

This document contains the Candidates for Congressional, State-wide, and appellate court races, organized by district. Click here to find out what [legislative districts](#) you are in.

Remember:

- This document is not yet complete; we are adding to it constantly.
- If you take issue with anything contained herein, please [let us know](#) what you know.
- GO HERE TO [FIND YOUR DISTRICTS](#).
- **Our philosophy:** We do not like simple letter "grades" of candidates like those given by NRA and TSRA because they can be manipulated to help or hurt candidates based on factors unrelated to gun rights issues. Indeed, NRA has been handing out "A" ratings like candy in recent years (see a letter to NRA with several [examples](#) of this). Here is [another example](#) from TSRA. This is why Peaceable Texans goes to the trouble to spell out our reasons why we endorse certain candidates over others. We invite all who wish to dispute or add to what we have compiled about a candidate to please [tell us](#).

Legend:



- indicates a known anti-gun candidate



- indicates our volunteer's choice as the most pro-firearm candidate in the race

Note: Unopposed candidates are not covered.

Table of Contents:

1. [Federal Congressional Races](#)
2. [Governor](#)
3. [Lt. Governor](#)
4. [Attorney General](#)
5. [State Board of Education Races](#)
6. [Texas Railroad Commission](#)
7. [Comptroller of Public Accounts](#)
8. [Agriculture Commissioner](#)
9. [Texas Land Commissioner](#)
10. [State Senate Races](#)
11. [State House of Representatives Races](#)
12. [Texas Courts](#)

Federal Congressional Races

U. S. Representative District 1

REP: [Dennis Boerner](#)

Occupation: Self-Employed

Incumbent? N

Analysis: [GOA](#) gives this candidate a grade of "B." This is a tough race to choose, so we make no recommendation for you, but we will set out the pros and cons of each candidate. NRA rates both candidates in this race an "A." If we want to keep the Republicans in control of Congress, then perhaps it would be best to vote for Mr. Boerner.

DEM: [Max Sandlin](#)

Occupation: U.S. Representative

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: This candidate did not respond to the [GOA](#) questionnaire. He is rated "A" by the NRA too, but he gets the endorsement because the NRA endorses--as they virtually always do--incumbents, in an attempt to continue to curry favor and influence with the incumbent, since odds are that the incumbent will win. However, we also note that NRA has been known in recent years to hand out "A" ratings like candy, *even to anti-gun incumbents*, so that rating is not very reliable anymore.

U. S. Representative District 2



REP: [Brian Babin](#)

Occupation: Dentist

Incumbent? N

Analysis: [GOA](#) gives this candidate a grade of "A." From our 1996 survey, Mr. Babin indicated that he owns pistols, rifles, and shotguns. He clearly understands the intent and purpose of the Second Amendment; he opposes waiting periods on 10th Amendment grounds; he supports repeal of the ban on semi-automatics; and he demonstrates good knowledge of guns and gun control issues. For example he wrote, "Assault weapon is a confusing term that roughly applies to semi-automatic weapons which includes many sporting and hunting firearms," and "I feel that firearms should be readily accessible to law abiding citizens. Violent crime decreases in the presence of trained, armed law abiding citizens," (his emphasis). Rated "A" by [TSRA](#) in 1996. His web page that year stated, "I am opposed to: . . . Gun Control . . ." There is no mention of gun issues this year. He is rated "A" by NRA.

LIB: [Wendell Drye](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions.

DEM: [Jim Turner](#)

Occupation: U.S. Congressman

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: This candidate did not respond to the [GOA](#) questionnaire. [TSRA](#) rated him a "B" in 1996. There is really sparse information on for this candidate, which is his own fault. He obviously wants to duck the gun issue. He is rated "B" this year by NRA.

U. S. Representative District 3



REP: [Sam Johnson](#)

Occupation: US. Congressman

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#) in 1996. Mr. Johnson has a perfect voting record on gun issues. For example, he voted for every pro-gun amendment and against every anti-gun amendment to all gun bills that came up during his time in the House. He even voted for both the Chenoweth and Istook amendments. He voted against the semi-auto ban and against the 1994 Crime Bill at every procedural vote that had a chance of killing it. This is a proven track record. [GOA](#) gives this candidate a grade of "B-." He is rated "A" by NRA.

LIB: [Ken Ashby](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. Ken Ashby feels that government has failed to achieve anything positive with its regulation of firearms and feels that we would all be better off if it simply quit the business entirely and that the BATF is not needed. He sees the Second Amendment as a guarantee of the right of individual citizens to keep and bear arms, and he notes, correctly, that one need not be a member of a state-sanctioned militia to have a right to bear arms. Ashby, a very soft spoken candidate, thinks too much hysteria has been generated about the firearms issue, and he proudly reports that he accepts no money from political action committees.

U. S. Representative District 4

REP: [Jim Lohmeyer](#)

Occupation: Physician

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Our volunteer noted: "Never available to come to phone despite repeated calls." This candidate did not respond to the [GOA](#) questionnaire either. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share information about their opinions on the issues. He is rated "A" by NRA.

LIB: [Jim Simon](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions.



DEM: [Ralph M. Hall](#)

Occupation: U. S. Representative

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Hall is a staunch pro-Second Amendment Congressman. On his questionnaire in answer to the section asking his interpretation of the Second Amendment, he wrote: "You must be aware of my complete opposition to any type of gun control." His pro Second Amendment voting record was confirmed with his staff. Although he has a good pro-gun voting record (he voted against Brady, for the Staggers amendment to Brady, and against the semi-auto ban and against the 1994 Crime Bill), he did vote against the Istook amendment in 1995. But his otherwise spotless record and incumbency make him a good ally. He is Rated A+ by [TSRA](#), and [GOA](#)'s stricter standards land him a B. NRA rated him an "A" in 1998, and gives him their endorsement as well.

U. S. Representative District 5



REP: [Pete Sessions](#)

Occupation: U.S. Congressman

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Sessions is a fighter for you gun rights, and a sorely needed one at that. He came and spoke at a pro-gun rally at the State Capitol that we organized in 1994; he seems to be a committed fighter for your gun rights, and is willing to advocate same whenever he can. He is opposed to gun control in principle, and has all of the pro-gun endorsements from NRA, [TSRA](#), and [GOA](#), etc. Great guy too.

LIB: [Michael D. Needleman](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions.



DEM: Victor M. Morales

Occupation: Teacher

Incumbent? N

Analysis: In his bid for Senator in 1996, he failed to respond to our mailed questionnaire and a phone call to his campaign. However, he did reveal his views on gun control in response to the press, in which he is quoted saying, "I personally have a handgun and have no intention of giving it up. However, although I am not sure of the effects of the Brady bill and assault weapon ban on crime, I would have voted for the Brady bill and voted to continue the assault weapon ban to attempt to have an effect on criminal acts with weapons." In June after the March primary that year, his language got a little stronger: "I am for the Brady Bill. I'll tell the truth that I am for that assault-weapon ban. . . . I have a gun. I'm not happy I have one, to tell the truth." (Quotes from the *Austin-American Statesman*). NRA has not done their homework on this candidate; NRA merely gives him a "?" on its voter guide.

U. S. Representative District 6



REP: [Joe Barton](#)

Occupation: Member of Congress

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Barton did not respond to our questionnaire in 1996. That's likely because incumbents prefer to "run on their record." We checked his record and note that he voted against the Brady Bill and for all of the pro-gun amendments that were offered to it. He voted against the semi-auto ban in 1991 and 1994 and against the 1994 Crime Bill at every procedural vote that could have killed the bill. He voted for both the Chenoweth and Istook amendments in 1995. He even voted against the recent re-enactment of the federal "gun-free school zones" law and the new "misdemeanor gun ban." This is a perfect voting record. We cannot ask for better than Mr. Barton! He is rated "A" by NRA too.

LIB: [Richard A. Bandlow](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions.

DEM: Ben B. Boothe

Occupation: President, Ben B. Boothe & Assocs.

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Our volunteer noted: "Repeated phone calls; got only a recording; no calls returned. I left a message to call in a fax number to my answering machine." This candidate did not respond to the [GOA](#) or the NRA questionnaires either. That is a pretty good indicator that he is anti. Besides, why vote for people who refuse to share their opinions on the issues?

U. S. Representative District 7



REP: Bill Archer

Occupation: US Representative

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Rated "A+" by [TSRA](#), but a "C" by the more stringent standards of [GOA](#), Mr. Archer in our opinion has a good voting record on the major bills, but not very good on the bills that only incidentally affect your gun rights, like the Chenoweth amendment, Gun Free School Zones Act, and the misdemeanor gun ban. However, he did vote for the Istook amendment to defund groups that use your tax dollars to push for more gun control. A pretty good voting record all considered. Thus, we think Mr. Archer deserves to stay in office. He is also endorsed by [GTSC](#).

LIB: [Drew Parks](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions.

U. S. Representative District 8

REP: [Kevin Brady](#)

Occupation: U.S. Congressman

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: We get very conflicting information about Mr. Brady, and he has done nothing to help clear matters up. He did not respond to our inquiries in 1996. A staffer at NRA told our volunteer that he was very anti-gun, because, as a state legislator he voted against the Right-to-Carry law and for each anti-gun amendment that was offered to the carry bill. Furthermore, Houston pro-gun friends have also told us that Mr. Brady is no friend of gun owners. Yet the [TSRA](#) gave him a rating of "B" in 1996, and he is endorsed this year by [GTSC](#) and he is rated "B+" by NRA, which is too generous in our opinion. It would appear that these groups want to curry favor with an incumbent by supporting him instead of throwing their support behind a better, but less electable, Libertarian Party candidate. Still, all things considered, at best we think he is a dangerous gamble for your pro-gun vote.



LIB: [Don L. Richards](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. LP candidates were not chosen at the time of the [GOA](#) survey either. However, this is a race in which it is wise to vote Libertarian to send a message to Republicans everywhere that they cannot continue to receive the pro-gun vote yet treat gun owners as an embarrassing step child, (it was the Republican Congress, remember, that re-enacted the Gun Free School Zones Act, passed the Lautenberg "misdemeanor" gun ban, and affirmed various [Clinton nominated gun-haters](#) for important positions on the federal bench and the executive branch like David Satcher as Surgeon General).

U. S. Representative District 9



REP: Tom Cottar

Occupation: sales

Incumbent? N

Analysis: [GOA](#) gives this candidate a grade of "A." Our volunteer failed to follow through with this candidate, so we apologize for not having more information on him. We note that NRA did give him a grade of "A." Based on his opponents' information, however, this race is still an easy choice if you value your firearms freedoms.

DEM: [Nick Lampson](#)

Occupation: U.S. Representative

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Lampson failed to respond to our 1996 questionnaire (and to NRA's). When our volunteer called Mr. Lampson to try to interview him, Mr. Lampson asked what the purpose was, and once he was told the reason for the call was to ask his views on the Second Amendment, Mr. Lampson immediately said, "Can I put you on hold?" and then passed the phone to a campaign worker who refused to answer questions but instead stated that she was in charge of answering questionnaires, and would fill out one if we would fax it over. We faxed one over, but it was never returned. By asking around, we found out from someone who had known Mr. Lampson for many years that Lampson is anti-gun. Lampson used to be Jefferson County's Tax Assessor-Collector; according to our source "he's the kind who will say anything to get elected and then vote totally different," (this info provided by a pro-gunner in this district). From all this we conclude that Mr. Lampson does not wish to be known as anti-gun, and would like to keep that fact a secret from his constituents, because he comes from a strongly pro-gun district in East Texas. [GOA](#) rates him a "D." NRA has been known to hand out "A" ratings to anti-gun incumbents in recent years in an attempt to buy access and influence with the person they feel is most likely going to win. Mr. Lampson is an example of this. NRA rated him an "A," and gave him their endorsement.

US Representative District 10

DEM: [Lloyd Doggett](#)

Occupation: U.S. Representative

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Doggett has been and will continue to be a thorn in the sides of gun owners. Mr. Doggett is as anti-gun as they come. He has a long history of attacking your gun rights from his days in the State Legislature. He made sure to be on hand to welcome Sarah Brady when she came to Austin in 1994. His votes as a

freshman Congressman show a particular hostility to gun owner's welfare. For example, he voted against HR 666 (giving broad new power to federal police to conduct searches that are illegal, if the searches were done "in good faith" belief that they were legal), which was a good thing, but when an amendment was offered to HR 666 to except the BATF from it's provisions (not allowing BATF to use the "good faith" search law), he voted against it. He also voted against both the Chenoweth and Istook amendments. He is rated "F" by NRA and [TSRA](#). [GOA](#) gives him a grade of "F-".



LIB: [Vincent J. May](#)

Occupation: Carpenter

Analysis: Mr. Vincent May would do a much better job at protecting all of your rights than the incumbent Mr. Doggett. Mr. May is a committed firearms rights supporter. This volunteer met with Mr. May personally and discussed firearms rights issues thoroughly with him. He cares about freedom in general, and was quite amicable. He impressed me as a intelligent, thoughtful and principled person. His support extends not only to the Second Amendment, but to the rest of the Bill of Rights, as is consistent with the [official stand](#) of the Libertarian Party.

US Representative District 11



DEM: Chet Edwards

Occupation: U.S. Representative

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Edwards did more than most to help pass the ban on semi-automatics in the House of Representatives back in May of 1994. Not only did he vote for the ban both in 1991 and 1994, but during the debate on the House floor he convinced other Representatives to vote for the ban by making a point of the fact that he had voted for a similar gun ban in 1991 and that he was re-elected by a wide margin in 1992. He stated that if the pro-gun vote could not harm him in a conservative Texas district, then his colleagues had little to worry about. Considering that the bill passed by only one vote, his speech probably made the difference. And boy did he mislead his friends, as the Democrats lost over 20 seats that year because of the gun ban they passed into law. [GOA](#) gives him a grade of "D". NRA rates him an "F," which is defined in the NRA guide to mean he is a "proven enemy of gun owner's rights. A seriously anti-gun candidate who always opposes gun owners' rights, and/or actively leads anti-gun legislative efforts." From Central Texas no less. Believe it or Not.



LIB: [Vince Hanke](#)

Analysis: You cannot really go wrong voting for a libertarian in a race with an incumbent like this one. The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions.

U. S. Representative District 12

REP: [Kay Granger](#)

Occupation: Congresswoman

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: This candidate did not respond to the [GOA](#) questionnaire. She did not return our questionnaire in 1996 either, but in a phone interview with our volunteer that year, she stated that she would vote to repeal the semi-auto ban but was unsure about the Brady Law. When it was explained to her that the Brady Law is not uniformly applied across the country she stated that she would vote to repeal it. She said she would vote against the national concealed carry initiative as she believes that that is the business of the states. She was rated "A" by [TSRA](#) in the 1996 election, but it is rather clear to us that she is not very knowledgeable on gun rights issues, nor very devoted to them. We feel she is the kind of politician that would desert us when the going got tough. She is rated "A" by NRA this year.



LIB: [Paul Barthel](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Nor were LP candidates included in the [GOA](#) survey. This is a race in which it is wise to vote Libertarian to send a message to Republicans everywhere that they cannot continue to receive the pro-gun vote yet treat gun owners as an embarrassing step child, (it was the Republican Congress, remember, that re-enacted the Gun Free School Zones Act, passed the Lautenberg "misdemeanor" gun ban, and affirmed various [Clinton nominated gun-haters](#) for important positions on the federal bench and the executive branch like David Satcher as Surgeon General).

DEM: Tom Hall

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: This candidate did not respond to the [GOA](#) questionnaire. We have no information about him. He is rated "D" by NRA.

U. S. Representative District 13

REP: [Mac Thornberry](#)

Occupation: Rancher/Attorney

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Thornberry has been a rather solid supporter of your gun rights in Congress, although [GOA](#) only rates him with a "C." However, careful analysis of his voting record reveals that he has voted very good on bills that were straight up and down on the gun issue. The problem with Thornberry has been on the bills that

incidentally affect your gun rights, like increasing the budget and powers of the BATF, and the misdemeanor gun ban and gun free school zones laws that were added to a 1996 budget bill.



LIB: [Georganne Baker Payne](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey, so they were not included therein. This is a race in which it is wise to vote Libertarian to send a message to Republicans everywhere that they cannot continue to receive the pro-gun vote yet treat gun owners as an embarrassing step child, (it was the Republican Congress, remember, that re-enacted the Gun Free School Zones Act, passed the Lautenberg "misdemeanor" gun ban, and affirmed various [Clinton nominated gun-haters](#) for important positions on the federal bench and the executive branch like David Satcher as Surgeon General).



DEM: [Mark Harmon](#)

Occupation: Associate Professor

Incumbent? N

Analysis: This candidate did not respond to the [GOA](#) survey. But we note that NRA give him a rating of "F," which is defined in the NRA guide to mean he is a "proven enemy of gun owner's rights. A seriously anti-gun candidate who always opposes gun owners' rights, and/or actively leads anti-gun legislative efforts."

U. S. Representative District 14



REP: [Ron Paul](#)

Occupation: Physician

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Your gun rights are safe with this guy-you don't even have to worry about keeping an eye on him because he is a man of principle and commitment to individual rights and limited government, the way our nation was intended to be. You will not find a more vocal advocate either. He has sponsored legislation to repeal the 1994 semi-auto ban, and the Brady Law. You can count on him to continue the fight to repeal the thousands of gun laws that have been enacted in the past 30 years. He earns a grade of "A+" from [GOA](#).

DEM: Loy Sneary

Occupation: Farmer/Rancher

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Since we so strongly endorse the incumbent, Ron Paul, for this race, we will not pretend to be objective by trying to summarize the position of his opponent. Please understand that most candidates do not respond to questionnaires, (for example, this candidate did not respond to either NRA's or [GOA](#)'s survey), and we usually must have a volunteer expend his own money to call and pester candidates to try to get them on record about their views. We have limited numbers of volunteers and limited resources, and we felt that it would be a waste of these resources to attempt to interview the candidates in this race, when we already have a champion for your rights in Mr. Paul.

U. S. Representative District 15



REP: Tom Haughey

Occupation: Author/Broadcaster/Pastor

Incumbent? N

Analysis: [GOA](#) gives this candidate a grade of "A." He is an NRA member and FNRA organizer. He owns 2 rifles and has done some reading on the Second Amendment. He says, "'don't infringe' means don't infringe." He said he supports repeal of the ban on semi-autos; is against waiting periods and is against centralized record keeping of gun owners/purchasers. "I go beyond the NRA," which he feels is too soft on some issues. Rated "A" by [TSRA](#). Although NRA rates him an "A," NRA *does not endorse him*. This is why we have little faith in the NRA to give us reliable endorsements. What NRA is trying to do is avoid incurring the animosity of the incumbent who will most likely win re-election. Kind of like trying to get on the good side of Chuck Schumer seems to us.

DEM: [Ruben Hinojosa](#)

Occupation: U.S. Representative

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: This candidate did not respond to the [GOA](#) survey in 1998. He did not respond to our questionnaire in 1996. Did not respond to NRA's survey in 1996. This year, NRA rates him a weak "C."

U. S. Representative District 16



LIB: [Stu Nance](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions (not enough volunteers). Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey, so they were not included therein. We note his web page states his views: "As long as the Second Amendment is part of the Constitution, the United States Congress should respect it fully. The Constitution took the issue of arms out of the hands of passing politicians and yet both major parties continue to exceed their authority, ignoring the Constitution with inflammatory rhetoric."

DEM: [Silvestre Reyes](#)

Occupation: U.S. Representative

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: This candidate did not respond to the [GOA](#) survey for 1998. We are told by gun rights activists in his district that he is generally conservative, and very popular, but not strongly pro-gun and largely ignorant of gun control issues. He failed to appear at a candidate's forum sponsored by El Paso Coalition of Sportsmen during his first campaign in 1996, after his campaign staff had promised that he was going to appear; he has steadfastly avoided being pinned down on his feelings on gun control. However, NRA rated him an "A" in 1996 and 1998. These ratings are, in our opinion, merely attempts to stay on the good side of the incumbent, and predicted winner, of this race.

U. S. Representative District 17

REP: [Rudy Izzard](#)

Occupation: Dentist-Rancher

Incumbent? N

Analysis: [GOA](#) gives this candidate a grade of "B." He was rated "A" by [TSRA](#) in 1996, and he answered our '96 questionnaire showing good general knowledge of gun control issues and a strong support for the Second Amendment. In addition, he says he will work for repeal of the Brady Law and the recent terrorism Laws.

LIB: [Gordon Mobley](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions (not enough volunteers). Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey, so they were not included therein.



DEM: [Charlie Stenholm](#)

Occupation: Farmer

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: [GOA](#) gives this candidate a grade of "B-." He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#). He strongly supported the bill in Congress to deny funding for National Center for Injury Prevention & Control (NCIPC) which has been using tax dollars to pump out extremely biased "studies" supporting gun control. He voted against Brady in 1991 and 1993 and for all the pro-gun amendments offered on it. He voted for the Chenoweth amendment but against the Istook amendment. Mr. Stenholm is one of only a handful of candidates that actually tells you his stand on firearms issues on his web page. We wish all choices were this tough on the gun issue: you can't really lose in this race. But we believe you should support those who have supported you; there simply is no reason to take a chance on someone new. So we recommend you support the Hon. Mr. Stenholm.

U. S. Representative District 18



DEM: [Sheila Jackson Lee](#)

Occupation: Attorney - U.S. Congresswoman

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: [GOA](#) gives this candidate a grade of "F-." We note [HCI](#) gave her campaign money for her 1996 campaign. She has never responded to us (no surprise). NRA also gives her an "F" rating.



LIB: [James Galvan](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey. He is also endorsed by [GTSC](#).

U. S. Representative District 19



REP: [Larry Combest](#)

Occupation: U.S. Representative

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: [GOA](#) gives this candidate a grade of "B." We note in 1996 he was rated "0" by [HCI](#) and "A+" by [TSRA](#). That should tell you plenty right there. He voted against Brady in 1991 and 1993, and for all the pro-gun amendments offered thereto. He voted against the semi-auto ban and against the 1994 Crime Bill and for every procedural vote that could have killed it. He voted for both the Chenoweth and Istook amendments too! Rated "A" by NRA.

DEM: Sidney Blankenship

Occupation: Animal Welfare

Incumbent? N

Analysis: This candidate did not respond to the [GOA](#) survey.

U. S. Representative District 20

REP: [James Walker](#)

Occupation:

Incumbent?

Analysis: This candidate did not respond to the [GOA](#) survey. In 1996, he ran in this same race and [TSRA](#) rated him an "A." We truly wish he had responded to us, or at least GOA. On his web page he gives voters some information on where he stands: "I support the Second Amendment right to bear arms, and am opposed to gun control. I favor instantaneous checks for felony convictions before the purchase of a firearm." This is rather general and vague, but it is more than most candidates offer us.



LIB: Alejandro "[Alex](#)" DePena

Occupation: Systems Analyst

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. Mr. De Pena ran in this race in 1996, and that year, he responded to our Peaceable Texan questionnaire in great depth, demonstrating an excellent understanding of firearm issues and an unequivocal support for the Second Amendment, rejecting all attempts to undermine it. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey.

DEM: Charlie Gonzalez

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: [GOA](#) gives this candidate a grade of "F." He is the son of the incumbent, Henry B., who always voted anti-gun, and who is now retiring. If the father's opposition to gun rights does not offend you, then preventing a dynasty should. NRA has also rated Mr. Gonzalez an "F," which is defined in the NRA guide to mean he is a "proven enemy of gun owner's rights. A seriously anti-gun candidate who always opposes gun owners' rights, and/or actively leads anti-gun legislative efforts."

U. S. Representative District 21



REP: Lamar Smith

Occupation: Member of Congress

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Based on his voting record, we conclude that Mr. Smith is a good supporter of your gun rights, although he may not be an advocate either. He voted against the Brady Bill and he voted against the semi-auto ban. He voted for the pro-gun amendments to those bills too. In fact, we could not find an anti-gun vote that he made. [TSRA](#) rates him "A+." [GOA](#) gives this candidate a grade of "C." We disagree with GOA's rather low rating. He is a tried and true supporter of your gun rights. NRA gives him an "A."

LIB: [Jeffrey C. Blunt](#)

Occupation: Engineer

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. Mr. Blunt is certainly in line with his party's position. He wrote, "As a Libertarian Candidate for Congress and a member of the NRA, I assure you that I am a pro gun candidate and a strong supporter of the Second Amendment (as well as the rest of the Constitution). I favor repeal of gun regulations, especially the misguided 'assault gun ban' legislation." His other answers on our survey indicate he is well-informed on firearm issues.

U. S. Representative District 22



REP: [Tom DeLay](#)

Occupation: Congressman

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. DeLay has a solid voting record for all gun related votes for past 7 years; he even voted for Istook and Chenoweth amendments--a very strong sign that he is sensitive to the rights of gun owners. [TSRA](#) rates him an "A+," while [GOA](#) gives this candidate a grade of "B-." He is also endorsed by [GTSC](#).

LIB: [Steve Grupe](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey.

DEM: Hill Kemp

Occupation: Management Consultant

Incumbent? N

Analysis: This candidate did not respond to the [GOA](#) or NRA surveys, which is not a good sign that he is pro-gun. We have no information on this candidate.

U. S. Representative District 23



REP: [Henry Bonilla](#)

Occupation: U.S. Representative

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Based on his voting record, Mr. Bonilla has earned the following approval ratings from civil liberties organizations: [TSRA](#) "A+" and by [GOA](#)'s high standards, a "B." He has a solid pro-gun voting record on the major gun votes; he voted against Brady, for all pro-gun amendments to Brady; against the semi-auto ban, against the 1994 Crime Bill; and for the Istook and Chenoweth Amendments.

LIB: [William A. \(Bill\) Stallknecht](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey.

DEM: Charlie Urbina Jones

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: His campaign is being run through his law office; have been told that the person running the campaign is busy and will call back. No response. He ran for this same seat in 1996, but never returned our questionnaire that year. In 1996, we were able to talk to a staff worker at his campaign, who stated that Jones generally supports existing federal firearms laws although he may object to some aspects of some laws. He may or may not be in favor of repealing the Brady Law and the semi-auto ban. Jones has no specific position regarding the ATF, it's funding or its mandate. Jones is a hunter and sees the Second Amendment as more of a guarantee than as a collective right. He might support restrictions on "cop killer" bullets. He did not respond to NRA or [TSRA](#) surveys that year, and he did not respond to the [GOA](#) or NRA surveys for 1998 either. That is usually a pretty good indicator that he is not pro-gun. At the very least, it appears that Mr. Jones is the wishy-washy, weak-kneed kind of politician that avoids telling you where he stands, and indeed, tries to keep it a secret. Certainly not the kind who would stand up for your rights when the going got a little tough.

U. S. Representative District 24



REP: [Shawn Terry](#)

Occupation: Management Consultant

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Terry did not respond to the questionnaire we mailed to him. He did respond to [GOA](#)'s survey, though, and GOA gives him a grade of "A." NRA gives him a grade of "A." This recommendation is based upon the serious need to unseat the incumbent.

LIB: David A. Stover

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey.

DEM: [Martin Frost](#)

Occupation: Member, U.S. House of Representatives

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Frost has a long track record of anti-gun votes while he's been in Congress. Although he voted against the Schumer semi-auto ban bill in 1994, we view that as merely a political ploy on his part so he can claim he is pro-gun. One has to look at his total voting record to understand how anti-gun he has been. On every other single vote he has voted against us. For example, he voted against all the pro-gun amendments to the semi-auto ban, the Brady bill, and the '94 Crime Bill as well as all the procedural votes on the Crime Bill that would have killed it. He voted for the Brady bill, and in 1995 he voted against the Chenoweth and Istook amendments. His sole pro-gun vote against the semi-auto ban is the only reason NRA rated him 40% supporter in the last election. [TSRA](#) listed him with a "B-" in 1996, which we feel is way off the mark. We note that [HCI](#) gives him good marks. In short, he's the kind of representative that will vote against you when it counts, and vote with you when it does no good. [GOA](#) gives this candidate a grade of "D-." NRA once again ruins their credibility by giving Mr. Frost a "C" rating.

U. S. Representative District 25

REP: [John M. Sanchez](#)

Occupation:

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Our volunteer reports he called Mr. Sanchez's clinic, and his campaign office, and left messages, but got no return calls. This candidate did not respond to the [GOA](#) survey either, (as of the time this was written) but by election time, GOA had rated him an "F." We note that he is endorsed by [GTSC](#), and NRA rates him an "A." The recommendation in this race is based upon the serious need to unseat the incumbent. An anti-gun freshman is preferable to an anti-gun incumbent.

LIB: [Eric Atkisson](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey.

DEM: [Ken Bentsen](#)

Occupation: Member of Congress

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: In 1996 Mr. Bentsen failed to respond to either of two questionnaires that were sent him and when we phoned his office, our volunteer was passed from staffer to staffer until he was finally told that the staffer who responds to Second Amendment issues was momentarily unavailable. We left a message and were promised a return call in ten minutes. No such call was ever received. It is apparent to us that Bentsen is not interested in communicating his position on Second Amendment issues to concerned constituents because those constituents would not like what they hear. Based on his voting record, Ken Bentsen has earned the following approval ratings this year from civil liberties organizations: [TSRA](#) F, [GOA](#) F, and NRA F. [HCI](#) *donated to his campaign in 1994 and 1996*. While he was not around when the Brady Bill and semi-auto bans were voted on, his votes in 1995 (on the Chenoweth & Istook amendments) show he is not sensitive to gun owners concerns.

U. S. Representative District 26

REP: [Dick Arme](#)

Occupation: U.S. Representative

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: A strong supporter of your gun rights, Dick Arme, House Majority Leader, has a proven track record of pro-gun votes while in Congress. His voting record has earned him the following ratings: [TSRA](#) "A+" and [GOA](#) "C-". NRA gives him an "A."

LIB: [Joe Turner](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey.

U. S. Representative District 27

REP: Erol A. Stone

Occupation: Self-Employed

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Stone did not list a phone number for his campaign with the Secretary of State, which is very unusual. He has not responded to our survey, which was mailed to him. Our volunteer noted, "No active campaign in Corpus Christi." It would appear that he did not start up his campaign before March, 1998, because he had no primary opponent, or else he is not a serious contender. This candidate did not respond to the [GOA](#) survey nor the NRA survey.



LIB: [Mark G.Pretz](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate

after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey, so they were not included therein. This is a race in which it is wise to vote Libertarian to send a message to Republicans everywhere that they cannot continue to receive the pro-gun vote yet treat gun owners as an embarrassing step child, (it was the Republican Congress, remember, that re-enacted the Gun Free School Zones Act, passed the Lautenberg "misdemeanor" gun ban, and affirmed various [Clinton nominated gun-haters](#) for important positions on the federal bench and the executive branch like David Satcher as Surgeon General).

DEM: [Solomon P. Ortiz](#)

Occupation: U.S. Representative

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Ortiz has been a rather solid Pro-gun supporter in all major gun votes in the past. He voted against the Istook and Chenoweth amendments in 1995; however, which suggests to us that Mr. Ortiz has a good voting record on major gun bills, but not so good on minor bills that only incidentally affect your gun rights. This explains why [TSRA](#) rated him an A+ in 1996, while [GOA](#)'s tougher standards garner him only a C. The recommendation in this race is based on Mr. Ortiz's weak support for gun rights and the well known advocacy of gun rights by the Libertarian Party.

U. S. Representative District 28

DEM: [Ciro D. Rodriguez](#)

Occupation: Educator

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Rodriguez was sworn into office in April, 1997, hence he has a scant record, (he does not even have a congressional website). He was elected in a special election held to fill the vacancy left by Frank Tejada, who was a strong pro-gun representative, but who had to resign due to cancer. It is unfortunate to see him replaced by someone that seems to want to hide his views. I was unable to get past his staff to speak with him. I mailed a survey to him. I did research his congressional roll call record. He appears to be aligning himself with big government types and liberals. His background is with public (government) schools, take that for what it is worth. This candidate did not respond to the [GOA](#) survey either. He is rated "A" by NRA, but probably this is one of those ratings where NRA attempts to curry favor with incumbents who are perceived to be the likely winners of their races. We note there are no gun related votes since Mr. Rodriguez has been in office to earn him any sort of grade, much less an "A."



LIB: [Edward "Ned" Elmer](#)

Occupation: Medical Doctor

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey.

U. S. Representative District 29

DEM: [Gene Green](#)

Occupation: Attorney, Business Mgr.

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Gene Green voted against the semi-auto ban when it first came up, but later voted for the 1994 Crime Bill which contained the same ban; he voted against the Brady bill but also against Istook & Chenoweth amendments. He recently voted in support of repealing the semi-auto ban, but this does not say much since everyone knew Clinton would veto the bill. His flip flopping has earned him the following ratings: [TSRA](#) "B+," and [GOA](#) "B-." As one Houston activist told us, "Mr. Green is high maintenance," meaning that you have to keep tabs on him and work on him to get him to vote right. He is endorsed by [GTSC](#). NRA rates him an "A," which shows you how much you can rely on the NRA's grades.



LIB: [James P. Chudleigh](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey.

U. S. Representative District 30

REP: Carrie Kelliher

Occupation: Program Coordinator

Incumbent? N

Analysis: [ed. note: our volunteer did not get much from this candidate, and seems to rely upon the candidate's reaction to his remarks instead of the views of the candidate herself--looks like our volunteer got snowed.] I spoke with her directly and we had a lively conversation. She was definitely receptive to my remarks regarding the Second Amendment. She made an interesting comment about the Constitution. "It is a living document, that is why the liberals are always trying to kill it." My gut feeling is Carrie will be a staunch supporter of the ENTIRE Bill of Rights. I strongly urge you to vote for Carrie Kelliher. Unfortunately, she did not return our questionnaire. This candidate did not respond to the [GOA](#) survey either. Based on her failure to respond to either our or GOA's survey's, we are going with the libertarian in this race. She is, however, rated "A" by the NRA.



LIB: [Barbara L. Robinson](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey, so they were not included therein.

DEM: [Eddie Bernice Johnson](#)

Occupation: Member of Congress

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: She is the poster child for the gun haters. The sycophants at [Handgun Control Inc.](#) have anointed her with their most favorable rating. Her Congressional record is easily accessible from the usual sources. This caller was unable to get past her staff. Where is that liberal open-mindedness and compassion? [GOA](#) gives this candidate a grade of "F-." She is likewise rated "F" by NRA.

Governor



REP: George W. Bush

Occupation: Governor

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Bush is no Second Amendment advocate, but he is definitely not anti-gun either. He is a very safe choice; he helped us get a Right-to-Carry Law, we need to support those who have supported us. He is endorsed by [GTSC](#), TSRA and NRA. No surprises there.

LIB: Lester R. ["Les" Turlington, Jr.](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey, so they were not rated by that organization.

DEM: [Garry Mauro](#)

Occupation: Texas Land Commissioner

Incumbent? N

Analysis: We are working to gather information on this candidate, but we do not have high hopes he will reveal his true positions on firearms issues, as he has close ties to President Clinton. We note he also failed to respond to the [TSRA](#) survey, which says to us that he is anti.

Lieutenant Governor

REP: [Rick Perry](#)

Occupation: Commissioner of Agriculture

Incumbent? N

Analysis: [TSRA](#) has rated him an "A" this year.



LIB: [Anthony Garcia](#)

Occupation: Systems Administrator

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment, which is one of unqualified support. Mr. Garcia is a member of NRA and GOA and states on his web page that he supports "Full enforcement of the Bill of Rights, especially the Second Amendment guarantee of the individual's right to keep and bear arms." Try to find *that* on either of his opponents' sites. This is a race in which it is wise to vote Libertarian to send a message to Republicans everywhere that they cannot continue to receive the pro-gun vote yet treat gun owners as an embarrassing step child, (it was the Republican Congress, remember, that re-enacted the Gun Free School Zones Act, passed the Lautenberg "misdemeanor" gun ban, and affirmed various [Clinton nominated gun-haters](#) for important positions on the federal bench and the executive branch like David Satcher as Surgeon General).

DEM: [John Sharp](#)

Occupation: Real Estate Broker

Incumbent? N

Analysis: [TSRA](#) rates him an "A" this year. He has been endorsed by [GTSC](#).

Attorney General

NOTE: In case you don't think the Attorney General race is important to protecting your gun rights, please remember that Bill Clinton launched his political career as Arkansas Attorney General.

REP: [John Cornyn](#)

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Cornyn has served on the Supreme Court of Texas since 1990. When our volunteer called his office, she was told that the survey had been filled out and mailed on 2/20/98. When no survey was received, she called back and faxed another copy of the survey. Finally an aide called to say that Cornyn would be unable to respond since he was out of town until several days after the Peaceable Texans' voter guide was due to go to press, (a week before the March primary). The aide explained that Cornyn had authorized no one in his office to respond for him to such surveys. Since the primary, he still has not sent it back. All we know of Cornyn is that he also refused to respond when he ran for the Supreme Court in 1996, saying that to answer our questionnaire would violate the Code of Judicial Conduct (which is not true, see our [judicial questionnaire](#) for yourself). This year he does not have that excuse, yet still he dodges us. Hardly someone that seems worthy of your pro-gun vote. He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#). He is endorsed by [GTSC](#) too.

LIB: [Mike Angwin](#)

Occupation: Business Owner

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey, so they are not included therein. This is a race in which it is wise to vote Libertarian to send a message to Republicans everywhere that they cannot continue to receive the pro-gun vote yet treat gun owners as an embarrassing step child, (it was the Republican Congress, remember, that re-enacted the Gun Free School Zones Act, passed the Lautenberg "misdemeanor" gun ban, and affirmed various [Clinton nominated gun-haters](#) for important positions on the federal bench and the executive branch like David Satcher as Surgeon General).

DEM: [Jim Mattox](#)

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: In a March, 1994 *Austin-American Statesman* article, Mr. Mattox stated in response to questions, that he supported the Brady Law, and a ban on "automatic assault weapons," (the question was about banning "semi-automatic assault weapons"). He also stated that he supports "plans that call for additional education and training in the use and safety of weapons," and "special use licenses for quasi-law enforcement or other special activities," (whatever that means).

This year (1998) Mr. Mattox has valiantly avoided giving us straight answers. He returned neither our survey nor the [GOA](#) survey. When our volunteer called his office asking his position on gun control, we were told that the AG position was one of upholding the law, not making law, (and therefore, we guess, his views on gun rights are irrelevant). An aide described Mattox as a "good Populist Democrat" concerned with "citizen's freedom issues." This volunteer was finally allowed to talk with Gary Horton, Mattox's campaign manager. Horton began fast-talking about what a big hunter Mattox was, how he had been raised with firearms and had hunted with his dad, etc. When asked, Horton finally said that he "thought" Mattox was in favor of the Right-to-Carry Law adding that he (Horton) was applying for a carry permit and Mattox was aware of that and approved--at least for his campaign manager! Horton persisted in chatting about his own views, even asking the volunteer if she could recommend an instructor for the CHL course. It was hard to keep the conversation on track and I felt we was being snowed. Finally, I asked Horton if he could furnish us with a statement from Mattox as to his position on gun rights. Horton replied he would try to do this and call us back. He never has. Incredibly, he is rated "B" by [TSRA](#).

Comptroller of Public Accounts

REP: [Carole Keeton Rylander](#)

Occupation: Texas Railroad Commissioner

Incumbent? N

Analysis: She did not respond to our questionnaire in her 1996 campaign for the RR Commission, but her campaign staff did provide us with Ms. Rylander's answers to another group's (The Texas Constitutional Coalition) 1994 questionnaire in which she indicates that she is a supporter of the right to bear arms. She indicated that the Second Amendment is an individual right; that she is opposed to all federal laws regulating guns except for the 1934 NFA restriction on automatics and therefore she is for repealing the Brady law and the semi-auto ban. She is rated "A" by [TSRA](#). She is endorsed by [GTSC](#) too.

LIB: [Alex Monchak](#)

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey.

DEM: [Paul Hobby](#)

Occupation: Businessman

Incumbent? N

Analysis: We are working to gather information on this candidate. He did not respond to [TSRA](#)'s survey.

Commissioner of the General Land Office

REP: David Dewhurst

Occupation: Businessman

Incumbent? N

Analysis: We have no information on Mr. Dewhurst, other than that he is a multi-millionaire. Please note that both major party's candidates failed to answer [TSRA](#)'s survey. Dewhurst is endorsed by [GTSC](#), but for reasons unknown to us.



LIB: J. Manuel "[Monte](#)" Montez

Occupation: Teacher

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions (not enough volunteers!) And because Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey, they were not included therein. Until we get information on the other candidates in this race; however, we will have to recommend the libertarian.

DEM: [Richard Raymond](#)

Occupation: State Representative

Incumbent? N

Analysis: This guy should have a track record as a state rep. But since most votes in the Texas Legislature are not recorded, his record is not available to us. We note that [TSRA](#) has not endorsed him, which, presumably, they would unless he opposed the right-to-carry law in 1995. He has failed to respond to the [TSRA](#) survey this year.

Commissioner of Agriculture

REP: [Susan Combs](#)

Occupation: Rancher

Incumbent?

Analysis: Ms. Combs was state representative for District 47 from 1993-1996 (the seat now held by Terry Keel). An aide in her office told our volunteer that Combs had voted for the Right-to-Carry Law. Ms. Combs returned the [GOA](#) survey answering most questions in a positive manner. She also returned our survey, answering most questions favorably. Ms. Combs indicated that she would "absolutely not" support legislation to limit the number of firearms or ammo one may possess, nor does she support waiting periods or the banning of kevlar-penetrating bullets (most any rifle round will). She supports repeal of the semi-auto ban and believes the Second Amendment "enables citizens to protect themselves against crime." She would not support Vermont-style carry laws for Texas (her reason being that Texas is too "urban") unless such a proposal had public support. She is rated "A" by [TSRA](#). And she is endorsed by [GTSC](#).

LIB: [Jimmy T. LaBaume](#)

Occupation: Professor/Rancher

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey.



DEM: [L.P. \(Pete\) Patterson](#)

Occupation: Farmer/ Rancher

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Patterson, State Representative from District 3, returned our survey promptly, answering most questions in a pro-gun manner. His less favorable answers indicate an ignorance of some gun issues. His favorable responses show that he does not support waiting periods or licensing, does support the repeal of the semi-auto ban, and favors Vermont-style carry legislation. Mr. Patterson also responded to the [GOA](#) (Gun Owners of America) survey, answering every question in a pro-gun manner. Mr. Patterson is rated "A"

by [TSRA](#). This recommendation is based on Mr. Patterson's support for Vermont-Style carry, which seems to be the only difference between him and Susan Combs.

Railroad Commissioner



REP: [Tony Garza](#)

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: We have no information on Mr. Garza, other than that Governor Bush appointed him as our Secretary of State. He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#). He is endorsed by [GTSC](#). He provided us with a copy of his responses to GTSC's candidate survey, and he gave very solid pro-gun responses that show, among other things, that he supports repeal of Both the Brady Law and the ban on semi-automatics, preventing national registration through the NICS (National Instant Check System) and removing its application to long arms.

LIB: [Jim Spurlock](#)

Occupation: Aircraft Sales

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey.

DEM: [Joe B. Henderson](#)

Occupation: Attorney/Businessman

Incumbent? N

Analysis: He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

Texas Appellate Courts

Note: Some judges in Texas have refused to answer our questionnaire on the ground that doing so would violate the Code of Judicial Conduct. Our Peaceable Texan [judicial questionnaire](#) was designed especially for judges by legal counsel to avoid answers that would be in violation of the Code. We therefore conclude that some judicial candidates merely use the Code as an excuse for dodging voter questions. It would be a sad commentary upon the judiciary, would it not, that judges could not agree on what the Code of Judicial Conduct prohibits?

Justice, Supreme Court, Place 1



REP: [Craig T. Enoch](#)

Occupation: Justice, Supreme Court of Texas

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Enoch responded to our judicial candidate survey. His responses indicate that he is essentially unconcerned with firearms issues. We say this because he honestly admits that he does not know the answers to questions [#1](#), [5](#), and [7](#). His other responses indicate he was raised with firearms and knows how to use them, so it is pretty clear that he is probably not anti-gun, but just part of the great mass of citizens out there who are rather uninformed on the issue. Our recommendation in this race is based on nothing more than Mr. Westergren's refusal to respond.

DEM: Mike Westergren

Occupation: Attorney/Judge

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Westergren did not respond to our judicial candidate questionnaire. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share information about themselves. He is, however, endorsed by [GTSC](#).

Justice, Supreme Court, Place 2

REP: Harriet O'Neill

Occupation: Justice, 14th Court of Appeals

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Sorry, neither candidate in this race felt like sharing information with you voters as they failed to return our judicial questionnaire. She is endorsed by [GTSC](#) however.

DEM: Rose Spector

Occupation: Judge

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Ms. Spector did not respond to our judicial candidate questionnaire. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share information about themselves.

Justice, Supreme Court, Place 3



REP: [Greg Abbott](#)

Occupation: Justice, Texas Supreme Court

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Abbott responded to our judicial questionnaire and gave very thoughtful and intelligent responses that indicate he is knowledgeable about firearms in general. He grew up around firearms, and has applied for his CHL. He agrees with the statement in [question #5](#), which indicates he is aware of the media handling of gun control issues. He promises not to be a judicial activist, and observes that "criminals aren't the ones who will comply with gun control laws, only the law abiding citizens." He is endorsed by [GTSC](#).

DEM: David Van Os

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Van Os did not respond to our judicial candidate questionnaire. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share information about themselves.

Justice, Supreme Court, Place 4

REP: [Deborah Hankinson](#)

Occupation: Justice, Supreme Court of Texas

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: This candidate was appointed by Gov. Bush to fill a vacancy in late 1997. Sorry, but neither candidate in this race felt like sharing information with you voters as they failed to return our judicial questionnaire. She did get the endorsement of [GTSC](#) however.

DEM: Jerry Scarbrough

Occupation: Lawyer

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Scarbrough did not respond to our judicial candidate questionnaire. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share information about themselves.

Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals Place 1

REP: [Mike Keasler](#)

Occupation: State District Judge

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Keasler responded to us in 1996. At that time he indicated that he was a District Judge and ex-

prosecutor, owns a pistol, and has read "several" law review articles on the Second Amendment "over the years." He says he feels that gun control laws are ineffective. This year, his questionnaire indicates basic good instincts and positions on gun control issues; for example, he answered our [question #5](#) "yes," and observed that, "often the media are caught up in anti-gun hysteria." He did get the endorsement of [GTSC](#), although GTSC notes, correctly, that Charles Baird is a "2nd Amendment Advocate." Thus, we find this endorsement rather puzzling.



DEM: Charles F. ["Charlie" Baird](#)

Occupation: Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Judge Baird is the incumbent and has proven to be a reliable jurist who is intellectually honest. In an important case on the right of Texans to carry handguns, the Court of Criminal Appeals (the highest criminal court in Texas) narrowly sustained a conviction of a man who was carrying a handgun in his car from home to work. Judge Baird wrote an excellent and blistering dissent in that case, which is [Moosani v. State](#). He is one of the few jurists who has stated [his opinion on the Second Amendment](#) because he has written on the subject in a decided court case. There is no reason to replace a man of Mr. Baird's high caliber (no pun intended). We **heartily** endorse this scholarly candidate.

Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals Place 2

REP: Cheryl Johnson

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Ms. Johnson did not respond to our judicial candidate questionnaire. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share information about themselves.

DEM: [Winston Cochran](#)

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Cochran did not respond to our judicial candidate questionnaire. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share information about themselves.

Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals Place 3

REP: Lawrence 'Larry' Meyers

Occupation: Judge

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Meyers did not respond to our judicial candidate questionnaire. However, we know of some of his thoughts in his dissent in the [Moosani](#) case. Although he dissents--which is good--he states at one point that he finds it "alarming" that people would go about armed while traveling within a city: "The State urges us . . . to construe the traveling exemption much as it was in the past, mainly because a more liberal interpretation could result in people 'regularly arming themselves as they move about the city.' *Admittedly, this scenario is alarming . . .*" (emphasis added). He apparently is intellectually honest, but hoplaphobic (i.e., scared of guns). He is willing to follow the clear mandate of the law even though he thinks the result is harmful.



LIB: Larry S. Perry

Occupation: Attorney

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey, so they were not included therein. This is a race in which it is wise to vote Libertarian to send a message to Republicans everywhere that they cannot continue to receive the pro-gun vote yet treat gun owners as an embarrassing step child, (it was the Republican Congress, remember, that re-enacted the Gun Free School Zones Act, passed the Lautenberg "misdemeanor" gun ban, and affirmed various [Clinton nominated gun-haters](#) for important positions on the federal bench and the executive branch like David Satcher as Surgeon General).

Justice, 1st Court of Appeals District

REP: Davie L. Wilson

Occupation: Justice

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Wilson did not respond to our judicial candidate questionnaire. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share information about themselves.



DEM: George Ellis

Occupation: Retired Senior Judge

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Ellis responded to our judicial questionnaire and his responses indicate that he is knowledgeable on firearms issues (e.g., he answered [question #1](#) correctly). He grew up with firearms, and to [question #7](#) he answered, "No. People who want to commit a crime with a gun will find a way to obtain one."

Justice, 3rd Court of Appeals District



REP: David Puryear

Occupation: Judge

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Judge Puryear, who is a trial judge in Travis County, responded to our questionnaire and indicated he is quite knowledgeable about guns and gun control issues. He was given his first rifle at age 9, and he agrees with the characterization of media reporting contained in [question #5](#). He also believes that gun control laws have been "ineffective in achieving their stated goals. Those responsible for committing crime in our midst are not, and will not, be effected or deterred by laws such as these." (See our [question #7](#)).

Jan Patterson

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Ms. Patterson did not respond to our judicial candidate questionnaire. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share information about themselves.

Justice, 4th Court of Appeals District, Place 2

REP: [Karen Angelini](#)

Occupation: Justice

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Ms. Angelini did not respond to our judicial candidate questionnaire. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share information about themselves.

DEM: Jim Branton

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Branton responded to our judicial candidate questionnaire. His responses do not indicate much about his views, but do indicate a basic ignorance of firearms issues. He honestly notes that he does not know the answer to [question #1](#), and does not recall the media coverage of the "assault rifle" ban ([question #5](#)). He was not raised in a home where firearms were present. On the positive side, he has had formal firearms training in the Air Force, and, to our [question #7](#), he answers, "Probably not very effective." We think that Mr. Branton is simply one of the many that is not concerned about firearms freedoms, but is not anti-gun either. It is a tough choice in this race without information on the other candidate, so no recommendation here.

Justice, 8th Court of Appeals District

REP: Jerry Woodard

Occupation: Senior Judge

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Woodard did not respond to our judicial candidate questionnaire. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share information about themselves.

DEM: Susan Larsen

Occupation: Justice, Eighth Court

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Ms. Larsen did not respond to our judicial candidate questionnaire. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share information about themselves.

Justice, 9th Court of Appeals District



REP: Ralph Harrison

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Harrison responded to our judicial questionnaire and gave what are possibly some of the most thoughtful answers of any judicial candidate this year. He indicates he is well read and quite familiar with gun control issues. He answered [question #1](#) correctly, and to [question #5](#) wrote, "I believe the national media has a bias against gun ownership. Consequently, I am skeptical of much of what I read in the media on that subject. I prefer to draw conclusions from more reliable information." He also correctly notes that gun control "measures can be objectively proven to be ineffective," (which, of course, is true).

DEM: Don Burgess

Occupation: Judge

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Burgess did not respond to our judicial candidate questionnaire. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share information about themselves.

Justice, 10th Court of Appeals District



REP: Tom Gray

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Gray responded to our judicial candidate questionnaire, which generally indicated a thoughtful man (a good quality in an appellate judge), who took some care with his answers. He guessed correctly the answer to [question #1](#), stated he grew up around firearms, and generally gave positive, though cautious responses. We note that he correctly points out that statistics "did not bear out a positive correlation between statutory gun control and the level of violent crime," (in fact, there is now [proof](#) of the contrary. [Lott/Mustard](#)).

DEM: Katherine Logue O'Herren

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Ms. O'Herren did not respond to our judicial candidate questionnaire. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share information about themselves.

Justice, 11th Court of Appeals District

REP: Terry McCall

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Sorry, no candidate in this race felt like sharing information with you voters as they failed to return our judicial questionnaire.

DEM: Randy Wilson

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Wilson did not respond to our judicial candidate questionnaire. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share information about themselves.

Justice, 14th Court of Appeals District, Place 1



REP: Don Wittig

Occupation: State District Judge

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Wittig was rated "A" by [TSRA](#) in 1994 when he ran for attorney general against Dan Morales. He is currently the sitting judge of the 125th District Court. In an interview that year, Mr. Wittig stated that he would be willing, as Texas' attorney general, to intervene on behalf of the people of the State of Texas in litigation pending at that time to challenge the Brady Act's Constitutionality. If Mr. Wittig was willing to do this, then we feel he is a good bet for your pro-gun vote. He did not respond to our questionnaire in '98. He is endorsed by [GTSC](#) too.

DEM: Geoffrey "Jeff" Hutson

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Hutson did not respond to our judicial candidate questionnaire. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share information about themselves.

State Board of Education

Member, State Board of Education, District 1

REP: Donna Ballard

Occupation: Homemaker

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Sorry, but we simply did not have enough volunteers to cover this race.

DEM: Rene Nunez

Occupation: Real Estate

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Sorry, but we simply did not have enough volunteers to cover this race.

Member, State Board of Education, District 2

REP: Shirley Persons Pigott

Occupation: self-employed physician

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Sorry, but we simply did not have enough volunteers to cover this race.

DEM: Mary Helen Berlanga

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Sorry, but we simply did not have enough volunteers to cover this race.

Member, State Board of Education, District 8

REP: Grace Shore

Occupation: Self Employed

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Ms. Shore has failed to respond to our questionnaire and was rather rude to our volunteer when he attempted to interview her on the phone. Our volunteer wrote: "Her tone of voice changed from one of frustration when I began asking a survey question to one of anger and it was then she stated 'fax me the survey!' I have also tried to contact her for the last three days, and she does not answer the phone." The survey was not returned. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share their opinions on the issues.

DEM: Charlotte H. Coffelt

Occupation: Retired Educator

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mrs. Coffelt has not returned at least two messages that our volunteer left on her machine. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share their opinions on the issues.

Member, State Board of Education, District 9

REP: Don McLeroy

Occupation: Dentist

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Although our volunteer stated that Mr. McLeroy's staff indicated he was "pro-gun," he has not responded to our questionnaire, which was faxed to him at his office.

DEM: Mary Delk

Occupation: Teacher

Incumbent? N

Analysis: From conversation with her, it appears Ms. Delk has a limited awareness of gun rights issues, and

had "no comment" on the issues raised by our volunteer. She was faxed our survey to school where she works at her request, but has not returned it.

Member, State Board of Education, District 14

REP: [Richard Watson](#)

Occupation: Pharmacist

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Sorry, but we simply did not have enough volunteers to cover this race.

DEM: Allan Butcher

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Sorry, but we simply did not have enough volunteers to cover this race.

State Senate

State Senator, District 4

REP: [Michael Galloway](#)

Occupation: Oil & Gas Producer

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Rated "A+" by [TSRA](#). He has the endorsement of [GTSC](#) too.

DEM: [David Bernsen](#)

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

State Senator, District 5

REP: [Steve Ogden](#)

Occupation: Oil & Gas Producer

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Rated "A+" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Mary M. Moore

Occupation: CPA

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

State Senator, District 11



REP: Mike Jackson

Occupation: Contractor

Incumbent?

Analysis: Mr. Jackson was sent a letter, with the Peaceable Texan questionnaire enclosed, requesting his stance on the second Amendment and gun control issues. He has not responded to the letter (as most candidates do). However, Sen. Jerry Patterson, sponsor of the Texas Right-to-Carry Law, has informed us that Mr. Jackson is strongly pro-gun and will be "with us" on our issues. Jerry Patterson resigned this seat to run for Land Commissioner in '98. Jackson will likely be his successor. Rated "A+" by [TSRA](#). He has the endorsement of [GTSC](#) too.

DEM: Edward Wesley

Occupation: Attorney/Businessman

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Wesley was telephoned and asked his position on gun ownership. He stated that he has a CHL. He also said that his family has been victimized by an armed robbery and that he definitely supports the Second Amendment right to gun ownership, including handguns. However, this statement cannot square with his additional statement that he has some concerns about certain types of weapon ownership, and voiced disapproval of "assault" rifle ownership. It would seem that he may not be well informed on the semi-auto rifle issue, and could be educated. He responded to the [GOA](#) survey, answering that: he does not support gun rationing, does want to keep the government involved in handgun ownership, does not support guns on college campuses, and did not answer questions on local ordinances about carriers' and manufacturers' liability. The main and last point is that he opposes 'Vermont-style' legislation. Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

State Senator, District 17



REP: [J. E. 'Buster' Brown](#)

Occupation: Attorney/Mediator

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Brown's office was telephoned and his aide, Wendy Taylor, said that the Senator usually does not respond to surveys or questionnaires. Senator Brown did vote for SB 60, the Right-to-Carry legislation. A questionnaire was faxed to him, he has not responded. He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#). He has the endorsement of [GTSC](#) too.

DEM: Ronnie Ellen Harrison

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Ms. Harrison was telephoned and a receptionist said to send the survey. A letter, with the questionnaire enclosed, was sent requesting her stance on the second amendment and gun control issues. She has not responded. We also note that she did not respond to [TSRA](#)'s survey either, which is a good sign that she is not friendly to gun owners' rights.

State Senator, District 18

REP: [Reese Turner](#)

Occupation: VP Sales

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated a "B" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Ken Armbrister

Occupation: St. Senator/ Businessman

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Rated "A+" by [TSRA](#).

State Senator, District 20



REP: Joe Gardner

Occupation: CPA

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).



DEM: Carlos F. Truan

Occupation: Insurance Agent

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: He did not respond to [TSRA](#)'s survey, which is not surprising since he was a vocal opponent of the Right-to-Carry Law when it came up a few years ago. Still, he is well known enough that TSRA should have, and could have, rated him.

State Senator, District 30

REP: [Tom Haywood](#)

Occupation: Businessman

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Rated "A+" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: [Greg Underwood](#)

Occupation: Attorney & Small Businessman

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "B-" by [TSRA](#).

State House of Representatives

State Representative District 2

REP: Debe McGuire

Occupation: CPA & Stockbroker

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#). According to GOA, she has expressed the view that government mandated "no-safety" zones around schools and colleges should be repealed.

DEM: Tom Ramsay

Occupation: Realtor

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Rated "A+" by [TSRA](#). We have word from GOA that came in the day before the '98 election, that Mr. Ramsay is running anti-gun ads attacking his opponent, Ms. McGuire, for her support of the right to carry on college campuses. This is another example of the grade inflation TSRA gives in order to "stay on the good side" of incumbents.

State Representative District 3



REP: Sue Fancher

Occupation: Financial Services

Incumbent? N

Analysis: This candidate impressed our interviewer as a thoughtful lady, on our side philosophically but not really knowledgeable about the specifics of gun-related issues. She opposes waiting periods but favors an instant-check system for purchases, and she opposes the semi-auto ban. She believes in the INDIVIDUAL right to arms. She is undecided about Vermont-style, no-license handgun carry and the issue of state pre-emption vs. local control. Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Mark Homer

Occupation: Sonic Drive In Franchisee

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Homer did not respond to our volunteer's interview requests, nor did he respond to [TSRA](#)'s survey, which is a good sign he is not friendly to the concerns of gunowners. We have word from GOA that came in the day before the '98 election, that Mr. Homer is running anti-gun ads attacking his opponent, Ms. Fancher, for her support of the right to carry on college campuses.

State Representative District 4



REP: Betty Brown

Occupation: Homemaker/Rancher

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Brown has not returned our survey as I write this. However, she did fill out the [GOA](#) survey. Of the 15 questions on the GOA survey Mrs. Brown gave positive responses to each and every one. Where Second Amendment issues are concerned I do not believe we could go wrong with Mrs. Brown. Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).



DEM: Bruce Wood

Occupation: School Superintendent (Ret)

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Wood states that he has a policy against filling out questionnaires. He did not fill one out for Peaceable Texans, [GOA](#), or [TSRA](#). Mr. Wood has worked as a bus driver, teacher, school administrator (Terrell I.S.D.) and police officer. He does state that he is a hunter and owns two rifles and two shotguns. (A former police officer who does not own a handgun?). His failure to respond to any gun rights organization is a sign that he is not friendly to the concerns of gun owners. Indeed, we have word from GOA late in the election cycle that Mr. Wood is running anti-gun attack ads on his opponent, Ms. Brown, because she is on record supporting allowing women to defend themselves on college campuses, and because she opposes the federal "gun free school zones" law. These radio ads have earned Mr. Wood the jolly roger.

State Representative District 5

REP: [Dan Flynn](#)

Occupation: Rancher

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Now this is the man! He responded yes to all of our survey questions and provided me with the Second Amendment voting record of his opponent Rep. Bob Glaze. Bob is one guy that we most definitely want to get voted out of office. Bob has tried at every turn to stop Texan's concealed handgun carry rights. Sounds like we need a change and Dan Flynn could be the answer. Dan scored a perfect 100% on his responses to [GOA's survey](#) this year too (all yes answers).



DEM: Bob Glaze

Occupation: Chiropractor

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Did not respond to our survey by mail and would not respond to repeated phone calls. I did get information from his opponent Dan Flynn. Bob is one guy that we most definitely want to get voted out of office. Bob has tried at every turn to fight against the Right-to-Carry Law and to restrict Texan's handgun carry rights. He has voted at least twelve times against us, everything from voting to force concealed carry licensees to get \$250,000 of liability insurance to trying to kill the Right-to-Carry bill altogether. BAD GUY!!!! He did respond to GOA's [survey](#), and gave the following responses: HD5 Bob Glaze Y N N N N Y Y Y Y N Y Y Y Y N. Once again demonstrating its propensity for manipulating letter grades, [TSRA](#) rates this candidate an "A," in an apparent attempt to stay on the good side of an incumbent who, in our opinion, is not worth staying on the good side of.

State Representative District 8



REP: Gene Barron

Occupation: Rancher

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Answered "yes" to all questions on the [GOA](#) questionnaire. His Democratic opponent, Paul Sadler had a "C" rating from [TSRA](#) in 1996. This is a definite CHECK for firearms freedoms fans. Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Paul Sadler

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: [TSRA](#) rated "C" in 1996; our volunteer did not contact him for the primary election because he had no opposition, and unfortunately, our volunteer did not follow up on this candidate. We do note, however, that this candidate failed to respond to [TSRA](#)'s survey in 1998 too, which is generally a pretty good sign that he is not favorable to the concerns of gun owners.

State Representative District 9

REP: Wayne Christian

Occupation: Invest. Sales

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Had [TSRA](#) rating of "A" in 1996; he did not reply to the [GOA](#) survey this year. Our volunteer did not contact him because he had no primary opponent; we hope to add information by November. Rated "A+" by [TSRA](#) this year.

DEM: Colin Strother

Occupation: Rancher

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Did not respond to [GOA](#) poll. Our volunteer did not contact him because he had no primary opponent; we hope to add information by November. He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 12

REP: Jeffrey L. Weinstein

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Clyde Alexander

Occupation: Rancher, Businessman

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Rated "A+" by [TSRA](#). It should be noted that under TSRA's rating system, "A+" ratings are generally reserved for friendly incumbents as a method of trying to stay on the their good side of incumbents because incumbents are statistically most likely to win.

State Representative District 13

REP: Charles B. Jones

Occupation: Rancher/Administrator

Incumbent?

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Dan Kubiak

Occupation: Builder/Consultant/Rancher

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Rated "A+" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 15



REP: Thomas 'Tommy' Williams

Occupation: Sales/Ins.&Finance

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Rated "A+" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Larry R. Hickman

Occupation: Floral Grower

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "D" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 17

REP: Les R. Chambers

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Jim McReynolds

Occupation: State Representative/Petroleum

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Rated "A+" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 18

REP: [Ben Bius](#)

Occupation: Real Estate Broker

Incumbent?

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Dan Ellis

Occupation: Office Manager

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 20

REP: Eddie Shauberger

Occupation: Administrator

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Shauberger has an unlisted phone number according to information. None of his positions are known as he did not return Gun Owners of America' survey and could not be reached by our volunteer. It is hard to take a candidate seriously when he is so difficult to contact. However, he apparently did respond to [TSRA](#)'s survey late in the election cycle, and garnered an "A" rating from them.



DEM: Zeb D. Zbranek

Occupation: Attorney, Petroleum Engineer

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Zbranek was rated "A+" by the Texas State Rifle Association in 1996 and this year too; however, he did not answer the questions on the Gun Owners of America survey, and our volunteer was unable to contact him either. Our recommendation is based solely on the information from [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 21



REP: [Kent Adams](#)

Occupation:

Incumbent?

Analysis: Mr. Adams told our volunteer he is for the concealed carry law and against the ban on semi-automatics. He stated he is for tougher laws for criminals and opposes tighter gun legislation. He did not return our questionnaire. Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Allan B. Ritter

Occupation: Retail - owner/manager

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Ritter is for the concealed carry law and has his own permit to carry. While he says he has no opinion on the "assault rifle" ban, he is an avid hunter and was raised around firearms. He feels there should be gun proficiency and safety classes on the public school levels. His [PTFFR](#) questionnaire was not returned. He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 23



REP: Dave Norman

Occupation:

Incumbent?

Analysis: Mr Norman was rated A in 1996 by the Texas State Rifle Association. He runs opposing Patricia Gray who is not gun owner friendly. No other information on this candidate was found. Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Patricia Gray

Occupation: Lawyer

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Ms. Gray is rated D by the Texas State Rifle Association. She did not return her Gun Owners of America survey and should not for these reasons be considered a friend to the gun owner. She did not return our volunteer's phone call either. Rated "B" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 24



REP: Larry Taylor

Occupation:

Incumbent?

Analysis: Mr. Taylor says he is in favor of the concealed carry law and has obtained a permit. He states that he is opposed to the semi-auto ban and is in favor of repealing it. Mr. Taylor also states that he is against the Brady Bill and earned a perfect score on our questionnaire. Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Craig Eiland

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Eiland is rated "A" by the Texas Rifle Association, (probably because he is an incumbent and voted for the Right-to-Carry law). He did not return the Gun Owner's of America survey or phone calls from our volunteer. In our opinion, he is a luke warm supporter, but no advocate of your rights.

State Representative District 28



REP: Michael Franks

Occupation:

Incumbent? N

Analysis: This candidate is pretty much an individual-rights and gun-rights "purist." He opposes the semi-auto ban, waiting periods, etc., and wants to generally minimize government control of citizens. Although a shooter, he does not intend to get a CHL because he does not believe in getting a State license to exercise a Constitutional right. He stated publicly in August, 1998, at a fund-raiser for Ron Paul that he is willing to sponsor a Vermont style right-to-carry bill. Rated "A" by [TSRA](#). This race is one where we part company with TSRA, who is endorsing the incumbent (as they do all too often). If Michael wins this race, in 2000 you will see he has an "A+" rating and the endorsement of TSRA. It is too bad TSRA does not do so this year.

DEM: Robert L. 'Robby' Cook

Occupation: Farmer

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Rep. Cook did not want to answer specific questions but was willing to discuss the gun-rights issue generally. Our interviewer got the impression that he is on our side more than against us. He believes in the individual right to arms. He voted for the 1997 Right-to-carry law improvements (he was not in the legislature in 1995). He would like to get a CHL, but hasn't had time to complete the training. Overall, sounds like he wants to reserve opinions until he learns more. He might be educable, but why run the risk, when you have a choice of someone who is obviously well informed already? Rated "A+" by [TSRA](#). It should be noted that under TSRA's rating system, "A+" ratings are generally reserved for friendly incumbents as a method of trying to stay on the their good side of incumbents because incumbents are statistically most likely to win.

State Representative District 29

REP: Edward T. (Ed) Garcia

Occupation: Insurance Agent

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Garza did not respond to our survey, nor [TSRA](#)'s, which is a pretty good indicator that he is not on the side of gun owners. The recommendation in this race is based solely upon this candidate's failure to let us know where he stands.



DEM: D.R. 'Tom' Uher

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Rep. Uher is generally pro-gun rights, seeing the Second Amendment as protecting an individual's rights, and favoring state pre-emption (no local restrictive laws). He opposes waiting periods and the semi-auto ban. He's undecided about Vermont-style "no-license" carry and restrictions on penetrating bullets, saying that any legislation would have to be very carefully drawn so as not to prohibit ordinary hunting rifle ammunition. He voted for the 1995 Right-to-Carry law and the 1997 improvements. Overall, he seems familiar with firearms issues. Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 30

REP: Geanie W. Morrison

Occupation: Homemaker

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mrs. Morrison says she supports a "very literal" interpretation of the Second Amendment. She seems to be philosophically on our side but not really knowledgeable about the specifics of gun-related issues. She opposes waiting periods and local restrictions on carrying but is undecided about repealing the semi-auto ban and Vermont-style "no-license" carry. Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Vernon Reaser

Occupation: Realtor

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Reaser declined to answer specific questions from our interviewer, saying that he wasn't familiar with the Peaceable Texans group. [Should that matter? -Ed.] He did state that he was "100% behind gun rights." Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 33

REP: Arturo Granado

Occupation:

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Granado asked that a survey be mailed to him. The survey was mailed to him on 2/17/98. Apparently Granado does not have fax or e-mail capability. Granado has not returned our survey, [GOA's](#) survey, nor [TSRA's](#) survey. This failure to respond to any pro-gun group is usually a strong indication that the candidate is not on the side of gun owners.

DEM: Vilma Luna

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Luna did not return our survey or [GOA's](#) survey. She had a "C" rating in 1996 from the [TSRA](#). Luna's office was contacted and a survey sent to her office on 2/16/98. It was not returned. She did not respond to [TSRA's](#) survey this year either. She has been in office long enough that TSRA should have, and could have, rated her based on her past voting record. We know she voted for the [trigger lock bill](#) in committee.

State Representative District 34

REP: Rene De Alejandro

Occupation:

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Alejandro was contacted and a survey was sent to him on 2/16/98. Alejandro has not returned our survey, [GOA](#)'s survey, or [TSRA](#)'s survey. This failure to respond to any pro-gun group is usually a strong indication that the candidate is not on the side of gun owners.

DEM: Jaime L. Capelo, Jr.

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: I contacted Capelo's law office on a couple of occasions and have not been able to talk to him. Unable to get a fax number from his office, I could not send a survey. No response to [GOA](#) or [TSRA](#) surveys from Capelo either. This failure to respond to any pro-gun group is usually a strong indication that the candidate is not on the side of gun owners.

State Representative District 44



REP: Bob Hurley

Occupation: Businessman

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Hurley returned our survey as well as the [GOA](#) survey. His responses to both shows a real commitment to your firearms rights. He indicates he supports virtually every GOA position, repeal of the semi-auto ban, and opposes waiting periods. When asked what the Second Amendment means, he wrote, it "was designed to allow the average man to have weapons in his home to defend himself and his family against all things, including tyrannical governments." You can't go wrong with Mr. Hurley. He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Ignacio Salinas

Occupation: Educator

Incumbent? N

Analysis: We have no survey results from Salinas. He did not return a [GOA](#) nor a [TSRA](#) survey either. Salinas is or was a registered lobbyist for the Texas State Teachers Association. He listed his occupation as educator. I tried to contact Salinas at the Texas State Teachers Association and was unable to get in contact with him. This failure to respond to any pro-gun group is usually a strong indication that the candidate is no friend of gun owners.

State Representative District 46



REP: Rick Green

Occupation: Small Business Owner/MGR

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Green did not respond to our survey by mail and did not respond to a phone call. But he did respond to GOA's '98 survey, in which he scores a perfect pro-gun rights score (all yesses). Way to go Rick! He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Alec Rhodes

Occupation: Businessman

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Rhodes replied to my letter but refused to answer our survey, "My policy is to not respond to any standard surveys. More often than not, surveys seek simple answers to complex questions." I did try to call his office but was given a run-around. Sounds to me as if he would rather not give us an honest answer. He did not respond to [GOA](#)'s questionnaire. [TSRA](#) has rated him an "A," probably because Mr. Rhodes is an incumbent who voted for the right-to-carry law.

State Representative District 48



DEM: Sherri Greenberg <----remember this name

Occupation: Finance

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: If this woman had her way, you'd be in jail for just *wanting* to own guns. She has no opponent, sad to say. She is listed here nonetheless for infamy's sake.

State Representative District 49



REP: Emil Blomquist

Occupation:

Incumbent? N

Analysis: While Mr. Blomquist is not exactly a strong advocate for gun rights, he definitely is not the gun-hater that Mr. Naishtat is. Blomquist tells he is "Pro-Gun," and he did come to one of our meetings to meet with us personally, tell us his views, and enlist our support.



DEM: Elliott Naishtat

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Naishtat will be breaking a sweat working hard to destroy your gun rights next session unless you replace him. He is appropriately rated an "F" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 51



REP: [Fred Ebner](#)

Occupation: Retired

Incumbent?

Analysis: Mr. Ebner did not return our survey but he did send our volunteer a reply letter with a PS. of " There is no way I am anti gun!" His website does not mention firearm issues. This recommendation is based primarily on the horrible record of the incumbent. He is rated "B" by [TSRA](#).



Glen Maxey

Occupation: Political Consultant

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: We know Mr. Maxey very well, and you should too. He has voted against gun rights and for gun control at every opportunity in his years as a legislator from East Travis County (Austin); for example, he sponsored an "assault rifle" ban for Texas several years back when it was a hot new item with the news media. So, it is not surprising that our volunteer wrote about Mr. Maxey: "He did not respond to our survey by mail and would not respond to repeated phone calls." You really could not do any worse than Glen Maxey, who was voted one of the 10 worst legislators by Texas Monthly a few years back (for reasons totally unrelated to gun control). He is rated "F" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 54



REP: Suzanna Gratia Hupp

Occupation: Chiropractor/State Rep.

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: As you may recall, Ms. Hupp has testified before many state and federal committees about her experience at the Luby's Massacre in Killeen, Texas, where she lost both her parents to an armed madman, when she had her own gun sitting uselessly in her glove compartment in the parking lot, because Texas law at the time made it illegal to carry it. She states unequivocally that she had the opportunity to take down the assailant, and save her parents. You can expect she will be a strong advocate of your gun rights in the Texas Legislature, where we need her. She is rated "A+" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Don Armstrong

Occupation: Ranching

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Armstrong did not respond to our survey by mail and would not respond to repeated phone calls. He did not respond to [TSRA](#)'s survey nor [GOA](#)'s survey either.

State Representative District 56

REP: Kip Averitt

Occupation: Manufacturing

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Averitt did not respond to our survey by mail and would not respond to repeated phone calls. He did not respond to [GOA](#)'s survey either. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share their opinions on the issues. If you have information about either candidate in this race, please [email us](#). He did respond to [TSRA](#)'s survey as of the time this was written, yet TSRA rated him an "A."

DEM: Charles Rothrock

Occupation: Firefighter/EMT-P

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Rothrock did not respond to our survey by mail and would not respond to repeated phone calls. He did not respond to [GOA](#)'s survey nor [TSRA](#)'s survey either. We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share their opinions on the issues. If you have information about either candidate in this race, please [email us](#).

State Representative District 58



REP: Arlene Wohlgemuth

Occupation: State Representative

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Ms. Wohlgemuth responded to our questionnaire with thoughtful answers that demonstrate an exceptionally good comprehension of firearms issues. For example, she correctly pointed out that the 1994 ban on semi-automatics (the "assault rifle" ban) was not what the public was led to believe, because the guns banned were "sporting rifles with a military look instead of true assault weapons." Regarding the Second Amendment, she stated, "It also serves as a deterrent for the government's desire to violate the other Amendments in the Bill of Rights." She opposes waiting periods, special licensing of guns, ammo, etc., and supports repeal of the federal ban on semi-automatics. She is rated "A+" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Gayle Appleby Ledbetter

Occupation: Homemaker

Incumbent? N

Analysis: We hope to have information on this candidate by November. This candidate did not respond to the [TSRA](#) survey.

State Representative District 59



REP: Becky Farrar

Occupation: Ranching

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#). This recommendation is made solely on the basis of the [TSRA](#) information.

DEM: David Lengefeld

Occupation: Insurance Agent

Incumbent? N

Analysis: He did not respond the [TSRA](#) survey.

State Representative District 61



REP: Phil King

Occupation: Judge/Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#). This recommendation is made solely on the basis of the [TSRA](#) information.

DEM: Brenda Brown Rotramble

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? N

Analysis: She did not respond to the [TSRA](#) survey.

State Representative District 62



REP: Ron Clark

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Clark received an "A" from [TSRA](#) in 1996 and "A+" 1998. Mr. Clark responded to the Peaceable Texan questionnaire in 1996 and took the opportunity to expand on the questions asked. He indicates some knowledge of firearms and the Second Amendment. He supports repeal of the semi-auto ban, and does not support the Brady Law. He would not support efforts by local governments to place restrictions on the carrying of handguns in parks and on busses, but considers limitations appropriate for areas such as courtrooms, council chambers, and jails where prisoners are present. Responses appear to be very pro-gun, but he did indicate that the ability of a bullet to penetrate medium grade kevlar vests should be used as a basis for the government to ban that bullet. He is a member of the NRA. In 1998 he did not respond to [GOA](#), NPAT, or our survey.

DEM: Sam J. Thorpe

Occupation: Insurance Agent

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Thorpe did not respond to our survey or phone calls. Many people believe that finding out where a candidate stands is just a simple matter of asking. Not So. Our volunteers routinely find it to be very difficult to get candidates to state their views or lack thereof. This candidate is one of them. It is incredible that these people can ask for your vote, but refuse to tell you anything about themselves. This is what our volunteer wrote about Mr. Thorpe: "On February 11 I sent all the candidates a copy of the survey with a self addressed, stamped envelope and a cover letter that provided my phone number and a 24 hour, toll free, voice mail phone number so that they could contact me if they had any questions or comments. None of the mailings were 'returned to sender' (so I am sure that they were received). On February 23 I was calling the candidates to be sure that they had received the survey. Each candidate was called at least twice and was provided with the same phone numbers and a request for a time and place that I could call them back." We do not recommend voting for people who refuse to share their opinions on the issues. He did not respond [TSRA](#)'s survey either.

State Representative District 63



REP: Mary Denny

Occupation: Businesswoman/St. Rep.

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Denny has responded to our survey and has answered all the questions that would support our cause. She did respond to the [GOA](#) survey by answering Y to all questions (which is very good). Her response to the NPAT survey was also in our favor. She co-sponsored Texas' Right to carry legislation and co-authored of HB601 by Carter. Her response to her opinion on the intent and meaning of the Second Amendment was... "The Second Amendment means what it says. 'the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.'" She is rated "A+" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Kenneth Bridges

Occupation: Student

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Bridges is no supporter of gun rights. He is rated "B-" by [TSRA](#). While he, like many politicians nowadays, says he supports Second Amendment rights, he really does not. He said, "The Second Amendment provides that the people have the right to defend themselves and their communities from without and within through the use of firearms if necessary." Yet, he would NOT support legislation to repeal the semi-auto ban, or to prevent local governments from banning the carrying of concealed weapons, and DOES support mandatory waiting periods, such as the Brady Law for handguns. He also believes that the ability of a bullet to penetrate a kevlar vest should determine whether or not the government should ban it.

His closing comments were, "The people clearly have the right to defend themselves but criminals must not have guns. We must protect ourselves from crime without diluting our most cherished rights. As a state representative, I will be a staunch defender of freedom and safe communities."

He went on to say, "I believe existing statutes are adequate and do not believe tightening restrictions further would be effective in deterring crime." Which I would interpret that he thinks the existing restrictions HAVE deterred crime and presumable he would support further restrictions if he believed that they would deter future crime.

He just doesn't get it.

State Representative District 68



REP: [Rick Hardcastle](#)

Occupation: Businessman

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Hardcastle responded to our questionnaire and indicated he holds very good pro-gun rights views. For example, he indicates he supports repeal of the semi-auto ban, opposes waiting periods, and opposes the usual gun control schemes (like special licenses, gun rationing, and ammo restrictions), and might even support a "Vermont style" carry law (i.e., no license to carry). He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: [Charles Finnell](#)

Occupation: Small-Businessman

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Mr. Finnell did not respond to our survey or phone calls. He apparently does not respond to surveys, as our volunteer wrote, "Did not respond to any surveys I was able to locate on the web. There is no evidence that he has authored or supported any pro gun legislation. His voting record was not available. Finnell is not endorsed by the NRA or [GOA](#) and did not participate in the NPAT or GOA surveys. He was rated "A" by [TSRA](#) in the 1996 election and "A+" in 1998. It should be noted that under TSRA's rating system, "A+" ratings are generally reserved for friendly incumbents as a method of trying to stay on the their good side of incumbents because incumbents are statistically most likely to win.

Many people believe that finding out where a candidate stands is just a simple matter of asking. Not So. We routinely find it to be very difficult to get candidates to take a stand. This candidate is one of them. It is incredible that these people ask for your vote, but then refuse to tell you anything about themselves. This is what our volunteer wrote: "On February 11 I sent all the candidates a copy of the survey with a self addressed, stamped envelope and a cover letter that provided my phone number and a 24 hour, toll free, voice mail phone number so that they could contact me if they had any questions or comments. None of the mailings were 'returned to sender' (so I am sure that they were received). On February 23 I was calling the candidates to be sure that they had received the survey. Each candidate was called at least twice and was provided with the same phone numbers and a request for a time and place that I could call them back." Is this someone you would vote for?

State Representative District 69



REP: Ron Buffum

Occupation:

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Like all too many candidates for public office, Mr. Buffum did not respond to our candidate questionnaire. He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#). This recommendation is made solely on the basis of the [TSRA](#) information.

DEM: [David Farabee](#)

Occupation: Insurance Agent

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Like all too many candidates for public office, Mr. Farabee did not respond to our candidate questionnaire. He did not respond to [TSRA](#)'s survey either. This failure to respond to any pro-gun group is usually a strong indication that the candidate is not on the side of gun owners.

State Representative District 70

REP: [Scott McLaughlin](#)

Occupation: Manager, Wholesale distributor

Incumbent?

Analysis: Like all too many candidates for public office, Mr. McLaughlin did not respond to citizen questionnaire. He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: David Counts

Occupation: Real Estate, Insurance

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Like all too many candidates for public office, Mr. Counts did not respond to our questionnaire. He is rated "A+" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 72

REP: Russ Duerstine

Occupation: Computer Consultant

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Like all too many candidates for public office, Mr. Duerstine did not respond to a citizen questionnaire. He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Robert Junell

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Our volunteer called and faxed a questionnaire to Mr. Junell's office. It has not been returned. He is rated "A+" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 73

REP: Randy C. Leifeste

Occupation: Rancher

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Like all too many candidates for public office, Mr. Leifeste did not respond to a citizen questionnaire. He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Robert R. (Bob) Turner

Occupation: Rancher/Farmer

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Like all too many candidates for public office, Mr. Turner did not respond to our questionnaire. He is rated "A+" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 75

REP: [Gerard Sanden](#)

Occupation:

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Like all too many candidates for public office, Mr. Sanden did not respond to either ours nor [TSRA's](#) surveys.

DEM: Manny Najera

Occupation: Retired

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Mr. Najera did not respond to our questionnaire, but he did respond to [TSRA's](#), and they rated him a "C+", which is not very good.

State Representative District 78

REP: Pat Haggerty

Occupation:

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: This incumbent had an "A" rating from [TSRA](#) in 1996 and "A+" in 1998. He did not respond to [GOA's](#) survey this year. Our volunteer did not contact him because he had no primary opponent, and did not follow up after the primary, unfortunately.

DEM: John Cook

Occupation: Marketing Consultant

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#). Did not respond to [GOA](#) poll. Our volunteer did not contact him because he had no primary opponent, and did not follow up after the primary, unfortunately.

State Representative District 85

REP: Hollis Cain

Occupation: Rancher

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Ran against the Speaker of the House, Pete Laney in 1996 and lost. Did not respond to the [TSRA](#) survey in either '96 or '98, and has not responded to the 1998 [GOA](#) survey. This failure to respond to any pro-gun group is usually a strong indication that the candidate is not on the side of gun owners. Our volunteer did not contact him because he had no primary opponent; we hope to add information by November.



DEM: James E. 'Pete' Laney

Occupation: Farmer

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Speaker of the House. [TSRA](#)'s rating of "A+" is largely because he did not oppose the concealed carry law and is a powerful incumbent. He did not respond to the 1998 [GOA](#) poll.

State Representative District 89

REP: Sue Palmer

Occupation: Petroleum Distributor

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: [TSRA](#) 1996 rating of "A." [TSRA](#) rated her "A+" this year. She did not reply to [GOA](#)'s 1998 survey. Our volunteer did not contact him because he had no primary opponent, and did not follow up after the primary, unfortunately.

DEM: S.L. "Serg" De Leon

Occupation: Legal Assistant

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Did not reply to [GOA](#)'s 1998 survey. He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#). Our volunteer did not contact him because he had no primary opponent; we hope to add information by November.

State Representative District 98

REP: Vicki Truitt

Occupation:

Incumbent?

Analysis: Ms. Truitt was telephoned and said to send the survey. A letter, with the questionnaire enclosed, was sent requesting her stance on the second amendment and gun control issues. She has not responded. She is rated "A" by [TSRA](#).



DEM: Gene Mitchell

Occupation: Writer

Incumbent? N

Analysis: According to [GOA](#), Mr. Engel filled out the GOA survey and answered "Yes" to all questions (that is very good). He was telephoned by a volunteer and there was no answer. A letter was sent with the Peaceable Texan questionnaire enclosed. He has not responded to the letter. He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 104



REP: Monty Weddell

Occupation:

Incumbent?

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#). The recommendation in this race is based solely upon the scant information gleaned from the [TSRA](#) ratings.

DEM: Domingo Garcia

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Rated "B" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 106



REP: Ray Allen

Occupation: Businessman

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "A+" by [TSRA](#). The recommendation in this race is based solely upon the scant information gleaned from [TSRA](#).

DEM: John J. Lopez

Occupation: Student

Incumbent? N

Analysis: He did not responded to the [TSRA](#) survey in 1998.

State Representative District 107



REP: John Alvis

Occupation:

Incumbent?

Analysis: Rated "B" by [TSRA](#) in 1998. The recommendation in this race is based solely upon the scant information gleaned from [TSRA](#).

DEM: Harryette Ehrhardt

Occupation: Teacher - Retired

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: This candidate did not respond to the [TSRA](#) survey.

State Representative District 125

REP: Shirley Thompson

Occupation:

Analysis: This candidate did not respond the [TSRA](#) survey.

DEM: Arthur Reyna

Occupation:

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: This candidate did not respond the [TSRA](#) survey.

State Representative District 128

REP: Dwayne Andries

Occupation:

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#). He has the endorsement of [GTSC](#).

DEM: Fred M. Bosse

Occupation: Attorney

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Rated "A+" by [TSRA](#). It should be noted that under TSRA's rating system, "A+" ratings are generally reserved for friendly incumbents as a method of trying to stay on the their good side of incumbents because statistically incumbents are most likely to win.

State Representative District 129

REP: John Davis

Incumbent?

Analysis: He is rated "A" by [TSRA](#). He has the endorsement of [GTSC](#).

LIB: Kevin J. Hagen

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey. Please consider voting for Libertarian candidates for the reason that Republicans have done nothing for us and in fact, have given us *more* anti-gun laws. Republicans think gun owners "have no where else to go." Teach them that this is false.

DEM: Rick O'Sullivan

Occupation: Law Clerk/Property Manager

Incumbent? N

Analysis: We hope to have information about this candidate in time for the election, which may change the recommendation in this race. We note he did not respond to the [TSRA](#) survey.

State Representative District 134



REP: Kyle Janek

Occupation:

Incumbent?

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#). He has the endorsement of [GTSC](#).

DEM: Mike Laster

Occupation: Attorney At Law

Incumbent? N

Analysis: This candidate did not respond the [TSRA](#) survey.

State Representative District 136

REP: Beverly Woolley

Occupation:

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: We note she did not respond to [TSRA](#)'s survey, although [GTSC](#) has endorsed her.



LIB: Ben Easton

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey. This candidate is rated "A" by [TSRA](#), which is unusual, since TSRA seldom rates third party candidates. This is a race in which it is wise to vote Libertarian to send a message to Republicans everywhere that they cannot continue to receive the pro-gun vote yet treat gun owners as an embarrassing step child, (it was the Republican Congress, remember, that re-enacted the Gun Free School Zones Act, passed the Lautenberg "misdemeanor" gun ban, and affirmed various [Clinton nominated gun-haters](#) for important positions on the federal bench and the executive branch like David Satcher as Surgeon General).

State Representative District 137



REP: Ben Dominguez, II

Occupation:

Incumbent?

Analysis: Unfortunately, Mr. Dominguez did not respond to [TSRA](#)'s survey. The recommendation in this race is the horrible track record of the incumbent. He has the endorsement of [GTSC](#) too.



DEM: Debra Danburg

Occupation: State Rep/ Attorney

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Bad, Bad, Bad. Ms. Danburg is working against you. In the last session she sponsored legislation to outlaw private transfers between adult gun owners at events loosely defined as a "gunshow." Of course, this is but a first attack on the concept of the private transfer. If private transfers among citizens can be banned at gunshow-type events (which might even include mere gun club meetings/shoots, etc.), then it is just a matter of time until they go after the new "loophole," namely, all other private transfers. "Transfer" is loosely defined to include mere borrowing, possession, and the like too, remember. [TSRA](#) over-rates this candidate with a "D" rating.

State Representative District 138



REP: Dwayne Bohac

Occupation:

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#). We note that [GTSC](#) lists Mr. Bohac as a "2nd Amendment Advocate," yet they do not endorse him, probably only because he is a challenger to an incumbent, and they do not wish to incur the wrath of an incumbent. We have no such qualms. What we need are more advocates, not merely "supporters."

DEM: Ken Yarbrough

Occupation: Exec. Director/Editor

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: Rated "A+" by [TSRA](#). He has the endorsement of [GTSC](#). It should be noted that under TSRA's rating system, "A+" ratings are generally reserved for friendly incumbents as a method of trying to stay on the their good side of incumbents because statistically incumbents are most likely to win.

State Representative District 143

REP: K.E. Glucksman

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#).

DEM: Joe Moreno

Occupation: Marketing

Incumbent? N

Analysis: This candidate did not respond to [TSRA](#)'s survey.

State Representative District 144

REP: Robert E. Talton

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: He is rated "A+" by [TSRA](#) in 1998. He has the endorsement of [GTSC](#). It should be noted that under TSRA's rating system, "A+" ratings are generally reserved for friendly incumbents as a method of trying to stay on the their good side of incumbents because incumbents are statistically most likely to win.

LIB: Clifford Lee Messina

Occupation:

Analysis: The [position](#) of the Libertarian Party is well known on the Second Amendment (or any Constitutional issue), which is one of unqualified support. We were unable to contact this libertarian candidate after the LP's June conventions. Libertarian Party candidates were not known at the time of the [GOA](#) survey, so they were not included therein. This may be a race in which it is wise to vote Libertarian to send a message to Republicans everywhere that they cannot continue to receive the pro-gun vote yet treat gun owners as an embarrassing step child, (it was the Republican Congress, remember, that re-enacted the Gun Free School Zones Act, passed the Lautenberg "misdemeanor" gun ban, and affirmed various [Clinton nominated gun-haters](#) for important positions on the federal bench and the executive branch like David Satcher as Surgeon General).

State Representative District 145



REP: [Michael Bunch](#)

Occupation:

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#). The recommendation in this race is based solely upon the ratings from [TSRA](#) and the endorsement by [GTSC](#).

DEM: Rick Noriega

Occupation: Senior State Relations

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "B" by [TSRA](#).

State Representative District 146



REP: David Fuson

Occupation:

Incumbent? N

Analysis: Rated "A" by [TSRA](#). We note that [GTSC](#) lists Mr. Fuson as a "2nd Amendment Opponent," and endorses Mr. Edwards, who is a known quantity. This makes little sense to us, because of his rating from TSRA. However, even assuming that TSRA is wrong, an anti-gun incumbent is always worse than an anti-gun freshman! So, the choice here is still an easy one.



DEM: Al Edwards

Occupation: Real Estate

Incumbent? Y

Analysis: He was rated "D" by [TSRA](#) in 1996. We would rate him an "F." [TSRA](#) does a disservice by only listing that he did not respond to their questionnaire this year. Of course he didn't, he's as anti as they come!

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