

SALINA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

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US House of Representatives District 1

Candidate Name: Paul Buskirk

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Occupation: Educator

Education: Bachelors in Psychology; Master's in Counseling

Please limit responses to the questions to 200 words per question.

- 1. What is your motive for running for this office and what are your qualifications?** I was raised in a family of service. As I look at our elected and appointed officials in Washington, they seem to spend most their time fussing and bickering with one another and ignoring the core of serving their communities. It is time to remind ourselves of the purpose of Government: to serve the needs of the people.

For nearly 40 years I have worked to help high school students get to college; and help college students complete their degrees and begin their careers. My vast experience includes working in high-stress and high-demand atmospheres where bringing people together is the only way to move forward and to serve.

- 2. How can we be assured that, if elected, you will work in the best interests of your constituents versus your personal interests?** I always honor my word,

My first 100 days in office will be invested with meeting my 434 new colleagues in the House of Representatives – learning about their journeys and the needs of the communities they represent. Hopefully they will be willing to listen about the needs of the communities in our 1st District of Kansas. We cannot wait until the moment of dispute or heated negotiation to meet for the first time. Government can succeed when good people “give a little to gain a little” in support of their communities.

You have my word.

- 3. What will you do to address the Gun Violence crisis?** Our country’s founders established the 2nd amendment as part of the Bill of Rights – to assure these new and unruly colonies that their freedoms would be protected. These same founders, ordinary people shaped by extraordinary times, knew that this framework of government would evolve over time. And I believe they embraced that America would lean upon its common sense to grow.

Requiring permits to own a gun makes sense.

Requiring a brief waiting period to conduct background checks makes sense.

Locking up guns makes sense.

Keeping guns out of the hands of those who would do harm to themselves or to others makes sense.

And the most advanced gun available to soldiers of 1787 could shoot 3 rounds per minute. I truly doubt that the founders would see any common sense in allowing weapons that shoot hundreds of rounds per minute to be accessed by anyone outside of our police and armed forces.

Common sense.

