

Atlanta's Progressive Voter Guide

for more information please visit our website at
www.urbanindependents.org



C E L W S

Conservation
 Equality
 Labor
 Women/Choice
 Social / Schools

November 3rd, 2009

State of Georgia

House 58	Simone Bell	E
Senate 35	Demarcus Peters	

City of Atlanta

Mayor	Kasim Reed	E L
City Council President	Clair Muller	
City Council 3	Ivory Young	L
City Council 4	LaShawn Hoffman	E L
City Council 6	Liz Coyle	L
City Council 8	Yolanda Adrean	L
City Council 11	Keisha L. Bottoms	
City Council 12	Joyce Sheperd	E L
Post 1 At Large	Adam Brackman	E
Post 2 At Large	Amir Farokhi	E L
Post 3 At Large	Shelitha Robertson	L
School Board 2	Khaatim SherrerEl	S
School Board 3	Cecily Harsch-Kinnane	S
School Board 4	Mark B. Riley	S
School Board 5	LaChandra Butler-Burks	S
School Board 6	Yolanda K. Johnson	S
School Board 9	Emmett D. Johnson	S

City of Decatur

City Commission 1	Fred Boykin	
City Commission 2	Kyle Williams	E L
School Board At Large	Rob Pope	
School Board 1	Marc J. Wisniewski	

Our guide and why it's different

- (1) It is researched, compiled and produced solely by volunteers, without ties to any one organization or political party.
- (2) Instead of a slate of "endorsed" candidates that share our values, it is a list of the opposed races in the metro Atlanta area, with our selection of the strongest progressive choice for that seat.

An explanation of the C E L W S

► The C (conservation), E (equality and GLBT issues), L (labor and worker's rights), W (women's issues including reproductive choice), and S (schools and social services) notation means the candidate has been endorsed by an organization in that area, including: AFL-CIO of Georgia, Atlanta Stonewall Democrats, EduPAC, Georgia Equality, and Georgia Log Cabin Republicans. (Many organizations - especially environmental and women's groups we've relied on in the past - did not make endorsements this cycle.)

Why only a few races are shown

- We only include contested races because you have no choice in the uncontested ones.
- We only provide input on metro Atlanta races, including congressional races in Fulton and DeKalb, and municipal races in Atlanta and Decatur. We'd love to do more, but for now we don't have the time and volunteer power to research every opposed race in Georgia.

How we solicit and use information

► We developed a questionnaire focusing on progressive issues that we emailed to all candidates running in contested Atlanta races. We received many completed questionnaires back, which we used as our baseline. To supplement this information, we attended meet-and-greets and forums, browsed candidate websites and campaign literature, read articles and blogs, and researched existing endorsements.

How we make our decisions

► We consider candidates' views and records on our issues, how smart and non-corrupt s/he is, and his/her chances of being elected. In a toss-up between good candidates we usually select the incumbent, as s/he may have built important alliances or be in a leadership position helpful to our causes.

What "progressive" means to us

► Core progressive values include freedom, hope, community, compassion, responsibility, equality, opportunity, family and trust. Our issues are civil rights, environmental protection and conservation, quality public education, affordable healthcare, reproductive freedom and worker's rights.

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