

VOTERS GUIDE

MARCH 3, 2020, PRIMARY ELECTION US REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 3

Nonpartisan

Early voting: February 18-28 Election Day Polls: March 3 – 7 am to 7 pm

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 is available online at www.LWVCollin.org, along with guides for other offices that include all or part of Collin County. Candidate responses for all races are also available at www.VOTE411.org, where you can enter an address and view 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.

US Representative District 3

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

Questions

Immigration: What do you see as the most significant issues in the present immigration system? What steps would you take to improve them?

Economy: What tariffs do you support or oppose, and why?

Healthcare: What legislation would you support, if any, to ensure that children, people with disabilities, and seniors have health insurance coverage?

Gun Violence: What legislation would you support, if any, to curb gun violence in our country?

Climate Change: What measures, if any, do you support to address climate change and reduce the effects on public health and safety?

Security: What measures do you support to address our nation's security, including cybersecurity?

Elections: What measures do you support to improve and secure elections and voting in our country?

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?

Roger Barone Independent

No response received

Christopher J. Claytor Libertarian Party



Education: United States Military Academy at West Point

Experience: US Army Officer in Germany and Kuwait (1992 to 1995), supporting and defending

the US Constitution

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Immigration: I seek to encourage immigration of students, workers, and business owners willing to invest in Texas. As a Libertarian I believe in and encourage free and fair trade among individuals from all nations which allows the easy exchange of currency, goods, labor, and services. I support the spirit of the American Dream, where even the poorest immigrant can start anew, and through hard work, responsibility, and free market principles, may prosper and thrive. In order to improve the current system, we first need to end all entitlements from the Federal Government to all people.

Economy: I do not support any impediments to free trade. Tariffs are a tax, that restricts the free trade of goods between nations. All tariffs should be eliminated.

Healthcare: I supporting eliminating the income tax as a way of ensuring everyone can afford healthcare. The average Tax Burden for Americans is nearly 30%. If this money was allowed to stay in the hands of hard working Americans, they could afford adequate health care or insurance. For the poorest among us, charitable organizations will provide care, and will be more able to do so due to increased donations from Americans who do not have to pay so much in taxes any longer.

Gun Violence: I support reducing any and all restrictions to owning a gun. The second amendment to the US Constitution is very clear, " the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." However, many laws have been written to restrict our rights to protect ourselves and the criminals know this, and take advantage of it. So-called "gun-free zones" are a "do whatever I want zone" for a criminal, and must be removed.

Climate Change: I am a firm believer the time tested adage, "control what you can control." We should hold our Government accountable for not polluting. But to risk hostilities with other nations in an attempt to get them to stop polluting (e.g. the worst polluter, China), is simply not worth the risk.

Security: Our nation's security is critically important. As stated in the US Constitution, the federal government should "provide for the common defense." This includes staffing our armed

forces to address threats. The issue that we face today is that our armed forces are not just used for defense or our own sovereignty, they are used to police the world. The constant interference in other sovereign nations for many years, has created more threats to our security. We must end all foreign involvement (including monetary aid), and return all our armed forces to a defensive posture.

Elections: Elections security is directly tied to our national security. We need to stop interfering with other nations, and they will stop interfering in ours.

Other Issues: The national debt is now \$23.1 Trillion. This debt load is a drag on every aspect of the economy and our lives and must be dealt with. The Federal Government must cut spending and must start living within its means, and paying down this debt. I hold all current and previous office holders accountable for our continued reckless spending and borrowing. It seems very odd to me that no one seems to care that we are putting a huge burden on future generations to pay this debt. My fear is that the bill will come due sooner rather than later, and any savings we have will be taken from us.

Tanner Do Democratic Party



Education: Texas A&M University - Bachelors of Science.

Experience: I am a U.S. Army Veteran, and a former Veterans Aid to a decorated U.S Senator. I was also a staff member in the Texas Governor's Office in the Criminal Justice Division. I also worked for the Texas Workforce Commission.

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Immigration: Immigration is the bedrock of our country. As a nation of immigrants, we welcome those willing to follow the legal process to become citizens. We welcome immigrants...not with open borders, but with smart, comprehensive immigration and broader security solutions that both protect our nation and show our compassion. We must resolve the DACA issue to allow children who are already in the country to receive the same rights to

pursue education, jobs, and a decent livelihood. By holding them hostage under the DACA temporary status equates to inhumane treatment. We need to stop detaining children. **Economy:** The "trade war" with China has been disastrous for the economy, and has done much more harm than good for the American people. I do not condone the behavior of the Chinese and their crimes against humanity, and I would support the tariffs if their purpose was to punish them for their many disgusting behaviors, instead of tariffs to allow the U.S. to make a quick buck at the expense of farmers. I also endorse NAFTA and similar free trade agreements with Canada and Mexico.

Healthcare: My mother was a breast cancer survivor and my uncle lost his life to stomach cancer. I understand too well the cost to treat such serious illnesses and I will defend the Affordable Care Act (ACA) so that we can help those that are in desperate need of a basic health care they need when they need it. In addition, I will make it better by adding legislation to require preventive care, including: exercise plan, smoking cessation, mental health, drug addiction counseling, nutrition education, expanded health screenings for women, children, and the elderly.

Gun Violence: I understand and respect firearms and believe in sensible and reasonable gun safety ownership measures that protect the general population from rampant and mass gun violence as we witnessed recently in El Paso, Texas and Dayton, Ohio. Many House legislations have been shelved in the Senate because Senator Mitch McConnell does not believe gun owners should follow stringent background checks before buying a gun. He also does not believe in banning assault weapons (AR), a weapon that is responsible for most of the mass shooting deaths in America. I do.

Climate Change: As your Congressman, I will fight to keep public land public and protect our natural resources so that they may be enjoyed for generations to come. I will invoke legislation to bring the U.S. back into The Paris Agreement on Climate Change (an international agreement the Trump administration inexplicably, and unilaterally, withdrew from). The scientific communities have spoken and warned of more frequent, more devastating, and more expensive environmental catastrophes to come if the world community do not curb carbon emissions. Man-made climate change is at the forefront of impending threats.

Security: As a veteran, National Security is one of my most important issues. I believe that our troops are spread too thin across the world, occupying countries we should not be. While I support aiding and helping our allies, I think it's important to remember what reasons put our troops where they are, and that they need to come home. I would encourage the executive branch to recreate a Department of Technology to be able to monitor upcoming new technologies, and ensure that cybersecurity is well-funded and a top priority for Congress. **Elections:** To improve fair elections, I believe we should adopt a ranked-choice voting model in the United States. This would allow for candidates that are typically pushed aside to have a fighting chance against candidates backed by more money and more political prowess. I believe

Other Issues: I believe in fully funding public education and for expanding programs that help students succeed in college to prepare them for the Technological Age. Yes, we enacted the STEMS program to help children become innovators, but we also need children to learn the Humanities as well. A well-rounded education is what our children need. Our educators doing their part: working hard and being conscientious of the responsibility they have to our children,

we should look into blockchain software for voting.

and we need to provide the resources, training, and support they need to enable them to be the best teachers they could be to educate our children.

LWV-CC Voters Guide

Sean McCaffity Democratic Party



Education: Baylor University School of Law, J.D., 1999 Northwestern University, B.A., 1996 **Experience**: I am a trial attorney that has spent 20 years battling powerful and corrupt interests on behalf of victims of all types of abuse or wrongdoing. I served on the Lucas Planning & Zoning Commission and the board of the Dallas Urban Debate Alliance.

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Immigration: Asylum cases need to be processed and adjudicated much faster than they are now. I would support a comprehensive and extensive expansion of the immigration justice system. Additional immigration judges and agents are necessary to process claims both timely and fairly. I would support legislation that ensures prompt disposition of immigration cases that also balances an entrant's right to a fair process. Implementing a civil immigration analog to the Speedy Trial Act would be a step in the right direction. I also support a pathway to citizenship for DREAMers.

Economy: I oppose Trump's tariffs on China. It is short sighted, there is no strategy behind it, and it only serves to hurt American workers and consumers. While we should hold countries like China accountable when they cheat, we need to open up new markets for our small farmers and businesses that drive our economy here at home. Our existing trade institutions provide a forum to hold China accountable and we should use them more often instead of resorting to ever-escalating trade conflict.

Healthcare: I believe in universal healthcare and that everyone has a right to see a doctor when they're sick. We have to start by lowering costs of healthcare by creating a public option, allowing medicare to negotiate drug prices, ending surprise billing, and expanding medicaid. That can lead to a transitional pathway to a single payer system where everyone is covered. **Gun Violence:** I support universal background checks on all gun purchases, banning assault weapons, extreme risk prevention laws, and funding the CDC to research gun violence. Our

families and communities should not have to live in fear of gun violence and we should take action to protect our communities. The status quo is not acceptable.

Climate Change: Climate change is the existential crisis of our time. I would shift resources from the fossil fuel subsidies to invest in new, clean energy. I think we should set a goal to be carbon neutral and move to 100% clean energy. In the meantime, I support market based solutions such as a carbon tax and cap and trade because this problem is too big to not consider every option and tool.

Security: We should continue to modernize our military and ensure that our forces maintain the technological advantage we hold with respect to conventional warfare. We should also allocate resources to identify weaknesses in our existing electrical and energy infrastructure that could be vulnerable to cyberattack and fix those weaknesses. Congress should enhance its oversight of cybersecurity affairs and should more aggressively fund the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency that sits inside of Homeland Security. Congress needs to fund cybersecurity and take this challenge seriously.

Elections: I support legislation like H.R. 1 to strengthen voter security, help state and local officials share intelligence information to secure voting, and help develop an overall strategy to improve our cybersecurity. I would support measures that ensure that electronic voting systems are hardened against cyberattack and have reliable paper ballot backups. I would also support passage of the Securing America's Federal Elections Act and the Stopping Harmful Interference in Elections for a Lasting Democracy Act, which included many of these initiatives and that Van Taylor inexplicably voted against.

Other Issues: Student debt and the skyrocketing housing rates are additional issues I believe will be pressing in the next session. I would support legislation that expands student loan forgiveness programs, makes it easier to renegotiate loans at lower rates, and allow student loans to be discharged in bankruptcy. With respect to affordable housing, I would support legislation like the Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act that would help drive development of low income housing.

Lulu Seikaly Democratic Party



Education: Southern Methodist University, Bachelors of Art in Political Science. South Texas School of Law, JD

Experience: As an employment attorney, my work includes upholding and ensuring the enforcement of workers' protections for a harrassement-free workplace. I am running for Congress to bring true representation for my district to DC.

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Immigration: We need comprehensive immigration reform that prioritizes the unification of families and reflects the reality of our increasingly interconnected world. I will use my platform as U.S. Representative to stand with Texans impacted by our outdated immigration policies, support Texans who are advocating for comprehensive immigration reform, and highlight the benefit DREAMers have brought to our community.

Economy: The tariffs on products from China are hurting American workers. Trump's irrational and reckless tariffs don't allow business owners to be able to project future costs, hindering their ability to grow their businesses and hire new workers. In retaliation to tariffs, China is buying less American products. Trade policies and actions are diplomatic in nature and should reflect our values - human rights, fair competition, environmental equity. They should increase competition, not facilitate the increasing consolidation of profits and power among the world's largest corporate entities.

Healthcare: Healthcare is a right not a privilege. It should not matter how old you are and what your abilities are - every single American deserves access to quality, affordable healthcare. We need to permanently fund CHIP, lower the cost of prescription drugs by allowing Medicare to negotiate directly with pharmaceutical companies, lower the age to quality for Medicare from 65 to 60, and protect the provision of the ACA that prohibits insurance companies from denying coverage based on pre-existing conditions.

Gun Violence: We must first recognize that gun violence is a public health crisis. I would support "red flag" laws, universal background checks, and closing gun show loopholes to ensure that fire arms do not fall into the hands of people who should not have them.

Climate Change: The threat of climate change requires that we accelerate the pace of our transition to clean energy. I support tools including carbon taxes, renewable fuel standards, renewable electricity standards, and incentives for clean energy development to drive that transition forward. We know that these tools work, while also creating safe, good jobs, reducing energy costs, and making our communities cleaner and healthier.

Security: The U.S. should continue to be a leader on the world stage through legitimate conduct, sustained engagement, and the maintenance of robust military capabilities. We should also implement nationally standardized information security policies to more effectively protect our communications networks and critical national infrastructure.

Elections: I support paper receipts for electronic voting machines, post-election audits, and increased cyber security for electronic voting machines. I will work with other members of Congress to ensure election security is funded in the budget.

Other Issues: A strong economy relies on strong infrastructure. In 2018, Collin County voters approved \$750 million in bonds to pay for road projects because they know what I know - our infrastructure is aging, underperforming, and harming our economy. By 2025, infrastructure gaps will have cost us \$3.9 trillion in lost GDP and 2.5 million lost jobs and our businesses and consumers are paying the price. From transportation, water, and energy systems to increased access to broadband, we need an additional investment of \$3 trillion over the next 10 years.

Jeff Simmons Independent

No response received

Van Taylor Republican 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.