



Individual Nomination Form

Name of Nominee: Phil Buell _____

Title: President/CEO _____

Credit Union: Superior Federal Credit Union _____

Address: 4230 Elida Road _____ **City:** Lima _____ **Zip:** 45807 _____

E-Mail: pbuell@superiorfcu.com _____ **Telephone:** 419 879-3501 _____

Contact: Keith Eiden _____ (Name of person the League should contact with questions.)

Describe in detail and provide examples of the individual's political activities in the following areas.

1. Describe the nominee's involvement with local and state policymakers and lawmakers such as mayors, city council members, state senators and representatives, and the governor. Include descriptions of involvement. For example, initiated and hosted meetings with a policymaker or lawmaker at the credit union to discuss credit union issues, visited officials in their offices, attended fundraisers, wrote letters, active in and visible at community events attended by elected officials, etc.
2. Describe the nominee's involvement with national policymakers and lawmakers such as U.S. Representatives and Senators. Include descriptions of involvement. For example, initiated and hosted meetings with a policymaker or lawmaker at the credit union to discuss credit union issues; visited officials in their Washington, D.C., or district offices; attended fundraisers; wrote letters; etc.
3. Describe the nominee's involvement in election campaigns.
4. Describe the nominee's involvement in Political Action Campaign fundraising. Include specific events coordinated or participated in, as well as amounts raised or given to the OCUL Political Action Committee, the Ohio Credit Union Legislative Action Committee, or to individual election campaigns.
5. Describe the nominee's involvement with regulators – state or national. Include description of interactions with regulators such as initiating and hosting meetings with a regulator to discuss regulatory issues, visiting regulators in their offices, writing letters, making phone calls, etc.

2010 Ohio Credit Union League Leadership Recognition Program

1) Describe the nominee's involvement with local and state policymakers and lawmakers...

Phil Buell's involvement with local, state, and federal policymakers and lawmakers, as with all his political actions, can only be described as tenacious. I have known and been involved with many of the meetings, conversations, and events that Phil has initiated over the past 13 years. The sheer number of activities and events prevent me from detailing all of his interactions with officials at the state and local levels. I am listing a few of the most notable.

- Asked by Lima's mayor to serve as the Treasurer for the Kibby Corners Development Corporation.
- Asked by Allen County Commissioners to serve as Treasurer for the Allen County Port Authority.
- Currently serves on the Lima/Allen County Chamber of Commerce Legislative Committee.
- Current member of the Chairman's Club for the Allen County Republican Party.
- Currently hosts Chamber of Commerce sponsored debates between candidates seeking federal, state, and local offices.
- Was instrumental in encouraging and supporting our now State Representative Matt Huffman to seek the seat.
- Worked diligently for State Senator Steve Buehrer in several elections by campaigning for him.
- Very active in Ohio Credit Union League Advocacy.
- There are no present and near former state-elected officials from Northwest or West Central Ohio that Phil has not met with and lobbied for credit unions' benefit.
- Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray and Ohio Auditor Mary Taylor have visited Superior FCU. Ohio Treasurer Kevin L. Boyce is scheduled to visit in February 2010.

Phil has demanded that the staff of Superior FCU be visible in the community at every possible event that would include elected officials. He takes much pride when an elected official states that those Superior people are everywhere. Phil has also become the go-to guy for local media for stories involving financial issues. In February 2009, *The Lima News* ran an article on Phil and Superior FCU entitled "A Superior Strategy".

2) Describe the nominee's involvement with national policymakers and lawmakers...

Phil Buell lives and breathes credit union advocacy on the national stage. His first lobbying trip to Washington D.C. was to press for passage of HR 1151 with Congressman Paul Gillmor. Being a bank owner, Congressman Gillmor did not support HR 1151 and ended up being one of only eight who opposed it during the House vote. That defeat only energized Phil to play offense even more. Since then, Phil has traveled to D.C. at least three times per year to advocate on behalf

of credit unions. Phil was selected by CUNA as the credit union representative during The House Financial Services Regulatory Relief Hearing in September 2005. Congressman Mike Oxley, Chairman of that Committee, remarked that Phil's testimony was crucial in bringing our message to Capital Hill. When Congressman Oxley announced his retirement, it was Phil who recognized Jim Jordan as a strong contender for that seat. Jordan's competition in the primary was a former banker, and it was Phil, who held credit union meetings, ran phone banks, as well as placing yard signs that helped Jordan to a win in the primary and the general election as well. Phil witnessed the swearing in of Congressman Jim Jordan from the congressman's office with other local constituents. He knows the job in Washington D.C. will never be complete and that is why he keeps the paper subway ticket, even if it only has pennies left on it as he knows he will soon be back and can add a few dollars to that ticket and travel around Washington D.C. pressing for credit union issues.

3) Describe the nominee's involvement in election campaigns.

Phil has been involved with many campaigns from local, state, and federal levels. As a hobby, he spends hours pouring over data to determine strategies not only for candidates but for credit unions' benefit as well. I have listed a few of the campaigns in which Phil personally participated.

- Kurt Neeper for Lima City Council.
- Otto Nicely for Defiance County Commissioner.
- Sam Crish for Allen County Sheriff.
- Jim Hoops for State Representative.
- Steve Buehrer for State Senator and U.S. Congress.
- Matt Huffman for State Representative.
- Lynn Wachtmann for State Representative.
- Bob Latta for U.S. Congress.
- Jim Jordan for U.S. Congress.

Phil was incorrect when he picked Steve Buehrer to win the primary election over Bob Latta for U.S. Congress. I occasionally remind Phil of that error. In the end, we created a credit union champion in the State Senate with Steve Buehrer. Even in the loss, Phil still won.

4) Describe the nominee's involvement in Political Action Campaign...

Phil has always been a strong supporter for OCULPAC and OCULAC. In 2006, he began the "Matching Funds Program" at Superior FCU. In the past three years, Superior FCU has raised nearly \$34,000.00 for our PAC. Phil is always at the highest leadership levels in personal donations to the PAC. He has been a PAC Trustee for the past six years and served as secretary, treasurer, and chairman. He has attended many fundraisers over the years but actually organized and hosted many fundraisers locally. The fundraisers he hosted for Representative Matt Huffman, Representative Jim Hoops, and Congressman Jim Jordan had great turnouts and truly show the credit union influence within our community.

5) Describe the nominee's involvement with regulators...

Phil has met with many of the present and past NCUA Board Members to discuss credit union issues over the years. He meets annually in Atlanta with Director Alonza Swann III and always expresses his opinion in comment letters to the NCUA. He has attended several NCUA Board meetings as well as meeting with Board Member Gigi Hyland discussing the data gathering project for credit unions.

Summary

I am fortunate to be included into this advocacy machine that Phil has created and that is why I feel that he truly deserves this award. Phil does not look for appreciation, he only looks for results. He would be critical of me for taking the time to complete this nomination. He would feel that my time would have been better used to press Jim Jordan on HR 3380, thank Matt Huffman for 317, or at least sold some loans. In the end, I hope that this award may inspire other credit union leaders to fight with the same obstinate passion that Phil Buell brings to the advocacy efforts for our nation's credit unions.

I sincerely want to thank you for your time and consideration.



Keith Eiden
EVP Lending and Sales
Superior Federal Credit Union