**Robert Conway – Candidate for Commissioner for Agriculture**

1.) **What sets you apart from the other candidates?**

I believe that my business expertise, coupled with my background in farming are the two areas that separate me from the other candidates. We often forget how important the Department of Agriculture is to this state and that it is a business, first and foremost, with over two hundred employees and a 50 million dollar budget that must be managed. I have been a Regional Director at General Electric. I have handled budgets in access of 65 million dollars and I have been responsible for managing 2,000 employees. My Democratic challenger has never been in charge of an operation that large. I have more experience farming than the incumbent, a lawyer who has never had a client.

2.) **How are you going to bring Kentucky into the future?**

I, like all of the other candidates, is a staunch advocate for hemp and all of the possibilities that it could bring the struggling farmers in Kentucky. Unlike my opponents, however, I wouldn't simply stop with hemp. I am a proponent of the cultivation and sale of medicinal marijuana across the state. It would be lucrative for Kentucky's family farmers and it would ease the suffering of thousands of citizens suffering from debilitating illnesses like cancer. I also propose completely revitalizing our state's agricultural education programs and promoting farming to a new generation of Kentuckians. Its time that we look to green alternatives for our state as well, such as solar energy and hydroponic farming.

3.) **What are your goals if elected?**

My goals, if elected, are to incorporate many of the ideas that I have mentioned relating to the future into action. I also want to save the small family farms across this state. They are being developed at record rates because our farmers are unable to survive the current agricultural and economic climates. Our incumbent is a career politician, with greater political aspirations, and he has left many of the people that need him the most behind. I pledge to help save our farms and help our farmers.

4.) **How do you plan on addressing income inequality in Kentucky?**

Income inequality in the agricultural sector is one of the reasons that we are losing so many farmers to other industries. I will promote things beyond tobacco and soy beans that will have a positive impact on the state's economy. I will make farming more appealing as a vocational opportunity for our youth.