

## **Before We Vote, Will We Listen and Study Candidates Judiciously?**

**Perhaps the fact that we have seen millions voting themselves into complete dependence on a tyrant has made our generation understand that to choose one's government is not necessarily to secure freedom.**

**—Friedrich August von Hayek**

Quite possibly, we will likely not be given another chance to save our republic.

### **Questions to Think About Weeks Before We vote**

**If more than one candidate claims to represents your views, how will you decide to trust a candidate?**

1. Whether or not this is a candidates' first run for office, he or she likely has a history. Have you spent time researching numerous documented media records to learn if what your heard is true?
2. Individuals can change their mind. Given a choice between 2 or more candidates for a position, how recently did he/she become conservative or representative of your views?
3. Can the candidate explain conservatism or libertarianism?
4. Does the candidate talk about or use the words *freedom, Constitution, protection of private property, Judeo-Christian heritage, Founding Fathers, republic, free market economics, religious freedom, right to life*?
5. Does the candidate talk about *limited government, local control, transparency, and federalism, free market or God-given, inalienable, 6. individual rights*?
6. Does the candidate ever refer to our 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment, 2nd Amendment, 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment, 5<sup>th</sup> Amendment, 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment, or other amendments in our Bill of Rights?

7. Does the candidate have familiarity with organizations well-known for protection and restoration of private property, individual freedom, the free market, and limited government such as Freedom Foundation, Citizens Alliance for Property Rights, Pacific Legal Foundation, Mountain States Legal Foundation, Tea Party Patriots, right to life organizations, etc.?
8. Has the candidate participated in the, above, liberty oriented organizations?
9. How knowledgeable is the candidate on numerous issues relating to the office sought?
10. When time allows, does the candidate discuss numerous county, state, or national issues (depending on office)?
11. Does your candidate directly respond to questions, obfuscate, or change the subject?
12. Aside from summarizing qualifications or describing direct involvement in an issue, how often does the candidate focus on himself/herself instead of issues?
13. Has the candidate consistently shared your views and defended or promoted the causes about which you care, and lived his life consistent to these values?
14. Has the candidate avoided taking positions on controversial issues or flip-flopped more than once on an issue?
15. How does the candidate treat opponents?
16. For which candidate (if choosing among more than one) if elected, can you better predict the future performance you seek?
17. Think of statesman/stateswoman you greatly respect (Lincoln, Washington, Reagan, Thatcher). How closely does your candidate resemble this individual? Would this leader vote for this candidate?

18. Is this candidate a role model for our children and grandchildren?

19. Can you imagine this candidate as a role model if elected?

20. If one of 2 or more candidates does not satisfactorily satisfy all or most of these questions, will you vote for this individual?

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