

State Attorney General – Republican

Brian Buescher	Mike Hilgers	Doug Peterson	Pete Pirsch
Website: http://www.brianbuescher.com/	Website: http://www.mikehilgers.com/	Website: http://www.dougpetersonforag.com/	Website: http://www.petepirsch.com

Questions List

Other	Development	Gambling	Constitution	Homosexuality
Biographical	Death Penalty	Underage drinking	Family	Past President
Motivation	International/Ethnic	Crime	Personal/Political	Anything else?
Qualifications	Drugs	Governing documents	Abortion/capital	
Sustainable	Justice system	Personal Story	punishment/etc.	

Other - Information about making contact with the candidate.

Brian Buescher	3/21, 8:16am , Yes, email questionnaire. 3/21, 8:55am , Emailed questionnaire. 3/24, 12:47pm, Left message. 3/26 , 12:30pm, Reminder email. 3/31, 9:57am, candidate called to verify questionnaire had arrived. Answers copied from email response received Mon, 31 Mar 2014 09:55am.
Mike Hilgers	3/21, 12:42pm, Yes, email questionnaire. 3/21, 12:45pm, Emailed questionnaire. 3/21, 12:48pm, Reminder call - questionnaire received. 3/24, 12:48pm, Reminder call. 3/26, 12:30pm, Reminder email. 4/7, 8:38pm, sent Facebook message. 4/8, 12:00pm candidate said would try for 4/9. 4/14, 9:28am, Facebook reminder. 4/15, 8:32am, candidate returned Facebook message. 4/17, 8:43pm, left phone message. 4/18, 8:50pm, candidate called back. 4/18, 10:26, asked for email address since Facebook not working for sending. 4/18, 10:27, sent email address. Answers copied from email response received Sun, 20 Apr 2014 5:41pm.
Doug Peterson	3/21 , 12:32pm, Yes, email questionnaire. 3/21, 12:52pm, Emailed questionnaire. 3/24, 12:45pm , Left message. 3/24, 1:03pm, Incoming call - did receive and will send it tonight. 3/26, 12:30pm, Reminder email. 4/8, 7:40pm, sent Tweet. 4/17, 8:42pm, left message. 4/18, 8:45am, saw candidate at an event. He said he would see his secretary at noon and have it ready by 2pm. 4/18, 3pm. Candidate's secretary called to say it would be arriving soon. Answers copied from email response received Fri, 18 Apr 2014, 3:36pm.
Pete Pirsch	3/21, 12:32pm , Yes, email questionnaire. 3/21 , 12:53pm, Emailed questionnaire. 3/24, 12:46pm, Reminder call - hasn't been able to check email but will get back to me. 3/26, 12:30pm , Reminder email. 3/26 , 12:44pm, Incoming call - staffer said will send by end of week. Answers copied from Saturday, March 29, 2014 11:45 AM.

Biographical - Please include biographical information you consider important for voters to know and/or reference your website.

Brian Buescher	My biographical information is available at www.brianbuescher.com .
Mike Hilgers	http://www.mikehilgers.com/ Mike is a born and raised Nebraskan who is uniquely experienced to represent Nebraskans as their next Attorney General. Mike is the co-founder of the law firm Gober Hilgers, which was created to bring competitive market principles to one of the oldest, most inefficient, and bureaucratic industries in the country-the law. While at Gober Hilgers, Mike has handled a wide variety of complex civil cases in both state and federal court for big and small clients in Nebraska. Along with his partner, Mike fought for constitutional principles by helping invalidate a Texas campaign finance statute, which posed an unconstitutional restraint on free speech, and led a brief in the United States Supreme Court in support of a successful appeal of a redistricting panel decision. He met his wife, Heather, while attending Baylor University, and they now live in Lincoln with their daughter, Alice Elizabeth. After college, Mike received his law degree at the University of Chicago. While in law school, Mike was an active member of the Federalist Society, a conservative legal organization of which United States Supreme Court Justices Alito, Scalia, and Thomas, among other conservative legal leaders, have been members. After law school, Mike clerked for the Honorable Edith Brown Clement, federal judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Judge Clement was appointed by President George W. Bush to the Court of Appeals, and was a finalist for President Bush's nomination to replace Sandra Day O'Connor on the United States Supreme Court. As a judicial clerk, Mike was responsible for dispassionately considering and weighing arguments. Before returning home to Nebraska, Mike worked in private practice as an intellectual property attorney at Fish & Richardson. Mike was fortunate to have served part of that time as a criminal prosecutor, handling a wide variety of misdemeanor cases. Mike believes deeply in the rule of law, and recognizes that in our constitutional structure states' rights are critical to securing individual liberty. The Nebraska Attorney General represents all Nebraskans in ensuring that our constitutional structure is preserved and that our freedoms are protected.
Doug Peterson	55 years old, married to my wife, Sandi, for 30 years. We have three adult children. I graduated from UNL-undergrad, and attended law school at Pepperdine University. Jobs: 1985-1987 Deputy County Attorney, Lincoln County, North Platte; 1988-1990 Asst. Attorney General for the State of Nebraska; Private practice for the last 24 years.
Pete Pirsch	Pete Pirsch is married with four children. He is a member of St. Vincent de Paul Church. Pete was a criminal prosecutor in Douglas County for nearly a decade, prosecuting violent crime and other criminal offenses. Pete was appointed to the Nebraska Crime Commission by Governor Mike Johanns, where he served with the Nebraska Attorney General. Pete was elected to the legislature in 2006. As a State Senator, Pete Pirsch introduced and passed a large number of key criminal justice bills that protected Nebraska children from sexual predators, required offenders to pay for the damages of crime victims, and enhanced the sentences of violent offenders who threaten Nebraska families. Please see PetePirsch.com for more biographical information.

Motivation - What has motivated you to seek this office? What do you hope to accomplish?

Brian Buescher	As the father of four, I want to make sure Nebraska continues to be one of the best places in the nation to raise a family. I want our streets to be safe and I want our economic future to be secure. I will continue our efforts to make Nebraska a safe place by fighting to reform the so-called "good time" law while helping our state economically by fighting against overreach by the federal government. I will focus on fighting Obamacare and efforts by the federal government to regulate agriculture and other industries beyond that allowed by Federal law and the U.S. Constitution.
Mike Hilgers	I believe there is a threat to our way of life because there is a threat to the rule of law from unelected and unaccountable bureaucrats in Washington D.C. The attorney general plays an important role fighting on behalf of Nebraskans against this threat.
Doug Peterson	Two things. First, having worked in the County Attorney's Office and the Assistant Attorney General's Office, I am well aware of the duties of the Nebraska Attorney General. My total of 29 years of experience as an advocate causes me to believe that I can serve the State well in the position of Attorney General. Second, I believe our elected officials should be more like public servants, and bring in a skill set for the private sector to make the community or State better. [What do you hope to accomplish?] I hope to bring the best legal representation possible for the State of Nebraska, and the best legal support to County Attorneys and law enforcement agencies across the State.
Pete Pirsch	I enjoy public service, and I believe that I can use my unique experience to make a positive impact in the lives of Nebraskans as Attorney General. I will protect the legal interests of Nebraskans and keep Nebraska families safe from crime.

Qualifications - What three qualifications do you bring to this office?

Brian Buescher	Hard-working: I am a fourth-generation Nebraskan who was raised on a farm near Deweese. I learned the value of hard work during long days of working on the farm. I worked my way through the University of Nebraska -Lincoln, graduating with honors and high distinction, earning admission to Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, DC. I came home to Nebraska right after law school because I wanted to live and raise my family here. I have risen to lead the agribusiness section of Nebraska's largest law firm. Knowledge and Experience: During my career, I have personally fought the Federal Government on behalf of small and large farms and agribusinesses. I have previously been a full time prosecutor in the Douglas County Prosecutor's office prosecuting domestic violence offenders. I have experience managing large and complex cases along with managing other attorneys as the leader of the agribusiness litigation division of Kutak Rock LLP. A Solid Conservative Who Has a Track Record Voters Can Depend On: I am a life-long pro-life Republican who has been active in conservative causes for over 20 years. I have served as Chairman of the Douglas County Republican Party, and Chair of the Nebraska Republican Party Finance Committee, among many other party offices. I have repeatedly provided assistance to conservative candidates. Voters can depend on me to be a conservative while in office.
Mike Hilgers	I have dealt with the types of issues the attorney general faces. I have filed a brief with the U.S. Supreme Court; my law firm has invalidated a state statute for being unconstitutional; and I handle complex federal cases on a day-to-day basis. I also have run my own law firm, which I co-founded three years ago. That firm handles complex cases for lower cost than large, competitor firms; the only way we were going to compete in the marketplace was by being efficient and smart with our resources. That experience will be very valuable in the attorney general's office in helping to reduce costs and spending.
Doug Peterson	1) 28 years of success as a litigator representing Lincoln County, the State of Nebraska, and private individuals and businesses. 2) I bring a temperament that is based upon being a public servant as opposed to an elected official seeking political advancement. 3) I am a candidate who places a high standard on both ethics and integrity.
Pete Pirsch	I bring unique criminal justice experience to the position of Attorney General, the Chief Law Enforcement Officer of the state. I was an effective criminal prosecutor for nearly a decade and served as a Governor-appointed member of the Nebraska Crime Commission for several years. As a State Senator, I passed a large number of criminal justice laws in the legislature that have made Nebraska families safer. I have the proven conservative Nebraska values that the people of Nebraska want to see in their Attorney General. As a State Senator, my eight-year voting record reflects a consistent commitment for being pro-life; for fighting for lower taxes; for being a strong supporter of the Second Amendment; for being a defender of our Agriculture-based economy and for free market principles; and for being a proponent of smaller and more efficient government. The meaningful relationships I have developed over the years with key stakeholders of the Office of Attorney General provide me the ability to be effective in the position from day one.

Sustainable Development - In some venues, the term "sustainable development" is tied to the UN Agenda 21 thinking. Others consider conservation of natural resources to be tantamount. Where would you place yourself on environmental issues and why?

Brian Buescher	As Attorney General, I will work to make sure Nebraska's resources are protected and assure that those who knowingly or through negligence damage our environment are punished. That said, I will also protect Nebraska's agriculture and business interests from overreaching governmental regulations that will not serve to protect our environment but only further agendas of certain activist organizations.
Mike Hilgers	We ought to protect the environment and be good stewards of our earth and its resources. I oppose Agenda 21, however.
Doug Peterson	Thank you for bringing Agenda 21 to people's attention. I believe we are called to be stewards of our natural resources, but it is foolish to turn our natural resources into our idols. Obviously, there is a big difference.
Pete Pirsch	Utilizing natural resources wisely is a good thing, and we want a pristine environment in Nebraska. But the federal government, apparently aligned with the U.N., has increasingly gone after American agriculture and industry in unreasonable ways that are not designed to reach legitimate and appropriate objectives. The Attorney General must stand up for Nebraskans where federal government agencies, such as the EPA, overreach legal boundaries.

Death Penalty - In your opinion, could the death penalty be a deterrent to crime? How or why not?

Brian Buescher	I believe the death penalty can be a deterrent to crime. A person in Nebraska knows that the death penalty is a potential punishment for crimes committed here.
Mike Hilgers	Yes, it can. Punishments are deterrents; the ultimate punishment can also deter certain crimes.
Doug Peterson	I do believe the death penalty "could" be a deterrent to an individual committing a crime, however, I believe the death penalty's primary purpose is to serve as a measured punishment based upon heinous and capital acts.
Pete Pirsch	Yes, the death penalty is a deterrent to certain murders that would otherwise occur. Many reputable studies have concluded this.

International/Ethnic - What would you do to enhance good relationships among the international and multi-ethnic communities?

Brian Buescher	Effective outreach and education is tantamount for any relationship with any community in our society. I will reach out to such groups as the Empowerment Network and the South Omaha Violence Intervention and Prevention working group for feedback and ideas.
Mike Hilgers	Like all relationships, it is important to build strong lines of communications, trust, and respect. The only way to do that is through constant, genuine effort. I am eager to help build those relationships.
Doug Peterson	As an Attorney General, to enhance the relationship with international and multi-ethnic communities, I think it would be important to meet the leaders of those communities and let them know the importance and priority the Attorney General's office has in working with law enforcement agencies and County Attorneys to provide strong law enforcement in the communities and make sure you have "the buy-in" of those community leaders.
Pete Pirsch	From the perspective of this particular position, the Attorney General, foreign-born individuals lawfully present in Nebraska may be interested in attending forums highlighting key facets of the legal system in Nebraska.

Drugs - What further education would you recommend for fighting the drug problem?

Brian Buescher	I would work with Nebraska schools to continue their efforts to fight teen drug abuse. I would also work to institute an effective outreach to religious communities throughout our state as a way to help curb drug abuse.
Mike Hilgers	The drug problem is multi-faceted and requires a multi-faceted solution, including, but not limited to, stronger enforcement of our drug laws (especially against dealers), increased but appropriate use of Drug Courts, and similar enforcement measures.
Doug Peterson	Two immediate educational needs in fighting the drug problem is making young people aware of the high THC factors in marijuana coming out of Colorado so they know the dangers associated with that. Secondly, teen abuse of pharmaceutical drugs needs to be addressed by a better coalition between pharmacists, prescribing physicians, and law enforcement.
Pete Pirsch	The Attorney General can continue to educate, via the media and in other forums, Nebraskans and the legislature regarding the greatest threats posed by drugs. My unique background in the legislature, which includes working on issues of prescription drug abuse, poisonous synthetic marijuana such as K2, methamphetamine production, forfeiture law, and many other drug-related issues, will allow me to help fashion legislation designed to better address the most pressing drug issues.

Justice system - What improvements would you recommend to the justice system? For example, what should be done about the so-called "good time" laws, if anything? Would you approve or disapprove of faith-based solutions being offered? Would you consider certainty versus severity of sentencing? (Click here for information)

Brian Buescher	As Attorney General, I will take immediate action to work with our state legislators to introduce legislation which eliminates "good time" sentence reductions for repeat, violent offenders. As a former domestic violence prosecutor, I prosecuted several defendants with pages and pages of convictions and arrests for violent offenses. Many of these violent offenders were entitled to receive "good time" reductions on their sentences under the "good time" law. This must stop. I believe the "good time" law should be changed so that offenders who repeatedly commit violent offenses are not eligible for "good time" at all, and instead are required to serve their entire sentences. I believe that faith-based outreach into our justice system is an effective outreach tool, but only if individuals incarcerated welcome the opportunity. I have seen the results of such outreach, such as Victory Boxing Club in South Omaha. I do believe that we should work toward a system that results individuals having more certainty that they will be punished if they violate the law. I believe this will reduce crime. I do believe that mandatory minimums can be an effective deterrent; however, our prison system is also overburdened. I believe that we should look at reforms such as monitoring systems and additional intensive probation options for non-violent criminals to ease prison overcrowding.
Mike Hilgers	Among other things: I do believe we ought to reform our good time system to more of an earned time system.
Doug Peterson	I believe everyone agrees that good time laws reducing a person's sentence must be based upon actual good time, and the individual's efforts to take advantage of rehab and educational programs offered within the prison system. I believe the faith-based solutions have developed a proven track record of better preparing inmates, upon their discharge, to have a more successful and productive life. There are several good models showing that the faith-based organizations have been effective.
Pete Pirsch	"Good time" laws should be changed to "earned time" laws in Nebraska. Violent offenders who persist in violence should not automatically receive half their sentence eliminated. They should have to earn any sentence reduction with good behavior. I am a co-sponsor of the bill in the legislature that would make that change.

Gambling - Discuss the pros and cons of government having more revenue from gambling.

Brian Buescher	While some would say that casino gambling can offer increased tax revenue to the state, I feel that legalizing casino gambling in our state would have little overall positive benefit and would be far outweighed by the negative impacts.
Mike Hilgers	I do not support expanded gambling. The government ought to handle its spending problem by reducing spending.
Doug Peterson	I oppose the government receiving more revenue from gambling. The cons of government deriving revenue from gambling are that such gambling attracts other criminal activities, it is a poor excuse for a government not properly managing its costs, and it can play into certain individual's vices.
Pete Pirsch	As with any new revenue source, the government is wasteful in its spending practices. Overall societal costs may be very hard to predict, and may be significant.

Underage drinking - What needs to be done to curb underage drinking?

Brian Buescher	I believe that we must do a better job of educating young people of the dangers of underage drinking. I also believe that we need to do a better job of enforcing the laws regarding underage drinking, as I believe more certainty in punishment would deter those under 21 years from drinking illegally.
Mike Hilgers	Among other things: education, strong parenting, and enforcement of penalties.
Doug Peterson	Educational programs in junior high school and high school that show the physical effects of alcohol, but also show a real picture of the damage and consequences caused by youth drinking, which would include tragic accidents, the consequences of an arrest record, and other detrimental effects commonly caused by intoxicated youths. Strong law enforcement in underage drinking is also needed.
Pete Pirsch	Underage drinking can be deadly. Parents need to be involved in the lives of their children and have good communication with the children about the dangers present with drinking while being underage. Underage violators need to have swift and appropriately significant consequences..

Crime - What community involvement activities would you recommend to combat crime?

Brian Buescher	I believe that outreach and building effective community coalitions is one of the most effective ways to reduce crime. This is most readily obvious in the neighborhood watch organizations throughout our state.
Mike Hilgers	[not answered]
Doug Peterson	Communities taking over ownership of the neighborhoods with the "broken windows" mentality are important. Law enforcement will need to work closely with those community leaders in order to provide protection. Ultimately, the community decides whether or not it is going to maintain safe streets or let them be run by hoodlums.
Pete Pirsch	I think families, churches and neighbors, in partnership with law enforcement, need to play stronger roles in ensuring their communities are safe and free from crime. From sponsoring community safety forums, neighborhood watches, healthy after school events, and promoting mentorships, communities can play a key role in preventing problematic crime.

Governing documents - What do you see as the major governing documents for this position?

Brian Buescher	The United States Constitution, the Constitution for the State of Nebraska, and State and Federal Statutes and Regulations.
Mike Hilgers	The U.S. and Nebraska Constitutions, and the Nebraska Revised Statutes are the primary governing documents.
Doug Peterson	The United States Constitution, the Nebraska Constitution, and all Nebraska statutes passed by the Nebraska Legislature.
Pete Pirsch	The Constitutions of the United States of America and of the State of Nebraska, as well as federal and state law, are the major governing documents for the Attorney General position.

Personal Story - Please briefly describe a situation where you had to stand alone for what you thought was right when the momentum was pushing the other way. What was the result?

Brian Buescher	I have represented several clients against federal government intrusion and regulation in a variety of different matters. In several circumstances, it appeared very difficult to convince the United States government to back down from its often overreaching initial position. Despite this, I have been able to convince federal authorities to back down to some extent or refrain from further enforcement actions. The result was a more fair result to my client.
Mike Hilgers	[not answered]
Doug Peterson	Recently, at a meet and greet event, one of those in attendance asked "when is Nebraska going to wake up and allow for same sex marriage?" I wasn't sure where this audience of approximately 25 stood on this issue, but based upon my faith in Christ, I told them I did not think it was a matter that Nebraska needed to 'wake up' on. I told them that we passed a Constitutional Amendment in 2000 to uphold that in Nebraska a marriage is only between a man and a woman. I told them I believe in those values and I am not impressed by those states who seem to think they are superior to us simply because they allow same sex marriage. The room was quiet for a while, but after the event I met others who affirmed my position.
Pete Pirsch	In the legislature last year, we discovered late in the 2013 session that state government collected an additional \$50 million in taxes from Nebraskans that we did not anticipate collecting. No legislator could articulate a present governmental need for the money. But many legislators argued that the legislature should keep the money anyway, essentially arguing that the taxpayers would be none the wiser if we kept it. I determined to step up to the plate for the taxpayers of Nebraska, and I offered an amendment to send the money back to the taxpayers. I lead the effort to do so on the floor of the legislature, despite overwhelming opposition. I am proud to have stood up for what is right.

Constitution - Please briefly describe a situation where you had to stand alone for what you thought was right when the momentum was pushing the other way. What was the result?

Brian Buescher	This means that I must follow the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the State of Nebraska. The Constitution for our nation and state are high legal authority in our country. I have an obligation to abide by and enforce these documents and the principles stated therein as a part of the job of being Attorney General for the State of Nebraska, and I will do so.
Mike Hilgers	That means, among other things, upholding the Constitution regardless of my own personal policy views - these are our founding documents which help protect our liberties.
Doug Peterson	Your oath is your word. If you can't uphold the Constitution, you simply have to resign from the position. You certainly don't have the arbitrary choice of when you will uphold your oath and when you will not, as suggested by US Attorney, Eric Holder.
Pete Pirsch	The Constitutions of the United States of America and of the State of Nebraska, as well as federal and state law, are the major governing documents for the Attorney General position.

Family - *What role has your family played in your seeking this office? In holding this position, how do you foresee it affecting your family?*

Brian Buescher	My family is very important to me and is very supportive of my decision to seek office. Family is always the number one priority in my life. However, my family and I are willing to make significant sacrifices to do work for the good of the public.
Mike Hilgers	I could not do this without my family's support and I would not do this if it had a negative impact on my family. To the contrary, standing up for Nebraskans on behalf of these important issues is a fight for my family.
Doug Peterson	My family played a significant role in me seeking this office. My wife and I prayed about the matter often. We concluded that if God was leading me to move in this direction, I needed to obey. All three of our children live on their own so if I am elected Attorney General, I don't foresee that having a significant impact on them. My wife has been a great supporter as we have gone through the election process.
Pete Pirsch	My wife and family have been wonderfully supportive of my campaign. They believe that I can make a positive difference in the lives of Nebraskans. Based on my experience as a State Senator for the last eight years working at the State Capitol in Lincoln, we have a very realistic expectation of the transition.

Personal/Political - *To what degree should an office holder's personal principles be reflected in political decision making? To whom/what will you go for counsel in decision making?*

Brian Buescher	My personal morals and beliefs will be important and considered in decisions I make. I am a person who will consider thoughts and opinions from qualified and knowledgeable people where appropriate when making decisions. I also have the obligation to enforce constitutional laws of our nation and of the State of Nebraska as well, regardless of what I personally think of certain laws.
Mike Hilgers	[not answered]
Doug Peterson	As a lawyer who has practiced for 28 years, my personal principles hopefully have been my guiding principles that have allowed me to be rated as having the highest ethical standards by my peers for the last 20 years. There are certain friends who I consider very close brothers and sisters in Christ who are also very wise in their own professional lives. It is these men and women that I would consult with when having to make difficult decisions.
Pete Pirsch	The principles of the Attorney General are important to the people of Nebraska, because the Attorney General is tasked with protecting the most important rights and liberties of Nebraskans. The Attorney General must keep in close touch with the people of the State of Nebraska in addition to understanding the legal environment.

Everyone questions - *(Regardless of what office is being sought, we ask the following questions so voters can better predict how you will handle tough issues.)*

Abortion/capital punishment/etc. - *What definition do you give for each of these terms: pro-life, pro-choice? How do you define yourself and how did you arrive at that view? How does your position relate to the death penalty, embryonic stem cell research, and physician-assisted suicide?*

Brian Buescher	I am pro-life and believe an unborn baby is a unique human being. I refer the reader to the survey I provided Nebraska Right to Life which will be made public and addresses all of the referenced issues.
Mike Hilgers	I am pro-life. I do not support repeal of the death penalty. I am opposed to physician-assisted suicide.
Doug Peterson	I believe that life is created at conception and beginning at that time it deserves protection. I have worked in the pro-life movement, having served on the Board of the Lincoln Crisis Pregnancy Center, and have chaired that Board for the last three years. I do believe it is necessary to have the death penalty used on limited occasions based upon the current enhancement factors that we have in the Nebraska statute. I am against embryonic stem cell research because there are more positive signs seen in adult stem cell research and you would never want to create an industry in which embryonic stem cells were being produced and used for medical purposes. I do not believe in physician-assisted suicide. It is a complete conflict of interest to the physician's oath. God is the giver and taker of life.
Pete Pirsch	Pro-Life includes the belief that life starts at the time of conception. I have always been Pro-Life, and as I have witnessed the daily development of my own children from the earliest stages of pregnancy, my Pro-Life beliefs are re-confirmed. I support the death penalty because it serves as a deterrent to the murder of innocent human life. Human life should not be destroyed for scientific research purposes, and I do not support physician-assisted suicide.

Homosexuality - *Some consider same-sex relationships should carry the same rights and privileges as traditional marriage. Some view homosexuality as an issue of potential discrimination on the level with race or ethnicity. Some consider it a matter of personal privacy. Some say marriage, for numerous reasons, should remain defined by government as between one man and one woman. Some say children should be raised by a mother and a father and that they are being forgotten in today's discussions on the subject. With which group's philosophy do you most closely agree, and why?*

Brian Buescher	I believe marriage is a union between a man and a woman. I do not believe homosexuality should be considered the same way race or ethnicity is considered with regard to anti-discrimination laws which currently apply to race or ethnicity. I also believe all citizens of our nation deserve the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
Mike Hilgers	The family is the bedrock unit of society. Family breakdown imposes great costs on society. Government has a role in protecting and strengthening the institution of marriage. I believe that history has shown that the traditional definition of marriage is the best vehicle for building strong, stable, families.
Doug Peterson	The history of civilization, the knowledge of science, and common sense, all dictate that for a society to sustain itself, the only purposeful recognition by government of a family relationship is that relationship between a man and a woman. If government thought it was necessary to broaden that definition it would significantly effect a society's ability to sustain itself, and would bring government into the most personal part of an individual's life, their sexuality, and create it as part of their identity to be known publically. It is ridiculous to suggest that government now has to identify the 42 different recognized sexual orientations, or individually perceived orientation and conclude that they are all worthy of protection. There is not enough room in this questionnaire to explain my frustration with the sexual identity movement groups. I have advised employers on employment law matters for 28 years and not once during that time have I perceived either discrimination based upon sexual identity, or seen a value in identifying it in the work setting.
Pete Pirsch	From a legal perspective, in 2000 Nebraska voters added a definition of marriage to the Nebraska Constitution as being between one man and one woman.

Past President - *What key considerations did you use in deciding how you voted for President in 2012?*

Brian Buescher	Among other things, I considered which candidate would do the most to keep government spending under control, consider pro-life principles, and who would govern from a fiscally conservative and socially conservative perspective.
Mike Hilgers	[not answered]
Doug Peterson	In voting for President, I look for leadership skills, life experience skills, conservative principled values, faith-based convictions, and an individual capable of understanding the limited purpose of government and the importance of individual freedom along with American exceptionalism.
Pete Pirsch	Which candidate would best address the issues of excessive governmental spending and federal government overreach into the lives of Americans.

Anything else? - *Declare anything else you want voters to know about you.*

Brian Buescher	I would be honored to have the opportunity to serve as the Nebraska Attorney General. I would appreciate your vote.
Mike Hilgers	[nothing further noted]
Doug Peterson	I am seeking the office of Attorney General because of my 28 years of experience that qualify me to advocate on behalf of the State of Nebraska. I am also running because I believe a public servant understands, in their role as Attorney General, that it is about serving Nebraskans and not worrying about political ramifications or advancement. I've been endorsed by Coach Tom Osborne and former Governor Kay Orr based upon my experience and integrity.
Pete Pirsch	I have the passion to serve and unique experience as a criminal prosecutor for nearly a decade, a member of the Crime Commission, and as a State Senator that will allow me to be immediately effective as Attorney General.