TO: Candidates for U.S. House of Representatives

FROM: Nancy Smith for the Leagues of Women Voters of the Eastern Shore

SUBJECT: Candidates' Forum, Chesapeake College, Sunday, October 30, 2016, 2:00 PM

DATE: October 16, 2016

Included in this correspondence are the three (3) questions which you will be asked at the beginning of the forum. They will also be printed in the program. Also included are directions to the venue and a description of the program format for those of you who may not have participated in a League forum previously.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. <u>IMMIGRATION</u>: What proposals would you support to address the issue of the millions of undocumented residents living in the United States today?
- 2. <u>United States Infrastructure:</u> In recent years, it has become apparent that much of this country's infrastructure (roads, bridges, etc.) have been neglected and are in serious need of repair or replacement. How would you propose these necessities be paid for?
- 3. <u>MONEY IN POLITICS</u>: In the last decade, there has been a great expansion of money going into the political arena. Members of Congress spend an inordinate amount of time contacting donors for themselves and for their parties, taking time away from the job they were elected to perform. What steps would you support to reduce the influence of money in our political system?

DIRECTIONS:

<u>From Annapolis and points west</u> – Follow Route 50 east across the Bay Bridge, cross the Kent Narrows Bridge, drive 2.5 miles to the Route 50/301 Split bearing RIGHT at the split. Go 6 miles to the intersection of Route 50 and highway 213. At that traffic light, turn right onto 213. The College entrance is the first right.

<u>From Salisbury and points south</u> – take Route 50 through Easton and 15 miles beyond to the intersection of 50 and Highway 213. At that traffic light, turn left onto 213. The entrance to the College is the first right.

<u>From Elkton and points north</u> – Follow Highway 213 through Chestertown and Centreville. Go 7 miles past Centreville to the intersection of 213 and Route 50. The entrance to the college is the first right off of 213 after the traffic light.

On the campus – turn into the main entrance of the College and follow signs. Go to the Stop sign and turn right. The Cadby Theater is on the west side (1/2 way around the campus on the backside) of the campus. A large parking lot is directly in front of the Theater.

FORMAT: Candidates will be seated at a table on the stage with the moderator to their left. The President of the Kent County League, Sandy Bjork, will make introductory remarks and introduce the moderator who will direct the forum. The moderator will introduce the candidates and each will be given two (2) minutes for introductory remarks. The three (3) questions contained herein will be asked, and each candidate will have two (2) minutes to provide an answer. All questions which follow will come from the audience in the following

manner: on entrance, audience members will be provided with index cards and instructed to write their questions on the cards; they are to then raise their hand and the card will be picked up by a League representative and taken to the screeners' table; the screeners will organize the questions to delete repetitions and those determined to be personal attacks; these questions will then be given to the Moderator to ask of <u>ALL</u> participants giving them up to two (2) minutes to answer each; when floor questioning has been completed, the participants will be given two (2) minutes for closing remarks. The timers will be located in the front row in the center and will advise candidates about time remaining with signs which say "1 Minute," "30 Seconds," and "STOP." If the candidate has not completed his answer within the allotted time, a timer will stand with the red card (STOP) held aloft and the Moderator will call time.

DEBATE CONTENT: The debate content will become the property of the League of Women Voters and permission must be obtained to rebroadcast the debate in its entirety or to print excerpts. Candidates must agree not to use any portion of the debate in a political advertisement. There will be media coverage. The approved media have agreed not to edit any candidate's answers.

DEMONSTRATIONS: None are allowed. No signs will be allowed inside the building. This includes any indication of support for a candidate on clothing, signage or buttons. If you have campaign literature and signage to distribute, the League suggests you bring a folding table with you and set up in the walkways immediately in front of the Cadby Theater. No applause will be allowed during the course of the event. We ask for applause at the end of the program. Any audience member engaging in any action, either for or against any candidate during the forum, will be escorted out of the auditorium by law enforcement officers.

TIME: The League always starts on time and stops on time. We anticipate a maximum of one-and-one-half (1-1/2) hours for the conduct of this forum. We ask that you arrive no later than twenty (20) minutes (by 1:40 PM) prior to the event's start so you can be introduced to the Moderator and other candidates or receive any extra instructions. Unfortunately, League rules, in compliance with federal election laws, do not allow us to include only one candidate for an office in our forums.

Should you have any questions, please contact Nancy Smith. And we all thank you for participating.

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