

Question #1	Candidate Name
Answer to #1	Christian Y Leinbach
Question #2	Campaign/Candidate Address
Answer to #2	1316 Hex Highway Hamburg, PA 19526
Question #3	Campaign/Candidate Office Phone
Answer to #3	484-797-4810
Question #4	Campaign/Candidate Fax:
Answer to #4	NA
Question #5	Campaign/Candidate Website
Answer to #5	www.ChristianLeinbach.com
Question #6	Campaign/Candidate Email
Answer to #6	Leinbach@ChristianLeinbach.com
Question #7	Political Party
Answer to #7	R
Question #8	Campaign Organization
Answer to #8	Leinbach for Commissioner
Question #9	Campaign Chairperson Name
Answer to #9	Bill and Gwen Gage
Question #10	Type
Answer to #10	Volunteer
Question #11	Campaign Treasurer Name
Answer to #11	Zylkia Rivera
Question #12	Type
Answer to #12	Volunteer
Question #13	Campaign Manager
Answer to #13	Chuck Liedike

Question #14 Type

Answer to #14 Volunteer

Question #15 Campaign Manager Phone:

Answer to #15 484-797-4810

Question #16 Campaign Manager Email:

Answer to #16 Chuck@ChristianLeinbach.com

Question #17 Campaign Media Consultant

Answer to #17 Rockwood Strategies

Question #18 Type

Answer to #18 Paid

Question #19 Official Campaign Name

Answer to #19 Leinbach for Commissioner

Question #20 Campaign Budget

Answer to #20 \$100,000 - 150,000

Question #21 Have you ever run for public office before?

Answer to #21 Yes

Question #22 If yes, what office and when:

Answer to #22 PA State Senate 1992/Primary Congress 1996/General Commissioner 2007 & 2008/General

Question #23 Do you currently hold (or have you held) an elected office?

Answer to #23 Yes

Question #24 If yes, what office and when:

Answer to #24 Commissioner 2008 - Present

Section B - Campaign Qualifications/Issues/Positions

Question #1 Why are you running for this Office?

Answer to #1	What I have been able to do as Commissioner I have not done alone. The men and women working in Berks County Government have played a major role as have many of the citizens of this wonderful county. We've been successful in strengthening Berks County's finances, improving jobs and economic development and providing professional leadership to county government. I believe we can do even better. That is why I am focusing my efforts on three areas. First we must continue the sound fiscal principles that make Berks County one of the fiscally strongest counties in the Commonwealth. Second, I am committed to growing our local economy by continued emphasis on stronger cooperation among the local economic partners and finally I am committed to serious criminal justice reform that will save the county money and also help address some of the serious social fallout that comes from having too many non-violent offenders in our county jail.
Question #2	What qualifications/experience do you have that will enable you to fulfill the responsibilities of the office you are seeking? Include Educational Background.
Answer to #2	BA in History and Public speaking. Private sector business management experience, Nearly 8 years of successful leadership in county government. During that time I've served as President and Board Chair of our state association and currently serve on the Board of Directors. I currently serve on the Board and Executive Committee of the National Assoc.
Question #3	Have you ever owned or operated a Business? If yes, please provide details.
Answer to #3	No Details: I spent nearly 10 years as a VP of Westlawn Graphic participating in the daily operational decisions with the President and other management team members. Managements including everything from sales and strategy to HR, fiscal oversight, etc. While I did not have the final say I did provide significant input.
Question #4	What are your primary goals if you are elected/re-elected to this office?
Answer to #4	Continues commitment to keeping Berks County fiscally strong Committed to growing jobs and specially the commercial and industrial base in the county Committed to sound criminal justice reform Link to reelection speech - http://www.christianleinbach.com/#!reelection-speech-2015/c1vn1
Question #5	What are the greatest challenges facing Berks County?
Answer to #5	Keeping Berks fiscally strong - If your fiscal house is in order there are many options open for growth. If it is not, at some point it takes over the entire focus of county government. Growing our commercial and industrial job base - We have a much smaller tax base in this area compared to our neighbors and most other 3rd class counties. Criminal Justice Reform - The cost of the status-quo is unsustainable from both a cost as well as social impact.
Question #6	If elected/re-elected, what would you do to address these challenges?
Answer to #6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fiscal Responsibility - This is the critical foundation of a family, business, organization, and yes, government. If the fiscal foundation is failing, then at some point nothing else matters. Berks County has a solid financial foundation. It is demonstrated in our AA+ bond rating, in our fund balance, and in the reputation that this board of commissioners has gained for responsible fiscal management. Fiscal health is like physical health, you cannot maintain it without regular "exercise." We will continue weekly budget meetings that keep a clear picture of fiscally challenges and opportunities and act on what the data shows us we need to do. In the end if our fiscal house is not in order, at some point nothing else matters. • The first issue is the need for Criminal Justice Reform. Where do you think most of your county property taxes go? We raise approximately \$136 million annually and nearly \$85 million goes to our local criminal justice system. The two largest areas are the courts and the prison. 1. Did you know that according to numerous studies the U.S. incarcerates more people than any other nation in the world? 2. Did you know that in the last thirty years the PA Department of Corrections budget grew by 1700 percent and the PA prison population by 500 percent? In that time PA constructed 18 new prisons. We need to rethink the way we approach criminal justice. Prison should be for people who are violent and need to be separated from the population. Sending people to our county jail for mental health issues, truancy, and parking tickets is just plain wrong. All three are realities in the Berks County Jail and you are footing the bill. There was a person admitted to prison twice this year that was a resident of a nursing home, has Alzheimer's, and slapped a staff person. This person was in her seventies, with no family that cared, and the nursing home had this person arrested and placed in our Berks County Jail. Eileen DiNino, a mother was sentenced to Berks County Jail last spring for truancy... she died in our jail. I believe she should have never been

there in the first place. At any given time, there may be one or more people in our jail exclusively for outstanding parking tickets. The laws must change! There is a bill in the Pennsylvania House called "Eileen's Bill." In order for this bill to truly honor the memory of Eileen DiNino it must eliminate the option of jail for truancy. Anything less is merely political window dressing. Ladies and gentleman, we cannot continue down this road to fiscal and social bankruptcy. I will continue to work for serious reform on this issue with our local, state, and federal leaders through organizations like the CCAP (County Commissioners Association of PA) and NACo (National Association of Counties.) • The second major issue is that of job growth here in Berks County. We've made serious strides with lowering the unemployment rate. Last September, when Moody's reviewed Berks County's bond rating, they noted that the diversity and growth of the commercial business sector is positive and that continued growth will provide Berks County with a much better long-term economic outlook. If we want to improve the overall quality of life here in Berks it starts with good private sector jobs. Government doesn't create these jobs, but they can be a help or a barrier. I am proposing four ways to grow good local jobs: 1. We need to continue and improve the local cooperation among the various economic development organizations here in Berks. That means Berks County needs to continue its financial support of GREP (Greater Reading Economic Partnership) since they jointly work to promote job growth with both new and existing businesses. 2. Business growth also includes agriculture. Defending the right to farm is becoming more important than any time in the history of this county. Failure to defend this right will be catastrophic to our local economy and overall quality of life. 3. We need to further promote JEAP (Joint Express Approval Program) to encourage business expansion projects here in Berks. Using a little common sense and communication can not only save jobs but also grow the jobs base of existing businesses. 4. One of the serious detriments to job growth is property taxes. Let me be very clear...I believe the taxation of private property is unethical at best and unconstitutional at worst. I support the elimination of property taxes; however, they are a reality and they deter businesses from coming, or in some cases expanding, here in Berks. I am advocating for a County-Wide LERTA (Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance) because; • Unlike many programs it does not take money from one group of people and give it to another. • Instead a business would continue to pay their normal tax rate but when they complete a new project and it is assessed for property taxes, they would pay zero new taxes year one, ten percent in year two and so on until they are at 100% in year eleven. • Municipalities, schools and the county are not giving up any revenue and start seeing new revenue in year two. • Taxpayers are not paying anything additional and instead see businesses expand providing a stronger tax base in their community and more jobs. • Finally all businesses can participate and there are no strings attached such as prevailing wage or answering to some unelected bureaucrat. Currently LERTA's are only for large companies because only they can afford to go through the legal process to secure a LERTA. The three largest construction projects in the past two years all required and were granted a LERTA. I believe all businesses, both large and small, should be able to equally participate. If a LERTA is good for a fortune 500 company in Bethel Township, then it is good for small business as well. We need to send a clear message that Berks County is serious about business and jobs!

Question #7

What specifically what would you do to improve the overall infrastructure (transportation/utilities) in Berks County?

Answer to #7

I work closely with local leaders and state leaders in both Democratic and Republican administrations to address transportation funding needs and focus on specific projects such as route 222 north, the West Shore by-pass and bridges. During my terms a CCAP President I and our association pushed hard for the first long-term transportation bill in PA in almost 20 years.

Question #8

What specifically would you do to spur economic growth for Berks County?

Answer to #8

Please see my answer to question 6 above

Question #9

What specifically would you do to manage the County Budget and ensure the financial stability of Berks County?

Answer to #9

Please see my answer to question 6 above

Question #10

What would you do to promote more regional cooperation within Berks County?

Answer to #10

I continue to believe that regional planning and regional policing are two of the greatest opportunities for regional cooperation. I believe that the county needs to provide financial incentives to municipalities considering mergers as well as incentives for municipalities considering regional policing.

Section C - General/Other

Question #1 Do you do regular community serve? If so please describe you activities.

Answer to #1 Yes

Details: Schuylkill Valley Bible Chapel - An Elder, Sunday School Teacher, worship team and part of the missions team working with churches in Haiti but also organizations here in the Greater Reading area like Hope Rescue Mission, Wisdom 31 and Mercy Crisis Pregnancy Center.

Question #2 Please list any past or present affiliations with business and/or community organizations.

Answer to #2 United Way, Hawk Mt. Sanctuary, Central Berks Lions, POSA Chapter 113, Greater Reading Chamber, Tri-County Area Chamber, Consider It - Affiliated with the Village Square, PA and Berks County Farm Bureau, Virginville Grange, BCTV Board,

Question #3 Have you ever been convicted of a non-summary crime?

Answer to #3 No

Question #4 Have you ever filed for bankruptcy?

Answer to #4 No

Question #5 Have you ever been or are you involved in any tax dispute or investigation with a government agency?

Answer to #5 No

Question #6 Have you ever been successfully sued?

Answer to #6 No

Submit

Question #1 Electronic Signature - Print Candidate's Full Name

Answer to #1 Christian Y Leinbach

Meeting Notes

Meeting Date -

Other Comments
