FRANKLIN COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES LEVY**

**EXPLANATION**

Issue 4, if approved will renew a 1.9 mill property tax levy providing funds for Franklin County Children Services (FCCS). The proposed 10-year renewal of the levy does not increase property taxes for homeowners, but continues support for FCCS at its current level. Defeat of this levy would decrease operating revenue by 25% and require a reduction in services provided by FCCS. Serving more than 30,000 children and their families annually, FCCS is mandated by Ohio Revised Code to investigate any allegation of child abuse or neglect. FCCS also provides protective services, helps parents resolve family problems by referring them to community based programs, and places children in temporary foster care, with relatives, in residential care, or in permanent adoptive homes when necessary.

**ARGUMENTS MADE IN SUPPORT OF ISSUE 4**

The renewal levy will not raise taxes but only continues the current funding of FCCS: FCCS has exercised fiscal responsibility by carefully studying its anticipated needs. FCCS intervenes and provides vital services to children at a time in their development that not only benefits them and their families but also benefits the community long term.

**ARGUMENTS MADE IN OPPOSITION TO ISSUE 4**

Property taxes are a burden for people on fixed incomes. A better approach would be for the state to replace the FCCS property tax with an increase in state funding.

**CITY OF COLUMBUS BALLOT ISSUES**

**BALLOT ISSUE 6: COLUMBUS CITY CHARTER AMENDMENTS**

**EXPLANATION**

Issue 6, proposed by the Columbus City Council, contains numerous changes to the Columbus Charter concerning City Administration. Changes include:  
• Public Records. The mayor's budget estimate and the annual report of the city may be published electronically rather than printed.  
• Finance. The mayor, auditor and treasurer must certify funds are available. The Sinking Fund is repealed. Investments are regulated by ordinance.  
• Utilities. "Utilities" includes all utilities, not just water. Utility debt must be funded. Nonprofits serving disadvantaged persons may be exempted from payments.

Franchises authorized by the city must reserve the right to prevent unjust discrimination in service or rates.  
• Recreation and Parks Commission members must be residents of Columbus.  
• Civil Service Commission may increase time for reinstatement to 3 years.  
• A charter review commission must be established every 10 years.  
• Permits city council to make technical changes to the city charter by city ordinance.  
• Civil Rights. Columbus City will not deny equal access to city service or employment on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, disability, family or military status, or any other protected status.

Additional information can be found at [http://columbus.gov/uploadedFiles/Columbus/Elected\\_Officials/City\\_Council/Charter\\_Review\\_Commission/Amendments\\_as\\_passed\\_by\\_Council/1747-2014%20City%20Administration%20charter%20amendment.pdf](http://columbus.gov/uploadedFiles/Columbus/Elected_Officials/City_Council/Charter_Review_Commission/Amendments_as_passed_by_Council/1747-2014%20City%20Administration%20charter%20amendment.pdf)

**ARGUMENTS MADE IN SUPPORT OF ISSUE 6**

The Columbus City Charter was in need of updating.

**ARGUMENTS MADE IN OPPOSITION TO ISSUE 6**

Voters must vote on all of these items together, with no opportunity to vote "yes" on some and "no" on others.

**BALLOT ISSUE 7: COLUMBUS CITY CHARTER AMENDMENTS**

**EXPLANATION**

Issue 7, proposed by the Columbus City Council, contains numerous changes to the Columbus Charter concerning Elections. Changes include:  
• City Elections must be conducted under state law, unless otherwise provided by the charter or ordinance.  
• City Council may enact ordinances regulating campaign finances and disclosure of contributions.  
• Initiative, Referendum and Recall. City will provide a template to petitioners. Petitioners must state if they intend to compensate signature gatherers and must report payments. Petitioners must file a certified copy of a petition with the city before collecting signatures.  
• Initiative and Referendum. Petitioners for an initiative or a charter amendment have 1 year in which to file their signatures. Petitioners for a referendum have 30 days in which to file signatures. Petitioners must file valid signatures equal to 5% of votes cast in the last regular municipal election for mayor for initiative or referendum. (The current requirement is 5% of votes cast in the last general municipal election.) If a petition is sufficient, council has 30 days to pass or repeal the ordinance. Otherwise it is submitted to the voters. Council will write the ballot summary and may write arguments for and against the issue. Petitioners may submit suggested language to council.  
• Recall. Maintains the requirement for valid signatures of 15% of votes cast in the last regular municipal

election for mayor. Recall petitions may not be filed within 180 days of an official taking office or within 90 days of a general election for the office. No more than 3 elected officials may be recalled at a single election.

Additional information can be found at [http://columbus.gov/uploadedFiles/Columbus/Elected\\_Officials/City\\_Council/Charter\\_Review\\_Commission/Amendments\\_as\\_passed\\_by\\_Council/1748-2014%20City%20Elections%20charter%20amendment.pdf](http://columbus.gov/uploadedFiles/Columbus/Elected_Officials/City_Council/Charter_Review_Commission/Amendments_as_passed_by_Council/1748-2014%20City%20Elections%20charter%20amendment.pdf)

**ARGUMENTS MADE IN SUPPORT OF ISSUE 7:**

City Charter is in need of updating.

**ARGUMENTS MADE IN OPPOSITION OF ISSUE 7:**

Voters must vote on all of these items together, with no opportunity to vote "yes" on some and "no" on others.

**BALLOT ISSUE 8: COLUMBUS CITY CHARTER AMENDMENTS**

**EXPLANATION**

Issue 8, proposed by the Columbus City Council, contains numerous changes to the Columbus Charter concerning Officeholders. Changes include:  
• Corruption. Adopts state laws concerning corruption by city officers or employees and establishes prohibited uses of public funds.  
• Open records and open meetings. Records of the city are open pursuant to state laws and public bodies of the city are subject to state open meeting laws.  
• Creates the Citizens' Commission on Elected Official Compensation to recommend, every 4 years, the salary for the mayor, auditor, city attorney, and city council.  
• Ordinances may be introduced electronically. The city bulletin will be an electronic record.  
• Establishes procedures to follow if a council member, mayor, auditor, or city attorney is temporarily unable to discharge their duties of office.  
• Council members, mayor, city attorney and auditor must reside in Columbus and may not hold any other public office except notary public, state militia or US Armed Forces Reserves.

Additional information can be found at [http://columbus.gov/uploadedFiles/Columbus/Elected\\_Officials/City\\_Council/Charter\\_Review\\_Commission/Amendments\\_as\\_passed\\_by\\_Council/1749-2014%20City%20Officeholders%20charter%20amendment.pdf](http://columbus.gov/uploadedFiles/Columbus/Elected_Officials/City_Council/Charter_Review_Commission/Amendments_as_passed_by_Council/1749-2014%20City%20Officeholders%20charter%20amendment.pdf)

**ARGUMENTS MADE IN SUPPORT OF ISSUE 8:**

City Charter was in need of updating.

**ARGUMENTS MADE IN OPPOSITION OF ISSUE 8:**

Voters must vote on all of these items together, with no opportunity to vote "yes" on some and "no" on others.

CERTIFIED ISSUES LIST GENERAL ELECTION – NOVEMBER 4, 2014 Revised 9/3/2014 2:00 PM			
#	Subdivision	Purpose	Rate
#1	Gahanna-Jefferson City School District – Proposed Tax Levy – Additional	General permanent improvements	2.16 mills, \$0.216 per \$100 valuation, for a continuing period of time
#2	Grandview Heights City School District – Proposed Tax Levy – Additional	Current operating expenses	5.9 mills, \$0.59 per \$100 valuation, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2014
	Mt. Sterling Public Library – Proposed Tax Levy – Additional	Current expenses	0.4 mill, \$0.04 per \$100 valuation, for 5 years, commencing in 2014
<b>OVERLAP FROM MADISON COUNTY</b>			
#3	New Albany-Plain Local School District – Proposed Tax Levy – Additional	Current operating expenses; General permanent improvements	8.9 mills (6.9 for C.O.E.; 2.0 for G.P.I.), \$0.89 per \$100 valuation, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2014
#4	Franklin County – Proposed Tax Levy – Renewal	Protecting abused and neglected children and providing services to abused and neglected children and their families	1.9 mills, \$0.19 per \$100 valuation, for 10 years, commencing in 2014
#6	City of Columbus – Proposed Charter Amendment	Proposed charter amendment regarding City Administration	
#7	City of Columbus – Proposed Charter Amendment	Proposed charter amendment regarding City Elections	
#8	City of Columbus – Proposed Charter Amendment	Proposed charter amendment regarding City Officeholders	
#9A	Columbus 21-F Local Option	Particular Location – Weekday Sales CALIMIRA, LLC dba Rusty Bucket Restaurant & Tavern 4109 N. High St., Columbus, OH 43214	
#9B	Columbus 21-F Local Option	Particular Location – Sunday Sales (10am-midnight) CALIMIRA, LLC dba Rusty Bucket Restaurant & Tavern 4109 N. High St., Columbus, OH 43214	
#10B	Columbus 28-A Local Option	Particular Location – Sunday Sales (11am-midnight) J.D. Lounge, L.L.C., dba Retro Lounge 1714 Zettler Rd. & Patio, Columbus, OH 43227	
#11B	Columbus 28-D Local Option	Particular Location – Sunday Sales (11am-midnight) J. Mac Investments, L.L.C., dba Moments 2063 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus, OH 43209	
#12B	Columbus 30-A Local Option	Particular Location – Sunday Sales (10am-midnight) ABC Liquor Corporation dba ABC Liquor 1571 E. Dublin Granville Rd., Columbus, OH 43229	
#14B	Columbus 42-A Local Option	Particular Location – Sunday Sales (10am-midnight) Kroger Co., dba Kroger 1745 Morse Rd., Columbus, OH 43229	
#15B	Columbus 45-D Local Option	Particular Location – Sunday Sales (11am-midnight) Noe Bixby Oil Co., Inc. dba Noe Bixby Marathon 4755 Refugee Rd., Columbus, OH 43232	
#16B	Columbus 52-E Local Option	Particular Location – Sunday Sales (10am-midnight) Kroger Co. 0988 1630 Morse Rd., Columbus, OH 43229	
#17B	Columbus 75-D Local Option	Particular Location – Sunday Sales (10am-midnight) Subworx LLC dba Submarine House 2459 Hilliard Rome Rd., Columbus, OH 43228	
#18A	Columbus 85-D Local Option	Particular Location – Weekday Sales Tamarkin Company dba Hamilton & 33 Giant Eagle 6537 3841 S. Hamilton Rd., Columbus, OH 43125	
#18B	Columbus 85-D Local Option	Particular Location – Sunday Sales (10am-midnight) Tamarkin Company dba Hamilton & 33 Giant Eagle 6537 3841 S. Hamilton Rd., Columbus, OH 43125	
#20A	Groveport A Local Option	Particular Location – Weekday Sales Loom Lodge 1245 Whitehall, dba Moose 1245 220 Main St., Groveport, OH 43125	
#20B	Groveport A Local Option	Particular Location – Sunday Sales (10am-midnight) Loom Lodge 1245 Whitehall, dba Moose 1245 220 Main St., Groveport, OH 43125	
#21B	Hilliard 2-C Local Option	Particular Location – Sunday Sales (10am-midnight) Tamarkin Company dba Giant Eagle #6531 4001 Britton Pkwy, Hilliard, OH 43026	
#22B	Hilliard 4-A Local Option	Particular Location – Sunday Sales (10am-midnight) KDP Investments of Ohio LTD, dba C G Food Mart 4323 Cosgray Rd., Hilliard, OH 43026	
#23	City of Upper Arlington – Proposed Municipal Income Tax (Increase)	To increase the municipal income tax from 2% to 2.5% with the increased 0.5% portion being dedicated for capital improvements, maintenance and repair of streets and other physical property	
#24	City of Westerville – Proposed Income Tax (Continuation)	To provide for the continuation of an existing income tax of 0.25% until Dec. 31, 2040 for parks and recreation purposes	
#25A	Westerville 1-A Local Option	Particular Location – Weekday Sales CAMPCO, LLC, dba 8 State Bistro 8 N. State St., Westerville, OH 43081	
#25B	Westerville 1-A Local Option	Particular Location – Sunday Sales (11am-midnight) CAMPCO, LLC, dba 8 State Bistro 8 N. State St., Westerville, OH 43081	
#26A	Westerville 2-G Local Option	Particular Location – Weekday Sales (Beer) Certified Oil Corp dba Certified Oil #324 131 S. Sunbury Rd., Westerville, OH 43081	
#26B	Westerville 2-G Local Option	Particular Location – Sunday Sales (11am-midnight) (Beer) Certified Oil Corp dba Certified Oil #324 131 S. Sunbury Rd., Westerville, OH 43081	
#27A	Westerville 2-G Local Option	Particular Location – Weekday Sales (Wine) Certified Oil Corp dba Certified Oil #324 131 S. Sunbury Rd., Westerville, OH 43081	
#27B	Westerville 2-G Local Option	Particular Location – Sunday Sales (11am-midnight) (Wine) Certified Oil Corp dba Certified Oil #324 131 S. Sunbury Rd., Westerville, OH 43081	
#28A	Westerville 5-B Local Option	Particular Location – Weekday Sales (Beer) WalMart Stores East LP dba WalMart 5857 50 E. Schrock Rd., Westerville, OH 43081	
#29A	Westerville 5-B Local Option	Particular Location – Weekday Sales (Wine) WalMart Stores East LP dba WalMart 5857 50 E. Schrock Rd., Westerville, OH 43081	
	Village of Lithopolis – Proposed Income Tax	To provide for a 0.5% levy increase on earned income for village capital projects for 5 years	
<b>OVERLAP FROM FAIRFIELD COUNTY</b>			
#31	Village of Minerva Park – Proposed Income Tax	To increase the municipal income tax from 1% to 2% for general municipal operations and services	
#32	Village of Obetz – Proposed Income Tax	To increase the municipal income tax from 2% to 2.5% for police services and operations	
#34	Brown Township – Proposed Tax Levy – Additional	Fire Protection	5.12 mills, \$0.512 per \$100 valuation, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2014
#35	Franklin Township Fire District – Proposed Tax Levy – Additional	Fire Protection	5.12 mills, \$0.512 per \$100 valuation, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2014
#36	Hamilton Township	Resolution to allow the Township to create an Electric Aggregation program for Hamilton Township	
#37	Hamilton Township	Resolution to allow the Township to create a Gas Aggregation program for Hamilton Township	
#38	Jackson Township – Proposed Tax Levy – Additional	Fire Protection	3.75 mills, \$0.375 per \$100 valuation, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2014
#39	Jefferson Township – Proposed Tax Levy – Additional	Fire Protection	3.0 mills, \$0.30 per \$100 valuation, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2014
#40	Perry Township – Proposed Tax Levy – Renewal	Streets, roads and bridges	1.5 mills, \$0.15 per \$100 valuation, for 5 years, commencing in 2014
#41	Plain Township – Proposed Tax Levy – Additional	Fire Protection	2.0 mills, \$0.20 per \$100 valuation, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2014
#42	Pleasant Township	Resolution to allow the Township to create an Electric Aggregation program for Pleasant Township	
#43	Prairie Township	Resolution to allow the Township to create a Gas Aggregation program for Prairie Township	



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