



2010 Primary Election Voter Guide State of Ohio

League of Women Voters of Ohio

The League of Women Voters of Ohio, founded in 1920, is a non-partisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Complementing it is the League of Women Voters of Ohio Education Fund that provides nonpartisan information and educational services to citizens.

Prior to each state and national election, the League of Women Voters of Ohio Education Fund provides nonpartisan information on candidates and issues to its local Leagues. This information is used in Voter Guides, which are distributed by local Leagues throughout the state.

All statewide candidates who filed their intent to run for office with the Ohio Secretary of State were sent one question relating to the office they were seeking, as well as instructions on how to complete the candidate questionnaire. *The League does not alter, edit, correct, or evaluate any candidate's reply, and each candidate is solely responsible for the accuracy and truth of his or her statements. Each candidate is advised in writing to carefully note the word limitations listed on their questionnaire since no text beyond the word limit will be included.*

A candidate's answers are accepted and printed only with the understanding that the material will not be used in any way that may be deemed to be an endorsement by the League of his or her candidacy or views.

**Prepared by the League of Women Voters of Ohio Education Fund
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Please visit our website: www.lwvohio.org**

Candidates who filed with the Ohio Secretary of State by the February 2010 filing deadline were sent an LWVO Questionnaire to the campaign address on file with the Ohio Secretary of State's office.

A questionnaire will be sent to the Appellate Court Judge Candidates in March 2009. This Voter Guide will be updated in April to include their responses.

Candidates: U.S. Senate

Term Beginning January 1, 2011

Democrat: Charlena Renee Bradley*

Democrat: Jennifer Brunner

Constitution: Eric W. Deaton

Democrat: Lee Fisher

Democrat: Traci Johnson*

Socialist: Daniel H. LaBotz*

Libertarian: Steven R. Linnabary*

Republican: Rob Portman*

**Denotes candidate did not submit response to questionnaire.*

Jennifer Brunner - Democrat

Address: 200 E. Gay St.
Columbus, OH 43215

Phone: 614.387.7823

Office: 614.255.4255

Party: Democrat

Biographical Information

Education: B.S., Sociology-Gerontology, cum laude Miami University, 1978; J.D., with honors, Capital University Law School, 1983

Occupation: Ohio Secretary of State

Training & Experience: Legislative Aide and Secretary, Ohio Senate, 1978-1981
Legislative counsel, Ohio Secretary of State, 1983-1987
Lawyer private practice, 1987-2000
Franklin County Common Pleas Judge, 2000-2005

Question & Answer

1.) *What experiences would you bring to the U.S. Senate that would make you an effective representative for Ohioans?*

I have worked in all branches of government, being elected in two of them: judicial (Franklin County Common Pleas Judge) and executive (Ohio Secretary of State). In the Ohio Senate I served as a committee secretary and legislative aide and for private clients and the government. As Secretary of State, I developed policy through directives. My judicial service exposed me to diversity from those in abject poverty to wealthy business executives. As Secretary of State, I recognize that on Election Day, all are equal, whether a single mother or a corporate executive. I will take this approach as Senator to protect the rights of each individual. I delivered on my 2006 campaign promise of accessible and fair election in Ohio. There is more I can and want to do to help improve the lives of Ohioans. I am willing to exercise the courage needed in the Senate to do this.

2) *Should the U.S. go further into debt if it would hasten economic recovery? Please explain.*

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have been major contributors to our growing national deficit. Much gain at American taxpayer expense has been for private contractors, both domestic and foreign, contributing to further instability in the very countries in which the U.S. seeks to bring stability and thwart terrorist activity. At a point where we have paid for two wars with debt and now have bailed out large banks and financial institutions that continue to show profits and pay out large executive bonuses, there is a call for deficit reduction focused on curbing "entitlements." Likely targets are Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and unemployment compensation. We must proceed carefully without compounding problems. Reforming health care will lower the national deficit over time. Providing health care and access to credit for small businesses to grow the economy and reduce the national deficit. Deficit reduction should occur over time according to a plan.

3) *What, if anything, should the U.S. do to become more energy independent?*

The U.S. should continue to stimulate innovation and commercialization of clean burning diesel fuels, production of equipment for wind and solar energy, worker retraining for installation of new energy producing equipment, and providing incentives for energy conservation through weatherization, smart grids and stimulating locally produced energy, especially in Ohio's beneficial combination of agriculture and industry. Infrastructure improvements are essential to improve transportation networks for domestically produced energy and energy related products. Workforce retraining is essential, especially for skilled and manufacturing trades for this changing technology. Access to credit from community banks is essential for those businesses involved to create jobs. A task force approach will allow these changes to occur more quickly and with greater effectiveness and cost savings, cutting through government red tape. Investment in energy independence creates sustained growth and an improved standard of living.

Eric W. Deaton - Constitution

Address: 1387 Crawford-Tom's Run Road
New Lebanon, OH 45345
Phone: 513.623.5708
Office: 937.751.6670
Party: Constitution

Biographical Information

Education: Graduated from Miami Valley CTC as salutatorian in Industrial Electronics program - 1986.

Graduated from University of Dayton with High Honors majoring in Electronic Engineering Technology and a minor in Mechanical Engineering Technology - 1990.

Occupation: Began work as a Field Service Engineer for General Electric in 1990 where still employed.

Question & Answer

1.) *What experiences would you bring to the U.S. Senate that would make you an effective representative for Ohioans?*

As a field service engineer I've worked in all geographic areas of Ohio and in most major manufacturing facilities across the state. I understand the problems experienced by these companies and the citizens of my state, as well as the common sense solutions to resolve them within the boundaries of the Constitution. With an outside the Washington beltway approach, I will bring new ideas to the nation for facing our deficiencies and making America a strong innovation and manufacturing country once again. I hold a common sense broad view of the world and the issues around us with an emphasis on how these items interrelate. My training as a problem solver allows me to quickly and accurately identify the root cause of an issue, which is the key to implementing the best solutions. My personal life experiences have prepared me to identify with my fellow Ohioans in a meaningful way.

2) *Should the U.S. go further into debt if it would hasten economic recovery? Please explain.*

No. We have already deferred too much debt and too many entitlement burdens to our children and grandchildren to deal with in the future. The present working generations must deal with our current economic problems and pull us up by our bootstraps without further burdening the nation down the road. By continuing to pile on ever more egregious amounts of national debt, we are only increasing the likelihood of our nation defaulting on its debt obligations in the future. There also is no proof that deficit spending by the government will spur the growth necessary to hasten our economic recovery. Since everyday citizens use their money more wisely for their own best interests than the federal government ever can, doesn't it make sense to let the consumers spur the economy through tax cuts? You can't spend your way out of your debts and any good economist knows this basic concept.

3) *What, if anything, should the U.S. do to become more energy independent?*

Our nation needs a truly comprehensive energy policy that allows us to use all the resources available, aid in the development of new technologies and allow the exploration and recovery of more reserves. This policy should also address energy conservation, efficiency and using a common sense approach to deploying our technology and resources. A multi-pronged approach would be best suited to our country since we have such a diverse class of energy resources. We've never seen an all-encompassing energy policy in our country. When saying energy policy, I don't always mean our government passing laws and controlling things. To a large degree I mean that the government needs to get out of the way and make all natural resources available for development. I'd rather leave this stuff to the private sector with capitalism and competition driving the market over the current mish-mash of laws, regulations and taxes we have now.

Lee Fisher - Democrat

Address: 1020 Dennison Avenue
Columbus, OH 43216
Phone: 614.299.9630

Office: 614.299.9630
 Party: Democrat

Biographical Information

Lee Fisher is working day-and-night to create good paying jobs in Ohio and rebuild our middle class. Fisher earned degrees from Oberlin College and Case Western. He and Peggy, his wife of 30 years, live in Cleveland. They have two children – Jason and Jessica. His website is www.FisherforOhio.com.

Question & Answer

1.) *What experiences would you bring to the U.S. Senate that would make you an effective representative for Ohioans?*

I am the only candidate who has been on the ground creating, saving, and attracting jobs to Ohio. From convincing General Motors to add a 2nd and 3rd shift at Lordstown to bringing investors together to save Norwalk Furniture, I'm proud of my work across Ohio.

But I have also seen that too many Ohioans are still out of work and more needs to be done. That's why I have called for a job creation tax credit to encourage new hiring – next week, not next year. It's why I proposed a fund to expand lending to small businesses, so they can expand and create jobs. And why I believe we need new incentives to create jobs right here in Ohio, not incentives to export jobs overseas. Ohioans deserve a U.S. Senator who will fight for them – and that's exactly what I have done and will continue to do.

2) *Should the U.S. go further into debt if it would hasten economic recovery? Please explain.*

I believe that Government has to live within its means while investing in what matters. We proved this is possible on the State level by passing the slowest growth budget in 42 years while making targeted investments in higher education and the clean energy jobs and businesses of the future.

We can do the same thing on the federal level by having a job creation tax cut, which would encourage businesses to create new jobs right here in Ohio, while tearing down the incentives for corporations who ship jobs overseas.

3) *What, if anything, should the U.S. do to become more energy independent?*

I believe we need a sustained investment in clean energy technology to achieve energy independence. As we invest in clean industries, Ohio stands to gain – because Ohio's greatest resource is its people, including the 6 million skilled workers who understand how to turn steel pipes into wind turbines, glass panels into solar panels, and engines into fuel-cells.

I have called for rerouting stimulus funds to home weatherization projects, to create jobs today and lay the foundation for long-term independence. I have urged leaders to make the Advanced Energy tax credit permanent, so we can continue to be a global leader in innovation. To keep the clean energy manufacturing jobs here as well as the technology, I believe we need to extend the tax create to companies who keep manufacturing jobs in America.

These steps will create jobs and strengthen Ohio's position as a world leader.

Candidates: Governor

Term Beginning January 1, 2011

Republican **John Kasich**
Libertarian: **Ken Matesz***
Green: **Dennis S. Spisak**
Democrat: **Ted Strickland**

**Denotes candidate did not submit response to questionnaire.*

John Kasich - Republican

Address: 340 East Gay St.
 Columbus, OH 43215
 Phone: 614.824.2017
 Party: Republican

Biographical Information

Education: B.A., Ohio State University
 Training & Experience: Ohio State Senator 1979-1983
 U.S. Congressman 1983-2001

Question & Answer

1.) *What would you do as governor to attract business to Ohio?*

Creating jobs has not been this administration's top priority. Since 2007, Ohio has lost 443,000 jobs. During this time, the state's economic development agency has had several leadership changes, and went seven months without a director. Our high unemployment is unacceptable, as is the departure of long-time Ohio companies such as NCR.

Ohio's inability to create jobs and revive its economy stems from barriers that have been erected: large, inefficient government that demands high taxes, burdensome regulatory and legal systems, poor education and job training programs, and weak, neglected economic development efforts.

I will fundamentally overhaul and modernize state government so we can reduce taxes and begin to give taxpayers their money's worth. I will also create a more competitive workers compensation system and reduce unnecessary red tape. Most importantly, I will transform our outdated development efforts into a business-centered initiative aligned with growth opportunities that will move Ohio forward.

2) *What would you do as governor to keep college graduates from leaving the state?*

Graduates go where the jobs are, and virtually all of Ohio's metropolitan regions are losing jobs faster than the national average. Similarly, Ohio ranks near the bottom in terms of entrepreneurship. If we want to keep the brightest young minds in Ohio, we need to offer them challenging, interesting opportunities.

A recent report by the Thomas B. Fordham Institute found that 89 percent of college students indicated that good jobs and career opportunities are a very important criterion to them when they decide where to live after graduation.

So, the approach is clear, we need leadership to remove barriers to growth, which will create more jobs and make Ohio an exciting place for recent graduates to live and work.

3) *Ohio's solution to the budget crisis in 2009 involved one time fixes. How would you put Ohio back on the road to long term solvency while at the same time protecting Ohio's children and vulnerable citizens?*

Ohio taxpayers are not getting their money's worth. We've suffered from mismanagement, inefficiency, unrealistic economic assumptions, and fear of change.

We faced similar challenges when I led the effort to balance the federal budget. We succeeded by building consensus for making tough decisions. The same must be done now in Ohio.

The greatest threat to important programs and services isn't a desire to make them work better; it's the deliberate neglect of throwing money at them and simply walking away. Beneficiaries and taxpayers lose. For example, Ohio ranks 47th nationally in K-12 education spending that goes to instruction and ninth in the amount of funds that go to administration. In education, human services, and other efforts, we must find smart ways, including those from other states, to provide better services at a lower cost. We must have the courage to let go of the status quo and rethink everything.

Dennis S. Spisak - Green

Address: 548 Poland Ave.
Struthers, OH 44471

Phone: 330.755.0729

Party: Green

Biographical Information

Education: B.S.C. Ohio University, M.A. The Ohio State University

Occupation: Educator

Training & Experience: 25 years experience in Public Education

Question & Answer

1.) *What would you do as governor to attract business to Ohio?*

To attract business to Ohio, the focus must be on innovation as a driver of the economy in seven focus areas: expansion and creation of industry clusters, education and talent, business climate, infrastructure, international business, quality of life and innovation through research and development and commercialization of new products by Ohio companies.

We need the state's agencies, together with federal and local governments, to cooperatively develop an effective and comprehensive "investment strategy" in urban areas to encourage investment and job creation in our inner cities.

We must aggressively promote Ohio's business assets with a new and fresh marketing strategy to dramatically increase business investment and resources.

Our educational system must be improved as knowledge-based, diversified industries need a skilled and educated workforce. The top requirement from potential businesses is education and workforce.

2) What would you do as governor to keep college graduates from leaving the state?

To keep college graduates from leaving the state, Ohio must become a more attractive state to reside in. We must improve employment opportunities for students while increasing the diversity of new jobs coming into the state as well as creating more blue-green jobs for Ohio. We also need to better fund our public education system, clean up Ohio's environment, and pass Single-Payer Health Care for All Ohioans so students will want to remain in the buckeye state. By passing statewide universal healthcare, Ohio would be sending the message that we want our young college graduates to stay in Ohio and that we will provide health care for them and their growing future families.

3) Ohio's solution to the budget crisis in 2009 involved one time fixes. How would you put Ohio back on the road to long term solvency while at the same time protecting Ohio's children and vulnerable citizens?

I would restructure the 2005 tax changes that lowered income taxes for wealthy taxpayers. The Office of Budget and Management says reversing just one year of the income tax cuts would bring in \$422 million dollars. To help low-income households, raise the amount households can make before owing an income tax. Implement an Ohio Earned Income Tax Credit system like the federal EITC. Currently, 24 states and the District of Columbia have this credit in place, which would bring low-income families out of poverty.

Raise the Commercial Activity Tax: revenues would allow for paying schedule reimbursements as well as add money to the General Revenue Fund. The Cat could raise at least \$50 million for the state.

Retain some of the income portion of the corporate franchise tax. Retaining at least 1/5 of it's former rate would give the state at least \$200 million per year.

Ted Strickland - Democrat

Address: 35 N. Fourth Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: 614.545.6840
Party: Democrat

Biographical Information

Education: High School: Northwest High School (McDermott, OH, 1959)
College: Asbury College, B.A. History 1963
University of Kentucky, M.A. Guidance & Counseling 1966
Asbury Theological Seminary, Masters' of Divinity, 1967

University of Kentucky, Ph.D. Counseling Psychology 1980

Occupation:

Governor

Training & Experience:

Governor: 2007-present
U.S. Congress, U.S. Representative: 1993-1995; 1997-2006, left to become Governor (**Candidate exceeded word limit**)

Question & Answer

1.) *What would you do as governor to attract business to Ohio?*

As Governor, I've worked every day to grow Ohio's economy by investing in high-growth industries, making Ohio more business friendly, and ensuring Ohio has an educated workforce.

In 2008, I worked with the legislature to pass a bipartisan jobs bill that invested in growing industries like logistics, advanced energy, and infrastructure.

We've made it easier to do business in Ohio by holding the line on business taxes and erasing and amending over 1,000 state rules to make them easier for businesses to follow. As a result, Ohio's small business climate is the best in the Midwest and our taxes are the lowest.

Over the past three years we held college tuition in our state to the lowest increase in the nation. Today, nearly 66,000 more Ohioans are enrolled in our universities than in 2006 and record numbers of unemployed Ohioans are getting the skills they need for the new economy.

2) *What would you do as governor to keep college graduates from leaving the state?*

To keep our young people in Ohio and attract young talent from outside Ohio's borders, it is critical that we offer both an affordable and higher quality education. To this end, we have held the line on college tuition increases and frozen tuition for two years in a row. Additionally, we created the University System of Ohio to help our universities become centers of innovation and job creation in high-growth fields like biotech and advanced energy.

Ohio's college graduates will stay in state if we can provide them with good job opportunities. Our investments in growing industries will ensure that we create good-paying jobs that can't be outsourced, but we should also work to restore funding for Ohio's co-op and internship program, which will connect students with work opportunities at Ohio companies.

3) *Ohio's solution to the budget crisis in 2009 involved one time fixes. How would you put Ohio back on the road to long term solvency while at the same time protecting Ohio's children and vulnerable citizens?*

My approach to managing Ohio's budget is guided by a commitment to living within our means, investing in what matters, and modernizing Ohio's government.

Like every other state in the nation, Ohio has been hit by an economic storm that started on Wall Street and hit us harder than anything we have seen in our lifetimes. While the federal government provided resources to states to offer some fiscal relief and preserve essential services for the most vulnerable citizens, we needed to make tough choices to balance Ohio's budget without raising taxes.

We reduced state government spending by nearly \$2 billion in the current budget and reduced the size of the state workforce by nearly 5,000 over the past three years. Ultimately, the most important factor to ensure long-term budget stability will be job creation and economic development. That's why I'm fighting everyday to bring new job opportunities for hard-working Ohioans.

Candidates: Lieutenant Governor

Term Beginning January 1, 2011

Libertarian: M. Ann Leech
Democrat: Yvette McGee Brown
Green: Anita Rios*
Republican: Mary Taylor*

**Denotes candidate did not submit response to questionnaire.*

M. Ann Leech - Libertarian

Address: 415 Pinebluff Dr.
 Loveland, OH 45140
 Phone: 513.248.9244
 Party: Libertarian

Biographical Information

A business owner since 2001, I have both technical and business degrees (BS from Eckerd College, MS Chemistry from Carnegie Mellon University and MBA from University of Cincinnati.) I've worked in market research for over 30 years. I have been active in Libertarian politics since arriving in Cincinnati in 1978.

Question & Answer

1) *As Lieutenant Governor, you would preside over the Ohio Senate. How would you address the excessive partisanship which has disappointed many Ohioans in recent years?*

Voting in Libertarian candidates is the best way I know to address the overwhelming results of partisanship in the Ohio Assembly and Senate.

2) *Most lieutenant governors perform responsibilities in addition to their constitutional role. What additional duties, if any, would you like to perform?*

My running mate, Ken Matesz, is well versed in the law and constitution. I could complement Ken's skills because as an analyst for many years, I would be very effective in working on budget cuts and overhauling spending programs.

3) *What is the most important thing you can do to help the Governor?*

Every administration can always use another ambassador for the Governor's policies and programs. I see that as a very important role that the Lt. Governor can fulfill.

Yvette McGee Brown - Democrat

Address: 35 N. Fourth Street
Columbus, OH 43215
Phone: 614.545.6840
Party: Democrat

Biographical Information

Education: High School: Mifflin High School (Columbus City Schools, 1978)
College: Ohio University, B.S. Journalism and Public Relations 1982
The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, J.D. 1985

Occupation: Attorney/Judge (Retired)

Training & Experience: Founding President of the Center for Child and Family Advocacy, Senior Vice-President for Behavioral Health Services at Nationwide Children's Hospital (***Candidate exceeded word limit***)

Question & Answer

1) *As Lieutenant Governor, you would preside over the Ohio Senate. How would you address the excessive partisanship which has disappointed many Ohioans in recent years?*

During my professional career, I have worked with both parties to solve complex problems including creating the Center for Child and Family Advocacy at Nationwide Children's Hospital.

I will bring this perspective to the office of Lieutenant Governor, because when it comes to the challenges facing Ohio, I know that the best solutions can be found when we work together. I look forward to working with Governor Strickland, Democrats, and Republicans on critical initiatives like the 2008 bipartisan jobs bill, which invested in growing industries like logistics and distribution, advanced energy, and infrastructure.

Regarding the Ohio Senate, it is my understanding that the section of the Ohio Constitution that referred to the Lieutenant Governor as president of the Senate and the choosing of a president pro tempore in his/her absence was repealed in 1979.

2) *Most lieutenant governors perform responsibilities in addition to their constitutional role. What additional duties, if any, would you like to perform?*

Over the last three years, I have watched Ted Strickland's pragmatic, compassionate leadership as Governor and seen first-hand how much he has done for children and families. As his partner, I look forward to working alongside him on issues such as education, urban revitalization, and economic development.

3) *What is the most important thing you can do to help the Governor?*

I was a judge for almost a decade handling cases dealing with families and children. I left the bench because I knew that I could do more good for more children by founding the Center for Child and Family Advocacy, where we assembled the necessary resources to prevent and treat child abuse. With the opportunity to serve as Ted Strickland's Lieutenant Governor, I once again have the chance to touch the lives of more Ohio families.

As Lieutenant Governor, I am going to do exactly what I've been doing every day of my professional life – work for Ohio's children, families, and future. I will bring my years of experience advocating on behalf of children and families to help the Governor implement policies that expand educational and economic opportunity.

Together, Governor Strickland and I will continue to invest in Ohioans to ensure that we emerge from this economic crisis stronger than (***Candidate exceeded word limit***)

Candidates: Attorney General

Term Beginning January 1, 2011

Republican: Steve Christopher*
Democrat: Richard Cordray
Republican: Mike DeWine
Libertarian: Marc Allan Feldman*
Constitution: Robert M. Owens*

**Denotes candidate did not submit response to questionnaire.*

Richard Cordray - Democrat

Address: 4900 Grove City Rd.
 Grove City, OH 43123
 Phone: 330.730.4066
 Office: 614.220.4500
 Party: Republican

Biographical Information

Education: University of Chicago Law School, Juris Doctorate, 1986
 Oxford University, Master's in Economics, 1983
 Michigan State University, Bachelor's in Legal & Political Theory, 1981

Occupation: Ohio Attorney General (2008-present)

Training & Experience: Ohio Treasurer of State (2007-2009)
 Franklin County Treasurer (2003-2007)
 State Representative (1991-1993)
 Solicitor General (1993-1994)

Question & Answer

1) *What would be your criteria for selection of special counsels to assist the Office of Attorney General?*

As Attorney General, I serve as legal counsel to Ohio's numerous state agencies, departments, boards, commissions, colleges, universities, and public pension systems, and this is a duty I take most seriously. The legal needs of these state clients are vast and vary in complexity and area of expertise. When the services of special counsel are necessary to assist with such cases, my Legal Services Section utilizes a merit-based selection process to ensue quality representation for our state clients at the best deal to taxpayers. Additionally, my office is responsible for collecting outstanding debt owed to the State of Ohio – everything from past due book fines at state libraries to unpaid corporate income taxes. My Collections

Enforcement and Revenue Recovery Sections make that happen by interpreting and enforcing the state's debt collection laws, working with private debt collection agencies, as well as contacting debtors directly.

2) *What will be your primary focus as Attorney General?*

When I ran for this office in 2008, I pledged to accomplish three primary goals if elected: to restore order and professionalism to the office of Attorney General, to support local law enforcement in fighting crime and defending our communities, and to stand up for Ohioans by protecting their financial security. We are working hard to accomplish each of these three goals. I am glad to say that the office is back on track and in order, with many improvements made and the prior administration's scandals put behind us. We are also working effectively to keep criminals behind bars and to fight public corruption. Above all, we will continue to fight for Ohioans by standing up for consumers, continuing our work on foreclosure prevention, and aggressively pursuing Wall Street companies and executives on behalf of Ohio retirees and taxpayers, with over \$2 billion recovered already.

3) *What role should the Attorney General play in taking action against predatory lending practices?*

The centerpiece of my administration is protecting the financial security of Ohio families. As Ohioans know, Wall Street created this economic crisis; so we have held Wall Street accountable for its wrongs by filing significant cases against major national financial corporations. Our Help Center was improved and made easier for consumers to file complaints about unscrupulous businesses and scams; in 2009, we processed 20% more complaints than the year before. We obtained judgments and settlements that produced over \$4 million in consumer relief. We have continued to focus on the foreclosure crisis and were the first in the nation to sue the worst national mortgage service companies. We have issued 30 cease-and-desist orders and filed 8 lawsuits against foreclosure rescue scams. Through our mortgage fraud task, we have indicted dozens of people and companies who engaged in fraudulent real estate transactions worth tens of millions of dollars.

Mike DeWine - Republican

Address: 2587 Conley Rd.
Cedarville, OH 45314
Phone: 614.218.9759
Party: Republican

Biographical Information

Education: BS Education (Social Studies), Miami University, 1969; JD, Ohio Northern University College of Law, 1972

Occupation: Lawyer

Training & Experience: Lawyer; former Greene County Prosecutor; 20 years membership on the Judiciary Committees in the U.S. Senate; entire career in public service has focused on children and families and law and order.

Question & Answer

1) *What would be your criteria for selection of special counsels to assist the Office of Attorney General?*

There are times when it is necessary to seek the expertise of outside counsel. In such cases, I will use the most experienced and competent lawyers who are available in their specialized fields.

2) *What will be your primary focus as Attorney General?*

Overhauling the state's crime lab, the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation to dramatically decrease the evidence testing and analysis backlog; creating a business climate in Ohio that encourages the creation and growth of jobs in Ohio; cleaning up corruption at all levels of Ohio government.

3) *What role should the Attorney General play in taking action against predatory lending practices?*

The Ohio Attorney General must take aggressive action against those who illegally take advantage of Ohio consumers.

Candidates: Auditor of State

Term Beginning January 1, 2011

Libertarian: L. Michael Howard

Republican: Seth A. Morgan

Democrat: David Pepper*

Republican: Dave Yost*

**Denotes candidate did not submit response to questionnaire.*

L. Michael Howard - Libertarian

Address: 656 Colony Dr.
Westerville, OH 43081

Party: Libertarian

Biographical Information

Education: BSBA Cum Laude Ohio State, MA Public Administration, Ohio State

Occupation: CPA

Training & Experience: 27 ½ years Chief Auditor, Auditor of State
6 ½ years International/Local Accounting Firms
3 years Consultant

Question & Answer

1) *How would you help local and state government agencies deal with the fiscal challenges they are facing today?*

The Auditor of State is in the unique position of observing thousands of units of government, some operating efficiently and effectively, and some not. From that, "best practices" can be gleaned and disseminated widely to program and other managers. The Auditor also has a performance audit function that can be used to help specific entities develop more efficient ways of delivering services. However, it needs to expand its "peer" group comparisons to include private sector entities. The Auditor's Local targeted management advice. Of course, routine audit results also may be used to show governments how they are using their resources currently and how they might be able to use them efficiently.

2) *What are your priorities for the auditor's office?*

The highest priority is maintaining and expanding professionalism. The Auditor of State is one of the largest, if not the largest, professional auditing group in the State of Ohio; the taxpayers deserve to have a professional auditor. I would strengthen and expand to the extent possible the fraud audit function, and the advisory groups that actually help local and state governmental agencies, the Local Government Services group and the Performance Audit Group.

3) *What in your background will be the most helpful to you in performing the duties of auditor?*

I worked in the highest echelons of the State Auditor's office for over 27.5 years, helping transform them from an agency de-certified to perform federal audits to one of the most professional offices in the country. I was one of 5 CPAs in the office when I started and there are now hundreds, using materials and ideas I developed over those years. Indeed, the award winning risk-based auditing system used in the Auditor's financial audits was my idea and my project, and I also developed other products and processes widely used by the Auditor even now. I know the office inside out. Specifically: I have a BSBA in accounting *cum laude* and MA in Public Administration, both from Ohio State University. I have been a CPA for over 35 years, and I was a member of the national AICPA's Governmental Experts Panel until retirement.

Seth A. Morgan - Republican

Address: 7208 Howland Place
Office: 937.235.1351
Party: Republican

Biographical Information

Certified Public Accountant (CPA). Bachelor's Degree in Management/Accounting from Park College and MBA with concentration in Finance from the University of Dayton. Small business owner. State Representative for the 36th Ohio House District and previously served 7 years on the Huber Heights City Council.

Question & Answer

1) *How would you help local and state government agencies deal with the fiscal challenges they are facing today?*

As Auditor of State, I will focus on running as efficient an office as possible. Local governments are tasked with paying for the audit the Auditor of State produces. As a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) who has focused his professional career on providing value to actual businesses with financial services, I understand the importance of providing a quality product while minimizing costs. Focusing on internal efficiencies and allowing private firms to compete to do the audits under the Auditor of State's quality control will help to minimize the cost to those local governments.

Additionally, the Auditor of State's performance audit division is a powerful resource to help local and state government agencies provide more efficient services to the taxpayers. As Auditor of State, this will be an area of value-added focus for my administration. While historical audits focus on the past, performance audits can help governments work on their futures.

2) *What are your priorities for the auditor's office?*

In addition to driving efficiencies, see above:

First, I would like to maintain the bar of professionalism that Mary Taylor, as Ohio's first CPA auditor has provided. Having an auditor who not only can manage, but understands the practice of auditing and accounting is important to best serving the people of Ohio.

Second, I intend to use the bully pulpit of Auditor of State to force accountability from the governments we interact with. As the watch-dog of the people's money at the State level, the Auditor of State must have his/her allegiance to the people of the State, not a political agenda.

Third, I will continue the efforts of governments throughout the state to provide better transparency of their transactions. Transparency can be the highest form of accountability. With today's technology, there is no reason governments, from the State to your City, can't be forthright with their financial transactions.

3) *What in your background will be the most helpful to you in performing the duties of auditor?*

As a CPA, you will be electing an auditor that has more than just a cursory interest in the job or someone that is looking to just find a way to be elected to state-wide office. CPA's are specifically trained to audit, advise, and keep their eyes open for foul-play – all important roles of the Auditor's office.

As a City Council member, I took on members of both parties and challenged two City Managers who were either acting corruptly or not in our best interests. As a State Representative, I held Gov. Strickland accountable for the "evidence" in his education plan and ultimately sued him in the Supreme Court to force that transparency. I have a record of standing up, regardless of party or agendas for the truth.

Ohio needs an Auditor that is both ready to stand up for Ohioans and able to understand the world of financial auditing.

Candidates: Secretary of State

Term Beginning January 1, 2011

Libertarian: Charles R. Earl
Republican: Jon Husted*
Republican: Sandra O'Brien
Democrat: Maryellen O'Shaughnessy*

**Denotes candidate did not submit response to questionnaire.*

Charles R. Earl - Libertarian

Address: 10232 Middleton Pike
 Bowling Green, OH 43402
 Phone: 217.494.6838
 Office: 419.801.4040
 Party: Libertarian

Biographical Information

Education: BA – College of Wooster (English), MA-BGSU (Mass Comm), post-MA BGSU (Mass Comm)
 Occupation: Semi-retired consultant
 Training & Experience: Fmr. Ohio legislator, research field in Political Communication.

Question & Answer

1) *How will you insure fair, honest, and impartial election administration in Ohio?*

My staff will consist of experienced people from previous administrations to assure a tri-partisan balance. Training for poll workers, BoE staff and party personnel will be enhanced. Any intentional misbehavior will be aggressively prosecuted. No fraud, no double voting, no illegal efforts to undermine the integrity of Ohio elections will be tolerated. Every complaint or suggestion that may indicate inappropriate or illegal actions will be relentlessly pursued.

2) *Do you believe the Secretary of State should avoid involvement in partisan politics? Please explain.*

As a practical manner, yes, the SoS should operate as a non-partisan, but the nature of the nominating process via a partisan primary precludes such an idealistic goal. In essence, the nature of the office guarantees that the Secretary is radically immersed in partisan affairs because many of the electoral activities that she/he administers are quite partisan. Bottom line: In the current environment the best we can hope for is a Secretary who is a successful partisan as a candidate, and who sheds the mantle of party upon assuming office. As a third-party candidate, I believe that I am in a much better position to administer in a non-partisan fashion than is someone who has been immersed in party activities for many years.

3) *What in your education or experience will help you the most in being an effective Secretary of State?*

My first response may appear to be whimsical, but as an undergrad English major, I would be in a position to encourage clear, concise, and honest language for ballot issues. My graduate research in the field of Political Communication has provided me with an understanding of voter and electoral dynamics. As a third/minor-party candidate, I am extremely aware of the issues surrounding ballot access, and voting options for Ohioans. In addition, as a former small business operator, I can work to expedite licensing and registration procedures for Ohio businesses.

Sandra O'Brien - Republican

Address: 3434 Stumpville Rd.
Rome, OH 44085
Phone: 440.294.3092
Party: Republican

Biographical Information

Education: Masters in Administration
Occupation: Adjunct Professor at Lakeland Community College
Training & Experience: Served twelve years in public administration as Ashtabula County Auditor

Question & Answer

1) *How will you insure fair, honest, and impartial election administration in Ohio?*

As Chief Elections Officer my goal will be to protect the integrity and security of the election process from voter registration to casting of votes to counting of ballots. Ohio election law is governed by the Ohio Revised Code. I intend to make sure that such laws are enforced. Ohio's election process is carried out at the county level on a bipartisan basis. As Secretary of State I intend to give all 88 local Boards of Elections the support necessary to ensure fair elections.

2) *Do you believe the Secretary of State should avoid involvement in partisan politics? Please explain.*

Ohio's Secretary of State is a product of a partisan political process. I do not believe that a Secretary of State gives up his or her rights to participate in the political process once elected.

3) *What in your education or experience will help you the most in being an effective Secretary of State?*

The Secretary of State is a position within the Executive branch of government. I hold a Master's degree in administration with twelve years experience as chief administrator running a public office.

**Denotes candidate did not submit response to questionnaire.*

Candidates: Treasurer of State

Term Beginning January 1, 2011

Democrat: Kevin L. Boyce
Libertarian: Matthew P. Cantrell
Republican: Josh Mandel*

**Denotes candidate did not submit response to questionnaire.*

Kevin L. Boyce - Democrat

Address: 340 E. Fulton St.
 Columbus, OH 43215
 Phone: 614.221.6563
 Office: 614.487.3526
 Party: Democrat

Biographical Information

Education: Bachelor's Degree, Political Science, University of Toledo; Master's Degree, Public Administration, Central Michigan University.

Occupation: State Treasurer of Ohio

Training & Experience: Served eight years on Columbus City Council with 3 years as President Pro Tempore and Chairman of Public Finance Committee. Established record of fiscal integrity, performance based budget practices, and oversaw adoption *(Candidate exceeded word limit)*

Question & Answer

1) *What safeguards would you put in place to protect public investments?*

I am committed to improving Ohio's financial future and ensuring Ohioans' tax dollars are strategically invested and protected. As the state's banker, my primary responsibility is to invest and protect nearly \$200 billion in state funds. I strive every day to be the best possible steward of those dollars. In fact, when I first became Treasurer, one of the first actions that I took was to increase our liquidity position so

our portfolio was not as vulnerable to the whims of unstable markets. My administration has not lost a single dime to bad investments. In fact, we have earned over \$100 million dollars since I took office.

2) *What would be your investment policy—to invest at a higher rate outside Ohio, or to support Ohio businesses, even though the return might be lower?*

I believe there are numerous opportunities to invest in Ohio and gain an excellent investment return. It is the job of the State Treasurer to strategically invest in Ohio to create jobs and gain a solid return for the citizens of our state. Since I took office, my Economic Development department has invested millions in small businesses, farmers and families through our linked deposit program in Ohio-based community banks. I am constantly looking for new opportunities to use Ohio's investments to create jobs and investment returns for Ohioans.

3) *What measures would you take to insure the best credit rating for Ohio?*

In the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression, I did my part to maintain and improve Ohio's investment-grade credit rating. I focused on keeping the State's investments safe and liquid. Among my first actions in 2009 was to increase the State's liquidity account from \$2 billion to over \$3 billion, so Ohio always had the available cash resources to service its debt, pay its bills and avoid a cash crunch. Additionally, I took advantage of volatility in the financial markets to generate incremental investment returns by selling bonds which had accumulated substantial call premiums. Finally, in our Debt Management area, I authorized the issuance and sale of bonds at an all-time historic low borrowing costs, which allowed Ohio to continue to grow, but at very low interest rates.

Matthew P. Cantrell - Libertarian

Address: 4968 Shady Oak Drive
Hilliard, OH 43026
Phone: 614.940.3643
Party: Libertarian

Biographical Information

Education: Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (Finance), Carnegie Mellon University. Masters of Business Administration, The Ohio State University.

Occupation: Fuel Procurement, American Electric Power

Training & Experience: Corporate experience and graduate level education in advanced Finance and Accounting.

Question & Answer

1) *What safeguards would you put in place to protect public investments?*

First, I will continue the work of the current Treasurer regarding Ohio's Operational Risk Management program, and the department of Compliance and Risk Management Assessment.

Next, I will recommend that state pension funds reduce the portion of non-investment grade securities, and mortgage related securities (which continue to miscalculate risk). I will also seek an independent review of all current and proposed hedging strategies to mitigate risk. Finally, I will recommend that our pension fund long term growth assumptions be reduced to 7.75% from 8.00%, as some states have done. This conservative assumption will have no impact on current investments, but will give Ohio additional flexibility in future decades if long term growth materializes higher than expected. *"More conservative*

investment assumptions protect states from sudden increases in contributions when investment returns fail to meet expectations.” (The Pew Center, The Trillion Dollar Gap, February 2010).

2) *What would be your investment policy—to invest at a higher rate outside Ohio, or to support Ohio businesses, even though the return might be lower?*

The vast majority of Treasury assets are currently invested outside of Ohio, and a considerable portion of pension fund assets are invested outside of the United States. The Treasurer of State has a fiduciary and legal responsibility to properly invest taxpayer dollars while mitigating risk. I reject any proposal which compromises this responsibility, including an “invest in Ohio” initiative. Such an initiative will only benefit the politician seeking publicity, not the taxpayer.

3) *What measures would you take to insure the best credit rating for Ohio?*

Current events have demonstrated that there are two things the state of Ohio can do to insure the best possible credit rating: Create jobs, and reduce unfunded liabilities.

Regardless of what my opponents say, a State Treasurer cannot create jobs. The proper role of government is to foster the right conditions for individual citizens to create jobs. For this reason, I support the elimination of the GrowNOW and AgLink programs, which claim to create jobs, but only subsidize some businesses at the expense of taxpayers.

Second, reducing the unfunded liabilities of state pension funds will require difficult choices, but choices which we must make. Under no circumstances will I support raising the contribution that taxpayers are currently making. I will respectfully work with the teachers, state employees, police and fire fighters to find the appropriate solution, realizing the many sacrifices they have already made.

Candidates: Chief Justice, Ohio Supreme Court

Term Beginning January 1, 2011

Eric Brown
Maureen O'Connor

Eric Brown

Address: 1480 Dublin Rd.
Columbus, OH 43215
Phone: 614.487.3526
Office: 614.462.3831
Party: Democrat

Biographical Information

Education: J.D., Cleveland-Marshall College of Law

Occupation: Judge, Franklin County Probate Court, former Common Pleas Court Judge

Training & Experience: Judge and lawyer for more than 30 years
Dedicated public servant: 20 years as an elected official
Extensive leadership and management experience
Former assistant attorney general
Devoted husband of 36 years, father and grandfather

Question & Answer

1) *How have your training, professional experience, and interests prepared you to serve on this Court?*

Ohio needs a Chief Justice who brings to the court a viewpoint that challenges the ideas and thinking of the other justices. I will add the balance needed so that the court more accurately reflects the people that it serves. I will also bring to the court a lifetime of public service, and an understanding of the struggles facing ordinary Ohioans and how the law and the courts impact their everyday lives.

Good public service demands independence, integrity, and a strong willingness to serve all Ohioans, and throughout my career as a public servant, I have demonstrated these

qualities. I have substantial business experience and broad legal experience, including public and private practice, civil and criminal matters.

I will seek everyday to ensure that Ohio courts will deliver justice that is fair, that justice is impartial, and justice that respects the law and the Constitution of the State of Ohio.

2) Would you favor a system of performance evaluation for Supreme Court Justices with the results provided to the public? If no, why not? If yes, what are important criteria to include in the evaluation?

I favor and support the right of any individual or group interested in the court to evaluate the performance of the court and each of the justices. Constructive evaluation and feedback can be used to improve performance. Each person or group that wishes to provide evaluation should be free to establish their own criteria, provided the criteria are fully and fairly disclosed. Each such evaluation should fairly disclose the identity of the evaluator and the purpose of the evaluation.

Maureen O'Connor

Address: Cleveland Heights
 Phone: 614.456.2063
 Office: 614.387.9060
 Party: Non-Partisan

Biographical Information

Education: Seton Hill College 1973; Cleveland-Marshall College of Law 1980
 Occupation: Associate Justice, Ohio Supreme Court since 2003
 Training & Experience: I have been sitting on the Ohio Supreme Court since 2003 participating in every aspect of the court.

Question & Answer

1) How have your training, professional experience, and interests prepared you to serve on this Court?

My almost 7.5 yrs. as a justice coupled with my experience as a prosecutor, judge, attorney and administrator has prepared me well for the position. I have improved and strengthen every office I have held and believe that I will do the same for the Court as chief justice. I am focused on equal access and fairness and will mark my administration with that goal. I am a member of the OSBA Diversity Task Force and will continue to support programs and changes that ensure our objectives. When I put on my robe I am neither a democrat nor a republican...I am a judge sworn to uphold the Constitution and our laws without bias or personal agenda. I believe in fostering collegiality and inclusion.

2) Would you favor a system of performance evaluation for Supreme Court Justices with the results provided to the public? If no, why not? If yes, what are important criteria to include in the evaluation?

Yes. It is important to observe the work of any court esp. the Ohio Sup. Ct. This can be done by accessing our website to observe oral arguments. I believe that a justice should be judged by opinions authored and the timeliness of the process. Community involvement is also important. How a justice fulfills the role of a

public servant is crucial in determining if the justice should be given the trust of the voters. A strong work ethic, integrity and honesty are benchmarks for the position. Because the chief justice is the face of the judiciary for the state, it is important that the chief be judged by how he or she works to improve the judiciary, the courts and the delivery of justice to our citizens. Most important is to consider fairness, lack of bias and independence.

Candidates: Justice, Ohio Supreme Court

Term Beginning January 1, 2011

Judith Ann Lanzinger
Mary Jane Trapp

Judith Ann Lanzinger

Phone: 614.387.9090
 Party: Republican

Biographical Information

Education: Master of Judicial Studies and Juris Doctor degrees

Occupation: Supreme Court Justice

Training & Experience: Only person in Ohio ever elected to municipal, common pleas, court of appeals and supreme court – 25 years of judicial service at every level of court system; 12 years teaching judges nationwide and overseas.

Question & Answer

1) *How have your training, professional experience, and interests prepared you to serve on this Court?*

I'm a coalminer's granddaughter from Toledo. The first college graduate in my family, I taught for a while before entering law school. With my husband Robert's help I worked my way through several legal positions, from law clerk to attorney to judge while raising two children, both now lawyers.

No one else has ever been elected to all four state court levels. Over 25 years I've judged thousands of cases – from traffic matters to death penalty cases, jury trials to constitutional appeals. This broad common-sense experience makes me understand how court decisions affect the lives of ordinary people. I am fair and impartial in hearing cases, no matter who is before me. All my opinions show I believe that judges should interpret and apply law to cases rather than create social policy on their own.

I've an advanced degree in judicial studies and continue to teach law students, attorneys and **(Candidate exceeded word limit)**

2) *Would you favor a system of performance evaluation for Supreme Court Justices with the results provided to the public? If no, why not? If yes, what are important criteria to include in the evaluation?*

Judges are elected on non-partisan ballots because they are expected to serve all Ohioans and not advance a particular political agenda. Because we currently elect our Supreme Court justices, a good performance evaluation would provide helpful information about the candidates in seven separate areas: 1. legal knowledge, particularly of state law; 2. length and breadth of previous judicial experience; 3. integrity and impartiality in handling cases with an open mind and without respect to the parties' identity; 4. communication, involving the ability to listen to oral arguments and write clear and logical opinions; 5. temperament, understanding that a justice is not almighty and must treat others with respect and dignity; 6. administrative ability, in prompt conclusion of assigned cases; 7. collegiality, for effective work with six other justices.

Any performance evaluation should allow a candidate to respond to any negative statement, so that voters will have all appropriate information.

Mary Jane Trapp

Address: PO Box 264
Russell Township, OH 44072
Party: Democrat

Biographical Information

Education: A.B., Mount Holyoke College, cum laude, 1978; J.D., Case Western Reserve, 1981.

Occupation: Presiding & Administrative Judge, 11th District Court of Appeals

Training & Experience: 25 year broad general trial and appellate practice; President, Ohio Bar Association; appointed visiting judge on Ohio Supreme Court; recognized leader in judicial administration and legal reform issues.

Question & Answer

1) *How have your training, professional experience, and interests prepared you to serve on this Court?*

I spent the first half of my career preparing for judicial service. My 25 year civil and criminal trial and appellate practice in the trenches of state and federal courts and administrative agencies at levels from small claims court to the Ohio Supreme Court exposed me to all areas of the law reviewed by appellate judges. As Administrative Judge, I manage the docket and the operation of a multi-judge, multi-county court. Through my experience as a national, state, and local bar leader, particularly as Ohio Bar Association President, and my 20 years of service on numerous Ohio Supreme Court commissions and task forces, I have demonstrated commitment to legal reform and ability to promote confidence in the judicial system and equal access to justice. I offer to Ohioans a different background and perspective, forged in the crucible of representing working families, children at risk, and small business owners.

2) *Would you favor a system of performance evaluation for Supreme Court Justices with the results provided to the public? If no, why not? If yes, what are important criteria to include in the evaluation?*

As an advocate for reform in the judicial selection process, I strongly support such evaluations because they not only are effective management tools, but they help voters cast an educated vote. The evaluations should focus on integrity, legal knowledge and skill in communicating the basis for a decision to not only lawyers and judges but the public, work-ethic, service to the community, bench and bar, and introspection as to personal bias and commitment to recusal to avoid the appearance of impropriety.

Candidate: Justice, Ohio Supreme Court

Term Beginning January 1, 2011

Paul E. Pfeifer

Paul E. Pfeifer

Address: 65 S. Front St.
Columbus, OH 43215
Phone: 614.387.9020
Party: Republican

Biographical Information

Education: Ohio State University, B.A. 1963, J.D. 1966

Occupation: Ohio Supreme Court Justice

Training & Experience: 17 years on Ohio Supreme Court, 18 years in Ohio General Assembly, 3 years as Assistant County Prosecutor, 3 years as Assistant Attorney General, 19 years as partner in private law practice.

Justice Pfeifer does not have an opponent in the primary election.

