

League of Women Voters of Marion, Ohio

2020 VOTER GUIDE



P.O. Box 752, Marion, Ohio 43301-0752

Presented by: **The Marion Star**



GENERAL ELECTION IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020

League of Women Voters of Marion publishes this information to neither endorse nor reject the views of any candidate, nor to promote or campaign against any of the issues.

League selected the questions and sent questionnaires

to contested candidates.

Candidates were informed that their responses would be printed unedited, exactly as submitted and that each candidate would be solely responsible for the content of his/her reply. Responses to questions were cut if the candi-

date exceeded the word limit. **League did not correct or change any candidate responses.**

This publication has been issued by the League of Women Voters of Marion to provide a forum for all candidates. We thank the candidates who

responded to our questionnaires and made this publication possible.

The printing and distribution of this Voter Guide is funded by generous contributions to the League of Women Voters of Marion, Ohio with assistance from The Marion Star.

Local Offices

MARION COUNTY COMMISSIONER

One to be elected – Term: 4 years starting 1/2/21 – Salary: \$68,671



KERR MURRAY

ADDRESS: 1065 Chaumont Dr., Marion, OH 43302

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Marion County Commissioner

PARTY: Republican

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE: (25 word limit) Graduate Harding High, Coursework Ohio State University and Arizona State University, 31 years experience

in telecommunications with GTE and Verizon, Management training while at GTE

What do you think are the two most important challenges facing Marion County and what actions will you take to address them? (70 word limit)

1. Re-booting our economy due to pandemic: I will encourage our citizens to support local businesses and follow safety protocols. I will work with the government to provide access to programs that can assist. 2. Drug usage and gang violence: I support local efforts to raise awareness of addiction and treatment in Marion. I will continue working with law enforcement and community leaders to develop strategies to address gangs.

If you received a \$1 million grant to use for the county any way you wanted, what would you do with it and why? (70 word limit)

I would form an advisory group to develop a list of priorities that could not only address our challenges - like mentioned above but could help our county grow and prosper economically.



LYNN THOMAS

ADDRESS: 510 Eveningside Circle, Marion, Oh 43302

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Chairman, Board of Marion Township Trustees

PARTY: Democrat

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE: (25 word limit) Navy veteran/Degree financial services, American

College/Managed Credit Bureau/Owner, Insurance and Investment firm/County Commissioner/Member, Board of Elections/Chief Deputy county auditor.

What do you think are the two most important challenges facing Marion County and what actions will you take to address them? (70 word limit)

Reckless management of taxpayer money, \$9 million+ in uncollected property taxes which support local schools & essential services, Continually turning to taxpayers for levy funds instead of collecting delinquent taxes, Blindly approve additional budget requests during weekly commissioners' meetings without understanding what they're approving, Commissioners have grown complacent & tired; don't seem to see many of the problems that are plaguing our county.

If you received a \$1 million grant to use for the county any way you wanted, what would you do with it and why? (70 word limit)

Use the funds to encourage redevelopment in the county, Draw in new business and assist with expansion of current profitable operation, Growing business in the county will increase jobs and capitalize on the expansive training and education base the county has to offer, Redevelopment will improve blighted and run down areas, Increase revenue thru sales and property taxes

MARION COUNTY COMMISSIONER

One to be elected – Term: 4 years starting 1/3/21 – Salary: \$68,671



PAUL ANDREW "ANDY" APPELFELLER

ADDRESS: 959 Campbell Road, Marion, OH 43302

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Retired and Marion County Commissioner

PARTY: Republican

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE: (25

word limit) 2001-2020 Marion County Commissioner, 2000-2001 Marion County Domestic Relations Court, 1970-2000 Ohio State Highway Patrol Trooper, 1966-1970 Whirlpool Corporation, 1966 -Graduate of Kenton High School

What do you think are the two most important challenges facing Marion County and what actions will you take to address them? (70 word limit)

The challenge of eradicating the sale of illegal drugs and the consequent addiction and rehabilitation in our community by supporting and working closely with law enforcement, court officials, ADAMH Board, Marion County Children's Services, and other community leaders is paramount in meeting this challenge. My twenty-six years' experience in law enforcement and my experience as a county commissioner have shown me the complexity of this pressing and pervasive problem.

If you received a \$1 million grant to use for the county any way you wanted, what would you do with it and why? (70 word limit)

Depending on the parameters of the \$1 million grant, the monies could be used by the Commissioners toward investing in the infrastructure at Marion County Fairgrounds to support the youth of our county and toward buying, maintaining, and demolishing properties for the Marion County Land Bank.



TARA L. DYER

ADDRESS: 485 N. Grand Ave.

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Retired Teacher

PARTY: Democrat

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE: (25 word limit) BS Defiance College (Elementary Education), Masters of Arts from The Ohio State University, Some doctoral

studies, 35 years educator with Marion City Schools

What do you think are the two most important challenges facing Marion County and what actions will you take to address them? (70 word limit)

"Bouncing back" from the effects of COVID in the areas of economic growth, health care, education business, and employment is one challenge. Dynamics are needed to facilitate relief. Secondly, we must change "blight" into "beauty," thus instilling community pride and moral. If elected, I would continue to look at ways to utilize creative programs to restore salvageable properties. Our community needs a makeover and elected officials as well as citizens (**exceeded word limit**)

If you received a \$1 million grant to use for the county any way you wanted, what would you do with it and why? (70 word limit)

A million dollars would be useful in revitalizing the blighted areas. I would assess the salvageable properties to evaluate their suitability, transforming them into affordable housing. Another alternative would be to transition these areas into green spaces, community gardens, and safe locations for our children and recreation. Another goal would be to establish advisory groups in every village, townships, etc who would report and record their distinctive needs directly to (**exceeded word limit**)

MARION COUNTY SHERIFF

One to be elected – Term: 4 years – Salary: \$87,300



TIM BAILEY

ADDRESS: 786 Mayfield Drive Marion, Ohio

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Sheriff

PARTY: Democrat

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE: (25 word limit) Graduate Marion Technical College, Army combat veteran, Helicopter Pilot, Scuba Diver, Special Weapons and Tactics, Crime Scene Instructor, 45-years at sheriff's office

To achieve the highest quality professional capabilities in your deputies and other staff, what training in de-escalation and racism awareness will you continue or put in place? With what frequency will this training be conducted? (70 word limit)

Joined Mayor Schertzer in establishing the Minority Commission opening communications with the minority community and law enforcement. I was first in the community to issue Body Worn Cameras for compliance review, training, and to address tensions in the community. We are in our fourth year of certification of the Ohio Collaborative to improve Community-Police relations and to address community concerns. I serve as chairman of Ohio Sheriff's Continuing Education Committee.

Given budget constraints, how would you stretch taxpayer dollars and still deter crime? (70 word limit)

I progressively work to seek out more efficient ways to govern. Such as: consolidation of the 9-1-1 center, co-establishing the MARMET drug task force and initiating the use of internal software programs to make pay-roll, records management, and evidence management more efficient. I've worked aggressively in returning 1.3 million dollars in grants of your hard-earned money to Marion County to improve operations, save costs and to keep the community safe.



MATT BAYLE

ADDRESS: 1095 Blois Dr. Marion

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Retired from Marion Police Department

PARTY: Republican

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE: (25 word limit) 30 years at the Marion Police Department, 22 years as a supervisor, FBI National Academy Graduate, Police Executive Leadership College graduate, Numerous other training courses.

To achieve the highest quality professional capabilities in your deputies and other staff, what training in de-escalation and racism awareness will you continue or put in place? With what frequency will this training be conducted? (70 word limit)

I will ensure that each employee receives training in implicit bias, de-escalation and the importance of diversity. I will have employees receive training on the impact of mental health and drug dependency and how those issues influence interactions with our employees. I will ensure that the Sheriff's Office has the most up-to-date policies and standards that comply with every law or court decision and follows national best practices.

Given budget constraints, how would you stretch taxpayer dollars and still deter crime? (70 word limit)

I will be a working Sheriff, in the community enforcing laws and preventing crime, as will my Chief Deputy and Majors. The actual workforce of the agency will increase by 13% without increasing cost. I will look to expand partnerships with area law enforcement agencies to increase efficiencies. Tax dollars are limited and every expenditure will be scrutinized to make sure they are spent wisely to keep our community safe.



Early Voting Alert

You can vote early from October 6th through Monday, November 2nd

to **Vote by Mail** request a ballot
call Marion County Board of Elections 740-223-4090
see details at VoteOhio.gov

or **Vote Early in Person** at Marion County Early Vote Center:
240 West Church Street, Marion, Ohio 43302 (behind City Hall)

2020 In Person Early Voting Schedule

Tuesday to Friday	October 6 to October 9	8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Monday to Friday	October 12 to October 16	8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Monday to Friday	October 19 to October 23	8:00 am to 6:00 pm
Saturday	October 24	8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Sunday	October 25	1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Monday to Friday	October 26 to October 30	8:00 am to 7:00 pm
Saturday	October 31	8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Sunday	November 1	1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Monday	November 2	8:00 am to 2:00 pm



League of Women Voters marionleague@yahoo.com



MARION COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS

One to be elected – Term: 4 years – Salary \$74,070



ROBB KOONS

ADDRESS: 311 E Washington Ave Marion, Ohio 43302

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Community Office Assistant Manager

PARTY: Democrat

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE: (25 word limit) B.S. Business Administration with HR concentration, 10-years+ private sector banking incl. operations management, 10-years+ Non-Profit Board Officer/Member

tration, 10-years+ private sector banking incl. operations management, 10-years+ Non-Profit Board Officer/Member

What professional abilities and technology skills have you developed and demonstrated in the past that will enhance your ability to perform the job? (70 word limit)

My career has been focused on operations and customer service. I have demonstrably helped my company raise our customer service scores by double digits. I have been heavily involved in coaching, training, and developing award-winning teams. I embrace technology that helps streamline processes and makes operations more efficient. In my industry, there is no room for errors. My educational background is in business administration with a human resources concentration.

What are two major challenges to the office of the Clerk of Courts, and what actions will you take to address them? (70 word limit)

The number one problem is a lack of experienced leadership and, as a result, outrageously high employee turnover. This leads to bad customer service and poor work quality, not to mention the exorbitant cost to taxpayers. I have a four-part plan that will immediately address customer service, accountability, fiscal responsibility, and bring private sector business leadership experience to the office. We are voting for leadership, not another deputy clerk.



JESSICA WALLACE

ADDRESS: 2484 Crissinger Rd., Marion, Ohio 43302

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Marion County Clerk of Courts

PARTY: Republican

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE: (25 word limit) -Current Marion County Clerk of Courts (appointed November 2018), -2003-present Various positions within

Courts, -Court Certified Manager, -Bachelor's degree, The Ohio State University

What professional abilities and technology skills have you developed and demonstrated in the past that will enhance your ability to perform the job? (70 word limit)

I am a Court Certified Manager and have 17 years Court experience. I am familiar with court data management systems. As the Clerk of Courts I have implemented imaging of court documents, public access to court documents and forms online, online payment, a clerk of courts website, electronic submission of fingerprint cards to the Bureau of criminal investigation, a Clerk of Courts Facebook page, and will start e-filing this fall.

What are two major challenges to the office of the Clerk of Courts and what actions will you take to address them? (70 word limit)

One major challenge is preserving court records for future generations. I plan to electronically image old case files and work with the Historical Society to preserve our County's historic documents. Another major challenge is the anticipated increase in court case filings due to COVID-19. The Grant obtained for E-filing begins this fall and will streamline filings allowing staff to obtain the same level of service despite the increase in filings.

Ohio Voter Alert

Take your correct ID to the polls!

All except Military ID must show your address.

Examples:

- * **A government photo ID** (Ohio Driver's License or State ID showing either your current or former address, as long as the ID has not expired)
- * **Military ID**
- * **Copy of a recent utility bill**
- * **Bank statement**
- * **Paycheck**
- * **Government check**
- * **Government document showing your name and address.**



Note: If you are a registered voter, but don't have any acceptable form of ID at the polls, you still have a right to cast a provisional ballot.

Election information: Marion County Board of Elections at 740-223-4090 or www.marionelections.com



League of Women Voters marionleague@yahoo.com



State Offices

OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

86TH DISTRICT

One to be elected – Term: 2 years – Base Salary: \$64,897



TRACY RICHARDSON

ADDRESS: 14360 Hinton Mill Road, Marysville, OH 43040

CURRENT OCCUPATION: State Representative District 86,
U.S. Army Reserve Officer

PARTY: Republican

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE:

(25 word limit) State Representative, 9 year City Councilwoman, West Point Reserve Admissions Officer and graduate, Bronze Star recipient, Fortune 500 HR professional, ROTC Leadership Professor, Mom, Wife
In what ways would you change our election system in order to be prepared for crises that impair the right to vote? (75 word limit)

All Ohioans want to ensure their elections are safe, secure, and without fraud. Beginning October 6th, everyone has the opportunity to vote in-person or via absentee ballot. I voted for House Bill 680, which allocates additional federal funds to provide absentee ballot applications for every registered voter and personal protective equipment for polls. I also supported legislation which works to prevent the cancellation of elections. Our elections must convey the voice of the people.

When the Legislature sets the state budget how should state money be split among traditional public schools, charter schools, online schools, and private schools (including vouchers)? What accountability standards should be required of schools to receive state funds? (75 word limit)

Whether in a public school or alternative learning environment, providing our kids with the best education possible is one of my top priorities. My colleagues and I are currently creating a fair state funding formula to support all students. This bill fixes a burdensome problem by protecting funding for public school districts while providing options for alternatives to public education. To receive funding, schools must report student achievement and aptitude. Accountability should be fair.



TIFFANIE ROBERTS

ADDRESS: 9067 Tartan Fields Dr, Dublin, OH 43017

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Consultant, The Ohio State University College of Social Work; Homemaker

PARTY: Democrat

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE:

(25 word limit) With a degree from the University of Arizona,

I pursued a career in child welfare. I currently consult for the OSU College of Social Work.

In what ways would you change our election system in order to be prepared for crises that impair the right to vote? (75 word limit)

In order to ensure our right to vote is protected during a crisis, I believe that we must strengthen mail-in voting. Voting by mail is the safest and most secure method to vote during a public health crisis. We also must extend the early-vote period and increase the number of polling locations so that they are more accessible to voters.

When the Legislature sets the state budget how should state money be split among traditional public schools, charter schools, online schools, and private schools (including vouchers)? What accountability standards should be required of schools to receive state funds? (75 word limit)

Charter schools and voucher programs are completely broken. I believe we must fully fund our public schools at the state-level. We cannot allow for-profit schools to take money away from our public schools. For as long as this program continues to exist, any for-profit school receiving public funds should be required to meet equal standards to those of public schools to continue receiving subsidies.



GO VOTE!

TAKE YOUR CHANCE TO CHANGE THE WORLD

OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

87TH DISTRICT

One to be elected – Term: 2 years – Base Salary: \$64,897



NICHOLAS BARNES

ADDRESS: 15631 Cty Hwy 109 Upper Sandusky 43351

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Food Truck owner/operator
(Louisiana Barbecue)

PARTY: Democrat

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE:

(25 word limit) Bachelor of Arts in Telecommunications/Phi-

losophy minor, The Ohio State University, 1994

In what ways would you change our election system in order to be prepared for crises that impair the right to vote? (75 word limit)

Prepare a contingency plan expanding in-person voting to include more local polling places if needed; expand mail-in absentee voting with extensive security measures; introduce online voting, tapping our best tech consultants and infrastructure firms to ensure integrity, functionality, and security.

When the Legislature sets the state budget how should state money be split among traditional public schools, charter schools, online schools, and private schools (including vouchers)? What accountability standards should be required of schools to receive state funds? (75 word limit)

I believe in fully funding public schools in accordance with Ohio's constitution, to be distributed equitably and according to need from a central fund, including online schools if public. Private and charter schools should be privately funded and should not take money from the public school system. Accountability standards should include practical, demonstrable proficiency beyond standardized testing.



RIORDAN T. MCCLAIN

ADDRESS: Upper Sandusky, Ohio

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Legislator

PARTY: Republican

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE:

(25 word limit) MBA, BA, 15 years in the private sector

In what ways would you change our election system in order to be prepared for crises that impair the right to vote? (75 word limit)

Our right to vote is paramount. I believe our system in Ohio is comprehensive, we allow for in person, absentee, and early voting which can overcome crises. In person voting is critical to our election process. We must defend the integrity of our electoral process. I voted in favor of Am. HB 272 which included a protection against any public official altering the election as we saw for the 2020 Primary. Logistical accommodations can be **(exceeded word limit)**

When the Legislature sets the state budget how should state money be split among traditional public schools, charter schools, online schools, and private schools (including vouchers)? What accountability standards should be required of schools to receive state funds? (75 word limit)

I am in favor of allowing parents to choose what education is best for their child and creating a competitive education environment for schools to compete for the opportunity to educate the child. Part of that includes drastically revising how we fund and test our system. I believe in simplified testing to national standards so we can quantify how our students are doing comparatively to others on core competencies. Children are unique individuals and have **(exceeded word limit)**

OHIO SENATE

26TH DISTRICT

One to be elected – Term: 2 years – Base Salary: \$64,897



BILL REINEKE

ADDRESS: P. O. Box 430, Tiffin, OH

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Ohio State Representative,
Automotive Retailer

PARTY: Republican

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE: (25

word limit) Morehead State University business graduate,

currently partner of Reineke Family Dealerships, employing over 400 employees, and serving 3rd term Ohio House representatives.

In what ways would you change our election system in order to be prepared for crises that impair the right to vote? (75 word limit)

Solidify the Ohio Revised Code so that the constitutional process has to be followed. We recently did this in HB 680.

When the Legislature sets the state budget how should state money be split among traditional public schools, charter schools, online schools, and private schools (including vouchers)? What accountability standards should be required of schools to receive state funds? (75 word limit)

I have focused on student purpose and have tried to encourage responsible and accountable attention to the rate of remediation, which is unacceptable around 27%. We should be preparing our students for the jobs that will need to be filled today and in the future, with scholastic and career tech training, with more focus on the demands of the ever changing workforce. It should be our goal to keep kids and employers here in Ohio.



CRAIG S. SWARTZ

ADDRESS: 5501 Brookview Lane, Upper Sandusky, OH 43351

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Realtor, Part-Time Grocery Clerk

PARTY: Democrat

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE: (25

word limit) BA Political Science; The Ohio State University
1980, Upper Sandusky City Council 2003-07

In what ways would you change our election system in order to be prepared for crises that impair the right to vote? (75 word limit)

Ensure one-step mail-in voting with prepaid postage and multiple secure drop box locations in every county. Ensure same-day voter registration at BOE locations. Allow for voter registration at BMV locations throughout state.

When the Legislature sets the state budget how should state money be split among traditional public schools, charter schools, online schools, and private schools (including vouchers)? What accountability standards should be required of schools to receive state funds? (75 word limit)

State funds for education should be only for public schools regardless of whether they are traditional brick and mortar establishments or online. Public funding would of course include those schools designed specifically for the developmentally disabled. No public funds should be allocated toward charter or private schools. I would do away with the voucher system. The only standard required of schools to receive state funds is full accountability and transparency.



ROBERT TAYLOR

ADDRESS: 411 Plymouth street Bucyrus Ohio 44820

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Commercial Glazier

PARTY: n/a: Write in candidate

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE: (25 word limit) I am an honorably discharged Marine. A single father. Blue collar working class.

In what ways would you change our election system in order to be prepared for crises that impair the right to vote? (75 word limit)

First and foremost I would like to see the legislative body strip the governor of the ability to grant the executive power to the health director that led to the last minute postponement of the primary election in March.

When the Legislature sets the state budget how should state money be split among traditional public schools, charter schools, online schools, and private schools (including vouchers)? What accountability standards should be required of schools to receive state funds? (75 word limit)

I believe the money should follow the student. Accountability standards should vary from district to district. The strengths, weaknesses, and needs of the student body and the staff will be different from one district to the next.

JUSTICE OF THE OHIO SUPREME COURT

One to Be Elected – Term: 6 years starting 1/1/2021 – Salary \$175,214

NOTE: For more information see JudicialVotesCount.org including the answers to:

List your judicial experience (courts and years) and Why are you running for this particular court seat?



SHARON L. KENNEDY

OCCUPATION: Ohio Supreme Court Justice

EDUCATION: Juris Doctor, University of Cincinnati, College of Law 1991; Bachelor Degree of Social Work, University of Cincinnati, School of Social Work, 1984

WORK EXPERIENCE: Justice, Supreme Court of Ohio, 2012-Present; Administrative Judge/Judge, Butler County

Common Pleas Court, Domestic Relations Division, 1999-2012; Attorney at Law, General Practice, 1991-1998; Magistrate & Warrant Officer, Butler County Area Courts, 1995-1998; Warrant & Compliance Officer, Butler County Juvenile Court, 1996-1997; Special Counsel, Ohio Attorney General Betty D. Montgomery, 1995-1998; Disciplinary Counsel, Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 38, 1991-1998; Director, Victim/Witness Division, Butler County Court of Common Pleas, 1989-1991; Law Clerk for the Honorable Matthew J. Crehan, Judge, Butler County Court of Common Pleas, 1989-1991; Police Officer, Hamilton Police Department, 1985-1989

(2) What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

My non-judicial experience informs my judicial experience and I draw upon that experience everyday as a justice at the Supreme Court of Ohio.

I began my career in the justice system as a police officer in the City of Hamilton enforcing the law and keeping the peace. I left law enforcement to attend law school and served as a law clerk in the Court of Common Pleas, General Division for Judge Matthew J. Crehan drafting memos and opinions for motions to dismiss and motions for summary judgment.

Serving as a solo practitioner, I practiced law in a wide-array of areas including, but not limited to, criminal, domestic relations, probate, and juvenile in both the trial courts of Butler County and the Twelfth District Court of Appeals. During that time I also served as Special Counsel for Attorney General, Betty D. Montgomery and a part-time Magistrate in the Butler County Area Courts hearing civil cases.

In 2019 the docket of the Ohio Supreme Court of Ohio included the following case types: 48.8% criminal; 21.8% miscellaneous; 17.5% civil; 7% practice of law; 4.9% domestic relations, juvenile, and probate.



JOHN O'DONNELL

OCCUPATION: Judge, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, General Division

EDUCATION: Cleveland St. Joseph High School, Miami (O.) University, Cleveland Marshall College of Law

WORK EXPERIENCE: Legal work experience: Civil trial attorney 1993-2002 and 2005-2007; Judge, 2002-2005 and 2007-present.

What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

I was a civil trial attorney who was in court almost every working day for approximately 10 years.



Vote Early

at Marion County Early Vote Center

240 West Church Street, Marion, Ohio

(behind City Hall)

or **Vote by Mail**

Track your ballot at the VoteOhio.gov "Track My Ballot" Link

or **Vote on Election Day**

Tuesday, November 3th

from 6:30 AM to 7:30 PM

Questions?

call the Marion County Board of Elections
at (740) 223-4090 or go to VoteOhio.gov



League of Women Voters marionleague@yahoo.com



JUSTICE OF THE OHIO SUPREME COURT

One to Be Elected – Term: 6 years starting 1/2/2021 – Salary: \$175,214

NOTE: For more information see JudicialVotesCount.org including the answers to:

List your judicial experience (courts and years) and Why are you running for this particular court seat?



JENNIFER BRUNNER

OCCUPATION: Judge, Ohio Tenth District Court of Appeals

EDUCATION: J.D. Capital University Law School, Order of the Curia; B.S. Sociology-Gerontology, Miami University, Cum Laude

WORK EXPERIENCE: Court of Appeals Judge since 2014; 17 years private law practice, during period of 1987 through 2014

when not in elected public service (founded what was initially home-based law firm in 1988 with 3 small children at home); USAID Rule of Law Expert for 4 engagements in Republic of Serbia on Judicial Reform and Government Accountability (anti-corruption) and 1 engagement in Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, all during period of 2012-2015; International Election Observer in Arab Republic of Egypt for 3 engagements in 2014-2015; Secretary of State of Ohio 2007-2011 (first female elected); Franklin County Common Pleas Court Judge 2000-2005; Ohio Secretary of State's office deputy director and legal counsel 1983-1987; Ohio Senate legislative aide and committee secretary 1978-1981, Member of 5 state/local boards: Ohio Student Loan Commission early 1990's, Franklin County Board of Elections 1997; Ohio Cultural Facilities Commission 2011-2012; Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, Marriage & Family Therapist Board 2012-2014; Central Ohio Transit Authority

What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

My 17 years private practice experience with people from all walks of life has helped me better understand how the law affects people, in a wide variety of life situations. To be a lawyer is a calling to serve society and to uphold and protect the rule of law. I have worked for clients ranging from economically disadvantaged single mothers to one who was running for president (Jerry Brown in 1992).

My private law practice experience includes trial and appellate work for clients in common pleas courts in Franklin, Cuyahoga, Licking, Fairfield, Carroll, Mahoning and Hamilton Counties; in appellate courts in the Tenth, Third, Eighth, Fifth, First, Second and Sixth District Courts of Appeals; the Ohio Supreme Court; United States District Courts (Northern and Southern Districts of Ohio); Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals; and am admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court. I have represented clients in administrative proceedings before numerous state and local boards, served as a special prosecutor for election fraud and as a hearing officer for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

In 2011, I drafted a statewide referendum petition for a coalition of voting rights activists, labor organizations, state and local political party organizations and faith-based and other nonprofit organizations who gathered more than 400,000 petition signatures to place voting rights referendum on statewide ballot; in 2012-2013 I developed a multi-state and federal executive agency government affairs practice focused on matters before the FCC and state public utilities commissions relating to low income telephone government programs.

I started my own law firm from the corner of my bedroom when our children were 7, 4 and 2, growing it to 32 people after ten years. Other experience includes serving as general counsel for a computer firm and a trade association, serving as campaign finance counsel for numerous state and local labor unions, corporations, national and state associations, candidates, caucuses and political action committees on state and federal election law, and representing neighborhood groups and developers on zoning, referendum and initiative election issues. Past experience also includes representing judges and judicial candidates before the Supreme Court concerning compliance with the Code of Judicial Conduct. Hold experience in drafting state legislation and administrative rules in areas of election law, local option elections, campaign finance, and ethics laws. Served as administrative partner of law firm.



JUDI FRENCH

OCCUPATION: Justice, Ohio Supreme Court

EDUCATION: B.A. (Political Science); M.A. (History); J.D. (Law with honors), The Ohio State University

WORK EXPERIENCE: Justice, Ohio Supreme Court (2013-present); Judge, Tenth District Court of Appeals (2004-2012); Chief Legal Counsel to the Ohio Governor

(2002-2004); Assistant Attorney General/Chief Counsel to the Attorney General of Ohio (1997-2002); Chief Legal Counsel, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (1993-1997); Associate Counsel, Steelcase, Inc. (1993); Associate, Porter Wright Law Firm (1988-1993).

What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

For more than two decades, I have dedicated my career to public service. Before becoming a judge, I had served as chief legal counsel to the governor, an assistant attorney general, and a state government lawyer. Those years in public service are critical to my understanding of state laws, my adherence to constitutional limitations, and my commitment to careful and efficient decision making on behalf of all Ohioans.

I also have legal experience in the private sector, having worked in a law firm and a large manufacturing corporation. That private experience helps me understand the practical impact of our decisions and appreciate the impact of our judicial rules and procedures.

Finally, as the daughter of a schoolteacher, I appreciate my Ohio roots and education, and I am committed to using my voice as a Justice to be a part of civic education in Ohio. I speak frequently to students, educators, and civic organizations. Since taking office, I have traveled to all 88 counties (I am on my fifth time around), and I have met with individuals, organizations, businesses, and local leaders, all in an effort to serve them better. If reelected, I will continue that level and method of service.



What is a Provisional Ballot?

A provisional ballot records a vote if a voter's eligibility is questioned.

It is held until election officials can verify that the voter is eligible to vote.

Why might I need a provisional ballot?

Most likely because

- Your identity or your address needs to be proved.
- You requested an absentee ballot for the election, even if you did not submit it.



League of Women Voters marionleague@yahoo.com

Federal Offices

REPRESENTATIVE TO US CONGRESS

OHIO DISTRICT 4

One to be elected – Term: 2 years – Salary: \$174,000



SHANNON FRESHOUR

ADDRESS: 454 E Town St. Columbus, OH 43215

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Congressional Candidate

PARTY: Democrat

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE: (25 word limit) Civil Litigation Paralegal for 20+ years, B.A. in Political Science and Art History, M.A. in American Government

Given our experiences with Covid-19, what precautions would you put in place to allow safe, secure elections whereby voters are not choosing between their health and their right to vote, especially in November? Include how you would fund any necessary precautions and changes. (75 word limit)

Ohio should be using election security funds given through the CARES ACT to mail, pre-paid ballots to all registered voters and have a robust

early voting program to ensure the maximum number of people can participate in this election. Additionally, every county in Ohio should have multiple secure drop boxes, located in areas of greatest need. For a longer-term solution, I support automatic voter registration and restoration of the Voting Rights Act to full strength.

What policies and actions will you promote to pursue social and racial justice in our country? (75 word limit)

Although no policy or law can change hearts and minds of those committed to supporting racism, we have a requirement implement anti-discrimination laws and policy that punish racism in all aspects from health care to financial lending to police reform. There must be actionable punishments for embedding racism in society. We also need to develop anti-racism education programs in schools and all other aspects of broaden our understanding of the American experience.



JIM JORDAN

ADDRESS: Urbana, Ohio

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Representative to Congress

PARTY: Republican

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE: (25 word limit) Graham High School, B.S. Economics, University of Wisconsin; M.A. Education, The Ohio State University; J.D. Capital University Law School

Given our experiences with Covid-19, what precautions would you put in place to allow safe, secure elections whereby voters are not choosing between their health and their right to vote, especially in November? Include how you would fund any necessary precautions and changes. (75 word limit)

We Ohioans have ample opportunity to safely cast our vote, including a

30-day window to vote by mail. I trust state and local officials will take every precaution and implement the proper procedures to make sure that in-person early voting and in-person election day voting will be safe for everyone as well. State and local elected officials are also in the best position to decide if additional funding is needed to execute these plans.

What policies and actions will you promote to pursue social and racial justice in our country? (75 word limit)

America must strive to be a country where all citizens, created equally in God's image, have the freedom and opportunity to pursue their dreams under a system of limited government where individuals are protected by equal opportunity and equal justice under the law. Much of my work in Congress is in pursuit of these ideals: personal freedom, economic opportunity, limited government, equal opportunity, and equal justice. These principles will help secure social and racial justice.



STEVE PERKINS

ADDRESS: 7352 Palmer Rd. SW, Pataskala, Ohio 43062

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Educator

PARTY: Libertarian Party

YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND/OR EXPERIENCE: (25 word limit) B.S. in Technology Education from BGSU. Twenty plus years as an educator. I have conducted classes in over 45 states.

Given our experiences with Covid-19, what precautions would you put in place to allow safe, secure elections whereby voters are not choosing between their health and their right to vote, especially in November? Include how you would fund any necessary precautions and changes. (75 word limit)

Both major parties want to exploit Covid for political gain. Safety is not

the concern of either. Libertarians were repeatedly denied injunctive relief in court to keep us from having to engage the public to collect hundreds of thousands of signatures during a pandemic to be on the ballot. Outside of social distancing at polling locations, this is the LAST year we should tamper with the process. We far more need to ensure its validity.

What policies and actions will you promote to pursue social and racial justice in our country? (75 word limit)

Police need to be accountable to the same laws they enforce, not be above them. Qualified Immunity must end as it puts officers above the law. No-knock raids endanger not only the public, but police officers themselves. Police brutality is not a SOCIAL justice issue, it's a BASIC justice issue. It affects minority communities disproportionately, largely due to the ineffective, costly war on drugs in which the "cure" is worse than the disease.

REPRESENTATIVE TO US CONGRESS

OHIO DISTRICT 12

One to be elected – Term: 2 years – Salary: \$174,000

Note: For more information see Vote411.org (source of the following info) which includes candidate answers about addressing challenges to the healthcare system and environment, and working across political differences to solve problems.



Troy Balderson

Address: 2931 E. Dublin Granville Road, Suite 190, Columbus, OH 43231

Occupation: Congressman for Ohio's 12th Congressional District

Party: Republican

Education: Muskingum University Ohio State University

Work Experience: Troy has served as the Congressman for Ohio's 12th Congressional District since 2018. He previously served in both the Ohio Senate, chairman of the powerful Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and as a member of the Senate Finance Committee, as well as the Ohio House of Representatives. Before holding public office, Troy gained experience by operating both his family-owned small business and farm.

Given our experience with COVID-19, what precautions would you put in place to allow for safe, secure elections whereby voters are not choosing between their health and their right to vote, especially in November. Include how you would fund any necessary precautions and changes.

I encourage voters to take the necessary precautions to protect themselves from the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, including wearing face masks and socially distancing when going outside is necessary, and staying inside when possible. No one should have to choose between their health and their right to vote. All Ohioans have the option to vote by absentee ballot, and both the U.S. Postal Service and Ohio's Secretary of State have assured that our election in 2020 will remain free and fair—regardless of how citizens cast their ballots. I stand behind free and fair elections and will do everything in my power to ensure American elections remains this way.



Alaina Shearer

Address: 8812 Olentangy River Rd, Delaware, OH 43015

Occupation: Small Business Owner

Party: Democrat

Education: Bachelors Degree in Journalism

Work Experience: Reporter and News Anchor for 610 WTVN and WCOL, Radio Personality for WNCI, Web Copywriter, Small Business Owner, Founder of Together Digital, National Women's Organization

Given our experience with COVID-19, what precautions would you put in place to allow for safe, secure elections whereby voters are not choosing

between their health and their right to vote, especially in November. Include how you would fund any necessary precautions and changes.

No one should feel that their life is in danger when they go to vote. At this point, there is not really adequate time to make sweeping changes. However, there are several things that the State Legislature or Secretary of State could still do to make voting more accessible and less risky. We should ensure that each county has more than one secure ballot drop box. Ballots need to have pre-paid postage, and the deadline for ballots to be returned should be evaluated in light of USPS delays. We also have an obligation to fix issues that affect voter suppression every year - we need to address voter roll purges, signature requirements, and online ballot request forms, to name a few.



John S. Stewart

Address: PO BOX 983, Worthington, OH 43085

Occupation: Retired

Party: Libertarian

Work Experience: John Stewart spent a successful career in the trucking industry that has benefitted four generations of the Stewart family.

Given our experience with COVID-19, what precautions would you put in place to allow for safe, secure elections whereby voters are not choosing between their health and their right to vote, especially in November. Include how you would fund any necessary precautions and changes.

The State of Ohio has several options for safely participating in our elections. In addition to providing safe locations for voting on the designated election day, the local board of election provide a month of early in-person absentee voting at their offices, and mail-in absentee voting that can be mailed or hand delivered.

Have you moved?



Update your address on line

and find where to vote at

VoteOhio.gov



If you moved counties within Ohio, you may also update your registration address at your new county's Board of Elections or at Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

Marion County Board of Elections 222 West Center St, Marion, Ohio (740) 223-4090



League of Women Voters marionleague@yahoo.com



Your Vote is Your Voice

LWV League of Women Voters of Marion, Ohio



PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

**One to Be Elected – Term: 4 Years
starting 1/20/2021 – Salary \$400,000**

For more information see Vote411.org including the answers to: What is the most important issue facing our country and how do you plan to address it during your first 100 days in office? How will you address racial injustice in our country on day one of your administration? What aspects of our current immigration policy will your administration address first? and What will you do over the long term to ensure access to quality healthcare for all?

NOTE: US League of Women Voters contacted these 4 Presidential candidates on September 4, 2020. One candidate responded to questions by the Marion Star publication date. **Please visit VOTE411.org for additional responses as they come in.**



JOE BIDEN (Democrat)
Former Vice President of the United States

What actions would you take to balance public health and economic recovery in the US, both in light of COVID-19 and for the long term?

It's a false choice to think we have to choose between our public health and economy; they're linked. On Day One, I'll implement the COVID strategy I've laid out since March – surging testing and protective gear; distributing vaccines safely and free of politics; helping schools and small businesses cover costs; and getting state and local governments resources to keep educators, cops, and firefighters on the job. I'll respect science and tell the truth, period. And I'll build our economy back better, creating millions of good-paying jobs. I'll revitalize manufacturing, build a clean energy economy, and boost caregiving – easing the squeeze on working families, providing paid leave, and getting caregivers the respect and pay they deserve.



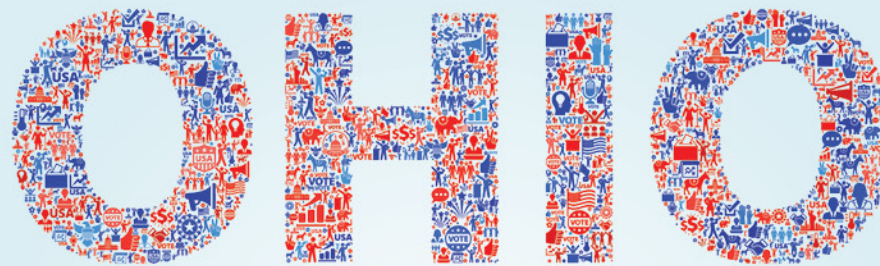
HOWIE HAWKINS (Green)
(Candidate did not respond to questions by publication date.)



JO JORGENSEN (Libertarian)
(Candidate did not respond to questions by publication date.)



DONALD J. TRUMP (Republican)
(Candidate did not respond to questions by publication date.)



Don't Forget to VOTE!



**your VOTE
is your VOICE!**

DONORS

League of Women Voters of Marion, Ohio is so grateful for generous donors who help make our work possible. Anonymous, Deborah Alspach, Beth Babich, Bronwen and Ted Babich, Sara Babich, Bill and Carol Becker, John Bruno, Carol Burley, Marjorie Carnahan, David and Elizabeth Claborn, Richard Cooper, Mary Donaldson, William Finnegan, Denise and Gary Iams, Annette Johnson, Theresa Lubke, Albert and Ingrid May, Ruth Ann Peacock, Peacock Water, Matt Primmer and Ed Stofcheck, Jr., Jo Ann Radwin-Zimmerman, Dr. Elizabeth A. Roseberry, Nicole Workman.

EDITORS



**Fall Election Voter
Guide 2020**

League of Women Voters of Marion, Ohio

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**Marion
Made!**

November 2020 Ballot Checklist

NOTE: D = Democratic G = Green N = Nonparty R = Republican

PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

- ☐ Joseph R. Biden & Kamala D. Harris (D)
- ☐ Howie Hawkins & Angela Walker
- ☐ Jo Jorgensen & Spike Cohen (L)
- ☐ Donald J. Trump & Michael R. Pence (R)
- ☐ Write in Candidate

REPRESENTATIVE TO CONGRESS (4TH DISTRICT)

- ☐ Shannon M. Freshour (D)
- ☐ Jim Jordan (R)
- ☐ Steve Perkins (L)

REPRESENTATIVE TO CONGRESS (12TH DISTRICT)

- ☐ Troy Balderson (R)
- ☐ Alaina Shearer (D)
- ☐ John S. Stewart (L)

STATE SENATOR (26TH DISTRICT)

- ☐ Bill Reineke (R)
- ☐ Craig Swartz (D)

STATE REPRESENTATIVE (86TH DISTRICT)

- ☐ Tracy Richardson (R)
- ☐ Tiffanie Roberts (D)
- ☐ Write in Candidate

STATE REPRESENTATIVE (87TH DISTRICT)

- ☐ Nicholas Barnes (D)
- ☐ Riordan T. McClain (R)

MARION COUNTY

COUNTY COMMISSIONER (FULL TERM COMMENCING 1-2-2021)

- ☐ Kerr E. Murray (R)
- ☐ Lynn A. Thomas (D)

COUNTY COMMISSIONER (FULL TERM COMMENCING 1-3-2021)

- ☐ Andy Appelfeller (R)
- ☐ Tara Dyer (D)

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

- ☐ Ray Grogan (R)

CLERK OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

- ☐ Robb Koons (D)
- ☐ Jessica Wallace (R)

SHERIFF

- ☐ Tim Bailey (D)
- ☐ Matt Bayles (R)

COUNTY RECORDER

- ☐ Debra P. Miller (R)

COUNTY TREASURER

- ☐ Jan Draper (D)

COUNTY ENGINEER

- ☐ Bradley K. Irons (R)

CORONER

No Valid Petition Filed

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

- ☐ Diana M. Fessler

JUDICIAL RACES

JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT

- ☐ Sharon L. Kennedy
- ☐ John P. O'Donnell

JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT

- ☐ Jennifer Brunner
- ☐ Judi French

JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS (3RD DISTRICT)

- ☐ Mark C. Miller

JUDGE OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS (FAMILY DIVISION) (FULL TERM COMMENCING 2-9-2021)

- ☐ Bob Fragale

JUDGE OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS (FAMILY DIVISION) (UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING 2-8-2023)

- ☐ Larry N. Heiser

LOCAL QUESTIONS & ISSUES

LARUE VILLAGE

Renewal - Operations - 5.9 mills for 5 years

PROSPECT VILLAGE

Renewal - Operating Pool - 1.5 mills for 5 years

WALDO VILLAGE

Renewal - 3.9 mills for 5 years

CLARIDON TOWNSHIP B LOCAL LIQUOR OPTION

Petition for Liquor Permit - Meijer Stores

CLARIDON TOWNSHIP B LOCAL LIQUOR OPTION

Petition for Sunday Sales Permit - Meijer Stores

GREEN CAMP TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

Renewal - 1.0 mills for 5 years

MARION TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

Renewal - 2.3 mills for 5 years

PROSPECT TOWNSHIP

Renewal - Operating - 1.0 mills for 5 years

PLEASANT LOCAL SCHOOL

Renewal - Emergency - 2.31 mills for 3 years

PROSPECT PARK DISTRICT

Renewal - 1.4 mills for 5 years

FORT MORROW FIRE DISTRICT

Renewal - 2.0 mills for 5 years

ADAMH - ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION, MENTAL HEALTH

Renewal - 1.0 mills for 5 years

MCBDD DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Replacement - 3.0 mills for 5 years

MARION COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING

Renewal - 0.8 mills for 5 years