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NRCC Announces New 'On the Radar' and 'Contender' Candidates

Over 40 Republican Candidates Take Steps Toward 'Young Gun' Status

Washington - Today, the National Republican Congressional Committee announced today its first round of 'Contender' candidates and a new round of 'On the Radar' candidates as part of its Young Guns recruitment program. Originally founded in the 2007-2008 election cycle by Reps. Eric Cantor (R-VA), Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) and Paul Ryan (R-WI) as a member-driven organization, the Young Guns program has become an official NRCC program dedicated to electing open-seat and challenger candidates nationwide. These candidates have proven their ability to build a successful campaign structure and achieve important goals and benchmarks. Those reaching 'On the Radar' status have already taken the first of three steps toward reaching Young Guns status, while 'Contender' status candidates have exceeded the 'On the Radar' goals and have now reached the second step of the program.

"These candidates have become formidable contenders by meeting the rigorous goals laid out by the Young Guns program and putting in place the pieces for a winning campaign," said NRCC Chairman Pete Sessions. "The early progress of these candidates is not only a testament to the Young Guns program, it is a sign of the changing political environment that Democrats will have to face next year as a result of their big government policies and spending spree agenda. As these challengers continue to meet the benchmarks we have set for them, they are preparing themselves for tough campaigns to hold Democrats accountable for the big-government agenda they are inflicting on American families."

While already achieving certain benchmarks to place them on the road to victory, 'On the Radar' and 'Contender' candidates now face a new set of rigorous benchmarks that will continue to help them build competitive, effective and winning campaigns.

The NRCC's 'On The Radar' and 'Contender' Candidates Are:

Contender:

Martha Roby (AL-02)
Cory Gardner (CO-04)
Dennis Ross (FL-12)
Vaughn Ward (ID-01)
Andy Harris (MD-01)
Frank Guinta (NH-01)
Steve Pearce (NM-02)
Steve Chabot (OH-01)
Steve Stivers (OH-15)

On the Radar:

Jesse Kelly (AZ-08)
Tim Griffin (AR-02)
Justin Bernier (CT-05)
Ryan Frazier (CO-07)
Allen West (FL-22)
Beth Coulson (IL-10)
Dick Green (IL-10)
Bob Dold (IL-10)
Ethan Hastert (IL-14)
Todd Young (IN-09)
Alan Nunnelee (MS-01)
Tim Walberg (MI-07)
Vickie Hartzler (MO-04)
Bill Stouffer (MO-04)
Ed Martin (MO-03)
Lou Huddleston (NC-08)
Randy Altschuler (NY-01)
Michael Allegretti (NY-13)
Nan Hayworth (NY-19)
Tom Reed (NY-29)
Jim Renacci (OH-16)
Bob Gibbs (OH-18)
Rob Cornilles (OR-01)
Steven Welch (PA-06)
Pat Meehan (PA-07)
Dan Kapanke (WI-03)
Scott DesJarlais (TN-04)
Stephen Fincher (TN-08)
Scott Rigell (VA-02)
Keith Fimian (VA-11)
Sean Duffy (WI-07)

Reid Ribble (WI-08)

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