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Office Secretary of State
Name Natalie Tennant
Party Democrat
County of Residence Kanawha

Biography

I was Secretary of State for eight years where I streamlined and modernized the office, cut fees for businesses, saved money and gave back millions to taxpayers. I made voting more accessible I protected our elections and served our military. I have a Bachelors and Master's degree from WVU. Please visit www.natalietennant.com

1. What changes in current election laws would you recommend to make voting safer and more accessible?

I would implement automatic voter registration. It was passed by republicans and democrats 4 years ago and still has not been implemented by the current SOS. It's long past due because it brings more efficiency and breaks down barriers. I'd also explore ranked choice voting and risk limiting audits.

2. What changes need to be made in the way that campaign donor identities and campaign expenditures are made to the public?

There is too much money in campaigns. Campaign contribution limits should not have been raised in WV. We need to have a constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United and take dark money out of politics.

3. What would be your priorities for the Secretary of State's office to accomplish in the next four years?

I will take a transaction fee off of businesses that the current SOS placed on them. I'll restore an online chat to make it easier for customers to connect with the SOS office. I have a record of being an innovator and I will continue to make it easier to do business and vote in WV.

4. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective Secretary of State?

I'm the most qualified and effective SOS because I have 8 years experience and additional work as a national voting rights expert. I have a record of bringing technology and innovation. I will be brave so WV can be bold. It will take courage, vision and cooperation. I know we can do this WV. I believe in you.

Office Secretary of State
Name Mac Warner
Party Republican
County of Residence Kanawha

Biography

West Point, WVU Law, UVA Law Master's Degree International Law, Command and General Staff College, Army Law School instructor, staff at US Army War College, Chief of International Law US Army Europe, military service in Panama, Haiti, Bosnia, Germany and other locations, State Department contractor five years in Afghanistan leading world's largest Justice Sector Rule of Law Program. WV's 30th

1. What changes in current election laws would you recommend to make voting safer and more accessible?

Due to COVID-19, clerks sought options to run elections. They liked voters having to request absentee ballots, but still able to vote in person. I provided what they sought; we should keep: ability to open polls with only three poll workers; and allow clerks to process (not count) absentee ballots during the 10 days of early voting.

2. What changes need to be made in the way that campaign donor identities and campaign expenditures are made to the public?

WV undertook substantial campaign finance reform in the last legislative session, and that reform addressed some of the major issues that were needed. Heightened transparency, more frequent reporting, and fines for late filing of finance reports were some of the needed improvements. We can still encourage faster reporting of larger donations.

3. What would be your priorities for the Secretary of State's office to accomplish in the next four years?

Continue to clean bad data, not people, from voter registration list, giving WV accurate turnout reporting for the first time in over a decade. Continue to improve the Business One-Stop I started in my first year. Continue improving internet and phone connectivity between state agencies to improve the customer service experience.

4. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective Secretary of State?

I transformed the office: replaced the 2002 outdated system; put business platforms on-line for 24-7-365 access; it's easier than ever to start a business; and elections are more secure than ever. It's easy to vote and hard to cheat. My career of public service has trained me extensively to lead people, manage large systems, and serve customers.

Office Auditor

Name Mary Ann Roebuck Claytor

Party Democrat

County of Residence Kanawha

Biography

I was born and raised in Cabin Creek, WV, and now live in St. Albans with my husband of 36 years. I earned my Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting from West Virginia State College (University) and my Masters of Arts in Religion with a focus on biblical studies from Liberty University.

www.mac4wv.com

1. How would you ensure the transparency of all monies provided under the CARES Act and other COVID-19 relief funds?

All taxpayers should have full disclosure regarding money dispersed by the Auditor's Office. I will provide additional information than is currently available on the transparency website. Any business or entity receiving such funds will be listed, and the specific purpose for which these funds are to be used will be available for public inspection.

2. What do you hope to accomplish as Auditor?

Under the current auditor, over 40% of local governments' audits aren't issued for public inspection. I will streamline auditing procedures without reducing the quality of audits performed. I will place more emphasis on preventing fraud, therefore, decreasing the amount of money misappropriated or embezzled. I will make the transparency website more user friendly and add analytical data of financial information.

3. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective Auditor?

I am the only candidate for State Auditor who has experience in accounting and auditing. I worked as a real auditor for the West Virginia State Auditor's Office for 22 years. During those years, I performed financial and compliance audits and provided local governments training on budgeting and generally accepted accounting principles.

Office Auditor

Name John McCuskey

Party Republican

County of Residence

No Reply

Office State Treasurer
Name Riley Moore
Party Republican
County of Residence

No Reply

Office State Treasurer
Name John D. Perdue
Party Democrat
County of Residence Kanawha

Biography

I grew up in Boone County, WV, graduated from Scott High School, and received a BS from WVU in 1972. I started working for the Department of Agriculture in 1973, then moved to Governor Caperton's office as his Senior Aide in 1989. In 1996, I was elected State Treasurer and have held the position since. Read more at PerdueForTreasurer.com.

1. What changes would you make in the operation of the Treasurer's office?

Over the years, I have put safety, security and transparency at the forefront of the Treasurer's Office. With a team of skilled professionals, we have modernized and expanded the office. For example, West Virginians can purchase hunting and fishing licenses online, state agencies can conduct banking business electronically, and universities and municipalities can invest overnight.

2. What do you hope to accomplish as Treasurer?

The State Treasury is a trusted banking operation because I acted on my vision when I took office. During my next term, I will bring innovative expansions to the programs I established like SMART529, Financial Education and WVABLE. Other programs that continue to grow under my leadership include Unclaimed Property and West Virginia Retirement Plus.

3. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective Treasurer?

Banking and investing take experience and continuity to produce results. Serving as State Treasurer, I have built a strong and steady operation for West Virginia's future. We returned more than \$226 million in Unclaimed Property. We expanded SMART529. You can use it to pay K-12 tuition, vocational or technical school costs, expenses at colleges and universities, and much more.

Office Commissioner of Agriculture
Name Bob Beach
Party Democrat
County of Residence Monongalia

Biography

Lifelong West Virginia resident. Raised on large farming operation in Monongalia County. FFA/4-H. Trained in food safety and meat-cutting. Manager, Multi-store Supervisor, Perishable meat commodities Buyer, 20 years in the legislature as a member of the Committee on Agriculture. Member of the Southern Legislative Conference

Committee on Agriculture. Past member, WVU Davis School of Agriculture visitation team. FSU-Political Science.

1. How will you educate and assist farmers to protect water quality for future farmers and the public?

As a member of the legislature I have either co-sponsor or voted for legislation protecting our water resources. The WVDA is in fact a regulatory agency first, and must carry out the demands of code. However, we should advocate for farmers to ensure legislation does not hinder their operating ability. We should not be regulating water puddles on the farm.

2. What do you see in the future for farm tourism and what will your role be?

Agri-tourism as ample room to grow. WVDA must be an advocate. Recent agri-tourism passed by the legislature, which I had co-sponsored does in fact give flexibility to the farmer. However, marketing for this type of operation must be a higher priority within the Department. Less money should be spent on promoting the Department and more spent promoting the agricultural sector.

3. What do you hope to accomplish as Commissioner of Agriculture?

We must re-establish communication between the Department and our agricultural community. Resources for all, not just for the few. Advocate for all agriculture. Build a regional food supply and processing. Reposition WV as agricultural innovator. Build a plan and work it. Greenhouses in our schools. Grow our dairy farms. Establish a transferable agriculture curriculum, allowing for earned college credit.

4. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective Commissioner of Agriculture?

54 years of experience from farm to State House. Small scale high tunnel operator. Raised on a large Angus cattle farm in Monongalia County. Trained in food safety/ meat-cutting. Perishable meat commodities buyer, FFA, 4-H. Legislative Committee member on Agriculture, previous Chairman. Southern Legislative Conference, Committee on Agriculture. Previously a member of WVU Davis School of Agriculture Visitation Team.

Office Commissioner of Agriculture

Name Kent Leonhardt

Party Republican

County of Residence Monogalia

Biography

For 20 years, I served in the U.S Marine Corps. I bought an abandoned 380-acre farm in Western Monongalia County, bringing it back into full production. I was elected State Senator for the second district before being elected Commissioner in 2016. I served as a member of the Monongalia County Farm Bureau Board of Directors and Livestock Association.

Website – kentforwv.com

1. How will you educate and assist farmers to protect water quality for future farmers and the public?

As the Chair of the State Conservation Committee, we have been working with District Supervisors to expand efforts protecting our farmland. We expanded nutrient management plans, reducing runoff, and increased cooperation with the EPA and organizations such as WV River Coalition. We have taken a voluntary approach and are leading the way in efforts such as the Chesapeake Bay Restoration.

2. What do you see in the future for farm tourism and what will your role be?

Agritourism must be a part of the future in WV. My administration passed legislation reducing burdens on agritourism operations and works with our commerce and tourism offices to increase opportunities for businesses. We work with our state parks to host farm-to-table dinners, providing new markets for West Virginia producers. We work with our business development team to provide enhanced assistance.

3. What do you hope to accomplish as Commissioner of Agriculture?

I plan to build on our successes of the last 3.5 years. We have worked hard to provide new economic development opportunities for our farmers and introduce new, cash crops into WV. During this pandemic, we worked with the Governor’s office to keep agriculture moving. We

have helped our veterans, first responders, and the new generation of farmers find opportunity.

4. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective Commissioner of Agriculture?

Aside from the 3.5 years as Commissioner, I have led during peace and war. With the help of my wife, we restored our abandoned farm. I hold a degree in Wildlife Management with courses in agriculture life, animal sciences and ecology. My leadership and first-hand farming help to understand what our agriculture sector needs. I am the most qualified candidate.

Office Attorney General

Name Patrick Morrissey

Party Republican

County of Residence

No Reply

Office Attorney General

Name Sam Brown Petsonk

Party Democrat

County of Residence Fayette

Biography

I am a ninth-generation West Virginian. I have served as legislative assistant to Senator Robert C. Byrd, and as a Beckley-based lawyer in nonprofit legal services. I have dedicated my career to ensuring better wages, working conditions, and retirement benefits for coal miners and all workers. My wife and I reside with our two young sons in Fayette County. Website: SamforWV.com

1. As Attorney General, what areas of consumer protection would you emphasize and promote?

I will emphasize increasing the number of settlements of consumer cases, which have plummeted under the current AG. I will promote consumer protection against medical debt and student loan debt, and enforce antitrust laws to ensure fair competition for businesses. I will investigate wage theft, and worker misclassification, to fight fraud in the workplace, and help us to thrive.

2. What would be your priorities for the Attorney General's office to accomplish in the next four years?

We must protect healthcare coverage for West Virginians. As AG, I will remove our state from the dangerous lawsuit that threatens people with pre-existing conditions like high blood pressure, high cholesterol, COPD, diabetes, etc. I will fight corruption, combat the overdose crisis by supporting long-term recovery, and enforce laws to protect workers, seniors, small businesses and consumers from fraud.

3. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective Attorney General?

I've secured millions in complex class actions for hundreds of citizens. I conducted detailed oversight of public agencies for Senator Byrd, and litigated extensively before administrative agencies---key functions for the Attorney General. I've handled many matters of public concern: civil rights, school funding, Freedom of Information, Open Meetings, and served as president of the West Virginia Employment Lawyers Association.