


WVCDL 2014 CANDIDATE RATINGS

Ratings last updated: 07/31/2014

These are the current letter grades for candidates and office holders. If a candidate or office holder is missing from this list, it may mean several things.

1. The WVCDL has not yet decided on a grade.
2. The candidate has not yet pre-filed.
3. On candidates with an unknown record, we have not received a candidate survey.

Also, the WVCDL is expecting two rounds of endorsements. One prior to the primaries, and one after. This page will be updated when any grades or endorsements are released. All grades are subject to change.

CANDIDATE	RACE	COUNTIES	GRADE	ENDORSED	PARTY	NOTES
 Shelley Moore Capito	United States Senate	ALL	A+	Y	R	Shelley reached out to, and worked with the WVCDL in the wake of Sandy Hook. The WVCDL was able to help her understand the views of gun-owning West Virginians, and since then, she has actually repeated our positions in media statements.
Natalie Tenant	United States Senate	ALL	F	N	D	Natalie Tenant initially received a D grade from the WVCDL due to association with and endorsement by powerful, known anti-gun individuals and groups such as Michelle

	Alex Mooney	United States House of Representatives (2nd)		A+	Y	R
	Kent Leonhardt	WV Senate 2	Marshall, Monongalia, Wetzel, Marion, Tyler, Doddridge, Calhoun, Ritchie, Gilmer	A	Y	R
	Gary Johngrass	WV Senate 7	Wayne, Lincoln, Boone, Logan, Mingo	A	Y	R
	Eric Wells	WV Senate 8	Putnam, Kanawha	C-	N	D
<a href="#">Ed Gaunch</a>		WV Senate 8	Putnam, Kanawha	D+	N	R
<a href="#">Jeff Mullins</a>		WV Senate 9	Raleigh, Wyoming, Mcdowell	A	N	R
	Duane Zobrist	WV Senate 10	Fayette, Greenbrier, Summers, Monroe	A+	Y	R
<a href="#">Robert Karnes</a>		WV Senate 11	Upshur, Randolph, Grant, Pendleton, Webster, Nicholas, Pocahontas	A	N	R
<a href="#">Greg Tucker</a>		WV Senate 11	Upshur, Randolph, Grant, Pendleton, Webster, Nicholas, Pocahontas	A-	N	D
<a href="#">Michael L. Queen</a>		WV Senate 12	Harrison, Lewis, Gilmer, Braxton, Clay	B	N	R
<a href="#">Bob Beach</a>		WV Senate 13	Monongalia, Marion	B	N	D
<a href="#">Kris Warner</a>		WV Senate 13	Monongalia, Marion	A-	N	R

Obama. Since then, the WVCDL has learned that Natalie made statements in support of Senator Joe Manchin's gun registration scheme, and we have downgraded her to F. Grade based on solid voting record in Maryland legislature.


Eric Wells railed for several minutes on the senate floor against adding preemption into the home rule bill (SB435) then turned around and voted for it

Senator Sypolt has a long history of sponsoring and cosponsoring pro Second Amendment bills. In the 2014 session, he played the role of "Ace













Monongalia, Preston, Taylor, Barbour,




Dave Sypolt	WV Senate 14	Tucker, Grant, Mineral, Hardy	A+	Y	R	in the hole" on a critical piece of legislation (preempting) affecting all West Virginians. The WVCDL has no stronger ally in the WV Senate.
<a href="#">Stanley Shaver</a>	WV Senate 14	Monongalia, Preston, Taylor, Barbour, Tucker, Grant, Mineral, Hardy	A+	N	D	
 Charles S. Trump IV	WV Senate 15	Mineral, Hampshire, Morgan, Berkeley	A	Y	R	
<a href="#">Donald Cookman</a>	WV Senate 15	Mineral, Hampshire, Morgan, Berkeley	C-	N	D	
 John Unger	WV Senate 16	Berkeley, Jefferson	A+	Y	D	Senator Unger had a minor Second Amendment setback in 2010. In every session since, he has introduced and pushed pro-gun legislation, including the 2014 preemption bill that passed both houses. He has regained his A+ rating.
<a href="#">Doug Skaff</a>	WV Senate 17	Kanawha	A-	N	D	
<a href="#">Tom Takubo</a>	WV Senate 17	Kanawha	B+	N	R	
 Pat McGeehan	WV House 1	Hancock, Brooke	A+	Y	R	Pat McGeehan has worked hard to secure the vote of WV Gun Owners. The WVCDL believes Pat's position to be as solid as they come on gun rights in this state. Cosponsored pro-gun legislation in 2013, and fought for the Lane Amendment (preemption

	Randy Swartzmiller	WV House 1	Hancock, Brooke	A+	Y	D	for home-rule cities) in conference committee on behalf of the House of Delegates. Delegate Swartzmiller also sponsored, and shepherded critical open-carry cleanup through the 2014 legislative session.
<a href="#">Ron Morris</a>		WV House 4	Ohio, Marshall	A+	N	R	
	Mary Kay Milliken	WV House 5	Wetzel, Monongalia	A+	Y	R	
<a href="#">WM. Roger Romine</a>		WV House 6	Pleasants, Tyler, Doddridge	B	N	R	
	Lynwood Ireland	WV House 7	Pleasants, Ritchie	A+	Y	R	Sponsored or cosponsored multiple pro-gun bills in 2013.
<a href="#">Denzil Malone</a>		WV House 8	Wood	B	N	D	
<a href="#">Paul Miller</a>		WV House 10	Wood	D	N	D	
<a href="#">Michael G. Bright</a>		WV House 12	Jackson	B	N	D	
	Scott Cadle	WV House 13	Mason, Jackson, Putnam	A+	Y	R	Sponsored School Carry 2013, co-sponsored many other pro-gun bills.
	Michael Ihle	WV House 13	Mason, Jackson, Putnam	A+	Y	R	
<a href="#">Tim Gibson</a>		WV House 13	Mason, Jackson, Putnam	B-	N	R	
	Jim Butler	WV House 14	Mason, Putnam	A+	Y	R	Cosponsored multiple pro-gun bills in 2013
<a href="#">Geoff Foster</a>		WV House 15	Putnam	B+	N	R	
	Carol Miller	WV House 16	Cabell, Lincoln	A+	Y	R	Cosponsored a preemption bill in 2013.
	Dale Anderson II	WV House 16	Cabell, Lincoln	A-	Y	R	
	Doug Reynolds	WV House 17	Cabell	A+	Y	D	
	Joyce Holland	WV House 17	Cabell	A-	Y	R	Delegate Sobonya has a long history










 Kelli Sobonya	WV House 18	Cabell	A+	Y	R	of sponsoring and cosponsoring pro-gun bills in WV.
 Steve Marcum	WV House 19	Wayne	A+	Y	R	Delegate Justin Marcum fought for preemption in the House Judiciary committee, and has stood for gun rights in WV for the past two sessions. His gun rights record is pristine, and the WVCDL commends him for his unwavering commitment to the defense and advancement of our rights. Delegate Marcum has stepped up to the plate and solidly earned his endorsement from the WVCDL.
 Justin Marcum	WV House 20	Mingo, Logan	A+	Y	D	H.K. White's leadership in the House of Delegates in the 2014 session was critical to the intact passage of SB317, and protecting the rights of gunowners by making firearms laws uniform across the state. His leadership was also critical in protecting the language in the NICS/Brady
 Harry Keith White	WV House 21	Mingo, Wyoming, McDowell	A+	Y	D	








							bypass bill from amendment that would have torpedoed the bill.
	Jeff Eldridge	WV House 22	Putnam, Lincoln, Boone, Logan	A+	Y	D	Cosponsored preemption in 2013.
	Joshua Barker	WV House 22	Putnam, Lincoln, Boone, Logan	A+	N	D	Cosponsored multiple important pro-gun bills in 2014 session.
	Michel G. Moffatt Sr.	WV House 22	Putnam, Lincoln, Boone, Logan	A+	Y	R	
	Joshua Nelson	WV House 23	Boone	A+	N	R	Cosponsored multiple pro-gun bills in 2013 session, spoke in favor of preemption on the House floor.
<a href="#">Barry Brown</a>		WV House 23	Boone	D-	N	D	
							Delegate Phillips has shepherded some of West Virginia's best gun rights bills through the legislature for the past two years. His influence and commitment to the advancement of our rights has been exemplary. The WVCDL is proud to endorse Delegate Phillips.
	Rupert Phillips	WV House 24	Boone, Logan, Wyoming	A+	Y	D	
	Clif Moore	WV House 26	McDowell, Mercer	A+	Y	D	
<a href="#">Joe Ellington</a>		WV House 27	Mercer	B-	N	R	
<a href="#">Marty Gearhart</a>		WV House 27	Mercer	B+	N	R	
<a href="#">John David O-Neil</a>		WV House 28	Raleigh, Summers, Monroe	C	N	R	
	Ricky Moye	WV House 29	Raleigh	A+	Y	D	
<a href="#">Linda Sumner</a>		WV House 30	Raleigh	B+	N	R	
							Clyde McNight returned a

<a href="#">Clyde Mcknight Jr.</a>	WV House 31	Raleigh, Wyoming	F-	N	D	blank survey (click the link in his name) with the cryptic line at the bottom that he'd like to work with us where we can. This is a non answer, and a non-commitment to the defense of our rights.
 Dave Perry	WV House 32	Nicholas, Fayette, Raleigh	A+	Y	D	
 Kayla Kessinger	WV House 32	Nicholas, Fayette, Raleigh	A+	Y	R	
<a href="#">Tighe Bullock</a>	WV House 32	Nicholas, Fayette, Raleigh	C+	N	M	
 David A. Walker	WV House 33	Gilmer, Calhoun, Clay	A+	Y	D	
 Brent Boggs	WV House 34	Gilmer, Braxton	A+	Y	D	Cosponsored multiple important pro-gun bills in 2014 session. As a member of the House of Delegates, and while sitting on the Education committee, Suzette Raines
 Suzette Raines	WV House 35	Kanawha	A+	Y	R	cosponsored a bill that would allow anyone with a concealed handgun permit to carry on school grounds.
<a href="#">A. Richard McGinnis</a>	WV House 35	Kanawha	D-	N	R	
Thorton Cooper	WV House 35	Kanawha	F	N	D	Cooper is running his campaign on an anti-gun position.
 Andrew Byrd	WV House 35	Kanawha	A-	Y	D	
Sherri Wong	WV House 35	Kanawha	D-	N	D	Sherri Wong has made public, on-record comments in media and recorded on video that she

							supports municipalities (such as Charleston) implementing their own firearms restrictions.
							Delegate Guthrie voted against, and spoke vehemently against preemption before the 2013 session floor vote on preemption. - DO NOT VOTE FOR THIS CANDIDATE
Nancy Guthrie	WV House 36	Kanawha		F-	N	D	Voted against preemption in the 2013 legislative session.
Danny Wells	WV House 36	Kanawha		F	N	D	Vaughn Sizemore has a track record of supporting gun rights and the WVCDL that goes back for years.
 Vaughn Sizemore	WV House 36	Kanawha		A+	Y	R	Vaughn actually authored the Preemption bill that will be introduced in the 2014 legislative session. The WVCDL Board of Directors can think of no candidate in the 36th District that is stronger on Second Amendment rights.
 Stevie Thaxton	WV House 36	Kanawha		A-	Y	R	
 Brad White	WV House 36	Kanawha		A-	Y	R	Introduced the "Lane Amendment" stripping the



	Patrick Lane	WV House 38	Putnam	A+	Y	R	ability of home rule cities to regulate firearms in any fashion except in city governmental buildings. (Read: city hall, police stations, etc, not parks and parking garages)
<a href="#">Ron Walters</a>		WV House 39	Kanawha	A	N	R	
	Tim Armstead	WV House 40	Kanawha	A+	Y	R	
<a href="#">Jordan Hill</a>		WV House 41	Nicholas, Greenbrier	A	N	R	
<a href="#">Adam Young</a>		WV House 41	Nicholas, Greenbrier	A	N	D	
<a href="#">Bill Hartman</a>		WV House 43	Randolph, Pocahontas	B+	N	D	
<a href="#">Charles Kinnison</a>		WV House 43	Randolph, Pocahontas	B	N	R	
	Duane Borchers Sr	WV House 44	Upshur, Randolph, Webster, Nicholas	A+	Y	R	
<a href="#">Bill Hamilton</a>		WV House 45	Upshur	D-	N	R	
	Tim Miley	WV House 48	Harrison	A+	Y	D	Tim Miley has been instrumental in moving pro-gun-rights bills both last year as House Judiciary Chair, and this year as Speaker of the House.
<a href="#">Terry Waxman</a>		WV House 48	Harrison	C+	N	R	
	Diana Bartley	WV House 48	Harrison	A-	Y	R	
	Danny Hamrick	WV House 48	Harrison	A+	Y	R	
<a href="#">Amy Summers</a>		WV House 49	Monongalia, Marion, Taylor	C+	N	R	
<a href="#">Mike Manypenny</a>		WV House 49	Monongalia, Marion, Taylor	B+	N	D	
<a href="#">Phil Mallow</a>		WV House 50	Marion	B	N	R	
	Barry Bledsoe	WV House 50	Marion	A+	Y	R	
	Cindy Frich	WV House 51	Monongalia	A+	Y	R	Cosponsored multiple pro-gun bills in 2013, including nullification.
	Anthony Barill	WV House 51	Monongalia	A+	Y	D	Cosponsored CCW privacy bill in 2013 Barbara Fleischauer

Barbara Evans Fleischauer	WV House 51	Monongalia	C-	N	D	did not return a survey. She often argues against gun bills, then ironically votes for them.
 Brian Kurcaba	WV House 51	Monongalia	A	Y	R	
 Larry Williams	WV House 52	Preston	A	Y	D	
 Randy Smith	WV House 53	Preston, Tucker	B+	Y	R	
 Allen Evans	WV House 54	Mineral, Grant, Pendleton	A+	Y	R	Sponsored or cosponsored multiple pro-gun bills in 2013.
Isaac Sponaugle	WV House 55	Hardy, Pendleton	A+	N	D	Has a solid pro 2a record and defended preemption in House Judiciary in the 2014 session.
Gary Howell	WV House 56	Mineral	A+	N	R	Delegate Howell sponsored multiple pro-gun bills in the 2013 session.
<a href="#">Daryl Cowles</a>	WV House 58	Morgan, Hampshire	B+	N	R	
 Saira Blair	WV House 59	Berkeley, Morgan	A-	Y	R	
 Larry Faircloth	WV House 60	Berkeley	A+	Y	R	Cosponsored multiple pro-gun bills in 2013.
 Jason Barrett	WV House 61	Berkeley	A+	Y	D	Sponsored or cosponsored multiple pro-gun bills in 2013. The West Virginia Citizens Defense League is pleased to announce their endorsement for Del. John Overington for the WV House of Delegates 55th District. Del. Overington



John Overington

WV House 62

Berkeley

A+

Y

R

has shown steadfast support for firearms owners of WV by sponsoring and co-sponsoring numerous pro-gun bills and maintaining his efforts to protect and enhance the gun rights in WV. Del. Overington continuously seeks counsel of the Board of Directors of the WVCDL on many gun issues across the state, and has been instrumental in the introduction of WVCDL pro-gun bills

[Kristin Loken](#)

WV House 62

Berkeley

F-

N

D

Sponsored or cosponsored multiple pro-gun bills in 2013.

Michael Folk

WV House 63

Berkeley

A+

N

R

Sponsored or cosponsored multiple pro-gun bills in 2013.



Eric Householder

WV House 64

Berkeley

A+

Y

R

[Tiffany Lawrence](#)

WV House 65

Jefferson

A-

N

D

[Jill Upson](#)

WV House 65


Jefferson

A+

N

R

Delegate Espinosa's survey reflects that he would not support Constitutional Carry. This was a result of confusion. Delegate Espinosa did not support the flawed constitutional carry bill from the 2014 session. The

<a href="#">Paul Espinosa</a>	WV House 66	Jefferson	B	N	R	WVCDL is fine with that, as we did not support that bill, either because it would have destroyed our reciprocity with other states. Delegate Espinosa supports constitutional carry (as does the WVCDL) and clarified his position via email with the Board of Directors. Stephen Skinner was one of the few "no" votes on statewide preemption in the 2013 legislative session.
Stephen Skinner	WV House 67	Jefferson	F	N	D	
 Patricia Rucker	WV House 67	Jefferson	A+	Y	R	