



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

Nonpartisan

VOTERS GUIDE

March 1, 2016, Primary Election
U.S. Representative District 4

Early voting: February 16-26

Election Day: March 1 – 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, where you can enter an address and review a personalized ballot with 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 sought, with candidates listed in alphabetical order, regardless of their political party.

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 changes, if any, would you propose to the current immigration policy? Why?

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

Infrastructure: What should be done, if anything, to ensure sufficient capacity and safety of the country's water and roads?

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

Elections: The 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?

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?

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Lou Gigliotti (Republican Party)



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Education: Degree Math, Former HS Math teacher, MBA work at American University

Experience: Former Math Teacher, Successful Texas Businessman, 3 time national Racing champion, Stunt driver "Walker Texas Ranger"

Immigration: We have rampant illegal immigration that must stop. First remove the government social services for all but full citizens. Americans do not pay taxes to support those who break the law and come here illegally. Then put an end to student visas because today the US Government does not know the whereabouts for 58,000 people here on Expired visas. Legal immigration should be limited and only if they are for the good of America. And they must follow all the rules and pledge to never use welfare The Syrian refugees - we should help them where THEY LIVE, not where WE LIVE

Foreign Intervention: Only if it threatens our own national security. It is not the job of our military to intervene into another country's civil wars or conflicts unless it poses a threat to our own US National security.

Infrastructure: First start with the roughly \$1 trillion 2009 Stimulus bill that was passed but only \$88 billion was spent on "Shovel ready Jobs". It was supposed to address this exact issue. Instead, our Congress has allowed this \$1 trillion spending to be spent 8 years straight as a result of not producing a budget. They used Continuing Resolutions and Baseline budgeting to increase the "Stimulus" for 8 years straight. Now we still have not done the necessary improvements to our roads and water supply. How can we ask the taxpayers to pay again without first a full accounting of the \$8 Trillion.

Social Security/Medicare/Medicaid: SS & Medicare were paid for out of everyone's paychecks. Medicaid is medical welfare that was never paid for by the recipient. They

should not be considered in the same solution. SS is going broke because of one more failed government attempt to interfere with the American people. For SS I prefer that it be a private system that the people own as an asset that can be handed down like any asset. There will be a transition period where existing SS payers can choose their method of retirement savings between the current SS system and a private system but that can not be explained in 600 words

Elections: In Shelby County, the Supreme Court struck down the formula in Section 4 because it was based on voter turnout data from the 1960s and 1970s, which was completely obsolete long before 2013. The Supreme Court upheld the rest of the VRA. It also held that Congress could pass a new law with a new formula, as long as the data for that formula was based on modern voting statistics. The Fifteenth Amendment only empowers Congress to pass voting rights legislation that is proportional to actual voting discrimination. I side with the Constitution.

Other Issues: ISIS is a threat to our national security for sure. We must address it now or suffer the long term consequences. End Student visas, end H1b and H2B visas and put Americans to work instead. -Our country is a mess. Jobs have been lost to China and other countries in the name of "Saving the planet" but we trade our clean and regulated smoke stacks for unregulated and dirty ones in China which actually hurts the planet. Government must stop trading clean jobs here for dirty jobs overseas. Regain State sovereignty & limit federal powers with the 10th amendment.

Ray Hall (Republican Party) – No response received

John Ratcliffe (Republican Party)

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Education: Southern Methodist University Law School - J.D. 1989 Norte Dame University - B.A. Government and International Studies 1987

Experience: U.S. Congressman: 2014 - current U.S. Attorney (Eastern District of Texas): 2007 - 2008 Chief of Anti-Terrorism and National Security (Eastern District of Texas): 2004 - 2007 Mayor of Heath, TX: 2004 - 2012

Immigration: The next Congress should begin tackling illegal immigration by ensuring that Congress, not the president through executive action, sets immigration laws as designed by our Constitution. Accordingly, I've voted to defund the President's executive amnesty and every single turn, and to ensure that federal dollars don't go to so called "sanctuary cities." As a former terrorism prosecutor and U.S. Attorney, I have a deeply rooted belief that tackling our illegal immigration must start with securing the border once and for all.

Foreign Intervention: One of the first roles of the federal government as outlined by the Constitution is to provide for the common defense. This means we must be willing to do whatever is necessary to defend our homeland to secure the safety and freedom of our citizens. We should intervene to protect the interests of the American people, not to engage in lengthy and costly nation building efforts. As a former U.S. Attorney, I put terrorist sympathizers in federal prison. I've seen the dangers of this up close and in person and I believe these experiences have put me in a position to ensure our safety.

Infrastructure: We need to cut fraud, waste, and abuse to ensure that federal tax dollar spent in areas actually go to good use. In that vein, I voted in favor of an amendment to the THUD Appropriations bill to repeal the Davis-Bacon Act. This Act mandates that federal construction workers be paid an artificially inflated wage that in some cases can be twice as much as the prevailing market rate. I will continue to lead the charge to be an effective steward of taxpayer dollars.

Social Security/Medicare/Medicaid: As a starting point, we need to stop raiding our trust funds for other spending. To redeem these IOUs from the US Treasury to the trustees of the trust fund, the US Treasury will have to issue more public debt. In this sense, intergovernmental debt, which is conveniently excluded from most debt to GDP calculations, will become public debt to be repaid by future generations. Additionally, it goes without saying that the rampant fraud, waste, and abuse in the system needs to be addressed in order to ensure those who have contributed to these programs can retain the benefits they rightly deserve.

Elections: I am a strong proponent of voting ID laws. Voting is our highest civic duty and we must take all necessary steps to stop voter fraud and keep our elections free from intimidation and corruption. It's hypocritical that some on the far left cry foul at voter ID laws when Americans are asked to present an ID for so many other daily activities in their lives.

Other Issues: Proving for the common defense is the primary role of the federal government and I will continue to support a strong military, support efforts to stop a nuclear Iran, and efforts to actually defeat ISIS once and for all. The out of the control spending and debt must be stopped, as it's our children and grandchildren who will pay the price for such fiscal irresponsibility. I introduced a balanced budget with defined spending caps to force the government to live within its means. Tackling illegal immigration should be another legislative priority.

Cody Wommack (Libertarian Party) – No response received

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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.