

**Do you support a reduction to the cap on property tax assessments?**

I am opposed to tax increases because the money is used to grow government. However, there is a need for basic government services and appropriate funding. I would need to see the complete budget picture before deciding whether to change the cap on tax assessments.

**If elected will you support the “Constant Yield Tax Rate” for Carroll County?**

Yes – constant yield is available to the County and it will keep the taxes that residents pay at the same amount regardless of increases in their property assessments. Tax rates should be reduced to keep the taxes paid the same when property values increase.

**Would you support Code Home Rule?**

No – I support the current 5 Commissioner Districts. The County recently adopted the 5 Districts and I do not see a need to change the form of government at this time.

**Would you support Charter Government?**

No. I am opposed to Charter government for many reasons. I have seen how it operates in adjacent counties and in Taneytown and have personally experienced the abuse of power from Charter government in Taneytown. I will not vote to subject other citizens to the same abuses.

**Would you support the creation of a county-funded professional Fire Department?**

Depends on why we need to pay the fire fighters. The argument is made that people are not volunteering in the usual numbers. I would like to actively increase recruiting at high schools before going to a paid cadre of firefighters.

Volunteer fire departments provide an intangible benefit integral to the rural character of Carroll County that will change if government takes control. The volunteer nature of fire departments brings out the best in people and creates lifelong stable multi-generational communities, which helps with drug abuse prevention. Young people find purpose in serving their

communities which prevents alienation and isolation.

The government must "help" without creating a top heavy, self perpetuating overpaid bureaucracy as happens so often, even with the best intentions.

**Would you support protecting farmers/landowners rights to be able to sell their property?**

I support the Constitutional right of every landowner to buy and sell real property.

**How do you plan on working with the BOE to do what is best for students and tax payers?**

My role as Commissioner is to provide funding for the BOE based on their budget request. If they submit a fully justified budget, I will vote for it.

**How would you rate Governor Hogan's performance?**

The Governor has done very well in keeping taxes down and balancing the budget. He should get credit for reducing many fees that citizens were forced to pay in the past.

**How do you plan on working with the delegation to do what is best for Carroll County?**

I would meet with the Delegation as required to discuss proposed legislation and offer my input. I have a law degree and legal background which will allow me to offer constructive comments. I have experience in drafting legislation and in critical analysis of legislation to make sure it does not violate the US or State Constitution.

**Is it fair to assume prior donations to individuals and campaigns reflect your character and values?**

Sounds like a leading "gotcha" question. Depends on many factors, including how long ago a donation was made, to whom it was made, relevance to current situation, etc. Many people change ideologies and parties as they grow older.

**Governor Hogan and President Trump are both Republicans. However, they have two very different approaches when it comes to**

**governing. As a Republican, do you think that it is possible to be a supporter of both Governor Hogan and President Trump?**

Absolutely. Not only is it possible, I voted for both in the past election because of their different leadership styles, each one perfect for a liberal state like Maryland and a US general population fed up with liberal policies.

**Have you ever been a named party in a lawsuit against the Maryland Republican party or one of the state's Republican central committees?**

No, but the question is pejorative and somewhat anti-judicial. The judiciary serves an important role in the separation of powers to prevent legislative abuse.

**Are you able to work with Republicans who have varying conservative ideologies?**

I am a real Constitutional conservative. However, there are candidates who claim to be Conservative Republicans but really are not. I can work with anybody who sincerely wants to solve problems. I will always first ask "what is the proper role of government in addressing an issue."

**What is your favorite thing about living in Carroll County?**

I love the rural life style of Carroll County.

**In three words, describe Carroll County Values.**

Rural, Faith, Constitution

**When and why did you become a Republican?**

I am a Republican because it is supposed to be the "Pro-Life" party. I became an active Republican when I witnessed the number of government agencies paid by taxpayer dollars to assist victims of domestic violence who didn't do their job. It really opened my eyes to the length, depth and breadth of government waste, indifference and outright abuse of citizens who need help. Citizens are fed up with unresponsive government which lacks the discipline to limit itself and remain a servant of the people, instead passing unethical "ethics" ordinances to make a conflict of interest not a conflict of interest to pad their own pockets.

### **Are you pro-Life?**

Absolutely, I am pro-life from the minute a complete set of chromosomes creates a human, not a plant or an animal, but a human being in the image of God. Horton heard it right: "A person is a person, no matter how small." Pro-life is a well established Republican party platform, even though sadly many Republicans refuse to stand on that platform for fear of losing an election. We have no other Constitutional rights or economic privileges until we first have life. I am a Mike Pence Republican: "Christian, Pro-Life, Republican, in that order."

### **Are you supportive of the Second Amendment?**

Absolutely. The framers of the Constitution never anticipated the removal of the Judeo-Christian God, the Bible and prayer from the family and the public sphere. Separation of Church and State was to keep the State out of the church, not to keep our faith out of community, including government. The result is the mass murders we are now experiencing. We have a much bigger violence problem than a gun problem because our nation has lost it's moral compass.