

Profiles of Select Candidates: 2009 Governors Race and 2010 House and Senate Races

GOVERNOR

▪ **Bob McDonnell – Virginia**

Bob McDonnell most recently served as the State's Attorney General until he resigned in February 2009 to focus full-time on his candidacy for Governor. Prior to serving as Attorney General, Bob served fourteen years in the Virginia House of Delegates. In the House of Delegates, he rose to the position of Assistant Majority Leader and Chairman of the House Courts of Justice Committee.

He was Chief Patron of numerous bills during his career, including Governor Allen's Juvenile Justice Reform Initiative, Virginia's historic Welfare Reform legislation, the reform of Virginia's drunk driving laws and a crack down on sex predators and gangs, legislation to abolish the death tax, and legislation to rewrite and improve Virginia's Public Private Partnership Transportation Act. He also authored legislation and secured funding for the creation of Virginia's Judicial Performance Evaluation Program to guide the General Assembly in reappointing judges.

His performance stood out. He was named the Network of Victims of Crime Legislator of the Year in 1996, The National Child Support Enforcement Association National Legislator of the Year in 1998, The Family Foundation of Virginia's Legislator of the Year in 1998 and 2001 and the Virginia Sheriff's Association Legislator of the Year in 2005.

An article in The Virginian-Pilot noted, "His fingerprints are all over major pieces of legislation from welfare reform, to judicial performance evaluations, to juvenile justice and parole reform, to tort revisions. Few legislators can duplicate his track record of involvement and success." (Virginian-Pilot article, "Beach delegate stakes claim to state's No. 3 slot," Warren Fiske, October 19, 2005).

As Attorney General, Bob has focused on policies that keep Virginia safe, strong, and prosperous. He kept his promises from the campaign trail, and fulfilled all 7 of his campaign pledges. He enacted a 25-year mandatory minimum sentence for violent child sex predators, increased penalties for drug dealers, protected Virginians from terrorist threats, safeguarded private property rights, reduced frivolous lawsuits and made Virginia a national leader in combating internet crimes and identity theft.

Prior to serving in the Virginia House of Delegates, Bob served in active duty in the Army from 1976 through 1981, and continued to serve in the reserves until retiring in 1997 as a Lieutenant Colonel. Bob also worked for the American Hospital Supply Corporation as a regional manager of the custom products division. After graduating law school, Bob was a prosecutor for the Virginia Beach Commonwealth's Attorney's Office.
http://www.bobmcdonnell.com/index.php/site/meet_bob/

- **Christopher Christie – New Jersey**

Chris was most recently U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey, a position he held from 2002 through December 2008. Prior to becoming a U.S. Attorney, Chris was in private practice, where he specialized in securities law, appellate practice, election law, and government affairs. He also elected a Freeholder for Morris County, New Jersey, and was Director of the Board.

As a U.S. Attorney, Chris fought against gang violence when he prosecuted 45 members of the Double II Bloods; he fought against child pornography when he helped bring down 1500 child pornographers worldwide; once he stood up to polluters who neglected their obligation to our environment. One of Chris's finest moments was when he led the team that thwarted terrorists' plans to attack our military men and women at Fort Dix.

When Chris left the U.S. Attorney's office on December 1, 2008, every major newspaper in the state applauded his term as New Jersey's U.S. Attorney. The Philadelphia Inquirer wrote: "Christie has already done more good for New Jersey than some previous governors," and The Bergen Record wrote: "All New Jerseyans owe him a huge debt of gratitude for refusing to accept this state's sleazy status quo."

<http://www.christiefornj.com/about/about-chris.html>

SENATE

- **Charlie Christ - Florida**

Charlie is the current Governor of Florida, the latest of his elected positions in a long history of public service. In 1992, he won a seat in the Florida Senate, where he represented the interests of citizens concerned about such issues as education, crime, the environment and elder affairs. During his six years in the Senate, Charlie served as Chairman of the Senate Ethics and Elections Committee and as Chairman of the Appropriations Criminal Justice Subcommittee. A strong voice for public safety, he sponsored, among other legislation, the Stop Turning Out Prisoners (STOP) bill requiring prisoners to serve at least 85 percent of their prison sentences. This achievement earned him numerous honors, including appointment as an Honorary Sheriff by the Florida Sheriffs Association—only the third person to receive the honor in the organization's long history.

After Charlie completed his Senate service, Gov. Jeb Bush appointed him as Deputy Secretary of the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation. In 2000, he won a special election and became Florida's last elected Commissioner of Education, where he worked to implement reforms in school accountability and direct more resources into Florida classrooms.

Charlie's path of public service next led him to seek election as Attorney General in 2002 as Florida's first elected Republican Attorney General. He has been a tireless advocate for consumers, law-abiding citizens, innocent crime victims, and those who have nowhere else to turn for help. Under his leadership, the Attorney General's Office recovered

millions of dollars for consumers ripped off by scam artists; prosecuted or sustained the convictions of hundreds of murderers, rapists and other criminals; crafted agreements to protect the state's environmental resources and taxpayers; and promoted effective new tools to combat domestic violence, stop child abductions, prevent Medicaid fraud and address numerous other problems.

Charlie worked with the Legislature to pass new laws that dramatically toughened the penalties for identity theft and counterfeiting or dealing in prescription drugs. He proposed and worked to pass Florida's landmark civil rights legislation, the Marvin Davies Civil Rights Act of 2003, to pursue those who engage in willful discrimination against others. He also won approval for legislation targeting those who distribute illegal spam on the Internet.

<http://www.charliecrist.com/about>

▪ **Rob Simmons – Connecticut**

Rob has spent over 40 years in public service. He represented Connecticut's 2nd Congressional District in Congress from 2001 to 2007. In 2007, he was appointed Business Advocate for the State of Connecticut by Governor M. Jodi Rell. Previously, Rob served in the Connecticut General Assembly for ten years representing the 43rd District

In Congress Rob served on the Armed Services, Transportation and Homeland Security Committees. Rep. Simmons also served as the chairman of the Homeland Security Intelligence, Information Sharing, and Terrorism Risk Assessment subcommittee and as Chairman of the Veterans' Health Subcommittee.

Rob enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1965 as a Private, graduated from Infantry Officer Candidate School in 1967, and spent 19 months in Vietnam, where he earned two Bronze Star Medals. In 1969 he joined the CIA, working as an Operations Officer for a decade, including five years on assignment overseas in East Asia.

In 1979, Rob left the CIA to join the staff of Senator John H. Chafee (R-Rhode Island). In 1981, he was assigned to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence as Senator Chafee's Professional Staff Member. He was subsequently named Staff Director of the Senate Intelligence Committee by Chairman Barry Goldwater (R-Arizona) – a position he held from November 1981 through February 1985.

Rob has served in the U.S. Army Reserve as a Military Intelligence Officer since 1970, retiring as a Colonel in 2003 with over 37 years of active and reserve service. He is past commander of the 434th Military Intelligence (MI) Detachment (Strategic) in New Haven, CT.

In 1996, Rob's unit received the Reserve Officers Association's Outstanding USAR Small Unit Award as the best small unit in the Nation. In 1998, Rob received the Knowlton Award for "Integrity, Moral Character, Professional Competence and Selflessness" in recognition of his contributions to the Military Intelligence Corps.

<http://www.joinrobsimmons.com/meet-rob-simmons>

▪ **Roy Blunt – Missouri**

Roy began his career as an educator, teaching American and Missouri history at the secondary and college level. Roy began his public service at the local level, serving as Greene County Clerk and Chief Election Official—a position he held for twelve years. He was subsequently elected as Secretary of State; the first republican to win and hold the position in over fifty years.

As secretary of state, Roy led the most efficient Securities enforcement unit in the nation. Under his leadership investor education was substantially enhanced through the Securities Division office and a strong crackdown was made against those who tried to defraud investors and seniors.

In 1990, Roy announced a \$1.1 million dollar settlement against the Wall Street brokerage firm of Drexel-Burnham-Lambert, which pleaded guilty to federal charges of market manipulation. Roy fought for the settlement for Missouri investors, a settlement which was the largest in state history. Missouri was one of the top three states in the number of actions against securities fraud while Roy was secretary of state.

Roy's initiatives also cut needless bureaucratic paperwork, and made Missouri the first state in the nation to provide electronic access to corporate records and reports. Roy also led the effort to eliminate the franchise tax for Missouri's small business owners and operators and simplified their tax reporting requirements.

In 1996, Roy Blunt was elected to Congress. The people of southwest Missouri have chosen him to represent them in the U.S. House of Representatives seven times, most recently in 2008, with a 68 percent majority.

Roy's work in the House has been defined by three guiding principles. The first is to fight and win on what matters the most to Missouri and the nation. The second is to find common ground with others, in both parties, that is principled and effective in solving problems. The third is to measure public questions against the standards of common sense, patriotism, and the belief that America's greatness is found in our homes, cities, towns, churches and farms, and not in Washington or the state capitals.

Roy fought for the largest tax cut for working families in the nation's history. He believes that free people are entitled to the fruits of their own work, that taxes should be kept as low as possible, and that people have the first claim to their own earnings. Roy Blunt knows what common sense tells us. The private economy creates self-sustaining and lasting jobs, not the government. If the government "created" jobs, then everyone could work for the government.

As a leader in Congress and an active legislator, Roy has shaped, guided, or authored many bipartisan solutions to difficult questions. Laci and Connor's laws were such an accomplishment. Roy has the highest possible pro-life voting record and even forged agreement with those of normally opposing views that federal criminal law will protect an unborn child against crimes of violence in the Unborn Victims of Violence Act.

He was a key voice in the House for a new idea in Washington – that churches and faith-based groups should be empowered to play an expanded role in providing publicly-financed services to people in need.

His legislative accomplishments include the Combat Meth Act; new tools for accountable government such as the searchable electronic database for all federal grants and contracts; and his key role in helping to fight the Global War on Terror by negotiating a critical update of our nation's terrorist surveillance laws, an action that is helping keep us safe from those who want to do America harm.

His voting record throughout his service reflects his commitment to a strong national defense; victory against terrorism; restraint in taxes and spending; respect for the widely-shared values of Missouri, including better education for all Americans; keeping the promises made to America's veterans; protecting property rights; protecting the Second Amendment; vigorous law enforcement and care for the victims of crime; and serving Missouri on vital issues such as agriculture, transportation, and expanded production to meet American energy needs.

Roy has a 100 percent rating from National Right to Life and the National Rifle Association. He has a 95 percent rating from the National Association of Manufacturers and has annually received the highest award from the Chamber of Commerce and National Federation of Independent Business.

Roy's integrity, openness and effectiveness led to leadership roles in his party's caucus and in the House including Majority Whip and Majority Leader. He is now the second-highest Republican on the House Energy and Commerce Committee and is also a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. He is endorsed by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

<http://www.royblunt.com/index.php/features/109/>

▪ **Kelly Ayotte – New Hampshire**

Kelly is the first woman to serve as Attorney General of the State of New Hampshire, a position she held from 2004 through July 2009 when she resigned to run for Senate.

Kelly joined the Office of the Attorney General in 1998 as a prosecutor in the Criminal Bureau, where she handled white collar, public integrity and homicide cases. She became a member of the Homicide Unit where she tried numerous homicide cases and was responsible for dozens of death investigations throughout the State of New Hampshire. She was appointed a Senior Assistant Attorney General and Chief of the Homicide Unit in 2000. In July of 2003, she was appointed Deputy Attorney General where she served until July of 2004 when she was appointed Attorney General.

Kelly is a past recipient of the Robert E. Kirby Award presented by the New Hampshire Bar Foundation to an attorney 35 years or younger who demonstrates the traits of civility, courtesy, perspective and excellent advocacy. She was recognized by New Hampshire Magazine in 2004 as one of the State's remarkable women and she was selected as one of the 40 leaders in New Hampshire under the age of 40, by the Manchester, N.H. Union Leader in 2002. *New Hampshire Business Magazine* most recently named her as one of New Hampshire's 10 Most Powerful People.

<http://doj.nh.gov/bio.html>

- **Charles F. Bass – New Hampshire**

Charles F. Bass is a Board Member and former President and Chief Executive Officer of the Republican Main Street Partnership. He joined the Board of Directors in 2005 and is a former six-term Member of Congress from New Hampshire. Prior to serving in Congress, Charlie previously held office in the State Legislature and the State Senate.

Charlie epitomizes Yankee frugality, independence, and pragmatism. He served as an influential member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee as vice-chairman of the Telecommunications and Internet Subcommittee and was a leader in the promotion of alternative energy, strong environmental policies, advancing science and technology, and supporting economic prosperity. Bass also served as co-chairman of the House Tuesday Group and was elected their representative to House leadership twice.

As a long-time advocate of campaign reform, he worked with Senator John McCain and Congressman Chris Shays to ban soft money and sham issue ads. Charlie's commitment to integrity also led him to organize the formal petition to call for a new election for the House Majority Leader in 2006.

Prior to his service in Congress, Charlie operated a successful, family-owned small business.

- **Mark Kirk - Illinois**

Mark currently represents the 10th Congressional District of Illinois, a position he has held since 2000. Now in his fifth term, Mark is a member of the powerful House Appropriations Committee and is co-chairman of the moderate GOP Tuesday Group and the bipartisan House US-China Working Group. In Congress, Mark works to advance a suburban agenda that is pro-defense, pro-personal responsibility, pro-environment, and pro-science. He wrote a number of provisions which became law, including funding for commuter rail, improving veteran's health care, ensuring military voting, and boosting aviation security.

Mark began his career on the staff of his predecessor, Congressman John Porter. He later served in the World Bank, the State Department, the law firm of Baker & McKenzie, and the U.S. House International Relations Committee.

Mark, who holds the rank of Commander, is a Naval Reserve intelligence officer and has served during conflicts with Afghanistan, Iraq, Haiti, and Bosnia. He recently became the first member of Congress to serve in an imminent danger zone since 1942 when he deployed as a reservist to Afghanistan in December. The U.S. Navy named Mark 'Intelligence Officer of the Year' in 1999 for his combat service in Kosovo.

HOUSE

▪ **Dede Scozzafava – 23rd District of New York**

Dierdre "Dede" Scozzafava has served in the New York State Assembly since 1998, where she represents the 122nd Assembly District, which includes Lewis, Oswego, Saint Lawrence and Jefferson counties. She won re-election in 2006 with over 62 percent of the vote.

Prior to being elected to the New York State Assembly in 1998, Dede dedicated much of her life to public service. She served for four years as a Village of Gouverneur Trustee and was Mayor of the Village of Gouverneur from 1993 through 1998.

As a Member of the Assembly, Dede was appointed to the position of Minority Leader Pro Tempore for the Assembly Republican Conference. She is the first woman to ever hold such a prestigious leadership position. More commonly referred to as the “floor leader,” the Minority Leader Pro Tempore is responsible for leading debates and driving forward the agenda of the conference.

Dede also serves on the Ways and Means, Rules, and Ethics and Guidance committees. Widely known for her bipartisan approach to governance, she frequently challenges her assembly colleagues to rise above politics so that the needs and concerns of New York State residents are fully addressed in the Legislature.

As chairwoman of the SAVE NY Task Force, Dede traveled throughout New York State to meet with various constituencies to develop and improve ways to protect New York’s women and children from domestic abuse and sexual violence. The task force played an integral role in raising awareness of these issues. A number of its proposals, including civil confinement of sex offenders and stiffer penalties under Megan’s Law, were adopted as legislation.

Dede is Vice President of investment firm SC Partners, LLC. She is a member of the First United Methodist Church in Gouverneur, Gouverneur Business Women, the Gouverneur Arts Club, the Thousand Island Girl Scouts Council, and the St. Lawrence County Farm Bureau.

<http://www.dedeforcongress.com/bio.html>

▪ **Steve Stivers – 15th District of Ohio**

Steve served in the Ohio State Senate for five years prior to running for Congress in 2008. Among other legislative achievements while serving in the Ohio State Senate, Steve was the primary sponsor on tort reform legislation, helped pass a balanced, fiscally conservative state budget, provided the largest personal property tax cut in Ohio history, and froze tuition rates for Ohio’s college students.

Steve has served in the Ohio National Guard for twenty-four years, and currently holds the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. While serving in the Ohio State Senate in 2004, Steve

was called in to active duty. He served his country in Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar and Djibouti as a Battalion Commander. Steve received the Bronze Star for his service.

Prior to serving in the Ohio State Senate, Steve worked in the financial services industry at Bank One and the Ohio Company. He was a Series 7 certified securities trader, and a registered lobbyist

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Steve_Stivers