VOTER'S GUIDE 2020

INSIDE:
✓ Election Day Information
✓ Greenwich Polling Places by District
✓ How to Apply for a Provisional Ballot
✓ How to Apply for and Vote by Presidential Ballot
✓ Candidates for President/Vice President, U.S. House, State Senator, State House of Representatives and Registrars of Voters

VOTE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

POLLS OPEN 6 A.M. TO 8 P.M.

For additional information on voting, visit www.LWVGreenwich.org

YOU MAY TAKE THIS GUIDE INTO THE PRIVACY BOOTH
For the November 3, 2020 Election, the voting experience of Greenwich Voters will be safe, secure and efficient whether voters choose to vote by absentee ballot or in person at one of Greenwich’s 12 polling places.

Voter Registration Deadlines
October 27th: is the cutoff for in person, mail-in and online voter registration.
For in person registration, hours on October 27th are 9 AM to 8 PM. Town Hall is open by appointment only.
All mail-in voter registration applications must be received or post-marked by October 27 in order to be accepted.
Residents may request a voter registration form from the Registrars of Voters at 203 622-7889.
November 2nd: is a Limited Registration Session for those whose rights as to age, citizenship or residence mature after October 27th. Apply in the Registrars of Voters office until 5 PM.

Election Day Registration
Is available to residents of Greenwich who are not registered to vote. Election Day Registration is on Election Day at Town Hall from 6 AM to 8 PM. Proof of identity and proof of residence is required.

Voting by Absentee Ballot - Three Steps
One - You will shortly receive or have recently received an absentee ballot application in the mail. All registered voters in Connecticut may vote by absentee ballot for the November 3, 2020 election due to COVID. Promptly complete your application, following all directions carefully and return it to the Town Clerk by mailing it using the postage prepaid envelope or dropping it in one of Greenwich’s Ballot Boxes.
Ballot boxes are located outside Town Hall near the visitor parking lot and in the lobby of the Police Station.
If you don’t receive an absentee ballot application in the mail, you can request an application from the Town Clerk by calling 203 622-7897. If there is an issue with your voter registration, call the Registrars of Voters at 203 622-7889.
Two - Absentee ballots will be mailed starting October 2. Follow all instructions exactly. Failure to follow instructions could invalidate your ballot.
Put the ballot inside the inner envelope.
Sign the inner envelope.
Do not include more than one ballot in the ballot packet.
Three - DO NOT DELAY. Ballots arriving after 8 PM on November 3 will not be counted.
Deposit your ballot in one of the ballot boxes which are available 24/7 up until 8 PM on November 3rd. Or mail your ballot ASAP.
IMPORTANT: Do not take possession of a ballot or deliver a complete ballot of another voter. This is illegal.

Voting in Person - Find Your Polling Place
The chart on the following page shows the voting districts in Greenwich, including the exact address of the polling locations for each district. You can look up your registration information by visiting https://www.greenwichct.gov/600/Im-registered-How-do-I-vote Or call the Registrars of Voters at 203-622-7889 or 203-622-7890.

Voting in Person - How can you help to make voting safe?
Bring proof of identity and proof of residence.
Wear a mask inside the polling place at all times. If you don’t have a mask with you, you will be offered a mask.
Wear a mask outside the polling place when you cannot maintain good distancing.
Use hand sanitizer as you enter and leave the polling place to keep door handles and other contact points germ free.
Throughout your time in the polling place, stay at least six feet away from other voters.
Move through the voting process efficiently. Do not linger.
Poll workers will be masked and behind plexiglass screens.
If you are showing ID, hold it up to the plexiglass screen. The poll worker will not touch your ID.
Minimize contact points.
- Consider foregoing the use of a privacy booth and a privacy folder. Instead, bring a book or something to write against into the polling place. If you choose to use a privacy folder, it will be a plain piece of paper you can use to cover your ballot and discard as you leave the polling place.
- Fill out your ballot using a black or blue ball point pen you bring from home. If you use a pen supplied by the polling place, drop it into the “to be sanitized” pen box as you leave the polling place.
A COVID Safety Monitor poll worker will regularly sanitize surfaces inside the polling place.
Move through the voting process efficiently. Do not linger.

The Voter’s Guide will be available through the League of Women Voters of Greenwich website, www.lwvgreenwich.org

Information current as of October 10, 2020
Greenwich Polling Places by District

**DISTRICT 1, 1A**
Julian Curtiss School Gymnasium
180 East Elm Street
Greenwich

**DISTRICT 2**
Town Hall, first-floor
Meeting Room
101 Field Point Road
Greenwich

**DISTRICT 3**
Western Middle School Gymnasium
1 Western Junior Highway
Greenwich

**DISTRICT 4, 4A**
New Lebanon School Gymnasium
25 Mead Avenue
Byram

**DISTRICT 5, 5A**
Riverside School Gymnasium
90 Hendrie Avenue
Riverside

**DISTRICT 6, 6A**
Old Greenwich School Gymnasium
285 Sound Beach Avenue
Old Greenwich

**DISTRICT 7, 7A**
Greenwich High School Auditorium
10 Hillside Road
Greenwich

**DISTRICT 8**
Central Middle School Gymnasium
9 Indian Rock Lane at
Stanwich Road
Greenwich

**DISTRICT 9**
Bendheim Western Greenwich
Civic Center
449 Pemberwick Road
Greenwich

**DISTRICT 10, 10A**
Glenville School Gymnasium
33 Riversville Road
Greenwich

**DISTRICT 11, 11A**
North Street School Gymnasium
381 North Street
Greenwich

**DISTRICT 12**
North Mianus School Gymnasium
309 Palmer Hill Road
Riverside

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**How to Apply for a Provisional Ballot**

You may apply for and cast a Provisional Ballot upon execution of a written affirmation at the polling place affirming that you are qualified to vote in the election or primary for federal office in the polling place; and that you have neither offered yourself to vote nor voted in person or by absentee ballot at said election or primary for federal office at the polling place. For additional information, please visit www.greenwichct.org/vote or call the Registrars at 203-622-7889 or 203-622-7890. If you are a first time voter voting by absentee ballot and you are unable to provide identification, your absentee ballot will be counted as a provisional ballot.

**How to Apply for and Vote by Presidential Ballot**

Certain unregistered residents and former residents will be eligible to vote for President and Vice President by means of a paper “Presidential Ballot”. The application for this ballot is made with the appropriate Town Clerk not earlier than 45 days before the election and not later than the close of the polls on Election Day. For complete information, please visit www.greenwichct.org/vote or call the Town Clerk at 203-622-7897.

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2020 Voter’s Guide

This Voter’s Guide was prepared by the League of Women Voters of Greenwich Educational Fund, Inc. The league is a nonpartisan, volunteer political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The Educational fund is the arm of the League of Women Voters of Greenwich that conducts citizen information activities.

The Voter’s Guide is made possible by donations. If you appreciate this information, please support the Guide with a tax-deductible contribution to the League of Women Voters of Greenwich Educational Fund, PO Box 604, Greenwich, CT 06836.

Sandy Waters – President
Rebecca Gillan – Co-Vice President, Voter Services
Joanne Stavrou – Co-Vice President, Voter Services
Kathy Burgweger – Editor, Voter’s Guide
Marla Laney – Graphic Design

For additional election information you may call the Registrars at 203 622-7889 or 203 622-7890 or the Town Clerk at 203 622-7897.
The President is: the head of state of the United States of America; the Chief Executive Officer; and, the Commander in Chief of all military forces. The powers of the President are prescribed in the Constitution and federal law. The President appoints the members of the Cabinet, ambassadors to other nations and the United Nations, Supreme Court Justices, and federal judges, subject to Senate approval. The President, along with the Cabinet and its agencies, is responsible for carrying out and enforcing the laws of the United States. The President may also recommend legislation to the United States Congress. Base Salary: $400,000 per year

Joe Biden
Democratic Presidential Candidate
Running Mate: Kamala Harris
Website: www.joebiden.com

Q: 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?
A: 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.

Q: What is the most important issue facing our country and how do you plan to address it during your first 100 days in office?
A: Pandemic. Recession. Racial injustice. Climate change. We’re facing historic crises; we have to tackle them all at once. Character and experience count. I’ll listen to scientists, tell the truth, and make sure we’re never so unprepared for a pandemic again. I’ll expand the Affordable Care Act, lowering costs and making health care a right for all. I’ll build our economy back better, and make racial equity central to recovery. In these crises, we have an enormous opportunity, if we come together. As President, I’ll draw on the best of us, not the worst. I’ll work as hard for those who don’t support me as for those who do. That’s a president’s job: to represent us all. To take responsibility. To protect the nation. To unite and to heal.

Q: What aspects of our current immigration policy will your administration address first?
A: My immigration policy is built around keeping families together. It’s past time to reform our broken system, restoring family unification and diversity as its core pillars. As President, I’ll reverse Trump’s assault on our values on Day One, ending his cruel border policies that rip children from their mothers’ arms. I’ll act immediately to protect Dreamers and their families, and invest real political capital in finally delivering legislative immigration reform, with a roadmap to citizenship for the nearly 11 million undocumented people who already do so much to make our communities strong. We have to enforce our laws, but in a way that’s humane, respects due process, honors our values, and sees the big picture.

Q: What will you do over the long term to ensure access to quality healthcare for all?
A: This pandemic makes clear: All Americans need access to quality, affordable health insurance. That’s why I’ll protect and build on the Affordable Care Act. I helped to secure the final key votes to pass that landmark law, protecting 100 million Americans who can no longer be turned away or denied coverage for pre-existing conditions, and bringing coverage to 20 million more. As President, I’ll build on that progress with a public option and lower health care and prescription drug costs. I’ll make all COVID-19 testing, treatment, and vaccines free; double funding for community health centers that are so often on the frontlines of care; and much more.
Donald Trump  
Republican Presidential Candidate  
Running Mate: Mike Pence  
Website: www.donaldjtrump.com  
Q: 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?  
A: Candidate has not yet responded  
Q: What is the most important issue facing our country and how do you plan to address it during your first 100 days in office?  
A: Candidate has not yet responded  
Q: How will you address racial injustice in our country on day one of your administration?  
A: Candidate has not yet responded

Jo Jorgenson  
Libertarian Presidential Candidate  
Running Mate: Spike Cohen  
Website: www.jo20.com  
Q: 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?  
A: Candidate has not yet responded  
Q: What is the most important issue facing our country and how do you plan to address it during your first 100 days in office?  
A: Candidate has not yet responded  
Q: How will you address racial injustice in our country on day one of your administration?  
A: Candidate has not yet responded

Howie Hawkins  
Green Presidential Candidate  
Running Mate: Angela Walker  
Website: howiehawkins.us  
Q: 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?  
A: Candidate has not yet responded  
Q: What is the most important issue facing our country and how do you plan to address it during your first 100 days in office?  
A: Candidate has not yet responded  
Q: How will you address racial injustice in our country on day one of your administration?  
A: Candidate has not yet responded

The information for presidential candidates was obtained by the League of Women Voters of the United States. All qualified presidential candidates were invited to participate. Candidates were qualified if they met the following criteria: 1. The candidate must have made a public announcement of her/his to run for her/his Party’s nomination for President; and 2. The candidate must meet the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act’s minimum contribution threshold requirements for qualifying for matching funds, based on the most recent data publicly available on the FEC website. 3. The candidate must qualify for the ballot in enough states to win a majority of electoral votes.

Disclaimer: All statements and videos are posted directly by the candidate, unedited by the League of Women Voters and do not express the views of the League. The League never supports or opposes candidates or political parties.
Q: What measures do you support to improve and secure elections and voting in our country?
A: I fully support restoring the Voting Rights Act. Recently in the 116th Congress, I voted for H.R. 1, the For the People Act, to make elections clean and fair, return political power to the people, end the role of dark money in our politics and ensure elected officials put the people’s interests ahead of special interests. To secure our elections, I support increased federal support for voting security and backup election efforts, like paper ballots, increasing oversight over election vendors and requiring the development of a national strategy to protect our democracy.

Q: What are the most important challenges facing our country and how do you propose to address them?
A: The most urgent challenges are the economy and jobs, COVID-19, health care and climate change. I support policies focused on economic competitiveness and innovation. We also have to prioritize combating climate change. We advance our economy and protect the environment by modernizing our transportation infrastructure and investing in zero-emissions systems. For health care, we must reduce costs and increase access. I support adjusting the Affordable Care Act to achieve these goals. Lastly, we must all commit to reducing angry polarization. We must restore decency and civility in our politics.

Q: What, if any, actions would you take to address the threats facing the US due to climate change?
A: This is the top issue we are facing. We must start by correctly pricing carbon so sustainable energy can compete with it. We must aggressively research energy technologies such as industrial-scale storage and lead a technological revolution. I am also an ardent sponsor of legislation to establish a Federal Green Bank, modeled after Connecticut’s Green Bank, to help finance the development of clean energy and energy efficiency projects. I support re-entering the Paris Climate Agreement.

Pollution does not observe borders, so we must come together internationally to address climate change.

Q: What measures do you support to improve and secure elections and voting in our country?
A: While we have strong measures in place to secure our elections, there are many cases of illegal voting, ballot harvesting, and outdated voter rolls. We need to strengthen the absentee/mail-in ballot security, as well as increase the frequency of updates to the voter rolls in order to remove dead voters and voters who have moved out of the district. I strongly support requiring a government issued picture ID requirement at every polling location to prove your eligibility to vote.

Q: What, if any, actions would you take to address the threats facing the US due to climate change?
A: The continuance of clean air and clean water is the wellspring for supporting life on this planet and must be maintained. While climate change is a reality, I do not believe man-made climate change is a realistic threat facing the US. CO2 is a life giving element and the world has never been greener. Last year the US had record farm production. I favor green solution that actually worked.

Pollution does not observe borders, so we must come together internationally to address climate change.

Q: What measures do you support to improve and secure elections and voting in our country?
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Brian Merlen
Independent
Mailing Address: 455 Hope Street Apt 4B
Stamford, CT 06906
Campaign Phone: (203) 559-4530
Website: http://www.votemerlen.com
Campaign Website: www.votemerlen.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/vote.merlen
Twitter: #votemerlen

Biographical Statement: Brian Merlen was born the son of mentally ill parents, who were on disability his entire life and were faced with challenges that others would find difficult to perceive. This instilled in him a strong respect for social services, and how oftentimes, the public does not appreciate mental health.

Q: What measures do you support to improve and secure elections and voting in our country?
A: I believe oftentimes the attacks on our elections come from within in the form of gerrymandering, voter purges, or influences from special interest groups leaning on challengers to drop out. We can’t very well expect voters, public officials and even foreign powers to respect our democracy if we don’t safeguard it ourselves. I believe we need automatic voter registrations, requirements for debates that allow third parties to participate unlike the $15,000 campaign contribution requirement I cannot meet for the LWV debate on 10/18/20, and easier access to the ballot for those petitioning.

Q: What are the most important challenges facing our country and how do you propose to address them?
A: The most significant challenges facing our country are institutional accountability, healthcare, and ending the drug war. We have public/private institutions that far too often prey on the public in terms of racial disparities in prosecutions and convictions and to add injury to insult qualified immunity protects those carrying out the injustices even when missteps are made. Oftentimes factors like money and influence can take advantage of our legal system on top of these systemic racial issues. I believe Purdue Pharma and the Sackler family have done terrible deeds and we need justice.

Q: What, if any, actions would you take to address the threats facing the US due to climate change?
A: I believe the free market is not enough on its own to meet the threat of climate change. In only decades we have wiped out significant amounts of flora and fauna and it is very obvious the way we are living is unsustainable. I believe we need to immediately subsidize electric vehicles, solar, and battery storage to improve both our grid and our transportation system. It is not cheap to get your hands on the newest technologies, for instance my somewhat dated Prius cost more as a hybrid up front, but the short term costs do not matter versus the long term gains in savings and emissions.
Together, the House of Representatives and the Senate constitute the General Assembly. The General Assembly enacts legislation dealing with state appropriations and finance, public welfare, the environment, public works, housing, education, civil and criminal laws, and other matters. The Senate tries all impeachments of executive and judicial branch officials. In Connecticut, members of the state’s legislative body, the General Assembly, must be at least eighteen years old and reside in the district they represent. Senate members serve two-year terms. Candidates were asked to respond to three questions in

Q: CT continues to experience debt problems. Businesses and consumers have left the state. The costs of coping with the COVID-19 pandemic will add to the debt problem. What programs or policies do you recommend to increase CT revenues and/or cut expenses?

A: Bloomberg published my solution to the debt problem – a shared risk pension plan and I introduced legislation on it. I’ve introduced bills to lower debt, lower taxes and increase new revenue. CT is positioned to weather the pandemic because of the Rainy Day Fund (now over $3B) that Democrats built in the last 10 years. In March 2020 Republicans wanted to drain this savings account and, if they had, we’d be in dire straits. I’m fighting to keep people from leaving CT by eliminating the Estate/Gift Tax, and to bring in more new residents by investing in schools and keeping CT Safe and Open!

Q: Our state legislators extended absentee voting in the November election for those who have concerns about COVID-19. Would you vote ‘yes’ to make absentee balloting, with no excuse necessary, a permanent voting option for all future elections? Please explain why you would vote ‘yes’ or ‘no’.

A: Yes. I voted for no-excuse ABs and fought hard to allow the right to vote by mail during the pandemic. Republican Senators tried to kill the AB bill with amendments they unanimously supported. Thankfully, we prevailed and secured your right to vote by mail or in person. The July vote highlights what has been true in CT for decades. We have some of the most restrictive voting laws in the country - similar to KY and SC - because Republicans consistently block attempts to expand voting. In 2019, I voted to allow No-Excuse ABs and I will continue to fight for this. Our Democracy depends on it.

Q: During the last week of July 2020, Governor Lamont signed the police reform bill. How do you feel about the bill overall or any key clauses? What additional ideas for police reform do you have that are not in the current bill, if any?

A: I support this civil rights law because it is pro-human rights and pro-police. I’m also open to improving it and have asked local police chiefs to send me suggestions. I unequivocally support the GPD. We all do. I want all police to have the best training and resources available (including body cameras) to diffuse situations and prevent violence. The objective of this law is to keep both police officers and community members safe. It also provides MORE funding. Let’s not allow police to be politicized as we see in national politics. Let’s stick to the facts and ensure that everyone is safe.

Q: CT continues to experience debt problems. Businesses and consumers have left the state. The costs of coping with the COVID-19 pandemic will add to the debt problem. What programs or policies do you recommend to increase CT revenues and/or cut expenses?

A: CT’s chronic budget crisis is the key long-term issue facing the state. We already face the 2nd-highest taxes in the US, so I will never vote to raise your taxes. Instead we must reduce excessive spending that is causing CT’s budget crisis and economic stagnation. 1. Reform and alter state employee fringe benefits to make them fairer and more sustainable. 2. Put the state on a “debt diet” by reducing new debt-financed spending. 3. Divest loss-making state assets like Dunkin’ Donuts Park and the XL Center. Current officeholders keep making this crisis worse. It’s time for a change.

Q: Our state legislators extended absentee voting in the November election for those who have concerns about COVID-19. Would you vote ‘yes’ to make absentee balloting, with no excuse necessary, a permanent voting option for all future elections? Please explain why you would vote ‘yes’ or ‘no’.

A: I support expanded absentee voting, especially amidst COVID-19. Voting should always be easy, safe, and secure. That is also why I do not support unlimited permanent absentee voting or vote-by-mail. 1 in 15 absentee ballots during the 2020 CT primaries did not count, because they were filled out incorrectly or arrived late. We should not want so many voters disenfranchised by excessive vote-by-mail. We should remember that the head of the Stamford Democratic Party was arrested for forging 14 absentee ballots in just 2019. I am for more absentee voting, but it needs to be limited and balanced.

Q: During the last week of July 2020, Governor Lamont signed the police reform bill. How do you feel about the bill overall or any key clauses? What additional ideas for police reform do you have that are not in the current bill, if any?

A: I support equality and public safety for all. That’s why I oppose the radical de-policing bill, passed over bipartisan opposition in two weeks with minimal debate. The bill hurts the great police officers in Greenwich, endangers vulnerable communities, and will yield more violence and illegal guns. The first major flaw is that it ties the hands of officers by using a hindsight standard for use of force and banning consent searches. The second is that it places excessive liability and mandates on local police. This will make it hard for us to recruit and retain good officers. We can do better.
Together, the House of Representatives and the Senate constitute the General Assembly. The General Assembly enacts legislation dealing with state appropriations and finance, public welfare, the environment, public works, housing, education, civil and criminal laws, and other matters. The House of Representatives has the power to impeach executive and judicial branch officials. In Connecticut, members of the state’s legislative body, the General Assembly, must be at least eighteen years old and reside in the district they represent. House members serve two-year terms. Candidates were asked to respond to three questions in no more than 600 characters each, replies are printed as they were received.

149th DISTRICT

Kathleen J. Stowe
Democratic
Mailing Address: 52 Crown Lane Greenwich, Connecticut 06831
Campaign Phone: (203) 769-1311
Website: http://kathleenstowe.com
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/

Biographical Statement: I am a long time resident active in the community, coaching youth sports for my three children, serving on the Board of the Northeast Greenwich Association and as Vice-Chair of the Board of Education. I bring two decades of financial experience as an investment banker and private equity executive.

Q: CT continues to experience debt problems. Businesses and consumers have left the state. The costs of coping with the COVID-19 pandemic will add to the debt problem. What programs or policies do you recommend to increase CT revenues and/or cut expenses?
A: We face real economic and fiscal challenges, but I also see a tremendous opportunity to set ourselves up for a bright future. New families are moving here. Let’s encourage them to stay and more to come by championing a strong local and state economy, by protecting our bucolic landscapes and by maintaining a top quality education system, all while preserving sound fiscal discipline. We can also attract more businesses to our state with this work from home culture and companies looking to leave New York. We have an opportunity to grow our state and improve our fiscal health.

Q: Our state legislators extended absentee voting in the November election for those who have concerns about COVID-19. Would you vote ‘yes’ to make absentee balloting, with no excuse necessary, a permanent voting option for all future elections? Please explain why you would vote ‘yes’ or ‘no’.
A: Yes. Voting is one of the foundations of our democracy. While I personally enjoy the feeling of going to the polling station and casting a ballot, I believe we should allow our citizens to vote in any manner that can be done safely and efficiently.

Kathleen Fiorello
Republican

Biographical Info:
Mailing Address: 1 Grove Lane Greenwich, CT 06831
Campaign Phone: (203) 340-1764
Website: http://www.kimberlyfor149.com
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/Kimberlyfor149


Q: CT continues to experience debt problems. Businesses and consumers have left the state. The costs of coping with the COVID-19 pandemic will add to the debt problem. What programs or policies do you recommend to increase CT revenues and/or cut expenses?
A: It is imperative that govt. is constantly mindful of the fact that businesses and communities continue to cope with the changing realities of COVID-impacted day-to-day life. I pledge to be a champion for Main Street CT business owners and their staff, no matter how large or small, as they continue to adapt to COVID mandates, plus the new taxes and regulations implemented in 2019, including another minimum wage increase this month. Voters can trust in my pledge to never vote for a new tax or tax increase. I believe we can join together to make the hard and right choices to secure CT’s future.

Q: Our state legislators extended absentee voting in the November election for those who have concerns about COVID-19. Would you vote ‘yes’ to make absentee balloting, with no excuse necessary, a permanent voting option for all future elections? Please explain why you would vote ‘yes’ or ‘no’.
A: I support expanding absentee ballots, provided we take the important steps other states have taken to ensure (1) the security of the process by being able to verify signatures, and (2) rather than invalidating votes, as they do now, b/c of an error while filling out the ballot, voters would be contacted and a given a chance to fix it. Still, the chance to learn any new info in the final weeks of the election season is lost when voting early. I believe that voting in-person is a historical shared civic experience! No matter what we must always encourage the exercising of the right to vote.

Q: During the last week of July 2020, Governor Lamont signed the police reform bill. How do you feel about the bill overall or any key clauses? What additional ideas for police reform do you have that are not in the current bill, if any?
A: The police reform bill responded to an urgent outcry from the community. Recent events showed we need to make further progress on racial justice. This is not just about the police but about all of society coming together. There is more work to be done. The police reform bill was imperfect. We have many good officers who are unhappy and many loyal citizens who are still uncomfortable. Our core mission must seek an effective police force that can carry out its duty to protect and serve and most importantly ensure that all of our citizens feel protected and served by those officers.

Q: The police reform bill was signed during the last week of July 2020. How do you feel overall about the police reform bill?
A: The police reform bill was signed during the last week of July 2020. As a Black woman, I am elated that we have taken steps to address the racial issues that plague our communities. It is important that we continue to hold ourselves accountable and strive for a better future.

Q: How do you feel about the bill overall or any key clauses? What additional ideas for police reform do you have that are not in the current bill, if any?
A: As a Black woman, I am elated that we have taken steps to address the racial issues that plague our communities. It is important that we continue to hold ourselves accountable and strive for a better future.

Q: What additional ideas for police reform do you have that are not in the current bill, if any?
A: As a Black woman, I am elated that we have taken steps to address the racial issues that plague our communities. It is important that we continue to hold ourselves accountable and strive for a better future.
Q: Our state legislators extended absentee voting in the November election for those who have concerns about COVID-19. Would you vote ‘yes’ to make absentee balloting, with no excuse necessary, a permanent voting option for all future elections? Please explain why you would vote ‘yes’ or ‘no’.

A: Yes. I support all efforts to make Connecticut a model of 21st century voting. Voting must be safe, secure and convenient. Democracy depends on citizen participation.

Q: During the last week of July 2020, Governor Lamont signed the police reform bill. How do you feel about the bill overall or any key clauses? What additional ideas for police reform do you have that are not in the current bill, if any?

A: Police officers are heroes who deserve our support. But, one bad actor can undermine confidence in police departments. Reform measures that affirm integrity of officers help build trust between police and communities. This bill includes provisions for sensitivity training, civilian review boards and body cameras. It also protects officers from liability in all but egregious circumstances. Offenses that trigger limits on qualified immunity must be deliberate and serious, like false arrest or murder. The bill achieves accountability without requiring officers to have personal liability insurance.

Steve Meskers
Democratic
Mailing Address: 18 Lockwood Avenue Old Greenwich, CT 06870
Campaign Phone: (203) 450-8314
Website: http://stevesakers.com
Facebook: http://steveMeskers4Greenwich

Biographical Statement: Rep. Steve Meskers elected in Nov. 2018 represents the 150th serving as VC of Finance, Revenue, & Bonding, Energy & Technology and the Aging Committees. Steve, his wife Monica, and children came to Greenwich in 1996. Steve spent 35-years in International Banking and serves on our RTM 18 years

Q: CT continues to experience debt problems. Businesses and consumers have left the state. The costs of coping with the COVID-19 pandemic will add to the debt problem. What programs or policies do you recommend to increase CT revenues and/or cut expenses?

A: CT Democrats defended our reserve fund which now shows a balance of over 3 billion. By building reserves, CT has a much stronger position to weather fiscal challenges. We have lowered the value and cost of pensions for new state employees twice since 2010. CT still suffers from high unemployment and small business closures. We must continue our fiscally responsible policies reduce waste and promote policies that encourage job growth and attract business to the state. To that end I advocated for lower sales taxed for the marine industry and barred third party player from the energy market.

Q: Our state legislators extended absentee voting in the November election for those who have concerns about COVID-19. Would you vote ‘yes’ to make absentee balloting, with no excuse necessary, a permanent voting option for all future elections? Please explain why you would vote ‘yes’ or ‘no’.

A: The current pandemic merits the use of absentee balloting with no excuse necessary, as the safety of our citizens must be our highest priority. Currently there is no better solution than the 2 step absentee balloting process wherein only after a voter requests an absentee ballot does the municipality issue one, but there simply isn’t another form of voting that replicates the anonymity and security that comes with the in-person system. Regarding future elections, I hope that a better alternative to absentee balloting can be created.

Q: During the last week of July 2020, Governor Lamont signed the police reform bill. How do you feel about the bill overall or any key clauses? What additional ideas for police reform do you have that are not in the current bill, if any?

A: Overall, I believe that the police reform bill discussion highlighted the long overdue discussion on the role and training of our valued police officers. However, I am opposed to the expedited manner in which it became law and believe that a more thoughtful approach should have followed. Removing qualified immunity will ultimately prevent officers from serving the community, as it will allow citizens the opportunity to bring officers to court over illegitimate suits. We must expect more from our legislators when facing such an important issue. Safety of our citizens and police is paramount.

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Biographical Statement: Joe Kelly is the CEO of Uranium Markets, a small commodities brokerage firm and President of Forestland Development, a real estate development company both located in Greenwich and each employ many workers here in CT. He serves on the Greenwich Board of Education and Coached Rugby at GHS for 9 yrs.

Q: CT continues to experience debt problems. Businesses and consumers have left the state. The costs of coping with the COVID-19 pandemic will add to the debt problem. What programs or policies do you recommend to increase CT revenues and/or cut expenses?

A: One of our primary goals to bring back Connecticut from the brink of financial disaster is to address the major spending problem that currently plagues the State. Simply, as a State, we spend to much and do not support our small business owners which in turn pay the taxes necessary for our governmental programs. Business is the backbone of the CT economy, and in our current situation, high taxes alienate businesses and ultimately decrease state revenue. To attract new businesses and retain the ones that currently operate in the State, we must lower the cost of conducting business in CT.

Q: Our state legislators extended absentee voting in the November election for those who have concerns about COVID-19. Would you vote ‘yes’ to make absentee balloting, with no excuse necessary, a permanent voting option for all future elections? Please explain why you would vote ‘yes’ or ‘no’.

A: Yes. I support all efforts to make Connecticut a model of 21st century voting. Voting must be safe, secure and convenient. Democracy depends on citizen participation.
State House of Representatives - continued

151st DISTRICT

Hector Arzeno
Democratic
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Biographical Statement: A 34 year Greenwich resident and US citizen born in Argentina, Hector Arzeno is a 40 year finance executive, local volunteer, and father of four Greenwich school graduates. He sits on the RTM Finance Committee, and is an alternate on the Claims Committee.

Q: CT continues to experience debt problems. Businesses and consumers have left the state. The costs of coping with the COVID-19 pandemic will add to the debt problem. What programs or policies do you recommend to increase CT revenues and/or cut expenses?
A: We can restore revenues and mitigate losses by fostering long-term in-migration by improving technology and transportation infrastructure via public-private-partnerships. Encumbrances can be growth by capitalizing on government assets to reduce debt via long-term leases and capital projects. CT can hold onto its retirees by repealing estate tax, phasing out income tax on retirees, and by increasing affordable housing for our elderly. Finally, supporting new innovative industries while maintaining our main sources of GDP - manufacturing and distribution, will stimulate business growth.

Q: Our state legislators extended absentee voting in the November election for those who have concerns about COVID-19. Would you vote ‘yes’ to make absentee balloting, with no excuse necessary, a permanent voting option for all future elections? Please explain why you would vote ‘yes’ or ‘no’.
A: I absolutely support no-excuse absentee ballots. In an age when health, safety, and voter suppression, and gerrymandering are issues, we should open every possible avenue to the democratic process.

Q: During the last week of July 2020, Governor Lamont signed the police reform bill. How do you feel about the bill overall or any key clauses? What additional ideas for police reform do you have that are not in the current bill, if any?
A: This Act standardizes most of the widely accepted policies and tools we have, or requested in Greenwich: Anti-bias training; Body cameras and other equipment (which we needed but lacked funding support); Ongoing education and certification; and it bans dangerous practices like chokeholds. It gives other communities the safety and respect we already share with our police here in Greenwich. Other reforms should include state-wide juvenile review boards and specialized drug courts, which use diversionary programs and rehabilitation to get people out of the system and into jobs and schools.

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Biographical Statement: As State Representative, Harry has worked tirelessly during this pandemic to help constituents with state programs and is a vocal advocate for efficiency in our state agencies. Harry has an undergraduate degree in engineering, an MBA from UT Austin, and an MPA from Harvard Kennedy School.

Q: CT continues to experience debt problems. Businesses and consumers have left the state. The costs of coping with the COVID-19 pandemic will add to the debt problem. What programs or policies do you recommend to increase CT revenues and/or cut expenses?
A: 4-point plan: 1) Attract investment to CT through the right mix of regulatory/tax policies and by investing in education & workforce training. 2) Restructure our state bureaucracy to increase its productivity. Implement a 2.5% cut per year to reduce the overall bureaucracy and get employee benefits in line with the private sector. Invest in the productivity of our state employees. 3) Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our state programs. Our $20 BN+ spending has substantial room for operational improvement. 4) Create incentives for residents to stay in CT so our tax base does not shrink.

Q: Our state legislators extended absentee voting in the November election for those who have concerns about COVID-19. Would you vote ‘yes’ to make absentee balloting, with no excuse necessary, a permanent voting option for all future elections? Please explain why you would vote ‘yes’ or ‘no’.
A: Voting is an important part of our democracy. As State Rep, I have worked hard to encourage all members of community, including our youth, to understand and participate in government. Evidence shows involved citizens vote thoughtfully and with great frequency. I voted for the bill that extending absentee voting for those who were concerned by COVID, so that no one has to make a choice between their health and their vote. In the future, I will continue to work on new ideas and legislation which will lead to increased participation in our government and increased voting by our citizens.

Q: During the last week of July 2020, Governor Lamont signed the police reform bill. How do you feel about the bill overall or any key clauses? What additional ideas for police reform do you have that are not in the current bill, if any?
A: In light of the events this summer, it was necessary to review our law enforcement processes to ensure an incident like this would never happen in CT. However, it was regrettable that the legislative process was hijacked by the politics and due process was not followed. The police reform bill was rushed. I will advocate for the redo of this bill, with detailed analysis and input from all stakeholders, including a public hearing to ensure appropriate reform. I do not support defunding the police.
In Connecticut, every town has a Democratic and a Republican Registrar of Voters. Therefore the person nominated to be ROV by the Democratic and the Republican parties will be elected on November 3rd. For this reason, Republican Registrar of Voters candidate Fred DeCaro and Democratic Registrar of Voters candidate Mary Hegarty decided to use this space to offer a few voting tips.

If you plan to vote in person:
- wear a mask and maintain distancing
- bring something to write against in lieu of using a voting booth
- move through the process efficiently

If you plan to vote by absentee ballot follow all directions exactly:
- put the ballot inside the inner envelope,
- sign the inner envelope and
- only put one ballot in each ballot packet.
- Make use of the ballot boxes - one outside at Town Hall and one in the lobby of the Police Station to deposit absentee ballot applications and absentee ballots.
- Do not delay. Ballots arriving after 8 PM on Election Day cannot be counted.