



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

Nonpartisan

VOTERS GUIDE

March 4, 2014, Primary Election
Texas Representative District 66

Early voting: February 18-28

Election Day: March 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 Texas Representative District 66. 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 primary elections, 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, including an "On Your Ballot" feature that 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 the order in which they will appear on the ballot.

Texas Representative District 66

2-year term. Must be 21 years or older, a U.S. citizen, a resident of Texas and a resident of the district represented. Responsible for representing the citizens of the district in which he/she is elected in the Texas House of Representatives.

QUESTIONS

Health Care: According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Texas has the nation's highest percentage of uninsured residents. What, if anything, should the state do to ensure that more people have access to adequate health care?

Education: Many school districts in the state have had elections this year to increase their tax rates to supplement what is received from the state. What changes, if any, need to be made to the financing of public education in Texas?

Water: In Texas, groundwater is governed by the rule of capture, which grants landowners the right to pump and capture the water from below their property, regardless of the effects of that

pumping on neighboring wells. How would you resolve the conflict between the rule of capture and the need to conserve ground water?

Transportation: What are the main transportation needs in Texas and how should they be funded?

Human Trafficking: Human trafficking is widespread in Texas and its major cities are among some of the nation's largest hubs. Do you support increased funding to combat human trafficking? Why or why not?

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

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.

Matt Shaheen (Republican Party)



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Education: Bachelor of Arts
Business \ Economics from
Randolph-Macon College Ashland,
Virginia (1987) Master of Liberal
Arts from SMU (2003)

Experience: -Founding Chairman of the
Ronald Reagan Conservative Society -
Delegate to Republican State Conventions -
Precinct Chair -Election Judge -Board Member
of the Collin County Republican Men's Club -
Chairman of the Plano Community Relations
Committee -Collin County Commissioner

Health Care: The percentage of uninsured is not necessarily a good metric to determine access to healthcare since the uninsured received healthcare. As County Commissioner, I played a leading role establishing an indigent care approach that provided healthcare to low income citizens with no insurance by leveraging the private sector and non-profit organizations. I am currently working with the Texas Public Policy Foundation on legislation to make this approach easier to implement throughout the state of Texas.

Education: Funding for education should be sufficient to uphold the constitutional requirement of the legislature to support and maintain a system of public schools. Texas should consider the consolidation of school districts, as well as, enabling school districts to share resources such as payroll processing and technology departments. The more we can place local control of education in our communities, the better off our children will be.

Water: Texas groundwater, unlike surface water, belongs to the landowner who has the right to "capture" the water beneath their property. Education about the need for conservation, as well as, well water usage and groundwater statistics would help conserve groundwater.

Transportation: The need for Texas roads exceeds capacity in certain areas across our state. Current funding is inadequate and must be addressed. An effective way to fund transportation would be to dedicate vehicle sales taxes to transportation and eliminate diversions.

Human Trafficking: Texas has been a leader against human trafficking. Texas was the first state to criminalize human trafficking and in 2009, a statewide taskforce was established to battle human trafficking. The Texas border however, serves as the largest entry point for human trafficking and I would support expanding the Ranger Recon Teams on our border, as well as, the use of cameras and other surveillance devices.

Other Issues: I believe the margin tax goes against the spirit of the Texas constitution and the tax has complicated what used to be a simple system of taxation for business in Texas. I would work to phase it out. Education needs to remain a priority in our state. We need local control for our school districts, allowing Trustees to determine student/teacher ratios, have more control of the school calendar, allowing teacher pay based on performance and outcomes. School financing must be reformed as well, since Plano has relinquished over \$1 billion to the state since the inception of Robin Hood.

Glenn Callison (Republican Party)



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Education: Baylor University,
BBA, Cum Laude Baylor Law
School, JD, Cum Laude and
graduated #1 in class

Experience: Attorney practicing in
Commercial Real Estate with Munsch, Hardt
Kopf & Harr, PC, serving as Chairman and
CEO for the last eight years. Munsch Hardt
was recognized as a DMN Top 100 workplace
in 2013.

Health Care: While I oppose the mandates of the ACA and expansion of Medicaid, I would support the use of federal block grants to

return Texans' federal tax dollars to our state to help pay for the required care of the uninsured in Texas. The best way to help

uninsured Texans get health insurance is to create opportunities by a booming economy. With more job creation and added career and technical education, our future workers will have the skills they need to be successful in the workplace. A good career enables hard-working men and women to provide for themselves and their families.

Education: Education is a top priority for me. We must see that our schools and educators have the resources they need to ensure our students are getting the excellent education they deserve. I believe that the \$4 billion Texas restored last session is a step in the right direction; however, more can be done to deliver quality education, while driving efficiency at all levels to make sure tax dollars are properly directed to the classroom. We must prioritize education spending in budgets at the state and local levels.

Water: While I support water conservation efforts, especially in light of the severe and prolonged drought in Texas, property owners' rights should not be unduly limited without a compelling state interest. The rule of capture, subject to reasonable local regulation, can promote conservation and protect the public health and welfare. Reasonable use of groundwater conservation districts could encourage conservation and while helping develop and manage Texas' water resources.

Transportation: With our population projected to double by 2050, we need more roads to prevent gridlock to keep our economy moving forward. We should prioritize a part of Texas' existing oil and gas severance tax while it is growing. This requires no new taxes and prevents these revenues from flowing into the general fund to be spent on lower priority items. The stakes are high for our economy and Texans need get to where they're going. By transparent budgeting, stopping diversions and by prioritizing our spending, we can solve our transportation problem without additional burdensome taxes.

Human Trafficking: Yes, although I believe this should be an issue controlled by law enforcement primarily at the local level.

Other Issues: I will be a common-sense, solutions-oriented conservative leader for our District in Austin. Texas faces complex challenges that simple rhetoric won't fix. We need a serious, conservative leader willing to tackle our biggest water, education and transportation issues while preserving our shared conservative values. We cannot take past success for granted; we must elect strong leaders to ensure that our region continues to create jobs and remains a great place to live and raise families, while adhering to fiscally conservative policies to keep taxes low.

Stacy Chen (Republican Party) – No response received

Ian Santorella (Libertarian Party) – No response received

You may bring this *Voters Guide* into the voting booth! In 1995, the Texas law prohibiting use of printed materials, such as this *Voters Guide*, in the polling place was ruled unconstitutional (*Texas Election Code, Section 61.011*)

Your vote is your voice. Be heard.