



Rep. Terry Nealey, R-Dayton



Terry Nealey was born in Walla Walla and raised on a farm in Whitman County. The 16th District lawmaker attended LaCrosse High School and graduated from Washington State University and Gonzaga University School of Law.

While at Washington State University, Terry participated in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) where he received honors as a Distinguished Military Graduate. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army and served as an officer in the military police in Maryland and Korea.

Following military service, Terry graduated from law school and became a member of the Washington State Bar Association. He served as the Columbia County prosecuting attorney and coroner, and retired from his private practice in 2015.

Terry has a strong family history of public service and community involvement. He was the founder of the Columbia County Economic Development Committee, served on the board of directors for the Blue Mountain Community Foundation, and served on the board of trustees for the First Christian Church of Dayton. Terry has been a member of the Columbia County Courthouse Renovation Committee, Washington State Cattlemen's Association, Washington Association of Wheat Growers, and Columbia County Farm Bureau. He is also active in Dayton with Young Life, Kiwanis, and the Chamber of Commerce. Terry and his former law-firm partner, Scott Marinella, donated the Liberty Theater in Dayton to the Touchet Valley Arts Council, a non-profit organization.

Elected in 2009, Terry's legislative priorities continue to be: creating jobs; keeping tax rates low; providing a quality education for our children; allowing farmers to be productive without fighting excessive regulations; making good use of local energy resources; and ensuring fiscal responsibility with state government.

In addition to serving as ranking Republican on the House Finance Committee, and a member of the House Technology and Economic Development Committee, Terry also is a voting member of the state's Economic and Revenue Forecast Council.

Terry is a lifelong Eastern Washington resident and resides in Dayton with his wife, Jan. They have two children, Keith and Kristin, and five grandchildren. In his free time, Terry enjoys spending time with his family and playing golf and basketball.