

2008 CAMPAIGN

VOTERS GUIDE

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PENNSYLVANIA CITIZEN EDUCATION FUND VOTERS GUIDE GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 4, 2008

The League of Women Voters publishes this information neither to endorse nor to reject the views of any candidate quoted and does not assume responsibility for the contents of a candidate's reply. Each candidate's reply has been printed as submitted, except to use standard abbreviations in the interest of space and to edit from the bottom of a candidate's answer when the total response exceeds the word limit.

The candidates were asked to list their education, occupation and qualifications for the office they seek. They were also asked to reply to the question following the job description for of each office.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PENNSYLVANIA CITIZEN EDUCATION FUND NONPARTISAN VOTERS GUIDE GENERAL ELECTION, NOVEMBER 4, 2008

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Polls open 7 A.M. to 8 P.M.

This Voters Guide may be taken into the voting booth.

FOR ELECTION INFORMATION

Contact your county Board of Elections. The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Citizen Information Center also provides election information. CALL TOLL FREE: 1-800-692-7281

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The material in this Guide was compiled by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania. This material may not be altered or reprinted without the permission of the League. Each candidate's reply has been printed as submitted, except to use standard abbreviations and by editing from the bottom when a candidate's reply exceeded the word limit. The candidates listed are those whose names appear on the ballot as of August 11, 2008. They are listed according to their ballot order.

PURPOSE AND POLICY OF THE LEAGUE

The purpose of the League of Women Voters is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League is nonpartisan: it does not support or oppose any political parties or candidates. Nothing in this Guide should be construed as an endorsement of any candidate by the League of Women Voters.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Registered voters who are ill, disabled, or will be absent from the municipality on Election Day may vote by absentee ballot. Completed APPLICATIONS for absentee ballots must be received by the county Board of Elections by 5 P.M., Tuesday, October 28. Completed absentee BALLOTS must be received back at the Board of Elections by 5 P.M. on Friday, October 31. If an emergency arises (unexpected illness or business trip) after the Tuesday application deadline, call your county Board of Elections for information on emergency absentee voting. Proof of emergency may be required. An emergency application and ballot can be obtained and voted by 5 P.M. on Friday, October 31. Any disabled voter having questions regarding the accessibility of a polling place should consult the county Board of Elections.

WRITE-IN VOTING

Information for write-in voting will be available at the polling place

ELECTION DAY PROBLEMS

If your right to vote is challenged at the polls on Election Day and the problem cannot be resolved at the polling place, the judge of elections at the polling place should telephone the county Board of Elections. The problem could be resolved by phone if your name appears on the county records. If it does not and you want to try to resolve the problem, then you can go in person to the county Board of Elections where a judge from the Court of Common Pleas will be on duty to resolve election problems. Alternatively you can ask for and vote by provisional ballot. If it is later determined that you were eligible to vote your ballot will be counted. You will be given instructions on how to determine if your vote was counted. If all electronic voting machines in a precinct are inoperable, "paper ballots, either printed or written and of any suitable form" for registering votes (emergency back-up paper ballots) shall be distributed immediately to eligible voters.

IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW VOTERS

If you are a new voter or if you are voting at a polling place for the first time then you must bring your voter ID card or a photo ID such as a driver's license, student ID or some other form of federal or state government issued ID. Some forms of non-photo ID are also acceptable such as a firearm permit, current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or government check. If you do not have any acceptable ID then you must be allowed to vote by provisional ballot.

ON-LINE VOTERS GUIDE

The Voters Guide and other useful information for voters can be found on the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Homepage: www.palwv.org.

CERTIFICATION NOTE

As of the publication date of this Guide, the slate of candidates listed below is accurate based upon the Pennsylvania Department of State's Bureau of Elections unofficial ballot.

BALLOT QUESTION

WATER AND SEWER IMPROVEMENTS BOND REFERENDUM

Do you favor the incurring of indebtedness by the Commonwealth of \$400,000,000 for grants and loans to municipalities and public utilities for the cost of all labor, materials, necessary operational machinery and equipment, lands, property, rights and easements, plans and specifications, surveys, estimates of costs and revenues, prefeasibility studies, engineering and legal services and all other expenses necessary or incident to the acquisition, construction, improvement, expansion, extension, repair or rehabilitation of all or part of drinking water system, storm water, non-point source projects, nutrient credits and wastewater treatment system projects?

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES and THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

The Electoral College was a compromise written into the U.S. Constitution in 1787, with the result that the President and Vice President are not elected directly by the people, but by Presidential Electors. Electing the President indirectly through the Electoral College rather than directly by the voters was seen by the founders as a hedge against "popular passion."

The number of each state's Electors is equal to the number of Senators and Representatives a state has in Congress. Pennsylvania has 21 and each political party's presidential nominee has chosen that number of Presidential Electors committed to the nominee. The candidate receiving the highest number of popular votes gets the state's entire electoral vote.

While Pennsylvanians will choose the Electors and not the President and Vice President at this election, the names of the electors do not appear on the ballot. Instead, the paired names of the candidates for President and Vice President are on the ballot under the heading "Presidential Electors." All votes cast for the candidates for President and Vice President are counted as votes for that party's Electors. The Electors, in turn, will cast Pennsylvania's vote for President and Vice President.

(Vote for one)

DEMOCRATIC

President - **BARACK OBAMA**
Vice President - **JOE BIDEN**

REPUBLICAN

President - **JOHN MCCAIN**
Vice President - **SARAH PALIN**

INDEPENDENT

President - **RALPH NADER**
Vice President - **MATT GONZALEZ**

LIBERTARIAN

President - **BOB BARR**
Vice President - **WAYNE ROOT**

ATTORNEY GENERAL

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Attorney General, as Pennsylvania's chief legal and law enforcement officer, represents the Commonwealth in legal actions brought against it, furnishes legal advice to the Governor or any state agency, and prosecutes organized crime and public corruption. The department's law enforcement program includes criminal investigations, drug law enforcement, direction of statewide and multi-county investigative grand juries, and a Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. Other duties include review of all proposed rules and regulations of state agencies and administration of provisions relating to consumer protection. Under the state constitution the Attorney General must be a member of the bar in Pennsylvania.

Term: 4 years

Salary: \$141,565.00

(Vote for one)

Question: What specific priorities do you have if elected to the office of Attorney General?

DEMOCRATIC



JOHN M MORGANELLO,

Bethlehem

D.O.B: 11/12/1955

EDUCATION: 1977, Moravian College, B.A.

1980, Villanova Law School, J.D.

OCCUPATION: District Attorney

QUALIFICATIONS: District Attorney - 16 years; Prosecuted Numerous murder cases; PA Commission on Crime & Delinquency - 5 years, President, PA District Attorneys Assn. - 2 years, Special Deputy Attorney General, Special Prosecutor

ANSWER TO QUESTION: 1. Pass a gang statute that makes gang membership a crime so as to attack the gangs before they commit their next murder or drug deal. 2. Address the proliferation of handguns into the hands of criminals, young children and those with mental illness. 3. Abolish parole for violent criminals. 4. Crackdown on illegal criminal aliens who have no respect for our laws, commit crime and use fraudulent identities.

REPUBLICAN



TOM CORBETT,

Harrisburg

D.O.B: 06/17/1949

EDUCATION: 1971, Lebanon Valley College, B.A.

1975, St. Mary's University School of Law, J.D.

OCCUPATION: Pennsylvania Attorney General

QUALIFICATIONS: Attorney General of PA - 4 1/2 years, Assistant District Attorney in Allegheny County, 3 1/2 years, US Attorney, 4 years, PA Army National Guard, 13 years, Commissioner, Shaler Twp, 2 years

ANSWER TO QUESTION: My top priority is making Pennsylvania a safer and better place to live, work, and raise a family. As Attorney General, I will continue protecting the most vulnerable of our communities such as our children and seniors from those who would do them harm, reaffirming the public's trust in our elected officials, making sure that our communities are safe and free of drugs and gang activity and protecting Pennsylvania consumers from those who commit fraud.

LIBERTARIAN



MARAKAY ROGERS

York

D.O.B: 03/01/1962

EDUCATION: 1981, Wilson College, B.A.; 1984, Dickinson School of Law, J.D.

OCCUPATION: Attorney

QUALIFICATIONS: Practicing attorney with criminal defense and civil rights experience

ANSWER TO QUESTION: My particular areas of concern are stopping the unnecessary, wasteful prosecution of victimless crimes, abolishing the death penalty, and the protection of citizens' rights, including defending Pennsylvanians' right to privacy from government intrusion.

AUDITOR GENERAL

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Auditor General is responsible for ensuring that all money to which the Commonwealth is entitled is deposited in the State Treasury and that public funds are disbursed legally and properly. The Department performs over 6,500 yearly audits of state departments, government agencies, state hospitals, universities, state pension funds, district justices and institutions receiving state aid. It also audits the approximately \$9 billion in federal funds allocated to Pennsylvania programs. Special audits are performed by the department when deemed necessary by the Auditor General or requested by the Governor.

Term: 4 years

Salary: \$141,565.00

(Vote for one)

Question: What specific priorities do you have if elected to the office of Auditor General?

DEMOCRATIC



JACK WAGNER

Pittsburgh

D.O.B: 01/04/1948

EDUCATION: 1974, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, B.S., Safety Management

OCCUPATION: Auditor General

QUALIFICATIONS: Auditor General since 2005, State Senator, 10 years (Allegheny County), Pittsburgh City Councilman, 10 years (President, 4 years), Certified Safety Professional, 10 years, Marine Corps, Vietnam combat veteran, husband and father, 2 children.

ANSWER TO QUESTION: I look forward to continuing to work in an independent and bipartisan way to protect the taxpayers' hard-earned money and improve the lives of all Pennsylvanians. I will continue to focus on creating jobs, strengthening education, improving infrastructure, and protecting pensions. I am the only candidate with over 30 years of experience in both the public and private sectors watching the bottom line, reforming operations, and protecting working families.

REPUBLICAN



CHET BEILER

Penn Twp.

D.O.B: 05/19/1963

EDUCATION: 1987, Pepperdine University, B.S.

OCCUPATION: Business Owner, CEO

QUALIFICATIONS: 20 years of business building, County Chairman, 2 years, Rotary Club of Lancaster, 6 years. As a business builder, I know the value of a dollar and have experience developing systems that promote economic efficiency.

ANSWER TO QUESTION: Empower our auditors and honor their findings by systematically making more audit results public. Expand performance audits.

Be an independent fiscal watchdog who does not play favorites; no government department or entity will be off limits as we seek to protect your tax dollars

Hold quarterly press conferences to report on progress.

Ensure state agencies are receiving their appropriate allocated tax monies and that they are spending those funds correctly while operating effectively & efficiently.

LIBERTARIAN

BETSY SUMMERS,

Wilkes Barre

NO RESPONSE

STATE TREASURER

JOB DESCRIPTION

The State Treasurer, as chief executive officer of the Treasury Department, is official custodian of Commonwealth funds. Fundamental duties of the department are receipt and deposit of moneys received from state agencies, investment in short-term securities of moneys exceeding the daily needs of more than 140 separate funds, management of securities within its custody, pre-auditing all requisitions for expenditure of state funds as to legality and correctness, and payment of state moneys to those entitled to them.

Term: 4 years

Salary: \$141,565.00

(Vote for one)

Question: What specific priorities do you have if elected to the office of State Treasurer?

DEMOCRATIC



ROBERT MCCORD

Lower Merion

D.O.B: 03/05/1959

EDUCATION: 1982, Harvard University, AB

1989, University of Pennsylvania Wharton School, MBA

OCCUPATION: Full-time candidate after 15 years as a financial executive

QUALIFICATIONS: 15 year career in finance

Managed more than 1 billion dollars in assets

Raised money for start-up companies that have created more than 2,000 jobs in PA.

ANSWER TO QUESTION: In these uncertain economic times, it is more important than ever to have a State Treasurer with appropriate business and financial expertise. As a business leader who has managed over \$1 billion in assets and helped fund startup companies that created over 2,000 PA-based jobs, I will serve as a catalyst for positive economic change. In addition to generating jobs, I plan to help improve pension performance, cut wasteful spending, and invest in environment-protecting technologies.

REPUBLICAN



TOM ELLIS

Cheltenham

D.O.B: 07/14/1959

EDUCATION: 1982, University of Pennsylvania, B.A.

(summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa)

1985, University of Pennsylvania Law School, J.D. (cum laude, Editor, Law Review)

OCCUPATION: Public Finance Attorney - Partner, Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP, 1985-

QUALIFICATIONS: Chairman, Montgomery County Board of Commissioners, 2004-07-reduced property taxes, saved \$30million; Cheltenham Board of Commissioners, 1990-02 (Chair, Finance Committee); 22 years experience in finance

ANSWER TO QUESTION: 1.) Use over 22 years of public finance experience to protect tax dollars and ensure financial responsibility in office of Treasurer. Saved over \$30 million in debt service as County Commissioner. 2.) Enhance 529 college savings program to make best in nation - encourage college savings and provide incentives to save, such as matching funds (not taxpayer dollars). 3.) Implement policy prohibiting investment in nations that sponsor terrorism (enacted as County Commissioner).

LIBERTARIAN

BERLIE ETZEL

Ashland Twp

NO RESPONSE