VETTING QUESTIONS FOR OUR POLITICAL CANDIDATES ON OUR U.S. CONSTITUTION & POLICY MATTERS.

(NOTE: Although originally intended for Federal offices, this can be adapted for State, County and local offices.)

Each election we all face the very same political conundrum. WHO is the best candidate for a specific office? HOW do we go about vetting the best candidate? WHAT questions can we as the voting electorate ask each candidate? WHERE do we search to find the right person for the right position? WHY is it necessary to read up on each candidate and make sure they understand the Constitution? WHEN is it necessary to question each candidate on their qualifications? And the HOW is below with questions for each candidate.

Candidates have come and gone throughout our political history. The only constant is the fact that each candidate needs to understand our Constitution in order to make laws, pass laws, interpret laws, and enforce the laws within the U.S. and State Constitutions. Below is a sampling of questions that will help stir the thought processes. These questions will lead to other questions and will help you and others find the most qualified person to represent you in the coming months and years. Hopefully by reading and understanding the Constitution yourself, you will become a more informed voter and will be able to better qualify the people that represent you in our local, state, and federal governments.

1. **What is the purpose of government?**

2. **What is the purpose of the Constitution?**

3. **We often talk about how America is exceptional and that our Constitution is unique. Can you tell us what, makes our Constitution different from all other living constitutions?**

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5. **Given that the government has the responsibility of protecting the rights of the people, can you tell us the difference between an unalienable right and a civil right? Can you give us some examples that distinguish the two?**
6. **Is Health care a fundamental right? Why or why not?**

7. What is more important in your view, public safety or individual rights, and how will this play into your legislative decision making?

8. Can the government infringe on inalienable rights?

9. Is capitalism an essential component of a free society? If so, what will you do to restore capitalism?

10. Does the Constitution say anything about a democracy or a republic?

11. What is the difference between a democracy and a republic?

12. Why is the principle of the separation of powers so important?

13. What does the 10th Amendment speak to?

14. With all the problems we have with judges, including the Supreme Court Judges, do you believe we should elect judges?

15. Where does the legislative branch find its authority in the U.S. Constitution?

16. How many different powers are specifically granted to the legislative branch of government through Article 1, Section 8?

17. Please name at least five of the 20 grants of authority (no police power granted; only to States) that the legislative branch has power to exercise through Article I, Section 8.

18. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has historically created problems and has not followed legal precedent outlined by the U.S. Supreme Court. What can you do to address the problem?

19. A. U.S. citizen was once heard making this statement when asked where was constitutional authority to enact health care legislation: "Where in the Constitution does it say we can't?" Do you see anything wrong with this statement?

20. How will we know that you never agree to any legislation that is not justified under the Constitution?

21. Do you believe executive orders are constitutional? If not, what will you do about them?

22. What is the function of the U.S. Supreme Court?

23. Should the legislature be able to overturn a U.S. Supreme Court decision if they disagree with it, short of a constitutional amendment?

24. We hear all about the laws that many congressmen and congresswomen wish to push forward. My question is much different than this. What laws and agencies will you move to repeal and what will you do to make this happen?

25. Is social welfare the job of government?

26. What does the Constitution say about social security and what will you do, using the Constitution as your guide, to address this issue?

27. What does the Constitution say about Foreign aid, and how will you address this particular issue?

28. Can the Federal government constitutionally spend more money than it takes in? If the answer is "yes" what would you do to exercise fiscal responsibility?

29. What does the Constitution say about the ability to tax income and what will you do about it.

30. What are your thoughts on the 17th Amendment and should it be repealed? Would you support an amendment to repeal it?

31. Does the Constitution provide for a Department of Education, Commerce, Energy, etc.?

32. To what degree should the federal government be able to regulate business, or firearms?

33. How should the federal government deal with the drug war?

34. What are your strengths and weaknesses?

35. How would you legislate an amendment to stop taxpayer funding of abortions for Planned Parenthood?

36. Do you stand in support with Israel?

37. How would you handle the Sanctuary City problem?

38. How do you feel about the U.S's participation in the UN?

39. Where do you stand on the refugee resettlement act?

40. How do you expect to make the DOJ enforce our immigration laws, including material support?

41. How will you run this campaign differently than in the past ones? What will you do to get different result?

42. How do you distinguish yourself differently from your opponents?

43. What are your top 3 issues you want to address when in Congress?

44. What is your position on the National Popular Vote (NPV)?