

Voters Guide State Attorney General November 8, 2016 General Election

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Candidates for State Attorney General

Office Attorney General
Name Karl Kolenich
County of Residence
Party Libertarian

Candidate did not reply

Office Attorney General
Name Patrick Morrissey
County of Residence Jefferson
Party Republican

Biography

I'm the product of a middle-class family, which instilled in me a good work ethic. I worked my own way through college and law school, eventually becoming a partner at one of the largest, most respected firms in the country before being elected Attorney General in 2012.

www.patrickmorrissey.com

1. As attorney general, what areas of consumer protection would you emphasize and promote?

We have made fighting the substance abuse epidemic our top priority and established the drug fighting unit in the Office. Our actions brought in over \$38 million from drug companies and we are implementing a plan to cut opiate use by over 25 percent. We have enjoyed record breaking settlements, while returning over \$33 million to taxpayers.

2. What experience, training or education do you have that makes you the best qualified candidate for this office?

While I've practiced law for 24 years in senior private and public positions and served as Attorney General, my opponent has barely practiced law over the past 5 years. To be Attorney General, you need to be more than a part-time lawyer. My office won the unprecedented victory against Obama at the Supreme Court, saving coal jobs.

Office Attorney General
Name Doug Reynolds
County of Residence Wayne
Party Democrat

Biography

Graduate of Wayne High School (WV); B.A. political science, Duke University; J.D. WVU College of Law; Reynolds and Associates Law Firm, 2003-2012; Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, 2008-2012; Legislator, WV House of Delegates, 2006-2016; Currently CEO of Energy Services of America, a West Virginia company with over 700 employees.

1. As attorney general, what areas of consumer protection would you emphasize and promote?

The first step would be rebuilding the consumer protection division in order to fight fraudulent schemes and scams that target our seniors. That includes combating price gouging in the pharmaceutical and other industries. I would also fight the drug epidemic ravaging our state by cracking down on prescription pain pill manufacturers and distributors who knowingly flood our state with poison.

2. What experience, training or education do you have that makes you the best qualified candidate for this office?

I'm a fourth generation West Virginian who understands the unique problems our state faces. I also have years of experience in both the private and public sectors. As CEO of Energy Services of America, I've experienced the issues WV businesses confront, while also working to make WV a place where people thrive during my 10 years as a Delegate.

Office Attorney General

Name Michael Sharley

County of Residence Monongalia

Party Mountain

Biography

Mike Sharley (Mountain Party) graduated from WVU and the WVU College of Law. He is a small business owner since 1996; his solo law practice has a primary focus on child abuse and neglect, criminal defense, civil rights abuses, and disability rights. He lives in Westover, WV and serves on several non-profit boards. Read more at sharleyforwv.com.

1. As attorney general, what areas of consumer protection would you emphasize and promote?

Two major consumer protection problems is debt collection abuse and contractor fraud. Our elderly are particularly vulnerable to both these. Collectors often do not comply with the law and use scare tactics and harassment, while with a sluggish economy, many unemployed perform contractor work they are not qualified to do either through an overestimation of abilities or actual fraud.

2. What experience, training or education do you have that makes you the best qualified candidate for this office?

Protecting the civil rights of the citizens is an important duty of the Attorney General. I have 20 years of experience bringing cases under the WV Human Rights Act on the basis of race, gender, age, and disability. I also have represented clients on appeals in the area of criminal law, abuse and neglect, and land use.