

Kentucky
Candidate
Information
Survey



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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



**Jerry
Abramson**

Running mate:
Steve Beshear



**Richie
Farmer**

Running mate:
David Williams



**Dea
Riley**

Running mate:
Gatewood Galbraith



SECTION 1	BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION		
Education	Bachelor of Science in Business Economics, Indiana University; Georgetown University Law School	University of Kentucky College of Agriculture (1992); Clay County High School (1988)	Studied English at Western Kentucky University
Occupation	Executive-in-Residence, Bellarmine University; Former Mayor of Louisville	Commissioner of Agriculture (2004-present). Prior to taking office, I was an investment advisor in Clay County.	Marketing
Family	Wife - Madeline Son - Sidney	Wife: Becky Three sons: Trey (14), Thomas (12), Tate (9)	Four children and two others that I've had the opportunity to influence their lives.
Civic/Religious Involvement	Served on Boards: March of Dimes, Big Brothers Big Sisters, L-ville Orchestra, Jewish Hospital, Waterfront. Involved in Brightside, Downtown Development Corp., Medical Center Development Corp., L-ville Housing Partnership, L-ville Community Development Bank, Greater L-ville Inc., PTA	Capital City Christian Church, Frankfort; Richie Farmer Charitable Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides scholarships to deserving Kentucky students	Established KY Office of Faith Based & Community Initiatives. Non-denominational Christian. KY Family Advocates Assn. and KY Hemp Initiative. Board member, Terrapin Hill Farm and Appalachian Roundtable.
Personal Interests	Reading non-fiction, jogging and biking and spending time with family. I also enjoy teaching college students and mentoring high school students.	Playing sports with my boys; following UK Wildcat basketball; golf; hunting and fishing	Outdoor enthusiast, fly fishing, horseback riding, bird hunting, cooking, arts and culture
SECTION 2	RESPONSES		
After four years, what will your office have accomplished to improve life in Kentucky?	"The most important thing anyone can do for Kentuckians is create and retain jobs. If we do that, other successes will follow. Job creation will be our top priority because Gov. Beshear and I are committed to ensuring that every Kentuckian that wants a job has a job."	"David Williams and I will reform our tax structure and make Kentucky the best state in which to create jobs. We will cut the size and cost of state government. We will have stronger pro-life laws. We will improve educational opportunities for all Kentuckians."	"My office will have established a new economic model for Kentucky and provided jobs through progressive development – as a legacy, I hope to install all proceeding Lt. Governors as the chief economic development officer for Kentucky henceforth."
What strengths does your running mate possess that make him/her the best choice for Governor?	"Gov. Beshear has withstood tests from the global economic recession and natural disasters, and he is trusted to do what's right for Kentucky, putting Kentuckians first and taking on both political parties to get things done."	"David Williams is a bold, principled leader who is not afraid to stand up for our conservative values. He will tackle the toughest issues that seem to be too much for most others in Frankfort to handle. Tough times call for tough leadership."	"His commitment to Kentucky's people, intellect, strict adherence and recognition of individual liberties, integral knowledge of Constitutional Law, independence, non-partisanship, leadership skills, passion for justice, equitable concern for all, accountability, honesty and he gets it right on the issues."
Why do you believe your running mate is a better choice for Governor than his/her opponents?	"Gov. Beshear has led by example, balancing the budget nine times and cutting more than \$1 billion in spending, including cuts to his own office. And he has worked tirelessly to create and retain jobs in every corner of the Commonwealth."	"David Williams has been a conservative champion fighting for our values for many years. He has a proven record of doing what is right, and is running a positive campaign where others are simply trying to tear him down."	"Gatewood Galbraith is motivated by the people's agenda rather than personal gain. He is an effective leader who possesses an inherent intellect, providing common sense solutions to those problems facing everyday Kentuckians. He is honest, forthright and genuine in his leadership."
What would your top three priorities be if elected as Lieutenant Governor?	"My top priorities would be economic development and job creation, infrastructure investment and working with local officials to ensure they have what they need for their cities and counties."	"1. Continue to advocate for Kentucky's agriculture community. 2. Serve as an economic development ambassador for Kentucky. 3. Find ways to more efficiently operate state government."	"1. Serve as the Chief economic officer for the state of Kentucky. 2. Assist Governor Galbraith in accomplishing his agenda. 3. Create a legacy which emphasizes economic focus as to restore Kentucky to prosperity."



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Jerry Abramson

www.stevebeshear.com

Richie Farmer

www.williamsfarmer.com

Dea Riley

www.gatewood.com

<p><i>What are your recommendations for trimming the budget and cutting government waste?</i></p>	<p>“Gov. Beshear has cut more than \$1 billion out of the state budget, making government leaner and more efficient. Moving forward, we will continue initiatives like the Governor’s Smart Government Initiative, which looks for ways to streamline the budget while improving services.”</p>	<p>“I supported David Williams’ plan for modest spending cuts that amounted to a ‘shared sacrifice’ across state government. We should not spend money we don’t have, but that’s what Governor Beshear is doing. We must protect the taxpayers.”</p>	<p>“To do an immediate inventory of all expenditures, holdings, grants and investments as to ensure they are best serving to generate income, develop job growth and/or being utilized to their fullest potential; to seek out and end redundancy and technological advancement.”</p>
<p><i>If elected, what do you see as the most important issue you will face in the next four years?</i></p>	<p>“Getting Kentuckians back to work should be the priority of any elected official. The Commonwealth has many challenges, but this is the most pressing issue.”</p>	<p>“Improving the economy, creating jobs, and helping families achieve prosperity.”</p>	<p>“The economy. It will be the charge of our administration to create a new economic model for Kentucky to defeat the high unemployment rate, create jobs, ensure growth, expand small businesses, defeat poverty through the creation of expanded progressive economic programs.”</p>
<p><i>What strengths do you possess that make you the best candidate for this office?</i></p>	<p>“I have more than 20 years of experience of leading Kentucky’s largest community. As lieutenant governor, I would bring the same energy, passion and vision I brought to Louisville as mayor to the Capitol to help create a brighter future for all Kentuckians.”</p>	<p>“I have operated the Agriculture Department efficiently and have the ability to work in a bipartisan way to solve problems. I entered public service to give back to a state that has given me so much. I want all children to have the same educational opportunities that I had.”</p>	<p>“My profession is marketing and I am the only candidate who possesses the necessary skill set to accomplish economic improvement. I have served to achieve the same in private sector endeavors and am capable of applying those skills towards serving Kentucky.”</p>
<p><i>Why would you be more effective in this office than your opponents?</i></p>	<p>“I am proud of my record as mayor, where I worked for over two decades to assist the private sector in creating jobs and developed unique programs to help high school students graduate and seek post-secondary education opportunities. I am excited to bring my skills and knowledge to state government.”</p>	<p>“I am not going to say anything negative about my opponents. I think they are honorable people, but David Williams and I have proven conservative records and better ideas to get our state back on track.”</p>	<p>“Unlike my opponents, I understand government is about appropriate fiscal and personnel management – I am both qualified to and focused on rolling up my sleeves and getting to work and wholly uninterested in furthering a political career, notoriety or personal financial gain.”</p>
<p><i>In what ways would you be an improvement on your predecessors in this office?</i></p>	<p>“My extensive experience with local government and the relationships I have had with Governors over the years makes me a unique candidate for Lieutenant Governor.”</p>	<p>“Previous Lt. Governors have not gotten along with their Governor. David Williams and I will be full partners, working together on creating jobs, cutting the size of government, and protecting our conservative values.”</p>	<p>“I am committed to serving the full term of my office without interruption. My expertise in marketing and experience will allow me to lead in the area of economic development and see it through to measurable results.”</p>
<p><i>To know you more personally, what issue(s), unrelated to the office you seek, are you passionate about?</i></p>	<p>“I am passionate about expanding education opportunities to the children of Kentucky, which is the foundation for future success in our Commonwealth. As mayor, my office developed initiatives addressing early childhood education and dropout rates.”</p>	<p>“It won’t surprise you to know that I still love UK basketball. I am also an avid hunter and fisherman, and enjoy taking my three sons on camping trips. I also have a charitable foundation that provides scholarships to Kentucky students.”</p>	<p>“I am wholly committed to those issues that most affect women and children throughout our Commonwealth. I am committed to solving the critical socio-economic problems of Appalachia and I am committed to responsible stewardship of Kentucky’s natural resources.”</p>

For more races across the Commonwealth of Kentucky, visit the Kentucky Candidate Information Survey at:



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SECTION 3

OPTIONAL VALUES QUESTIONS

<p><i>Amnesty for illegal aliens OR Stronger enforcement of current immigration law</i></p>	<p>Candidate declined to respond to the “Optional Values Questions.”</p>	<p>“I am opposed to amnesty and support adopting Arizona-style immigration reform. We must not become a haven for illegal immigrants.”</p>	<p>“Stronger enforcement of Federal Immigration Laws – with due consideration given to those already living in the U.S. who qualify for citizenship a guarantee it be accomplished in an expedient manner. ”</p>
<p><i>Pro-Choice OR Pro-Life</i></p>		<p>“I am pro-life period. I am endorsed by both Kentucky Right to Life and Northern Kentucky Right to Life. Jerry Abramson has given taxpayer money to Planned Parenthood.”</p>	<p>“Neither – abortion is an individual choice; no government entity or elected official should impose, infringe or restrict upon the individual liberties or rights of a U.S. citizen.”</p>
<p><i>Domestic partner benefits should become a state policy OR Such benefits should not be an option</i></p>		<p>“Domestic partner benefits should never be a state policy.”</p>	<p>“Partner benefits should apply to all if they agree to pay the premium as required.”</p>
<p><i>Gambling should be expanded OR Should not be expanded</i></p>		<p>“I oppose any expansion of gambling in our Commonwealth.”</p>	<p>“Gambling should be expanded. The state of Kentucky should own the operations of such, similar to the native American model.”</p>
<p><i>Same-sex marriage should be considered OR Traditional marriage should be protected</i></p>		<p>“Marriage should be between one man and one woman.”</p>	<p>“Same as above – the choice to marry is an individual choice and no government, entity or elected official should impose, infringe or restrict individual liberties or rights of U.S. citizens.”</p>
<p><i>Unions must be able to collect dues from the entire work force OR Kentucky should become a “Right to Work” state</i></p>		<p>“Kentucky should become a right-to-work state. No one should be forced to pay dues to an organization if they don’t want to join.”</p>	<p>“Opposed to right to work legislation as it exists.”</p>
<p><i>Kentucky should oppose OR Support the President’s health care program</i></p>		<p>“I oppose Obamacare, as well as our President’s attacks on Kentucky’s coal industry.”</p>	<p>“I support health care reform but oppose the new health care legislation as it currently is. Kentucky should create unique health-care solutions rather than be dependent on Federally mandated legislation.”</p>