



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF COLLIN COUNTY
www.lwvcollin.org

Nonpartisan

VOTERS GUIDE

Nov. 4, 2014, General Election
U.S. Representative District 3

Early voting: October 20-31

Election Day: Nov. 4 – Polls open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

About this Voters Guide

This *Voters Guide* is published by the League of Women Voters of Collin County to help citizens prepare to cast an informed vote. The League of Women Voters encourages informed and active participation in government. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

This guide lists candidates for U.S. Representative District 3. It is available online at www.lwvcollin.org, along with separate guides for statewide offices and other offices that include all or part of Collin County. A separate online *Voters Guide* gives general information about voting in the general election, including how to register to vote, where to vote, and how to vote by mail.

Candidate responses for all races are also available at www.VOTE411.org, which allows voters to enter an address and review races specific to that address.

Questionnaires were sent to all candidates for each office, whether or not the race is contested. Candidate replies were subject to a character limit and are printed without editing or verification. If a candidate did not respond by the deadline, "No response received" is printed. Candidates were asked to avoid references to their opponents. Photos are included for candidates who provided them.

This *Voters Guide* is organized by office and party, with candidates listed in order by political party.

U.S. Representative District 3

2-year term. Must be 25 years or older, a U.S. citizen and a resident of Texas. Responsible for representing the citizens of the district in which he/she is elected in the U.S. House of Representatives.

QUESTIONS

Immigration: Many people believe our immigration system is broken but don't agree on how to fix it. How would you meet the challenges of dealing with children and adults in the immigration system?

Social Security/Medicare/Medicaid: What changes, if any, would you support to the Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid programs and why?

Foreign Intervention: Under what circumstances should the U.S. intervene militarily in a foreign conflict?

Elections: The recent Supreme Court decision in *Shelby v. Holder* struck down parts of the Voting Rights Act. What changes, if any, do you support to protect voting rights?

Climate Change: According to the National Climate Assessment report, climate change effects are happening here and now. What measures would you support regarding climate change?

Infrastructure: How would you prioritize the rebuilding and repair of our aging infrastructure, such as roads and bridges?

Other Issues: What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the next session of Congress, and what is your position on these issues?

Sam Johnson (Republican Party) – No response received

League of Women Voters is a Nonpartisan Organization

The LWV never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

Paul Blair (Green Party)



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Education: B.A History Texas A&M University

Experience: Politics-none, life-57 years

Immigration: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness". If a person of good character and intent wants to live and work in the United States of America, we should be able to find a way to accommodate them. No two people are the same. We need to find a way to succor the refugees and enable those who wish to better themselves through our economic and social systems. Remove the politics and let the professionals do their jobs.

Social Security/Medicare/Medicaid: Create an amendment to the Constitution ensuring and safeguarding these programs to protect them from the winds of political change. These programs should be funded outside of the general budget and be immune to manipulation by any outside entity, especially Congress. These programs are essentially well structured but must be administered in a fair, efficient manner with minimal administrative cost. Let the professional do their jobs with minimal political interference.

Foreign Intervention: As a military historian, I fully understand the use of military force as a tool of diplomacy. It does not work. It only causes new problems. It's "Whack A Mole" on an international and destructive level. Each time you use force to remove a problem, you inadvertently create two more. Humanity must pull together and use peaceful and benevolent means to control and share the resources of this planet. Our current path will ensure the destruction of the human race within a few more generations. I guess my answer would be "never" in a foreign conflict.

Elections: With the technology available to us here in the US, this should be moot. One citizen of legal voting age and circumstance should get one vote. Voting should be as easy as possible to increase and ensure participation

by a greater number of the electorate. In the past, special interest groups have tried to make it harder and more restrictive to vote in order to serve their political ends.

Climate Change: This is the most important issue facing humanity today. I would support most legislation which would limit the use of fossil fuels. Let's take all of the money that we use militarily, and use it for research and for repairing this country's infrastructure. We use so much money for destructive ends and we have managed to bring humanity to the brink of its own destruction. If we apply our resources to nurturing our Earth rather than exploiting it, humanity and all other life on this planet would benefit.

Infrastructure: Roads and bridges are extremely important for both our economy, and safety. But infrastructure repair should include the creation of country wide mass transit systems of high speed trains and other ways of moving people around without the use of fossil fuels. We have the technology to do so many things. We have an unlimited amount of people available to build and maintain systems which will benefit us all. Clean Water, clean air, clean power, wholesome food production and efficient shelter systems should be our greatest priority. Let's start building a beautiful and sustainable Earth.

Other Issues: We need to create and pass a constitutional amendment to create term limits for all national legislators. We need to eliminate private money from the election process. We need to create and pass a constitutional amendment eliminating the Electoral College from the election process for the office of President. We need to end the use of Gerrymandering in the states whose sole purpose is to disenfranchise certain voters We need to greatly reduce our military and the arms industry which drives the use of it. We need to repair our image in the family of nations. End the failed "War on Drugs".