



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF THE WILKES-BARRE AREA AND PENNSYLVANIA

Citizen Education Fund NONPARTISAN VOTERS' GUIDE

PRIMARY ELECTION

JUNE 2, 2020

Polls open 7 A.M. to 8 P.M.

© Copyright 2020, League of Women Voters of the Wilkes-Barre Area
(Information obtained from Vote411.com and from candidates.)

2020 CAMPAIGN
'A STEP AHEAD OF THE VOTE'

FOR ELECTION INFORMATION

Contact your county Board of Elections or visit www.VotesPA.com. The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Citizen Information Center also provides election information. Call 717-234-1576 with any questions or go to www.Vote411.org.

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The material in this Guide was compiled by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania-Citizen Education Fund. This material may not be altered or reprinted without the permission of the League. Each candidate's reply has been printed as submitted. Candidates were invited to participate in the Vote411 online voters' guide sponsored by the LWVPA-CEF and Patriot-News/PennLive via email. All reasonable efforts were made to encourage candidates to participate.

The candidates listed are those whose names appear on the ballot as of May 21, 2020. They are listed according to their party and then alphabetically.

Nothing in this guide should be construed as an endorsement or non-endorsement of any candidate, party, or initiative by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania-Citizen Education Fund.

PURPOSE AND POLICY OF THE LEAGUE

The purpose of the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania-Citizen Education Fund is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League is nonpartisan: it neither supports nor opposes any political parties or candidates. Nothing in this guide should be construed as an endorsement of any candidate by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania-Citizen Education Fund.

US PRESIDENT

JOB DESCRIPTION

The President is: the head of state of the United States of America; the Chief Executive Officer; and the Commander in Chief of all military forces. The powers of the President are prescribed in the Constitution and federal law. The President appoints the members of the Cabinet, ambassadors to other nations and the United Nations, Supreme Court Justices, and federal judges, subject to Senate approval. The President, along with the Cabinet and its agencies, is responsible for carrying out and enforcing the laws of the United States. The President may also recommend legislation to the United States Congress.

Term: Four years. Limit of two terms.
Base Salary: \$400,000 per year.

REPUBLICAN

DONALD J. TRUMP (REP)

Q. What policies do you support to improve and secure elections and voting in our country?

A. Candidate did not respond.

Q. Please explain where you see opportunities for Democrats and Republicans to find common ground on the very serious issues facing our country.

A. Candidate did not respond.

Q. What, if any, steps will you take to reform current immigration policies?

A. Candidate did not respond.

Q. Please explain the policies, if any, you support to address gun violence in America.

A. Candidate did not respond.

Q. What, if any, actions would you work towards in your first 100 days to address the threats facing the US due to climate change?

A. Candidate did not respond.

DEMOCRAT

JOSEPH R. BIDEN (DEM)

Former Vice President of the United States, former U.S. Senator from Delaware

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 58174 Philadelphia, PA 19102
Campaign Website: http://joebiden.com/
Campaign Email: Women_for_Biden@joebiden.com
Campaign Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/joebiden/
Campaign Twitter: @JoeBiden
Campaign Instagram: http://www.instagram.com/joebiden/
Campaign YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/joebiden

Q. What policies do you support to improve and secure elections and voting in our country?

Joseph R. Biden A. I've fought for voting rights since I first got involved in politics, helping to secure several extensions of the Voting Rights Act. But in 2013, the Supreme Court ripped the heart out of those voter protections. As president, I'll enact legislation to restore the full force of the Voting Rights Act, and my Justice Department will challenge every one of the new Jim Crow laws that are now curtailing people's right to vote. I'll also boost state funding for secure voting with a paper record, and for better information sharing. I'll fight for automatic and same-day voter registration. And I'll make sure that any country or group that seeks to interfere in our elections faces real and serious consequences.

Q. Please explain where you see opportunities for Democrats and Republicans to find common ground on the very serious issues facing our country.

Joseph R. Biden A. The next president will inherit a divided nation and a world in disarray. They'll need to hit the ground running to fix Trump's mess, restore our global standing, and bring people together to get things done. Our next president will need to be a president for ALL Americans. I refuse to accept that we can't work together to solve tough problems. It's what democracy is all about. We can rebuild the middle class with historic investments in infrastructure, tackle

prescription drug companies' profiteering, build on Obamacare with a public option - and so much more. I know how to find common ground without compromising my values.

Q. What, if any, steps will you take to reform current immigration policies?

Joseph R. Biden A. We're a nation that values immigrants - it's how we've constantly been able to renew our democracy. As president, I'll reverse Trump's assault on our values on day one, ending his cruel asylum policies, especially his Migrant Protection Protocols, family separation, and public charge rule. I'll address the root causes pushing people to flee Central America. I'll act immediately to protect Dreamers and their families. Then I'll invest real political capital to finally deliver legislative immigration reform to modernize our system, giving nearly 11 million undocumented people a path to citizenship, updating our visa system to sharpen our economic competitive edge, and preserving family unification and diversity as cornerstones of our system

Q. Please explain the policies, if any, you support to address gun violence in America.

Joseph R. Biden A. Gun violence is a public health epidemic. We need courage to stand up to the NRA and fix our broken gun laws. I've beaten it before - twice. As president, I'll do it again. I'll ban assault weapons and high-capacity magazines and require background checks for all gun sales. I'll fight for red-flag laws and close the Charleston and boyfriend loopholes, to get guns out of dangerous hands. I'll invest in smart gun technology and new strategies to reduce daily gun violence in cities. I'll work to heal trauma that outlasts shootings, starting by doubling the number of school mental health professionals. And I'll address the deadly nexus of gun violence and domestic violence, starting by signing into law the Violence Against Women Act of 2019.

Q. What, if any, actions would you work towards in your first 100 days to address the threats facing the US due to climate change?

Joseph R. Biden A. Climate change is our most urgent threat. Beating Trump won't end it, but it's key to all progress. In

1986, I introduced one of the first climate bills; PolitiFact says I'm a "climate change pioneer." Now, I've outlined a bold plan to match today's crisis – putting us on a path to a 100% clean-energy economy and net-zero emissions by 2050. On day one, I'll rejoin the Paris Accord, restore American leadership, and push the world to do more. I'll invest \$1.7 trillion in clean energy research and development, and in transforming our infrastructure – from electric vehicle charging stations to high-speed rail – reducing emissions and withstanding the impacts of a changing climate, and creating 10 million good-paying jobs, that can be union jobs.

PENNSYLVANIA ATTORNEY GENERAL

JOB DESCRIPTION

The basic duties of the Attorney General, as outlined by the Commonwealth Attorneys Act, are to: serve as the Commonwealth's chief law enforcement officer; collect all debts, taxes, and accounts due to the Commonwealth; represent the Commonwealth and all its agencies in any action brought by or against the Commonwealth; administer the provision relating to consumer protection laws; represent the Commonwealth and its citizens in any action brought about for violation of the antitrust laws.

Term: 4 years

Base Salary: \$167,838

Vote for ONE.

DEMOCRAT

JOSH SHAPIRO (DEM)

Candidate did not respond.

REPUBLICAN

HEATHER HEIDELBAUGH (REP)

Trial Attorney

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: PO Box 23538
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Education: J.D., University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law; B.A. in Economics and Political Science, University of Missouri-Columbia

Qualifications: Experienced trial lawyer with more than 35 years of courtroom experience who understands the complexities of the law, the intersection between policy and law, and how the law impacts the lives of citizens

Campaign Website:

<http://heatherheidelbaugh.com/>

Facebook:

<http://facebook.com/HeatherforAG/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/heidelbaugh4ag>

Q. What are your top three priorities to address as Attorney General?

A. 1. Keep PA Safe-The Commonwealth Attorneys Act states one of the main roles of the AG is criminal prosecutions. This would be my top priority. The AG works with local DAs and law enforcement to keep PA residents safe, including a strong commitment to addressing drug trafficking and the opioid crisis. 2. Put People Before Politics-Restore the AG's Office to following mandates set forth in the Commonwealth Attorneys Act and perform lawyering for the people of PA versus using the office for political gain. 3. Protect the Mentally Ill-Establish a Blue Ribbon Panel of experts from PA to examine the treatment of the mentally ill, address the current state of mental illness, and more. The panel would issue a Report suggesting structural changes.

Q. The Office of the Pennsylvania Attorney General is responsible for law enforcement and the equal protection of law for all citizens. What do you see as the primary challenges to achieving equality under the law?

ON-LINE VOTERS GUIDE

The Vote411 Online Voters Guide is available at www.vote411.org. Links to this guide as well as links to Vote411 and other useful information for voters can be found on the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania homepage: www.palwv.org.

A. Keeping PA safe has to be the top priority of the AG. The AG's statutory role is the prosecutor of crime. The AG has to prioritize resources, so scarce resources are used for the highest priority tasks of the office. Crime enforcement, in conjunction with the DAs, is the first priority. Crime operates across County and jurisdictional lines, so coordination with multiple County DAs is critical. Investigations that may take years and cost millions can't be wasted by prosecutors failing to follow criminal procedure. The AG must take an active role in the management of the office. The purpose of prosecuting crime is to ensure safety, not create headlines. With that purpose in mind, equal protection for all should be achieved.

Q. What role will your administration play in reforming systemic problems and supporting restorative justice in our criminal justice system?

A. As the County Councilperson At Large on Allegheny County Council, I was critical of the operation of the county jail. The Allegheny County jail had more suicides than any other jail in the country. I determined that one county employee had repeatedly failed to process the proper release of a large number of people from the jail, and she was terminated. Each day someone is in jail, it cost taxpayers, they become a suicide risk and lose their liberty unnecessarily. As AG, I would continue to advocate for government institutions to properly run jails and prisons. Jails and/or prisons must be properly run so we have the space to jail criminals, not those who don't belong there.

PENNSYLVANIA AUDITOR GENERAL

JOB DESCRIPTION

The principal role of the Auditor General is to determine whether state funds are being used in accordance with the purpose and guidelines that govern each use of the Commonwealth's dollars. The Auditor General conducts financial and performance audits of individuals, state agencies, and organizations that receive state funds, including school districts, state liquor stores, and public employee pension funds. These audits are designed to measure how effectively government programs are using public money to meet their stated goals and objectives. The office performs more than 6,000 audits each year, and is responsible for auditing all federal funds that are allocated to Pennsylvania state programs.

Term: 4 years

Base Salary: \$167,838

Vote for ONE.

REPUBLICAN

TIMOTHY DEFOOR (REP)

Dauphin County Controller

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

County: Dauphin

Mailing Address: 604 North 3rd Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Education: Harrisburg Area Community College, Associates of Arts, Para Legal Studies; University of Pittsburgh, Bachelor of Arts, General Studies (concentration Sociology and History); Harrisburg University, Master's of Science, Project Management

Qualifications: Former Special Investigator, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of Inspector General; Retired Special Agent, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of Attorney General; Dauphin County Controller (2016 to present); Former Certified Internal Auditor with the International Organization for Standards

Campaign Website:

<http://www.defoor4pa.com/>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/DeFoor4PA>

Q. What are your top three priorities in office?

A. 1. Work to have a more transparent government. For example, I will work to end political loopholes like the "honor system" that allows state agencies to keep high-dollar, taxpayer funded contracts hidden from the public. 2. Bring in subject matter experts to audit the progress and performance of any new and expensive initiatives and projects to

determine how and if tax payer dollars are being spent wisely. 3. Perform detailed quality management audits to determine if the customer service processes and experiences for individual taxpayers and businesses doing business with the Commonwealth are efficient.

Q. What distinguishes you from other candidates who are seeking to be Pennsylvania's next Auditor General?

A. Over 25 years of combined law enforcement and auditing experience in both the public and private sectors. First as a Special Investigator with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of Inspector General investigating government and contractor fraud, waste and abuse. As a Special Agent with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of Attorney General investigating Medicaid fraud and illegal prescription drug diversion, and a Fraud Investigator and Internal Auditor for the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center – Health Plan and various federal contractors.

DEMOCRAT

H SCOTT CONKLIN (DEM)

Legislator / Business Owner

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

County: Centre County

Mailing Address: 339 Kepp Rd.
Philipsburg, PA 16866

Education: Phillipsburg-Osceola Area High School, Clearfield County Career and Technical School

Qualifications:

Scott Conklin has served as board chairman of Centre County, chairman of the Salary Board, Retirement Board member, Employee Benefits Trust member, and Board of Assessment member, prior to Representing the 77th Legislative District of Pennsylvania. He is also a small business owner and union member.

Campaign Website:

<http://www.conklinforpa.com>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/ConklinforPA>

Twitter:

<http://www.twitter.com/ConklinforPA>

Q. What are your top three priorities in office?

A. I have always thought of myself as a hard working voice for all people, and have served with the trust of those I represent in Harrisburg. Now, I believe it is time to use my voice for all Pennsylvanians by holding our government accountable. If you believe as I do, that our government needs to be held accountable for its spending, that our government must have an advocate for taxpayers, and that our government must work for all Pennsylvanians, then please consider supporting this campaign. Only through building a strong coalition of voters across the state can we hope to secure these goals.

Q. What distinguishes you from other candidates who are seeking to be Pennsylvania's next Auditor General?

A. I am running for the Office of Auditor General because I have seen firsthand how wasteful spending can impede the missions of government. I believe that the work of the current Auditor General's office must continue, and that every taxpayer dollar should be spent legally and efficiently. I have

IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW VOTERS

If you are a new voter or if you are voting at a polling place for the first time, then you must bring your voter ID card or a photo ID such as a driver's license, student ID or some other form of Federal or State government-issued ID. Some forms of non-photo ID are also acceptable, such as a firearm permit, current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or government check. If you do not have any acceptable ID then you must be allowed to vote by provisional ballot.

If you are not a new voter and are not voting at your polling place for the first time, you are NOT required to bring or provide identification.

spent my career serving the people of the 77th Legislative District, first as Chairman of the Centre County Commissioners, where I oversaw a \$90 million budget. After I was elected to the House, I was placed on the appropriations committee as a freshman representative because of my experience in government. Furthermore, I co-own and operate a business with my wife, Terri, in Philipsburg, PA.

DEMOCRAT

MICHAEL LAMB (DEM)
Pittsburgh City Controller

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

County: Allegheny County
Mailing Address: 1015 Grandview Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15211
Education: BA Penn State University, MPM Heinz College, Carnegie Mellon University, JD Duquesne University School of Law
Qualifications:
As Controller since 2008 I have protected residents from waste, fraud and abuse of their tax dollars. My audits have uncovered millions in savings and I have provided unprecedented levels of transparency into city finances. I also led the effort to reform our county into a home rule community.

Campaign Website:

<http://www.lambforpa.com>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/MichaelLambPA>

Twitter:

<http://www.twitter.com/MichaelLambPA>

Q. What are your top three priorities in office?

A. The Auditor General is our 1st line of defense against public corruption. I plan to address that in part by bringing unprecedented levels of transparency to the Commonwealth. I have developed several tools of transparency for greater public engagement into the issues of public finance. I plan to bring those tools to the Commonwealth. During time of crisis it is important to recognize that some will see an opportunity for fraud. I have developed a plan to address these concerns including testing for price gouging, addressing misinformation, protecting whistleblowers and monitoring stimulus spending. PA's largest cost is education. I plan to devote significant resources to hold accountable our charter schools and all institutions of learning.

Q. What distinguishes you from other candidates who are seeking to be Pennsylvania's next Auditor General?

A. As City Controller it has been my job every day to watch over spending and protect taxpayers from waste, fraud and abuse. My record of fiscal responsibility, innovation, reform and open government helped me to play a key role in leading Pittsburgh out of near bankruptcy. My efforts to address our legacy costs while protecting our public assets have helped place our city on firm financial footing. As county row officer, I put people first by advocating a reform that eliminated my own job while generating savings to our taxpayers. As an attorney I have focused on helping communities restructure their finances while helping pension fund trustees address losses to their portfolios due to fraud. I am uniquely qualified to be Auditor General.

TRACIE FOUNTAIN (DEM)

CPA. Required by law to resign my appointed Auditor General Department appointed position to run for Auditor General.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

County: Dauphin (born and raised in Allegheny County)
Mailing Address: Tracie For Pa P.O. Box 22606 Philadelphia, PA 19110
Education: Drexel University B.S. Business of Administration - Major Accounting, Certified Public Accountant since 1991
Qualifications: Served 29+ years in leadership roles in the administrations of the current and prior 3 Auditor Generals. Initially hired as a field audit supervisor. After 4 years promoted to Department's Technical Manager. After 3 years, Appointed Audit Bureau Director, serving as Director for 5 Audit Bureaus.

Campaign Website: <http://tracieforpa.com>
Facebook: <http://Facebook.com/tracieforpa>
Twitter: <http://Twitter.com/tracieforpa>

Q. What are your top three priorities in office?

A. 1. Addressing the impact of significant staff shortages, as a result of continual legislative budget cuts, on the department's ability to properly and in a timely complete 5000 mandated audits annually. At the time of my hire, the Department had 850 employees statewide and was down to 392 at November 1, 2019, while still being responsible for the completion of 5000 audits annually.

2. Preventing the fraudulent use of PA's COVID-19 Economic Stimulus Funds and Small Business Loans proceeds by helping to ensure that these funds are properly awarded to PA's intended recipients.

3. Protecting the lives of PA's most vulnerable citizens-our children, our elderly, and mentally challenged.

Q. What distinguishes you from other candidates who are seeking to be Pennsylvania's next Auditor General?

A. I am the only candidate in this race who, in addition to being a CPA, served in leadership roles in the administrations of the current and prior three Auditor Generals. As a result, I know this department, its staff, where they are strong, and where improvements are needed, making me the only candidate in this race who will be ready on Day 1 of taking office to effectively lead this department, especially given the department's significant staff cuts. I am also the only candidate in this race who, while on the campaign trail, issued 2 OP-ED pieces: 1. Policy to Support PA Attorney General's Efforts to Monitor State Funds Awarded to NonProfits 2. Reducing PA's Risk of Fraud, Waste, Abuse, and Mismanagement of COVID-19 Economic Stimulus Funds.

ROSE ROSIE MARIE DAVIS (DEM)

Certified Public Accountant

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

County: Monroe County
Mailing Address: 316 Shawnee Valley Drive East Stroudsburg, PA 18302
Education: BBA in Accounting; BS in Political Science
Qualifications: I have an accounting degree and I am a Certified Public Accountant with 34+ years of audit experience. My expertise includes managing and conducting financial, operational, compliance and internal control reviews of Federal, State and Local government agencies and not-for-profit organizations.

Campaign Website:

<http://www.rosieforpa.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/ROSIE-for-PA-113154753563481/>

Q. What are your top three priorities in office?

A. 1. The top priority is to save the PA taxpayers roughly \$600,000 dollars of extra salary cost because as the next Auditor General, there will be no need to hire another CPA to direct the audit team because I have the direct CPA experience to handle the technical job. 2. Addressing public school district funding inequality. I plan to review public school district funding from a top-down approach. 3. A significant portion of State taxpayer-sponsored programs and services are outsourced to 3rd-party contractors who provide substandard and inadequate services. I will conduct more performance and effectiveness audits of 3rd-party contracts. The shared ride program for elderly and vulnerable citizens is on top of the list.

Q. What distinguishes you from other candidates who are seeking to be Pennsylvania's next Auditor General?

A. I am the most qualified candidate because I am a financial professional that has CPA public accounting and federal audit experience. I have an accounting degree, a CPA license and 34 years of real and relevant audit experience. I bring Wall Street and Main Street experience to the Auditor General's office. I have a lifetime of managing audit teams and bringing real results to my clients over the years. I am independent and owe no one any political favors; therefore, I can provide honest and candid assessments

of operations at State agencies and programs. I have a stellar track record of identifying instances of fraud and abuse in governmental operations and within City and State Controller's offices.

NINA AHMAD (DEM)

Former Deputy Mayor

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

County: Philadelphia
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 40681 Philadelphia, PA 19107
Education: Ph.D. in Chemistry, Postdoctoral Training in Molecular Genetics
Qualifications: Policy Maker (Deputy Mayor & Advisor to President Obama on AAPI) Co-owner-Community Development finance business Trustee of Foundation, Grant making Chair-\$40M in grants and Investment Committee: oversight on half-billion-dollar endowment. Board Member, National Organization for Women
Campaign Website: <http://www.ninaforpa.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/NinaforPA/>
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/NinaAhmadPHL>

Q. What are your top three priorities in office?

A. Healthcare, Education and Violence. These are all informed by the theme of my campaign, which is accountability and transparency and the understanding that the taxpayers end up paying more if we ignore the problems that perpetuate inequality and injustice. I will take on Big Pharma to lower costs on life-saving medicines with a focus on Pharmacy Benefits manager to increase efficiencies. I will protect and increase education funding to make sure our students have the best education in safe and healthy environments. I will focus on ending violence including sexual harassment/violence, advocate to end nondisclosure settlements as well as address gun violence by giving lawmakers the data to fight the NRA and pass tough new gun laws.

Q. What distinguishes you from other candidates who are seeking to be Pennsylvania's next Auditor General?

A. I believe that the Auditor General's office can be a powerful tool for progressive change. I am running to deliver real results in the fight for equality, accountability and transparency. My life experience of surviving the violent Liberation War of Bangladesh makes me cherish the promise of America, of a good education, quality healthcare and economic opportunity. I have a firm path to victory. Starting with a small lead ahead of everyone, I jumped to a 34-point advantage on my nearest competitor state-wide when voters learned about my approach and background as a scientist, policymaker and former local President of NOW. I am the only Philadelphia candidate in the race that historically makes-up half the state-wide turnout in elections.

CHRISTINA M. HARTMAN (DEM)

Non-profit Consultant

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

ELECTION DAY PROBLEMS

If your right to vote is challenged at the polls on Election Day and the problem cannot be resolved at the polling place, the judge of elections at the polling place should telephone the county Board of Elections. The problem could be resolved by phone if your name appears on the county records. If it does not and you want to try to resolve the problem, then you can go in person to the county Board of Elections where a judge from the Court of Common Pleas will be on duty to resolve election problems. Alternatively you can ask for and vote by provisional ballot. If it is later determined that you were eligible to vote your ballot will be counted. You will be given instructions on how to determine if your vote was counted.

If you have any questions or need to report any problems, call 1-866-OUR-VOTE for assistance in English or Spanish or 1-888-API-VOTE for assistance in Asian languages.

County: Lancaster

Mailing Address: PO Box 1576

Lancaster, PA 17608

Education: M.A., International Political Economy and Development, February 2004 Fordham University, Bronx, New York B.A., International Affairs, May 1999 The George Washington University, Washington, D.C. Semester abroad at Université de Paris IV (Sorbonne)

Qualifications: For 20 years, I've held governments to account in some of the world's worst dictatorships. I led & managed federally-funded projects with budgets up to \$44 million with large teams across multiple offices worldwide that underwent numerous audits, which found that they were efficient and effective.

Campaign Website:

<http://www.christinamhartman.com>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/HartmanForPA>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/hartmanforpa>

Q. What are your top three priorities in office?

A. My priorities are education, healthcare, and criminal justice reform.

Education audits account for a third of this office's work. I will evaluate the discrepancy between the standards and funding for public schools and charter schools, which are often held to lower standards, harming our students on the taxpayers' dime.

Healthcare costs continue to rise, especially for seniors. I will look at rising drug costs and nursing home treatment of seniors, to ensure that Medicare/Medicaid dollars are spent well for our most vulnerable.

For criminal justice, I will examine inefficiencies created by focusing on punishment over rehabilitation leading to high recidivism rates, a truly inefficient and ineffective use of our tax dollars.

Q. What distinguishes you from other candidates who are seeking to be Pennsylvania's next Auditor General?

A. I have the technical, leadership, and political experience to win in November and lead the Auditor General's office.

I'm the only candidate who has run in a competitive general election with Trump at the top of the ticket and narrowed the GOP margin. When I ran for Congress in 2016, we raised \$1.25 million and got endorsed by the national party and EMILY's List, in a district originally deemed too red to win. That experience is going to be crucial in 2020.

Finally, we are running a true statewide campaign. We have more than 60 endorsements, including Gov. Rendell, in 18 counties, and I've been to 45 of 67 counties. As a candidate from central PA, I'm working to unite Democrats across the state to make sure we turn PA blue in November.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE TREASURER

JOB DESCRIPTION

The duty of the Pennsylvania Treasurer is to safeguard the Commonwealth's financial assets, which total more than \$120 billion in public monies. The office manages several programs in order to better serve the financial needs of Pennsylvanians. The Treasury Department is also responsible for reuniting unclaimed property with its rightful owner; investigating loss, theft, and fraud involving Commonwealth checks; reviewing real estate leases and contracts entered into by Commonwealth agencies; maintaining the Pennsylvania contracts electronic library. The Treasurer has specific duties in addition to the oversight of the Department: serves as chair of the Board of Finance and Revenue, which selects banks to serve as depositories for state money; sets interest rates paid on Commonwealth deposits; hears and decides state tax appeals.

Term: 4 years

Base Salary: \$167,838

Vote for ONE.

REPUBLICAN

STACY L. GARRITY

Candidate did not respond

DEMOCRAT

JOE TORSELLA (DEM)

Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

County: Montgomery

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 626

Flourtown, PA 19031

Education: University of Pennsylvania (B.A.); New College, Oxford University

Qualifications: Current Treasurer of Pennsylvania; former Ambassador to the UN for Management and Reform; former President and CEO of the National Constitution Center; former Philadelphia Deputy Mayor for Policy and Planning

Campaign Website:

<http://www.joetorsella.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/JoeTorsellaforTreasurer>

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/JoeTorsella>

Q. What is the most important duty of the State Treasurer? If elected, how would you carry out that duty?

A. From Day One, my most important duty has been restoring integrity to an office too often marred by scandal—three of the last five elected Treasurers have been indicted. Upon taking office, I immediately banned the use of middlemen to win investment contracts and introduced Treasury's first-ever conflict-of-interest policy and Chief Integrity Officer.

In addition to restoring integrity, we've created the Keystone Scholars program, which gives at-birth college and career savings accounts to every child born or adopted in Pennsylvania after January 1, 2019. Furthermore, we fight to hold Wall Street accountable to taxpayers, including through legal action when necessary and as trustees for our public pension systems.

Q. What distinguishes you from your opponent in the general election?

A. I have spent my career in the public sector, fighting for the responsible use of taxpayer funds in our civic institutions. Before serving as Treasurer, I was the U.S. Ambassador for UN Management and Reform. Prior to that, I was the founding President and CEO of the National Constitution Center and Philadelphia's Deputy Mayor for Policy and Planning.

What these roles have in common is a dedication to the highest and best use of funds, contributed by the masses, toward a common goal. They each require the careful stewardship of someone else's contribution: to reinforce effective international cooperation; to build a beautiful civic resource for our nation; or to resolve a \$1.25 billion deficit and revitalize a vibrant major American city.

REPRESENTATIVE IN THE U.S. CONGRESS

JOB DESCRIPTION

Congress, the legislative branch of the federal government, is composed of two houses. The upper house is the Senate. The lower house is the House of Representatives. A majority vote by both houses is necessary to pass a law.

Term: 2 years

Base Salary: \$174,000

REPUBLICAN

JIM BOGNET (REP)

Candidate did not respond.

MIKE CAMMISA (REP)

Candidate did not respond.

TEDDY DANIELS (REP)

Candidate did not respond.

EARL GRANVILLE (REP)

Candidate did not respond.

HARRY HAAS (REP)

Teacher

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

County: Luzerne

Education: M.Ed secondary social studies and B.A. history; The George Washington University

Qualifications: Luzerne County councilman

since 2011 -cut county debt from \$445M to \$279M -committee chairman: 9-1-1 inquiry, blighted property, & legislative issues.

-Republican elected 3 times in blue county -consistently fought against \$5 registration fee, rain tax, gov't expansion and unjust state mandates

Campaign Website:

<http://HarryHaasForCongress.com>

Facebook: <http://HarryHaasForCongress>

Q. What would be your top priorities as a U.S. Representative over the next two years?

A. 1. Use caution and common sense instead of fear and control in order to reopen American businesses and help American workers get back on track. 2. Balance the budget, and begin to roll back the \$25 trillion debt for the sake of our children, grandchildren, and the survival of the United States of America. Both our people and institutions are leveraged and living on borrowed time. 3. Restore federalism so that the federal government will partner with our state and local governments rather than dictate mandates--such as the "rain tax" and public school testing--in order to pay for the government and make it work for the people. 4. Work with the President to move the country forward and stop the political games.

Q. The landmark Shelby v. Holder decision overturned protections in the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that required certain states and local governments to obtain federal preclearance before implementing voting laws or practices. Since then, the U.S. has experienced a surge of legislation that makes it more difficult for many people to vote. What voting reforms do you see as essential to making U.S. elections accessible and secure?

A. US elections have never been more accessible than they are right now; concurrently, they are less secure than ever. I am extremely concerned with the historic fraud that has happened not only in PA elections, but across the nation. Exchanging convenience for accountability at the ballot box has cheapened our democracy, and to make elections more secure requires ID verification at the polling place. Just last week I read an article from Margaret Menge, who easily obtained three fraudulent mail-in PA ballots. We've seen vote harvesting in California, which decreases the importance of the candidate's message in exchange for ramping up party votes. We have sacrificed security for accessibility. I support any reforms to remove fraud.

Q. How would you go about finding consensus and reducing gridlock in Washington, D.C.?

A. I have served very successfully for eight years as a county councilman by helping build consensus on a board of 11 members. My county adopted a home rule form of government after the "Kids for Cash" scandal. In those early years every action was considered for its transparency and for its reduction of the near half-billion dollar debt left by previous administrations. We saw unprecedented transparency and efficiency. I am bringing that experience and vision to Washington, and leadership means convincing others that your path is the correct one. I think in the aftermath of Covid-19 my ability to stick to my principles, build consensus and treat others as I would like to be treated will serve Northeastern Pennsylvania well in the Congress.

MIKE MARSICANO (REP)

Small Business Owner

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

County Luzerne

Qualifications: Former Mayor of Hazleton, Former Member of Hazleton City Council, Former Pennsylvania State Trooper, Former Member of the PA National Guard, Former Airline Pilot Small Business Owner

Campaign Website:

<http://www.marsicanoforcongress.com>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/MarsicanoPA8>

Twitter:

<http://www.twitter.com/MarsicanoPA8>

WRITE-IN VOTING

Information for write-in voting will be available at the polling place.

Q. What would be your top priorities as a U.S. Representative over the next two years?

A. My number one priority when elected will be to actually give the people of the 8th Congressional District the Representation they deserve. For too long, the people of Northeast Pennsylvania have been used my Congressman Matt Cartwright as a stepping stone for his own political career.

As a lifetime member of the NRA, I will actively defend the Second Amendment in Congress. The Democrats have gotten away with impeding the rights of gun owners for long enough, and I will do everything in my power to strengthen the rights of gun owners.

I will also actively work with President Trump on his agenda for the American people. Donald Trump was elected by the people in 2016, and has faced resistance ever since.

Q. The landmark *Shelby v. Holder* decision overturned protections in the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that required certain states and local governments to obtain federal preclearance before implementing voting laws or practices. Since then, the U.S. has experienced a surge of legislation that makes it more difficult for many people to vote. What voting reforms do you see as essential to making U.S. elections accessible and secure?

A. As a Conservative Republican, I feel that this is an issue best left to the states. Rather than top-down regulations coming from D.C. that can strain the capacities of local election facilities, it should be left up to each individual state to determine the best way for their state to secure their election.

Q. How would you go about finding consensus and reducing gridlock in Washington, D.C.?

A. As Representative, it would be my job to represent the views of the people of the 8th Congressional District. But too often, elected officials go to D.C. with the intentions of furthering their own political careers. When this happens, these elected officials take actions that benefit only themselves, and not their constituency or even the Congress as a whole, causing gridlock. I have pledged to serve a maximum of three terms, placing term limits on myself to show that I am accountable only to the people of the 8th Congressional District. When members of Congress work for their constituents and not themselves, the prospects of breaking gridlock and finding consensus become much greater.

DEMOCRAT

MATT CARTWRIGHT (DEM)
Candidate did not respond.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 116

REPUBLICAN

TARAH TOOHL
PARTY: Republican

Drums, PA 18222
AGE: 40

EDUCATION: Hazleton Area H.S., Dual Bachelor Political Science & Sociology w concentration Law & Legal, PSU Dickinson Law School, Juris Doctor

OCCUPATION: Legislator/ Attorney

QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS OFFICE: I'm a state legislator, attorney, and Community Activist. My skill set combined with being a caring and passionate advocate enable me to successfully achieve results for those that I am elected to represent.

Q. Why do you feel that you are a good candidate for the above office?

A. I work around the clock for our Northeast region and have seen much progress throughout my time in office. Our communities have become safer, more vibrant, and growing.

I am dedicated to fighting the economic depression that COVID-19 has brought to our small businesses and our working families. I will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that our health, lives and livelihoods are protected and restored to our pre-COVID-19 levels as much as possible.

DEMOCRAT

TODD EACHUS
PARTY: Democrat

Drums

AGE: 58

EDUCATION/PROFESSIONAL:

Coughlin High School
Pitzer College, BA, Political Studies
Administrative Assistant, Hon. Frank J. Guarini (NJ-D); Businessman, Portable Space, Modular Office Structures; PA House of Representatives D-116th; Todd Eachus and Associates, Government Affairs, Technology, Policy, and Administration; Chief External Affairs Officer CEO, OFN.org, Policy, Communications & Development; Businessman, Founder, Pure Plant Health LLC, Industrial Hemp Direct Farm Distribution and Wholesale.

Q. Why do you feel that you are a good candidate for the above office?

A. 10 yrs out of public service and it feels like we have made NO progress. Collectively most people in Luzerne County tell our campaign that they feel WE are falling behind. I am running to develop unity and a plan for Southern Luzerne County. By embracing diversity and building a shared vision for higher paying jobs, safe neighborhoods, excellent public schools; government and economic development transparency, citizens will take back power from big money and special interests.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 117

REPUBLICAN

KAREN BOBACK, PH.D.
PARTY: Republican

Harveys Lake

AGE: 69

EDUCATION: B.S. Misericordia University; M.S. Marywood University; M.S. Misericordia University; Ph.D. University of Pennsylvania

OCCUPATION: Representative in the General Assembly

QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS OFFICE: I am an experienced legislator completing my seventh term in the State House. My educational background as well as my community leadership positions provide a track record of personal and public commitment.

Q. Why do you feel that you are a good candidate for the above office?

A. The experience I have developed over the past fourteen years has proven invaluable in representing the residents of the 117th legislative district. I am a strong legislator who has proven myself when it comes to making tough decisions that are based on principle and not special interest groups. I have developed an undeniable reputation for building consensus and voting my district. I am dedicated to the people I am proud to serve.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 118

REPUBLICAN

ANDREW HOLTER
PARTY: Republican

AGE: 32

EDUCATION:

A.A.S. Fire Science Technology

B.S. Fire Science

Master's in Public Administration with specialization in Emergency Management
OCCUPATION: Small Business Owner & Paramedic

QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS OFFICE:

10 years of experience helping local governments with grants, codes, and other challenges. I will continue to assist our communities as state representative.

Q. Why do you feel that you are a good candidate for the above office?

A. As the son of teenage parents, I know the value of a dollar and I will treat the people's tax money with the respect it deserves.

As a firefighter and a paramedic, I will always put others first, and I will put the people of

the district ahead of myself and the politics of Harrisburg.

DEMOCRAT

MIKE CARROLL
PARTY: Democrat

Avoca, PA

AGE: 58

EDUCATION: BA University of Scranton,

Pittston Area High School

OCCUPATION: Legislator

QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS OFFICE:

Gubernatorial, congressional, and legislative staffer combined with nearly 14 years as State Representative serving the citizens of Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties.

Q. Why do you feel that you are a good candidate for the above office?

A. I have the experience and proven record of honorable and effective service to the people of our community. Further, I am equipped to meet and exceed the significant expectations people have for their State Representative. I'm very proud of my past service to the residents of our area and am hopeful to continue that dependable service for another term.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 119

REPUBLICAN

JOHN CHURA
PARTY: Republican

West Hazleton, PA

EDUCATION: Bishop Hafey High School, graduate, Class of 1983

OCCUPATION: Owner of Chura's Auto Sales and also the mayor of West Hazleton Borough.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS OFFICE:

I previously served on West Hazleton Borough Council and the zoning Board and am currently the mayor of West Hazleton Borough.

Q. Why do you feel that you are a good candidate for the above office?

A. I was born and raised in Northeastern Pennsylvania. I am a small business owner and I know the challenges that they face. I've worked as an elected official for over 10 years. I am committed to helping those around me and seeking ways to improve the 119th district.

I have the experience and knowledge to tackle the issues the district faces. If elected, I plan on being visible and always available to the people of the 119th district.

DEMOCRAT

GERALD MULLERY
PARTY: Democrat

Nanticoke

EDUCATION: Greater Nanticoke Area, King's College, Duquesne University

School of Law

OCCUPATION: State Representative

QUALIFICATION: I possess the only qualification required of this office, I care about the people I represent. My voting record clearly establishes a non-partisan approach aimed at ensuring all of my constituents voices are heard.

Q. Why do you feel that you are a good candidate for the above office?

A. Every argument I've made, every position I've advocated, and every vote I've cast has been done with the best interest of my constituency in mind. I've fought for what is important to my friends, family and neighbors: creation and maintenance of family sustaining jobs, a quality public education system, safe neighborhoods, access to health care, lower taxes, and common sense environmental protection. I will continue to support this platform in the future.

**PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 120**

REPUBLICAN

AARON KAUFER
PARTY: Republican

Kingston, PA
AGE: 31
EDUCATION: Widener University
Commonwealth Law, J.D.
Lafayette College
B.A. Government and Law
B.A. International Affairs
Wyoming Valley West High School
OCCUPATION: State Representative
**QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS
OFFICE:** Co-Chairman of PA-HOPE
(Anti-Addiction) Caucus, Deputy
Chairman of the House Policy
Committee, Member of the Government
Reform Caucus, Member of Finance,
Health, Gaming Oversight, and
Transportation Committees

**Q. Why do you feel that you are a good
candidate for the above office?**

A. In my time in office, I have worked
very diligently and with both sides of
the aisle, fighting for the interests of the
working class and taxpayers of the 120th
District. I have developed a reputation
both in Harrisburg and Luzerne County
for producing bipartisan results for
the people, not lobbyists and special
interests. If re-elected, I will continue my
common sense approach in producing
real solutions for the people of Luzerne
County.

DEMOCRAT

JOANNA BRYN SMITH

PARTY: Democrat
Wyoming PA 18644

AGE: 33

EDUCATION:

Saint Joseph's University, B.A.
City University of New York, J.D.
OCCUPATION: Conflict Counsel
Attorney

**QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS
OFFICE:**

As an educator I have made lasting
impressions on families, as a public
defender I have advocated for our people,
and as a community volunteer I have
committed time and worked to better our
community.

**Q. Why do you feel that you are a good
candidate for the above office?**

A. I grew up with principled progressive
parents who taught me that all people
were equal. As a public defender I've
never let adversity keep me from fighting
for justice; I know how to take on tough
challenges and win. Such difficulties will
not stand in my way as a legislator, and
I will always put people before profits.
These principles have guided my life, and
they will guide the way I will represent
our people.

**PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 121**

DEMOCRAT

EDDIE DAY PASHINSKI
PARTY: Democrat

Wilkes-Barre
AGE: 74
EDUCATION: B.S. Music Education and
a Master Equiv. from Penn State.
OCCUPATION: Representative, 121st
District

**QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS
OFFICE:**

Served as a Representative since 2007
38 yrs as a Music Teacher and Choral
Director at GNA.
Owner and operator of small businesses
for 30 yrs.
At the present time I am the Democratic
Chairman of the Agriculture and Rural
Affairs Committee.

**Q. Why do you feel that you are a good
candidate for the above office?**

A. State Rep. Eddie Day Pashinski has
served the 121st state House District since
2007. His work as a legislator focuses on
property tax relief, improving education,
making quality health care more
affordable and accessible, and creating
good paying jobs for the middle class.
Prior to joining the legislature, Eddie was
a teacher, union leader, and lead singer
for many area bands. A Wilkes-Barre
resident, Pashinski has four children and
seven grandchildren.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE WILKES-BARRE AREA

P.O. Box 1480 | Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703-1480 | 570-675-3429 | lwvwa@gmail.com

Board of Directors:

Dr. Christine Sheridan, President; Dr. Mischelle Anthony; Kevin Bransford; Maureen Collins; Cheryl DeHaut; Susan Ferentino; Nancy Frey; Mary Kuna; Rhonda Lambert; Kathryn O'Neill; Audrey Serniak; Ernie Trujillo; Molly Tuzinski-Wright

Director Emeritus: Christine McLaughlin, Esq.; James Nawrocki

The League of Women Voters of the Wilkes-Barre Area is a nonpartisan organization which has as its purpose the promotion of political responsibility through informed and active participation in government. Membership is open to any person who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League. While the League of Women Voters has made every effort to ensure that the information provided to us by the candidate is typed properly in this guide and it will not be liable for damages arising out of error, deletion or omission.

President: Dr. Christine Sheridan | Editor: Molly Tuzinski-Wright | Design & Layout: Blasi Printing Corp.
Prepared by: The League of Women Voters of The Wilkes-Barre Area and The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania.
Provided in part by a grant from the Luzerne County Bar Association Charitable Foundation, Inc.

Special Thanks to the Citizens' Voice for publishing the Voters' Guide. The Voter's Guide is a member supported publication.

ON-LINE VOTERS GUIDE

The Vote411 Online Voters Guide is available at www.vote411.org. Links to this guide as well as links to Vote411 and other useful information for voters can be found on the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania homepage: www.palvw.org.