

Johnson County Public Policy Council
2018 Kansas Secretary of State Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Brian "BAM" McClendon

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Political Party Affiliation: Democrat

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Campaign Video Link:

<https://bam4kansas.com/>

Occupation/Work History (last 5 years – 25 words or less):

University of Kansas, Research Professor Uber, VP Engineering Google, VP Engineering

If you are or have been affiliated with a chamber of commerce or other business organization, please list which organization(s) and any leadership positions you have held:

N/A

Other recent political/community experience? (25 words or less)

KSvotes.org, civic non-profit organization. Developed mobile-friendly non-partisan online voter registration. McClendon Engineering Scholarship at KU. Pro bono STEM presentations statewide for Kansas students.

As a candidate, what are your top three policy issues? (10 words or less per line)

Election and data security and credibility Voter engagement Improving efficiency of business and entrepreneur interactions

What do you believe is the biggest challenge currently facing the Secretary of State's Office? (75 words or less)

Recent misguided leadership and technological apathy. The office should be focused on increasing voter participation, promoting non-partisan information, and facilitating participation in the voting process. Expanding the focus of the office into partisan confrontation and needless legal battles has cost the state time and money that could have educated voters, supported local election staff, secured our private data, optimized the business interface, and made state information more accessible.

Why are you seeking this public office? (50 words or less)

The Secretary of State has become a technology-oriented position. My leadership experience was developed in a context of industry accountability, customer service and problem-solving using technology. Kansas is my home. I want to use my skills as Secretary of State and contribute to a more civil, fair, and efficient society.

What project have you been most proud to work on? (50 words or less)

Building the company that developed Google Earth and leadership of the team that built Google Maps - tools used by over a billion people to more efficiently find their way, improve businesses, tell stories, and discover the world. It changed mapping worldwide is still the gold standard today.

What do you think most distinguishes you from your opponent(s)? (50 words or less)

If we're going to keep our elections and data secure, protect the fundamental right of eligible citizens to vote, cultivate new businesses, and open the digital doors of our democracy, the Secretary of State must better understand business and be able to use technology to lead priority problem-solving. I do.