



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

Nonpartisan

VOTERS GUIDE

March 4, 2014, Primary Election
U.S. Representative District 4

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 U.S. Representative District 4. 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.

U.S. Representative District 4

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: What specific changes, if any, would you propose to the current immigration policy? Please explain.

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?

Gridlock: What measures should the House of Representatives take to stop the gridlock that has crippled Congress?

Environment: Scientists have now established an upper limit on carbon dioxide emissions and the President has announced a comprehensive carbon control plan. What do you see as the House of Representatives' role with regard to these standards as well as other environmental regulations?

Surveillance: How should the need to gather information for national security be balanced against citizens' right to privacy?

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?

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.

John Stacy (Republican Party) – No response received

Lou Gigliotti (Republican Party)



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Education: B/A Math/Business Partial MBA
work completed at American University

Experience: Volvo of AMerica Corp 82-83 LG
Motorsports, private held company CEO

Immigration: Border Control is necessary for the orderly immigration of new citizens into America. The USA was built on orderly, legal immigration — not what is going on today. I say NO to amnesty! We have 20 million Americans out of a job, we don't need to add 11 million illegals to take American jobs! We need to implement the kind of immigration that is beneficial to the USA on our terms, not the illegal alien's terms. The easiest way to stop some of the illegal immigration is to stop the free flow of social services to but American Citizens.

Social Security/Medicare/Medicaid: Social Security: Only the government could devise a plan that would take 15% of every person's paycheck for 75 years. For that, they have promised that you will have your retirement money waiting for you when you are ready. Now they come to the American people and tell us that the system is broke. If this were a private insurance company that did this, someone would go to JAIL! Nothing should change for anyone over 50, unless they want to. Private investment funds where the people get to keep and pass on, what th paid for to their children. After all, it is our money

Foreign intervention: Not unless there is a vital national interest. We should not be involved in "Nation building". in addition, when there is a national interest, then do the job with no boots on the ground if possible. We have the best air force on the planet and we should use it without putting our military men in harms way. Fight the fight if and only if it is necessary, use requisite force then get out.

Elections: Voting rights in the last 50 years have changed. Now it seems that the average voter is having their rights stripped away by tactics that do not allow voter rolls to be purged of deceased citizens. Rampant voter fraud is the issue of the day that needs attention. The Voter ID laws in various states is necessary and not discriminatory. To say it

is "racist" is actually "racist". They argued that blacks are not smart enough to get a government ID. That is false and the decision was a good one. It is time for one man, one vote to regain integrity in the system.

Gridlock: From the view point of the citizen, we only have to contend with 60 new laws this year. But from a real view of what has happened, we now have 17,000 pages of new regulations to contend with where each has the force of law but no one to hold accountable. We are \$17 trillion dollars in debt today. It is time to reduce the size and scope of Government and get back to the enumerated powers granted to the Federal Government and no more. We need less government, not more. We need less spending, not more.

Environment: Unfortunately the science changes all the time with the data so I put little faith in the "upper limit" of CO2 because at 400 parts per million of CO2 there is actually little to be worried about. Mother Earth is resilient. Global temps have not risen in 16 years and all the "Climate Models" are being changed to keep the same conclusion rather than to allow the data to find the correct conclusion. I have traveled the world and America is one of the cleanest places on earth. The complexity of the climate does not allow for precise and accurate conclusions no matter who claims them.

Surveillance: The 4th amendment is very clear and unless there is "probable cause" then there is no excuse for gathering a citizen's information. National Security needs and data mining did not stop the Boston bomber or the Fort Hood massacre. There is not a single documented case where the TSA has foiled an attack and the same goes for much of the NSA spying that goes on against honest US Citizens. If you want to catch a drug kingpin in California, you don't track every phone in the entire state of California to do it. Same goes for American security needs.

Other Issues: Health care, Over Spending by our Congress and over regulation. Put our healthcare options back in our hands and remove the government that has raised the cost of every aspect of our health care and insurance. Repeal obamacare and replace it with common sense solutions like tort reform and the ability to purchase insurance over

state lines. The other thing is the reckless spending that is destroying our dollar. End baseline budgeting and Continuing Resolutions. All significant regulations need to be voted on by House and Senate before enactment to hold elected reps accountable.

John Ratcliffe (Republican Party)



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Education: Southern Methodist University Law School, Juris Doctor (1989); University of Notre Dame, Bachelor of Arts in Government and International Studies (1987)
Experience: U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Texas (2007-2008); Chief of Anti-Terrorism and National Security for the Eastern District of Texas (2004-2007); Mayor of Heath, Texas (2004-2012)

Immigration: My experience as a terrorism official and U.S. Attorney forms my belief that accomplishing true immigration reform is not possible without first securing our borders. To do otherwise is simply putting the cart before the horse. Enhanced border security should include a combination of physical fences, more troops on the ground and the best technology available. I will not, under any circumstances, support amnesty for illegal aliens. As U.S. Attorney, I led an operation which arrested over 300 illegal aliens in a single day who committed identity theft to unlawfully work in our country.

Social Security/Medicare/Medicaid: As we look to make smart reforms to entitlement programs, we need to ensure that current seniors and those nearing retirement are not affected. This is non-negotiable. I support block granting Medicaid back to states and capping its growth rate. With Social Security, I would consider a number of proposed changes such as means testing, gradually raising the retirement age and switching to a chain weighted CPI for cost of living adjustments. With Medicare, priority number one should be repealing Obamacare which unfairly steals over 700 billion Medicare dollars each year.

Foreign intervention: Providing for the common defense is the primary duty of the Federal Government as enumerated by the Constitution. As a former terrorism official, I know firsthand the resourcefulness of our enemies. The tragic events of 9/11 collectively reminded us just how fragile our liberty and freedom can be. If American involvement in a conflict is necessary to protect our homeland and our allies, then we have no choice but to

engage. However, we shouldn't entangle ourselves in foreign conflict strictly for nation building purposes. Such experiments are costly, unpredictable and often ineffective.

Elections: Free and fair elections are one of the hallmarks of any democratic state, and we should never let the integrity of our elections become compromised. I agree with the outcome of Shelby County v. Holder which removes unnecessary federal oversight from the voting processes in select states. Presenting valid photo identification is a reasonable and necessary qualification to exercise one's highest civic duty. I hope more states move to adopt stricter voter ID laws like Texas to ensure that our elections continue to be both free and fair.

Gridlock: The dysfunction in Washington is unacceptable, and the American people deserve better. Congress lurches from one manufactured crisis to the next as it refuses to make hard decisions. Ultimately, it's our children who will pay the price for the endless can kicking. At the center of the problem are career politicians who are more concerned about keeping their jobs than doing what's right for the American people. Our Founding Fathers never intended for there to be a permanent political class. I am a strong proponent of Constitutional amendment to impose term limits on Congress.

Environment: I strongly oppose regulations to control carbon emissions and believe that the EPA's overreach needs to be undone. Its most recent mandate requires that new coal fired power plants use CCS technology – despite the fact that this technology that has never been proven viable on a large scale.

Proposed carbon taxes amount to little more than a disguised increase in the corporate tax rate – which at 35% even President Obama agrees is too high. The House of Representatives should embrace the virtues of the free market and reduce the burden on businesses from unnecessary environmental regulations.

Surveillance: As the U.S. Attorney, I saw firsthand that 85% of the provisions in the Patriot Act have provided actionable intelligence directly responsible for stopping terrorists and protecting our homeland. These should be made permanent. However, other provisions have since been deemed unconstitutional. This tells me that our system is working. Ongoing healthy debate and judicial

review has allowed for course correcting which appropriately balances our national security interests and citizens' right to privacy.

Other Issues: Repealing and replacing Obamacare should be a priority in the next session of Congress. Obamacare is government at its worst – intrusive, expensive and ineffective. At this point, the failures of Obamacare are well documented. It costs twice as much as originally promised (\$1.8 trillion), hurts an already weak job market and forces Americans off health plans they like for ones that they don't. It shouldn't be surprising that a clunky, 2,300 page law that wasn't properly vetted has fallen short in so many areas. In Congress, I will push for market-based reforms that actually control costs.

Tony Arterburn (Republican Party) – No response received

Brent Lawson (Republican Party)



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Education: B.S. Electrical Engineering 1991

Experience: Electrical Engineer - 4 years defense industry - 18 years semiconductor industry - Currently an engineering manager. - Real estate investor - GOP Precinct Chairman - Chairman of Keep Texas Red committee in Grayson County - Founder/Director of "Conservatives for Republican Reform"

Immigration: Congress must assert its authority and demand that the executive branch enforce current immigration laws. The comprehensive approach to immigration reform should be abandoned so progress can be made in those areas of broad agreement. Among the options for near term reforms there must be certain non-negotiable items. My non-negotiable points include; no path pathway to citizenship for illegal aliens, and one U.S. citizen parent for eligibility at birth. The security of our borders should never be in question and must be decoupled from immigration policy debates.

Social Security/Medicare/Medicaid: The biggest obstacle to dealing with these is the lack of political will to make changes to politically sensitive programs. Several think tanks have been making reform recommendations for these programs for years. Postponing these reforms is attractive to politicians that are happy to let it be someone else's problem, but it will make the changes more painful for everyone in the long run. Long term goals for the programs should be to reduce the role of the federal government and expand free market incentives for savings and

efficiency. This simply requires a longer response than allowed.

Foreign intervention: War should be entered reluctantly and only when the vital interests of the United States or her close allies are clearly at stake. Our warriors should not be asked to put their lives on the line for foreign experiments in nation building. It is the duty of the Federal government to provide a foreign policy that does not fluctuate dramatically with changes in administrations. This stability is essential for the military to develop doctrines and contingencies in support of national goals. We owe it our military to put them in harms way only when necessary, and for reasons that are clear.

Elections: I do not support the current efforts in Washington to extend the justice department pre-clearance authority. The Party that benefits the most from vote fraud continues to employ cynical political tactics to resist reasonable efforts to improve election integrity. The state of Texas should not have been put into a position of having to beg Washington for the ability to protect the votes of her citizens with common sense voter ID requirements. Texas needs representatives

that will resist efforts to turn back the clock in this area.

Gridlock: The “all or nothing” approach so often taken with legislation needs to end. Breaking comprehensive or omnibus bills into smaller bills will allow real progress to be made in those areas where consensus already exists. It is an unfortunate political reality that areas of consensus are often held hostage by narrow political interests. Smaller bills also make it easier for constituents to hold their representatives accountable.

Environment: Environmental regulations are an area in which the Federal Government has significantly stepped beyond its authority. It is the role of the House to uphold the Constitution and work to return this authority to the states. I will oppose federal regulations to control carbon emissions. The state governments can enact environmental measures as they see fit, and answer to their constituents. In many cases the Federal Government’s environmental activities duplicate activities being performed by the states. That duplication is inexcusable while we are experiencing massive federal budget deficits.

Surveillance: The information needed to stop the 9/11 attacks existed within the U.S. law enforcement and intelligence communities prior to the attack. What was needed was a focus on how to better use the information in possession. If more effort had been spent addressing the issues that kept the pre 9/11 information from providing the necessary warning, the bombing in Boston might have been averted. The answer to how to balance security with privacy (liberty) is to first focus on solving real problems. We must take the greatest care when considering any compromise in this area.

Other Issues: A pressing issue facing the House of Representatives is the need to reclaim the authority that has been abdicated to the executive branch. The separation of powers needs to be restored in Washington. The overreach of executive branch agencies, and the effort to bypass the legislative process via executive order need to be confronted. The House needs a new speaker that will identify, and pursue a Republican agenda. A select committee needs to be appointed on Benghazi, and Fast and Furious.

Ralph M. Hall (Republican Party) – No response received

J. P. Raley (Libertarian Party)

No photo provided	Contact Information: jpraley.us jpraley2014@gmail.com	have attended college and have learned much from life, history and international relations.
	Education: Growing up as an Army brat, I have attended many schools both Stateside and overseas. I have attended three high schools but graduated from Giessen American High School in Giessen, Germany. In addition, I	Experience: I have experience in dealing with many different opinions on how to handle certain situations and the one thing I have learned in life is that to be an effective representative, one must know how to both lead and to follow. I know how to get all quarreling parties together and resolve all issues.

Immigration: Under Mexican law, illegal immigration is a felony, punishable by up to 2 years in prison. Those same immigrants who are deported and caught attempting to re-enter can be imprisoned for ten years. Visa violators can be sentenced to 6-year terms. In addition, Mexicans who help illegal immigrants are considered criminals. If our neighbor to the south has a tough stance on illegal immigration, shouldn't we as well? We need to tighten our borders and enforce them. Those who've been within our borders for years need to become citizens and become assimilated into our diverse culture.

Social Security/Medicare/Medicaid: On Social Security, every citizen who works will have a certain percentage of their incomes be deposited directly into their own privately held account for when they reach retirement age & to which the government cannot touch, use, nor borrow from. Medicare is a health insurance program for people 65 & older. Medicaid is health care for families & individuals whose income and resources are insufficient to pay for health care. The Affordable Health Care Act should be an option next to Medicaid/Medicare & not a forced law,

but either way, something needs to be changed, corrected or merged.

Foreign intervention: The only time the U.S. should intervene militarily in a foreign conflict is when the U.S. is attacked directly (i.e. directly on U.S. soil or on Commonwealth soil) or indirectly (i.e. an attack against a U.S. Consulate, U.S. military base, U.S. citizens, military personnel, etc.), otherwise we have no reason being in another country.

Elections: New legislation isn't necessary due to Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act which blankets the entire nation banning racial discrimination in regards to voting. Section 5, which was struck down by the Supreme Court, was supposed to be only a temporary provision passed in 1965 that should've expired after 5 years. Congress has kept renewing it based on a coverage formula that's outdated, contained in Section 4. Section 5 shouldn't be reimposed by Congress and shouldn't be an opportunity for others to withhold measures intended to protect our elections and our Constitutional rights to vote.

Gridlock: As a candidate for Congress, one of the first things I will be doing is working with all members of Congress to ensure that all lines of communication remain open at all times. If one side stands firm on one item and the other on a different item, then this is where I will be acting as a mediator to resolve the issue that is preventing any party from coming to a final conclusion on a bill or other issue from being passed. Negotiations must be made and all those in Congress should never be made to feel as though they are being ignored, shut out and not heard.

Environment: As for regulations and standards, the first thing that needs to be said

is that the Executive Branch needs to be stopped on sidestepping Congress to get things done. In a speech given at Georgetown in 2013, the President announced he's issuing a presidential memorandum to implement these new regulations, which means none of the steps he is taking will require Congressional approval. Congress needs to have laws and standards that do help protect the environment, but not at the expense of our economic needs and definitely not by ignoring the Constitutional balance of power.

Surveillance: One of the primary responsibilities of the U.S. government is to protect its citizens against those who would threaten their liberty, lives and freedom. Americans value their security and at various times in our history, have sacrificed their lives in order to protect our way of life. We should be very diligent in protecting citizens' right to privacy. The need to gather information for national security purposes should always be geared towards those who would seek to destroy our freedoms and way of life, whether foreign or domestic. Otherwise, a person's private life should stay private.

Other Issues: One additional important issue is about gun control. Under protection of the 2nd Amendment, there should be no laws restricting the average citizen from owning them. However, those with felonies/criminal records will not be allowed to have them. In addition, those cities and states with strict gun control laws/registrations are in violation of the 2nd Amendment and those laws be deemed unconstitutional. Background checks will still be needed but registration should not be allowed. The government has no business in knowing who owns what kind of firearm.

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.