

Screening Committee - Questions for Candidates

Because of your request for an endorsement from the Clermont County Republican Party, the Screening Committee has asked that you would answer the following questions. Brevity is completely fine with your comments, since we are not looking for anything more than a sentence or two for each question; however, feel free to expound on a questions if you feel necessary.

1. Do you agree with the Clermont County Republican Party's "Principles and Values Statement" (available at ClermontGOP.com)? Is there anything in our Principles and Values Statement with which you disagree? **Answer: I completely agree with the Clermont County Republican Party's Principles and Values Statement. In addition to the "Principals and Values Statement", I have requested endorsement based on the "Goals and Action Items" of the party to: Encourage candidates who lose in the primary elections and keep them active in the county party.**
2. In what ways do you consider yourself to be a conservative? **Answer: I believe in Christian values, I support the Right to Life movement, I believe that government has gotten too big and is limiting the options of citizens, I believe that States should not dictate the educational value for schools (no Common Core), Government can't continue to spend our grandchildren into bankruptcy, marriage is between a man and a women, citizens have a right to bear arms, and we need to support the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.**
3. Have you voted consistently in the Primary Election? Why, or why not? **Answer: My voting record in the primary has been consistent in past years. However, my profession has required me to work in multiple states and in some instances on projects with national security concerns or other disaster areas. In those times, I made every effort to vote via absentee ballot.**
4. What have you done that demonstrates your commitment to conservative values? **Answer: I share in the accomplishment of leading the New Richmond School District to becoming an "Excellent" rated school system while eliminating all debts and creating a surplus of cash-on-hand of more than 19 million dollars. I know that government can be managed like a business. When the New Richmond community considered the idea of building a new high school, I organized a meeting to gain community members input, developed a plan from the information gained, and outlined the options that were available then included a 10 year forecast including operational costs. My effort results in renovating the existing high school at a fraction of the cost for construction of a new school. I demonstrated that value is not obtained by how much money you spend, but through the commitment of dedicated team members with a common cause.**
5. What organizations have you been involved in, or donated money to, that share your conservative views? **Answer: Clermont County Republican Party, Mt. Carmel Christian Church, Younglife**

6. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or filed for bankruptcy? If yes, please explain. **Answer: No. I have never been convicted of a crime, filed for bankruptcy or defaulted on any debt.**
7. Why are you running for this office? **Answer: I want to serve the people of Clermont County and help set our course of direction for the future. I am committed to getting back to the basics that make our government strong: manage within our means, save/prepare for the future, evaluate our services, eliminate unneeded expenditure, reduce the size of government, and eliminate interferences in the free market system.**
8. What are your strengths that would enable you to do this job effectively? Do you have weaknesses that you need to overcome in order to do this job more effectively? **Answer: I have 39 years of experience managing budgets and schedules in the private and government business sectors. My life vocation has been spent planning projects, reviewing technical documents, identifying and understanding business challenges, tracking the spend rate of dollars, finding innovative ways to get work accomplished, staying on schedule, working within strict budgetary constraints, and finding ways to exceed the customer's expectations. I am a researcher and hard worker. I have always been proud of my ability to outwork those around me. You can expect the same performance from me in this job.**
9. How would your friends/co-workers describe you? (Circle all that apply.)
Honest, fair, respectful, manipulative, patient, kind, shrewd, tough, polite, rude, cooperative, intelligent, punctual, harsh, reasonable, impatient, passionate, informed, analytical, dignified, arrogant, knowledgeable, conscientious, deliberative, short-tempered, humble, diligent, thorough, inconsiderate, organized, cranky, caring, articulate, pessimistic, consistent, stubborn, friendly, hard-working, cheerful, ethical, flexible, unyielding, responsible. Do you agree with their assessment? **Answer: Circled answers include: honest, fair, respectful, patient, kind, tough, polite, cooperative, intelligent, punctual, reasonable, passionate, informed, analytical, dignified, knowledgeable, conscientious, deliberative, humble, diligent, thorough, organized, caring, articulate, consistent, friendly, hard-working, cheerful, ethical, flexible, unyielding, and responsible. I agree with their assessment, I work very hard to consistently display all these characteristics. It is very important to me to be on the inside what people see of me on the outside.**
10. Is there anything you have done that demonstrates that you can stand up against opposition? **Answer: Although I have been highly encouraged to seek the endorsement of a position currently occupied by a Central Committee Member and Incumbent, I have stood firm, per our "Goals and Action Items", to encourage an atmosphere of trust and fair play in county primary campaigns and elections. The current Commissioner Incumbent is a Central Committee Member and is seeking endorsement for re-election. I am "standing up" on these goals and action items and holding course to seek the election of an open Commissioner position. I am a man of "Principles and Values". I will always "stand" as a dedicated Republican.**

11. What do you get passionate about? Answer: Changes in legislation that erode the basic freedoms of citizens in a manner that makes the loss plausible to a mass audience. Issue 3 was an example of something that I got very passionate about. I was glad to see the Ohioans felt the same way. In addition, letting 5 appointed officials decide the meaning of marriage for 350 million Americans pushes my passionate button.
12. What makes you angry? Answer: People that complain about our country going in the wrong direction, but lack the initiative to be a part of the solution by getting involved and trying to make a difference.
13. What has been the most significant accomplishment in your professional career? In your personal life? Answer: I was a member of a research and development team that worked in secret on the Luke Gunnery Range in Yuma, Arizona commissioned by President Reagan to find a way to harden our ICBM Missile Silos to resist a direct nuclear hit. The outcome of that project resulted in the largest monitored explosion in the history of the world and the obtained test results put an end to the Cold War. I am honored to be officially classified as a Cold War Patriot. I am likewise proud to have managed the ground forces during the recovery efforts for the Katrina Hurricane in New Orleans. In my personal life, I am very proud to say I have been married to my wife Karla for 36 years. I am proud that we set an example of dedication and commitment to each other and to the vows we made before our God and our families. I am also proud of my children and grandchildren, they are the most significant accomplishment and blessing. I can't imagine life without them.
14. What are the major influences in your life? Answer: My father was handicapped from polio at 10 years of age. His work ethic and determination to never be treated differently was a true testament to any young man. He never took any entitlements even though he was qualified to do so. My father's friends regarded him as the best and most honest man they ever knew. He gets my vote also. In addition, Church has been a major influence in my life. The example that Jesus set for servant leadership keeps me striving to love more, forgive more, and use the resources that I am blest with to make a difference during my short time here on earth.
15. What is the proper role of government? Answer: I believe that government reach should be limited to those things that citizens can't collectively do for themselves. The free enterprise system should not be negatively impacted by our government. Government should be prevented from debt spending.
16. Where do our rights come from? Answer: The Bible reveals the rights that are given to us. The right to life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, the right to inherit, earn and keep property, the right of self-defense, the right for civil authorities to obey the law, the right of speech, the right to live our lives free from interference from the government, the right of parents to raise children free from interference from government, and the right to worship God. The Declaration of Independence states that our Rights come from God and thus pre-date the U.S. Constitution. The Declaration of Independence states:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights; rights that include life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. To secure these rights, governments are instituted by men, deriving their just power from the consent of the governed.

17. Do you think government regulations have become too onerous? If so, how?

Answer: Yes. The Affordable Care Act and the redefinition of marriage are two recent examples of the government reaching into the lives of citizens. Government was instituted by men/women to perform those things that we the citizens can't collectively perform for ourselves.

18. What is your interpretation of the 2nd Amendment? Answer: Although there have been many opinions concerning the 2nd Amendment (Bill of Rights) its statement and meaning are clear. States have the right to form a Militia for security and citizens have the right to keep and bear arms without infringement. I support the 2nd Amendment.