

Sample Candidate Questions for County Offices

County Commissioner	What are the top two priorities you would address if elected?	General
County Commissioner	Why are you seeking elected office?	General
County Commissioner	What do you plan to do to ensure that there is good affordable housing available or public transportation in the county for people working in the service sector?	Housing
County Commissioner	Describe your approach to County development. Would you advocate any changes to the type of development or change the rate of development?	Development
County Commissioner	What would you like to share that has not been included in this survey?	General
County Commissioner	Because you serve a diverse constituency, how can the needs and interests of both rural and urban residents be addressed?	Diversity
County Commissioner	Do you agree or disagree that the county should support the production and use of non-fossil fuel sources of energy? Explain your answer?	Climate
County Commissioner	What efforts, if any, would you support at the county level to mitigate the effects of climate change?	Climate
County Commissioner	What measures would you support to increase safety and mental health care within our county jail?	Mental Health
County Commissioner	What county infrastructure priorities do you believe need the most attention?	Infrastructure
County Commissioner	What will you do as a county representative to ensure security and confidence in the County's election technology processes? (voter registration, easy access to the polls, thorough poll worker training, voting machines, etc.)	Elections
County Commissioner	If you are currently in this elected position, please describe your communication methods to resident in your district (outside of scheduled council meetings). If you are not currently in this position, please describe how you will maintain a relationship with your constituents, if elected.	Management
County Commissioner	How will you promote diversity and inclusion within the Lake County government and our communities?	Diversity
County Commissioner	Do you agree or disagree that communication (meeting announcements, agenda, minutes, public meetings) with the public needs to be improved? Please explain your answer.	Transparency
County Commissioner	What are your priorities for the use of the new public safety tax revenues?	Tax
County Commissioner	Does Tippecanoe County need a county-wide coordinated effort to respond to local environmental and climate issues? If so, what should the key elements of the plan cover?	Climate
County Commissioner	What can county officials do to promote racial equality and justice in our local institutions including law enforcement, courts, and local jail?	Diversity
County Commissioner	Explain your views and priorities on racial equality and racial justice.	Racial Equity

County Commissioner	What is the first issue you plan to address in the next 2 years? Why?	General
County Commissioner	What should be the fiscal priorities in the wake of covid-19.	Healthcare
County Commissioner	Explain your view on the economic development of (inset cities or County name in your area) and the surrounding area.	Economy
County Commissioner	What would you like to see done by the county to assist in the local economic recovery for families and businesses and still maintain a safe and healthy environment?	Economy
County Council	What do think is the most important issue facing XXXX County in the next four years?	General
County Council	Why are you seeking elected office?	General
County Council	What would you like to share that has not been included in this survey?	General
County Council	To improve transparency, what would you do to ensure that the the public has access to the work of county government?	Transparency
County Council	Infrastructure improvements are an ongoing need. What three infrastructure improvements would you make a priority?	Infrastructure
County Council	What role should the country government play in supporting the development of affordable housing?	Housing
County Council	Explain your views and priorities on racial equality and racial justice.	Racial Equity
County Council	In your opinion, what is the top priority in the County that needs to receive additional funding from the Council?	General
County Council	Would you support additional funding to the County in support of non-fossil fuel production?	Climate
County Council	Would you support additional funding to the County jail for safety and mental health care?	Mental Health
County Council	How will you promote diversity and inclusion within the Lake County government and our communities?	Diversity
County Council	Do you agree or disagree that communication (meeting announcements, agenda, minutes, public meetings) with the public needs to be improved? Please explain your answer.	Transparency
County Council	If you are currently in this elected position, please describe your communication methods to resident in your district (outside of scheduled council meetings). If you are not currently in this position, please describe how you will maintain a relationship with your constituents, if elected.	Transparency
County Council	What will you do as a county representative to ensure security and confidence in the County's election technology processes? (voter registration, easy access to the polls, thorough poll worker training, voting machines, etc.)	Elections
County Council	What would you like to see done by the county to assist in the local economic recovery for families and businesses and still maintain a safe and healthy environment??	Economy
County Council	Given the revenue shortfalls, what are your budget priorities during the next planning process of the county budget?	Budget

County Council	What are your priorities for the use of the new public safety tax revenues?	Budget
County Assessor	Please explain to voters the importance of the office for which you are running?	General
County Assessor	What changes or improvements, if any, would you make to this office if elected?	Management
County Assessor	Do you believe the office you seek currently has sufficient staff and other resources to best perform the functions required? If not, what additional staff or other resources do you think are necessary?	Management
County Assessor	How do you approach managing and developing a team of people to provide the best services to the citizens of Tippecanoe County?	Management
County Auditor	Please explain to voters the importance of the office for which you are running?	General
County Auditor	What changes or improvements, if any, would you make to this office if elected?	Management
County Auditor	Do you believe the office you seek currently has sufficient staff and other resources to best perform the functions required? If not, what additional staff or other resources do you think are necessary?	Management
County Auditor	Why are you seeking elected office?	General
County Auditor	What are the most important tasks for the County Auditor?	General
County Auditor	What are the most important challenges facing the County Auditor?	Management
County Auditor	What changes would you make to create a more effective administration?	Management
County Auditor	How do you best serve County Government and your constituents?	Management
County Auditor	What would you like to share that has not been included in this survey?	General
County Auditor	How do you approach managing and developing a team of people to provide the best services to the citizens of Tippecanoe County?	Management
County Coroner	The coroner is responsible for handling crime scene investigations and conducting death investigations. Share your formal education and experience that you have for conducting these investigations?	Qualification
County Coroner	What is your approach to conducting a crime scene investigation and a death investigation?	Management
County Coroner	During the Covid 19 pandemic, what additional resources are needed to maintain an efficient and timely response from the coroner's office?	Management
County Coroner	What would you like the public to know about the operation of the coroner's office?	General
County Coroner	What are the most pressing issues facing the County Coroner?	General
County Coroner	How can the coroner's delivery of services be improved?	Management
County Coroner	Should the coroner have medical training? Please explain your answer.	Qualifications
County Coroner	What ideas do you have to improve the operation of the coroner's office?	General
County Recorder	Please explain to voters the importance of the office for which you are running?	General
County Recorder	What changes or improvements, if any, would you make to this office if elected?	Management

County Recorder	Do you believe the office you seek currently has sufficient staff and other resources to best perform the functions required? If not, what additional staff or other resources do you think are necessary?	Management
County Recorder	How do you approach managing and developing a team of people to provide the best services to the citizens of Tippecanoe County?	Management
County Treasurer	A primary duty of the office is to bill and collect property taxes. What ideas do you have to improve how this vital work is performed?	General
County Treasurer	What is the appropriate balance between managing a prudent financial position for the county and the level of taxation or expansion in spending?	Budget
County Treasurer	What are the most pressing issues facing the county Treasurer?	General
County Treasurer	What do you want to accomplish as Treasurer?	Management
County Treasurer	What are the greatest challenges facing the treasurer?	General
County Treasurer	Why are you seeking elected office?	General
County Treasurer	Please explain to voters the importance of the office for which you are running.	General
County Treasurer	What changes would you make to create a more effective administration?	Management
County Treasurer	How do you best serve County Government and your constituents?	Management
County Treasurer	What would you like to share that has not been included in this survey?	General
County Treasurer	Do you believe the office you seek currently has sufficient staff and other resources to best perform the functions required? If not, what additional staff or other resources do you think are necessary?	Management
County Treasurer	How do you approach managing and developing a team of people to provide the best services to the residents of XXXX County?	Management
County Treasurer	What additional challenges are facing the treasurer's office because of the Covid 19 pandemic?	General
County Surveyor	What are your top three priorities for the surveyor's office and how will you address them?	General
County Surveyor	Why are you seeking elected office?	General
County Surveyor	What are the most important tasks for the County Surveyor?	General
County Surveyor	What are the most important challenges facing the County Surveyor?	General
County Surveyor	What changes would you make to create a more effective administration?	Management
County Surveyor	How do you best serve County Government and your constituents?	Management
County Surveyor	What would you like to share that has not been included in this survey?	General
County Surveyor	Why is it important or not important for the Surveyor to be licensed?	Qualifications
County Surveyor	How can the surveyor's job be improved?	Management

County Surveyor	What is the first issue you plan to address when in office? Why?	Management
County Surveyor	What can the surveyor do to protect residents from damaged or lead lined drains?	Safety
County Surveyor	Drainage issues sometimes arise between neighbors. Discuss how you would work with various stakeholders in a drainage dispute?	Drainage
County Surveyor	How would you promote safe disposal of household hazardous waste and recycling in Tippecanoe County?	Climate
County Surveyor	How will you supervise construction, reconstruction, and maintenance of county storm water systems?	Drainage
County Clerk	Please explain to voters the importance of the office for which you are running.	General
County Clerk	What changes or improvements, if any, would you make to the operation of the office if elected?	Management
County Clerk	What steps can you take to assure all residents of Tippecanoe County that our elections are free and fair?	Elections
County Clerk	Do you agree or disagree that communication (meeting announcements, agenda, minutes, public meetings) with the public needs to be improved? Please explain your answer.	Management
County Clerk	Both of you will be new in this position. What would you do differently in this job from the current county clerk?	Qualification
County Clerk	The security and auditability of elections are critical for our democracy. What steps do you think need to be taken to make sure that Tippecanoe County elections are secure and auditable, both long-term and in the next three years?	Elections
County Clerk	In recent years, some clerks nationally, such as the clerk in Kentucky who refused to issue same sex marriage licenses, have used their position to take a hard stance on political issues. How will your personal feelings and ideals, whether religious or political, guide your actions as clerk?	Ethics
County Clerk	If elected, will Tippecanoe County Clerk be your full time position or will you maintain other roles? Please explain any other commitments.	General
County Clerk	If elected, do you have any plans to work to improve voter turnout in Tippecanoe County?	Elections
County Clerk	Is the administration of elections in Tippecanoe County sufficiently funded? If additional funding could be secured, where would you allocate it?	Elections
County Clerk	Tippecanoe County has been a leader in implementing early voting and vote centers in the state. Do you support a vote by mail system such as in Washington, Oregon and Colorado? Would you support Tippecanoe county piloting vote by mail for the state?	Elections

County Clerk	Last year, a Tippecanoe County Clerk employee was charged for stealing hundreds of thousands of dollars from the office over a ten year period. As Clerk, how would you work to maintain financial integrity in the office?	Management
County Clerk	How will you work to make the Clerk's office transparent?	Management
County Clerk	Please explain to voters the importance of the office for which you are running.	General
County Clerk	What changes or improvements would you make to the operation of the office, if elected?	Management
County Clerk	Please discuss how you would follow best practices expected in government finance and record keeping.	Management
County Clerk	How do you approach managing and developing a team of people to provide the best services to the residents of XXXX County?	Management
County Clerk	Please describe your first-hand experiences, if any, dealing with people who are different from you socially, racially, economically, or politically.	Diversity
County Clerk	What would you do to make polling places more accessible, particularly to those who may have a harder time voting?	Elections
County Clerk	What is one idea from your opponent that you would consider implementing.	General
County Prosecutor	To what extent have you practiced in criminal law? Family law? Civil law	Qualification
County Prosecutor	How would you prepare yourself to handle cases involving unfamiliar areas of the law?	Law
County Prosecutor	To what extent have you practiced in criminal law? Family law? Civil law?	Law
County Prosecutor	How would you prepare yourself to handle cases involving unfamiliar areas of law?	Law
County Prosecutor	When hiring a deputy prosecutor, what are the most important qualities that you consider?	Management
County Prosecutor	Please describe your administrative and supervisory experiences.	Management
County Prosecutor	When hiring a deputy prosecutor, what are the most important qualities that you consider?	Management
County Prosecutor	Please describe your understanding of prosecutorial discretion.	Law
County Sheriff	What are the major issues you would like to address if you are elected? Please explain	General
County Sheriff	How should county policing respond to social and racial disparities and mental health status when serving the public?	Diversity
County Sheriff	Are there measures you could take as Sheriff to decrease gun violence (homicides, suicides) in the county? Please elaborate	Guns
County Sheriff	Do you agree or disagree that the County Sheriff's Department is understaffed? Please explain your answer.	Management

County Sheriff	What reforms, if any, are needed in the practice of hiring, training, and retention of the sheriff's staff specifically with reference to racial bias.	Management
County Sheriff	What divisions in the department such as patrol dispatch, correction officers, transport officers, or bailiffs do you feel need additional staff? With limited funding, what is your priority for staffing?	Management
County Sheriff	As the jail administrator, do you lean toward jail as punishment or rehabilitation? Which programs for inmates would you cancel, which ones would you expand or start?	Philosophy
County Sheriff	What can you do to increase security to protect schools from intruders with an intent to cause harm to students and staff, as well as other students with the same intent to harm others?	Safety
County Sheriff	If elected, how will you promote diversity and inclusion among your staff, including administrative support and field officers?	Diversity
County Sheriff	Do you agree or disagree that continued diversity training is important for law enforcement officers to minimize the use of stereotypes and implicit bias in the field? Please explain your answer.	Diversity
County Sheriff	Please describe what measures you would take as Sheriff to decrease gun violence in XXX County.	Gun Violence
County Sheriff	Should the sheriff's office follow the social media accounts of local teens?	Safety
County Sheriff	Would you honor an ICE detainer request for a person whose criminal custody has ended? Why or why not?	Law
County Sheriff	As sheriff, how would you address the county's drug epidemic both in the jail and the community?	Addiction
County Sheriff	What is one idea from your opponent that you would consider implementing?	General
County Sheriff	What does a transparent sheriff's office look like? Explain.	General