



## **IN PERSON QUESTIONS-Quentin Wittrock**

### **1. Tell us about a time you lost something important (election, job, business etc.) and how you handled it.**

For several years, he and his wife went through infertility, with each month the loss of hope of a pregnancy. They responded by not taking “no” for an answer. They escalated the infertility treatments and ended up with one amazing daughter. Then, three years and more infertility treatments later, they were blessed with a second daughter, who is tied for first place as best daughter ever. Both daughters lead successful businesses.

### **2. Are there any votes or positions our party/organization has taken in the last five years that you disagree with and why.**

Both political parties made mistakes related to immigration enforcement in Minnesota. When DFL state and local officials were not cooperative enough with ICE, administration officials like Noem and Bovino got carried away and enforced the law in a way that hurt our own party. Two Minnesotans were killed. The President ended up having to remove both Noem and Bovino from their positions. The mistakes were more with the militaristic and violent way in which they acted, which was counterproductive to the actual objective of deporting criminals. Both sides should have focused on the important goal, which is supported by the public.

It also is debatable whether unilateral action in other nations is the best use of America’s international clout. Foreign intervention without the input of international allies, the American public, and Congress seems unwise. America’s interests must come first. He would like to see Congress get more involved.

### **3. What is the single biggest problem facing this country in the future and how should Congress address it?**

The economy, including the financial strength of the US government, is the single biggest problem facing the U.S. Our nation is \$39 trillion in debt! The high interest on this debt leaves us unable to fulfill needs and promises without borrowing even more.

America's indebtedness will cause us to go back on our promises to Medicare and Social Security recipients unless we incur additional debt (which is unsustainable). This can ultimately result in us not being able to afford necessities like a strong military. Being this far in debt affects many things, causing taxpayers to lose confidence. This can cause a downward economic spiral. We need to pay people 100 percent on the dollar in Social Security based on their contributions. We need fiscal reform.

**4. What is one major policy you have changed your mind in the last ten years and what caused you to change it?**

Every provision of the U.S. Constitution must be respected and honored, including the 2nd Amendment. After school shootings and other gun-related tragedies, he used to be more open to some restrictions on who can possess what kind of guns. After listening to others on this issue, he realized that restrictions won't stop anyone and will arguably violate an individual's constitutional rights. He now believes there are more effective ways to prevent mass shootings and murders. Restrictions on freedom don't fix problems.

**5. Tell us about a situation where you had to address competing and conflicting interests? How did you handle it and what was the outcome?**

His law firm was internationally known for franchise law, and he represented various large franchise companies. Once in a while an attorney in the firm would bring in a client who wanted to sue a franchise chain. He advocated for not pursuing franchises, because that could set precedent that could hurt existing clients. When someone wanted to be adverse to a franchise, he worked with the other franchise lawyers in his firm to create a policy against representing clients opposed to franchises, and they would try to convince the attorney not to take on the new client. If that didn't work, he and other franchise attorneys would ask management of the firm to intervene. Most other lawyers were convinced to do this for the team/firm/clients.

**6. What is your plan to find a media outlet outside of our local legacy media (MPR, StarTribune, WCCO, KARE11, KTSP etc.) to gain name recognition and attention to your message?**

As soon as he becomes the Republican nominee, he will court the national media on a platform of reform, term limits, ending "politics as usual," tackling tough issues, and providing actual representation to all citizens of the district (rather than fringe elements, special interests, or party bosses). This unique approach will be picked up by major media outlets. He will hire a publicist to help get media attention and positive coverage for this campaign.

**7. Who is the best grassroots organizer you know personally who has already committed to working on your campaign?**

He is his own best grassroots organizer. With a strong group of volunteers, he has done and will do a ton of work to get out and seek input on the issues.

**8. Tell us about something that you consider to be one of your greatest accomplishments.**

Being a father. From the time each of his daughters was turning 5, he took them on separate daddy-daughter vacations annually. Starting with train trips from the Twin Cities to Chicago for a game at Wrigley Field, every year, he took each girl on a vacation (coincidentally, most had to do with baseball :) In addition, every Monday morning, he and his wife would separately take a daughter to breakfast before school. You spell love T-I-M-E, and he spent an enormous amount of time with his kids. No one could be blessed with two better daughters than he has. His daughters were amazing even through their teenage years and now as adults.

**9. What keeps you up at night?**

Politics. Before he decided to run this year, he was truly hoping there would be a strong Republican candidate for CD3. Because that had not happened, he decided to run again.

**10. How do you handle personal attacks on you and/or your family?**

His daughters both are married, so they (and his grandchildren) have different last names than him, which is helpful. His wife won't let him put the grandkids' pictures on the website, and his wife doesn't want to be in the photos, either. His families' safety comes first. He does not care about personal attacks against himself.

**11. After you are no longer in office, what do you want people to say you accomplished?**

He wants people to say, "This guy (meaning himself) set a trend that saved American politics (and the Republican Party) from itself." He believes this could happen when people see that the Republicans nominated a respected, principled person like him in the Third District – who won the general election. This shocking victory will force the Democrats to nominate a non-extreme person in the future. Eventually, people will say, "It all started with Quentin Wittrock, who rescued American politics" from polarization and extremism. In short, he wants to create a more principle-based political environment, which will result in more effective and efficient government.