

Questions for Candidates for County Party Chairman

from the Conservative Coalition of North/Northwest Harris County

Thank you for taking the time to run for office. A group of Harris County voters have put together a voter guide panel for the purpose of getting to know the candidates in contested races in the north and northwest Harris county areas. We are similar to the League of Women Voters in the sense that we study candidates and put out a voter guide. Please read each question CAREFULLY and enter the appropriate 'letter' which most accurately describes your answer in the box to the far right of the question. Feel free to add comments (optional and encouraged) *(Please be as brief, concise, & clear as possible.)*

Your Name: Edward S. "Ed" Hubbard

Office Running for: Harris County Republican Chair

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|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Regarding state government's size, power and cost, should we ... Increase it with inflation and population increase, freeze it or reduce it? | <input type="checkbox"/> Increase
<input type="checkbox"/> Freeze
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce
<input type="checkbox"/> Undecided | R |
| Comments: Reducing the size and power of government is important, not just to protect our liberty, but to control and reduce the relative cost of government. However, even if the size and power are reduced, population and inflation will always put an upward pressure on the costs of the functions of government, so you have to remain vigilant to control and reduce costs wherever possible. | | | |
| 2. | Regarding local government's size, power and cost, should we ... Increase it with inflation and population increase, freeze it or reduce it? | <input type="checkbox"/> Increase
<input type="checkbox"/> Freeze
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce
<input type="checkbox"/> Undecided | R |
| Comments: Same as the comment to #1. | | | |
| 3. | Do you support the original intent or evolving interpretation of the US Constitution? | <input type="checkbox"/> Original
<input type="checkbox"/> Evolving
<input type="checkbox"/> Undecided | O |
| Comments: | | | |
| 4. | Do you support shifting welfare programs from the government sector to the private sector? | <input type="checkbox"/> Support
<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
<input type="checkbox"/> Undecided | S |
| Comments: | | | |
| 5. | Do you support eliminating all federal, state, and local benefits to illegals? | <input type="checkbox"/> Support
<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
<input type="checkbox"/> Undecided | S |
| Comments: The only "support" that may need to continue is access to emergency health services, in order to protect the general population from the spread of preventable communicable illnesses that any of us could spread to each other. | | | |

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|---|--|--|---|
| 6. | Which do you tend to support more ... local independent control or centralized efficient control? why? | <input type="radio"/> Local
<input type="radio"/> Central
<input type="radio"/> Undecided | L |
| Comments: | | | |
| 7. | Do you support the concept of State Nullification when the federal government passes legislation beyond the powers granted by the US constitution? | <input type="radio"/> Support
<input type="radio"/> Oppose
<input type="radio"/> Undecided | U |
| Comments: I support the right of states to decline federal mandates, or voluntary federal programs the acceptance of which lead to mandates on the states. However, I do not believe the states have the general authority under the constitution to override or nullify any federal law, because of the Supremacy Clause in the Constitution. | | | |
| 8. | Do you support the legalization of marijuana? | <input type="radio"/> Support
<input type="radio"/> Oppose
<input type="radio"/> Undecided | O |
| Comments: | | | |
| 9. | Should Roe v. Wade be overturned? Why or why not? | <input type="radio"/> Yes
<input type="radio"/> No
<input type="radio"/> Undecided | Y |
| Comments: I am pro-life, and I believe in the principle of federalism. This decision violates both principles. | | | |
| 10. | Is economic growth the responsibility of government? | <input type="radio"/> Yes
<input type="radio"/> No
<input type="radio"/> Undecided | N |
| Comments: | | | |
| 11. | Which is more important for government to preserve safety or liberty? Why? | <input type="radio"/> Safety
<input type="radio"/> Liberty
<input type="radio"/> Undecided | L |
| Comments: While I err toward liberty, this question addresses the classic tension in our system of government. I believe that the Declaration of Independence outlines what the Constitution eventually was designed to protect and preserve. The Declaration recognizes that a fundamental purpose of any government is to "effect" the "safety and happiness" of its citizens. However, the specific purpose of the "safety" to be "effected" by our government, as referenced in the Declaration, is to preserve our inalienable rights. | | | |
| 12. | Do you support auditing the federal reserve? | <input type="radio"/> Support
<input type="radio"/> Oppose
<input type="radio"/> Undecided | S |
| Comments: | | | |

13. What is your definition of a conservative?

Comments: I believe that an American Conservative is unique in world politics. An American Conservative follows the philosophy of Edmund Burke, who believed that the conservative mission was to guide society through inevitable change in a manner that preserved the best traditions and customs from generation to generation. In pursuing that mission, though, we share the heart of Thomas Paine—to be bold and, sometimes, revolutionary in our pursuits. Finally, the traditions and customs we boldly seek to preserve are unique—they are the most liberating ideas and systems ever devised by man, based on the promise contained in the Declaration of Independence and the order outlined in the Constitution. Today, American Conservatives share, at minimum, the beliefs that:

- The written words of the Constitution matter and should be followed, because they represent the collective wisdom of our Founders as to how to preserve our inalienable rights;
- Free Markets and Free Trade create economic growth, not government;
- Governments don't love your neighbor, people do;
- A Strong Defense and Leadership in international affairs is the best protector of our security;
- All the power and scope of government at all levels should be limited, yet effective; and
- Character matters in our public and private lives, and is the one of the sources of our commitment to protect life at all stages.

14. What have you done in your community to further conservative values?

Comments: For over five years I managed my own law firm with 17 employees in two cities. My firm provided health insurance, and 401(k) benefits for the families of those employees.

I have been a member of the Downtown Kiwanis Club, and old Forum Club of Houston. I served on the Mentorship Committee of the Houston Chamber of Commerce (now the Greater Houston Partnership), and worked to establish mentorship programs between businesses and schools within HISD. I currently am a member of the Houston Realty Business Coalition.

I established and raised funds for a permanent scholarship at my undergraduate alma mater, Rockford College, in honor of a former president of the college, and raised funds to pay for his portrait. I also helped raise funds for two capital drives for the school over the last 15 years, and served on the Alumni National Council for two years.

I have been a member of St. Paul's United Methodist Church since 1987. I have served on the board of the Church, I established a mentorship program between the church and MacGregor Elementary School, and taught various adult and junior-high Sunday School classes.

I am in the second year of a three-year term as a member of the Board of Trustees for St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal School in Nassau Bay, Texas. I currently serve as the Secretary of the Board, and the chair of the Long-Range Planning Committee. I also am

the advisor to the Student Council at St. Thomas.

I serve as a director of a charitable scholarship fund, which was established in honor of two children killed in automobile accidents, and it has provided college scholarships and other educational assistance for qualifying graduates who graduated from a local high school.

I have served as a delegate to Republican precinct and senate district conventions, and as an alternate delegate to a state convention. I have worked on Republican campaigns since I was 17 years old, including: Reagan's primary campaigns in 1976 and 1980; a congressional campaign; judicial campaigns; a legislative campaign; and three statewide campaigns in Texas, including both of George W. Bush's campaigns for Governor. In 2008, I won a 10-county contested Republican primary campaign for a local judicial seat.

I have worked with young leaders who formed Raging Elephants, the Latino National Republican Coalition, and the Houston Tea Party Society, who are trying to establish conservatism and the Republican Party in new communities and among voters who have left the party. I also helped recruit many of the 181 new applicants for precinct chairs.

15. What qualifications make you the best candidate for County Chairman?

Comments: I bring three levels of experience to this job:

1. as a former candidate who built a successful grassroots campaign within the Republican Party, and as someone who has been involved in and around Republican campaigns since I was 17 years old (and who observed party organization and fundraising activities that my parents, and an aunt and uncle, and our closest family friend, were involved with in the State of Illinois as I grew up);
2. as someone who has managed his own business, worked with budgets and fundraising for non-profit entities, and worked with international, national, and local businesses to create, refine and manage litigation management and risk management systems; and
3. as someone who has spent the last 14 months working with grassroots organizations to rebuild the local party.

While running for the Court of Appeals, I was able to observe how different levels of the party organization are functioning, and how they are functioning in different counties within this region of the state. Unfortunately, based on my prior experiences it became obvious that the organization of the local party was dysfunctional and poorly managed, which led to uncoordinated, under-funded, and very late campaign activities in Harris County in 2008, all of which exacerbated the effect of the successful Democratic get-out-the-vote effort.

I believe my experiences allowed me to perceive what the problems were with the party organization, and act on those perceptions by creating a strategic plan for the party; by supporting new organizations in the African-American and Latino communities to expand the party; and by working with those organizations, the Houston Tea Party Society leaders and others to successfully recruit many of the 181 new precinct chair applicants. I am

proud to say that 5 major counties parties in the state have reviewed and referred to my plan in their own strategic planning process over the last year, and that after my plan was made public, the local party began trying to implement many of my ideas.

16. What are the top 3 improvements for the Republicans in Harris County to do?

Comments: The three most pressing areas that need improvement are:

- **Growth** of the base through inclusion, including uniting all current members of our clubs and organizations to support the party, and effectively reaching out to minority communities and the business community;
- **Modernization** of all aspects of party functions, including financial management, fundraising, and get-out-the-vote technology and processes; and
- **Closing the communication and credibility gap** between our base (the activists and voters) on the one hand, and our elected officials and candidates on the other hand.

17. Why are you running for county chairman?

Comments: To re-focus the party organization on its main mission: to elect conservative Republicans to office to aggressively implement our principles into public policy. Specifically, I intend to focus the party on identifying, registering, mobilizing and getting to the polls a minimum of 565,000 voters in Harris County who will support the Republican ticket by the 2012 Presidential Election.

BY RETURNING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, THE CANDIDATE ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL ANSWERS TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE. THE ANSWERS ON THE FOREGOING REFLECT THE CANDIDATE'S BEST EFFORTS TO ANSWER THIS QUESTIONNAIRE HONESTLY AND DIRECTLY.

Once this questionnaire has been completed, please email it (typically **File** || **Send to** || **Mail recipient (as attachment)** from Microsoft Word[®]) to:

brian@crumby.org

PLEASE SAVE YOUR COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE TO YOUR LOCAL MACHINE IN THE EVENT THAT THERE ARE ANY TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WHEN YOU ATTEMPT TO EMAIL IT BACK.

Note that if you simply **'Reply'** or **'Forward'** the original email, you must **'Add Attachment'** to attach your saved questionnaire. If you would like technical assistance with the return process, please call 281-687-0928 and ask for Brian.

* **Please note:** You **must** return your questionnaire from the email address to which it was sent. Questionnaires returned from any other email address will be considered fraudulent and will **not** be recorded and no answers will be published in the voter's guide. CCNHC deems a return from the proper email address as authentication of the correct respondent.