



2020 Judicial Candidate Questionnaire for Endorsement Consideration

Candidate Name: _____

Office Sought: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Introduction

Texas Values Action will make endorsements in the 2020 election cycle. We will only endorse candidates who share in our mission to ensure Texas is a state in which religious liberty flourishes, families prosper, and every human life is valued. Candidates must be able to demonstrate a firm commitment to protecting religious liberty, marriage and family, and innocent human life.

Candidates must complete this questionnaire to be considered for an endorsement. We will not necessarily endorse a candidate in every race and our endorsement of a candidate in a race does not represent a criticism of any other candidate in the same race. Follow-up interviews may be requested by Texas Values Action after the questionnaire is submitted and reviewed by our team. **Interviews are not guaranteed.**

These questions are not intended to ascertain how the candidate would rule on any particular case or controversy. Answers are not expected to touch on the specifics of any live or anticipated case. Your questions, comments, and further thoughts are welcomed on these and other issues.

- 1) STATEMENT: Judeo-Christian values establishes a framework of morality, which permits our system of limited government.

Agree _____ Disagree _____

- 2) SHORT ANSWER: Based on the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, please arrange the following entities, starting with the highest source of authority, and continue the list in descending order of authority: President, Congress, Constitution, God, Supreme Court, Voters.

3) STATEMENT: Election of judges by the people for a definite term of office is the best way to select judges.

Agree_____ Disagree_____

4) SHORT ANSWER: Which current justice on the U.S. Supreme Court best reflects your judicial philosophy?

5) STATEMENT: George Washington's comment that "Religion and morality are the essential pillars of civil society" is still true today.

Agree_____ Disagree_____

6) STATEMENT: The U.S. Constitution and Texas' state constitution should be interpreted as living documents, rather than use a strict constructionist or originalist philosophy.

Agree_____ Disagree_____

7) SHORT ANSWER: In light of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Obergefell*, which justice's opinion in that case most closely approximates your understanding of marriage?

8) STATEMENT: Religious freedom is our most foundational freedom and deserves the highest level of protection in law.

Agree_____ Disagree_____

9) STATEMENT: All Texans, including government officials like County Clerks and Justices of the Peace, have the right to abide by their conscience and/or religious convictions and the right to have their faith reasonably accommodated.

Agree_____ Disagree_____

10) STATEMENT: Religious symbols (including the Ten Commandments, Crosses, Nativity Scenes, etc.) should be free to display on public property, including in our public schools and at our war memorials.

Agree_____ Disagree_____

11) STATEMENT: Texans should be free to express their religious beliefs, including prayer, in public places, including at public schools and governmental meetings.

Agree _____ Disagree _____

12) STATEMENT: Marriage is a God-ordained, sacred and legal union of one man and one woman. No government has the authority to alter this definition.

Agree _____ Disagree _____

13) STATEMENT: Homosexual conduct tears at the fabric of society and contributes to the breakdown of the family unit. Homosexual conduct should not be presented as a responsible behavior in public policy or law.

Agree _____ Disagree _____

14) STATEMENT: A person's true identity, as male or female persons, is given and defined by God. A transgender self-conception is inconsistent with God's design for the two sexes, male and female, and should not be presented as a responsible behavior in public policy or law.

Agree _____ Disagree _____

15) STATEMENT: From the moment of conception, the preborn child has a fundamental, individual right to life that cannot be infringed, and deserves full legal protection at every stage until natural death.

Agree _____ Disagree _____

16) OPEN ANSWER: Our Founding Fathers protected religious freedom in the first two clauses of the First Amendment. In your own words, explain why religious freedom was given first importance in the U.S. Constitution?

17) OPEN ANSWER: What guides your views on issues related to marriage, family, and sexuality?

18) OPEN ANSWER: Do you believe the state of Texas has an obligation to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of Texans in public schools and other public buildings by prohibiting males from accessing female showers, locker rooms, and restrooms, and vice-versa?

19) OPEN ANSWER: How should Texas lead the way to promote a culture of life and end abortion in Texas?

20) OPEN ANSWER: Do you support changing the judicial election system in Texas in any way? Why or why not?

21) OPEN ANSWER: What is the proper use of legislative history in interpreting statutory law?

22) OPEN ANSWER: What in the nature of mankind caused America's Founders to carefully define, separate, and limit powers in the Constitution?

23) OPEN ANSWER: The Texas Association of Business (TAB) has radically shifted to the Left in recent years, and in recent legislative sessions worked together with the liberal LGBT lobby to oppose efforts to protect religious liberty and privacy. News reports indicate TAB received significant funding from national LGBT groups and donors while leading an effort to oppose the Texas Privacy Act – a proposed statewide law to keep men out of women's bathrooms, showers, and locker rooms in government buildings and protect private businesses from local SOGI laws that would force private businesses to allow men in women's intimate facilities. Have you accepted campaign contributions from the Texas Association of Business (TAB BACPAC)? Do you plan on doing so in the future? Why or why not?

24) OPEN ANSWER: How should a judge balance their duty to protect and defend the constitution while avoiding judicial activism?

25) OPEN ANSWER: Considering issues impacting religious freedom, marriage, family, sexuality, and life, which best describes you – Conservative, Moderate, or Liberal? Please defend your answer by referencing your publicly available track record.

26) OPEN ANSWER: Please briefly describe your experience as an attorney, including describing any judicial experience and law firms where you worked.

27) OPEN ANSWER: Describe your spiritual beliefs and worldview.

28) OPEN ANSWER: How will your spiritual beliefs and values impact you in your elected office?

29) OPEN ANSWER: Describe the charitable, educational, religious, church, or political organizations you have been affiliated with as a leader, member, contributor, or volunteer.

30) OPEN ANSWER: Please share about your family.

Voting History (circle all that apply)

GOP Primary: 2016 2014 2012 2010 2008 2006 2004 2002 2000

DEM Primary: 2016 2014 2012 2010 2008 2006 2004 2002 2000

General: 2016 2014 2012 2010 2008 2006 2004 2002 2000

Please sign the completed questionnaire and return it with any further comments.

Note: We may use this information to schedule a follow-up interview. Please make sure all information provided is correct.

Signature of Candidate

Date

Printed Name of Candidate

Court Sought

Phone

Counties Included

Campaign Website

General Consultant

Campaign Manager

Campaign Mailing Address

Return to David Walls, Vice President of Texas Values Action:

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