



Wyoming Republican Candidate Profile Questionnaire

Note to All Wyoming State Republican Party Candidates in the 2018 Primary Election,

Thank you for filing as a candidate to represent our State and your Wyoming Republican Party. You have chosen a very difficult path that many would never consider going down. Your Wyoming State Party leadership recognizes the trials and tribulations each of you will encounter as the fight for your spot on the General Election Ballot. To that end, we are here to help both you and your constituency get to know one another as you blaze your path toward victory.

After the 2016 election cycle, your Wyoming State Central Committee (SCC) took for action numerous issues Republican voters raised ranging from a core desire to vote directly for our Republican Presidential Nominee to wanting more opportunities to meet with, and more information on, candidates at all levels of government as voters want insight into how a candidate may govern if elected for office. Historically, one of the most asked questions during election cycles is “Where can I find reliable information about our candidates?”

Your Wyoming Republican Party recognizes this as a critical issue that must be addressed to get voters to turn out in support our candidates. We are committed to assisting by asking candidates to provide answers to questions, in their own words, which we can post to our state website, so voters have a reliable place to find relevant candidate information.

As a candidate you will receive dozens of surveys, questionnaires, and requests from the press as well as various watchdog entities to provide answers to questions that are typically geared to their organization’s specific bias. Some a candidate will choose to address all of them while others may not be addressed due time constraints or relevancy.

This questionnaire was initiated as a result of the extraordinary number of questions posed by voters to members of the Wyoming State Central Committee over the past year. And although every question here has not been specifically approved by the full SCC, the concept was endorsed by the full SCC in a unanimous voice vote, as a part of developing external and internal party feedback systems.

These questions were gathered from SCC members across several State Committees, from feedback at various County Party Precinct Caucuses and County Conventions, was compiled by our State Party 2018 Committee to Win, and recently approved by our State Party Executive Committee (18 June 2018) as our primary tool to provide our voters with robust, reliable, and relevant candidate vetted information.

If you have questions regarding this questionnaire, please contact your Wyoming Republican Party Chairman, Mr. Frank Eathorne at chairman@wyoming.gop.

The questions here reflect current issues you are likely to face during a coming term in office and ask each candidate to provide, in their own words, their thoughts and opinions regarding a significant number of topics and questions. We appreciate your time and effort in responding to our questionnaire.



1) *How would you describe the proper role of government?*

The proper role of government is to secure the unalienable rights of all mankind, rights which are endowed by their Creator. Government then derives its powers from the consent of the governed.

Therefore, federal government should be limited to certain basic powers agreed upon by “We the People” (The Constitution) and should never exceed those powers.

The role of state government is to secure liberties to our posterity. (see Preamble of Wyoming’s Constitution)

2) *How would you describe your role as a Republican elected official in our constitutionally defined form of government?*

The foremost role of any official regardless of party is to uphold the constitutions of our state and nation. Secondly, any elected official must see themselves as a public servant willing to stand for truth in a shifting world.

As a Republican, I stand for efficient, transparent, conservative government that upholds the constitution and serves the people of Wyoming.

3) *Describe your core values.*

A) I am first and foremost a follower of Jesus Christ. I will never be ashamed to identify with Someone who was willing to literally die for me. His Word (The Bible) “is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.”

B) I am a conservative. Which means, I believe the ideals of our founders (the dream of freedom and self-government. The rule of law rather than the whims of kings) are natural God-given rights and must be conserved for every generation.

C) I believe in limited government. In the age of an abandonment of moral truth, I do not believe government must step in and arbitrate truth for us. If government tries to take on the role of God, it always become tyrannical.

Government must remain limited to the roles outlined for it by “We the People.”



4) Where do you place yourself on the political, ideological spectrum?

I am a Pro-life, Pro-family, Pro-2nd Amendment, Limited Government, Constitutional Conservative.

Which means that I am a classic Constitutional Conservative.

5) There is a nationwide push that has now come to Wyoming for the creation/expansion of protected classes in the form of additional anti-discrimination laws. Considering that Article 1, Section's 2 and 3 of Wyoming's Constitution respectively state:

“In their inherent right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, all members of the human race are equal.” and, “Since equality in the enjoyment of natural and civil rights is only made sure through political equality, the laws of this state affecting the political rights and privileges of its citizens shall be without distinction of race, color, sex, or any circumstance or condition whatsoever other than individual incompetency, or unworthiness duly ascertained by a court of competent jurisdiction.”

What, if anything, should Wyoming do in this arena?

Wyoming's laws have been carefully designed to protect the rights of all. In the push for new protected classes, we have to be aware that it is the will of some to use those new laws to reverse-discriminate against anyone with whom they disagree.

We should not allow this damaging ideology to come into our state.

6) What are your thoughts about funding and cultivating Wyoming's K-12 education?

Wyoming's education system has been funded at the highest level for the Rocky Mountain region. We need to make sure funding makes its way to the classroom and our teachers have more time to teach students.

7) Are you familiar with, and do you generally support or oppose, the Wyoming Education Association's position statements and legislative platform?

I have found the WEA has opposed many of the common-sense conservative proposals made in the legislature.

I love teachers and owe so much to the teachers who invested their lives in me, but I oppose the liberal mindset of the WEA and the NEA.



8) What is your position on federal management of public lands in Wyoming?

I believe more research must be done on this issue. During the Obama Administration, we saw how the Federal Government could become arbitrary and capricious. Also, because of the “roadless rules,” begun under the Clinton Administration, our federal lands have been less accessible and manageable.

WE must have an open dialogue on this issue, so these lands remain accessible to future generations for hunting, fishing and public access.

9) What is your view on the Federal debts/deficits and Wyoming’s budget gap between proposed spending and revenue as they impact on our nation and state, and how will you address them as an elected official. What do you think about raising taxes to meet our state’s projected budget shortfall?

The level of Federal debt looms as a threat that must be remedied. If the dollar ever ceases to be the “World Currency,” we will have a massive economic correction that will be epochal.

Wyoming’s structural deficit must be addressed as well. During the last period of rapid contraction, we found ourselves spending far more in several areas than we should be.

As your Wyoming State Auditor, I will work with the Efficiency Commission efforts, which I strongly supported in the legislature. The potential saving to the state are in the hundreds of millions of dollars, as well as an opportunity to ensure the most efficient practices are being used to run state government.

We should not raise taxes. We should make sure our house is in order.

10) Do you support or oppose an income tax for Wyoming? Why?

I oppose an income tax. The imposition of an income tax would drive potential economic partners away precisely at a time when we need their investment to diversify our economy.

11) Do you support continued state funding to cities, towns, and counties?

When the legislature voted to discontinue sales tax on many locally bought goods, it left cities, towns and counties with the mandate to maintain adequate infrastructure but inadequate funding with which to get it done.

Until the valuation returns as the economy stabilizes, I do not see how the direct distribution can cease.



12) When it comes to the state budget, what are your priorities? For example, Transportation, Education, University of Wyoming, Community Colleges, Agriculture, Department of Health, Game & Fish, etc.?

I believe that priority should fall to the core functions such as roads, sewer, water and other infrastructure. For the Wyoming State Auditor who also sits on the State Loan and Investment Board, I believe fostering smart conservative economic development must be a priority.

13) In what instance(s) should the federal, state, or local government restrict the right to carry arms?

The right to keep and bear is not to be infringed upon.

14) For many years now, federal bureaucratic and regulatory actions are often initiated against Wyoming residents for issues related to what have been standard agricultural or energy production practices for decades, but now deemed recently as incompatible with federal policy by administrative edict. How would you as an elected official respond to instances of federal overreach?

As a State Auditor, the only real way in which I may respond is by advocating for our agriculture and energy industries on the State Loan and Investment Board and the State Land Board.

15) Have you reviewed the 2018 Platform and Resolutions developed at convention by the Wyoming Republican Party?

Yes

16) It is the rare Republican who agrees with our Platform 100%. Article 1, Paragraph 3 of the 2018 Bylaws of the Wyoming Republican Party defines the role of the Republican Party as:

3. Role

1. The role of the Wyoming Republican Party is: to recruit citizens to join the Republican Party; to establish the Platform of the Wyoming Republican Party; to achieve the election of Republican candidates who substantially uphold the platform of



the Wyoming Republican Party and to conduct the business of the Wyoming Republican Party.

What is your definition of the word “substantially”? Are there planks in the 2018 Platform with which you oppose to a level of non-support in legislation? Will you identify those during your campaign if asked by constituents?

The Platforms of the Wyoming Republican Party are principles designed to be timeless. I agree with the Platform of the Wyoming Republican Party.

Candidate: **Nathan Winters**

Office Running for: **Wyoming State Auditor**

Candidate’s Signature _____ Date: **July 6, 2018**

NOTE: Your submission via e-mail (alldta@gmail.com) will serve as a signature, or if you chose to send the hard copy back, please sign and return to:

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