

## 2012 JCPPC County Commission Candidate Questionnaire

Response for: Terry Presta

Name: Terry Presta  
Company Name: Presto Convenience Stores, LLC  
Work Phone: 913-908-0635  
Email Address: terry.presta1@gmail.com  
Address: 14008 Reeder St.  
Overland Park, KS 66221

3 District: 3rd

4. Campaign Chair &/or Treasurer:

I have 3 campaign Co- Chairs:

Steve Wilkinson who is the CEO of Menorah Medical Center

Teresa Hamilton who runs the Charity "Giving the Basics" and owns Bob Hamilton Plumbing with her husband.

Judy Frye who is the President of Kansas CASA

Dan Kjergaard Treasurer

5. Phone Number: 913-908-0635

6. Committee Name: Presta for County Commission

7. Campaign Website: Terrypresta.com

8. Campaign E-Mail: [Terry.presta1@gmail.com](mailto:Terry.presta1@gmail.com)

9. Occupation/Work History (last five years - 50 words or less):

I have been the President of Presta Oil Inc. since 1981. I ran Presto Convenience stores for over 30 years but sold 47 Presto's to the Pantry in December 2010. I currently run 2 stores under the PRIMO banner.

10. Most Recent Political Experience (50 words or less).

My most recent elected position was in the Kansas House of Representatives. I was in the House from 1995 until January of 1999. I did not run in the 1998 election. I was the Representative in the 123rd district.

11. Most Recent Community/Civic Experience (50 words or less):

I am currently on the Board of Directors of Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association.

I am currently on the Board of Directors of Kansas CASA

I am currently on the 10th Judicial Nominating Commission and in my 2nd 3 year term. (Appointed by County Commissioner David Lindstrom.)

I have coached youth sports for 17 years. This past season, I coached 4 girls basketball teams, 2 of which were championship teams in competitive leagues and 2 of which were recreational.

12. Are you, or have you been, affiliated with a local or state chamber of commerce? Please list chamber(s) and any leadership positions held:

I am currently a member of the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce and the Spring Hill Chamber of Commerce.

When I lived in Garden City, Kansas, I was on the Chamber Board and Chairman of the Legislative Committee for many years. This is one of the main reasons that I ran for State Representative from the 123rd district.

I participated in Leadership Garden City and in 1992 was a member of Leadership Kansas. I was one of two Leadership Kansas members selected to go on the board after the 1992 session and served two 3 year terms on the board.

13. Are you, or have you been, affiliated with any other business organization(s)? Please list organization(s) and any leadership positions held:

I was on the ConocoPhillips National Marketers Advisory Board for many years and was Chairman of this board in 2006-2007. I was elected by my peers to this position.

I was president of PMCA in 2009.

Prior to the above, I was on a Phillips 66 National Advisory Board, Kerr McGee National Advisory Board, and a Conoco National Advisory Board.

A member of the Board of Directors for Study Group 920 for 5 years which ended when I sold my stores in 2010. This is a group of convenience store operators who band together to share P & L's, best practices and serve as an outside board of directors to improve our respective operations.

14. As a candidate, what are your top three priorities for Johnson County (10 words or less per issue)?

1. Continue to promote the superior services of Johnson county that contribute to our quality of life here.

2. Lessen the reliance on property taxes for individuals AND business's.

3. FIX the DMV since I discovered that it is now under Board control.

15. Recognizing that Johnson County government must respond to our county's continued population growth and the need to invest in services and infrastructure, please describe how you would approach managing the county budget (75 words or less):

I would like to strictly define the core services of the County and those that are discretionary. I would propose to slowly phase out discretionary funding and transfer these funds to core services. I would also root out inefficiencies in the budgets of core services areas. All entities, both private and public, let inefficiencies slowly creep into their operations. I would use my business experience of 32 years to make needed choices.

16. Please explain your views on promoting regional cooperation (75 words or less):

While I am open to discussing regional cooperation, I have no confidence in the governmental agencies of Kansas City, Missouri and Jackson County. My view is that Johnson County flourished because people grew weary of these Missouri governments and their inefficiencies. I am open to all regional agreements as long as Johnson County controls the operation and spending and the people of Johnson County approve the endeavor via a popular vote.

17. Describe your views on the balance between the distribution of costs and services between incorporated and unincorporated areas of Johnson County (75 words or less):

I make no distinction between incorporated and unincorporated areas of Johnson County. The collective taxing authority of the county should bring in funds from the entire county. The County should then spend this money based on the priorities of their long term strategic plan. While exceptions to this can

be made, they should be based on promoting the long term growth and health of the County as a whole, period.

18. Do you support continued funding of the County-Assisted Road System (CARS) program? Explain (75 words or less).

I absolutely and wholeheartedly support the CARS program. Maintaining roads and other infrastructure in the Cities and unincorporated areas is absolutely essential to the quality of life we all enjoy in Johnson county.

19. What are your feelings on growth management of unincorporated areas of Johnson County (75 words or less)?

I believe first and foremost in private property rights in both the incorporated and unincorporated areas of the county. While the county as a whole has an interest in the manner of growth, all new rules and regulations should respect private property rights.

20. Do you support a new county courthouse, and if so, how should it be funded and how much of a priority is it for the county (75 words or less)?

Last month, I sat in on the latest meeting of interested parties on the possibility of a new court house. I heard the long history of the court house background. My understanding was that, over the past 15 years, there have been proposals for a court house costing \$ 340MM, \$206 MM, \$150 MM, and most recently \$ 92 MM.

Currently there is not public support for a new court house nor is there funding available for a new court house. I agree with County Chair Ed Eilert, that if a true need could be proved and then public support could be garnered then a capital reserve fund dedicated to a future court house should be established.

This is a project that begs for a long term strategic plan.

21. Describe your views on the county's support of social services and the increased demands on the county created by state budget cuts (75 words or less)?

Until I get a detailed look at the budgets and scope of support referenced here, it is difficult for me to make an informed response to this question. In general, I believe most state funded budgets should be viewed cautiously as continued state support cannot be counted on.

22. What do you believe is the most pressing challenge currently facing Johnson County (75 words or less)?

The biggest challenge for a county as successful as Johnson county, is keeping everything moving forward in the manner in which it has in the past. The County Commission should avoid trying to get into all sorts of “new” areas and just concentrate on core services. Successful government is not about building empires. It is about delivering the core services very well so that the local businesses and the individual residents love living here and wouldn’t think of living anywhere else. County government should exist to improve the life and prosperity of its citizens, not the other way around.

23. What do you believe most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race (75 words or less).

I’m running on the fact that I have 32 years of business experience operating my own business. I built my company from 1 store and less than \$1 MM in sales, to 50 stores and \$250 billion in sales. This has given me all sorts of experience in making payrolls, strategic planning, budgeting, and managing people and contracts. I then successfully sold most of these stores (47) to a public company in December 2010.

I also have 4 years of experience as a Representative in Kansas. I know many of the State Reps and Senators and most of the people in the Brownback administration. Being familiar with how things work in Topeka and knowing many of the folks participating in State government will be very helpful to the county.

None of the other candidates can come close to matching the above experience.