

## Watchmen Voter Guide for Sheriff

*\* Click on each candidate's name to see their completed questionnaire \**

Question	<a href="#">Mike Bauer</a>	<a href="#">Kim Edmonson</a>	<a href="#">John Grimm</a>	Justin Nagel	<a href="#">Robert "Bob" Norris</a>	<a href="#">Richard "Rick" Whitehead</a>
<p><b>2.</b> Define your role as Sheriff.</p>	<p>The role of a Sheriff in a free society is to assist the People in keeping themselves and their property safe from those who would attempt to take their freedom and property by means outside the Rule of Law, that is, by theft, violence or by popular justice.</p> <p>Inside the organization, the Sheriff is a leader and the director of ethical and cultural attitudes, and a mentor to all in the Sheriff's Department.</p>	<p>The primary purpose of the Sheriff is to protect and serve the community. The Sheriff enforces the laws of the state. The duties associated with Sheriff are numerous and based in law. Enforcing law, preserving peace, maintaining a jail, and the service of civil processes are some of the core purposes; these, and more duties can be found in Idaho Statute 31-2202.</p>	<p>The role of the agency is to preserve the peace, ensure public safety, and uphold the law. Sheriff's deputies (and police officers) should believe they are members of the community they serve. The Sheriff is the administrative head of the sheriff's office and is responsible for planning, organization, direction, budget and external relations. He is responsible for determining policy. He is also responsible for the discharge of all duties imposed on him by law.</p>	<p><b>Declined to respond</b></p>	<p>The number one job of the Sheriff is to protect the citizen's Rights and a very close second is to keep the community safe from criminals. The two primary functions of the Sheriff's Office are managing a Patrol and Jail divisions. Further, the Sheriff should be approachable and listen to the needs to the community so law enforcement services can address the issues the community says are the most pressing.</p>	<p>The Sheriff is a preserver of the peace, protector of the citizen, and guardian of the Constitution. In exercise thereof the Sheriff represents the sovereignty of the State within his county and answers only to the citizens therein.</p> <p><a href="#">(The remainder of Mr. Whitehead's answer can be seen in his questionnaire)</a></p>
<p><b>3.</b> The 10th amendment states: The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people. What does this mean to you?</p>	<p>I support the Tenth Amendment as a gift from the Founding Fathers that is designed to limit the power of the Federal Government. Locally we see Western land use and ownership conflicts, and I am very sympathetic to those who have pushed back against Federal overreach, including the Bundy family.</p> <p>That said, the Sheriff must lead by example in maintaining a health relationship with our Federal representatives presently in Kootenai County.</p>	<p>The 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment provides that each state has powers regarding all areas which aren't otherwise delegated by the Constitution. Basically, it splits the powers between states and the U.S. government.</p>	<p>As the final entry in the ratified Bill of Rights, the Tenth Amendment clarifies the limitations on the expansion of the Federal Government's power while preserving states' rights and individual liberty.</p>	<p><b>Declined to respond</b></p>	<p>It means that there are certain powers given to the Federal Government for the benefit of the country and that any other power is reserved to the States and people. The way I read it, and believe in, is that the power should belong to the people as much as possible, then to the states, and then the remainder to the Federal Government. In short, government serves us, the people.</p>	<p>This means the states gave birth to the federal government, not the federal government to the states. Our government today is operating way beyond those delegated powers as the federal government has been assuming more and more control over the states for decades.</p> <p><a href="#">(The remainder of Mr. Whitehead's answer can be seen in his questionnaire)</a></p>

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<p><b>4.</b> What do you see as the issues facing the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office? What are your proposed solutions?</p>	<p>Strong leadership in the relationship with the BOCC is required and will be the biggest challenge in obtaining resources and personnel moving forward. Property taxes are under strong pressure, and I will strongly oppose any expansion of gambling in this County to raise revenue.</p> <p><a href="#">(The remainder of Mr. Bauer's answer can be seen in his questionnaire)</a></p>	<p>The three biggest issues facing the Sheriff's Office are various issues related to mental health in our community, an aging campus, and a jail that is quickly approaching capacity.</p> <p><a href="#">(The remainder of Ms. Edmondson's answer can be seen in her questionnaire)</a></p>	<p>Employee retention, budget overruns, lawsuits with the potential for large settlements that will place property taxpayers at risk, lack of cohesiveness in the department.</p> <p>Many years of successful business management, skilled leadership, sound financial history, and involvement in our community uniquely qualify me to solve these problems.</p> <p>Additionally, I am one of only two candidates in this race with law enforcement experience in Idaho.</p> <p><a href="#">(The remainder of Mr. Grimm's answer can be seen in his questionnaire)</a></p>	<p><b>Declined to respond</b></p>	<p>The main issues are changing the culture from one of management to leadership, fighting the irresponsible growth that is going to lead to many of the larger city problems we do not want, and maintaining the staffing levels to address these growth issues.</p> <p><a href="#">(The remainder of Mr. Norris' answer can be seen in his questionnaire)</a></p>	<p>a. Explosive growth and the failure of the Office to keep up with it.  b. Poor Morale; the Office as a whole has been neglected for decades.  c. Retention / Attrition Directed related to the above, personnel are fleeing to other area agencies where they are better compensated and with better benefits.</p> <p><a href="#">(The remainder of Mr. Whitehead's answer can be seen in his questionnaire)</a></p>
<p><b>5.</b> What is your position regarding the Idaho Department of Corrections Work Release Center being considered for North Idaho?</p>	<p>Regarding the Department of Corrections proposed Release Center, it is not a prison, as has been exaggerated by others, and it is not the end of the world come calling. That said, this issue is one I would refer to the voters.</p> <p>The Governor has insinuated that IDOC will put one up here, and the BOCC is struggling themselves how to stop it.</p> <p><a href="#">(The remainder of Mr. Bauer's answer can be seen in his questionnaire)</a></p>	<p>I do not support a community re-entry program in Kootenai County. Although these services may have some positive purposes, I think they are better supported if they are nearer to IDOC's other facilities; we don't have an IDOC facility in Kootenai County.</p>	<p>I was the first Sheriff's candidate to oppose the reentry center. The IDOC is demonstrably unable to operate this type of facility successfully. Furthermore, be release pre-parole inmates into the community, the IDOC is endangering our community and circumventing the sentencing authority of our local judges.</p>	<p><b>Declined to respond</b></p>	<p>I am 100% against this facility. It is a failed program for inmates who complete it and the recidivism rate is not meaningfully impacted. There are several hidden costs that most supporters of this facility are not discussing. To begin with, the Idaho Dept. of Corrections (IDOC) does a terrible job of rehabilitation, which I am 100% for rehabilitation.</p> <p><a href="#">(The remainder of Mr. Norris' answer can be seen in his questionnaire)</a></p>	<p>I do not support the placement of the facility in North Idaho. While I feel we have an obligation to assist returning our Kootenai County citizens to a contributing, productive life, we are not obliged to receive those not from this county.</p> <p><a href="#">(The remainder of Mr. Whitehead's answer can be seen in his questionnaire)</a></p>

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<p><b>6.</b> In light of recent events in Virginia, the local sheriff made a decision on whether or not to enforce the law as enacted by the state of Virginia. If those events happened in Kootenai County, how would you respond?</p>	<p>I do not intend to support the passage of Red Flag laws, nor will I enforce them by policy. However if faced with Judicial Order and threat of contempt, I would use the U.S.Mail to request the voluntary surrender of firearms from the subject of such a court order. Only under extraordinary circumstances will I authorize use of deadly force to remove weapons from a person under a Red Flag law, if one is ever passed in Idaho. <a href="#">(The remainder of Mr. Bauer’s answer can be seen in his questionnaire)</a></p>	<p>If a law was voted in and I knew it to be in direct contrast of the Constitution (such as the case in Virginia), it would be my responsibility to make that call and take on any repercussions associated with my decision. The issue then is really about not enforcing the law but upholding the Constitution.</p>	<p>I cannot answer without more specifics; there have been numerous laws passed in recent months by the Virginia legislature. Below is an answer I gave elsewhere in response to the question of enforcing unconstitutional laws: There are currently Idaho statutes not enforced because they are unconstitutional. I recently got the city of Coeur d’ Alene to cease the enforcement of a part of their city code that was unconstitutional. I will not enforce any unconstitutional law. <a href="#">(The remainder of Mr. Grimm’s answer can be seen in his questionnaire)</a></p>	<p><b>Declined to respond</b></p>	<p>I’m assuming you’re referring to the law regarding “assault weapon” confiscation, which I do not believe was passed. If such a law were every passed during my administration, there would be no way it would be allowed to be enforced in Kootenai County. It is a clear violation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. This is the same for so called “red flag” laws that effect law enforcement agencies to confiscate individuals’ firearms on the mere unproven accusation by another person. <a href="#">(The remainder of Mr. Norris’ answer can be seen in his questionnaire)</a></p>	<p>I was the lead speaker at our local 2A rally in support of Virginia in their stance against the violations of the Constitution by their legislators, where I stated publicly to the crowd “I will interpose myself between the citizens and any unconstitutional overreach of the government”. As Sheriff, I would refuse to enforce any law, statute, or order that usurps the Constitution and my Oath of Office. If necessary, I would summon the aid of as many county citizens as necessary in the prevention of such overreach.</p>
<p><b>7.</b> If a federal, state, local government entity, and/or the United Nations were to implement a policy of door-to-door gun confiscation in your jurisdiction, what would you do?</p>	<p>Gun confiscation implies impending armed resistance. The BOCC has not funded or staffed sufficient Deputies to accomplish such a ludicrous gun seizure, nor do we have sufficient heavy weaponry to practically do that. It will not happen under my watch.</p>	<p>Idaho’s Constitution does not allow for the confiscation of firearms unless they are used in a crime; any order otherwise to seize a firearm would be a violation of the State Constitution.</p>	<p>Agents or officers attempting to enforce such actions in Kootenai County will be subject to arrest.  Article I, § 11 of the Idaho Constitution prohibits this type of confiscation; additionally, Idaho statute 18-3315B allows for civil and criminal penalties for the enforcement of orders contrary to the provisions of Article I, § 11 of the Idaho Constitution.</p>	<p><b>Declined to respond</b></p>	<p>I would stand with the people in resisting this measure up to and including the point of risking death. Please understand that such a scenario is highly unlikely and that the real threat is through the accumulation of smaller laws that, in their totality, severely restrict the Right of the people to bear firearms. <a href="#">(The remainder of Mr. Norris’ answer can be seen in his questionnaire)</a></p>	<p>I will interpose myself between the citizens and any unconstitutional overreach of the government. As Sheriff, I would refuse to enforce any law, statute, or order that usurps the Constitution and my Oath of Office. <a href="#">(The remainder of Mr. Whitehead’s answer can be seen in his questionnaire)</a></p>

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<p><b>8.</b> What do you believe the protocol should be for outside agencies coming into the county to conduct any type of law-enforcement action?</p>	<p>I will not require any prior notice for Federal authorities to conduct law enforcement operations in Kootenai County. I will appreciate that they confer as soon as it is practical and safe for them to do so, especially if they expect backup from KCSO.  <a href="#">(The remainder of Mr. Bauer's answer can be seen in his questionnaire)</a></p>	<p>Outside agencies coming into the county to conduct law enforcement action should report their activities in order to provide safe enforcement activities for everyone involved. Our relationships with regional law enforcement are well established. The current method of reporting enforcement based on courtesy is satisfactory.</p>	<p>For de-confliction, and the protection of citizens' rights, my policy will be that any outside agency must first coordinate operations with the Sheriff's office.</p>	<p><b>Declined to respond</b></p>	<p>I believe first and foremost in fostering positive relations with other law enforcement agencies. I do not believe that any operation should occur in Kootenai County without my knowledge and consent for how it is to be executed. It is no secret we have seen utter disasters for local citizens both here, in North Idaho, and other parts of the country from overzealous law enforcement agencies imposing their will on citizens. That will not happen under a Norris administration.</p>	<p>All outside agencies wishing to conduct operations in the county should present their operational plans and objectives to the Sheriff for approval. The Sheriff may approve, change, or deny any operations.</p>
<p><b>9.</b> Would your agency cooperate with legal requests made by ICE?</p>	<p>ICE would be welcome in my jail at any time of the day or night, and their detainers will be honored.</p>	<p>My agency does and will continue to cooperate with ICE as appropriate and within established guidelines. Each situation will be evaluated depending upon the legal request made.</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p><b>Declined to respond</b></p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>Yes. Further, ICE would be notified of any illegal alien incarcerated in the county jail.</p>
<p><b>10.</b> Have you ever been involved in past legislation, in any capacity, that would influence your role as Sheriff, be a conflict of interest, or provide personal enrichment?</p>	<p>I have no conflicts of interest, financial or legal, that I am aware of. I have stated in my Candidate Statement that I will not accept any offered campaign donations from anyone who has Sheriff's financial or enforcement interests.</p>	<p>No, I have not been involved in past legislation that would influence my role, be a conflict of interest, or provide personal enrichment.</p>	<p>No.</p>	<p><b>Declined to respond</b></p>	<p>No.</p>	<p>No</p>

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<b>11.</b> Do you interpret the Constitution by original intent or as a living document?	As written. Not a living document	I interpret the Constitution based on its original intent with Amendments made as necessary.	Original intent. Please see an example of my understanding of the Second Amendment here: <a href="https://grimmforsheriff.com/a-clear-understanding-of-the-second-amendment/">https://grimmforsheriff.com/a-clear-understanding-of-the-second-amendment/</a>	<b>Declined to respond</b>	Assuming you're referring to the U.S. Constitution, but my answer applies to the Idaho Constitution as well. It should be interpreted by original intent and not a living document. If a change is to be made, there is already a mechanism for making such a change, so I do not agree with the concept of having a judge make interpretations to plain language sections.	Original intent, and to clarify that intent compare the text with the Federalist Papers for thoughts and discussion as to what the intent was.
<b>12.</b> What are your religious beliefs?	Christian, non humanist.	Although this question does not pertain to the duties of the Sheriff, I am a Christian and have been baptized.	We are Christian	<b>Declined to respond</b>	I believe in God and that we must all face our maker one day.	Christian, nonaffiliated I believe Jesus gave his life at the cross for my sins, died, and rose again on the 3rd day.
<b>13.</b> What does religious freedom mean to you?	Freedom from laws which conflict with religion	Religious freedom means each person has the right to practice the religion of their choice and worship without discrimination.	Religious freedom is an inherent right, protected by the First Amendment, to practice, or display evidence of, the religion of your choice, irrespective of method, time, or place.	<b>Declined to respond</b>	That you have the right to practice your religion peacefully in this country.	That, as guaranteed by the Constitution, each of us has the right to our religious beliefs, to worship as we wish. That does not give you the right to force your beliefs on me nor mine on you. Our government has taken separation of church and state to the extreme. The Constitution says government will not establish a religion it does not say they will not intermingle. <a href="#">(The remainder of Mr. Whitehead's answer can be seen in his questionnaire)</a>

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<b>14.</b> What is your view on abortion?	Oppose.	Again, this question does not pertain to the duties of the Sheriff. Regardless of my personal opinion on any situation, I take an oath to uphold the laws and Constitution. I am, however, pro-life.	I am pro-life; life starts at conception.	<b>Declined to respond</b>	I am against it.	I am Pro-Life. However, I do not believe a young woman that is a victim of incest or rape should be forced to live with the consequences of a violent act forced upon her. I believe defining line as designated in "Heartbeat" bills is an appropriate.
<b>15.</b> What is your opinion on marijuana legalization and why?	Will not oppose or support.	I do not agree with the legalization of marijuana. In the states that have legalized it, there have been a number of negative consequences including an increase in DUIs and deaths associated with the use of edible forms of marijuana. As Sheriff, my duty is to protect the community, and legalizing marijuana puts them in greater harm. That is why I don't support it.	I am against the legalization of marijuana. I have witnessed, in others, how the use of marijuana destroys motivation and incentive. Marijuana is a gateway drug. States, where marijuana is legal, have experienced increased traffic fatalities and the proliferation of other illegal drugs. Recent studies indicate individuals exposed to cannabis in utero exhibit deficits in memory, cognition, and social function.	<b>Declined to respond</b>	I believe it should not be legal. In every community I've worked where it was legalized crime went up and quality of life went down.	I do not believe in the legalization of marijuana. The states that have are proof of the consequences. I do believe the Lord gave us natural remedies and this may very well be one. But recreational use is outside of that and once behind the wheel of a vehicle is much the same as driving and drinking. That being said, what one does in their own home I have little concern about as long as it stays in their home.