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**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Tuesday, June 14, 2022 8:40:41 PM  
**Last Modified:** Tuesday, June 14, 2022 9:10:11 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:29:29  
**IP Address:** 64.147.227.140

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**Q1**

Identity-Please fill out the indicated fields.

Candidate Name:	<b>Mark A. Ross</b>
Office Seeking:	<b>House of Delegates</b>
Party Affiliation:	<b>Republican</b>
District:	<b>28</b>

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**Q2**

Contact Info-Please fill out the indicated fields.

Address	<b>203 Rice Avenue</b>
Address 2	<b>203 Rice Avenue</b>
City/Town	<b>Prichard</b>
State/Province	<b>WV</b>
ZIP/Postal Code	<b>25555</b>
Country	<b>USA</b>
Email Address	<b>mrossk12whs@gmail.com</b>
Phone Number	<b>304-617-1818</b>

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**Q3**

Education &amp; Experience-Please fill out the indicated fields.

High School Attended (Ex: School name, city, & state)	<b>Buffalo High, Kenova West Virginia</b>
Colleges Attended & Degrees Obtained (Ex: Marshall, MBA)	<b>WVU Tech</b>
Current Employer & Job Position (Ex: WVMA, Director of Operations)	<b>Teacher (Retired)</b>
Describe your current job & responsibilities	<b>Retired</b>
How long have you worked for your current employer?	<b>N/A</b>

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**Q4**

Describe your overall philosophy toward the role of state government as it relates to business and industry.

Support business and create a friendly environment for business in order to create jobs for the citizens.

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**Q5**

What do you bring to the office you seek? Specifically, what have you built, improved, or changed for the benefit of your community or business?

25 years of teaching Career and Technical education. 17 state champions in my field and was named advisor of the the year for the state of WV in 2012. Former Volunteer Fire Chief, PTA president, Community Watch/Clean up organizer.

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**Q6**

Please list any groups, associations, or non-profits in which you are an active member or volunteer such as civic groups, labor organizations, advocacy groups.

Prichard Community Watch, Wayne County Republican Executive Committee member and Vice Chairman.

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**Q7**

West Virginia is facing many challenges. What do you consider to be the most important and critical challenge that threatens our state and what is your plan to alleviate this threat?

Our citizens and businesses are over taxed, we need to revamp the tax structure in order to bring business and industry with good paying jobs to our state. Our roads and infrastructure need to be improved in order to accommodate future growth.

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**Q8**

Do you support the passage of Amendment One on the November 2022 General Election ballot? The measure provides the legislature with the authority to repeal or phase out tangible personal property in the future, this includes tax on personal vehicles, small business inventory, and tax on manufacturing inventory, machinery, and equipment.

YES

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**Q9**

What ideas do you have to help build our state's economy and improve West Virginia's position in competing for investment and job growth?

Improve infrastructure and capitalize on our God given natural resources and beauty. Revamp our tax structure in order to draw business and industry to our state.

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**Q10**

Use of and addiction to opioids in West Virginia and our region have reached crisis levels. This is a problem being recognized not only at the state level, but at the federal level. What ideas do you have to help stop this devastating trend in our state?

Education at an early age and rehabilitation facilitates that will help give a hand up and not a hand out. We have several vacant secluded state and former mine properties in my county that would serve as a wonderful rehabilitation facility that can be used for Agriculture that would assist recovering addicts a job to become self sufficient.

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**Q11**

Racial justice and equity, LGBTQ rights and gender equity are important factors for many current West Virginia employers, companies that consider moving to our State, and employees who may consider relocating to West Virginia. How would you address these issues to recruit and retain companies and employees for whom this is a priority?

I believe in equal treatment/rights for all.

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**Q12**

What are your specific ideas for addressing workforce skills gaps in industry? Specifically, with the growth of manufacturing jobs in the state and need for diverse and skilled labor, what are your ideas to prepare the state's current and future workforce for manufacturing jobs.

As a former Career educator I feel the key is providing classes and skills to high school and post secondary education along with training in rehabilitation facilities. The standards must be high for our educators and students.

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**Q13**

What are your ideas for improving outcomes in the state's K-12 public education system?

Standards must be high and students and teachers must be held to high standards in order to become a quality educational system.

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**Q14**

What ideas do you have for incorporating a focus on STEM education in our public schools and how could industry engage to support increased workforce learning models in middle and high schools, as well as career and technical education centers (vo-tech)?

Business and industry must be involved in an advisory and/or co-op situation with our career education. Skills needed in the workforce and by the employers must be the focus in STEM and career education.

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**Q15**

Please describe policies that you believe may be helpful in balancing state regulations and environmental rules while maintaining a competitive atmosphere for industrial job growth and investment?

Business and labor force working with state leaders to come to common sense solutions.

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**Q16**

What do you think West Virginia could do to promote energy diversity including the growth of renewable energy sources in the state?

Invest in renewable energy and promote clean coal.

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**Q17**

Many corporations have established environmental, social, and governance criteria. How would such goals impact your decision making on relevant policy issues as a member of legislator?

The focus of my service is to represent the citizens of district 28 and make our state a better place to live and do business.

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**Q18**

If you could work on a single piece of legislation to help support manufacturers with in the state of West Virginia what would it be? and Why?

Tax structure, create a more friendly environment so we can provide quality good paying jobs for our citizens.

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**Q19**

Would you be available for an interview remotely or in person?

Either

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**Q20**

Where may the WVMA follow you on social media? Please list social media handles including Facebook, Twitter, and others.

<https://www.facebook.com/Ross4House>

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