

# **2010 candidate questionnaire**

**NAME: Brett Harrell**

**PARTY: Republican**

**SEEKING: State Legislature, District 106**



## **Why are you seeking your office?**

To succeed Representative Everson and continue the strong, positive, and conservative representation for District 106 that actually delivers for our community. My past decade of service to District 106 clearly demonstrates that I am capable of working with large and diverse groups to accomplish positive improvements – i.e. Snellville’s Recycling Center, City Hall, Senior Center and the Highway 78 roadway projects. In these difficult budgetary times, I have a proven record of delivering 5 successive property tax cuts and streamlining operations while maintaining critical services. Citizens do not have to gamble on campaign promises with me – Brett Harrell Delivers.

## **What do you expect to accomplish if elected?**

Improve budgeting that protects core services such as education, healthcare, and public safety while improving efficiencies and eliminating unnecessary programs; thereby, reducing the overall burden of government on Georgia’s taxpayers, as I reduced the City burden by 52% while Mayor. I will support Point-of-Sale legislation to collect the nearly \$1 billion in outstanding sales taxes; Property Tax Reform legislation to require that taxes and only taxes be included on property tax bills and eliminate unjust valuations; elimination of Georgia’s Corporate Income Tax providing an incentive for job creation and growth; and protect life by supporting Georgia’s Personhood Amendment.

## **What distinguishes your candidacy?**

I have a proven record of accomplishment for our community. A State Representative is 1 of 180 and I have successfully worked with large groups and diverse constituencies to deliver for our community – no other candidate in this race has a similar record or experience. As a former Mayor and Executive Director of Gwinnett’s first Community Improvement District, I have balanced large budgets, cut property taxes, expanded police services, improved road projects, secured state and federal funding, enhanced Senior services, preserved park lands, eliminated governmental departments, grew recycling participation, structured complex financial projects, and lead large groups.

### **What are the key issues in your race?**

Jobs, education, healthcare, taxation, public safety. I've created jobs in my businesses and at the Downtown Development Authority and CID recruiting new employers to the District. I strongly support the Gwinnett Public School System while preserving choice for parents. Georgian's deserve choice in healthcare too. My father is an independent pharmacist and we cannot neglect the economic impact of a strong, market-based healthcare system. I am the only proven tax cutter in the race. I will continue to support public safety and I am proud to have the endorsement of former Snellville Police Chief Jimmy Davis.

### **Pick one issue. Expand on how you will address it.**

Job creation. Remove burdens on business and Georgia will attract tremendous business relocation and expansion. Increased employment results in higher income, sales, and property tax revenues. Greater state revenues permit fully funding core services – education, healthcare, public safety, and transportation.

Eliminate both corporate income and inventory taxes. The reduction in state revenue from these taxes would be offset by business expansion and job growth.

Allow 10% of states pension fund assets be invested in venture capital firms locating in Georgia. Georgia is the only state that prohibits such investments creating a disincentive to high-tech and bio-science locating here.

### **Give a 100 word summary of your background.**

Atlanta native moved to Gwinnett in 1972. Attended Snellville Middle and South Gwinnett High prior to earning a business degree from the University of Georgia.

Married a high school classmate, Diane Kokinos, in 1987 and we have one son, Briggs, who is 19 and attends Gwinnett Tech.

Sold toothpaste for Lever Brothers Company, owned an American Speedy Printing Center on U.S. 78 and S.R. 124 for twenty years, served as Mayor of Snellville and Executive Director of the Highway 78 / Evermore CID, and I am now a garbage man with Advanced Disposal selling solid waste and recycling services.