

#BLACKLIVESMATTER BLOOMINGTON

2018 Midterm Voter's Guide

In September 2018, midterm candidates received a questionnaire covering issues vitally important to the black community's health and well-being. Black Lives Matter has evaluated and rated each candidate's responses for voters. We also considered participation in "A Seat at the Table: Midterm Candidate Discussions" and candidate backgrounds. Full responses from all candidates are available on our website. These scores are provided to voters for informational purposes. Black Lives Matter does NOT endorse specific candidates.

WE BASED OUR GRADES ON 6 VALUE STATEMENTS, REFERENCED IN THE BOXES BELOW. PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO READ THESE STATEMENTS IN FULL.

ASSESSMENT BREAKDOWN:

STRONGLY AGREE (SA), AGREE (A), NEUTRAL (N), DISAGREE (D), STRONGLY DISAGREE (SD) & NOT APPLICABLE (NA)

LIZ WATSON (D), HOUSE DISTRICT 9	OVERALL ASSESSMENT = AGREE AWARENESS: N POSITION: N VISION: N VOICE AT THE TABLE: A EFFECTIVENESS: A COMPORMENT: A
JIM HARPER (D), SECRETARY OF STATE	OVERALL ASSESSMENT = AGREE AWARENESS: SA POSITION: A VISION: A VOICE AT THE TABLE: A EFFECTIVENESS: A COMPORMENT: A
MATT PIERCE (D), IN HOUSE D61	OVERALL ASSESSMENT = NEUTRAL AWARENESS: D POSITION: N VISION: N VOICE AT THE TABLE: N EFFECTIVENESS: N COMPORMENT: N
THOMASINA MARSILI (D), IN HOUSE D46	OVERALL ASSESSMENT = AGREE AWARENESS: A POSITION: A VISION: A VOICE AT THE TABLE: SA EFFECTIVENESS: N COMPORMENT: A
JARED STANCOMBE (D), IN HOUSE D65	OVERALL ASSESSMENT = AGREE AWARENESS: A POSITION: A VISION: A VOICE AT THE TABLE: A EFFECTIVENESS: A COMPORMENT: A
PENNY GITHENS (D), IN HOUSE D60	OVERALL ASSESSMENT = NEUTRAL AWARENESS: D POSITION: N VISION: N VOICE AT THE TABLE: N EFFECTIVENESS: N COMPORMENT: N
ERIKA OLIPHANT (D), COUNTY PROSECUTOR	OVERALL ASSESSMENT = AGREE AWARENESS: A POSITION: A VISION: A VOICE AT THE TABLE: SA EFFECTIVENESS: A COMPORMENT: SA
ERIC SCHMITZ (D), COUNTY RECORDER	OVERALL ASSESSMENT = NEUTRAL AWARENESS: N POSITION: NA VISION: A VOICE AT THE TABLE: N EFFECTIVENESS: A COMPORMENT: N
LEE JONES (D), COUNTY COMMISSIONER	OVERALL ASSESSMENT = NEUTRAL AWARENESS: D POSITION: N VISION: D VOICE AT THE TABLE: N EFFECTIVENESS: N COMPORMENT: N

Please visit blm.btown-in.org to read the full candidate responses to our questionnaire, see videos of BLM's "A Seat at the Table" round-table discussions with some of the candidates, guidelines on our grading, and our statements on candidate participation.

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NICOLE BROWNE (D), COUNTY CLERK	OVERALL ASSESSMENT = STRONGLY AGREE AWARENESS: A POSITION: NA VISION: SA VOICE AT THE TABLE: SA EFFECTIVENESS: SA COMPORMENT: A
SHELLI YODER (D) COUNTY COUNCIL D1	OVERALL ASSESSMENT = STRONGLY AGREE AWARENESS: SA POSITION: A VISION: A VOICE AT THE TABLE: SA EFFECTIVENESS: A COMPORMENT: SA
ANN BOEHM (R) COUNTY COUNCIL D1	OVERALL ASSESSMENT = DISAGREE AWARENESS: D POSITION: D VISION: N VOICE AT THE TABLE: N EFFECTIVENESS: D COMPORMENT: D
KATE WILTZ (D) COUNTY COUNCIL D2	OVERALL ASSESSMENT = NEUTRAL AWARENESS: N POSITION: N VISION: N VOICE AT THE TABLE: N EFFECTIVENESS: N COMPORMENT: N
ANN COLLINS (R), COUNTY COUNCIL D2	OVERALL ASSESSMENT = DISAGREE AWARENESS: D POSITION: D VISION: SD VOICE AT THE TABLE: D EFFECTIVENESS: D COMPORMENT: D
ASHLEY PIRANI (D), COUNTY COUNCIL D3	OVERALL ASSESSMENT = NEUTRAL AWARENESS: N POSITION: A VISION: N VOICE AT THE TABLE: N EFFECTIVENESS: N COMPORMENT: A

Candidates that Did Not Reply:

BLM's "A Seat at the Table" and Voter's Guide are revolutionary means of advocating for our community. Candidates espousing inclusionary beliefs and policies were particularly obligated to engage and listen to the concerns of all community members. Those who did not reply displayed a disregard for marginalized voters and the community at large.

Mike Braun, Trey Hollingsworth, Jeff Ellington, Brad Swain, Larry Barker, Eric Spoonmore, Marty Hawk, Peggy Mayfield

Though Trey Hollingsworth did not respond to our invitations, we nevertheless feel it is important to mention that #BLM strongly opposes his positions on immigration, healthcare, women's reproductive rights, and firearm regulations.

Candidates that Replied But Declined:

While BLM appreciates receiving the responses from candidates who declined to participate, we would hope that, in the future, they will fully engage by attending events sponsored by people of color and answering questions related to issues affecting marginalized groups.

Joe Donnelly, Amy Swain, Judith Sharp, Connie Lawson

Jacob Franklin, candidate for County Clerk, withdrew his confirmed participation in "A Seat at the Table" days before the event. He then used an immaterial statement made at the event by County Clerk Nicole Browne as the basis for a smear campaign against a woman of color that BLM adamantly denounces. Please see our Facebook page for a full statement:
www.facebook.com/blacklivesmatterbtown

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Judicial Canons of Ethics limit what judicial candidates can say regarding issues that may come before the candidate as a judge on the bench, and therefore some of our questions could not be answered by the Judicial Candidates.

CHRISTINE TALLEY-HASEMAN (D),
JUDGE 10TH MO. CO. CIRCUIT COURT,
SEAT 2

OVERALL ASSESSMENT = AGREE

AWARENESS: A POSITION: NA VISION: A
VOICE AT THE TABLE: A EFFECTIVENESS: A COMPORMENT: A

CATHERINE STAFFORD (D), JUDGE 10TH
MO. CO. CIRCUIT COURT, SEAT 3

OVERALL ASSESSMENT = AGREE

AWARENESS: A POSITION: NA VISION: A
VOICE AT THE TABLE: A EFFECTIVENESS: N COMPORMENT: A

DARCIE FAWCETT (D), JUDGE 10TH MO.
CO. CIRCUIT COURT, SEAT 8

OVERALL ASSESSMENT = NEUTRAL

AWARENESS: N POSITION: NA VISION: N
VOICE AT THE TABLE: N EFFECTIVENESS: N COMPORMENT: N

Questions on the Ballot :

Should Indiana Supreme Court Justice Geoffery Slaughter & Indiana 2nd district Court of Appeals Judge Robert Altice retain their positions.

Relevant Information:

Both judges are appointees of former Indiana Governor Mike Pence.



BLM 2018 midterm Voter's guide does not cover candidates for the Township Trustees, Township Board Members, or the MCCSC School Board election.



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