

Voter Information Bulletin

Will appear in newsprint on Sunday, October 29, 2006 in the *Columbus Dispatch*

Representative to US Congress

Questions for Candidates for US Congress

Question 1: What is the role of the Federal Government in decreasing poverty? (100 word limit)

Question 2: What are your ideas for ensuring that all Americans have access to affordable healthcare? (100 word limit)

Question 3: What do you see are the most significant outcomes of No Child Left Behind? (100 word limit)

Question 4: To what extent do you believe global warming is an issue that should be addressed by the Federal Government? (100 word limit)

Question 5: What should be done about the growing national debt? (100 word limit)

7th District

Vote for not more than one

William R. Connor, 3193 Kingfisher Pl., Beavercreek, 45431

Email: conner.bill@gmail.com

Website: ConnerForUS.com

Education: BS and MS Aero and Astro Engineering, Purdue University

Occupation: Software Developer

Qualifications for Office: 20 Years as AF Officer, overlapping 30 years as a software developer concentrating on management system development. 30 years supporting all major organizations at WPAFB. Intelligence experience including overseas HUMINT operations, and work with CIA, DIA, and NSA. Demonstrated (over word limit)

Answers to Questions:

Question 1: Decreasing poverty is a key and essential role of the Federal Government. The economy is driven by money in the hands of the many people –not the rich. Poverty reduction must be the cornerstone of a tax policy which does not reduce taxes for the rich with the phony claim that it will help the economy. Fighting poverty is the reason for Social Security, the need for universal health care, a good education for all, and jobs programs. We must get away from lobbyist controlled government for the benefit of the rich. See www.ConnerForUS.com.

Question 2: We must first produce a budget surplus and we can do that in 2007. (See www.ConnerForUS.com.) We can then have universal health coverage. We must control medical costs. Control civil suits against doctors and insurance company gouging to reduce malpractice premiums. Eliminate the 30% administrative costs now collected by insurance companies. We must not allow either patients or providers to overcharge the system. The plans implemented in Maine and Massachusetts should provide design lessons.

Question 3: I have talked to many teachers and parents, NCLB has been a failure. Predictably, school districts have reacted to the extreme pressure by gaming the system. Too many tests are required by NCLB. Many districts have added practice tests and most of the school year is spent teaching to tests rather than preparing the students for long term success. I propose a master teacher concept. This would be a national program where teaching methods related to each grade level and subject are studied, advanced and disseminated over the internet to teachers. Use tests as one means of tracking student progress.

Question 4: Global warming is a real and present danger. If we don't work diligently to solve the problem now, we could get beyond the possibility of a cure. The government must control greenhouse gas emissions in this country and work with the world community to control the

problem world wide. The Bush administration, with the help of a subservient Congress including Hobson, has put the short term profits of their friends in international corporations ahead of the survival of this planet.

Question 5: We can and must produce a budget surplus and start paying down the debt in 2007. We must rescind oil company tax cuts, negotiate Medicare D drug prices, eliminate special interest loopholes, simplify the tax code, and roll back the Reagan and Bush tax cuts for the rich. Tax cuts for the rich do not spur the economy. The economy is controlled by money in the hands of the poor and middleclass. This was proven by FDR. See www.ConnorForUS.com.

Dave Hobson, 2905 Kilkenny Dr., Springfield, 45503
No survey received.

12th District

Vote for not more than one.

Bob Shamansky, 525 S. Drexel Ave., Apt. C, Columbus, 43209
No survey received.

Pat Tiberi, 6830 Mahogany Dr., Galena, 43021

Email: pat.tiberi@pattiberi.com **Website:** tiberiforcongress.com

Education: Bachelor's degree, journalism, Ohio State

Occupation: Representative to Congress, former realtor

Qualifications for Office: Tireless advocate for the needs of all my constituents. Proven ability to work on a bipartisan basis to solve problems facing our community and country. Numerous awards and honors over 14 years in elective office.

Answers to Questions:

Question 1: Decreasing poverty in America cannot be achieved with any one initiative. Poverty has many causes and must be addressed on many different fronts. These include closing the achievement gap and creating opportunities in education for all, regardless of race or socioeconomic status, pursuing initiatives to provide job training assistance and encouraging employers to engage communities that face barriers to employment, and ending homelessness and placing individuals on a path to sustainable housing and, ultimately, homeownership. These are all areas where I have been active as a Member of Congress, and look forward to continuing work on.

Question 2: The federal government has an obligation to help make health care more affordable and accessible for all Americans. This can be achieved, in part, by giving Americans greater control over their health care dollar by opening access to plans that combine tax-advantaged savings accounts for routine medical expenses with catastrophic coverage. We must also create an environment where employers who voluntarily offer health benefits to their employees can continue to do so at an affordable price. Small businesses should be allowed to join together and purchase health insurance for their employees at a lower cost.

Question 3: No Child Left Behind is closing the achievement gap, and helping to eliminate the practice of "social promotion." The Nation's Report Card, released in July of last year, showed achievement levels for elementary school students were at all time highs for reading and math. Minority youth have particularly benefited. Reading and math scores for African American and Hispanic nine-year-olds are also at their highest levels ever. As a member of the House

Education Committee, I'll work to make this law as "user friendly" as possible for our local schools.

Question 4: We should continue research to determine the seriousness of the global warming problem, its causes and consequences. We need to realize that it is a global issue, so it requires a global response. I support federal research efforts such as *FutureGen*, a planned zero-emissions coal fired electric generating plant prototype. If successful, it could lead to greater use of Ohio's coal without emissions of so-called greenhouse gases, benefiting both the environment and the economy. I also support tougher federal mileage standards for cars and trucks, and greater use of nuclear power, which has no emissions.

Question 5: Enact both a Balanced Budget Amendment and the Line Item veto. Collect all taxes that are owed-some \$345 billion went uncollected in 2001, the latest year on record. That amount would more than wipe out this year's deficit. Enact tax simplification that will encourage better compliance. Most important, the growth in spending for "auto pilot" programs such as Medicare must be addressed. They are the real drivers of future red ink. We need to insure that these programs will be there for future generations and not collapse from their own weight.

15th District

Vote for not more than one.

Mary Jo Kilroy, 3100 Midgard Rd., Columbus, 43202

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

Education: B.A. from Cleveland State University; J.D. from The Ohio State University.

Occupation: Franklin County Commissioner

Qualifications for Office: Mary Jo Kilroy has served as a Franklin County Commissioner; balancing every budget, making healthcare a priority and increasing veterans benefits. Previously, Kilroy served on the Columbus Board of Education.

Question 1: First, raise the federal minimum wage. Republicans in Congress never hesitated to raise their pay \$30,000 over the last six years, but voted against a minimum wage increase seven times in five weeks. Second, we must create good paying jobs, and work to keep jobs from relocating offshore. We need to create strong workforce training programs, and support quality education programs from pre-school to graduate school. Higher education must be made more affordable and accessible. We need to protect Social Security, which protects seniors from slipping into poverty. As a member of Congress, I will oppose Social Security privatization.

Question 2: There are many great plans, and in Congress I will find the one that works best for Central Ohioans. The healthcare debate of this country needs to be set by four basic principles: provide affordable coverage to all Americans; control costs; guarantee choice of doctors and plans; and make prevention a national priority. Healthcare has not been a priority in Congress for 10 years. I will put healthcare on the agenda in Washington, just like we've done in Franklin County. As a Commissioner, I fund AccessHealth Columbus, which offers affordable, quality healthcare to low-income and uninsured residents.

Question 3: No Child Left Behind set the groundwork for accountability, goals and standards for our education system, and increased national awareness of the needs of our schools, teachers and students. Unfortunately, it is labeling schools and students, and moving students from one school to another without addressing the basic issues of school funding or teacher recruitment, pay and training. It over-relies on standardized testing without measuring for actual progress

within a cohort of students. Furthermore, No Child Left Behind does not promote key reforms that work, like smaller class sizes.

Question 4: I believe global warming is a serious threat that must be addressed by the United States. Congress needs to support higher fuel economy standards for cars, greater support for hybrids, fuel cells and alternative fuel sources. The federal government should use alternative fuels in its fleet of vehicles, like Franklin County does. We need more research and development into ways to reduce CO2 emissions. In addition, Congress should stop providing subsidies for the gas and oil industry.

Question 5: As a member of Congress I will support a return to pay-as-you go budgeting which means anytime you want to cut taxes or increase spending you have to find it first, on the front end, instead of running up debt. For the last six years, Republicans have created the largest deficits in American history by putting their out-of-control spending on the big federal credit card. In my time as an elected official, from the school board to the board of Commissioners, I have balanced 14 out of 14 budgets. Additionally, I cut 8% of the County's budget this past year.

Deborah Pryce, 2920 S. Dorchester Rd., Columbus, 43221

Email: None given. **Website:** None given

Education: The Ohio State University, B.A. 1973; Capital Law School, J.D. 1976

Occupation: Current Member of Congress, 15th Congressional District of Ohio

Qualifications for Office: Professional Career: Member of Congress, 1992-Present; Franklin County Municipal Court 1985-1992; Columbus City Assistant Prosecutor, 1978-1985;

Committees/Leadership: Chair House Republican Conference; Deputy Whip; Financial Services Committee

Answers to Questions:

Questions 1: I supported reforming our nation's failing welfare system that had trapped 14 million people into a cycle of intergenerational dependency and poverty. While I believe individuals and families who are struggling deserve help getting back on their feet, we can best help by empowering them and offering social services like job training, transportation, and child care, so they can work and achieve self-sufficiency. Today, welfare rolls have been reduced to 5 million. Further, we need to continue policies that promote economic growth, quality public education, and neighborhood revitalization to increase opportunity for individuals.

Question 2: I believe that more needs to be done to make health care more affordable. Preventive care is an extremely important tool to managing chronic diseases and eliminating costly emergency room visits. I support the Medicare prescription drug benefit and its focus on prevention. I also support creative and innovative ways to meet health care needs of underserved populations through the use of patient navigators. Looking into the future, I will continue to press for enactment of medical justice legislation to prevent frivolous lawsuits and preserve access to health care, and allow small businesses to band together to purchase health insurance.

Question 3: We must continually work to improve the nation's schools and ensure that every child receives a quality education. I believe NCLB has moved the nation in a positive direction. As a result of NCLB, achievement gaps between disadvantaged students and their peers are narrowing and student achievement is at its highest level in decades. Ninety-six percent of Ohio's districts receive Excellent, Effective, or Continuous Improvement designations, and graduation rates have increased. Achievement gaps in race and ethnicity that have haunted our

education system are closing. In Ohio, the graduation rate gap between white and black students has declined 2.7 points.

Question 4: There is scientific evidence supporting the theory that global warming is causing significant damage to our ecosystem and way of life. Congress has appropriated millions of dollars to research the causes, effects, and solutions to global climate change. The next step will be to take these findings and implement solutions to reduce reliance on carbon-based fuels which are the source of many greenhouse gas emissions.

Question 5: We must continue to implement policies that spur economic growth and root out waste, fraud, and abuse in government programs. Congressional committees should exercise aggressive oversight to ensure waste and duplicative programs are exposed and eliminated. I have and will continue to support pay-as-you-go rules and earmark reform to put a check on congressional spending, as well as line-item veto authority for the president. Finally, we must examine the mandatory programs that comprise an ever greater portion of our federal budget (53% in 2005) to ensure their efficiency in meeting the needs of those they serve.

Bill Buckel, (Write-In) 1641 Hess Blvd., Columbus, 43212

Email: None **Website:** www.billbuckel.com

Education: 1952 –B.S., Mechanical Engineering, University of Colorado. 1980 –M.L.S., Library Science, Kent State University.

Occupation: 1952-1956 –U.S. Air Force. 1956-1963 –Research mechanical engineer in thermal systems at Battelle Memorial Institute. 1963-1994 –Technical library at Battelle. 1994- Retired while working as a reference librarian.

Qualifications for Office: Have 77 years of life’s experience.

Question 1: The Federal Government should address the aspects of poverty that are national and regional in nature. Examples are: Adopt national goals for the “desired” distribution of income and wealth in our nation. Then try to move toward these goals. Adopt a national minimum wage. Study ways to help people move from the minimum wage to a living wage. Control immigration so that low-skilled, but necessary, full-time jobs pay a living wage. Offer training programs to low-wage workers at reduced rates. Create our markets at home by negotiating fair trade agreements, not “free trade” agreements.

Question 2: I support a two-tier National Health Care program. Coverage of the first-tier plan would be universal, but not “unlimited” or “comprehensive”. Current Federal health programs and the traditional part of most private plans would be rolled into the self-contained cost-controlled National Health Care Plan. The plan would be funded with a progressive personal income tax and operated by a semi-public corporation. The second tier would offer services beyond the basic plan. It would offer services beyond the basic plan. It would be funded through private insurance and direct payment.

Question 3: The basic idea behind NCLB is for each state to set its own learning goals and then measure progress. School districts were to report both average test scores and test scores of various sub-groups (low income students, etc.). This has happened. Unfortunately, in Ohio the State Board of Education adopted academic standards that may require far more teaching time than, for example, 70 percent of the average school day. As a result, teachers are under stress and tutoring costs are high in urban school districts. This is the main reason educators claim NCLB is under-funded.

Question 4: Because global warming is a world-wide problem, our nation’s efforts will be most effective when this issue is researched, addressed, and monitored primarily at the Federal-Government level. Needless to say, this problem will require international cooperation. For

years, I have observed that global warming is a growing problem. However, I must admit that I have not studied this topic in great depth. Before voting on specific laws to control carbon dioxide and other emissions, I will need to do more in-depth studying.

Question 5: When Ross Perot ran for President in 1992 on paying down the gross public debt, the debt was \$4 trillion and the annual interest cost was \$290 billion. The debt is now \$8.5+ trillion and the interest cost is some \$380 billion. This means that about 30% of taxpayers' federal personal income tax now goes to interest on this debt. We need to accurately report the problem. Please study www.billbuckel.com/truth1.htm. Congress should reduce spending in the areas of war and homeland security. I support raising some income taxes, continuing the estate tax, and taxing investment income at the same rate (over word limit)

Judge of the Court of Appeals

Questions for Court of Appeals Candidates:

Question 1: What is your judicial philosophy?

Question 2: Four out of five Ohio voters believe that campaign contributions influence judges and candidates, according to a 2002 LWVO survey. What do you recommend that Ohio do to reduce this perceived threat to judicial independence?

10th District/Full Term Commencing 2/09/07

Vote for not more than One

Gary Tyack, 947 Clubview Blvd. N., Columbus, 43235

Email: None given. **Website:** None given.

Education: Law Degree –OSU (1974); Theology Degree –Methodist Theological School (2000); Bachelor's Degree –College of Wooster (1968); Graduate School in Mathematics – University of Wisconsin)1971-72)

Occupation: Attorney

Qualifications for Office: I was a Judge on the 10th District Court of Appeals 1986-1987 and 1991-2003. Practicing lawyer or Judge for over 30 years.

Answers to Questions:

Question 1: The three branches of government (Executive, Legislative and Judicial) are all of equal importance and are all deserving of equal respect. All three branches of state government were created by the Ohio Constitution and are bound by that Constitution on matters of state law. All three branches of state government must defer to the rulings of the federal government (including the federal judiciary) on federal issues. Good government requires some degree of predictability from the courts. Therefore, the courts should be slow to overturn prior decisions. The lower courts are all bound by rulings of the Supreme Court of Ohio.

Question 2: The problem is not that Judges are actually influenced by campaign contributions. During the 12+ years I served on the 10th District Court of Appeals, I was never influenced by a campaign contribution. I never thought any other judge on the court was influenced by contributions. The problem, as I see it, is that money has bought a lot of influence of the legislative and executive branches of government. The average citizen does not fully understand the differences between judicial campaigns and other campaigns. Judges cannot ask for campaign contributions. The public needs to be educated about the differences in campaigns.

Alan Travis, 6599 Baronscourt Loop, Dublin, 43016

Email: actravis@franklincountyohio.gov **Website:** www.franklincountyohio.gov/appeals/index.shtml

Education: B.A. Muskingum College, 1962; J.D. Ohio State University, 1965

Occupation: Judge, Court of Appeals

Qualifications for Office: Combined 14 years experience as Common Pleas and Court of Appeals judge. Highest rated judge, Common Pleas Court, 1994-2004 Columbus Bar Association Judicial Performance Polls. Former prosecutor. Lawyer 40 years. Married 44 years.

Question 1: Our society benefits from a government in which there are three separate but equal branches: executive, legislative and judicial. A strong judiciary is needed to balance the powers of the other two branches of government. The role of a judge is to apply the law as enacted by the legislative except for those very rare instances where a legislative act conflicts with a constitutional principle. I do not believe in judicial activism. As a judge since 1992, I have applied this judicial philosophy in both the trial court and the court of appeals.

Question 2: Although I believe that judges pride themselves on the ability not to be influenced by campaign contributions, public perception to the contrary remains a problem. Unfortunately, as long as judges are elected, judicial candidates will rely on contributions to fund the campaign just as candidates for non-judicial office do. Current limits on individual and political action committee contributions are a reasonable approach. However, as long as the office is elected, the public perception of influence will remain. The alternative is to appoint judges with the advice and input of bar associations and other public interest groups.

10th District/Full Term Commencing 2/10/07

Vote for not more than One

Peggy Bryant, 2565 Leeds Road, Columbus, 43221

UNCONTESTED RACE

Ohio State Senator

Questions for all State Senator races:

Question 1: Both parties have called for redistricting reform. What three top criteria should be used in redrawing legislative districts?

Question 2: If elected, what will be your top 3 priorities while in office?

Question 3: How should the General Assembly adequately address school funding?

Question 4: What would you do to strengthen the State's economy?

3rd District

Vote for not more than one

Emily Kreider, Democrat, 121 Triesta Place, Westerville, 43081

Email: emily@emilykreider.com **Website:** www.iamemilykreider.com

Education: High school: Whitehall-Yearling; B.A. Ohio Dominican; M.S.W. Ohio State University

Occupation: I own a small business providing consultation to small business internet start-ups.

Qualifications for Office: My public service experience has prepared me to represent our communities in the Ohio Senate. I know how public policy affects families and small business owners.

Question 1: Redistricting decisions should be made by an independent commission subject to judicial review and should be guided by the following criteria: Overall district compactness;

Consistency with other political jurisdictions; Prohibition of the use of party registration/performance to create districts

Question 2: 1. Return accountability to this office by developing and implementing a voter communication plan. 2. Create and implement a plan that will make the voting records of General Assembly members easily accessible. 3. Work with fair-minded members of the Senate (Republicans and Democrats) to create solutions that will strengthen Ohio's economy and bring good jobs back to our state. A strong economy is built on a strong public school system, a strong system of health care, and a tax system that is friendly to small business.

Question 3: First, the General Assembly must consist of a majority of members who recognize the Ohio Supreme Court's decision regarding school funding. I will work with other senators to create legislation to reduce over-reliance on property taxes. I believe any plan to address school funding will require charter schools to become publicly accountable for performance and spending.

Question 4: Small businesses are the engine of a strong economy. Ohio will attract and grow more small businesses when we have strong public schools, a strong system of health care, and a tax system that is friendly to small businesses. Other States have taken the lead in making comprehensive health insurance more affordable to small business owners and their employees. Ohio small business owners deserve the same kind of leadership from their state senator. I will introduce similar legislation with the support of the small business community.

David Goodman, Republican, 7250 Talanth Pl., New Albany, 43054

Email: None given. **Website:** None given.

Education: Bexley High School; Miami University, Oxford, Ohio (B.S. 1989); Case Western Reserve School of Law, Cleveland, Ohio (J.D. 1992)

Occupation: Attorney; Small Business Owner- BDH Consulting, Inc.

Qualifications for Office: Husband, Father, Small Business Owner, Attorney, former Bexley City Councilman, former State representative and current State Senator. I have successfully served with honor, distinction (over word limit)

Question 1: Top three criteria for redistricting are that they are compact, competitive and reflective of political subdivisions already in place.

Question 2: Ohio needs to continue to work towards being economically competitive. We need to continue to reform our tax code to make it fairer and more progressive. We need to prioritize primary, secondary and higher education. We need to work to provide Ohioans greater opportunity and security.

Question 3: We have made great strides in equalizing funding for school districts. And, we have increased spending at unprecedented levels. We need to now make sure that tax payers are not overburdened by property taxes by providing targeted relief. And, we need to make sure that the dollars we spend are getting the best results for our children.

Question 4: Continue to find ways to cut taxes on economic investment. Make higher education a priority. And, invest in technology and job creating activities.

15th District

Vote for not more than one

Ray Miller, 3040 Elbern Ave., Columbus, 43209

Email: rmillerenterprises@sbcglobal.net **Website:** None given.

Education: B.A. Political Science and M.A. Public Administration –The Ohio State University. Graduate of Columbus East High School.

Occupation: President and CEO –Professional Employment Services of America, and the Center for Urban Progress.

Qualifications for Office: State Representative for 16 years. State Senator for 4 years. Endorsed by business, education, labor, environmental and political organizations.

Question 1: The current Constitutional framework for drawing state legislative district should be abolished and replaced with a bi-partisan commission. Districts should be drawn utilizing a formula which includes compactness, competitiveness and maximizes the representation of racial minorities in the state of Ohio to comport with requirements of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. It is imperative that we eliminate the undemocratic process of packing as many African American voters into as few legislative districts as possible. Finally, at least one district should be drawn that would provide the opportunity for Hispanic representation in the legislature.

Question 2: My primary area of expertise is healthcare. The creation of a State Department of healthcare Administration will be my highest priority. The overall health of Ohioans is very poor. This new department will focus on health promotion and disease prevention, providing insurance coverage to those in need and efficient management of the Medicaid program. Secondly, our public schools need to be funded and operated in an equitable and efficient manner. Higher education costs must be reduced for Ohioans. Third, developing a tax structure and business climate which allows us to attract new businesses and help existing companies to expand.

Question 3: By complying with the decisions rendered by the Ohio Supreme Court, the legislature must ensure that Ohio has a “thorough and efficient” system of public education. It should be “equitable and adequate” regarding its funding. Finally, we should reduce the tax burden on property owners and eliminate the discriminate effect of property tax rich and poor school districts. The school funding system needs a comprehensive revamping and not just incremental change.

Question 4: First, establish and market our state as a leader in access to higher education. Increase our college participation and graduation rates substantially and lower college costs. Collaborate with the Governor in attracting business and industry into our state which provides high paying jobs with quality benefits. Strengthen Ohio’s tax and business climate. Focus on providing healthcare insurance for all Ohioans, childcare and affordable housing.

John M. Roscoe, 118 E. 14th Ave., Columbus, 43201

No survey received.

Ohio State Representative

Questions for all State Senator races:

Question 1: Both parties have called for redistricting reform. What three top criteria should be used in redrawing legislative districts?

Question 2: If elected, what will be your top 3 priorities while in office?

Question 3: How should the General Assembly adequately address school funding?

Question 4: What would you do to strengthen the State’s economy?

19th District

Vote for not more than one

Marian Harris, Democrat, 5145 Holbrook Dr., Columbus, 43232

Email: mharris@insight.rr.com **Website:** marian@marianforohio.com

Education: BA Mt. Holyoke College

Occupation: Event/PR Manager for the Mental Health Assn.

Qualifications for Office: 35 Years in the political arena- 6yrs on Senator Metzenbaum's staff, 6 years on gov. Celeste's staff. Knowledge of how govt. works. A deep commitment to the well-being of working men & women & children.

Question 1: Districts should be drawn by an independent commission to remove the inherent conflict of interest present when drawn by legislators. Districts should promote competitiveness and partisan fairness while respecting political subdivisions and geographic issues. Districts should be drawn in a timely manner after each census. Drawing process should be transparent, encouraging public input and participation, while adhering to federal and state laws.

Question 2: I hope that there will be enough members of each party elected so that they will have to work together to build consensus and find solutions to the many problems facing this state. This has not been the case and the legislature has been sorely out of balance under one-party rule. Together, Republicans and Democrats, should be able to find solutions for the pressing issues facing us. Broadly speaking, I would name education, health care and building the economy as my major interests.

Questions 3: First, turn the process around. Instead of making the children divide up a set of pot of money, we need to determine what it takes to educate a child and make that amount available. Secondly, we have to lessen our reliance on property taxes. The proposal I have seen would have all school districts contribute a predetermined millage with the state making up the difference. The paybacks of adequately funding education are enormous an educated work force attracts jobs, good educational systems attract companies, educated children become productive adults who are less likely to enter the correctional or welfare system.

Question 4: Provide the tools necessary to compete: employment and training center; partnerships between private industry and colleges; affordable college education. Reward innovation and productivity through tax credits but require accountability. Consider limiting state government's contracting with companies that do not perform their work in the U.S. Restore fiscal discipline and fairness by enacting comprehensive tax reform that closes the loopholes that push the tax burden onto small business. Close corporate tax loopholes to prevent Ohio's loss of revenue to domestic and international tax shelters. Invest in the growing field of alternate energy production and Third Frontier technology.

Larry I. Flowers, Republican, 216 Washington St., Canal Winchester, 43110

Email: Fire3488@aol.com **Website:** None

Education: High school, numerous vocational and technical provisions

Occupation: Firefighter/ Paramedic; Retired Fire Chief -30 Years; Legislator -6 years

Qualifications for Office: 12 years, Franklin County School Board (ESC), Active in numerous community and church activities; Endorsed by: Ohio Chamber of Commerce, Ohio Manufacturing Association, Mom's for Ohio, C.P.A., Ohio Nurses Association, AFL-CIO, Firefighters, Police, (over word limit)

Question 1: 1) Keep community's whole and continuous; 2) Compactness; 3) Competitiveness

Question 2: State Budget, Fiscal Discipline; Protect Tax reforms and Tax cuts; Regulatory Reform; All to keep Ohio's economy strong and create jobs!

Question 3: The G.A. has approved record State spending for Ohio Education. In 1999, state spending for Ohio Education was \$5 billion; in 2006 spending increase to \$8 billion –increasing state spending by almost \$.5 billion per year over a seven –year span of time. The G.A. has also approved spending \$3 million per day on school construction and repair. Yet, I believe we need to find ways to offer some property tax relief, especially to senior citizens. Also, we need to explore ways schools can save money, for example, is consolidation an option.

Question 4: Continue to slow the growth of State spending; Protect the 21% State income Tax cut, and accelerate the cuts; Scrutinize agency regulations to make Ohio even more business – friendly without effecting safety; Find new opportunities to consolidate: state, local and school district services, especially safety forces.

20th District

Vote for not more than one

Beverly Campbell, Democrat, 720 Trapp Dr., Gahanna, 43230

Email: _bev@bevcampbellforohio.com **Website:** bevcampbellforohio.com

Education: BA –The Ohio State University; JD –The Delaware Law School, Widener University; Property tax Certificate –Michigan State University, Tax Executives Institute

Occupation: Financial Advisor /Small Business Consultant

Qualifications for Office: Experienced in advising small business, experienced teacher (7th grade and college), experienced attorney in public and private practice. Representative endorsements include: United Steelworkers, United Autoworkers (over word limit)

Question 1: 1. Independent commission to oversee the current powers of the Reapportionment Board. This would create greater competition among candidates and provide real choices for voters, not just contributors. 2. Nonpartisan districts – maintain equal representation of the two major parties within the district. 3. Minorities – a major issue is the effort by some states to dilute the impact of black votes by redrawing the legislative district lines in order to divide black voters among several districts. Equal representation is a necessity.

Question 2: 1. Restoring ethics and ending the pay to play system in Ohio’s Statehouse. 2. Working to strengthen families by a. Improving access to quality healthcare, b. Fixing school funding, c. Bringing back and creating new jobs, and d. Restoring fairness and balance to the tax code. 3. Cleaning up our environment.

Jim McGregor, Republican, 180 Academy Ct., Gahanna, 43230

Email: nmcgregor53@hotmail.com **Website:** voteformcgregor.com

Education: University of Cincinnati, BA, 1972; post graduate 40 hours, OSU; Ohio Peace Officers Academy.

Occupation: Legislator

Qualifications for Office: Ohio Department of Natural Resources -12 years –Naturalist, Administrator –Field Operations, Chief. Gahanna -18 years, elected full time mayor. Took the city from default status to Double A-3 bond rating. Ohio Army National Guard, E-5

Question 1: Districts should be as compact as practical, giving voters close access to their representative. Districts should be competitive. The process of redistricting should be open and fair.

Question 2: 1) Building a healthy economy: a) tax abatement reform; b) building a strong, affordable and diverse educational system; 2) Building a healthy environment; a) clean water; b) Protection of Lake Erie; c) abundant clean energy; d) Building Ohio’s open space; 3) Building

healthy children; a) Supporting the Children's Hunger Alliance and their good programs and plans. B) Building a strong, diverse and affordable educational system

Question 3: The State should and will continue replacing old, dilapidated school buildings throughout Ohio with state-of-the-art facilities. Education will continue to evolve in new and exiting directions and the State should foster and encourage this transition. Giving credit for tested proficiency, available now in colleges, needs to be available to all middle and high school students. All of these trends need to be reflected in the school formula.

Question 4: Ohio's business tax system was implemented a century ago. This year, the Legislature finally listened to academia and business and changed the law to provide prosperity. Pristine abundant water is a key resource for strong industry and good jobs. A top priority must be clean, clear water in healthy streams, lakes and aquifers. Tax abatements and Tax Increment Financing hurt the businesses that do not have this advantage. Ohio should eliminate abatements and spread the advantage to all businesses. These steps, along with the marvelous creativity God has given each of us, will provide Ohioans with a thriving economy.

21st District

Vote for not more than one

Dean c. Hernandez, Democrat, 605 Tansy Ln., Westerville, 43081

Email: dean@deanhernandezforohio.com **Website:** deanhernandezforohio.com

Education: B.S. Financial Services, Wright State University

Occupation: Director, Investment Operations

Qualifications for Office: Veteran U.S. Army Reserves. Endorsed by Ohio Education Association, AFL-CIO, National Association of Social Workers, Sierra Club, Columbus Fire Fighters, Ohio Association of Public School Employees and others.

Question 1: First, legislative districts must be competitive. Legislators who can get re-elected by only talking to one part of the political spectrum are not challenged to effectively consider all sides of issues or to ensure that they listen to all those voters for whom they work. Second, make the districts as contiguous and compact as possible. Third, seek districts that are socio-economically diverse whenever possible. Legislators who represent a diverse district are exposed to a wider range of issues and points of view.

Question 2: First, the citizens of Ohio want and deserve reform in the way that we fund our investment in schools. The goal should be a reduction in property taxes by shifting more of the burden to the state level. Second, job growth through targeted tax cuts. The government cannot create jobs but it can help small businesses grow through effective tax policy and it can foster new technologies by supporting public /private initiatives. Third, we must address the growing costs of medical care. We must try new and innovative approaches now, before the problem is too large to defeat.

Question 3: We must take more of the burden off the backs of property owners and shift our investment in education to the state level. Our present system results in too many urban and rural students getting a lower standard of education due to living in areas with lower property values. As a result we leave too much of our greatest asset, the minds of our children, behind. We are also placing our retirees and others living on fixed incomes in an untenable position as rising property taxes create difficult decisions between property taxes and basic necessities. We must take action now.

Question 4: The state must reassess our tax codes and ensure that we create tax cuts that target small businesses and businesses creating new technologies that are the key to a future with

strong job growth, better pay and benefits. Cuts in personal taxes should focus first and foremost on the middle class who have been left behind under the current state legislature. Tax cuts that help more middle class families afford higher education and that help employers offer better benefits will ensure a better Ohio and a stronger economy. Tax policy should be governed by what benefits the most Ohioans.

Kevin Bacon, Republican, 5325 Ponderosa Dr., Columbus, 43231

Email: Citizens4kevinbacon@columbus.rr.com **Website:** www.citizens4kevinbacon.com

Education: Juris Doctorate, Capital Law School 1998; B.A., Miami University 1994

Occupation: Attorney working in Regulatory Affairs for Farmers Insurance.

Qualifications for Office: Blendon Township Trustee, Elected 2001 and 2005. Blendon – Westerville Fire Board. Police department liaison. Prosecutor, Lancaster City Attorney’s office. Securities enforcement attorney, Ohio Department of Commerce.

Question 1: I support the idea of redistricting reform. A bi-partisan approach to redistricting should be pursued. Many potential factors have been discussed such as competitiveness, compactness and party affiliation. Upon reviewing these items and all other pertinent information a proposal should be crafted including only those items that will create a fair system for all Ohioans. As to which criteria should be implemented? I am in favor of studying the issue first to be certain that it is done properly.

Question 2: Job creation and economic development; Education; Health care

Question 3: As a father of three I feel strongly about education. As a legislator I will work to make sure our schools receive their fair share of the state budget. I also support the removal of burdensome state mandates. This will free up valuable resources so that our local school board members will have flexibility to decide what is best for their school system. In addition, Ohio is in dire need of a top-to-bottom review of spending so that we can cut waste and allocate more resources to education.

Question 4: The key to a strong economy lies in job creation and economic development. As part of our economic success I believe that we must cut taxes for Ohioans and work to make Ohio more competitive. The future lies in advancement of technology by providing incentives for businesses and higher education. We must produce and maintain a qualified workforce right here in Ohio. We must also work to curtail lawsuit abuse if we want to have a healthy economy.

22nd District

Vote for not more than one

John Patrick Carney, Democrat, 357 E. Torrence Rd., Columbus, 43214

Email: johnpatrickcarney@yahoo.com **Website:** www.votecarney.com

Education: JD Moritz College of Law (2001), Ohio State University; BA Criminology (1998), Ohio State University

Occupation: Health Care Attorney –Porter Wright Morris and Arthur

Qualifications for Office: Twice Elected as Ohio State University student body President. 1996-97; 1997-98

Question 1: Ohio needs a redistricting plan guided by three principles. First, redistricting must be made as non-partisan as possible. Second, gerrymandered districts are bad for democracy—districts should be drawn to encourage competitive elections. Third, community boundaries should guide district boundaries so that communities are not divided in their representation or in their political voice. I will work with legislators from both sides of the aisle to devise and

implement a redistricting system guided by these principles and to make other critical election reforms.

Question 2: Education: I will fight for a comprehensive and affordable education and job training system from pre-kindergarten to college and beyond. Access to the American dream begins with quality education. An educated populace drives economic success. Health Care: The exploding cost of health care has inhibited Ohioans from accessing critical health services and stifled job creation. I believe that to control costs we must focus on preventive care and responsible health care reform. Jobs: Creating first class education and health care systems will provide a comparative advantage for Ohio's businesses. I will encourage investment in public/private partnerships to create high-quality jobs.

Question 3: We must reduce the reliance on property taxes to fund our schools. The current legislature's failure to do so is unfair and unconstitutional. Instead, they created the charter school system that has resulted in largely unaccountable and underperforming schools. When the non-partisan Legislative Office on Education Oversight reported that 71% of charter schools were in academic emergency/watch the legislature dismantled the office and gave more money than ever before to the very same schools. In order to maximize the benefit of our educational investment we need to institute consistently applied standards of accountability for all publicly funded educational initiatives.

Question 4: The high quality jobs of the 21st century require an educated, healthy workforce with the capability to respond to constantly changing technologies. That means that Ohio's long-term economic growth depends on solving the crises that currently plague our health care and education systems. I will work to lower health care costs for both businesses and individuals by expanding access to preventive care. I will also fight to build an education system that is second to none, with an emphasis on the skills needed to compete in tomorrow's economy.

Jim Hughes, Republican, 4319 Fair Oaks Dr., Columbus, 43214

Email: jhughes@wileslaw.com **Website:** www.votejimhughes.us

Education: Ohio State University BS BA in Marketing; Capital University JD of Law

Occupation: State Representative; Attorney with WBBB

Qualifications for Office: Former Assistant /County Prosecutor; FOP Legislator of the Year; Friend of Education Award; Firefighters; FOP, Ohio Education Association; Ohio Chamber of Commerce; NFIB; Ohio Nurses Association; OCSEA/AFSCME; Ohio Federation of Teachers; Ohio AFLCIO

Question 1: 1. Equal population; 2. Jurisdictional /geographical boundaries; 3. Compactness

Question 2: 1. Create jobs; 2. Improve education; 3. Public safety (homeland security and crime)

Question 3: Reduce /eliminate less important state spending and shift savings to education. 2. Eliminate "phantom revenue" problem. 3. State incentive funding linked to improved student performance.

Question 4: Lower taxes that discourage earning, saving, and investing. 2. Improve education, especially reading, writing, math and science. 3. Lower workers compensation costs. 4. Make health care more accessible and affordable through improved Health Savings Accounts and broader pooling of insured's. 5. Target state business incentives to high-tech companies; raise standards for awarding such incentives (review by independent experts); require measurable job creation.

23rd District

Vote for not more than one

Michael Murphy, Democrat, 5919 Ocala Ct., Columbus 43119
No survey received.

Larry Wolpert, Republican, 6216 Clover Pl., Hilliard, 43026

Email: None given. **Website:** None given.

Education: Capital University, Masters in Business Administration. The Ohio State University, B.S. in Business Administration

Occupation: Fulltime State Representative

Qualifications for Office: Twenty years work experience in the insurance /financial services industry and leadership experience as a former City Councilman and a State Representative.

Question 1: A fair and equitable redistricting plan should produce legislative districts that are balanced, compact and represent communities of interest. The plan should be approved by a non-partisan panel.

Question 2: Ohio faces many challenges ahead as we go from an economy based on manufacturing to one based on knowledge workers. Our top priority should be creating jobs and growing the economy. In the 1970's Ohio Personal Income was 5% above the national average and now it is 5% below. We need to reengineer and right size our state so that we can compete in the global economy. Ohio must continue to develop aggressive programs that encourage research and entrepreneurship to create new jobs and wealth in a "flat world".

Question 3: No answer given.

Question 4: No answer given.

24th District

Vote for not more than one

Ted Celeste, Democrat, 1230 Oakland Ave., Columbus 43212

Email: ted@tedceleste.com **Website:** www.tedceleste.com

Education: College of Wooster, BA, Psychology, 1967

Occupation: Real Estate Broker and Developer, Celeste & Associates Real Estate

Qualifications for Office: Teacher, Entrepreneur, Small Businessman, OSU Trustee, Board member of SciTech and Tech Columbus, President Grandview /Marble Cliff Chamber of Commerce, business advisory committee for Grandview schools, and a resident of district for 25 years.

Question 1: Redrawing legislative districts needs to be done in a fair and equitable manner, with all appearances of partisan favoritism eliminated. An impartial commission should be established for the drawing of new districts. This may be the most difficult step practically speaking, but most critical to the ultimate goal of meaningful reform. Every effort should be made to keep neighborhoods together, insuring compactness and contiguity. Competitiveness should be maximized and representation that resembles the registered voter population mix statewide should be the goal. Transparency in the process is critical for any new system to have any chance of success.

Question 2: I will begin with an effort to provide adequate and constitutionally structured funding to primary and secondary education, to lower the reliance on property tax. I will also focus on adequate funding for higher education. We need to provide incentives for small businesses to start and grow in Ohio to keep our young people from leaving the state, and to provide appropriate retraining for those whose jobs have been lost and need to compete in the

new economy. Our health care system covers too few and costs too much. We need more emphasis on preventative care.

Question 3: Any effort to address school funding has to begin with the present over reliance on property taxes. Ohio's new governor and the legislature will have to work together in a bi-partisan fashion to respond to the Ohio Supreme Court's findings. A strong coalition of local and statewide constituencies will need to be at the table to come up with a workable alternative to our present under-funded and unworkable school foundation formula. Our emphasis needs to be on bringing back excellence to our schools and creating a statewide work force ready for the demands of the 21st century.

Question 4: A better educated work force combined with a strong worldwide economic outreach effort to attract new employers with jobs, is just a beginning. In addition, I would support incentives for homegrown alternative energy technologies that seem promising and promote high-tech parks to encourage spin-off businesses from the research and development efforts of those connected with our many universities. Ohio's future is in having well-educated young people working at highly skilled knowledge-based jobs –in Ohio.

Geoffrey C. Smith, Republican, 3578 Sunset Dr., Columbus, 43221

No survey received.

25th District

Vote for not more than one

Dan Stewart, Democrat, 363 Demorest Rd., Columbus, 43204

No survey received.

Michael D. Wiles, Republican, 203 E. Welch Ave., Columbus, 43207

Email: wilesm@hotmai.com **Website:** www.voteforwiles.com

Education: GED

Occupation: Truck Driver

Qualifications for Office: The House of Representative was meant for regular people to serve in government; as a grounding rod so to speak. It was never meant to be a Professional Political Party Favor. I am a regular workingman that has served the community in various capacities. I fit the parameters, Of the people, for the people.

Question 1: Geographical Boundaries; Historic Neighborhood Boundaries; Accountability to Constituents. District 25 covers a wide geographic area, spanning from OSU to Pickway County, from Norton Rd to Rickenbacher Airport, with the other districts jutting in and out –resembling a half-eaten political porkchop. It's very confusing because voters have a harder time distinguishing who represents them. Of course, this makes it more difficult to hold elected officials accountable. Ohio House Districts should serve the needs of the constituents rather than the desires of the politicians.

Question 2: Jobs; Education; Crime. We need more, better-paying jobs in the 25th District. We do this by nurturing and growing our current job base. We need to be proactive in attracting jobs. The Honda Plant recently offered a prime opportunity to fill our vacant (or soon to be vacant) factories and brownfield sites, but no one lobbied to bring it to our District. To fill this need, I will work very hard to bring “Small Business Incubators” –a concept that has worked extremely well in other parts of the state –to the 25th District. I would like to empower communities (over word limit)

Question 3: Under-funding is not the main problem. Over-spending and a lack of accountability are the problems. I believe that school funding should be tied more directly to a school's performance.

Question 4: I would like to see economic incentives for small business, business incubators, and home-grown businesses opportunity for person wishing to start a business. I would also work hard to draw manufacturing back into our vacant factories. It is easy for politicians to say that once these jobs have moved away, we can never attract them back. It is wrong for them to say this when they have not even tried! The so-called "new economy" presents many exciting economic opportunities for Ohio and the 25th District -- we just need someone in office who will genuinely work to take advantage of (over word limit)

26th District

Vote for not more than one

Tracy Heard, Democrat, 1186 Geers Ave., Columbus 43206

Email: tracyheard@aol.com **Website:** None given.

Education: Bachelor of Arts – Mass Media Communication with Minor in Business

Occupation: Loan and Compliance Auditor for Banc of America Practice Solutions

Qualifications for Office: I have experience in community development, economic development, safety, housing, health, communications/public relations, political consulting, business – both corporate and entrepreneurial and the legislature.

Question 1: First, I would propose districts should be drawn according to reasonable population distribution, not political strong hold district carving. I am speaking specifically to an end to gerrymandering. I would support the Ohio House Joint Resolution 13 which includes my second and third recommendations: amending Ohio's Constitution to provide new procedures for drawing Congressional and State House district boundaries and allowing public citizen involvement in the district planning process for each legislative body while protecting voters rights.

Question 2: First, to work with the entire General Assembly to de-politicize and re-prioritize education funding and make it the number one funding priority as the success of everything else in the state is directly or indirectly impacted by the success or failure of our public education system. Secondly, work to protect prevailing wage and focus on replacing some of our lost jobs by creating opportunities in the alternative fuel industry.

Finally, I will work to establish a tracking system for sexual predators and link that to our existing Amber Alert System to better protect our children.

Question 3: The funding pool for education should be expanded to include business investment via direct contribution and restricted abatements that include requiring business to remain in the state for a period of time beyond the expiration of the abatement.

Funding must also be approached realistically, eliminating phantom funding that makes no consistent or dependable contribution. We must finally redirect dollars going into prison construction toward early education. It is demonstrated and proven that early education, adequate education and opportunities for affordable college or trade training significantly reduces criminal activity, criminal participants and produces contributing individuals with options and hope.

Question 4: Our workforce must prepare to meet today's employment market demands. I will work to bridge the gap between Ohio's business sector and institutions of higher learning and trade/apprentice programs. I will seek to encourage Ohio's business sector to invest in its future

by investing in the development of its workforce. I will work to create new industrial opportunities in the area of alternative energy cultivation. Ohio is in the number one position to transition from its pre-existing manufacturing infrastructure to alternative energy products such as windmills, solar panels, etc. We are also already producing the crops for alternative fuel conversion.

Michael D. Elicson, Republican, 1455 E. Main St., Columbus, 43205

Email: mike@elicson.com **Website:** www.elicson.com

Education: Attended Ohio University 1986-1991, CCAD 1994, Boardman HS, 1981-1986

Occupation: Own Capital Creative and The Winnery (capitalcreative.com, thewinnery.com)

Qualifications for Office: I have a well-rounded stock of skills and techniques stemming from owning a business for 10 years, raising two children with my wife, and being very active in my community.

Question 1: There is no way to develop political districts that are totally fair 100% of the time. A grid containing 99 equally-populated House district squares could be overlaid over Ohio, and there would still be areas where one party would have an unfair advantage based on where the boundaries fell.

Question 2: 1) Strengthening our economy, 2) Rebuilding our urban neighborhoods, 3) Raising the bar for our public school systems.

Question 3: Over spending and irresponsible spending by individual school districts is a larger problem than how they are funded by the state. I believe school systems need better oversight and higher accountability before the taxpayers in Ohio should be asked for more of their hard-earned dollars.

Questions 4: I will push for economic development initiatives in Ohio like increased income tax incentives for small business, business incubators in urban areas, a state-wide passenger rail system, and redevelopment of our nuclear power programs delivering cheap, clean and safe energy to our homes and offices.

27th District

Vote for not more than one

Joyce Beatty, Democrat, 2344 Woodward Ave., Columbus, 43219

Email: Rep27@ohr.state.oh.us **Website:** None given.

Education: BA MS PhD

Occupation: Democrat House Leader /Businesswoman

Qualifications for Office: I possess the necessary experience, knowledge, commitment, understanding of legislative issues and advocacy for the constituents of my district. I am the highest-ranking Democrat in the Ohio House. Endorsed by teachers, nurses, labor, businesses, women groups and many others.

Question 1: If it is to be reformed the top three areas of consideration should be: Bi-partisan Committee; Thorough discussion on competitiveness and compactness; Voter Rights Act language. First, I believe there should be a bi-partisan committee with equal input to study and discuss the issues. Members of this committee should include sitting leaders and legislators as well as outside members. Competitiveness and Compactness should be thoroughly discussed. Voter rights language stating districts shall neither deny minority voters and equal opportunity to elect representatives of their choice nor intentionally dilute minority-voting strengths in any district.

Question 2: Providing change, advocating for constituents with new ideas and strong leadership focusing on the economy, education and health. Strengthen our economy, expand and create jobs giving Ohio a positive business climate. Set aside the politics and develop clear solutions to removing barriers to education and working to create partnerships that produce better results. Work on legislation that allows students the right to be educated at the highest level; provide more funding for teachers; and work toward making certain that higher education is affordable for all Ohio students. Make addressing the issue of the un and underinsured with our healthcare system (over word limit)

Question 3: We should establish and fund a fair and equitable system that will guarantee access to a high quality education for all Ohio's public school students –thus less reliance on property taxes. Avoid constantly using one-time funding sources for funding on-going expenditures.

Question 4: Create more jobs, prepare students for future needs, attract businesses to Ohio, and buy Ohio. Provide additional high tech jobs and maintain and create additional manufacturing and service jobs. Pay workers and living wage. We should limit our out of state large contracts when we can contract with local vendors.

John Edward Jufko, Republican, 315 E. 20th Ave., Columbus, 43201

No survey received.

Judge of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas

Questions for Franklin County Court of Common Pleas

Question 1: What is your judicial philosophy?

Question 2: Four out of five Ohio voters believe that campaign contributions influence judges and candidates, according to a 2002 LWVO survey. What do you recommend that Ohio do to reduce this perceived threat to judicial independence?

Full Term Commencing 1/2/2007

Guy Reece, Republican, 7191, Keystone Ranch Ct., Blacklick, 43004

Uncontested Race

Full Term Commencing 1/4/2007

Vote for not more than one

Charles Bendig, Democrat, 7392 Richardson Rd., Groveport, 43125

Email: chuckbendig@yahoo.com **Website:** Bendigforjudge.com

Education: Duke law, 1975; OSU, 1972, (Finance).

Occupation: Board Certified Civil Trial Advocate

Qualification for Office: 30 years of trial experience, including civil here in Ohio, and criminal defense and prosecution with USMC; highly recommended by CBA; member Hopewell United Methodist Church; husband, father, and grandfather; Lt Colonel, United State Marine Corps Reserve.

Question 1: The Common Pleas court provides a vital service to the community. As servants of the community, every judge needs to provide timely, high quality, compassionate, competent service. Every person is entitled to the Court's respect and attention, including attorneys, defendants and family, victims and family, witnesses, and jurors. Regardless of whether a person perceives they are the winner or loser in a court proceeding, that person must have a clear

perception that the judge made every effort to be fair and impartial in every ruling of the case. This fairness and impartiality is the cornerstone of our legal system.

Question 2: Ethical and morally centered individuals will do what the law and their conscience requires them to do, regardless of personal or professional gain or loss. Finding and electing these morally responsible individuals is the task of voters, who are best qualified to make these important choices. Campaign rules limit contributions, and limit judicial candidates from direct solicitation. Judges serve for six years, which reduces the impact of campaigning once elected. Public education might relieve some concern about political contributions influencing independence, but ethical judges are the key to judicial independence.

David E. Cain, Republican, 69 W. Weisheimer Rd., Columbus 43214

Email: David_Cain@fccourts.org **Website:** None given.

Education: Juris Doctor (Capital '73) and B.S. in Journalism (Ohio University '65)

Occupation: Common Pleas Judge (1987- Present)

Qualifications for Office: Private Law Practice ('74-'86); Columbus City Council Member ('80-'83); Newspaper Reporter ('67-'77); Public School Teacher ('67-'69); Presiding Judge (Currently); Past Administrative Judge; Past President, Ohio Common Pleas; Judges' Association.

Question 1: I believe it is our duty to provide a place for justice for the people of Franklin County: A place where victims are heard and respected, a place where criminal offenders are punished appropriately, a place where private lawsuits are resolved with dignity and impartiality. My goal is that everyone leaves my courtroom with the feeling that they have been treated fairly. I believe in judicial restraint. The legislature is the proper place to make laws because everyone has the right to get involved whereas the judiciary must be consistent and predictable.

Question 2: Public education is the best hope because the problem exists more in perception than reality. The amounts of contributions are strictly limited by the Code of Judicial Conduct with the lowest ceilings being imposed upon trial judges (\$500 per individual). All donations are reported to the Board of Elections and are readily available to any interested persons on the county's website. And the vast majority of judges are objective regardless of contributions. Donations cannot be totally prohibited so long as judges are publically elected. Any other system would still be political. At least this way, it's out in the open.

Full Term Commencing 1/06/2007

Vote for not more than one

Tomi Lynn Dorris, Democrat, 364 Olentangy Forest Drive, Columbus 43214

Email: dorrisforjudge@aol.com **Website:** www.dorrisforjudge.com

Education: B.A. Criminal Justice (1980), Juris Doctorate (1989) –The Ohio State University

Occupation: Assistant Attorney General, Chief Counsel, Ohio State Highway Patrol

Qualifications for Office: Over 23 years serving Franklin County citizens as police officer, prosecutor, magistrate, and civil defense attorney. Experienced civil /criminal trial attorney. "Highly Recommended" –Columbus Bar Judicial Screening Committee

Question 1: Judges must be accessible and accountable to the citizens of the community while handling each and every case efficiently and effectively. This means applying state and local law fairly and impartially, without regard to race, sex, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, social status, or any other factor. Judges must be sensitive to the needs of victims, witnesses, offenders, and other individuals, as well as their families, and the community. To effectively

administer justice, judges must remain neutral in their opinion until called upon to decide. compassionate yet firm, and above all else, willing to listen to those appearing before the court.

Question 2: Confidence in our judicial system must be protected and preserved. Educating the public about the limits on campaign contributions is a first step toward instilling confidence in the judicial process. Allowing open and unrestricted access to judicial campaign finance reports permits the public to compare judicial campaign contributions with judicial decisions to determine if this perceived threat is, in fact, a reality. If a lack of judicial integrity can be documented, the appropriate judicial governing body should be notified and suitable measures taken to restore the public trust in our judicial system.

John P. Bessey, Republican, 6670 Kensington Way, Worthington, 43085

Email: john_bessey@fccourts.org **Website:** None given.

Education: Graduated from Cols. North High, Ohio State University, Franklin University Law School and the National Judicial College (Certification for General Jurisdiction Trial Skills

Occupation: Judge, Franklin County Court of Common Pleas –General Division

Qualifications for Office: I have been an attorney in for over 40 years. Former Asst. County Prosecutor, criminal division, former asst. (over word limit)

Question 1: I am committed to keeping current on the law, to study it and to apply it in a fair and impartial manner. I must never lose sight of the power and limitations of my office. I am expected to apply the law as it is written by the legislature. I will strive to set an example of civility in my courtroom, with the public, and court personnel. I am an ordinary person who has been blessed with the privilege of being a judge. It is an honor to be a public servant.

Question 2: The publics' skepticism is understandable. I have never allowed, in the slightest degree, contributions to influence my conduct or decisions. Every year the financial demands of running for judicial office increase. Because of First Amendment rights attempts to control the financing of judicial races have been largely unsuccessful. To date the only solution to the financing dilemma is merit selection or judicial retention. The public has consistently refused to adopt either of these options. Barring a modification of the First Amendment or a change in public attitude regarding merit selection or judicial retention there is no answer to this problem.

Full Term Commencing 1/7/2007

Charles A. Schneider, Republican, 4492 Shire Mill Rd., Hilliard, 43026

Uncontested Race

Full Term Commencing 1/8/2007

Vote for not more than one

Stephen L. McIntosh, Democrat, 799 Nob Hill Dr., West, Gahanna, 43230

Email: Stephenmac@aol.com or McIntoshforjudge@wowway.com **Website:**

www.McIntoshforjudge.com

Education: JD, OSU College of Law 1983; Judge Joseph Harter Award for Trial Advocacy Excellence

Occupation: Chief Prosecutor, City of Columbus

Qualifications for Office: Twenty two years legal experience –criminal prosecutor and civil litigator; Supreme Court Sentencing Commission; Supreme Court Committee on Dispute Resolution; Conducted over 70 jury and court trials

Question 1: My judicial philosophy is that a judge must have a commitment to justice. Commitment to justice means ensuring that every citizen who leaves my courtroom believes the

rights of victims, the accused and our community are fairly heard and justice is delivered. I have developed this philosophy as a prosecutor who has seen the fear and concern of victims maneuvering the criminal justice system and as an attorney who has protected the rights of an accused. Working with various groups has helped me understand many of the concerns of the community as it relates to crime and the criminal justice (over word limit)

Question 2: To place confidence back into our judiciary there must be a way to prevent large sums of money being contributed to individual campaigns. One way to accomplish this goal would be through merit selection of judges particularly at the Supreme Court level where millions of dollars are spent to elect Supreme Court Justices. While I do not believe that contributions affect judges decisions it is easy to see why the public does. If there is not merit selection then more stringent contribution limits should be imposed.

Angela White, Republican, 2731 Tallyho Ln., Blacklick, 43004

Email: awhite2@insight.rr.com **Website:** whiteforjudge.com

Education: B.A. University of Dayton; J.D. University of Dayton School of Law

Occupation: Judge, Franklin County Common Pleas Court

Qualifications for Office: Thirteen years of judicial experience as a magistrate and currently as a judge in the Franklin County Common Pleas Court. Endorsed by the FOP and rated “Highly Recommended” by the Columbus Bar Association.

Question 1: My judicial philosophy is to ensure public safety and judicial fairness. Everyone is entitled to fair and equal treatment in the court of law and they are entitled to feel safe in their community. It is important that court decisions are fair, reasonable and equitable under the circumstances and that decisions are made in the interest of protecting the community and keeping the people safe. In my thirteen years of judicial experience, I have endeavored to do what is right and just and to make decisions with a view towards keeping the public safe.

Question 2: The best way to address this perception is to inform the voters of the laws in place to maintain judicial independence. Laws have been enacted limiting contributions made to judges and judicial candidates and requiring that all contributions made to the judicial candidate be reported and filed. These laws were enacted to ensure accountability with respect to judicial campaign contributions. In addition, the judicial system is designed to provide for fairness and impartiality. The campaign finance requirements and the checks and balances inherent in the judicial system should alleviate the Ohio voters’ perceived threat to judicial independence.

Unexpired Term Ending 7/01/2009

Vote for not more than one

Tim Horton, Democrat, 4497 Flower Garden, New Albany, 43054

Email: tim@timhortonforjudge.com **Website:** www.timhortonforjudge.com

Education: B.A. Boston University, 1992; J.D. The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, 1995

Occupation: Attorney –Chester Willcox & Saxbe LLP; Former Assistant Attorney General; Ohio Super Lawyer: Rising Star; Business First’s 40 Under 40

Qualifications for Office: Extensive experience in all aspects of litigation, investigation, discovery, trials, hearings, appeals, and enforcement of judgments.

Question 1: As a judge I will use common sense, skill, and knowledge of the law to make a positive difference in people’s lives. I am passionate about the law and what it stands for, which is to protect our freedoms and values. I understand the realities of the judicial system both from

the perspective of private and public sector practitioners. I will apply the law evenly and will be open-minded, efficient and fair as a Judge. Further, crime affects us all, and left uncontrolled destroys families and communities. My decisions and sentences will be appropriate to the case, fair and consistent.

Question 2: Consider reducing the contribution limits and/or lengthening the term limits for judges which should reduce the number of elections for judges.

Gregory S. Peterson, Republican, 6895 Running Deer Pl., Dublin, 43017

Email: Petersonforjudge@yahoo.com **Website:** None given.

Education: Case Western School of Law, Juris Doctor 1993, admitted to the bar 1993. The Ohio State University, BA 1990.

Occupation: Judge, Franklin County Court of Common Pleas

Qualifications for Office: Incumbent Judge, experienced trial attorney, 12 years as Assistant Prosecuting Attorney. FOP, AFL-CIO, IAFF, Outlook, FCCEA endorsed. Columbus Bar Association and FCTL “Highly Recommended.”

Question 1: My thirteen years practicing law in the Common Pleas system provide me with experience necessary to effectively serve our community. I have prosecuted thousands of criminals and presided over hundreds cases as judge. I am committed to efficient docket management, keeping litigations costs as low as possible. My years of experience enable me to know the difference between those in the system who need help and those we need protection from. Experience counts. I am honored to serve Franklin County as a Common Pleas Judge. I am committed to a professional, efficient, accessible courtroom dedicated to the rule of law.

Question 2: As judicial contests are low profile races, much of the battle is fought over name recognition. Franklin County is a large jurisdiction that presents significant challenges in familiarizing voters with the candidates. The financial resources needed to reach voters can be overwhelming. The public is understandably concerned that these financial pressures can compromise judicial autonomy. A merit based selection process, outside of the normal campaign cycle, has the only realistic hope of minimizing this concern. I would never allow finances to impact what I believed the law required or change what I thought was the right thing to do.

Unexpired Term Ending 1/03/2011

Vote for not more than one

Francis Macke, Democrat, 370 E. Cooke Rd., Columbus, 43214

Email: fmacke@aol.com **Website:** Mackeforjudge.com

Education: The Ohio State University –Bachelor of Arts –September 1, 1972; Ohio Northern University –Juris Doctorate –November 22, 1974

Occupation: Attorney, private practice of law

Qualifications for Office: 31 years of litigation experience, primarily in Franklin County. Substantial commitment to community service projects and charitable organizations. Leadership positions in various professional organizations and associations.

Question 1: The justice system should resolve disputes fairly and expeditiously. The axiom of “Justice Delayed is Justice Denied” is true. I strongly believe in a separate and independent judiciary, and recognize that the law is seamless, often encompassing criminal, civil and family issues in the same case. The law and the judicial system touches everyone and effects their daily lives. Common law and precedent are critical to a stable judicial system. Courts of Appeal and

the Supreme Court exists to review decisions of lower courts, correct mistakes where necessary, and provide opinions and rulings which lower courts are found to follow, (over word limit)

Question 2: While generally I do not agree that campaign contributions influence Judges and candidates, public perception here is the paramount concern. The public must have faith and confidence that the judiciary is operating freely, fairly, and independently. Several states have proposed public financing of judicial elections, and I believe that may well be an important first step. It would certainly level the playing field, and provide transparency to campaign financing. Like other campaigns, judicial campaigns are expensive and require the purchase of thousands of dollars of television time and other media advertising in order to familiarize the candidate with the electorate. (over word limit)

Pat Sheeran, Republican, 4101 Longhill Rd., Columbus, 43220

Email: Patrick_Sheeran@fccourts.org **Website:** www.retainjudgesheeran.com

Education: B.A., U. Dayton. J.D., U. Detroit

Occupation: Judge

Qualifications for Office: Judge, Common Pleas Court, Former Senior Prosecutor (100+ murder, felony trials); First Assistant Prosecutor, Civil; Magistrate. Bd. Trustees, Godman Guild, Married 33 years, 3 children. Endorsements: FOP, Capital City Lodge #9; FCCEA; Central Ohio Labor Council, AFL-CIO. "Highly Recommended," CBA Judicial Screening Committee.

Question 1: To promptly provide a fair hearing to those who appear in my courtroom, and work patiently, courteously, and efficiently with counsel and their clients. In 6+ years as Judge and Magistrate, I have never needed to use my gavel. I believe a trial judge should not act as a "super legislature." Judges must interpret law under the statutory guidelines stated in the Ohio Revised Code and supplemental case law. A judge seeking to actively change the law by imposing his or her version into statutes shows little respect for the legislative function and weakens the fabric of our representative government.

Question 2: Public financing of judicial elections actually favors wealthy candidates, and merit selection has been previously rejected. Now that House Bill 3 is law, Ohio should consider legislation requiring electronic reporting (with public access) of all contributions made to judicial campaigns within 48 hours of receipt. If any attorney or client contributes over \$500 in one year, the judge must disclose this to opposing counsel when the contributor has a pending case before the judge. The attorney may file a timely motion to recuse the judge, which must be granted unless both sides have made similar contributions to the judge's campaign.

Judge Court of Common Pleas / Domestic Division

Full Term Commencing 1/01/2007

Vote for not more than one

Elizabeth Gill, Democrat, 90 E. Mithoff St., Columbus, 43206

Email: gillforjudge@gillforjudge.com **Website:** www.gillforjudge

Education: J.D. Moritz College of Law, The Ohio State University, 1987.

Occupation: 18 years practice limited exclusively to family law matters.

Qualifications for Office: Rated "Highly Recommended" by the Columbus Bar Screening Committee. Endorsed : FOP Capital City Lodge #9, Columbus Firefighters, Central Ohio Labor Council AFL-CIO, AFSCME Ohio Council 8 and Franklin County Democratic Party.

Question 1: My Constitutional judicial philosophy is moderate-liberal towards a strong protection of individual liberties. As a Common Pleas Judge, I will be bound to apply the law as enacted by the Legislative branch. However, the Domestic/Juvenile Courts are courts of law and equity. Many of the applicable laws state specific factors which must be considered but also include “any other factor” that the Court considers equitable or is in the child’s best interest. I believe the equitable nature of these courts is critical to dispensing justice as it relates to families in crisis.

Question 2: Merit selection, where a nonpartisan commission would make nominations for appointment by the governor would reduce the perceived threat to judicial independence. While not eliminating politicization of the judiciary, it would result in more qualified individuals being elected to the bench and reducing the appearances of impropriety. In 1987 Ohio voters were asked to consider merit selection for judges. This ballot initiative was defeated across the state 2-1. Unfortunately, in judicial races name recognition is the way that judges are elected. Expenditure limits in judicial races requiring less advertising expense might be another alternative.

Colleen H. Briscoe, Republican, 7582 S. Goodrich Sq., New Albany, 43054

Email: None given. **Website:** www.briscoeforjudge.com

Education: B.A. Miami University; J.D. Capital Law School

Occupation: Family Law Attorney

Qualifications for Office: 29 years experience in Juvenile and Domestic Court; Rated “Highly Recommended” by Columbus Bar Association’s Judicial Screening Committee; Family Law Committee Member, OSBA; Past Experience: Franklin County Prosecutors Office, Juvenile Prosecutor; Domestic Relations Court, Referee; Presided in Mayor’s Court

Question 1: As a judge in domestic and juvenile court, the protection and interests of children come first. Domestic judges need not only to render decisions on issues, but also to aid in finding remedies, assistance, and protection for the children and parties involved. In delinquency cases, the concerns of victims and the community must be considered with those of the delinquent child. The court must recognize that families who need assistance from the court are families in difficulty. These families need to have their disputes resolved in a fair and timely manner, and within the bounds of the law.

Question 2: I am and have been supportive of the limitations already imposed by the Supreme Court and the efforts of the Ohio State and Columbus Bar Associations, which go beyond the limitations imposed by the legislature, to minimize the effect of campaign contributions upon the independence of the judiciary. For example, there are strict limitations on the amount that can be contributed to a judicial campaign by any individual or organization. If the public were made more aware of all the restrictions under which judicial candidates operate, the perception of influence might be reduced.

Full Term Commencing 1/2/2007

Vote for not more than one

Jay G. Perez, Democrat, 1655 Gables Ct., Columbus, 43235

Email: jay@Perez06.com **Website:** www.Perez06.com

Education: BS in Criminal Justice from Florida Atlantic University; Law Degree from Capital Law.

Occupation: Attorney and Adjunct Professor.

Qualifications for Office: Proven record of public service and inherent desire to serve the public. As a former police officer, I have a firm understanding of the oath of office and the oath of service.

Question 1: To treat every person with equality in the eyes of the law. To treat every matter before me expeditiously and with the utmost care and concern as every decision impacts lives. To uphold the laws, not legislate from the bench.

Question 2: This is an unfortunate reality in politics. I was recently interviewed by an organization for endorsement purposes. Unbeknownst to me, one of the individuals conducting the interview had donated \$3,000.00 to my opponent. Needless to say, I did not feel that I got a “fair shake”. To reduce the threat to judicial independence and the cap on campaign contributions needs to be lowered to an unpersuasive amount. This would prevent influence, real or perceived resulting from a large contribution. Further, the candidate would not feel indebted to any specific entity. This would eliminate the appearance of impropriety.

Jim Mason, Republican, 125 Autumn Rush Ct., Gahanna, 43230

Email: jim_mason@fccourts.org **Website:** None given.

Education: B.S., J.D.

Occupation: Judge, Franklin County Domestic /Juvenile Court

Qualifications for Office: 30 years legal experience; highest rated Domestic /Juvenile Judge past 8 years; “Highly Recommended” by Columbus Bar Association Judicial Screening Committee; endorsed by Fraternal Order of Police; elected Administrative Judge by peers on court; former State Representative and Judiciary Committee Chairman.

Question 1: The Domestic /Juvenile court affects people’s relationships, children, livelihoods, homes, property and debts. Because these are such sensitive and emotional issues I try to make each party feel they have been heard, treated fairly and with dignity. To that end I have an “open door” policy, where anyone, at any time, may see me about matters that concern them, whether they are on my docket or not. In addition, I work very hard at always being available, accessible, patient, attentive and responsive. I believe these qualities and efforts are why I am consistently highly rated and regarded.

Question 2: The only way to change public perception that campaign contributions influence judges is to remove campaign contributions from the manner in which judges are selected. Ohio can adopt a system of “Merit Selection” of judges, or a system of public financing of judicial elections. In either alternative, judges in Ohio would be relieved of the necessity of raising money to fund their campaigns, and the public could have greater confidence in the independence and objectivity of the judiciary.

Full Term Commencing 1/05/2007

Vote for not more than one

Carole Squire, Democrat, 547 Mohawk St., Columbus, 43206

Email: keepjudgesquire@hotmail.com **Website:** www.reelectjudgesquire.com

Education: OSU Law /J.D. 1977; OSU B.A. /English, 1974; Springfield South High, 1971.

Occupation: Domestic/ Juvenile Judge

Qualifications for Office: With present Court –Magistrate 3 ½ ; Judge 5 ½. 1977 prosecuted juvenile cases, Franklin County. Defense Attorney, Juvenile Court, Assistant Ohio Attorney General /Crime Victim’s section. Professorial Lecturer /American University, D.C. and Attorney /Ohio Legal Rights Services.

Question 1: There must be equal access to justice. During my six year term as Domestic Relations /Juvenile Judge, and 3 ½ years as a magistrate, I have endeavored to grant all parties in my assigned cases access to the court as time and resources permit. However as a judicial servant, I must guard the integrity of the system, and be ever mindful of the necessity to give priority to the most grave emergencies involving the most at risk and vulnerable, especially abused children. I am deeply committed to respecting others and their due process rights.

Question 2: I agree with the four of five who responded to your survey in support of the proposition that campaign finance contributions influence judges. This is especially true in the cases of candidates whose campaigns are predominantly fueled by a few contributors, especially attorneys who practice in the court, contributing much financially to a candidate’s campaign, as opposed to candidates’ campaigns in which many people contribute small monetary amounts. A democracy cannot survive unless the people are educated to understand the power of each vote, and the importance of voting intelligently, such as encouraged by invaluable LWVMC voter education initiatives.

Chris Geer, Republican, 844 Old Farm Rd., Columbus 43213

Email: cgeer@mgwlaw.com **Website:** www.geerforjudge.com

Education: BS ed. –Ohio State; JD –Capital University

Occupation: Attorney

Qualifications for Office: 28 years of experience in family law. I am a well respected trial lawyer, teacher, and author. I am endorsed by the FOP and received a “highly qualified” rating from the Columbus Bar Association Screening Committee.

Question 1: For many the perception of whether we have bad government or good government begins and ends with the judiciary. No other branch of government affects people’s lives so directly. The Judge presents a face –a living, talking person –representing the government in a very intimate way. People know that the Judge makes decisions which gravely affect their lives. Therefore, if a Judge is not fair, courteous, or competent, then the face of all government is neither courteous, fair, nor competent. I pledge to put a good face on government, to treat everyone with courtesy, with fairness and competence.

Question 2: Many States appoint judges, reserving to the voters the right to recall bad judges with periodic no confidence votes. That system does not pit one candidate against another, However, the political influence of the appointers on the appointees is obvious. Ohio has tried to adopt a middle of the road approach by limiting the amount of money judicial candidates can receive from any one source. Even so, the perception of undue influence flourishes. Perhaps avoiding voting for bad candidates as a result of research into candidates’ true agendas can best combat the effects of undue influence on judges.

Franklin County Commissioner

Questions for County Commissioner:

Question 1: What will be your top one or two priorities as County Commissioner? (100 word limit)

Question 2: How will you improve your office’s efficiency in this time of tight finances? (100 word limit)

Vote for not more than one

Marilyn Brown, Democrat, 34 W. Poplar Ave., #205, Columbus 43215

Email: laura@votemarilynbrown.com **Website:** www.votemarilynbrown.com

Education: M.S., Organizational Development, CWRU Weatherhead School of Management

Occupation: Candidate

Qualifications for Office: eight years, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission; Executive Director, suburban Chamber of Commerce; executive in non-profit management, diversity training, fair housing administration in Cleveland and Columbus. Understand importance of bringing people together to solve problems. Integrity, leadership, skills.

Question 1: 1. Safeguard jobs and work with government and business partners to bring new business opportunities to our region. We must work with neighbors to bring jobs from outside of this region. Lead in providing re-training to those who have lost their jobs. 2. Ensure we are meeting needs of our growing diverse population throughout the county. 3. Lead efforts to plan wisely: Darby Watershed Accord, Courthouse, Clipper Stadium, and community development projects throughout the county.

Question 2: County Commissioners should exemplify financial stewardship. With over one-billion dollars to oversee, County Commissioners must use good judgment and decision-making that is beyond reproach. Decisions should be based on what will best serve the greater good for the County. This is not about partisanship nor is it about serving special interests. Work in partnership with other County Commissioners to benefit ALL residents of our county. We must find creative ways to offer needed services as budgets grow tighter.

Dewey Stokes, Republican, 750 Willow Bend Ln., Columbus, 43204

Email: jonimbologna@aol.com **Website:** www.deweastokes.com

Education: Graduate of Groveport High School; Graduate of the Police Academy

Occupation: Franklin County Commissioner (1994-present); President of the National Fraternal Order of Police (8 years); President of Columbus Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 39 (8 years); Columbus Police Officer (26 years)

Qualifications for Office: 11.5 years of experience

Question 1: In order to maintain and improve the quality of life for all the citizens of Franklin County, we need to retain existing jobs while pursuing new business opportunities that will bring new jobs. We need to re-educate our existing workforce and educate our youth for those future jobs that will encompass technology, math, science, biology, ecology and education. County government needs to communicate to their employees and the public the limitations placed on county government. Due to the cost of products increasing, mandates and budget cuts, we have to watch every dollar that is spent.

Question 2: After 911, the economy took a downturn. Fortunately, due to previous years of fiscal responsibility, the county had built up a reserve which was preserved through 2003. In 2004 and 2005 the reserve was expended to sustain vital programs and operations. Since the economy has turned around, we must look to the future. Being fiscally responsible will enable us to replenish those reserves and be prepared for unexpected situations. Watching how we spend taxpayers money, monitor agency expenditures and rebuild our reserves will enable us to retain the AAA bond rating we have had since 1993.

Franklin County Auditor

Questions for County Commissioner:

Question 1: What will be your top one or two priorities as County Commissioner? (100 word limit)

Question 2: How will you improve your office's efficiency in this time of tight finances? (100 word limit)

Vote for not more than one

Albert N. Donahey, Democrat, 7171 Charleton Ct., Canal Winchester, 43110

Email: None given. **Website:** www.donaheycommittee.com

Education: BA, University of Tampa, Major Urban Studies, Minor Political Science

Occupation: Financial Consultant

Qualifications for Office: Experience in government administration and public affairs in the governor's office, financial management and services experience as a small business owner. Volunteerism through civic organizations, chambers of commerce and government appointment. A proven commitment to public service.

Question 1: My priority in this office is to work smoothly and efficiently with the Franklin County government and citizens. There is a need for improvement. Avoidable mistakes such as miscalculations and lack of communications have been made. These inadequacies result in costing us money and loses office credibility. I will accept responsibility and not place the blame. By doing so, we can eliminate these mistakes. I will restore trust and accountability in the office, and create transparency so Franklin County can understand how the Auditor's Office operates.

Question 2: After 14 years of the current administration, I would take a fresh look at the Auditor's office. I will evaluate and review structure and processes. I plan on meeting with civic leaders and our constituency to establish needs and prioritize. Implement best of the best practices, and find new ways to bring value to the community. I would upgrade the technology of the office so that the office operates as efficiently and economically as possible and to ensure everyone's personal information is secure. After 14 years, we need change. There is a great opportunity for improvement.

Joe Testa, Republican, 873 Ebner St., Columbus 43206

Email: Testa2006@aol.com **Website:** www.Testa2006.com

Education: B.A. Public Admin., Univ. of Central Florida; Master of Human Resources, Ohio State Univ.

Occupation: Franklin County Auditor 1992-Present

Qualifications for Office: Franklin county Auditor 1992-Present

Question 1: I will continue to utilize technology to improve the services of our office for the citizens of Franklin County. By continually enhancing our website, more people are able to work from their home or offices, which in turn reduce our costs. I will also continue to streamline the real estate appraisal process. As a result of previous cost-cutting efforts, we were able to surplus over \$21 million dollars to our local communities and schools to meet local needs.

Question 2: We will continue to look for areas where technology can serve the public more efficiently while allowing our staff to better serve our customers. I have recently served on the Local Government Public Notice Task Force and I am excited about pursuing ways to use technology to help reduce the enormous cost of public notice requirements in local government.