

**END CITIZENS UNITED PAC**

DEMOCRATS FIGHTING FOR REFORM



# 2015 CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

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*12 Things Voters Deserve To Know*

[WWW.ENDCITIZENSUNITED.ORG](http://WWW.ENDCITIZENSUNITED.ORG)

## ABOUT END CITIZENS UNITED PAC

Established March 1st, 2015, End Citizens United is a Political Action Committee funded by grassroots donors. We are dedicated to countering the disastrous effects of *Citizens United* and reforming our campaign finance system. **Already, more than 500,000 supporters have joined our movement to fight the unprecedented rise of money polluting our democracy.**

Learn more about End Citizens United PAC at [www.endcitizensunited.org](http://www.endcitizensunited.org).

### ABOUT THIS SURVEY

Since the *Citizens United* decision became law, American elections have been inundated by spending, particularly from unregulated "dark" money. End Citizens United, a grassroots effort to reform our campaign finance system, will use this questionnaire and past actions on campaign finance issues to guide our process for selecting candidates to endorse.

There are many avenues to campaign finance reform. We encourage you to use the space provided to explain your answers or ask questions if you so choose. We are, however, unequivocal in our opposition to the Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision and the opportunities for corruption that it created. We will not stand with any candidate who supports the decision as written.

Kindly return your completed questionnaire by September 1st by sending an electronic copy of this interactive PDF to Jessica Adair at [jessica@endcitizensunited.org](mailto:jessica@endcitizensunited.org). Your answers to this questionnaire as well as any endorsements made by End Citizens United PAC will be released to the public.

### STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY

**I, Tom O'Halleran a candidate for office for the U.S. House of Representatives in Arizona's First Congressional District certify that the answers in this questionnaire represent my own views.**

SIGNATURE

DATE

Campaign Manager: DJ Quinlan, [djquinlan@gmail.com](mailto:djquinlan@gmail.com), 480.518.5237

## UNDO CITIZENS UNITED

1

Do you oppose the Supreme Court's decision in *Citizens United*?

YES  NO

### OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

I do not believe that money is speech, and the court's decision in *Citizens United* opened the flood gates of special-interest money into politics. I believe that the *Citizens United* decision has been damaging to fundamental democratic principals of our country.

2

Would you support a Constitutional Amendment that undoes *Citizens United* and grants Congress and the states the power to regulate campaign finance?

YES  NO

### OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

I am very much in support of a constitutional amendment to undo *Citizens United*. While amending the constitution is not something to be taken lightly, the negative effects of *Citizens United* could never have been fully anticipated by the founders of our country. It is imperative that we restore the power of Congress and the States to regulate campaign finances.

Please indicate if you've co-sponsored or support any of the following campaign finance reform bills:

- GOVERNMENT BY THE PEOPLE ACT
- DISCLOSE ACT
- KEEPING OUR CAMPAIGNS HONEST (K.O.C.H) ACT
- FAIR ELECTIONS NOW ACT
- DEMOCRACY FOR ALL AMENDMENT

#### LIST ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION HERE:

I am open to other legislation to heighten transparency and reform campaign finances. I am also in favor of reforming the redistricting system. I support the Redistricting Reform Act of 2015, which would require states to redistrict through the use of an independent commission like the one used in Arizona.

## REQUIRE FULL DISCLOSURE

Do you support legislation requiring dark money entities, such as 501(c)(4) groups to disclose their donors and spending when they engage in any political activity that mentions a candidate for federal office and/or is intended to influence a federal election?

YES  NO

#### OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

Yes, I support requiring groups with a 501(c)(4) designation to disclose their donors when they engage in any political activity that mentions a candidate for office and/or is intended to influence a federal election. The public deserves to know who is attempting to influence their vote.

Would you support legislation requiring dark money groups to publicly disclose their top ten donors if they spend money on voter contact?

YES  NO

**OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:**

Yes, I support legislation to require dark money groups to disclose their donors. It is unhealthy for our electoral system to have groups spending millions of dollars with out disclosing their donors.

As of July 1st, 2014 the FCC has required that TV stations post their public file (which details political spending) online. Currently this database isn't searchable and doesn't extend to cable providers. Will you support legislation requiring a searchable database and extending coverage to include cable TV spending?

YES  NO

**OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:**

I support legislation to require the creation of a search-able database for the public files of a TV station. I also support extending this requirement to cable providers. This is imperative to ensure that media and watchdog groups who track ad spending are able to do their jobs effectively.

## STOP COORDINATION

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Currently a campaign staffer can quit the campaign and work for a SuperPAC supporting the candidate that employed the staffer after just a 120 day cooling off period. Would you support a cycle long cooling off period, preventing that staffer from working for a SuperPAC or 501(C)4 supporting his or her former employer until the next campaign cycle?

YES  NO

### OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

Yes, there must be a more reasonable period set for campaign staffers to wait before moving to or from a Super PAC. This will prevent unavoidable coordination that would occur by a PAC or campaign hiring a staffer who would be familiar with the other entities strategy.

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Currently the FEC holds that coordination only flows one way. This means that while a campaign is forbidden from sharing its plans, methods, and strategies with a SuperPAC, the SuperPAC can share its plans, methods, and strategies with the campaign. Do you support legislation to end this loophole?

YES  NO

### OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

I believe that this loophole should be closed. When a Super PAC is allowed to share its plans with a campaign, it results in the ability of the campaign to adjust its resources to account for the outside spending. Common sense dictates that this is coordination.

## REDUCE PAY TO PLAY

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29 states currently ban lobbyists from donating during legislative sessions.<sup>1</sup> Do you support legislation to extend this ban to Congress?

YES  NO

### OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

I support reforms to reduce pay to play from occurring in Congress. I would support a measure with this intention if it did not create an incentive to reduce the number of legislative days in the session.

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A 2012 study found that "the more companies give in campaign contributions, the more they get in contracts, on average."<sup>2</sup> In fact, the study found that \$200,000 in donations leads to an average addition of 107 government contracts. Would you support legislation that prohibits the executives, lobbyist, and company PAC from donating to federal candidates if the company has or is seeking federal contracts?

YES  NO

### OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

Government contracts must not be tied to campaign contributions in any way. I will support legislation that seeks to add transparency to government contracts and remove the possibility of campaign contributions influencing the awarding of government contracts.

## ADDITIONAL REFORMS

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Please share any additional ways you support meaningful campaign finance reform.

### EXPLANATION:

I will research and support legislation that seeks to add transparency to our campaign finance system. This includes the creation of databases and resources that make it easier for journalists and citizens to research campaign spending. I also support federal legislation to require the use of independent redistricting commissions in each state to end the process of gerrymandering. We should also investigate the creation of a public financing system for federal elections.

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1. "Limits on Campaign Contributions During the Legislative Session," NCSL, 12/6/2011
  2. "Campaign contributions help companies get more federal contracts, study finds," Drutman, Sunlight Foundation, 6/21/2012