MICHIGAN FAMILY FORUM

Sound Public Policy for Stronger Michigan Families



Statewide Races

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Dear Michigan Voter:

This 2014 Voter Guide is designed to help you make an informed decision when you vote on Tuesday, November 4th.

The guide is non-partisan and is not intended to endorse or oppose any candidate, either explicitly or implicitly. We have printed candidate responses exactly as we received them on signed questionnaires. Unfortunately, some candidates did not respond to our questionnaire. We used mail, phone and email to contact each candidate multiple times.

Please consider passing this Voter Guide along to friends, family and others in your community to increase its usefulness. We also encourage you to visit our electronic Voter Guide at www. michiganfamily.org, where you will also find information for MI House and MI Senate candidates, including endorsements and questionnaire responses.

Thanks for being an informed voter. See you at the polls on Nov. 4th!

Brad Swarely

Brad Snavely
Executive Director

REMEMBER TO VOTE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2014

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MICHIGAN GOVERNOR



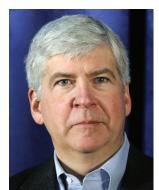
Mark Schauer (D)

Candidate chose not to respond.
We used mail, phone and email to contact Mark Schauer multiple times.

Rick Snyder (R) (Incumbent)

EDUCATION: University of Michigan, BS, MBA, JD RECENT POSITIONS: Adjunct assistant professor of tax and accounting at the University of Michigan; accountant at Coopers & Lybrand; COO at Gateway MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN: Married; 3 children AGE: 56

Religious faith/denomination: Presbyterian Community or Civic Involvement: Board of directors/advisory boards of the Henry Ford, bank of Ann Arbor, and the U of M. Previously active in Michigan Economy Development Corporation, Nature Conservancy- Michigan Chapter, the New Economy Initiative, Sphinx Organization, current cochair of Council of Great Lakes Governors



ENDORSEMENTS

Endorsing organizations are described on page 19 of this guide

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(D) Mark Schauer	PP	AFL	NOW		SC		
(R) Rick Snyder						CC	FB

Essay Questions (Answers on Following Page)

Candidates were given a limit of 750 words to answer the following questions

Education - Please discuss your top priorities in K-12 education. You may focus on funding and/or non-funding (policy) issues.

Child Well-Being – What poses the greatest threat to the social or cultural well-being of our children and what steps would you take to counteract that threat?

Infrastructure – What do you see as the most critical infrastructure priorities in the next 5-10 years?

Job Creation – Describe your top one or two strategies to promote job creation in Michigan.

Family Structure – Do you think family structure in Michigan is on the "right track" or "wrong track"? What changes do you think need to occur and what role, if any, does state government play in that process?

RICK SNYDER (R)

EDUCATION: Improving K-12 education has been a priority for me since I became Governor. We've increased state funding for education every year I've been in office, and in fact, education funding is at its highest level in state history. Today, Michigan is spending more than a billion dollars more on schools than when I became Governor. That funding is being used more wisely than ever before. We implemented new, higher standards for both teachers and students. New options and alternatives also give every student an opportunity to succeed and allow every parent more involvement in their child's future. And we're seeing positive results. Graduation rates are up, third grade reading proficiency is improving, and more students are prepared for college.

These funding increases will help long neglected urban and rural school districts catch up to their neighbors and offer every child in Michigan a chance to receive a quality education.

In the next four years, we need to focus on closing the skills gap here in Michigan. We're investing in FIRST Robotics, putting an emphasis on skilled trades, and encouraging more students to consider studying for careers in the STEM field. Michigan's future relies on our kids, and we're working every day to make sure they're prepared for the new global economy.

CHILD WELL-BEING: Michigan's economy has a skills gap right now, and there are too many examples of companies looking to hire but not being able to find the talent needed to fill the position. We have to make sure that our children are being prepared for the new opportunities they'll have as Michigan's economy continues to grow. That starts with expanding access to early childhood education. We're working to become a 'No Wait State' so that every child can get a preschool education, and, in fact, we've increased the number of Great Start preschool slots by 186% in the last two years. We also need to close the skills gap in Michigan by encouraging our kids to consider good paying careers in the STEM field. One way we've done that is by investing in FIRST Robotics, a program that allows kids to compete in robotics competitions while learning valuable engineering skills. Over the next four years, we'll continue to ensure that we're taking care of Michigan's kids.

Infrastructure: Michigan's infrastructure needs to be invented if we are to keep Michigan on the road to recovery. We're the automotive leader of the world, and we should have roadways that reflect that. It's time to put Michigan drivers over politics and solve this problem. Our deteriorating roadways have been an issue for far too long. Every day we wait, the problem gets worse—and more expensive. To reinvent our roadways, it's time we reinvest in them. As the citizens of Michigan, you deserve safe and improved infrastructure so that Michigan can continue its path on the road to recovery.

Job Creation: The government needs to create a competitive jobs environment that encourages innovation and allows small businesses to grow—that's how we'll continue to create more and better jobs in Michigan. In my first term as Governor, we eliminated the job-killing Michigan Business Tax, phased out the unfair Personal Property Tax, and did away with more than 1,500 rules and regulations, allowing small businesses to expand, innovate, and hire more Michiganders. Over the course of the last four years, we've created nearly 300,000 private sector jobs. Today, there are more than 80,000 jobs available on mitalent.org, but employers are having trouble finding qualified applicants to fill those positions. We need to continue to improve education so that we can close the skills gap and fill those open positions. We've come a long way in four years, but we need to keep our foot on the gas and continue to create more and better jobs for every Michigander.

Family Structure: I see very little role for government in family life. The government is not needed for strong families to work—in fact, it is usually best when the government does not intervene. The government should make sure its doing everything it can to make Michigan the best state possible for families to raise their children by investing in education, budgeting for the future, protecting the environment, and making sure our communities are safe places to call home. Parents know what is best for their own family, and I do not believe it's right for the government to get involved in a family's personal matters.

Mark Schauer (D)

Candidate chose not to respond.

We used mail, phone and email to contact Mark Schauer multiple times.

US SENATE



Terri Lynn Land (R)

Education: Hope College, BA

RECENT POSITIONS: Mom and small business owner; Kent County Clerk from 1992-2000; Michigan

Secretary of State from 2003-2011

Marital Status/Children: Married, 2 children Religious Faith/Denomination: Reformed Church

of America Age: 56

COMMUNITY/CIVIC INVOLVEMENT: Board Member, Broadway Grand Rapids; Board Member, Gift of Life Michigan; Board Member, Michigan Protection & Advocacy Services, Inc.; Member, South Kent Rotary

Gary Peters (D)

Candidate chose not to respond. We used mail, phone and email to contact Gary Peters multiple times.



ENDORSEMENTS

Endorsing organizations are described on page 19 of this guide

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(R) Terri Lynn Land	RTL				CTV		CC	FB
(D) Gary Peters		PP	AFL	NOW		SC		

Essay Questions (Answers on Following Page)

Senior Citizens - Please share your thoughts on what changes, if any, need to be made in the area of Social Security and Medicare.

SECURITY AND PRIVACY - Please share your thoughts on balancing security from domestic terror attacks with protection of personal privacy.

Foreign Policy – What is the single greatest foreign threat facing our nation and how do you propose we should address it?

COURSE OF NATION – Looking at the social fabric of our nation, do you think we are generally headed in the right direction or are we off course? What do you believe the Senate should do to correct or maintain our current course?

BUDGET PRIORITIES – Please give specific examples for each of the following categories and include current levels and levels you would propose.

- 1) List up to three programs, agencies or departments you would **eliminate or decrease.** Please provide the current spending levels and the levels you would like to see.
- 2) List up to three programs, agencies or departments you would **create or increase**. Please provide the current spending levels and the levels you would like to see.
- 3) Generally speaking, do you think government spending is way too high, somewhat too high, about right, somewhat too low, way too low? If you think spending levels are too low or too high, please give us a ballpark figure of how much you'd increase or decrease the overall budget.

TERRI LYNN LAND (R)

I'm Terri Lynn Land, and I'm running for the United States Senate because Washington is broken, and I have a plan that will put Michigan First.

My number one priority is growing the economy and putting the people of Michigan back to work by putting Michigan first. That means balancing the budget, paying down the debt, fixing our roads and repealing and replacing ObamaCare with real healthcare reform that lets people keep their plans and their doctors.

SENIOR CITIZENS: We will keep our promise to America's seniors. We will not touch the benefits that seniors have paid into and deserve. I will work with members of both parties to preserve Social Security and Medicare for future generations. And I will work for quality health care at an affordable cost for American seniors.

SECURITY & PRIVACY: The federal government's primary responsibility is to provide for a strong national defense and keep the American people safe from those who seek to do us harm. The NSA has an important role to play in keeping the American people safe from attack by successfully gathering foreign intelligence. However, the NSA must not gather domestic intelligence on honest, law-abiding American citizens.

Foreign Policy: The single greatest threat to American security is the rise of extremism in the world. Al Qaeda, ISIS and other Islamist terrorist organizations are a threat to the Middle East and a threat to the American homeland. The President of the United States must present a clear vision for dealing with these threats and lead from the front. While I do not favor putting U.S. combat boots on the ground, I do believe that America should take action to defend our friends and allies and protect innocent civilians.

Course of Nation: It is clear that the nation is heading in the wrong direction under our current leadership. In the U.S. Senate, I will put Michigan First. My number one priority is growing the economy and putting the people of Michigan back to work by putting Michigan First. That means balancing the budget, paying down the debt, fixing our roads and repealing and replacing ObamaCare with real healthcare reform that lets people keep their plans and their doctors.

BUDGET PRIORITIES: With a \$3.8 trillion budget that grows larger every year, there can be no doubt that the federal government spends too much money. To reduce our budget deficit and pay down the debt, first, Congress should repeal the Affordable Care Act, ObamaCare. Second, the federal government can eliminate incorrect, duplicative, or fraudulent payments that are made every year. Recently, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) concluded about \$95 billion could be saved if this happened. Finally, we can look to slow down the growth rate in spending across the entire federal budget.

In general, until the federal deficit is greatly reduced, I am reluctant to propose significant spending increases for any federal department and agency. We need to restore fiscal sanity to the government's budget first. Runaway spending and the inability to rein in costs is the root cause of our growing public debt. Government spending is way too high. We need to balance our budget and not put trillions of dollars in debt on the backs of future generations. I believe that government works best when it is smaller and focuses on the issues that matter most to the American people.

It's time to make government work for the people again. When I was your Secretary of State, we made government work for the people of Michigan. I served all of Michigan's citizens – my customers. It took hard work and common sense – and that's exactly what we need in Washington. That's what putting Michigan First is all about.

GARY PETERS (D)

Candidate chose not to respond.

We used mail, phone and email to contact Gary Peters multiple times.

MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT - CHOOSE TWO OF THE FOLLOWING FOUR CANDIDATES



Richard Bernstein
Non-Partisan
Nominated by the Democratic Party Convention
Candidate chose not to respond.

EACH SUPREME COURT JUSTICE CANDIDATE WAS ASKED TO RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- 1. What is the primary purpose of the criminal justice system? How effective has it been in recent years? In light of the expense of incarceration and the crowding of prisons and jails, what alternative forms of punishment/treatment should Michigan consider?
- 2. Consider the issues related to family formation and preservation that come before the courts. How should judges balance their role as a neutral referee between the parties, with their role as an elected official protecting the well-being of the larger community when making decisions in family law? Please explain your position.



Bill Murphy

Non-Partisan

Nominated by the Democratic Party Convention

Education: Aquinas College, Michigan State University, BA;

Wayne State University Law School, JD with honors

RECENT POSITIONS: Practicing lawyer for 17 years; Judge on the

Michigan Court of Appeals, Chief Judge (three terms)
MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN: Married, 4 children Age: 69

Religious faith/denomination: Catholic

Endorsements: Michigan Education Association, United Auto Workers, Michigan Association of Justice

COMMUNITY OR CIVIC INVOLVEMENT: Board Member, Aquinas College; Board Member, Project Rehab (Substance Abuse Prevention/Rehabilitation program); Board Member, Second Harvest Gleaners Food Bank; Board Member, Villa Elizabeth (full care nursing home for the aged); Board Member, Grand Rapids Urban League

- 1. There are multiple purposes including protection of society, punishment and rehabilitation. The primary purpose must be the protection of society from criminal activity, especially from harm. I believe that the criminal justice system as been fairly effective in recent years, generally doing a good job protecting the public from criminal conduct. In regard to alternative forms of punishment, continuing and expanding the drug courts would be a good course of action. These courts provide treatment opportunities that address underlying drug addiction problems in order to end the cycle of drug-fueled crime and incarceration, rather than simply throwing defendants into prison. Another alternative to incarceration is probation with community service. Alternative forms of punishment should only be considered in connection with non-violent criminal conduct. Greater efforts toward rehabilitation should occur including educational efforts and job training to prepare the prisoner for a meaningful life upon release.
- 2. A judge's primary role in family law matters is to act as a neutral referee between the parties, objectively and carefully examining the facts and fairly applying the law to those facts in resolving the issues presented to the judge. In doing so, the judge accomplishes his or her role to protect the well-being of the larger community, as the judge will have employed the law set forth by the Legislature, giving consistency and predictability to the resolution of family law disputes. Also, as to a decision by the Michigan Supreme Court on a family law issue, the decision on the issue not only impacts the parties but additionally becomes precedent to be applied in other cases addressing that issue. Therefore, the Supreme Court must always bear in mind the wider consequences of its ruling. A judge should always be willing to consider whether it would be helpful to encourage the parties to seek counseling or other available services if it is determined that it would promote family formation and preservation.

MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT - CONTINUED



James Redford

Non-Partisan

Nominated by the Republican Party Convention

EDUCATION: U S Army JAGC Military Judge's Course; University of Detroit, JD; John Carroll University, BSBA RECENT POSITIONS: Kent County Circuit Court Judge, 2003 – Present; U.S. Navy - JAG Captain (Ret.), 1984 – 2012; Assistant United States Attorney, 1990 – 1998

MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN: Married, 3 children Age: 53

Religious faith/denomination: Roman Catholic

Endorsements: Right to Life of Michigan, Citizens for Traditional Values, Michigan Farm Bureau AgriPAC

COMMUNITY OR CIVIC INVOLVEMENT: Boy Scouts of America; Girl Scouts of America; American Legion; Kent Conservation League; Bay City Hunting & Fishing Club

- 1. The primary purpose of the criminal justice system is to protect society from criminals and to punish those who commit crimes. While our system is far from perfect, it continues to be the envy of the world. The system more or less ensures that those convicted of similar crimes receive similar punishments. As to alternative punishments/treatments, there are currently restorative justice programs for drug and alcohol related offenders as well as some mental health and Veterans Courts. These intervention courts have a substantial success rate with lower recidivism and their continued use and possible expansion needs to be considered.
- 2. The denigration of the family unit is the most disturbing and pressing problem facing our society. Not only the breakdown of families, but the failure to form families in the first place is the cause, in my view, of many of society's ills. As a trial judge I see every day the terrible impact that broken families have on individuals and the community. The problem though, originates in the family. A judge can encourage families to stay together whenever possible and provide help to willing parents, but there is no one judicial fix for truly dysfunctional parents and families.

Brian Zahra (Incumbent)

Non-Partisan

Nominated by the Republican Party Convention

Education: Wayne State University, BGS; University of Detroit School of Law, JD

RECENT POSITIONS: Justice, Michigan Supreme Court, 2011-present; Judge, Michigan Court of Appeals, 1999-2011; Judge, Wayne County Circuit Court, 1994-1998 MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN: Married, 2 children Age: 54 RELIGIOUS FAITH/DENOMINATION: Catholic



Endorsements: Right to Life of Michigan; Michigan Farm Bureau Agri-PAC; Police Officers Association of Michigan

COMMUNITY OR CIVIC INVOLVEMENT: Knights of Columbus; Thomas Dooley Council, past Officer; Catholic Lawyers Society, past Officer; Michigan Chapter of the Federalist Society, past Officer, member of the Advisory Board; Novi Youth Hockey Association, Coach.

- 1. The primary purpose of the criminal justice system is to ensure that those who have committed crimes are brought to justice fairly and consistent with their constitutional and statutory rights. Legislative sentencing guidelines have limited judges' sentencing discretion. The Governor is assessing whether these guidelines unnecessarily contribute to prison populations. The judicial system has initiated a number of diversionary programs ("therapeutic courts") that address issues like substance addiction. These therapeutic courts have had proven success in keeping those enrolled out of jail and prison and avoiding recidivism. As resources allow, more such therapeutic courts are being established across the State.
- 2. When judges act within the confines of the law, they are "contributing to the larger community." This said, it is entirely appropriate for judges to encourage families in the process of divorce to participate in counseling. Where divorce with children is inevitable, parents must put their personal animus aside and decide for themselves what is in the best interest of their children. It is never in the best interest of children to have courts, rather than parents, decide their fate. Also, the Supreme Court has been a strong advocate of Michigan Adoption Day, to place young people in thriving families.

MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT (PARTIAL TERM) - CHOOSE ONE



Deborah Thomas

Non-Partisan
Nominated by the Democratic Party Convention

EDUCATION: Western Michigan University, BA; University of Detroit, MA; Valparaiso University, JD RECENT POSITIONS: Wayne County Circuit Court, Judge, 19 years; National Community Lawyer Fellow Oakland County Legal Aid; Administrative Law Examiner Dept. of Labor Marital Status/Children: Widowed, 2 children Age: 61 Religious Faith/Denomination: Protestant

Endorsements: Service Employee International Union; Michigan Association for Justice; Michigan Education Association

COMMUNITY OR CIVIC INVOLVEMENT: United Way Foundation for Metro Detroit; Allocation and Review Board for Family and Community Services; YWCA of Metro Detroit, Vice-Chairperson Board of Trustee; Founder of youth program "Change Detroit for Good"; I.B.P.O. of Elks of the World, Mich, Assoc., Battered Women Department, Director.

- 1. The primary purpose of the criminal justice system is to resolve disputes there by restoring peace and safety in communities. The use of specialty court programs such as Mental Health Court, Drug Court, and Veteran's Court to connect defendants with health care providers. Treating addiction and mental health will reduce anti-social behavior; Restorative Justice Programs can aid both victims and defendants in resolving conflict. Tether programs provide supervision of individuals while monitoring their social interaction.
- 2. The protection of children physically, mentally, and emotionally is the primary concern. A judge must assist in providing a harmless environment in which children are reared. Healthy supportive parental relationships should be maintained, family counseling should be provided to strengthen dysfunctional family interactions. Healthy families create healthy communities.

David Viviano (Incumbent)

Non-Partisan

Nominated by the Republican Party Convention

EDUCATION: Hillsdale College, BA; U of M, JD RECENT POSITIONS: Chief Judge 16th Judicial District; Founder, managing attorney, Viviano & Viviano PLLC; Associate attorney, Jenner & Block and Dickinson Wright Marital Status/Children: Married, 3 children Age: 42 Religious faith/denomination: Roman Catholic



Endorsements: Right to Life; Citizens for Traditional Values; Police Officers Association of Michigan

COMMUNITY OR CIVIC INVOLVEMENT: Italian American Bar Association; Macomb County Bar Association; Federalist Society; Student Mentor Partners volunteer; Romeo Lions volunteer

- 1. The three main goals of the criminal justice system are deterrence, retribution, and rehabilitation. To further these goals, Michigan enacted sentencing reform in 1999 designed to tailor punishment to the severity of the crime and nature of the offender. Thus, as a trial court judge, I imposed individualized sentences that took into account the offender's criminal history, the type of crime and how it was committed, the harm the offender's criminal conduct caused to the victim, and the protection of the public. As judges, we must strike a balance between deterring criminal conduct and rehabilitating the offender.
- 2. Family law is one area of the law in which trial judges have wide discretion in settling disputes. At the trial level, judges should exercise their judgment to make decisions in the best interests of the children, including protecting children from abuse and neglect, while maintaining and supporting the family unit whenever possible. As it relates to our Court, I believe fidelity to the rule of law requires appellate judges to resolve disputed legal issues according to the plain language of statutes and court rules, without substituting their own policy preferences for those chosen by the people's elected representatives.

MICHIGAN ATTORNEY GENERAL



Bill Schuette (R) (Incumbent)

EDUCATION: Georgetown University, BS; University of San Francisco, JD RECENT POSITIONS: 2010-Current, Michigan's 53rd Attorney General; 2002-2008, Michigan Court of Appeals Judge; 1984-1990, United State Congressman

Marital Status/Children: Married, 2 children

Religious Faith/Denomination: Christian (Lutheran) Age: 60

COMMUNITY/CIVIC INVOLVEMENT: My wife Cynthia and I founded the

Michigan Harvest Gathering

Endorsements: Right to Life of Michigan; Chamber of Commerce;

Fraternal Order of Police (FOP)

Mark Totten (D)

Candidate chose not to respond. We used mail, phone and email to contact Mark Totten multiple times.



DESCRIBE YOUR PRIORITIES IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS IN 250-375 WORDS:

Consumer Protection: Consumer Protection is part of the DNA of any Attorney General. Since I have been in office, our outstanding lawyers have recovered more money than ever before. Protecting seniors by negotiating a five-year rate freeze on Blues's Medigap insurance, working out a federal-state mortgage foreclosure settlement that brought \$97 million back to our Homeowner Protection fund, recovering more than \$155 million in child support, securing refunds when propane companies price gouged last winter are all examples of my focus and dedication to protecting Michigan consumers.

Environment and Natural Resources: The Attorney General has an outsized role to play in safeguarding Michigan's beautiful outdoors and our natural resources. Whether it's been my efforts to stop the advancement of Asian Carp that threaten to destroy Michigan's booming fishing industry, or my recent efforts to protect our Great Lakes by investigating 60+ year old pipelines that run under the Mackinac Straits to make sure they are properly maintained.

Our Great Lakes and the environment will not be forgotten with Bill Schuette as your Attorney General.

FAMILY FORMATION AND PRESERVATION: Strong families lay the groundwork for a stronger and safer economy. Every child deserves a loving family. Often times, runaways and troubled youth are forced into the dark world of human trafficking. I made it my priority to work to end human trafficking, and part of that deals with keeping family networks together and getting help for troubled youth.

HEALTH AND EDUCATION: I'd like to explore using education and greater literacy to help fight crime and recidivism in some of our state's neighborhoods.

PUBLIC SAFETY: As the chief law enforcement agent in this state, public safety is my number one priority. Making sure we have more cops on our streets, families and students are safe, and that victims of crime are given the justice they deserve, are all part of building a safer, stronger Michigan.

MICHIGAN SECRETARY OF STATE



Godfrey Dillard (D)

Education: Eastern Michigan University, BA; George Washington University, MA; University of Michigan Law School, JD

RECENT POSITIONS: Attorney in private practice, litigation and appellate practice state and federal courts; Adjunct professor, Wayne State University Marital Status/Children: Married, 2 children Religious Faith/Denomination: Catholic Age: 66

COMMUNITY/CIVIC INVOLVEMENT: Board of Directors, Wayne County Neighborhood Legal Services Co-chairman; Governor's Task Force on International Trade, Board of Directors; Greater Detroit Foreign Trade Zone

Endorsements: UAW; American Federation of Teachers; Church of God in Christ, Inc.

Please describe the most important issue facing the Secretary of State office today and describe what you will do about this issue if elected.

a. Currently, the Secretary of State's budget only allocates 3% (\$7 million) of its total budget of \$224 million to elections. This is totally inadequate to improve the access to voting.

b. I will lobby the legislature to authorize absentee ballot voting for any reason; institute voting pilot programs to evaluate voting by mail, early, same-day voting, and registration proposals, etc.; improve services for seniors and the physically challenged; direct policies to restrict the ability of insurance companies to influence elections; improve SOS data protection and audit current technology and voting machines to ensure authenticity of the vote.

- 1. Increase voter participation at the ballot box with increased funding allocations to election operations;
- 2. Increase enforcement of campaign financing laws with additional funding and
- 3. Reduce fees paid by the public via an across-the-board assessment of the necessity of current SOS fee schedules.

Ruth Johnson (R) (Incumbent)

Education: Oakland University, BA; Wayne State University, MSW

RECENT POSITIONS: Register of Deeds, 2004 – 2010; State Representative, 1999 – 2003; Oakland County Board of Commissioners, 1988 - 1998

Marital Status/Children: Married, 1 child Religious Faith/Denomination: Christian

Age: 59



COMMUNITY/CIVIC INVOLVEMENT: Member of the American Business Women's Association; Leads Michigan Harvest Food Gathering effort for 131 Secretary of State branch offices; Frequent speaker at civic organizations and clubs. Endorsements: Michigan Right to Life; Farm Bureau; Associated Builders & Contractors

Please describe the most important issue facing the Secretary of State office today and describe what you will do about this issue if elected.

As Michigan's chief election officer and vehicle administrator, my priorities are continuing to stand strong for election integrity, fighting fraud and improving customer service.

I will continue to build on our successful efforts to increase access to the ballot box while securing Michigan elections. I instituted Michigan's first-ever post-election audits and the first online training for poll workers. I'm proud that, working with legislators, we toughened up campaign contribution rules with things like robo-call disclosure, more transparency and penalties for the worst offenders that include forfeiture and felony charges. My office was named No. 1 in the country for registering eligible voters through our DMV and sixth in the nation for elections administration.

Despite having 25 percent less staff than a decade ago, we've changed the way we do business and shortened lines. We have self-serve tabs kiosks in branches and several retail stores. We tripled our online services at ExpressSOS.com with Print-'N-Go technology. Launched in 2011, ExpressSOS.com has handled more than 5.5 million transactions. We also have new appointment system in our busiest branch offices so customers can take a number electronically and run errands while they wait.

I'm very proud of our efforts to combat fraud, help our veterans get the benefits they've earned and deserve and increase the state's organ donor registry which has seen record-breaking growth in the last three years.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION - CHOOSE TWO

Maria Carl Party Affiliation: Republican Education: Eastern Michigan University, BS & BA; Pensacola Christian College, MA Recent Positions: Walton Charter Academy, 11 years; Educational Business Owner, 23 years; Heartfelt Family Services, Board Member, 4 years; over 25 years teaching experience Marital Status/Children: Widowed, 1 child Religious Faith: Christian Age: 64 Community and Civic Involvement: Macomb County Republican Executive Board Member, 18 years; Heartfelt Family Services; Clinton Twp, Board Member; Walton Charter Academy, President, Board Member Endorrements: Michigan Right to Life

WHAT IS THE MOST PRESSING PROBLEM FACING OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM TODAY AND WHAT WOULD YOU DO ABOUT THIS PROBLEM?

Oppose federal control of education-Common Core. It lacks foundational subjects-character education, history, limited government, economics, classical literature, art and music. It limits individuality and parent/teacher involvement in curriculum, as required by the Michigan Constitution.

Carl Action Plan (CAP) for Michigan Public Education, My Dream, My Vision for Michigan Schools!

- 1. Fight Common Core's assessments & plans to eradicate classic education
- 2. Encourage local districts to teach more of the following subjects, beginning in grades 1-12...restore Art, Music, great classics, Economics & American History/Government in the classroom
- 3. Promote greater transparency in how tax dollars are spent in public education
- 4. Promote character education focused on moral-based choices
- 5. Fight for a parents' advisory board on curriculum & assessment tests

Pamela Smith Party Affiliation: Democrat Candidate chose not to respond.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION - CONTINUED

Jonathan Williams Party Affiliation: Republican Education: Jackson Community College, AA; Michigan State University, BA; Western Michigan University, MPA Recent Positions: County Board of Commissioners, Jackson, MI 2009-2013; Professor of Political Science/ U.S. Government, 1995-present; Board Member of Jackson Preparatory and Early College (Charter Academy) 2013-present Marital Status/Children: Married, 1 Child Religious Faith: Christian Age: 45 Community and Civic Involvement: Jackson County Planning Commission; Jackson Chance for Life; Jackson County Human Services Committee 2011-2013; Jackson County Land Bank 2009-2013; Jackson Citizens for Economic Growth; Chamber of Commerce Endorsements: Michigan Right to Life; Associated Contractors and Builders/ Western MI Chapter; Associated Contractors and Builders/ Greater MI Chapter

WHAT IS THE MOST PRESSING PROBLEM FACING OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM TODAY AND WHAT WOULD YOU DO ABOUT THIS PROBLEM?

The most pressing problem facing our education system today: The breakdown of expectations via the parent(s)/ guardian regarding the importance of an education and the lack of local control.

What I will do about this problem if elected: Getting the parent(s)/guardian to adopt and exude the importance of education will take a concerted effort between the community, legislature and various levels of education. I recognize this and stand ready to support and promote any and all proposals aimed at attacking this foundational problem. I understand the solution to this (and any other educational) problem is best derived locally. Local boards, teachers and community members are best positioned for the task and I view my role- when elected – as a facilitator and/ or conduit between what the local units need and those resources available and prudent via the state.

Casandra Ulbrich Party Affiliation: Democrat Education: St. Clair County Community College, AA; University of Michigan, BA; Wayne State University, MA; Wayne State University, PhD Recent Positions: Macomb Community College, Vice President, 3 years; Wayne State University, Administrator, 10 years Marital Status/Children: Married Religious Faith: Christian Age: 40 Community and Civic Involvement: Women Officials Networks, President; Healthy Neighborhoods Detroit, Board Member; Search and Rescue of Michigan, Volunteer K-9 Handler Endorsements: N/A

WHAT IS THE MOST PRESSING PROBLEM FACING OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM TODAY AND WHAT WOULD YOU DO ABOUT THIS PROBLEM?

Ensuring students and schools have the tools and resources necessary for success in college, career, and community.

I have served on the State Board of Education for the past eight years. I currently serve as the Vice President of the Board and Chair on the Legislative Committee. I have advocated for policies that improve quality, such as expanded early childhood education and adequate funding models. I will continue to work to bring accountability and transparency to our education system, and fight for common-sense education policies that advance student success.

University Boards

Michigan State University (Select Two Candidates)

Melanie Foster Party Affiliation: Republican Education: Michigan State University, BS Recent Positions: Michigan State University Board of Trustees, 2005-2012; Central Michigan University Board of Trustees, 1998-2004 Marital Status/Children: Married, 3 children Religious Faith: Christian Age: 50+ Community and Civic Involvement: Capitol Area United Way Board, Michigan Dyslexia Institute- former Board Member, MSU Wharton Center Advisory Council- former Board Member Endorsements: Right to Life of Michigan, Associated Builders and Contractors of MI

George Perles Party Affiliation: Democrat Candidate chose not to respond.

Jeff Sakwa Party Affiliation: Republican Candidate chose not to respond.

Faylene Owen Party Affiliation: Democrat Candidate chose not to respond.

University of Michigan (Select Two Candidates)

Mike Behm Party Affiliation: Democrat Education: University of Michigan, BA; Wayne State University JD Recent Positions: Attorney/Principal, Behm & Behm, 2001-present; Chairperson, Business Forward Michigan, 2009-present Personal: Married, 3 children Religious Faith/Denomination: Presbyterian Age: 46 Community and Civic Involvement: Founding member of the Flint Youth Initiative; Board of Trustees of the Flint Institute of Arts; A Big Brother to two fifth graders; President of the Michigan Association for Justice (2011-12); Co-founder and former President, Level Field Institute Endorsements: MEA; Michigan Association for Justice: Congressman Dan Kildee

Robert Steele Party Affiliation: Republican Education: University of Michigan AB, MD; University of Cincinnati Internal Medicine, ABIM Certified; Washington University/Barnes Hospital, Cardiovascular Diseases Certified Recent Positions: 20 years University of Michigan Medical School clinical assistant professor; 25 years cardiologist, private practice Personal: Married, 4 children Religious Faith/Denomination: Chrisitan Age: 56 Community and Civic Involvement: Multiple non-profit boards, medical and non-medical; helped found a Cardiology practice with more than 300 employees; Lectured around the state more than 300 times last 4 years on medical and education reform; Nominee UM Regent, 2012; U.S. House candidate, 2010. Endorsements: Farm Bureau; RTL; past races also Chamber of Commerce

Ron Weiser Party Affiliation: Republican Education: University of Michigan Ross School of Business, BBA Recent Positions: Founder and CEO of McKinley Associates, 1968-2001; US Ambassador to the Slovak Republic, 2001-04 Marital Status/Children: Married, 3 children Religious Faith: Jewish Age: 69 Community and Civic Involvement: Has served as a Trustee or Director for numerous non-profits including, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library Foundation; The Henry Ford; Michigan Chamber of Commerce Endorsements: Congressman Tim Walberg; Terri Lynn Land; Senator Ted Cruz

Kathy White Party Affiliation: Democrat Education: Princeton University, BSE; University of Washington School of Law, JD; George Washington University Law School, LL.M; U.S. Army War College, Master of Strategic Studies Recent Positions: Wayne State University, Professor of Law, 18 years; University of Michigan Regent, almost 16 years; Fulbright Senior Scholar (Germany), 1999-2000 Marital Status/Children: Single, no children Religious Faith: Protestant Age: 48 Community and Civic Involvement: Lt. Colonel U.S. Army Reserve, Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG); Board Member, United Bank & Trust of Washtenaw (2003-2014); Precinct Delegate, Washtenaw County Endorsements: John Dingell; Michigan Society of Engineers; Michigan Education Association

University Boards - Continued

Wayne State University (Select Two Candidates)

Michael J. Busuito Party Affiliation: Republican Education: University of Michigan, BS; Wayne State University, MD Recent Positions: Chief of plastic surgery, Detroit Medical Center and Wayne State University; Chief of plastic surgery, St. John's Hospital, Detroit Marital Status/Children: Married, 6 children Religious Faith: Roman Catholic Age: 60 Community and Civic Involvement: Founder and president of Operation Kindness, providing surgery in third world areas for children with congenital and traumatic deformities Endorsements: N/A

Satish Jasti Party Affiliation: Republican Education: Wayne State University, BS; University of Chicago, MBA Recent Positions: Vice President, Bank of Ann Arbor; Founder, President and CEO, Lotus Bank Marital Status/Children: Married, 2 children Religious Faith: Hindu Age: 55 Community and Civic Involvement: American Red Cross of SE Michigan, Former Board Member; Novi Chamber of Commerce, Former Chairman of the Board; Detroit Economic Club, Member Endorsements: N/A

Marilyn Kelly Party Affiliation: Democrat Education: Eastern Michigan University, BA.; Middlebury College, MA; Wayne State University, JD Recent Positions: Michigan State Board of Education, Member and President, 1965-1977; Michigan Court of Appeals, Judge, 1989-1996; Michigan Supreme Court, Justice and Chief Justice, 1997-2013 Marital Status/Children: Married, no children Religious Faith: Unitarian-Universalist Age: 76 Community and Civic Involvement: Board Member, WTVS Channel 56 Public Television-Detroit; Development Committee, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital- Pontiac; Board Member-Elect, Leader Dogs for the Blind- Rochester Hills Endorsements: Michigan Education Association (MEA); American Federation of Teachers-Michigan; Service Employers Int'l Union, (SEIU), Michigan State Council

Dana Thompson Party Affiliation: Democrat Candidate chose not to respond.

MINOR PARTY CANDIDATES

GOVERNOR

LIB Buzuma, Mary

714 S Beacon Blvd Apt 76

Grand Haven, MI 49417 http://electmarybuzuma.com

UST McFarlin, Mark PO Box 1502

Bay City. MI 48706

(989) 324-7850

GRN Homeniuk, Paul

222 Ridge Rd

East Lansing, MI 48823 www.paulhomeniuk.org

SECRETARY OF STATE

LIB Lewis, James

46 Fontenelle SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49548 (616) 254-9014

NLP Gatties, Jason Robert

57556 Nishnabe Myewen

Dowagiac, MI 49047 http://gatties.org

UST Gale, Robert

PO Box 1313

Sterling Heights, MI 48311 (586) 264-9714

ATTORNEY GENERAL

LIB Altman, Justin M.

9855 High Meadow Dr,

Ypsilanti, MI 48198 (734) 274-1938

UST Van Sickle, Gerald T.

PO Box 38

Wellston, MI 49689 (231) 510-3654

GRN La Pietra, John Anthony

386 Boyer Ct

Marshall, MI 49068 http://www.facebook.com/jalp4thepeople

KEY:

GRN: LIB: NLP:

Green Party Libertarian Party National Labor Party

UST: NPA:

US Taxpayers Party No Party Affiliation

US SENATOR

LIB Fulner, Jim

3059 Cumberland

Berkley, MI 48072 http://www.jimfulner.com

UST Matkin, Richard A.

30 W Harry Ave

Hazel Park, MI 48030 (248) 515-3078

GRN Wahmhoff, Chris

1407 Bryant St

Kalamazoo, MI 49001 http://wahmhoffforsenate.com

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

NPA Doug Dern

4300 N Milford Rd

Highland, MI 48357 http://www.facebook.com/votedern

NPA Kerry L. Morgan 20601 Sumper

Redford, MI 48240 (313) 477-0180

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

UST John Adams

6274 Tischer Rd

Lake Odessa, MI 48849 (616) 374-0872

UST Karen Adams

6274 Tischer Rd

Lake Odessa, MI 48849 (616)374-8609

GRN Sherry A. Wells

PO Box 1338

Royal Oak, MI 48068-1338 (248) 543-5297

NLP Nikki Mattson

3645 Partridge Path

Ann Arbor, MI 48108 (734) 262-6760

LIB Kimberly Moore

1710 Flajole Rd

Midland, MI 48642 (989) 662-4078

LIB Gregory Scott Stempfle

1726 Pearson

Ferndale, MI 48220 (313) 929-1789

MINOR PARTY CANDIDATES - CONTINUED

MI	CHIGAN STATE U	NIVERSITY BOARD				
LIB	Miller, Michael H.					
	6070 Carriage Hill Dr, Apt. 22					
	East Lansing, MI 48823	(517) 574-5506				
LIB	0.					
	230 S Maxfield					
	Brighton, MI 48114	(248) 894-2012				
UST	Van Sickle, Crystal	,				
	PO Box 38					
	Wellston, MI 49689	(231) 848-7257				
UST	Young, Stephen J.					
	3101 134th St					
	Hopkins, MI 49328	(269) 793-7436				
GRN	Adrianson, Adam					
	10211 Cricklewood Ct					
	Portage, MI 49024	http://adrianson2014.spmichigan.org/				
GRN	Link, Terry					
	8767 Price Rd					
	Laingsburg, MI 48848	http://www.gogreengolink.org				
NLP	Guzman, Bridgette					
	1716 Woodhill Dr					
	Brighton, MI 48114	(810) 844-3415				
TINI		IIICANI DECENITO				
		HIGAN REGENTS				
LIB	Hudler, James Lewis					
	17165 Fahrner Rd	(50.1) 455.0500				
TID	Chelsea, MI 48118	(734) 475-9792				
LIB	Jascob, John					
	7074 Jackman Rd	(70.1) 0.47 (200				
TIOT	Temperance, MI 48182	(734) 847-6208				
USI	Sanger, Joe					
	4119 Thackin Dr					

http://www.joesanger.com

(616) 681-2812

(616) 502-7595

Lansing, MI 48911

710 Leonard St NE Grand Rapids, MI 49503

UST Schwartz, Christine C. 2395 144th Ave Dorr, MI 49323

GRN Swanson, Ian

WAYNE STATE GOVERNORS LIB Goebel, Dan 1500 Westwood Dr Howell, MI 48843 (517) 552-3018 LIB Wright, Brian Richard 39529 Village Wood Rd Novi, MI 48375 (248) 320-2813 UST Matkin, Shari A. 30 W Harry Ave Hazel Park, MI 48030 (248) 515-3078 UST Sosnowski, Marc Joseph 8488 Kinloch St Dearborn Hts., MI 48127 (313) 319-8676 GRN Guttshall, Margaret 4191 Kensington Detroit, MI 48224 (313) 720-6123 GRN Redding, Latham T. 3520 Kensington Detroit, MI 48224 (248) 881-1294 NLP Robson, Yolanda

(248) 860-8198

2500 Still Meadow Highland, MI 48356

(MINOR PARTY CANDIDATES - CONTINUED)

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

District, Party, Candidate, Contact Information

1	LIB	Gnadt, Loel Robert		8	LIB	Weeks II, James	
		429 Ford Blvd				5742 Maunee Dr	
		Lincoln Park, MI 48146	(313) 381-7697			Howell, MI 48843	(810) 422-8769
	GRN	Boal, Ellis			NLP	Burgess, Jeremy	
		9330 Boyne City Rd				PO Box 401	
		Charlevoix, MI 49720	http://www.ellisboal.org			Lake Orion, MI 48361	http://democracy.com/burgessin2014
2	UST	Graeser, Ronald E.			GRN	Casha, Jim	
		990 W 48th St				PO Box 308	
		Fremont, MI 49412	(231) 652-1012			Norwich, ON N0J1P0	(540) 717-9240
	LIB	Welch II, Ronald		9	GRN	McDermott, John V.	
		4092 Eastlake St				1441 Wayburn	
		Muskegon, MI 49444	(231) 683-8373			Grosse Pt. Park, MI 48230	(586) 244-7007
3	GRN	Duncan, Tonya			LIB	Creswell, Gregory	
		1407 Bryant St				14265 Kilbourne	
		Kalamazoo, MI 49001	www.duncan4michigan2014.us			Detroit, MI 48213	(313) 527-9099
4	LIB	White, Will Tyler		10	GRN	Mikkelson, Harley	
		13783 Main St				3122 W Caro Rd	
		Bath, MI 48808	http://www.willtylerwhite.org			Caro, MI 48723	http://harleymikkelson.com
	UST	Zimmer, George M.		11	LIB	Tatar, John J.	
		265 W Lehring Rd	(24.2) 2777 (22.2)			PO Box 510104	
	TTD	Byron, MI 48418	(810) 266-6333			Livonia, MI 48151	(734) 968-4715
5	LIB	Jones, Harold H.		12	LIB	Dashairya, Bhagwan	
		2754 N Coleman Rd	(000) 402 4554			38219 Ford Rd	
	TTD	Coleman, MI 48618	(989) 492-4551			Westland, MI 48185	(734) 722-1894
6	LIB	Haas, Erwin J.			NPA	Walkowicz, Gary	
		2456 E Collier SE	1 // • 1 • 1•1 •			PO Box 712	(2.2) === 2.11
	CDM	Kentwood, MI 49546	http://erwinhaaslibertarian.com		3.775.4	Dearborn, MI 48121	(313) 737-3166
	GRN	Lawrence, John M.		13	NPA	Johnson, Sam	
		2422 Parchmount Ave	(2(0) 020 0(44			PO Box 2681	(242) 222 (224
7	LIB	Kalamazoo, MI 49004	(269) 929-0644		TTD	Detroit, MI 48202	(313) 320-6284
'	LID	Proctor, Ken 111 W Needmore Hwy			LIB	Sharer, Chris	
		Charlotte, MI 48813	(517) 543-7297			6240 Deering	1 // 1 * 1 40
	UST	Strawcutter, Rick	(317) 343-7297	1.4	T TD	Garden City, MI 48135	http://chrissharer.org13
	031	109 E Hunt St		14	LIB	Schwartz, Leonard	
		Adrian, MI 49221	http://rickstrawcutter.com			13711 Victoria	h + + // 1
	NPA	Swartout, David	http://lickstrawcutter.com		CDM	Oak Park, MI 48237	http://www.leonardschwartz.us
	11111	1308 Westlane St			GRN	Boyle, Stephen 4504 Bangor	
		Jackson, MI 49203	http://davidswartout2014.com7			Detroit, MI 48210	http://www.boyleformichigan.us14
		Jackson , 1911 7/203	http://davidswartout2014.com/			Detroit, WH 48210	nttp://www.boyleformicnigan.us14

ENDORSEMENTS

The following organizations endorse candidates seeking public office. All endorsements were provided by the endorsing organization and should not be considered as an endorsement by Michigan Family Forum. The information is public information available on the Internet. For more information about endorsement selections, we have provided you with the phone numbers and websites of the endorsing entities. The description of each organization was taken directly from the website of the endorsing organization. In some cases, an organization may endorse more than one candidate in each district.

RTL – Right to Life of Michigan is a nonpartisan, nonsectarian, nonprofit organization of diverse and caring people united to protect the precious gift of human life from fertilization to natural death. (616) 532-2300 http://www.rtl.org/

PP – Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan works every day to protect and enhance the ability of the affiliates to deliver reproductive healthcare services by affecting policy makers through electoral and non-electoral activities. Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan's Political Action Committee (PAC), focuses strictly on fundraising to endorse pro-choice political candidates and electoral work. 517.482.1080 For Congressional and U.S. Senate candidates, visit www.ppactionvoterguide.org/print/michigan. For Governor, Michigan House and Michigan Senate, visit http://www.miplannedparenthood.org/endorsements/

AFL-CIO – The Michigan State AFL-CIO is the state federation of labor, representing over 1,000,000 active and retired members of 59 unions throughout the state. The mission of the Michigan State AFL-CIO is to improve the lives of working families—to bring economic justice to the workplace and social justice to our state and the nation. (517)487-5966 http://miaflcio.org/action-center/endorsements/

NOW – Michigan NOW's purpose is to take action to bring women into full participation in the mainstream of American society now, exercising all privileges and responsibilities thereof in truly equal partnership with men. It was established to provide coordination of local chapters and statewide advocacy to advance women's rights in Michigan. 517–485–9687 http://www.michnow.org/pac/endorsements

CTV – (Citizens for Traditional Values) The CTV-PAC is a non-partisan, multi-issue, statewide committee representing conservative, pro-life, pro-family values. CTV-PAC has been working since 1991 to screen, evaluate, and endorse candidates who support traditional family values. (517) 321-1390 http://ctvmichigan.org/ctv-political-action-committee/

SC – (Sierra Club) Our mission is to: (1) Explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; (2) Practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; (3) Educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and (4) Use all lawful means to carry out these objectives. 517-484-2372 http://michigan.sierraclub.org/politics/articles/2014Endorsements

CC – (Chamber of Commerce) [T]he Michigan Chamber has been a leader in business advocacy and remains committed to playing a constructive role in shaping our state's future. The Michigan Chamber has a long tradition of standing up for job providers in our state; and...was formed to actively support candidates who are pro-business. 517-371-7640 http://www.michamber.com/2014ElectionGuide

FB – (**Farm Bureau**) As a general farm organization we represent the diversity of Michigan's agriculture industry, from crops and livestock to fruits and vegetables, greenhouses, forestry and more. Likewise, we represent farms of all sizes — small, medium and large — and varying styles of production, such as conventional and organic and both indoor and outdoor animal management. 517-323-7000 https://www.michfb.com/MI/endorsements/

(VOTING SELECTIONS

For your convenience, you may wish to write the names of the candidates you plan to vote for in the blanks below.

Governor
US Senate
US House
MI House of Representatives
MI Senate
MI Supreme Court (select two names)
MI Supreme Court Partial Term Ending January 1, 2017 (select one name)
Attorney General
Secretary of State
State Board of Education (select two names)
University Boards (select two names for each university)
Michigan State University
University of Michigan
Wayne State University