

# HOUSTON VOTERS GUIDE

YOUR NON-PARTISAN ELECTION RESOURCE FOR HARRIS COUNTY

MARCH 3, 2026 • GENERAL & SPECIAL ELECTION • POLLS OPEN 7AM TO 7PM



# YOU ARE ABOUT TO BE AN **INFORMED VOTER**



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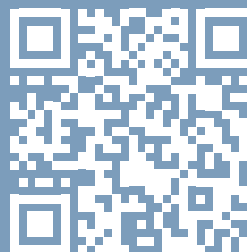


**PRINT**

2



**WEB**



**Get the Election  
Information You  
Need in the  
Format You Want!**

[HoustonVotersGuide.org](https://HoustonVotersGuide.org)

## KNOW ANY **YOUNG VOTERS?**

Text them the info about  
our guide and help them  
get ready to vote!

### Voter Registration by Age Group:



**18-24**  
**58.0%**



**25-34**  
**68.4%**



**35-44**  
**73.0%**



**45-64**  
**76.0%**



**65+**  
**77.9%**

SOURCE: Voting and Registration in the Election of November 2024:  
[www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/voting-and-registration/p20-587.html](https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/voting-and-registration/p20-587.html)

➔ **[HoustonVotersGuide.com](https://HoustonVotersGuide.com)**

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## ON THE COVER

Cover photo features LWWH Staff, board and volunteer members on Houston's Sabine Street Bridge.

PHOTO BY: IRBY PACE | [IRBYPACE.COM](http://IRBYPACE.COM)

## EARLY VOTING

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 - FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27**

- WEEKDAYS: 7am-7pm
- SATURDAY (February 21): 7am-7pm
- SUNDAY (February 22): 12pm-7pm
- FRIDAY (February 27): 7am-7pm



## ELECTION DAY

**TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026:  
7am - 7pm**



## 5 SIMPLE STEPS TO VIEW YOUR BALLOT ONLINE

1. Go to [HoustonVotersGuide.org](http://HoustonVotersGuide.org).
2. Click on Sample Ballot.
3. Enter your name, your address or your Voter Registration Certificate Number.
4. Make sure your personal information is correct, then click on "Sample Ballot" to view your ballot just as it will look when you go to vote.
5. You may print your sample ballot, take notes, and bring it with you when you go to vote.



## THINGS VOTERS SHOULD KNOW

### PHOTO ID IS REQUIRED TO VOTE IN PERSON IN ALL TEXAS ELECTIONS

Those voting in person either early or on Election Day will be required to present photo identification or an acceptable alternative identification allowed by law. Go to [page 6](#) for details.

### ANY HARRIS COUNTY POLLING LOCATION CAN BE YOUR POLLING PLACE

All Harris County polling places are now Voting Centers! Choose the location that is most convenient to you — you no longer have to return to your home precinct to vote. Go to [www.harrisvotes.com/waittimes](http://www.harrisvotes.com/waittimes) or call **713-755-6965** to find the location nearest to you. Bonus! By using the link, you will also be able to see which locations have the shortest wait times.

### BALLOT BY MAIL

Voters may cast mail ballots if they are at least 65 years old, if they will be out of Harris County during the Early Voting period and on Election Day, if they are sick or disabled, if they are expecting to give birth within three weeks before or after Election Day, or if they are incarcerated but eligible to vote. You can now track the progress of your ballot by going to [www.harrisvotes.com](http://www.harrisvotes.com). Click on Vote by Mail then on Mail Ballot Tracking.

### VOTING IS YOUR RIGHT

Should you encounter any problems at the poll, you may always ask to cast a Provisional Ballot and have the opportunity to correct any problem; see [page 6](#) for details about "curing" a Provisional Ballot. You may also contact the Harris County Clerk's Office of the Elections Administrator at 713-755-6965, the Texas Secretary of State Elections Division at 1-800-252-8683, the United States Department of Justice at 1-800-253-3931, or Election Protection at 1-866-OUR VOTE (687-8683), if you believe that your right to vote is being unlawfully denied or impeded.



**GET THE ELECTION  
INFORMATION YOU NEED**  
**HOUSTONVOTERSGUIDE.ORG**







# Your VOTE is Your VOICE

Voting is important because you are important! Register to vote so you have the opportunity to cast a ballot. When you vote, you help elect officials who set policy that will impact nearly every part of our lives, from education to taxes to medical care to law enforcement. When you vote YOU help to decide who represents us and how we will be governed.



## UNDERSTANDING PRIMARY ELECTIONS: WHY THEY MATTER AND HOW THEY SHAPE MIDTERMS

Primary elections play a critical role in our democratic process. They determine which candidates will appear on the ballot in the general election and give voters a direct voice in shaping who represents them at every level of government.

Understanding how primary elections work helps voters make informed choices, participate with confidence, and engage more fully in elections, from local offices to national races.

### What Is a Primary Election?

A primary election is an election held by political parties to select their candidates for the general election. Rather than choosing between parties, voters in a primary choose which candidate will represent a party in the next stage of the election.

In Texas, primary elections are held in even-numbered years, including midterm election years.

Depending on the state and election, primary systems may include:

- **Open primaries:** Voters choose which party's primary to vote in, regardless of party affiliation
- **Closed primaries:** Voters must be registered with a political party to participate
- **Multi-Party primaries:** All candidates, regardless of party, are listed on a single ballot and the top candidates advance to the general election.

Runoff elections are held if no candidate receives the required number of votes to win outright. Tuesday, May 26, 2026, is date of the Primary Runoff Election.

**Texas uses open primaries, meaning voters may choose one party's primary to vote in, but may only vote in one primary per election.**

### Why Primary Elections Matter

Primary elections often see lower voter turnout than general elections, but their impact is just as significant, and in many cases, even more decisive.

Primary elections:

- Decide which candidates advance to the general election
- Shape the policy direction and priorities of political parties
- Influence which names appear on the November ballot
- Give voters a voice earlier in the election process

In many races, particularly local offices or districts dominated by one party, the winner of the primary often goes on to win the general election. That makes participation in primaries especially important.

### How Primaries Connect to Midterm Elections

Midterm elections take place halfway through a president's four-year term and include races for:

- U.S. Congress
- State and legislative offices
- Judicial, county, and local positions

Primary elections are the first step in all of these races.

The candidates chosen in the primaries:

- Become the official nominees in the midterm election
- Set the tone, priorities, and issues debated in the general election
- Determine the choices voters see on their final ballot

Without participating in primaries, voters miss a key opportunity to shape the field of candidates before the general election even begins.

### Why Your Participation Matters

Even when outcomes may feel predictable, primaries allow voters to compare candidates' experience, leadership, and priorities, and to help decide who advances to the next stage.

Voting in a primary election helps ensure:

- Stronger representation in your community
- A more informed and engaged electorate
- Greater accountability from candidates
- A healthier, more responsive democracy



## 2026 Important Primary Dates

FEB 2

Last day to register to vote or update your registration

FEB 17

First day to vote early in person

FEB 20

Last day for Vote by Mail ballot application to be received

FEB 27

Last day to vote early in person

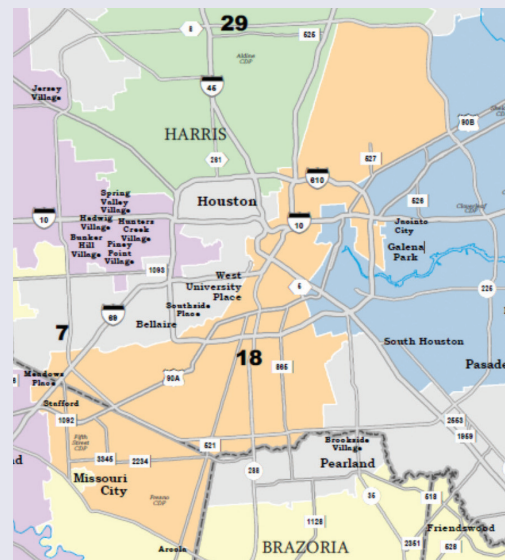
MAR 3

Election Day and last day for Vote by Mail ballots

HOUSTONVOTERSGUIDE.ORG

TO EXPLORE UPCOMING ELECTIONS AND VOTING RESOURCES





# VOTING IN PERSON? YOU MUST BRING ONE OF THESE PHOTO IDs

With the exception of the U.S. citizenship certificate, the identification must be current or, for voters aged 18-69, have expired no more than 4 years before being presented for voter qualification at the polling place.

A person 70 years of age or older may use a form of identification listed below that has expired if the identification is otherwise valid.



Texas driver license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)



Texas personal identification card issued by DPS



Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS



U. S. military identification card containing the person's photograph



Texas license to carry a handgun issued by DPS



United States citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph



United States passport

## VOTERS WHO CURRENTLY DO NOT HAVE AN APPROVED FORM OF PHOTO ID

may apply for an Election Identification Certificate (EIC) at no charge with the Department of Public Safety.

For more information:

**CALL (512) 424-2600**

**OR VISIT**

[www.dps.texas.gov/DriverLicense/electionID.htm](http://www.dps.texas.gov/DriverLicense/electionID.htm)

## DO NOT POSSESS AND CANNOT REASONABLY OBTAIN ONE OF THESE IDS?

Bring one of the following supporting documents to the polling place. The election official will help you complete a form and you'll be able to vote.

- Valid Voter Registration Certificate
- Certified Birth Certificate (must be an original)
- Copy of or original Bank Statement
- Copy of or original Government check or paycheck
- Copy of or original current Utility Bill
- Copy of or original government document with your name and an address (original required if it contains a photograph)

If you have questions or concerns about acceptable form of ID, check before heading to the polling place by calling 713.755.6965 or visiting [www.harrisvotes.com](http://www.harrisvotes.com)

## "CURING" A PROVISIONAL BALLOT

Voters who are unable to provide an acceptable form of photo ID or an acceptable supporting document may vote provisionally. Voters will need to sign a provisional affidavit and will have until **Monday, March 9, 2026** to cure their ballot by bringing an acceptable form of identification to the Harris County Clerk's Office.

# DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY ELECTION

## U. S. SENATOR • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Six-year term. One of two members of the U.S. Senate from Texas. Along with the U.S. House, the Senate makes laws; raises revenues, appropriates federal funds and manages the federal debt; regulates commerce among states and with other nations; declares war and maintains and regulates the military; establishes the federal court system and defines federal crimes; and directs the census every ten years. The Senate has the exclusive power to advise and consent on presidential nominations to executive and judicial offices, to ratify U.S. treaties, and to try impeachments. Current annual salary: \$175,000

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ECONOMY:** What specific policies would you support to address the growing wealth gap between the highest and lowest earners, and what do you see as the appropriate role of the federal government in this issue?

**IMMIGRATION:** What policy changes would you propose to make the U.S. immigration system more effective and humane?

**BALANCE OF POWER:** The Constitution establishes a system of checks and balances among the three branches of government. As a Senator, what specific actions would you take to preserve the system so that the federal government can serve the people?

**HEALTHCARE:** What role should the federal government play in promoting a healthy American population, and what steps would you take to ensure that healthcare is affordable and accessible for all Americans?



#### James Talarico

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I'm a former middle school teacher, and I've served in the Texas House for eight years. As a Democrat in the Republican-controlled House, I've proven that I can fight back and win for working people.

**ECONOMY:** We need a government that serves working people instead of giant corporations by: closing tax loopholes that billionaires exploit, raising the corporate tax, raising the tax on corporate stock buybacks, raising the minimum wage to \$15, and incentivizing CEOs to raise wages by creating a special tax on corporations that pay their top executives more than 250 times their median worker's salary.

**IMMIGRATION:** Our border should be like a front porch — a giant welcome mat out front and a lock on the door. I'd propose modernizing ports of entry to detect threats before they enter the country, hiring more asylum judges to process cases quickly, stopping ICE abuses so they focus on deporting criminals instead of community members, passing the DREAM Act, and creating clear pathways to citizenship.

Website: [jamestalarico.com](http://jamestalarico.com)

**BALANCE OF POWER:** I will support legislation to ban super PACs, cap campaign contributions, ban partisan gerrymandering and Congressional stock trading, expand voter access by passing the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, and impose term limits on Supreme Court justices and hold them to higher ethical standards.

**HEALTHCARE:** In the legislature, I passed laws capping insulin at \$25 and importing cheaper drugs into the US. As Senator, I'll ensure every American can access a federal healthcare option like Medicare, cap copays for additional prescription drugs, protect reproductive care, and save rural hospitals. I'll protect Medicaid, Medicare, and the Affordable Care Act and fully fund the VA.



#### Jasmine Crockett

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I'm a civil rights & criminal defense multi-jurisdictional 20 year licensed attorney who served in the Texas House & in Congress as Vice Ranking Member on Oversight & a Ranker on Judiciary Committee.

**ECONOMY:** I'll repeal the Trump tariffs that are hurting American consumers and reform our tax structure to ensure the ultra-wealthy pay their fair share. This will allow us to deliver relief to the middle and working class and assistance for first-time home buyers and small businesses. Costs have gone up but wages haven't, which is why I'm co-sponsoring the Raise the Wage Act to increase the minimum wage.

**IMMIGRATION:** I support comprehensive immigration reform that prioritizes a pathway to citizenship that's secure, timely, and easy to navigate. In Congress, I introduced the CLEAR ID Act requiring ICE agents to identify themselves and co-lead the Protecting Sensitive Locations Act to limit immigration enforcement at healthcare facilities, schools, courthouses, and houses of worship.

Website: [jasmineforus.com](http://jasmineforus.com)

**BALANCE OF POWER:** I serve on the Judiciary Committee, the Supreme Court Task Force & am a multi-jurisdictionally licensed attorney of 20 years. We need to expand the court, which has been done 7 times before, and also need ethics reform as this group of justices has revealed itself to be compromised; i.e. Presidential Immunity.

**HEALTHCARE:** I'm a proud cosponsor of Medicare For All. We must fully cover preventative health care, cap out-of-pocket costs, and eliminate premiums, deductibles, and co-pays. In Congress, I've cosponsored bills to: lower drug costs, allow Medicare coverage for cancer early detection screening, and address the mental health crisis by training providers. Our health care system must center patients, not profits

Ahmad R. Hassan

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Two-year term. One of 38 members of the U.S. House of Representatives from Texas. Along with the U.S. Senate, the House of Representatives makes laws; raises revenues, appropriates federal funds and manages the federal debt; regulates commerce among states and with other nations; declares war and maintains and regulates the military; establishes the federal court system and defines federal crimes; and directs the census every ten years. The House has the exclusive power to impeach federal officers, including the President. Current annual salary: \$175,000

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 8

U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 8 • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

NO PHOTO  
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### Keith Coleman

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Keith Coleman served 22 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, beginning as an enlisted Marine and later serving as a commissioned officer after being promoted by General Colin Powell, including service as General Powell's paralegal during the Iran-Contra investigation. He later served on the Illinois State House of Representatives' Military Initiatives Advisory Team, gaining experience in state legislative affairs. Mr. Coleman also brings private-sector experience from United Airlines and helped develop a \$30 million educational initiative with Walmart. A local business owner and retired educator, his career spans K-12 education, college teaching, and higher education administration, reflecting a lifelong commitment to service and leadership.

Website: [www.colemanfortexas.com](http://www.colemanfortexas.com)

**ISSUES:** I am dedicated to building a forward-looking economy that supports small businesses, fosters innovation, and creates high-paying jobs. I believe in policies that drive sustainable growth while expanding economic opportunity and workforce development. I am committed to strengthening our healthcare system to ensure that every American has access to high-quality, affordable care, including preventative services, mental health resources, and support for families and seniors. My goal is to empower communities and create a stronger, more resilient future where individuals, families, and businesses can thrive.

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### Laura Jones

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I'm qualified because my life mirrors yours. As a real estate broker and farmer, I know small business and economic struggle. As former County Chair, I know how to organize and build coalitions. As a four-time candidate and activist, I've listened—the best solutions come from the ground up. I feel the impact of bad policy daily, from healthcare costs to stagnant wages. I am not a disconnected politician; I am one of you, and I will take our shared, practical knowledge to Congress to fight for us.

Website: [laura4tx.com](http://laura4tx.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues are economic injustice and a broken healthcare system. My specific plans are to champion a federal living wage and push for fully funded education from early childhood through college or trade school via legislation like the College for All Act, and fight to pass and expand Medicare for All to guarantee healthcare as a right, while immediately lowering drug costs by allowing Medicare to negotiate prices.

## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 9

U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 9 • DEMOCRATIC PARTY



### Terry Virts

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I spent over 30 years in the USAF as an F-16 pilot with 45 combat missions over Iraq, a test pilot, and a NASA astronaut with over 7 months in outer space, including commanding the ISS. Since retiring I have been a small business owner and worked at NOV as an energy transition consultant, mostly working on carbon capture in the oil and gas industry. My experiences and perspectives are unique, including growing up in a working class / union family, working in the energy industry, and working with executives and government officials around the world as a guest-lecturer at Harvard Business School.

Website: [www.terryvirts.com](http://www.terryvirts.com)

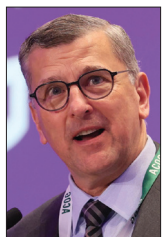
**ISSUES:** Affordability- I will work to lower health care costs by increasing supply- more doctors, hospitals, MRI machines, nurses, generic drugs, etc. I will also restore ACA subsidies and Medicaid eligibility. I also believe the inhumane treatment of immigrants needs to end- I will reduce the size of ICE, require them to not wear masks unless on a tactical mission, and re-focus the agency to go after criminals.



### Marty Rocha

**QUALIFICATIONS:** During my Law Enforcement career, I have witnessed the challenges and opportunities that have shaped the communities in District 9. I believe that my experience as a Law Enforcement Officer uniquely qualifies me to contribute meaningfully to the well-being of all citizens in the new District 9. I have witnessed the struggle of the common people. The Battle which they continue fighting for their rights. I know winning this fight won't be easy and I know it will be hard but I'm ready for the challenge. The future is ours if we come together and strive hard enough. I am ready to lead us to better tomorrow.

**ISSUES:** Educating our community the importance of getting out to vote. By demonstrating that the beginning of goodness is to stand on one's own feet. That the future hangs over us, and we are the masters of our future so therefore act and vote. Second not knowing what is important to certain areas of the district. Throughout my career, I have demonstrated a commitment to integrity and effective leadership. I'm committed to addressing the concerns and enthusiasm about working together to implement positive changes. I am ready to engage in a dialogue with community members to gain a deeper understanding of the issues that matter most to them. My goal is to foster a transparent dialogue that reflects the diverse voices in the community.



## Todd Ivey

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Our nation is suffering particularly in the areas of health care, cost of living, and voting, reproductive, immigrants, LGBTQ+, and other human rights. My 32 years of experience as a practicing OB/Gyn physician have prepared me to be a strong leader particularly in these areas of need. My willingness to listen, to learn, to critically evaluate, to speak out, and to generate solutions along with my experience, record of leadership on national, state, and local levels, and my adherence to strong ethical principles make me qualified for this office.

**Website:** [www.drtdoddforcongress.com](http://www.drtdoddforcongress.com)

**ISSUES:** 1. Health care disparities - We must lower costs, expand mental health and substance abuse services, emphasize preventative care (instead of problem-based care), support nutrition programs, create truly affordable housing, and continue the work to improve healthcare systems. 2. High cost of living - We must develop and invest in truly affordable housing including lower rents, low interest loans for home ownership, and lower insurance costs.

NO PHOTO  
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## Leticia Gutierrez

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am uniquely qualified to represent Texas' CD9 because I am a product of this district; raised here, shaped by its communities and deeply connected to the people who live and work here. Growing up as an immigrant in CD9, I understand firsthand the challenges families face with healthcare, jobs, and safe neighborhoods. For over 15+ years, I've worked in environmental advocacy & public health, holding polluters accountable and bringing community voices to policymakers, including DC to strengthen air pollution standards. I am a Rice University Community Fellow, serve on the Keep Houston Clean Commission, volunteer with Food Not Bombs, and mentor youth through HERO. I am bilingual and committed to community-driven, transparent policy.

**Website:** [www.leticiaforcongress.com](http://www.leticiaforcongress.com)

**ISSUES:** EVERYDAY AFFORDABILITY: With rising costs of everyday necessities like groceries, families are having to make hard decisions about big investments like healthcare and housing. I will focus on raising wages, creating quality local jobs, expanding access to health and childcare, and ensuring residents near the port and industrial corridor can access higher-paying positions. KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON AND THE WATER RUNNING: From Hurricane Harvey, to the Derecho, I want to ensure that our infrastructure is prepared to take care of you. From aging pipes, power lines, freeways and more, our district should feel safe in their homes. I will address by holding our infrastructure to a higher standard and expanding disaster preparedness.

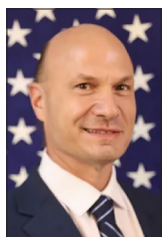


## Earnest Clayton, Jr.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring over twenty years of experience in public health, education, and public policy, with training as an epidemiologist and health educator. My work has focused on helping communities understand how laws and public policy affect their health, access to services, and overall well-being. I have managed federally funded programs, ensured regulatory compliance, and partnered with community and Faith-based organizations to address mental health, healthcare access, and basic needs. I am analytical, collaborative, and community-centered, with a strong commitment to evidence-based decision-making and public accountability.

**Website:** [www.earnestclayton.com](http://www.earnestclayton.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues I will face in Congress are affordability and protecting Medicare and Medicaid. Families are struggling with rising healthcare, housing, and everyday costs. I will oppose cuts to Medicare and Medicaid, work to lower prescription drug prices, and expand access to affordable care. I will also support policies that reduce out-of-pocket healthcare costs, strengthen economic protections for working families, and ensure federal programs remain strong, accessible, and responsive to the needs of seniors, people with disabilities, and low-income families.



## Peter Filler

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I offer 30+ years of professional experience across three vital sectors: education, finance, and resource management. My qualifications are rooted in three core traits: Honesty, Unity, and Trust. As an educator, I have been trusted with our children's futures for a decade. As a Realtor and tax preparer, I am trusted with my neighbors' largest financial transactions. I bring that same integrity to Congress. I am a Unifier who will join the Problem Solvers Caucus to fix our broken immigration and healthcare systems. I will be an Honest voice against "DOAG" (Dismantling of the Apparatus of Government), protecting our local Houston services from reckless cuts. I am a builder, not a wrecker, dedicated to being the "Voice of the People."

**Website:** [PeterFiller.com](http://PeterFiller.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues are economic instability and partisan gridlock. First, I will eliminate DOAG the Dismantling of the Apparatus of Government. Reckless federal cuts shift the tax burden onto Houstonians. I plan to drive prosperity by investing in clean energy and AI data centers, supported by fixing our failing water infrastructure to stop waste and create high-paying jobs. Second, I will join the Problem Solvers Caucus to move past partisan bickering. As a unifier, I will lead efforts on restructuring our debt with China, passing comprehensive immigration reform, and tackling rising insurance costs. By protecting the systems that serve us and modernizing our infrastructure, we can secure a stable, thriving future for District 9



## Christian Dashaun Menefee

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I'm qualified for this position because my life and my work have prepared me for it. I'm the son of two veterans, a product of Houston public schools, and the first in my family to graduate from college. As Harris County Attorney, I've led an office of over 300 people and fought every day for the people of Harris County. I've taken on Trump and Abbott when they tried to cut healthcare, attack workers, undermine our elections, and make government work against everyday people, and I've won. I bring real legal experience, executive leadership, and a track record of turning progressive values into results. I fight hard, lead with integrity, and stay accountable to the communities that raised me.

Website: [www.christianmenefee.com](http://www.christianmenefee.com)

**ISSUES:** First, protecting our democracy. Voting rights are not abstract to me, they are personal. In Texas, I have taken on the toughest fights to protect access to the ballot, beating back lawsuits that tried to throw out votes and working to expand access, including making our county jail a polling place. In Congress, I will fight tooth and nail to pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, same day and online voter registration, and strong protections for election workers. Second, lowering costs and reinvesting in our neighborhoods. Too many families are working hard and still falling behind. I will fight to lower healthcare and prescription drug costs, expand childcare, protect Medicaid and food assistance, increase housing supply, and



## Amanda Edwards

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My qualifications are rooted in our community: I was born, raised, and educated right here; from graduating from Eisenhower High School to working for Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee's district office. As your At-Large City Council Member, I didn't just talk about problems—I delivered solutions, authoring reforms that closed budget gaps while protecting city workers, launching initiatives to get capital into the hands of women- and minority-owned small businesses, and leading our city's push into a future of innovation and transit. My professional background as a public finance attorney means I know exactly how to bring home the bacon for the needs of our community from housing, to infrastructure, education and climate resilience.

Website: [www.EdwardsForHouston.com](http://www.EdwardsForHouston.com)

**ISSUES:** (1) Healthcare is a matter of life and death for our families and we need to build an economy where everyone has a fair shot to thrive. Having lost both of my parents to cancer, I know policy is personal. I will go to Congress with a specific, urgent plan: to expand Medicaid, codify Roe v. Wade, champion the Momnibus Act to end our maternal mortality crisis, and protect access to gender-affirming and HIV/AIDS care. (2) On the economy, my "People's Plan" is clear. I will fight to fund community lenders, support apprenticeships, and raise the minimum wage to at least \$15 an hour. And with my finance background, I will ensure our district gets its fair share of federal investment for flood mitigation, affordable housing, and infrastructure.



## Gretchen Brown

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My nearly three decades of service sit at the intersection of federal agencies and the congressional legislative process, where I've worked on some of the most complex challenges facing our nation. I've spent my career operating within the federal framework to solve real problems and get things done — under pressure and when the stakes were high. This experience enables me to push for effective policy, secure tangible resources, and bring those gains home to our streets, our schools, and our neighborhoods — with the discipline, clarity, and steadiness this work requires.

Website: [www.gretchenbrownforcongress.com](http://www.gretchenbrownforcongress.com)

**ISSUES:** The first pressing issue is ensuring that federal resources actually reach the communities they're meant to serve. I'll use my federal experience to tighten oversight of how funds move through agencies, improve coordination with local partners, and target appropriations toward projects our district identifies as priorities, so they deliver real improvements. The second pressing issue is rebuilding trust in how government works. I'll provide regular district updates, strengthen constituent services, and clearly communicate what's being delivered and why.



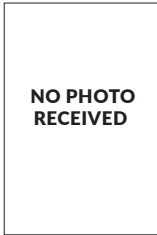
## Al Green

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am an unbought, unbossed, unafraid, liberated democrat who fights for: quality healthcare for all, equal access to economic opportunities for all, the preservation of Social Security, quality schools, rights of workers, comprehensive immigration reform, and an end to systemic injustice. You know I will fight the invidious phobias, isms, and schisms antithetical to liberty and justice for all because I'm fighting them now. • I have been elected to serve you as a Member of Congress for more than 20 years • I am a licensed attorney • 25 years experience as a Judge of a Justice Court • I was President of the Houston NAACP for 10 years • I was a Chair for the Black and Brown Coalition • I have lived life from the bottom up, not the top down

Website: [algreen.org](http://algreen.org)

**ISSUES:** The two issues are affordability and protecting liberty and justice for all. 1. Affordability in: • Purchasing or renting a home which will require some deregulation in tandem with down payment assistance and subsidies • Healthcare cost which for the short term requires passing supportive subsidies to prevent unaffordable premiums and save lives. • Purchasing power which will require wages to (at minimum) keep pace with inflation. 2. Protect liberty and justice for all from a would be king/dictator by impeaching, convicting, and removing him from office.



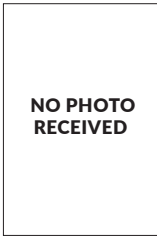


**Robert "Puga" Thomas**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a current City Councilman, on the Board of Directors of Economic Development, and retired NASA Engineer

**ISSUES:** Bringing down the cost of living, preserving social security, affordable care insurance. My plan is to create and write bills and support legislative laws that will protect each of these issues.

Website: [robertforchange.com](http://robertforchange.com)



**Marquette Greene-Scott**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am an attorney licensed in Texas and Louisiana and I am a former educator. I am currently Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Iowa Colony. I have been on city council since May 2021. Being on city council affords me the opportunity to make policy decisions based on the issues and how they will affect the residents of the city without the blur of party lines. I make my decisions looking at the long-term effects of our policies. As a result, I have consistently shown the vision, experience, and determination to get things done.

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues that I will face in Congress are the healthcare crises and the affordability crisis. 1) Healthcare: Millions of Americans are going to lose their healthcare because Congress is allowing the Affordable Care Act subsidies to expire. We must pass universal healthcare. Having health insurance should not be tied to employment or economic status. It is the right of every American to have healthcare. It is a right, not a privilege. 2) Affordability: Housing, healthcare, childcare, education, and the cost of everyday goods have all surged, but incomes have not. Congress must raise the federal minimum wage. We need to expand tax credits for working families and lower the costs for housing, healthcare, and essentials.

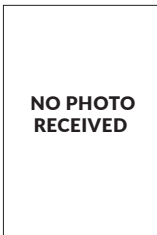
Website: [marquettegreenescott.com](http://marquettegreenescott.com)



**Chris Fernandez**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** In serving my community over the last 20 years has allowed me to better identify and provide solutions to my community's life questions. Having been an editor of a three county newspaper has enriched my knowledge of understanding and has allowed me to experience our people's needs in the area of health and economics. Thirdly, I have both endorsed, volunteered or covered many of our past political campaigns. Additionally I have Edited & Authored real immigration Reform in the past (2010). I have seen both the growth & decline of the political panorama and am well versed in our communities needs. Because its about our children, mothers, grandmother's and husbands that makes up our District.

**ISSUES:** Economic Affordability & Healthcare This Administration has decimated our economy and has cut into Healthcare not to mention that of veterans. The economic relief can only come from real Immigration Reform. Allowing for immigrants to work and not be seized by ICE will both quickly allow food to be put on the table & drop inflation and food shortage scares down, thus providing reinforcement to an already downed economy. The Healthcare status of this country is fading to grey. Injection of Healthcare Preventative Medicine will greatly provide relief of an already failing Healthcare System. \* (PCA) PREVENTIVE CARE ACT: This proposal will allow for the following: - MEDICAL OR MENTAL EXAM (15) MIN - X-RAYS - ENHANCE EXISTING BE



**Sterling Gadison**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Having had extensive experience working for seven years in industrial control systems with concentration in cybersecurity and five years as a civil servant managing contracts for the Department of Defense, I am knowledgeable about many industries. My work spans from oil refineries here and abroad, to military digital technologies for the US and its Allies. My experience has allowed me to see first hand how the decisions made in Washington affect the health, work, and life of everyday Americans.

**ISSUES:** The most pressing issues that I will face in office are 1) the economic condition of the average American, and 2) keeping pace with the effects of technological advances. My goal is to make sure that those affected at this time have the resources to maintain their wellbeing. In addition, I aim to build industries while protecting and invigorating communities across the United States. To accomplish these, I will focus on three things: 1) Guaranteeing Universal Healthcare for all Americans, 2) Maintaining the Security of our Nation and its citizens, and 3) Developing the Workforce to support these initiatives through training and jobs.

**Pearl Vuorinen**

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 29



**Sylvia Garcia**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring decades of public service experience, including serving as City Controller, Harris County Commissioner, Texas State Senator, and as a Member of Congress. I am a former judge and attorney with deep knowledge of public budgeting, law, and government accountability. My experience allows me to effectively advocate for my constituents and deliver tangible results.

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues I will face are protecting democracy and voting rights and ensuring economic security. Safeguarding the right to vote and maintaining trust in our democratic institutions is fundamental. I will continue to support legislation that expands access to the ballot, combats voter suppression, and strengthens transparency and accountability in government. At the same time, families are struggling with rising housing, health care, and everyday costs. I will work to expand access to affordable housing and health care, protect Social Security and Medicare, and promote fair wages and consumer protections. My focus is responsible, results-driven governance that strengthens democracy and improves quality of life.

Website: [www.sylviaforcongress.com](http://www.sylviaforcongress.com)

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 29  
continued on page 12

## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 29 (continued from page 11)

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 29  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Robert Slater

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



**Jarvis D. Johnson**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring nearly two decades of public service, legislative experience, & community leadership to this role. I served as a Houston City Council Member & Texas State Representative, representing communities that make up 90% of the NEW District 29. I have passed legislation, secured funding for infrastructure, housing, & public safety, & worked across government to deliver results. As a small business owner, I understand the challenges facing working families & job creators. I am known as a steady, accessible leader who listens, builds coalitions, & fights for everyday people. That experience prepares me to serve effectively on day one.

**Website:** [www.jarvisjohnsonforus.com](http://www.jarvisjohnsonforus.com)

**ISSUES:** Access to Healthcare: I will expand access & lower costs by expanding Medicaid to cover working families, postpartum mothers & uninsured seniors. I will protect reproductive healthcare & ensure medical decisions are made by patients & doctors, not politicians. I support allowing Medicare to negotiate drug prices & cap out-of-pocket costs. Public Education: I will strengthen public education by increasing federal investment in high-need districts like District 29, fully funding Title I & expanding special & bilingual education. I will support vocational & trade education through career & technical programs, partnerships with community colleges & labor unions, & workforce training that leads to good-paying jobs.

## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 36

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 36 • DEMOCRATIC PARTY



**Rhonda Hart**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** In 2018, I became a surviving parent of the Santa Fe HS mass shooting. Since then, I have had training in the gun violence circles on public speaking. I have had experience passing bills at the federal level (2022 Bipartisan Safe Communities Act) and at the Texas state level (2023 SB 435). I am pursuing a degree in political science at the University of Houston. I am also an Army Veteran (MOS 88K).

**Website:** [www.hart4congress.com](http://www.hart4congress.com)

**ISSUES:** Americans are most worried about the cost of living and healthcare right now. I would work with my colleagues in the House to find solutions to these issues.

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

**Doug Alan Rogers**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have dedicated my professional career to investigating and stopping corporate fraud and abuse. I am a registered CPA and certified financial fraud examiner (CFE). I have worked on some of the nation's most significant cases, including the Swiss Bank Holocaust-Victim recovery effort, the Bernard Madoff and Stanford Securities investigations. Today, I serve as a Managing Director at FTI Consulting, a global firm specializing in financial investigations, technology, and economics. I consider myself a candidate who believes that service to all constituents is more important than rank partisanship. Before starting my career I served in the Bush Sr. White House. A former Republican, I registered as a Democrat in 2004.

**Website:** [dougrogersfortexas.com](http://dougrogersfortexas.com)

**ISSUES:** 1. The affordability crisis 2. Access to Healthcare. I will fight to close tax loopholes that reward wealth over work and end special tax breaks that favor billionaires and multinational corporations while middle-class families struggle to get ahead. I will protect Medicaid funding and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIPs) and support federal funding for rural hospitals as over 1/3 of the District 36 population resides in rural areas.

## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 38

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 38  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

**Melissa McDonough**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring two decades of experience on Capitol Hill as a volunteer lobbyist and nearly 30 years as a real estate professional and brokerage owner. Listening to my clients' issues, I worked directly with members of Congress in Washington, DC to sponsor legislation addressing their concerns. My advocacy focused on consumer protection, housing affordability, healthcare costs, and veteran's services. I learned through my advocacy that Democracy is not a red or blue issue; it's a purple solution; requiring us to work together ensuring checks and balances function at every level of government. My real estate and small business background equips me with strong negotiating skills and a deep understanding of the needs of the people in our district.

**Website:** [MelissaForCongress.com](http://MelissaForCongress.com)

**ISSUES:** First: restore constitutional checks and balances among the three branches of government. No branch should dominate or report to another; each must operate independently and remain accountable to the People of the United States. Achieving this requires strong leadership and a diverse, experienced team committed to actually showing up and doing the work every day. Second: affordability. Many residents of TX-CD 38 are struggling to afford rent and food. Now, rising healthcare costs are pushing families even further. Voters regularly share copies of their new premiums; many have increased by 400%. Texas already leads the nation in uninsured and underinsured residents. I will work with LHHS appropriations to add a tax credit for insurance.



### Theresa Courts

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As a veteran of the US Army National Guard, I swore to protect and defend the constitution when I enlisted. After my service, I continued to serve my community as an educator for over 10 years. I am not a politician. I am an everyday American- a mother, an educator, and a veteran. I know how difficult life is for so many Americans in this economy. The military taught me how to fight, and I will fight for our working and middle-class families, and for our public schools.

Website: [courtsforcongress.com](http://courtsforcongress.com)

**ISSUES:** In the Army I learned how to apply tourniquets & pack bullet wounds to prepare for war. As an educator, we learn how to apply tourniquets and pack bullet wounds to prepare for the next school shooting. Our leaders do nothing. I will fight for gun safety reforms that will keep our children safe. Reforms that will allow us to go to school, work, and worship and not worry about the next mass shooting. I will fight to ban high capacity magazines, institute universal background checks, increase wait time, & more. Texans are facing an affordability crisis. The cost of living has skyrocketed, but wages haven't kept pace. Minimum wage hasn't been raised since 2009. I will fight for our working & middle class families and to raise minimum wage.



### Marvalette Hunter

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring 30+ years of senior leadership experience in public policy, housing, economic development, and finance that directly prepares me to serve in Congress. I served as Chief of Staff to the late Congressman Sylvester Turner, managing operations, budgets, and legislative strategy, and previously as Chief of Staff to the Mayor of Houston, overseeing 23 city departments, 21,000 employees, and a \$6.2 billion budget. I hold degrees in Architecture and City and Regional Planning, am a small business owner and real estate developer, and a lifelong Houstonian. My career has focused on delivering results on affordability, healthcare access, and economic opportunity, with a deep understanding of how federal policy impacts families and communities.

Website: [Marvalettehunter.com](http://Marvalettehunter.com)

**ISSUES:** As a Member of Congress, my top priorities will be lowering the cost of living and expanding access to affordable healthcare. Families across Houston are struggling with rising housing costs, Insurance, childcare, and healthcare expenses that strain household budgets and limit opportunity. I will work to expand affordable housing through tools like the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, protect renters, support first-time homebuyers, invest in job training, & strengthen small businesses. I will also fight to reduce healthcare costs by strengthening the Affordable Care Act, lowering prescription drug prices, expanding Medicaid access, investing in community health centers, and improving maternal & preventive care so families can stay healthy.

## GOVERNOR • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Four-year term. The governor is chief executive of the state, which means that they carry out the law. They appoint members to boards and commissions; appoint statewide executive officials, state judges and district attorneys when vacancies occur; deliver the State of the State address; provide guidance to the Legislature; call special sessions of the legislature and set the agenda. The governor can veto legislation (including a line-item veto on appropriations), sign legislation, or allow it to become law without their signature. Current annual salary: \$153,750

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**HEALTHCARE:** What changes need to be made to Texas abortion laws to ensure women have access to proper medical care in the event of pregnancy complications?

**EDUCATION:** Share your thoughts on the role of state and local government in public education.

**IMMIGRATION:** How would you address immigration issues affecting our state while ensuring all individuals within our borders have access to due process protections?

**NATIONAL GUARD:** Share your position on when it is appropriate for the Federal government to deploy the National Guard in Texas cities.



### Zach Vance

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My character, compassion, and my ability to relate to and understand people and their problems. I genuinely care about all people, and I just want to make their lives better.

**HEALTHCARE:** Texans should have the right to choose when to become a parent and that means we must repeal the heartbeat bill and the ban on mifepristone. If I am Governor, I will enact an executive order that allows doctors to provide abortions in any case where the mother's life has the potential to be at risk, not waiting until their life is actually at risk.

**EDUCATION:** Texans deserve high quality public education and deserve a governor who cares more about public education than cares about private education. The state needs to take more of the cost of public education off of local governments than they do now. The state needs to not focus so much on test scores and figure out a way to rate students on different abilities than just being able to take a test.

Website: [www.4abettertexas.com](http://www.4abettertexas.com)

**IMMIGRATION:** I believe we should have a strong border but the accomplishment of that goal should not fall on the state itself. Texas has spent billions securing the border when we could have used that money to significantly improve the lives of Texans. Immigration is a very important issue, but it is a less significant issue when people are losing their homes due to taxes and dying due to lack of healthcare.

**NATIONAL GUARD:** Only when the state asks for it or when the state is failing significantly in protecting people or promoting the common good or welfare. The National Guard does not need to be an occupying force in the streets acting as police officers if the state has not specifically ask for it or had worked out an arrangement with the governor of the state. There should also be a time limit.





### Carlton W. Hart

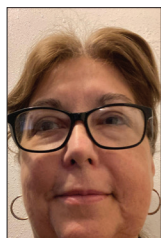
**QUALIFICATIONS:** For decades, I've worked in public service in the school system, and among other positions, as a minister, I've listened to Hope's fears and dreams empathy. God is my policy. My ordination reflects a

**HEALTHCARE:** I believe that women should have the right to make decisions about their own bodies, including an abortion. Laws should support the ability for women to make informed choices based on their circumstances, values and health without unnecessary government interference.

**EDUCATION:** I believe we should focus on balancing state level, visions funding standards, accountability with local control, curriculum implementation, community needs, emphasize and workforce readiness, teacher support parental choice and equitable funding, while promoting innovation and career pathways to meet economic goals, and let's not forget accountability for student outcomes.

**IMMIGRATION:** The standard of the law foreign and domestic should be implemented by the law of the land.

**NATIONAL GUARD:** In critical and unruly disturbance. The National Guard should be called in an extremely emergency weather. Weather related our crowd control not just for the standard of normal practice.



### Patricia Abrego

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Since I was six years old, I have been training for this position. I have been a Doctor (DC) for 15 years and retired for 13 years. I am honest, knowledgeable, and kind.

**HEALTHCARE:** In the event of pregnancy complications, we need to ensure that the mother is safe. Texas abortion laws need to change to ensure that the mother has a chance to live.

**EDUCATION:** The Department of Education has been downsized to a point where state and local governments have to figure out public education on their own. I went to elementary, middle and high school at public schools. Families cannot afford to pay for their children's education, especially at the elementary level.

**IMMIGRATION:** My mother was born in Mexico, and my father was born in San Antonio, Texas. I have the experience of making sure that my mother was protected. She became a US citizen, got her GED, and became a CNA nurse. Everyone in Texas should have the right to his/her own individual immigration protection.

**NATIONAL GUARD:** The Texas governor can deploy the National Guard in Texas cities. The federal government should go through the Texas governor for this situation.



### Chris Bell

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Served on Houston City Council and in the U.S. House. Worked on laws, oversight, and constituent services. Journalist-turned-lawyer who values careful judgment, ethics, and practical innovation.

**HEALTHCARE:** Texas abortion laws must be rewritten to give doctors clear authority to act when a patient's health is at risk — without fear of criminal or civil penalties. Vague laws interfere with medical judgment and delay care. The law should also clearly allow abortion early in pregnancy, typically the first trimester, when most issues are identified and treated.

**EDUCATION:** Public education works best when the state provides stable funding and supports teachers, while local school boards make daily decisions and encourage parental engagement.

Our schools are still structured for another century, so we need thoughtful modernization to better serve students beyond the classroom, support teachers professionally, and meet evolving community needs.

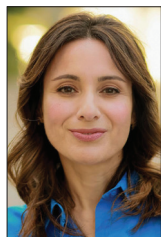
**IMMIGRATION:** Community stability, economic health, due process for all, a secure border, and a fair, functional immigration system — all are essential. My administration's approach would pair enforcement with due process protections while working to provide clear, accessible pathways to legal status and citizenship.

**NATIONAL GUARD:** Rarely if ever. Deployments should prioritize public safety and respect local authority during true emergencies. The National Guard is meant to assist, not to score political points.

Website: [ChrisBellTexas.com](http://ChrisBellTexas.com)

### Andrew White WITHDRAWN

### Angela "Tia Angie" Villescaz NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



### Gina Hinojosa

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have spent the last nine years serving in the Texas House, working tirelessly to advance bipartisan legislation and fight for working Texans on public education, health care, and affordability.

**HEALTHCARE:** Right now, Texas women are dying because they cannot obtain access to life-saving medical care. This status quo is intolerable. Texans deserve safe and legal access to abortion care when they need it, and Texas doctors should not fear that they will be thrown in prison for following basic standards of care.

**EDUCATION:** Public education was so important to our founders that it's enshrined in the Texas Constitution. Attempts to sell off and privatize our kids' schools is a direct attack on their path to success. I fought hard against Greg Abbott's school voucher scam, and as governor, will route that money toward teacher pay raises and smaller classroom sizes to ensure every child has access to a good education.

Website: [www.ginafortexas.com](http://www.ginafortexas.com)

**IMMIGRATION:** Every Texan wants to live in a safe community. When border security presents a risk to keeping our communities safe, it's important we address that. But what is currently happening—deporting children and breaking up American families—is doing nothing to make us safer. We need an immigration system that provides a pathway to legal status for hard-working and tax-paying fixtures of our communities.

**NATIONAL GUARD:** The Texas National Guard exists to serve our community and should only be deployed in times of genuine emergency. I do not believe sending National Guard troops to other states who have not asked for help when we have pressing needs at home is a good use of resources. Likewise, deploying the National Guard to local communities who do not need or want their help is ineffective and wasteful.

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

## Jose Navarro Balbuena

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Tax Strategist, Engineer, Insurance agent Dad with the will and a plan to implement "Early College" across the state of Texas, with will to feed our kids, Hot School Lunch with a Farm to School model.

**HEALTHCARE:** Focus on clemency, directing state agencies, ensuring consistent standards across state laws, Promote (EMTALA)/SB-31, 1. Issue Pardons for Providers/Aids, directing agencies to clarify exceptions for life/health 2. Executive orders to interpret existing laws with leniency, EMTALA/SB-31 orders to weaken SB8/HB7 until full Full Repeal 3. Elevate Community Members as Legislatures "To Move Needle"

**EDUCATION:** Education is the universal equalizer. States must have continual investments in software and infrastructure. Schools must adapt software that assists teachers in teaching for mastery of subjects, not grades. Texas will serve our kids Hot School Lunches, before any super intendents receives bonuses or raises. Create a registry for school HVAC repairs, no child should be wearing layered clothing

Website: [tx22.net](http://tx22.net)

**IMMIGRATION:** Partner with "consulados" to ensure everyone has registered address ID and Passport. Passports are tied to IRS Individual Tax Ident. Number (pay taxes). Paying taxes is what opens the opportunity for my Texas 2 year ITIN ID - Pilot Program. IRS ITIN and Previous 2 years of Tax transcripts are the requirements for a Texas ITIN ID. Providing everyone with a proper Identity helps ensure habeas corpus

**NATIONAL GUARD:** The national guard should focus on natural disasters and Oil Gas Post Seismic Response (Permian Basin/DFW) not to assist ICE in civil immigration enforcement. The Guard will provide crucial aid after quakes, offering rapid deployment for: Search and Rescue, Logistics (shelters/distribution), Security, Infrastructure, Damage Assessment, working with Bureau of Economic Geology and TX Railroad Comm.

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

## Bobby Cole

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I'm a retired firefighter and working rancher, trained to lead under pressure and serve others. I understand real Texas challenges because I live them, not because I study them.

**HEALTHCARE:** Texas needs clear protections so doctors can provide medically necessary care without fear of legal penalties, and women should be able to get appropriate treatment for pregnancy complications from their own doctors. As governor, I'll restore reproductive freedom so decisions are made by patients and doctors not politicians to ensure proper care in emergencies.

**EDUCATION:** I believe state government must fully fund and support high-quality public education, set fair standards, and ensure resources go to students and teachers not diverted into vouchers that weaken public schools. Local communities and educators should have the flexibility to serve their students, with the state ensuring equity and accountability.

Website: [www.coleforgovernor.com](http://www.coleforgovernor.com)

**IMMIGRATION:** I believe immigration is primarily a federal issue, and Texas needs practical solutions that improve our legal system rather than "performative theatrics." We should stop villainizing people and work to create a legal process that works for Texans and our economy, while ensuring due process protections for everyone in our borders.

**NATIONAL GUARD:** I believe the National Guard should be used only when there is a real emergency that directly affects Texans such as natural disasters, public safety crises, or other disasters where military support is needed and state and local officials request help. Decisions about federal deployment should respect state autonomy and clear necessity, not be used for political theater.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, CALL:

866  
OUR  
VOTE

866-OUR-VOTE (866-687-8683)  
ENGLISH

888-Ve-Y-Vota (839-8682)  
SPANISH

888-API-VOTE (888-274-8683)  
ENGLISH, MANDARIN, CANTONESE,  
KOREAN, VIETNAMESE, BENGALI,  
URDU, HINDI, AND TAGALOG

844-YALLA-US (844-925-5287)  
ARABIC

301-818-VOTE (301-818-8683)  
AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (VIDEO CALL)

888-796-VOTE  
DISABILITY RIGHTS TEXAS

# LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Four-year term. The lieutenant governor is powerful because of their position as president of the Texas Senate, where they appoint the chairs and vice-chairs of committees; appoint senators to committees; assign bills to committees; and control the Senate's agenda. They are also a member of several commissions and boards, and serve as governor in the governor's absence. Current annual salary: \$7,200 plus \$221 for every day the Legislature is in session, including any special sessions.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**WOMEN'S HEALTH:** What changes need to be made to Texas abortion laws to ensure women have access to proper medical care in the event of pregnancy complications?

**HEALTHCARE:** What role should the state government play in promoting a healthy Texas population, and what steps would you take to ensure that healthcare is affordable and accessible for all Texans?

**CANNABIS LEGISLATION:** What legislation would you support regarding cannabis?

**WATER:** What legislation would you recommend to ensure that Texans and Texas businesses have enough water for the future?

Marcos Isaias Velez

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



**Vikki Goodwin**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I'm serving my 4th term in the TX Legislature; have been able to pass meaningful laws. I'm the owner of Goodwin & Goodwin Real Estate, involved community leader, graduate of UT & the LBJ School.

**WOMEN'S HEALTH:** We did not go far enough with the "Life of the Mother Act" that passed in 2025. The way to guarantee the best health outcomes for pregnant women is to allow women to make their own personal, private health care decisions in consultation with their doctors. Women who have adverse health conditions should have all options available for putting their own health before that of the fetus.

**HEALTHCARE:** A healthy population is essential. The state should ensure no one falls through the cracks; focus on prevention and transparency. Programs that have proven records of success should be expanded, including Medicaid. Mobile health clinics that provide low-cost diagnostic tests and checkups can help reach areas where there is a lack of doctors. Keeping people out of emergency rooms will lower costs.

Website: [Goodwin4Texas.com](http://Goodwin4Texas.com)

**CANNABIS LEGISLATION:** I support treating cannabis like alcohol with regulations: must be 21 years of age to purchase, can't be sold next door to schools, can't be marketed to kids, labels must clearly indicate the contents and strength. We don't need a nanny state. People with cancer, PTSD, and all types of ailments should be able to continue buying a product that has helped them without the broken TCUP.

**WATER:** We should pass the TX Stewardship Amendment to ensure our water isn't polluted. We must update and improve our Texas Water Plan using the latest science. Now it includes plans for many reservoirs that aren't feasible, and not enough emphasis on re-use. We need to ensure we aren't developing the most expensive water. Desalination of ocean water is expensive, while storing rainwater is less costly.



**Courtney Head**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My legal expertise, negotiation experience, budget oversight, and policy analysis make me qualified to serve as Lt. Gov and effectively lead the Senate for Texas.

**WOMEN'S HEALTH:** Texas must repeal its abortion ban so doctors can provide urgent, evidence-based care during pregnancy complications without fear of prosecution. We must also expand healthcare access in minority and rural communities, where maternal mortality is highest. Every woman deserves timely, safe medical treatment when pregnancy becomes dangerous.

**HEALTHCARE:** The state must invest in public health if we want a thriving Texas. Affordable healthcare strengthens families, communities, and our economy. Expanding Medicaid is just the start, I support a Massachusetts-style model that ensures universal, affordable coverage so every Texan can access the care they need.

Website: [www.texas4alltexans.com](http://www.texas4alltexans.com)

**CANNABIS LEGISLATION:** I support full legalization and regulation of cannabis in Texas. Legalizing it would reduce black-market activity, strengthen public safety, generate new tax revenue, and create a sustainable, transparent economy for Texans. A regulated system also ensures product safety, supports farmers and small businesses, and allows law enforcement to focus on serious crime.

**WATER:** Texas must modernize its water laws to protect long-term supply. I support strict regulation of high-consumption industries, especially data centers, and stronger limits on corporate groundwater use. We need updated statewide conservation standards, incentives for recycling and reuse, and investment in sustainable infrastructure so Texans and Texas businesses have reliable water for generations.



# ATTORNEY GENERAL • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Four-year term. The attorney general is the chief law enforcement officer of the state; represents the state and state officials in legal matters; issues opinions; oversees collection of child support; administers the crime victims compensation fund; enforces the open records/open meetings acts; approves public bond issues; and enforces consumer regulations. Current annual salary: \$153,750

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ELECTIONS:** How would you protect Texans' freedom to vote while maintaining safe and secure elections?

**IMMIGRATION:** How would you address immigration issues affecting our state while ensuring all individuals within our borders have access to due process protections?

**PRIORITIES:** How would you identify, evaluate, and prioritize which state legal cases to pursue?

**LEADERSHIP:** What specific improvements or reforms do you envision for the Texas Attorney General's office in the coming years?

## Anthony 'Tony' Box

### NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



## Nathan Johnson

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Eight years as a state senator: passing > 100 bills, killing and shaping bills, building coalitions, making government work, exercising independence, leadership, and political judgment; law practice.

**ELECTIONS:** We have good laws to keep elections secure, provided that enforcement and audits are fair and consistent. As AG, I will work with DAs around the state to ensure security. As a Senator, I filed bills to protect election workers from harassment (safe and secure), allow voter registration online and same-day, enable citizen ballot initiatives, and move redistricting to an independent commission.

**IMMIGRATION:** Work with the federal government to speed processing of asylum claims and treat applicants humanely, intercept and deter trafficking of drugs and people, revise Texas' ill-conceived 287(g) agreement, vastly expand guest worker program, work with other nations to stem the flow of migrants. The U.S. Constitution grants due process to everyone in the United States, including undocumented immigrants.

Website: [www.nathanfortexas.com](http://www.nathanfortexas.com)

**PRIORITIES:** I would ask three questions: whether there are actions that are harming Texans, whether the actions are illegal, and whether I can prove it. I would emphasize blocking federal overreach, promoting competition in markets, protecting people against violence and commercial scams, and rooting out political corruption. I would end the practice of using the office for personal and political purposes.

**LEADERSHIP:** Better leadership is needed more than structural reform. I'll recruit great staff, including attorneys, who are committed to serving the public over serving an ideology. I'll devote resources to performing the work of the office rather than the work of a political machine. There may be administrative changes and laws yet to pass or change, which we'll address in concert with the Legislature.



## Joe Jaworski

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Courageous fighter in courtroom and public square. 8 years as Galveston mayor/councilmember; 35 years as Texas trial lawyer/mediator; loyal husband to Rebecca for 35 years; proud Dad to my two kids.

**ELECTIONS:** I will staff a voter expansion division in the Texas OAG which will daily focus on removing the stain of voter suppression from Texas law. I will be known as the Attorney General who finally enforced the law which requires Principals to offer registration to all high school seniors. I, with local District Attorneys, will personally prosecute offenders who intentionally break our voting laws.

**IMMIGRATION:** I will lead Texas on immigration issues by reminding voters that immigration and criminal justice are two very different American institutions. I will demand that Congress perform its Constitutional duty to reform our immigration laws. I will support asylum as a proper tool of legal immigration, I will support Texas Dreamers who seek in-state college tuition to better themselves and our state.

Website: [JaworskiForTexas.com](http://JaworskiForTexas.com)

**PRIORITIES:** I will create/staff a Division of Affordability within the Texas OAG; it will use the power of government to reduce the cost of living in Texas for all 32 million residents of the state. I will measure performance and announce results. The OAG will expressly focus on helping young adult Texans to achieve the American Dream - affordable home ownership, debt free education, and starting a family.

**LEADERSHIP:** End persecution of vulnerable citizens. Reform Child Support Division: promptly collect/disburse child support and assist payor and payee to collect correct amounts. Assist school principals to register every 18 year old senior to vote. Remain widely accessible to the public, rather than reclusive or partisan only. Focus political and legal decisions on affordability for everyday working Texans.

# COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Four-year term. The comptroller is the chief financial officer of the state; collects state taxes and fees; pays the state's bills; provides revenue estimates to the legislature; certifies the budget; reports the condition of the state's finances; and provides economic development assistance to local governments and private businesses. Current annual salary: \$153,750

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**RAINY DAY FUND:** How do you think Texas should use its Rainy Day Fund?

**EDUCATIONAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (ESAS):** What oversight measures will you support to ensure that ESAs are funded and administered transparently?

**BUDGET MANAGEMENT:** How will you ensure budget transparency so taxpayers can easily see how their money is allocated and spent?

**PRIORITIES:** What do you see as your greatest challenge as Comptroller over the next four years, and how will you address it?

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RECEIVED

### Savant Moore

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Howard University graduate, former Army Ranger and minister known for integrity, discipline, and service. Business owner and investor, elected HISD Trustee overseeing a \$2.5B budget and on boards.

**RAINY DAY FUND:** The Rainy Day Fund should be used quickly after disasters to help Texans recover while federal aid is delayed. It should also be used, when appropriate, to increase the basic student allotment for public education, focusing on real emergencies, protecting taxpayers, and maintaining long term fiscal stability.

**EDUCATIONAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (ESAS):** ESAs are school vouchers that use public dollars for private education costs. If used, they must have strict audits, full transparency, and an exit clause for companies that fail. Oversight should be Texas based or clearly qualified to protect taxpayers and students.

Website: [savantmoore.com](http://savantmoore.com)

**BUDGET MANAGEMENT:** I will require audits of all state agencies at the start of my term and modernize transparency tools using my experience in tech as a software engineer. Texans should be able to easily see where their money goes without needing to understand Austin politics.

**PRIORITIES:** The greatest challenge is restoring trust and making government work for everyday Texans. I will focus on restoring the Texas HUB program, expanding broadband statewide, influencing full funding for public education, and supporting policies that keep Texas affordable while protecting its economy.

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### Sarah Eckhardt

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Lawyer; Master in Public Affairs; State Senator; Travis County Judge; etc - two decades of experience on and managing professional teams, budgets, tax rates, purchasing and contracts.

**RAINY DAY FUND:** The Rainy Day Fund is projected to hit \$28B. I would tap the fund immediately to assist low income Texans with health insurance costs in the first year after loss of ACA tax credits. I would also advise the Legislature on the cost avoidance and economic benefits of 1-time Fund investments in water infrastructure, statewide extreme weather communications, and rural public hospital capacity.

**EDUCATIONAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (ESAS):** I will honestly measure & report the distribution of benefits from the ESA subsidy by family type, educational entity type (public, private, or home school), and region. I will vigorously pursue performance data under the \$50M Odyssey contract to administer the program, and seek to rebid or break administration into smaller contracts if Odyssey fails to honestly measure and report.

Website: [saraheckhardt.com](http://saraheckhardt.com)

**BUDGET MANAGEMENT:** I will maintain a web-based dashboard providing easy-to-navigate categories of revenue and expenditures with textual and graphic explanations, linked to current and historic reports and analyses on how public funds are and have been invested, who is benefitting most/least today and in the past, and suggestions under discussion for investments to improve the economic outlook for all Texans.

**PRIORITIES:** As the 2nd richest state in the world's richest nation, Texas can afford to meet its obligations to a growing population. The challenges will be honestly estimating the cost of its obligations & bravely pursuing funding to meet them, e.g. the cost of necessary water infrastructure is at least \$154B over the next 50 years but the state has pursued funding to meet less than half of this need.



### Michael Lange

**QUALIFICATIONS:** 40 Years experience as a Finance Professional. 30 years as a Senior Executive in Multi-Billion dollars companies in Texas, US and worldwide. 10 years in small business space. Ready Day One.

**RAINY DAY FUND:** State emergencies, weather emergencies, healthcare emergency shortages, water emergencies, education shortage emergencies

**EDUCATIONAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (ESAS):** Believe this money belongs to Texans. Will support 100% transparency not only on funds spent but also how expenses are incurred. Six month audits with results made public. End of Year Review of Impact with all results made public each year. Full Transparency.

Website: [TexansforLange.com](http://TexansforLange.com)

**BUDGET MANAGEMENT:** Show Texans the financial reports and extra-ordinary, "Emergency" reports. Make information publicly available in a timely matter. Hold meetings in person around Texas at least 12 times per year to explain Texas Financial situation. Not Sit in Austin all year but travel around the state every month to ensure accuracy with strong audit back up. Make sure people are competent.

**PRIORITIES:** Ensuring Transparency of Financial information. Ensure the economy of Texas moves forward positively so Texans get value for their Hard-Earned Money. Make Texas financially more efficient but also get Texas economically Future-ready. Grow Small business, Rural and Urban. Deal now with Water, Electricity and School Voucher issues. Bottom Line is People of Texas are safer and better off.

# COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Four-year term. As head of the General Land Office, the commissioner manages state lands, including oil and gas properties (which supply funds to the Permanent School Fund) and the Alamo. The commissioner chairs the Veterans Land Board, which administers programs for Texas veterans, and is responsible for environmental protection of Texas' coast.

Other state boards chaired include the School Land Board and the Coastal Coordination Advisory Committee. Current annual salary: \$140,938

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**DISASTER RECOVERY:** What measures should the state take to respond quickly and effectively to disasters?

**VETERANS:** Explain how you will support veterans through programs and resources your office oversees.

**COASTAL MANAGEMENT:** What policies would you endorse regarding development in flood-prone areas?

**CHALLENGES:** What is the greatest challenge facing the General Land Office, and how would you address it?



### Benjamin Flores

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I'm serving my third year as Councilman in Bay City, with almost three decades of Cybersecurity and Risk Management. I also started a small farm raising heritage pigs almost four years ago.

**DISASTER RECOVERY:** Beginning with the statewide implementation of the Community Emergency Response Team program by FEMA. Next, from a GLO perspective, establish working groups within the different Regional Councils chapters, to develop processes for efficient and effective recovery work. Lastly, any vendors wishing to participate in recovery efforts, will be vetted in advance of any potential disaster.

Website: [letsgowithben.com](http://letsgowithben.com)

**VETERANS:** Look to address gaps in healthcare options for veterans in the valley, verify the presence of Service Officers in all counties, drastically reduce the timelines for veteran mortgage applications, fully fund the Hazelwood Act program.

**COASTAL MANAGEMENT:** Support the adoption of new weather forecasting models, and newer roofing construction techniques, along the coast. This would help with insurance prices. Second, speedup the current state efforts for flood

**CHALLENGES:** Not maximizing nor diversifying the sources of revenue for the Permanent School Fund. Solar, wind, geothermal should all be considered. We could provide additional funding for our schools and property tax relief.



### Jose Loya

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Marine Corps war veteran, former oil refinery worker, and union staff rep with 8 yrs negotiating wages, safety, and benefits statewide. Lifelong Texan committed to accountability and working families.

**DISASTER RECOVERY:** Texas faces disasters too often, and recovery must be faster and more transparent. The state should use CDBG-DR funds to speed housing repairs and prioritize communities that are hit the hardest, especially rural and working-class areas. It must also invest CDBG-MIT funds in mitigation, coastal protection, and erosion control to reduce future damage and better protect families and infrastructure.

**VETERANS:** As a Marine Corps veteran who deployed twice to Iraq, I understand the challenges veterans face. The Veterans Land Board offers home, land, and renovation loans, veteran assisted living, and a dignified place to be laid to rest beside those who served. I will reach out to every veteran and increase transparency so they can access the resources they've earned.

Website: [www.joseloya.com](http://www.joseloya.com)

**COASTAL MANAGEMENT:** Through permitting, enforcement, and endorsing responsible coastal policies, I will limit risky development in flood-prone areas, protect public safety, and preserve our coast. Developers must be held accountable so taxpayers aren't left paying the price for irresponsible building. Texas beaches belong to the people, not special interests.

**CHALLENGES:** The greatest challenge at the General Land Office is transparency. The GLO manages billions in public land, school funding, and disaster aid, yet too many Texans don't see how decisions are made. With my kids in public school and years spent helping veterans access earned benefits, I'll ensure this office puts schools, veterans, and working families first—not special interests.

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## CHIEF JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Six-year term. The Texas Supreme Court is the court of last resort for civil matters in Texas. This Court includes a Chief Justice and eight justices, each of which is elected by voters of the entire state. This court issues final decisions on civil and juvenile appeals; issues certain orders to governmental officials to act and individuals to appear before the court; and has jurisdiction over orders or judgments of trial courts if the Supreme Court determines them important to the Texas legal system. Current annual salary range: \$168,000 to \$211,680

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ETHICS:** How will you ensure your rulings remain impartial and free from both political pressure and the interests of your campaign donors?

**EQUITY:** What role should the Supreme Court play in expanding access to justice for persons or groups who may be underserved?

**ISSUES:** What do you see as the most pressing challenge facing the courts today, and how would you propose addressing it?

**PHILOSOPHY:** What is your judicial philosophy?



**Maggie Ellis**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As an appellate justice, a former prosecutor and civil-criminal attorney with state and national legal certifications, I've handled thousands of matters in court. I've also led large organizations.

**ETHICS:** Experience and a proven history of advocating fairly from all sides of the docket is a good indicator of a candidate's likeliness to be fair and impartial. I have handled thousands of matters from all sides, including: ruling over cases fairly as a judge; defending individuals at risk of losing their liberty, their children, and their homes; and advocating for justice as a prosecutor.

**EQUITY:** The TXSC should be a leader. As a child who grew up transient and homeless and with 15% of Texans living below the poverty level, I understand the need. I have been awarded for my work helping our most vulnerable have access to the court system by drafting legislation and establishing pro bono clinics. I will bring this experience to expand the TXSC commissions that address access to the courts.

Website: [www.maggieforjustice.com](http://www.maggieforjustice.com)

**ISSUES:** We have been experiencing an erosion of our separation of powers and of our civil rights. This election comes at a critical time when our judiciary is under attack and under political pressure. As the first openly gay woman to serve as an appellate justice in Texas, I will bring balance back to our courts; I will not bow to political pressure; and I will protect the laws that protect everyone.

**PHILOSOPHY:** I believe deeply in what our courts are supposed to be: steady, independent, and grounded in the rule of law- that no one is above the law. Upholding my oath to defend our state and national Constitutions is important to provide confidence in our courts. I also believe that our laws should allow for flexibility to rise and shift in response to changes in our values but not to political pressures.



**Cory L. Carlyle**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I served 6 years on the Dallas Appeals Court, am Board Certified in Civil Appellate Law, the fundamental law the Court does, and worked cases with over 30 justices, R and D, in my time on the bench.

**ETHICS:** Each case presents a unique set of challenges that our law either answers or provides a guide to answer. I intend to follow the law and answer the questions presented by the cases before me. Politics want to invade but I found in my time on the Dallas Court of Appeals that focusing on the legal principles and the facts of the cases before me that I could most faithfully apply the law.

**EQUITY:** The Supreme Court is the highest arbiter of law in the state and should play an integral role in finding funding and people to make our justice system most accessible by the underserved. In my eyes, the court system is only as good as it treats those who need it most, meaning we must strive to meet them where they are when necessary. Our commissions are a good start, but their reach can grow.

Website: [Carlyle4justice.com](http://Carlyle4justice.com)

**ISSUES:** The greatest challenge the courts face is the insidious creep of ideology to our highest courts' chambers. Some judges have begun judging more from a personal-political basis in ways that have become destructive to the role of the third branch. I will address it one person at a time, one case at a time, not allowing these judicial lapses go unnoticed, with the goal of eliminating them forever.

**PHILOSOPHY:** The true delight in deciding cases is finding the right answer. When settled law gives an answer, the quest is easy. But when the answer is unclear, we must apply the principles that came before us. Stare decisis is real, and when judges fail to follow precedent, they create uncertainty and diminish respect for the judicial system. I will follow the law in deciding our state's most important cases



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# JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Six-year term. The Texas Supreme Court is the court of last resort for civil matters in Texas. This Court includes a Chief Justice and eight justices, each of which is elected by voters of the entire state. This court issues final decisions on civil and juvenile appeals; issues certain orders to governmental officials to act and individuals to appear before the court; and has jurisdiction over orders or judgments of trial courts if the Supreme Court determines them important to the Texas legal system. Current annual salary range: \$168,000 to \$211,680

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

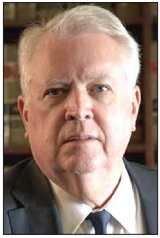
**ETHICS:** How will you ensure your rulings remain impartial and free from both political pressure and the interests of your campaign donors?

**EQUITY:** What role should the Supreme Court play in expanding access to justice for persons or groups who may be underserved?

**ISSUES:** What do you see as the most pressing challenge facing the courts today, and how would you propose addressing it?

**PHILOSOPHY:** What is your judicial philosophy?

## JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT, PLACE 7



### Gordon Goodman

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I served as Justice on the 1st Court of Appeals. Prior to that, I served in senior positions for DuPont, Conoco, and Occidental. In the community, I served on many school and professional boards.

**ETHICS:** I have published many articles on ethics for the ABA, the UC Business Law Journal, the Heidelberg Journal of International Law, and the Harvard Public Health Review. My articles emphasize that individuals must not only comply with the law in all matters, but also that they must do the right thing even when the law is silent or ambiguous, and even when doing the right thing is unpopular.

**EQUITY:** The Texas Supreme Court should be accessible to all citizens. There is an important role to be played by individuals and groups whose interests may be impacted by future rulings, and the court should be receptive and attentive to amicus curiae briefs (i.e., briefs filed by friends of the court).

Website: [goodmanforjustice.com](http://goodmanforjustice.com)

**ISSUES:** The justices of every court in Texas swear an oath to uphold and defend the constitution and laws of the State of Texas and the United States. The judicial department of Texas is the third arm of the government, and under the Texas constitution, the separation of powers is explicitly stated. The justices of the Texas Supreme Court must base their decisions on the law and not popular opinions.

**PHILOSOPHY:** Like Justices Holmes and Brandeis, I believe a "common law" approach is the most vital. This was the prevailing judicial philosophy for most of the 20th century and is a form of pragmatism. A more popular judicial philosophy today is "originalism" which proposes to interpret the law as it was understood when first enacted. The "common law" approach acknowledges that the world changes over time.

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### Kristen Hawkins

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am board-certified in civil trial law and personal injury law. In 2021, I was Tex-ABOTA Judge of the Year. As a trial-court judge, I have presided over more than 200 jury and bench trials.

**ETHICS:** As a trial-court judge, I base my decisions on the facts and the law—not on campaign contributions. If elected to the Supreme Court, that would not change. I strive for predictability and consistency so the parties know what to expect when they come to court. I treat everyone with courtesy and respect, regardless of socio-economic status, political affiliation, or whether they have donated.

**EQUITY:** The Supreme Court chooses its cases, and should select cases that are important to all Texans—not just the well-resourced. It should also review cases mindful of the constitutionally embedded right to a trial by jury and should respect juries and their verdicts. The Court can adopt rules streamlining access to justice for those with fewer resources, including self-represented litigants.

Website: [www.judgehawkins.com](http://www.judgehawkins.com)

**ISSUES:** The persistent attacks on judges—both at the state and federal levels. The judicial branch is a coequal branch of government, and maintaining judicial independence is necessary to sustain our democracy. I would rule based on the law and facts and strive for consistent and fair application of the law without favoring any party.

**PHILOSOPHY:** The Constitution requires every party appearing in Court be treated equally under the law and guarantees a right to a jury trial. My judicial philosophy is simple: apply the law equally to everyone who appears in court and ensure that juries and their verdicts are respected. Consistent and predictable application of the law is what every Texan should expect from our judicial system.

## MEMBER, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Four-year term. The fifteen-member board decides curriculum, standards, student testing, special education programs, and textbooks for Texas public schools. It also oversees the Permanent School Fund. Current annual salary: Members of the Board do not receive pay, but are reimbursed for expenses to attend meetings.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM:** How should the K–12 social studies curriculum balance state, national, and world history to best prepare students to be responsible citizens in today's world?

**TEACHER SUPPORT:** How can the SBOE strengthen teacher preparation, certification, and ongoing professional development to support high-quality instruction?

**DIGITAL EDUCATION:** How can the SBOE balance technology use with traditional instructional methods to best support student learning?

**RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS:** Should Christianity or any other religious beliefs be incorporated into the public school curriculum? Explain your position.

**OTHER ISSUES:** What other issues do you believe will be the most pressing for the State Board of Education?

## MEMBER, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 7

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### Debra Drake Ambrose

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I served three terms as a Board Trustee. I understand Texas public education from the classroom level to system-wide policy. I am committed to student learning and civic readiness.

**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM:** Social Studies curriculum should intentionally balance all levels of history so students understand their local identity within a broader national and global context. The curriculum should emphasize critical thinking, historical inquiry, multiple perspectives and media literacy. Preparing responsible citizens means helping students analyze evidence and engage with different viewpoints.

**TEACHER SUPPORT:** The SBOE can strengthen teacher support by ensuring certification standards are rigorous, relevant, and aligned with classroom realities. Preparation programs should emphasize content knowledge, effective pedagogy, classroom management, and culturally responsive instruction. Ongoing professional development should be teacher-informed, research-based, and job-embedded to meet the district needs.

**DIGITAL EDUCATION:** Technology should be used as a tool to enhance learning, not replace effective teaching. The SBOE should support thoughtful integration of digital resources that improve access, personalize instruction and build digital literacy. Clear guidelines should engage age-appropriate technology use, protect student privacy, and support educators in choosing when digital tools are most effective.

**RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS:** Public schools must remain religiously neutral, as required by the U.S. Constitution. While students should learn about religion in an objective, academic manner such as its historical and cultural influence, public school should not promote or endorse Christianity. Maintaining this separation protects religious freedom for students and families and ensure respect of Texas' diverse population.

**OTHER ISSUES:** Key issues facing the SBOE include high-quality, accurate instructional materials; addressing learning gaps and student achievement; supporting teacher recruitment and retention; and maintaining transparency and public trust in the curriculum adoption process. The Board must also navigate the responsible use of artificial intelligence, and the need for strong civic education.



### Janell Burse

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Former substitute teacher and parent who homeschooled. I hold a BS from Tulane in Computer Information Systems, a business minor, and bring a future-ready, technology-focused approach to education.

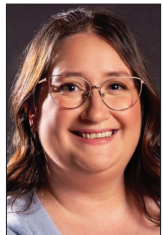
**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM:** There should be a greater emphasis on democratic principles by teaching local, state, national, and world history in age-appropriate ways. Students should learn the Constitution, civic responsibility, voting, respectful debate, and how informed participation strengthens a democratic society.

**TEACHER SUPPORT:** The SBOE can strengthen teaching by updating certification standards, training teachers to use modern technology, supporting mentorship, and providing ongoing professional development that keeps classrooms current and effective.

**DIGITAL EDUCATION:** The SBOE can balance learning by using technology to support, (not replace) traditional teaching. Schools should blend digital tools with hands-on instruction, discussion, reading, and problem-solving, while ensuring diverse learning styles and access for all students.

**RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS:** Public schools should follow the Constitution by neither promoting nor prohibiting religion. Students can learn about different faiths in an educational context, while families guide personal beliefs. Schools may offer moments of silence or optional reflection that respect all religions and beliefs.

**OTHER ISSUES:** A pressing issue for the SBOE is ensuring parents have a strong voice in their children's education. The State Board of Education must uphold the Constitution by protecting parental rights, supporting transparency in curriculum, and ensuring every student has access to a quality education.



### Tiffany Perkinz

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a lifelong Texas educator and parent of six, with experience in public, private, and higher education. I hold a Master's in Education and own a tutoring and independent teaching business.

**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM:** K-12 social studies should ground students in a true and honest account of Texas history and frame it within a national and global context. Students should understand how events in Texas connect to larger U.S. and world events. Instruction recognizes that Texas both shapes and is shaped by the wider world, and prepares them to be informed citizens in a global society, not just memorizers of facts.

**TEACHER SUPPORT:** The SBOE can strengthen teacher support by prioritizing preparation programs grounded in real classroom experience, mentorship, and subject-area expertise. Certification should be rigorous without unnecessary barriers. Professional development should be teacher-led, practical, and classroom-relevant. Supporting teachers as professionals improves retention and leads to stronger instruction.

**DIGITAL EDUCATION:** Technology should support—not replace—learning. Teachers report that overuse of AI is weakening

Website: [texasfortiffany7.org](https://texasfortiffany7.org)

students' critical thinking and writing skills, which are rooted in learning how to think. Students need to read whole novels and engage in sustained writing rather than test-prep excerpts or shortcuts. Teachers should have the autonomy to decide when technology enhances versus hinders learning.

**RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS:** Public schools should not promote or endorse any religion. Religious topics may be taught in an academic, historical, or literary context, but instruction must remain neutral and inclusive. Faith formation belongs to families and religious communities, not the state. Maintaining religious neutrality protects students' freedom of belief and ensures public schools serve all Texans.

**OTHER ISSUES:** One of the most pressing issues for the SBOE is protecting academic freedom and keeping politics out of curriculum decisions. The board must prioritize transparency, high-quality instructional materials, and long-term literacy and critical thinking over ideological agendas. Public schools should be places where students are supported and prepared to think critically, engage civically, and succeed.



### Adam Khan

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As a former and current public special education teacher, specialist and principal for elementary, middle and high schools in Houston area for 10+ years, I have experience and a doctorate in education

**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM:** Texas civics, U.S. and world history curriculum should share factual details which may or may not steer students towards 'global citizens'. The idea of global interdependence is not necessarily an essential theme- as some experts wish. Rather, focusing on multiple perspectives and other civic milestones we have accomplished, should generate Socratic feedback and engagements.

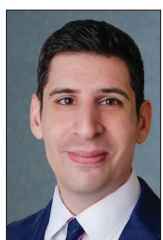
**TEACHER SUPPORT:** Upon elected, I will strengthen teacher preparation by clearly aligning curriculum standards with classroom realities. I intend to streamline certification with higher quality control for new teachers, including mentorship. I will push for more professional development funding—especially in content knowledge, pedagogy, and student support—to help teachers deliver better instruction.

Website: [DrAdamKhanTexasD7.com](https://DrAdamKhanTexasD7.com)

**DIGITAL EDUCATION:** SBOE should promote technology use that enhances, not replaces, instruction. Clear guidelines can encourage digital tools for personalization, access, and skill-building while preserving proven methods like discussion. Take it from a special education teacher who provides accommodations for strugglers.

**RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS:** Legally, we have the constitution that expressly forbids holding another religion above another- even indirectly. The Establishment Clause and First Amendment rights protect impressionable children from this. The goal is to live and let live; however, even as an ordained minister, it pains me to not allow God in the conversation. I believe in the Constitution and will promote balance and equity.

**OTHER ISSUES:** Savings account, Bluebonnet curriculum, and funding in general.



### Ben Estrada

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have a bachelors in Management Information Systems from UH and I've worked for the last 15 years in Oil & Gas and Tech as an IT professional to teach technical concepts to business operations teams.

**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM:** World history is essential to providing context to Texas and US history. We should take a balanced approach that recognizes Texas and US history while also acknowledging that they are subsets of a broader global narrative. We must reject sanitized history that focuses only on exceptionalism and embrace a curriculum that includes robust world history, geography, and diverse cultural perspectives.

**TEACHER SUPPORT:** The SBOE should support teachers by strengthening the new residency and mentorship pathways funded by HB 2. We need to ensure these programs provide real pay and support to help reverse the teacher shortage.

We must also end curriculum whiplash by depoliticizing standards, approving better materials to reduce workload, and focusing training on core subjects instead of political mandates.

**DIGITAL EDUCATION:** Technology should remain a tool to

Website: [www.benestrada.com](https://www.benestrada.com)

enhance lessons, not a replacement for teacher-led instruction. The SBOE should prioritize student wellness by following LRPT guidelines on digital health and screen time. We should also support traditional, print-based methods to ensure foundational mastery, using tech only when it adds clear value to learning and protects student development.

**RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS:** Separation of church and state is vital to ensure public schools remain inclusive and neutral. Religious instruction is the responsibility of families and places of worship, not the government. By keeping the curriculum secular and centered on core subjects, we protect students of all backgrounds from state-sponsored indoctrination and ensure that public funds never favor one belief over another.

**OTHER ISSUES:** One of the most pressing issue facing the State Board of Education is the protection of public school funding from the expansion of private school vouchers. Although the SBOE doesn't manage vouchers directly, the board can use its control over the Permanent School Fund to help keep public education fully funded.

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED**Shahzeb Meghani**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a software developer who brings my STEM expertise and data-driven judgment to the table to support strong schools, improve student outcomes, and advocate policies that reflect classroom needs.

**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM:** Social studies should balance state, national, and world history. Giving younger students a broad historical picture and revisiting topics in later grades allows them to recontextualize events to understand how previous actions shape future decisions and events. This leads to the development of civic identity and global awareness.

**TEACHER SUPPORT:** Texas faces significant teacher attrition. One way to alleviate this is to advocate the state for higher minimum salaries and ensuring the state funds them through teacher incentive allotment (TIA). Certification costs can also be cheaper and the process of certification can be improved while maintaining its high quality.

**DIGITAL EDUCATION:** Physical books, paper, and pencils should be all that is needed for younger students to understand how to do math, write complete sentences, and understand concepts before technology is introduced to them. As they get older, use of a computer to type papers and research can be used but a reliance on technology without the foundations leads to less understanding and reduced critical thinking.

**RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS:** Public schools should not promote or teach any specific religion, including Christianity. Religion should only be discussed objectively in the context of history or culture to understand its impact on civilizations. Religious belief and doctrine are personal choices and should be taught by families and religious institutions, not public schools.

**Dana Van De Walker**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a dedicated and passionate educator with nearly 20 years of experience. I have worked in K-12 education and now enjoy working with Texas youth as a community college professor and administrator.

**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM:** Social studies education is essential in preparing the next generation to be engaged citizens and responsible community members. We owe it to our children to ensure that history is accurately taught in schools and that all high school graduates leave school with a firm understanding of civics, governance, and economics. Texas youth are the global workers of tomorrow—they should be well-rounded.

**TEACHER SUPPORT:** The State Board of Ed has great power and great responsibility. We need to ensure that teaching positions are filled with qualified candidates, while also acknowledging that there is a teacher shortage. We need to reassess teacher pay and benefits, routes to alternate certification that actually work, and methods to retain veteran teachers. Professional development is critical in this mission.

**DIGITAL EDUCATION:** I'm not writing responses with generative AI, but I could be. We now live in a reality where we can fear technology or use it to our benefit. Understanding the

complexities of technology is something that I'm deeply interested in and on day one, I would prioritize ways to train teacher in digital instruction and new learning technologies (while also dedicating time to be understand tech ethics).

**RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS:** Religion has no place in our public schools. The First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guarantees the right to freedom of religion (including none). Christian ideology or curriculum in TX schools is an assault to this constitutional right. As educators, we can respect a student's individual right to freedom of religion while also maintaining the core belief of separation of church and state.

**OTHER ISSUES:** In addition to the issues above, I am deeply committed to the following: Ending school vouchers (which weaken our public school system), improving statewide math and literacy standards, making higher education more affordable (along with strengthening programs to prepare students for college, military, or career), and ensuring equal access to education for ALL Texans, regardless of status.

Website: [www.dana4txsboe8.com](http://www.dana4txsboe8.com)

**STATE SENATOR • DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

Four-year term. The Texas Senate has 31 members from separate districts across the state. With the Texas House of Representatives, the Texas Senate: enacts and amends laws; passes the state budget and raises or lowers taxes; passes proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution; and redraws congressional and legislative district maps every ten years. The Texas Senate has the exclusive power to approve or reject appointments made by the governor to fill vacancies in state or district offices and to hold trial for officials impeached by the Texas House of Representatives. Current annual salary: \$7,200, plus \$221 for every day the Legislature is in session, including any special sessions.

**QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

**STATE SENATOR, DISTRICT 11****Shannon Dicely**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** TX SD-11 has been my chosen home for nearly two decades, and I have watched as it has changed and grown. I have long been engaged in the community through volunteer work, neighborhood leadership, and local civic involvement. Recently, I graduated with my master's degree in political science, having gone back to school to better understand how the system works. As a mother and a cancer survivor, I have experienced the issues that are affecting our district firsthand—affordability, public education, and healthcare. But what qualifies me most for this is how I care deeply for the community and want to see it thrive. I will listen to constituents in every corner to fully understand their needs and properly represent all of SD-11 in Austin.

Website: [www.shannondicely.com](http://www.shannondicely.com)

**ISSUES:** 1. Affordability - Insurance costs are pricing families out of their homes, all while energy and healthcare costs are skyrocketing. We need to tackle this from both ends-increasing minimum wage as well as regulating home insurance, legislating consumer protections, and expanding Medicaid. 2. Public education - Our state constitution touts free public schools as essential to the preservation of the liberties and rights of the people, yet we underfund schools and drain resources from them. We must properly fund our public schools by raising the per student allotment and giving teachers and staff the significant pay raise and benefits they deserve. I am committed to listening to educators to create legislation that helps them in tangible ways.





## Cameron A. Rollwitz

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I completed my Master of Science in Psychology at the University of Houston–Clear Lake where my research focused on how people change their identity, sense of belonging, and purpose in life. I have worked full time since 2018, starting in the call center of a telecommunications company and am currently a Systems Specialist. My work experience is in data science, systems architecture, project management, process improvement, and automation engineering. I also own and operate a local hosting company. I have spent significant time and training developing a deep understanding of processes and process improvement. This is invaluable in creating efficient and effective legislation.

**Website:** [cameronfortxsenate.com](http://cameronfortxsenate.com)

**ISSUES:** 1. Introduce and Pass a direct to ballot initiative constitutional amendment. Direct to ballot initiatives allow for citizens of Texas to author and vote on specific issues they care about at the ballot box. 2. Texas Medicare for all through a constitutional amendment. I have developed a plan to convert business expenditures on healthcare premiums into a Texas insurance fund. This can be used to work with healthcare providers directly, develop hospital infrastructure in underserved communities, and maintain high standards of care.

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Two-year term. The Texas House of Representatives has 150 members from separate districts across the state. With the Texas Senate, the Texas House enacts and amends laws; passes the state budget and raises or lowers taxes; passes proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution; and redraws congressional and legislative district maps every ten years. The Texas House has the exclusive power to impeach officials. Current annual salary: \$7,200, plus \$221 for every day the Legislature is in session, including any special sessions.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 126

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### Stefanie Bord

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I'm a wife & mom to two daughters who's lived in our district for over a decade. During that time, I've experienced hurricanes and severe local flooding, power grid failures, our public school system unable to fully support its teachers and students, my healthcare choices be limited, my husband's career go on a roller coaster ride, & future opportunities for my children disappear. I'm mad that our current rep didn't stand up for public schools last session the way he promised to, & I vowed to give people a choice when it comes to their representation since the Harless family has held this seat almost uninterrupted since 2007. I'm ready to fight and be the change for our district & to make Texas a safer, smarter, stronger home for all of us!

**Website:** [www.stefaniebordfortexas.com](http://www.stefaniebordfortexas.com)

**ISSUES:** I'll pass laws about flooding in Texas: not building homes or other structures in floodplains; about the time between a warning from the NWS to when it's communicated to people in flood-prone areas; require appointed people along the river who'll be awake during a flood warning and respond appropriately. Second, every child in Texas deserves a free, fully funded public education. Teachers & staff shouldn't buy their own basic supplies, and shouldn't need a second job to stay afloat. We don't need more guns in schools either—we need students' basic needs met: with food, professional counseling services, and a safe and welcoming learning environment for every student, no matter their race, sexual orientation, learning style or ability.

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### Elizabeth Lotterhos

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am an Air Force Security Forces Veteran, an OIF Veteran, proud mother of two teenage boys, and I have lived in this district since June 2013. I am militantly empathetic. This means that no one is going to be able to negotiate my core beliefs out of me. I know that every Texan deserves life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness. Aside from that, I am consistently paying attention to politics, and I am fascinated with true history. All of this combined makes me qualified to be a Texas House Representative.

**Website:** [elizabethforprogress.com](http://elizabethforprogress.com)

**ISSUES:** 1) Convincing Republicans in the House that Progressive policies are popular. I plan to hold town halls in different areas of the district every month. I want to encourage civic engagement, and charter busses for my constituents to go to Austin to lobby the Texas legislature and tell their stories. 2) Being a Texas State Legislature is not a full time job. I plan to push the issue that it should be a full time job and should pay a livable wage. The way it is now, normal, working class people cannot afford to become a state representative, and current members use this as an excuse to not be available to their constituents. The only reason I am able to run for Texas House is because I am a service connected, disabled veteran.

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 130

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 130 • DEMOCRATIC PARTY



### Brett Robinson

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have a master's in public administration from the University of Houston, which I earned through a rigorous program that sharpened my skills regarding policy and data analysis, public management, budgeting, and administrative law. In other words, I understand the tools the public sector has at their disposal and how to use them to solve societal problems and deliver results. I am also dedicated to serving my community. I ran for this seat last cycle and personally knocked on more doors than any other candidate in Harris County, where I got the opportunity to learn more about what voters want from their representative. Come to find out, most of it is what I want, too. We want someone who is present, compassionate, and thoughtful.

Website: [www.brett4texas.com](http://www.brett4texas.com)

**ISSUES:** My answer would likely change day to day, but my top two priorities are to restore reproductive freedom and reduce income inequality. Starting with reproductive freedom, Texas has one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the nation. Women continue to die as they are denied critical care in life-threatening situations. Kate Cox's story shows us my opponent's abortion law is so extreme, it makes even intended pregnancies dangerous, and there are no exceptions for rape or incest. As for income inequality, Texas policies have been engineered to predominantly benefit the wealthy. Texans struggle, despite GDP growth every year. We must incentivize union membership and restructure our tax policy to support the low, middle, and working class.

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### Joel Camann

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I believe the strongest traits that qualify me are my sense of fairness, empathy, and desire to help people. One of my major criticisms of many politicians is that they often represent the interests of a group of people that are to the detriment of others. In my job as an environmental engineering project manager, I am dedicated to protection of the environment and have been helping my industrial clients comply with their obligations in cost-effective ways for more than 25 years. My job is all about solving problems and I am constantly looking for win-win solutions. I help develop these solutions by engaging the various stakeholders and a team of knowledgeable professionals and want to bring this same approach to Austin.

Website: [www.joeltexas.com](http://www.joeltexas.com)

**ISSUES:** Two issues are not covered in this survey. I know of at least 5 women in Texas who either lost their lives or nearly died since Roe v Wade was overturned due to laws prohibiting abortions in Texas. It is inexcusable that Austin lawmakers would override the ability of doctors to render life-saving care to Texas women. Mass shootings are on the rise over the last few decades, and it is outrageous that after these shootings, Republican politicians offer little more than "thoughts and prayers". How many more people must die before we take action? There are many good ideas offered by both sides of the political spectrum. When kids going to school are getting shot, we need to take any and all reasonable measures to try to prevent future attacks.

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 131

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 131 • DEMOCRATIC PARTY



### Lawrence Allen, Jr.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I spent most of my professional career as a teacher and administrator in the Houston Independent School District, the largest school district in Texas. I also served on the Texas State Board of Education for approximately 18 years. I believe my deep knowledge of the public education system makes me the candidate best equipped to face the challenges that our system is currently experiencing. With my training and experience as a public school teacher, I understand the barriers to learning for students, and what it is like to raise four children on a teacher's salary, and as a former administrator and member of the State Board of Education, I also have the benefit of seeing the bigger picture.

Website: [lawrenceallenjr131.com](http://lawrenceallenjr131.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues are public education and environmental justice. I would advocate for fair and adequate school funding, in order to increase teacher salaries, decrease class sizes, expand access to counselors and mental health services, and expand special education support. Our community is suffering from a disproportionate concentration of landfills and concrete aggregate facilities. The current distance requirements are too low, and the penalties and fines are often considered the cost of doing business. I would increase penalties and fines, and increase the required distance from residential neighborhoods.



### Erik Wilson

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have a unique skill set as an attorney that graduated from the University of Texas and being the son of former state representative Ron Wilson. I have worked in both the public sector at the Texas Secretary of State's office and I am a successful entrepreneur in the private sector. Due to these factors, my knowledge base and breadth of knowledge on the intricacies of getting things done between the public and private sector is second to none. Additionally, I do the work everyday to help the community instead of waiting until I'm in office that helps the residents of district 131.

Website: [erikwilsoncampaign.com](http://erikwilsoncampaign.com)

**ISSUES:** The current attacks on voter rights and redistricting have hurt people across the state of Texas and have made the system even more restrictive and confusing for Texas residents. I plan to work with other Democrats to fight further restrictions and make voting more accessible for Texas Residents. Secondly, the Democratic Party has been systematically weakened in the state and I intend to bring a new kind of leadership that will actively address our parties shortcomings and try to mend relationships with other legislators to put our party and state back on the right track.

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### Staci Childs

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I'm an attorney and former public school educator with experience in education law, policy, and governance. I have served on the Texas State Board of Education, where I have worked on curriculum standards, instructional materials, and statewide education policy affecting millions of Texas students. My background includes classroom teaching, legal analysis, and collaborative policymaking. I bring a strong understanding of public education systems, a commitment to equity and transparency, and the ability to work across diverse communities to improve outcomes for students, families, and educators.

**Website:** [www.childsfortexas.com](http://www.childsfortexas.com)

**ISSUES:** One issue is strengthening public education so all students have access to high-quality schools. I will support policies that ensure accurate, rigorous instructional materials, promote transparency in decision-making, and address inequities in student outcomes through targeted academic support and accountability. A second issue is ensuring that public systems support the overall well-being of communities. This includes improving access to affordable, accessible healthcare information and resources, and supporting a fair criminal justice system that emphasizes prevention, rehabilitation, and second chance opportunities. I will work collaboratively with community stakeholders to promote policies that are transparent and evidence-based.



### Crystal Dillard

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I'm a 17-year classroom teacher, lifelong community advocate, and proud host of the "Crystal Loves Texas" Podcast. Today, I stand before you as a candidate for Texas House District 131, ready to fight for a future rooted in Opportunity, Affordability, Accessibility, and Equity—My Four Promises. As an experienced educator, I've spent years engaging directly with the concerns and hopes of our community. Through my podcast, I've broadened that dialogue, brought more perspectives to the forefront, and connected the greater-Houston area to programs and opportunities they may not have known existed. Now, I'm seeking to serve in the Capitol because District 131 deserves representation that is informed, accessible, and action-driven.

**Website:** [crystaldillard4texas.com](http://crystaldillard4texas.com)

**ISSUES:** The two issues I believe to be most urgent are Affordability and Accessibility. Affordability means tackling the rising cost of housing, energy, and everyday essentials so families can build real stability. I promise to work hand in hand with municipal officials as well as national level agencies to ensure the availability of affordable housing for purchase and rent such as the expansion of down payment assistance opportunities in an expanded area of District 131. Accessibility means ensuring people can reach the resources they need: healthcare, transportation, higher education, and digital access in the homes of all primary and secondary public school students.



### TJ Baker

**QUALIFICATIONS:** MSL from GCU & BFA from TSU, providing a strong foundation in ethical leadership & governance aligned with Texas Education Code §11.1511. Served two elected terms as President of the FBEA, operating in compliance with Texas Labor Code §101.003 & Texas Government Code §617. Advanced student safety by spearheading speed bumps at Rosa Parks Elementary under TEC §37.108 & Transportation Code §545. Also led updates; FBISD Employee Handbook policies on sexual harassment & assault, aligning with Labor Code Chapter 21 & TEC §21.006 & advocated for family-friendly employment practices under TEC §21.404. Advocating SPED adult transitions aligns with TEC §29.011–§29.012 & 19 TAC §89.1055. Ready to serve District 131 with integrity & accountability!

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues in District 131 are economic stability for small businesses and financial security for senior citizens. Under Texas Government Code Chapter 481 and Local Government Code Chapter 380, I will support expanded access to grants, low-interest loans, and procurement opportunities for small and historically underutilized businesses. For seniors, I will advocate for full use of property tax relief under Texas Tax Code §11.13 and §33.06, and strengthen access to benefits under Human Resources Code Chapter 32. I will also support consumer protections under Business & Commerce Code Chapter 17 to guard seniors against fraud, ensuring economic dignity and stability for our community.

## » TEXAS PRIMARY ELECTIONS

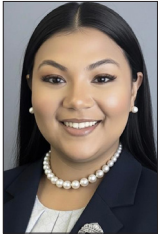
- The Republican and Democratic Parties each conduct primary elections to select the candidates that will represent their party in the November General Election.
- The Libertarian and Green Parties will each choose their candidates at their party conventions.
- Texas has open primaries. Texas does not ask voters to select a party preference at the time of registration. ALL REGISTERED TEXAS VOTERS CAN PARTICIPATE in the primary election of their choice. Simply declare your party preference at the polls or when you attend a party convention.
- Once a voter has voted in a party's primary election, that voter cannot participate in another party's election, runoff primary election or convention during the 2026 election year.

- And don't forget, voting in a party primary or participating in a party convention does not mean that you must vote for that party's candidates in the November General Election. In November, any voter may vote for any candidate on the ballot.
- Be a Texas Voter!

**Note:** This Voters Guide covers races that will be decided in a contested primary election, which at this time is the method used by the Democratic and Republican political parties. To learn more about how to participate in the selection of nominees for parties that use the convention process, Please contact that party.

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 139

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 139 • DEMOCRATIC PARTY



### Dominique Payton

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I believe my first qualification is that God actually called me to this position! Now, I do have a Bachelor's in Criminal Justice and experience as a pretrial services and parole officer. I have worked directly with individuals navigating the justice system and have led community programs focused on youth development, reentry, and workforce training. I bring persistence, integrity, and a commitment to equity in all my work. I've always been the leader and everything that I do, and this position in our legislation will be no different.

Website: [www.PaytonForTX139.org](http://www.PaytonForTX139.org)

**ISSUES:** Two pressing issues are criminal justice reform and education. I plan to reform prison operations to prioritize real rehabilitation, including vocational training, mental health support, and reentry programs to reduce recidivism. I will also address the school-to-prison pipeline by investing in youth programs, mentorship, and resources in schools to keep students on a path to success rather than incarceration. When our children are thriving all throughout their primary school career, and we equipped them with the resources and tools that they need when they become adults, they will be more fit for society and will not have to turn to a life of crime.



### Jerry Ford

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am qualified to serve as State Representative because I bring proven leadership, real-world experience, and a lifelong commitment to public service. I served more than 25 years with the Houston Fire Department, rising through the ranks and ultimately serving as Assistant Fire Chief, where I helped lead emergency response, public safety operations, and crisis management for one of the largest cities in the nation. That role required calm decision-making, accountability, and the ability to act decisively when lives were on the line. In addition to public service, I am a successful small-business owner and CEO, managing multiple businesses that provide insurance and financial services to families and small businesses.

Website: [Jerryfordfortexas.com](http://Jerryfordfortexas.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues facing our community today are public safety and affordable access to health care. Both are fundamental to quality of life, economic stability, and trust in government. Families cannot thrive if they do not feel safe in their neighborhoods or if they are forced to choose between medical care and paying their bills.



### Charlene Ward Johnson

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring more than 20 years of leadership experience through service on community boards and a 30 year career in Corporate America. As a former business owner, Civic Club president, and civic engagement volunteer, I have listened to the needs of our diverse community and brought resources and opportunities to the district. In 2022, I was elected to the Houston Community College Board of Trustees, where I advocated for funding for low cost courses, skills training, expanded workforce development training with a pathway to a career. I am currently the incumbent State Representative, I have used my leadership experience to continue to fight for the people of HD 139 to have safer neighborhoods, strong schools, and real opportunities

Website: [www.electcharlene.com](http://www.electcharlene.com)

**ISSUES:** 1. Addressing economic opportunity and cost-of-living pressures for working families. The Legislature must focus on policies that support job growth, workforce development, better schools, and quality education. Also, policies that will help reduce costs such as healthcare costs and property taxes are needed. Rising housing and living expenses require policies that support working people, retirees, seniors, etc 2. Another pressing issue is upgrading infrastructure—particularly flooding, the power grid and environmental health risks. I support continued state investment in flood mitigation, clean water infrastructure, and environmental protections to ensure families are safe and communities

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 142

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 142 • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

NO PHOTO  
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### Danyahel (Danny) Norris

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My training, experience, and characteristics uniquely qualify me to serve as State Representative HD-142. A first-generation graduate, I hold degrees in Chemical Engineering (UH), Library Science (UNT), and Law (TSU), and taught law students for 12 years. As Harris County Education Trustee (2019–2023), I managed a \$150M budget and fought for equitable funding. Since 2025, I've been Houston's first Prop A attorney, expanding democracy. As a voter-rights plaintiff and community leader (NSBE advisor and past president of the Houston Lawyer), I run a transparent, grassroots campaign—no corporate PACs. As a Houston-raised husband and father, I bring integrity, listening skills, and bold vision to deliver healthcare, schools, wages, and justice.

Website: [www.dannynorris4tx.com](http://www.dannynorris4tx.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues I'll face in office are chronic underfunding of public education and lack of affordable healthcare access in HD-142, where 20% poverty and 13% uninsured rates hit Black and Latino families hardest. For education, I'll repeal the 2.5% revenue cap, end HISD takeover laws, and push for recurring state funding at a 50% share (closing corporate loopholes), fully funding teacher raises and smaller classes without restrictions. For healthcare, I'll expand Medicaid and champion state-level Medicare for All reforms, redirecting funds to cover the uninsured for preventive care and mental health services. These specific plans—rooted in my experience as a trustee—will deliver equity and opportunity.

NO PHOTO  
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### Harold V. Dutton, Jr.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have represented District 142 since 1985.  
**ISSUES:** Preserving the District from any attempt to redraw lines and eliminate District 142. Secondly, public education particularly for our boys by having the accountability system reflect the level of success of our boys.



NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

### James Joseph

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring a combination of education, professional experience, and personal commitment that prepares me to serve effectively. I hold a bachelor's degree in Public Affairs with a minor in Business Administration from Texas Southern University, providing a strong foundation in public policy, budgeting, and organizational leadership. My experience includes community leadership, nonprofit and small-business work, real estate and collaborating with diverse stakeholders to solve real-world problems. I have worked closely with working families, retirees, educators, and labor-aligned organizations, giving me a practical understanding of workforce issues, healthcare, and economic development.

Website: [jamesjosephfortexas.com](http://jamesjosephfortexas.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues are affordability for working families and the security of public services. First, I will focus on rising costs—healthcare, housing, and utilities—by supporting policies that strengthen employer and state contributions to health plans, protect retirees from cost spikes, and invest in affordable housing and infrastructure that creates good-paying jobs. Second, I will work to protect and strengthen public education and essential public-sector services by supporting competitive pay, workforce training, and retirement security. My approach emphasizes collaboration with labor, responsible budgeting, and long-term solutions that put people before special interests.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE,  
DISTRICT 142  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 144



### Mary Ann Perez

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am currently serving my sixth term in the Texas House of Representatives. I serve as Vice Chair of the House Committee on Transportation, as a member of the House Committee on Licensing and Administrative Procedures, and as a member of the Permanent Standing Subcommittee on Transportation Funding. I was first elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 2012. Before serving as a State Representative, I was the Chairwoman of the Houston Community College Board of Trustees.

Website: [www.votemaryannperez.com](http://www.votemaryannperez.com)

**ISSUES:** Consumer protection is a priority. During the 86th, 87th, 88th, and 89th Sessions, I championed legislation to address card skimming at gas pumps and financial fraud. HB 2106 (87R) established the Financial Crimes Intelligence Center, which helps coordinate law enforcement efforts to better combat organized financial crimes. I am committed to further strengthening our efforts to safeguard Texans. Transportation safety and infrastructure improvement are priorities. Strong infrastructure is essential to economic growth, public safety, and quality of life. Specific to HD 144, I focus on balancing motorist safety with transportation initiatives that improve access around the Port and support our region's role as a key economic engine for Texas.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 144  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY

### Emmanuel Guerrero

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

### Michael Montemayor

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 149



### Mink Jawandor

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am an humble educator at college level, community oriented and a leader. Work few years for the federal government at the community level which gave me the opportunity to interact with locals in my district and more importantly I have lived in my district for nearly 3 decades continuously i understand I know the ins and out of our community.

**ISSUES:** \*My district is losing population \*Healthcare and immigration regulation because my district is an international district

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 149 • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

### Hubert Vo

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

### Dave Romero

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



### Darlene Breaux

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring over 25 years of experience as an educator, mentor, policy advocate, and Board President of Alief ISD, one of the most diverse districts in Texas. I've worked directly with legislators on bills impacting education, workforce stability, and student well-being, including advocating for educator wellness and learning support. I've led policy fellows through the Texas Education Policy Institute, where I help translate community needs into actionable policy solutions. I am also an Emerge alum and have participated in campaign and leadership training focused on running an effective campaign. My leadership training, governance experience, and deep understanding of state systems uniquely prepare me to serve effectively in the Legislature.

Website: [darlenebreaux.com](http://darlenebreaux.com)

**ISSUES:** I will advocate for increasing the basic allotment and strengthening funding for special education, bilingual services, and school-based mental health. I will oppose unfunded mandates and push for flexible, transparent funding that allows districts to meet student needs. My focus will be on policies that support the whole child while maintaining accountability. I will support workforce development programs tied to high-demand jobs and partnerships with local employers. I will advocate for small business access to capital and technical assistance, especially in working-class communities. I will also push for targeted infrastructure investments such as drainage, roads, and broadband to support economic growth and stability.

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 150

STATE REPRESENTATIVE,  
DISTRICT 150  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY

A'Yonna Kellum

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

R.L. Beatty

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

## CHIEF JUSTICE, COURT OF APPEALS • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Six-year term. There are 14 Courts of Appeals in Texas located in 14 cities throughout the state. Each of these Courts includes a Chief Justice and at least two other Justices. These Courts hear appeals on civil and criminal cases from lower courts in their districts. Current annual salary range: \$154,000 to \$184,800

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ETHICS:** How will you ensure your rulings remain impartial and free from both political pressure and the interests of your campaign donors?

**PHILOSOPHY:** What is your judicial philosophy?

**ISSUES:** What do you see as the most pressing challenge facing the courts today, and how would you propose addressing it?

## CHIEF JUSTICE, 14TH COURT OF APPEALS DISTRICT

CHIEF JUSTICE, 14TH COURT OF APPEALS DISTRICT  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

**Sarah Beth Landau**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I served six years as a court of appeals justice (2019-2024) and held a leadership role in hiring staff & creating and running the law student intern program. I have both civil and criminal experience.

**ETHICS:** Twelve years as a public defender is good practice for being independent and not being influenced by pressure or criticism. When I was elected, I did not accept special interest donations but after Elon Musk dumped millions of dollars into this local judicial race, that seemed quaint. When I work on cases, I block out the names of the attorneys so that I will not let unconscious bias affect me.

Website: [landaforjustice.com](http://landaforjustice.com)

**PHILOSOPHY:** I take to heart the words of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg: Get it right and keep it tight. Beyond this, I strive to write for the loser to explain as thoughtfully and clearly as I can how I have reached my decision. If there are two ways to decide a case, I choose the one that does the least harm to the parties, the law, and the legal system.

**ISSUES:** I think access to justice and timely justice are the largest issues facing the courts. I think our court could partner with the county law library to be a hub for resources for self-represented litigants and promote the Houston Bar Association's pro bono program. For timeliness, the court could implement internal deadlines beyond what the state requires and offer education.

**Connie Gonzales**

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



## NEED ASSISTANCE AT THE POLLS?

Every voter has the right to cast their ballot privately and independently. If you have a disability, you are entitled to accommodations and services to ensure your full participation on Election Day.

### Your Rights Include:

- Request curbside voting
- Use accessible machines
- Bring someone you trust to assist
- Ask for interpreter services

### Sus derechos incluyen:

- Solicitar votar desde su vehículo (votación desde la acera)
- Usar máquinas de votación accesibles
- Llevar a una persona de su confianza para que le ayude
- Solicitar servicios de interpretación



Call 866-OUR-VOTE for help or visit: [866ourvote.org](http://866ourvote.org)

Llama al 866-OUR-VOTE para recibir ayuda o visita: [866ourvote.org](http://866ourvote.org)

# JUSTICE, COURT OF APPEALS • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Six-year term. There are 14 Courts of Appeals in Texas located in 14 cities throughout the state. Each of these Courts includes a Chief Justice and at least two other Justices. These Courts hear appeals on civil and criminal cases from lower courts in their districts. Current annual salary range: \$154,000 to \$184,800

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ETHICS:** How will you ensure your rulings remain impartial and free from both political pressure and the interests of your campaign donors?

**EQUITY:** What role should the Supreme Court play in expanding access to justice for persons or groups who may be underserved?

**ISSUES:** What do you see as the most pressing challenge facing the courts today, and how would you propose addressing it?

**PHILOSOPHY:** What is your judicial philosophy?

## JUSTICE, 14TH COURT OF APPEALS DISTRICT, PLACE 7

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

### Michael Adams-Hurta

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Appellate law firm partner. Board Certified in Civil Appellate Law in Texas. Written over 100 appellate briefs. Participated in 8 criminal trials and 15 civil trials as court staff or legal counsel.

**ETHICS:** My lodestar will always be the people I serve and the job they elect me to do. "We the People" formed our laws through our constitution and statutes. I will always remember that the laws I interpret were created by and for the People. I will explain my reasoning in opinions written for the public, and I will also encourage my staff and other judges to challenge me if ever they think I stray.

**EQUITY:** The Court has a great pro bono program, and it should improve outreach of that program to ensure more people have access to their right to appeal adverse trial-court rulings. Also, judges should remember that their opinions are written for everyone. I will strive to draft opinions with more plain English and less legalese, so more Texans can understand the law without needing a lawyer.

Website: [www.adams-hurta.com](http://www.adams-hurta.com)

**ISSUES:** Courts face increasing pressure from partisan actors seeking political outcomes, not justice. Judges strive to be fair, but we all have our blind spots. Most of the judges on this Court are elected Republicans, and that is their blind spot. If such pressure comes, I will use my advocacy experience to persuade them to set aside those biases. If necessary, I will vigorously and publicly dissent.

**PHILOSOPHY:** Our society uses law to resolve disputes as peacefully as possible, so predictability and consistency matter. I will thus follow precedent and the plain meaning of the law where it clearly compels a certain result. But when the law or its application is unclear, I will carefully consider every possible argument or precedent and seek to protect individual rights and democratic values.

### Derek Obialo

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

### William Demond

**QUALIFICATIONS:** 14 years litigating constitutional rights (including recognition as a Super Lawyer), two years as a staff attorney to a court of appeals, dozens of appointments, and teaching law to lawyers yearly.

**ETHICS:** Appellate opinions usually contain a researched explanation that is developed with the assistance of staff attorneys and approved by at least two justices. These opinions are recorded and available for public scrutiny. My website has exemplars of my steadfast dedication to protecting the People's rights and I will not sacrifice my reputation to protect special interests.

**EQUITY:** The appellate courts can at least (1) remand with instructions to appoint (or reappoint) counsel when it is necessary and appropriate; (2) carefully review claims concerning

ineffective assistance of counsel; (3) teach lawyers and law students how to be better advocates; (4) educate organizations about resources through which counsel can be acquired; and (5) hire diverse interns and staff.

**ISSUE:** Partisan uniformity (at least with respect to Texas' appellate courts). I propose addressing it by being elected and continuing my longstanding practice of acquiring and training interns from diverse backgrounds.

**PHILOSOPHY:** Living constitutionalism supplemented by textualism (particularly outside of the constitutional context) and broad constructionism (particularly when interpreting ambiguities).

Website: [williamdemond.com](http://williamdemond.com)

## DISTRICT JUDGE • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

District courts are trial courts of general jurisdiction of Texas. They have original jurisdiction in felony criminal cases, divorce cases, cases involving title to land, election contest cases, civil matters in which the amount of money or damages involved is \$200 or more, and any matters in which jurisdiction is not placed in another trial court. The courts may specialize in civil, criminal, juvenile, or family law matters. Four-year term.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

## CIVIL DISTRICT JUDGE, 157TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CIVIL DISTRICT JUDGE, 157TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

### Whitney Jones Moore

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I earned my Juris Doctor and Master of Business Administration from the University of Akron and hold a Bachelor of Business Administration from Texas Southern University. I have over 12 years of experience as a trial attorney handling over 600 cases, practicing in litigation, family law, civil and criminal matters, which has provided extensive courtroom experience and exposure to complex legal issues. In addition, my background in business management equips me with the skills necessary to manage a high-volume docket effectively. I bring a balanced, prepared, and fair approach to the bench, along with a demonstrated commitment to access to justice and professionalism, which I believe makes me well-suited to serve the community in this role.

Website: [whitneyjonesmoore.com](http://whitneyjonesmoore.com)

**ISSUES:** 1. Managing growing caseloads and preventing backlog. To address this, I would implement early case management conferences, issue clear and enforceable scheduling orders, promptly rule on motions, and encourage early mediation when appropriate. I would also use technology for routine hearings and actively monitor aging cases to ensure they move forward efficiently. 2. Ensuring access to justice while maintaining fairness and neutrality. I would ensure clear court procedures, maintain consistent expectations for attorneys and pro se litigants, enforce professionalism, and provide understandable explanations of process as permitted by law. I would also provide detailed resources on my court website for self-represented litigants.



### Tanya Garrison

**QUALIFICATIONS:** In 2021, I was named Trial Judge of the Year by the Texas Association of Civil Trial and Appellate Specialists - one of only two sitting judges in Harris County to receive this award. I practiced civil law for 25 years. I am Board Certified in Civil Appellate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. I am a member of the State Bar College and the Society of Legal Scholars. I've also held this job for 7 years, where I volunteered to serve on the Juvenile Board, act as the Seizure & Forfeiture Judge, and organized the continuing education for sitting judges. I've consistently been one of the highest rated judges in the HBA Bar Poll, and I teach Trial Advocacy at the University of Houston where I also coach Mock Trial.

Website: [www.tanyagarrison.com](http://www.tanyagarrison.com)

**ISSUES:** Continuing to run an efficient docket and get cases to trial. I run a monthly pre-trial docket to assess the cases that are currently pending on the trial docket to assess which cases are ready to be tried and what issues exist that the Court may assist in to move a case toward resolution or trial.

## CIVIL DISTRICT JUDGE, 270TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CIVIL DISTRICT JUDGE, 270TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT • DEMOCRATIC PARTY



### Dedra Davis

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Over 7 successful years as a State judge, preceded by 22 years as the owner of a boutique law firm, and 10 years as a civil litigation paralegal have uniquely qualified me to continue serving as judge. As judge, I am proven. I provide intelligent, sound, fair and impartial rulings in a timely manner. I rule with high character, integrity, and compassion. I have traveled the world and understand that people need to be seen in order to be treated fairly. As the Civil District Court judge with the most trial verdicts since 2019, the most jury verdicts in 2025, and the most nonjury verdicts in 2025, I interact with a lot of people with varied backgrounds. I strive to make each person understand I care about them and how they are treated.

Website: [www.DeDraDavisForJudge.com](http://www.DeDraDavisForJudge.com)

**ISSUES:** Continuing to INCREASE access to justice and providing EQUAL access to justice are 2 pressing issues. As the current judge, I INCREASE access to justice every day by being creative & innovative. Thinking outside of the box has allowed litigants from all over the world to have their day in the 270th court without being crippled by high travel expenses, closed borders, or unnecessary time away from their families. Additionally, one of the most effective ways I provide EQUAL access to justice is by giving free copies of the court's official record to the litigants. I understand that many litigants are not able to pay the high costs of obtaining the court's record and end up being denied the chance to appeal their case to a higher court.

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### Jimmie L. Brown, Jr.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have practiced law for 42 years - including 300+ motions, depositions, hearings, and trials. Civil and commercial litigation, environmental law, consumer law, real estate law, contract law, medical malpractice, summary court martial officer, administrative law judge, federal and state practice and appellate experience - state and federal.

Website: [www.jbrownforjudge.com](http://www.jbrownforjudge.com)

**ISSUES:** Reducing back log and reducing the time from filing to mediation and trial. Reducing the back log, will require reading motions (discovery and for summary judgement), setting specific dates for discovery and summary judgment hearings, setting and requiring pre-trial conferences, setting cases for trial and proving not less than 12 hour notice. Making use of court reporters. Establishing a better working relationship with the court staff, bailiffs and court reporters. Jury trials and judge alone trials two weeks three months. Mandatory mediation. At pretrials, mandatory establishment of uncontested facts.





## Christine Weems

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have held this office for the last seven (7) years. I routinely receive favorable marks in the Houston Bar Association Judicial Evaluation Poll. Before taking the bench, I was a trial lawyer and because of my trial experience as a practicing lawyer, I became a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates - an honorary organization dedicated to the promotion and preservation of the Constitutional right to a jury trial in civil cases. I am also board certified in personal injury trial law and civil trial law. I'm an adjunct professor and the Director of Mock Trial at the University of Houston Law Center. I am not only licensed in Texas, but also in California and before the United States Supreme Court.

**Website:** [www.weemsforjudge.com](http://www.weemsforjudge.com)

**ISSUES:** 1) Dealing with court's backlog. We recently kept 10 cases on standby every two week trial setting in order to give lawyers adequate notice that they could be called to trial while still ensuring that the Court continues to move cases even if some of the cases settle the day before. We have recently upped the number to 15 in order to have more cases ready each setting. 2) Hearing availability. I am one of the few civil courts in Harris County that has multiple trial settings a week. I have an oral hearing docket Tuesday through Friday. This allows parties more flexibility to get a hearing before me as well as allows me to try cases five days a week. We have recently increased the number of cases heard each day to get more cases in.



## Amber Boyd-Cora

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I earned my Juris Doctor from Thurgood Marshall School of Law and have practiced law for many years with a focus on civil litigation. My work includes representing individuals and businesses in complex real estate, construction, and commercial matters. I have prepared and argued motions, handled cases through trial and appeal, and worked directly with clients and opposing counsel to resolve disputes efficiently and fairly.

**Website:** [www.abcforth281.com](http://www.abcforth281.com)

**ISSUES:** Civil courts face challenges related to efficiency, delays, and inconsistent case management. My plan is to promote clear scheduling orders, timely rulings, and active oversight of cases so matters move forward without unnecessary delay, while maintaining a professional courtroom where rules are applied consistently and all parties who appear before the court are treated with fairness, respect, and dignity.

# » VOTING FOR JUDGES IN TEXAS

Although in some states judges are appointed, most judges in Texas are elected. Voting decisions in judicial races are among the most important that a Texas voter makes.

## WHY ARE JUDICIAL ELECTIONS IMPORTANT?

Judges make decisions about fundamental issues that affect all of us — family life, education, healthcare, housing, employment, finances, discrimination, civil rights, public safety, and government actions. Those decisions can have long-lasting impact on individuals, groups, and the public as a whole. It is critical that our judges make fair decisions based upon open-minded and unbiased consideration of the facts and the law in each case. Judges must know the law and not be influenced by any external political and economic factors.

## WHAT SHOULD VOTERS LOOK FOR WHEN ELECTING JUDGES?

According to the American Bar Association, principles to consider in selection of judges include:

- Judges should uphold the rule of law.
- Judges should be independent and impartial.
- Judges should possess the appropriate temperament and character.
- Judges should possess the appropriate capabilities and credentials.
- Judges and the judiciary should have the confidence of the public.
- The judicial system should be diverse and reflective of the society it serves.
- Judges should be constrained to perform their duties in a manner that justifies public faith and confidence in the court.

Unlike candidates for most political offices, judicial candidates cannot make promises about decisions they would make when certain issues or types of cases come up in their court. Questions posed to judges, therefore, focus on improvements they would make to their court, the need for impartiality and how they would increase access to justice.

## HOW IS THE TEXAS COURT SYSTEM ORGANIZED?

The Texas court system is made up of a statewide network of trial courts and appellate courts. In trial courts, judges and/or juries evaluate the facts and the law and make a decision in a civil or criminal legal dispute. When decisions in most trial courts are appealed, they are sent to an appellate court where judges consider what happened at the trial court, evaluate legal arguments, and then decide if a mistake was made.

The state's two highest courts, the Texas Supreme Court and the Court of Criminal Appeals, have both administrative and appellate responsibilities. The Supreme Court is the final court of appeals within Texas for both civil and juvenile cases. The Court of Criminal Appeals hears criminal cases that are appealed from one of the 14 Courts of Appeals and death penalty cases that by law go straight to the Court of Criminal Appeals. Members of the Texas Supreme Court and the Court of Criminal Appeals are elected for six-year terms, with three elected every two years. Vacancies on either of these two courts are filled by gubernatorial appointment until the next general election.

## JUVENILE DISTRICT JUDGE, 315TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT



### Leah Shapiro

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am seeking my third term as Judge of the 315th District Court. I began my service to Harris County when I started my legal career as an Assistant District Attorney, almost 20 years ago. There, I trained as a litigator and tried cases ranging from misdemeanors to co-chairing capital murders (non-death). After almost five years at the Harris County District Attorney's Office, I joined the Harris County Public Defender's Office in 2011. I was a founding member and now preside over C.A.R.E. Court, which works with victims of sex exploitation and their families as they rebuild their relationships and lives. As presiding judge, I ended indiscriminate shackling for detained youth appearing in court and piloted the dual status docket.

Website: [JudgeLeahShapiro.com](http://JudgeLeahShapiro.com)

**ISSUES:** 1. This year a restructuring of our DFPS and foster care system, called Community Based Care, is rolling out in Harris County. It will give local organizations greater responsibility and support for children and families dealing with DFPS. I will continue to work with Depelchin Children's Center, the Single Source Continuum Contractor (SSCC), Texans Together, and other stakeholders for a smooth implementation while not compromising the opportunities for families. 2. Firearms are the leading cause of deaths among young people. The courts will work with the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department, law enforcement, school districts, and community stakeholders to educate and explore interventions to increase safety for our community.

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### Gloria Sanchez Glover

**QUALIFICATIONS:** For the last decade I have served our community advocating for families involved in the child welfare system. I began my career as a volunteer law student with the Harris County STAR Drug Court. There, I represented the interest of children and parents as the families participated in services to strengthen the family unit. As an assistant attorney for the OAG, I established financial support and conservatorship orders for the families in Harris County. As an associate judge for the 312th District Family Court, I was able to use my knowledge of child support, addiction, trauma, neglect and abuse to make rulings to resolve cases. In 2025, I rejoined the Harris County Attorney's Office as a senior attorney protecting children and families.

Website: [Gloverfor315.com](http://Gloverfor315.com)

**ISSUES:** I believe justice should be timely. I want to tackle the docket, set clear expectations and make prompt rulings so that cases move forward without unnecessary delay. Additionally, I would like to apply a trauma-informed approach that upholds the law while treating everyone with dignity and respect, reducing harm and aiding long-term outcomes to stabilize our families. By fostering an environment of dignity, the court can better support connections to community treatment, diversion programs, educational engagement and rehabilitation services. Juvenile courts work best when they are turning points. That requires addressing the underlying reasons youth enter the court system such as trauma, family instability and school disengagement.

## CRIMINAL DISTRICT JUDGE, 183RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

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### Julia Maldonado

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am qualified to serve as Judge of the 183rd Criminal District Court based on extensive courtroom and judicial experience. I have practiced criminal law for over 18 years as a criminal defense attorney and have eight years of judicial experience on the district court bench. I have litigated over 2,000 criminal cases, ranging from misdemeanors to complex felony matters, including serious violent offenses. I also handled criminal appeals before the Court of Appeals. As a judge, I have presided over jury trials, ruled on complex legal issues, and managed high-volume dockets with fairness and efficiency. This experience enables me to apply the law impartially, protect constitutional rights, and ensure the fair administration of justice.

Website: [www.judgemaldonado.com](http://www.judgemaldonado.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues facing the 183rd Criminal District Court are managing a high-volume docket and ensuring fairness and due process for all parties. Heavy caseloads can lead to unnecessary delays that affect victims, defendants, and public safety. I will address this through firm but fair docket management, early case evaluation, consistent scheduling, and encouraging timely resolution of cases without sacrificing defendants' constitutional rights. Equally important is ensuring equal access to justice. I will maintain a courtroom that is respectful, accessible, and transparent, ensure appointed counsel are available when required, and apply the law consistently so that every litigant is treated with dignity and fairness.

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### Katie Wilson

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a dedicated public servant and career-long criminal lawyer. I served as a prosecutor for nearly a decade and have practiced defense for more than six years, both in private practice and now as a public defender. I have completed more than 70 criminal jury trials, and have litigated hundreds of pre-trial, discovery, and post-trial issues. Over the past four years I have worked as an Assistant Chief in the Bail Division and as a Senior Litigator in the Mental Health Division. This most recent work with the Public Defender's Office has exposed me to the inner workings of the jail and our mental health system in Harris County in a way that has far better prepared me to effectively serve our community as a criminal District Court judge.

Website: [www.katiewilsonforjudge.com](http://www.katiewilsonforjudge.com)

**ISSUES:** The most pressing issues for the 183rd District Court are the backlog of cases and ensuring community safety while upholding the dictates of our Constitution. I will strictly adhere to our Constitution and run an efficient docket with dignity and respect for all who come in contact with the court. If elected I will work weekend shifts to ensure all defendants in my court have a bail set within 48 hours of arrest. I will also institute a standing discovery order to ensure evidence is presented to the District Attorney's Office and defense in a timely manner consistent with the dictates of Due Process. I want both the accused and victims to know they can count on the fair and timely resolution of their case in the 183rd District Court.



## Robert Johnson

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am the former judge of the 177th Criminal District Court in Harris County, Texas. I served as the presiding judge of that court for eight years (2017-2024) and oversaw the entire pre-trial, trial and post-trial process for felony cases (e.g., ruling on objections, jury selection, and sentencing). I have a proven track record of managing complex criminal cases and making well-reasoned decisions. I have over two decades of experience in the area of criminal law and had an extensive criminal defense practice prior to taking the bench. If elected, I am committed to following the law and remaining fair/impartial at all times. We need judges on the bench who are truly committed to improving our criminal justice system.

Website: [www.judgerobertjohnson.com](http://www.judgerobertjohnson.com)

**ISSUES:** If I am elected as judge, the two key issues for my initial focus will be reducing the case backlog and court trial docket. Based on the Harris County criminal district courts dashboard, the 209th Court has the lowest clearance rate for cases of the 29 criminal district courts. I will immediately put in place a docket management control system to address the backlog and trial docket, which I was able to successfully do in my prior tenure on the bench. All parties and the overall justice system is impacted when judges allow criminal cases to continuously get reset.



## Brian Edward Warren

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have 17 years as an attorney (5 as prosecutor, 12 as criminal defense attorney) and 7 years as judge. I tried approximately 75 cases as a lawyer and presided over almost 100 trials as judge, including capital murders. I have never been reversed by an appellate court in seven years—proving my legal expertise and sound judgment. I am the only candidate with death penalty experience from all three perspectives: prosecutor, defense attorney, and judge. I've reduced our docket from the highest in Harris County (1,700) to one of the lowest (700s) twice through innovative management. I'm consistently ranked among the top three judges by the Houston Bar Association. I was honored to be named the 2022 Texas District Judge of the Year.

Website: [JudgeBrianWarren.com](http://JudgeBrianWarren.com)

**ISSUES:** Issue #1: Defending Judicial Independence. Governor Abbott can now remove judges for bail decisions he disagrees with—a direct attack on Harris County's Democratic judges. My plan: continue making legally sound decisions that cannot be reversed on appeal. My seven-year record of never being reversed provides the strongest defense against politically motivated removal attempts. Issue #2: Criminal Justice Reform. Harris County needs to continue eliminating wealth-based bail, reducing mass incarceration, and treating all defendants fairly. I will continue efficient docket management that has eliminated the 209th backlog, make individualized bond decisions based on risk not wealth, and connect defendants to treatment rather than warehousing them



## Ysidra "Sissy" Kyles

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a criminal defense attorney with 14 years experience. My practice is primarily criminal in nature. I handle all levels of criminal cases - both misdemeanors and felonies. I am a criminal trial attorney and have represented clients from arraignment to jury verdict and sentencing. Prior to becoming licensed attorney, I was employed by Harris County Community Supervision and Corrections Department ("HCCSCD") as a community supervision officer ("CSO"), i.e., probation officer. My stint with HCCSCD lasted nearly a decade. While there, I was assigned to specialized caseloads and tasked with supervising persons charged with substance abuse and sex offenses. The experience I gained as a CSO introduced me to the court system.

Website: [ysidrakyles.com](http://ysidrakyles.com)

**ISSUES:** One issue will be that of maintaining public trust. When people walk into a courtroom, it is imperative that they feel a sense of trust as it relates to the person presiding over their cases. Second is the issue of political pressure. Both issues are related, but different. Yes, it is extremely important that people trust their judges, but what is equally important is the assurance that a judge's rulings are based solely on the law and that they are not the results of political persuasion and prompting. I strongly believe that by extending an open ear to the community and actively listening to the community's concerns, I will be successful in not only establishing trust, but also a respectful rapport within the community.



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## CRIMINAL DISTRICT JUDGE, 232ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT



**Josh Hill**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My legal career of 20+ years has been dedicated exclusively to criminal law, mostly in Harris County. I interned and later served as an Assistant District Attorney for Harris County for almost a decade before becoming a criminal defense lawyer. I have been Judge of the 232nd Criminal District Court since 2019, and I have been board certified in criminal law for 11 years. As both a prosecutor and defense lawyer, I tried 50+ criminal cases to a jury, from misdemeanors to capital murder. I have also handled post-conviction, actual innocence, and appellate matters successfully both for the State and defense. As judge, I have presided over dozens of felony trials, including capital murder. I have meaningful criminal law experience on all sides.

Website: [www.judgejoshhill.com](http://www.judgejoshhill.com)

**ISSUES:** If re-elected, I must continue reducing the backlog without creating undue pressure that can sacrifice a just result. This year, I changed the court's scheduling process to resolve cases quicker, and I became more directly involved in discovery matters and other causes of delay. These changes reduced the docket by almost 1000 cases. As the backlog shrinks, I will be even more aggressive with the scheduling timeframes and court involvement to eliminate the backlog within a year. The other issue is loss of faith in the judicial system due to misinformation and politicization. I will participate in speaking engagements and media appearances to explain the independent and neutral nature of the judiciary and to correct the inaccurate narratives.



**Roderick Deon Rodgers**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring extensive courtroom experience as a veteran prosecutor handling serious criminal matters, victim advocacy, and contested hearings. As a licensed peace officer, I have a practical understanding of law enforcement operations, the responsible use of discretion, and constitutional policing. I am also an Army veteran, and that service instilled in me a lifelong commitment to discipline, integrity, and service before self. I view public service as a responsibility to the community, not a position of power. I am trained in criminal procedure, evidence, trial advocacy, and ethical decision-making, with years of experience applying the law in high-stakes situations that directly impact families, victims, and community trust.

**ISSUES:** This court has faced significant scrutiny over bond decisions that have placed the public at risk. I will implement a bail checklist that balances due process with public safety by considering the nature of the offense, prior supervision status, victim safety, and statutory limits on personal recognizance (PR) bonds. The second issue is case backlog. This court has managed one of the highest caseloads for eight consecutive years. Effective docket management begins with a comprehensive case audit to identify older cases. Prioritizing aging cases reduces the risk of dismissals and prevents pressure to resolve matters for improper reasons.

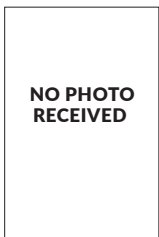
## CRIMINAL DISTRICT JUDGE, 496TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT



**Michael Abner**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have been a prosecutor for over a decade where I have tried numerous felony criminal cases in front of juries. I have also tried felony cases as a defense lawyer.

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues are dealing with a court backlog and running an efficient docket. My plans would be to conduct jury trials in a timely manner that does not prejudice the state nor the defense in having the sufficient amount of time to prepare for trial. I would also start court timely every day and not have defendants continuously have to appear for court in non dispositive settings.



**Ramona Franklin**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am qualified for this position based on my experience as a felony district court judge, along with prior service as both a prosecutor and defense attorney. I have presided over complex criminal matters with fairness, judicial restraint, and respect for due process. Having served in challenging and highly scrutinized environments, I am experienced in exercising independent judgment free from political pressure, while upholding the integrity, impartiality, and professionalism required of the judiciary.

**ISSUES:** Two of the most pressing issues in a felony district court are administering justice fairly and efficiently and maintaining public confidence in the courts. I will address these issues by managing the docket responsibly, applying the law consistently, and ensuring that individuals who appear in court understand the process and their rights. I strive to maintain a courtroom environment grounded in professionalism, transparency, and respect, so cases are handled fairly, resolved in a timely manner, and consistent with due process and the rule of law.

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**WWW.LWVHOUSTON.ORG**



## COUNTY JUDGE • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Presiding officer of Commissioners Court which has budgetary and administrative authority over all county government operations: adopts and approves the county's budget; sets tax rates; fills vacancies and appoints officials; calls for bond elections; builds and maintains county infrastructure such as roads and bridges; oversees courthouses, jails, libraries, parks and Harris County Flood Control District. Also, county's director of emergency management. 4-year term.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.



#### Matt Salazar

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring executive experience, operational discipline, and a working understanding of how Harris County functions. I've built and operated small businesses, managed payroll and compliance, and balanced budgets where decisions carried real consequences. That work trained me to prioritize outcomes, manage risk, and remain accountable to those affected. I've spent years engaging with residents, parents, educators, and small-business owners while closely studying Commissioners Court, county budgets, and long-term planning. I lead by listening first, evaluating what works, correcting what doesn't, and focusing on measurable results. My qualifications rest on practical management experience and informed, responsible governance.

Website: [www.votemattsalazar.com](http://www.votemattsalazar.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues facing the Harris County Judge are governance capacity and resilience under stress. First, Harris County struggles with execution—programs are funded but not always measured or coordinated. My plan is to require clear performance metrics, regular outcome-based reporting at Commissioners Court, and to link future funding to results, not intent. Second, Harris County remains vulnerable to shocks—flooding, power failures, economic disruption, and rapid growth. I will advance integrated long-range planning that aligns infrastructure, emergency readiness, and fiscal discipline so the county can respond quickly without improvisation or excessive cost. Both demand leadership that delivers results, not rhetoric.



#### Letitia Plummer

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am uniquely qualified to serve as Harris County Judge, bringing a blend of executive experience and a real commitment to equity. As a small business owner for 25 years and a Houston City Council Member, I have the fiscal discipline and leadership needed to manage our multibillion dollar budget on day one. As the most progressive candidate in this race, I am the leader Harris County needs to move beyond the status quo with bold, future focused solutions. My record shows I do not back down. I have led through six major disasters, fought for environmental justice in the 5th Ward, and passed landmark apartment reforms. I am a principled advocate who will challenge the establishment to ensure accountability and fairness for every resident.

Website: [www.drletitiaplummer.com](http://www.drletitiaplummer.com)

**ISSUES:** Justice Decarceration and Reinvestment: Immediately shift County funding and policy to maximize Cite and Release, expand the Public Defender's Office, and invest in non-police emergency response to dramatically reduce the jail population and end the cycling of black and brown individuals through the justice system. Community Health, Resilience Equity Access: Aggressively fund the strategic expansion of Harris Health Satellite Clinics or Mobile units into underserved communities of color, while championing Medicaid Expansion and fully resourcing behavioral and mental health services to address the root causes of instability and the high uninsured rate. Support and fund the Community Flood Resilience Task Force (i.e. Resilience HUBS)

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#### Annise Parker

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am the only Houston leader to have served as City Councilmember, City Controller, and Mayor. I managed multi-billion-dollar budgets, oversaw thousands of employees, led emergency response during major storms, and delivered long-term infrastructure investments. As Controller, I built deep expertise in fiscal oversight and accountability. As Mayor, I governed during economic downturns while protecting core services, without raising the tax rate. I have extensive experience protecting and managing the city during natural disasters and emergencies. This experience directly aligns with the County Judge's responsibility to manage budgets, set policy direction, manage emergencies, and coordinate across departments and jurisdictions.

Website: [www.AnniseParker.com](http://www.AnniseParker.com)

**ISSUES:** My top priorities are: First, to deliver equitable, data-driven infrastructure investments that reduce flooding, improve mobility, and correct historic underinvestment in working-class neighborhoods. Second, to strengthen county public health and safety systems by expanding access to preventive care, mental health services, and coordinated responses to homelessness, while ensuring transparency and accountability in public safety practices. My plan relies on the core powers of the County Judge: budgeting, agenda-setting, coordination, and coalition-building. I will insist on transparency through public dashboards, regular reporting, and open engagement so residents can track progress and hold county government accountable.

# JUDGE, COUNTY CIVIL COURT AT LAW • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Presides over original and appellate county civil cases; exclusive jurisdiction over eminent domain proceedings. Decides title issues on real/personal property. Hears suits to recover damages for slander/defamation of character; enforcement of liens on real property valued at \$200 or more; corporate charter forfeitures; and recovery of real property. Four-year term.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

## JUDGE, COUNTY CIVIL COURT AT LAW NO. 2

JUDGE, COUNTY CIVIL COURT AT LAW NO. 2 • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

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### Ebony N. Williams

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have been a licensed attorney for over 14 years and have been a public servant with the Texas Attorney General for a number of years. I have experience in various areas of law and believe that knowledge base allows for me to be the ideal candidate for this office. I have handled different levels of civil matters included but not limited to personal injury cases, probate, and family law matters. I currently have my own law practice dedicated to helping everyday Texans resolve their legal issues.

Website: [ebonywilliamsforjudge.com](http://ebonywilliamsforjudge.com)

**ISSUES:** 1) Access to justice and court inefficiency. Specific plan: As a judge, I can promote docket efficiency while ensuring fairness and clarity in proceedings. This includes running a courtroom that is organized, timely, and accessible; clearly explaining procedures; ensuring self-represented litigants understand their rights; and enforcing rules evenly. Providing readily available literature and resources in the courtroom to ensure people have the knowledge of what information is out there in a public domain that they can utilize to hopefully obtain legal assistance.

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### Jim F. Kovach

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am qualified to be re-elected judge of Harris Co. Civil Court at Law No. 2 because I have 34 years of experience as a lawyer in this court. As judge I have tried thousands of bench trials and hundreds of jury trials. The Houston Bar Association's current Judicial poll rated me as the top county civil court at law judge with 84% of respondents rating me as excellent or very good overall. This poll rating is important because it is from the lawyers that practice in this particular court. I was rated on categories such as follow the law, rules decisively and timely, is courteous, demonstrates impartiality, uses attorneys' time efficiently, and works hard and is prepared. My campaign slogan is "Life isn't fair, but your judge should be."

Website: [KovachforJudge.com](http://KovachforJudge.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues are dealing with the high volume of cases and ensuring equal access to justice for all litigants. The county civil courts at law are low dollar, high volume courts that handle cases under \$325,000 and appeals from the 16 justice of the peace courts. Last year my colleagues and I were able to create a 5th court and this will help with backlogs. I currently have a 103% clearance rate so I exceed state goals. Use of case management systems and early dispute resolution services help alleviate backlogs. We can improve equal access to the court by using clear, plain language on our notices and leveraging technology such as Zoom to provide remote hearings for those who can't take off work or travel to court.

## JUDGE, COUNTY CIVIL COURT AT LAW NO. 3

JUDGE, COUNTY CIVIL COURT AT LAW NO. 3 • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

### Lashawn A. Williams

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

### Miroslava "Miro" Mendiola

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My experience as a trial lawyer has been invaluable in preparing me to become a judge. Through my years of practice, I've developed a deep understanding of courtroom procedures, legal principles, and how to make fair and informed decisions. This hands-on experience helps me to evaluate cases from all perspectives, ensure justice is served, and apply the law impartially. Being a trial lawyer has taught me to think critically, manage complex legal arguments, and remain unbiased, all of which are essential skills for a judge.

Website: [www.miro4judge.com](http://www.miro4judge.com)

**ISSUES:** Two of the biggest challenges we face in the court system today are the backed-up docket and the growing number of self-represented litigants. The backlog of cases leads to delays in justice, which can be frustrating for everyone involved. One solution to this issue is increasing efficiency through technology and improving case management systems to prioritize and streamline cases. The second challenge is the rise of self-represented litigants. Many individuals can't afford legal representation and end up navigating the system on their own, which can be overwhelming. To address this, we can expand access to legal resources, provide self-help tools, and offer more guidance for those who need it by adding a virtual self-help kiosk.

# JUDGE, COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT AT LAW • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Exclusive original jurisdiction over misdemeanors where the fine allowed exceeds \$500 or confinement in the county jail does not exceed one year. Decisions from the municipal and justice of the peace courts may be appealed to county criminal courts at law. Four-year term.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

## JUDGE, COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT AT LAW NO. 7



### Andrew A. Wright

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have extensive misdemeanor (and felony) experience throughout Harris and many other counties. I was a criminal defense attorney for approximately ten years (2009 – 2019, when I took the bench). In those ten years I tried cases from Galveston to Fort Collins, Colorado. I was very involved in many local defense bar associations as well. I had a very heavy indigent defense docket and was on the appointment lists in Harris, Galveston and Fort Bend Counties. I am board certified in Criminal Law since 2020. Since being on the bench, I have worked very hard to keep my docket manageable and tried many cases, over 100 as a judge. I know the law and can efficiently handle a docket.

**ISSUES:** One pressing issue is making sure the O'Donnell consent decree stays in place. Currently there are efforts to dismantle that agreement which will set Harris County back and force mass incarceration of too many people. Keeping low level offenders out of the Harris County jail is smart from a fiscal standpoint as well as community standpoint. I think what we created in that decree is the right thing and hope to see it upheld in the future. A second pressing issue is to make sure that the timelines on each case are not too long so that the community and defendants feel as their cases are not being handled professionally and efficiently.



### Rustin Foroutan

**QUALIFICATIONS:** In Law school I participated in the Innocence clinic. I learned the importance of fair justice by talking to people who I believed were actually innocent. I then interned for a local criminal defense attorney (Jim Sims) who taught me the importance of listening and caring for people and encouraged me to be a prosecutor. I went on to become a prosecutor in Harris County and left as a misdemeanor chief to be a public defender in the mental health unit. I am the only candidate that has experience on both sides. I believe people deserve to be heard, treated with fairness, integrity, and compassion. Justice is about accountability applied fairly without bias.

Website: [www.rustinforjudge.com](http://www.rustinforjudge.com)

**ISSUES:** 1. I want people to feel like they are heard and treated with dignity and respect. I have been informed by attorney's practicing in Harris that the current Judge often does not waive court costs for the truly indigent and as a public defender that is appalling. My plan is to waive court costs for those who are truly indigent. 2. I will ensure that prosecutors and defense attorneys have adequate time to negotiate and enter into pre-trial intervention (PTI) agreements. Attorneys practicing in Harris County have informed me that the current judge imposes very strict timelines for PTI applications, which can sometimes result in unnecessary convictions on defendants' records. My plan is to give the attorneys time to negotiate PTIs.

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### Jorge Garcia Diaz

**QUALIFICATIONS:** For the past 6 almost 7 years I have worked as an assistant public defender in Harris County. I handle cases ranging from misdemeanors to first degree felonies. I have extensive experience in the criminal courts of Harris County and I routinely attend trainings to continue being a fierce advocate. Throughout my time working as a public defender, I have learned many of the issues that affect our community. I have represented people of all races, ethnicities and backgrounds which has given me a better insight into challenges our diverse community faces. I know what it takes to make our community safer and stronger.

**ISSUES:** One of the biggest issues affecting all courts is the backlog of cases. I plan to address this by making sure that there are strict guidelines and timeframes for cases to get resolved. It is the responsibility of a Judge to set the pace for the court. I will bring fairness and efficiency to this court. Additionally, community safety is another important topic to the residents of Harris County. If elected, I will implement court conditions that will be tailored to each specific case. I will look into the issues of each case and make determinations on bail and conditions based on all the facts presented. I will be fair, respectful and impartial to everyone that comes through the court.

## JUDGE, COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT AT LAW NO. 14

JUDGE, COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT AT LAW NO. 14 • DEMOCRATIC PARTY



### Yahaira Quezada

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring a variety of work and life experiences. I have been a licensed attorney for eighteen years. I have extensive trial and litigation experience. Currently, and for the past seven years I have served as Associate Judge for the 246th Family District Court. I have also practiced law as an Assistant District Attorney and in private practice: criminal defense, family law, child welfare, juvenile law and immigration law. Additionally, I am an Adjunct Professor for Paralegal students. I am also bilingual, speaking, reading and writing English and Spanish. I am a first-generation college graduate and an immigrant growing up in the South Bronx. Harris County has been my home for over eighteen years.

Website: [www.votejudgequezada.com](http://www.votejudgequezada.com)

**ISSUES:** Bail Reform. I want to ensure that the O'Donnell consent decree continues to be enforced and followed. I am committed to finding creative ways to keep the wheels of justice running and cases adjudicated promptly. The accused and the alleged victims need their day in Court. I plan to use my experience to adjudicate and close cases as quickly as possible so that people can move on with their lives and the jails are not overcrowded with people waiting for their day in court. Rehabilitation over incarceration. When we talk about public safety and misdemeanor cases, it is important to see each individual and not just the crime. We must be responsive in a manner which develops solutions and not merely dispenses punishment, where appropriate.



### James Hu

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My candidacy is defined by nearly a decade of high-level litigation and leadership within the criminal justice system. I currently serve as a Chief Assistant District Attorney, where I supervise prosecutors and manage a complex caseload. My experience spans the entire judicial spectrum. I have handled everything from misdemeanor traffic violations to sophisticated federal fraud cases as a former Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of Texas. Beyond the courtroom, I obtained both JD and MBA degrees from the University of Houston. This background provides me with the unique advantage of making decisive, informed rulings and also the organizational expertise to manage a high-volume docket.

Website: [www.jameshuforjudge.com](http://www.jameshuforjudge.com)

**ISSUES:** First, County Criminal Courts offer a critical window to intervene in low-level offenses before they escalate. I am committed to revamping our diversion and community supervision programs to ensure they are more than just paperwork. When a defendant chooses a path toward rehabilitation, I will be a hands-on partner in their success—actively connecting them with resources and monitoring their progress to reduce recidivism and strengthen our community. Second, judicial efficiency in my courtroom will mean more than just processing paperwork. I will maintain a disciplined scheduling order and remain strictly neutral in plea negotiations, ensuring my focus stays on the law.

## JUDGE, PROBATE COURT • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Jurisdiction over decedent's estates (probating wills, determining heirship, appointing executors and administrators), guardianships (including determining the need for a guardian and appointment of a guardian), and issues involving trusts. Probate courts have jurisdiction over lawsuits by or against executors, administrators, guardians, and trustees. Four-year term.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

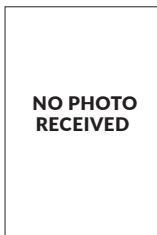
**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

## JUDGE, PROBATE COURT NO. 4

JUDGE, PROBATE COURT NO. 4  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY

### James S. Horwitz

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



NO PHOTO  
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### Lema May Mousilli

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring nearly two decades of experience as a trial and appellate attorney representing individuals and businesses in state and federal courts. My background includes work as a felony prosecutor and civil trial attorney, with experience in commercial litigation, personal injury, counterterrorism matters, family law, immigration, probate, and medical device litigation. For several years, my practice has focused on complex commercial and intellectual property litigation, requiring disciplined case management and timely, well-reasoned decisions. I also served as an adjunct professor and manage my own law firm, leading staff and large dockets. As a first-generation immigrant and single mother, I am committed to fairness and justice.

Website: [www.votelema.com](http://www.votelema.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues in Probate Court No. 4 are docket backlog and access to justice. First, persistent backlog delays resolutions for estates and guardianships. I plan to address this through active case management, firm scheduling orders, early status conferences, and differentiated case tracks so routine matters move quickly and complex cases receive focused attention. I will also responsibly use technology, including AI-assisted docket tools, to identify stalled cases and improve workflow, while ensuring all decisions remain human and grounded in law. Second, many litigants are pro se or in crisis. I'll enhance access via clear procedures, plain-language guides, efficient hearings, timely rulings, and a respectful courtroom.



# COUNTY ATTORNEY, UNEXPIRED TERM • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Represents the county, flood control district, toll road authority, and multiple emergency network agencies, in all civil legal matters on behalf of Harris County residents. Provides legal advice to Harris County government, elected officials, and employees, and represents them in civil lawsuits. Operates enforcement program to protect consumers, public health, and environment. 4-year term.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.



### Abbie Kamin

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I was involved in successful challenges to discriminatory voting schemes by the state, including involvement in voter-ID litigation and redistricting litigation. I've served as a Committee Director and Clerk for the State House. During law school, I was with minority counsel for the Congressional House Oversight & Government Reform Committee. As the Associate Regional Director for the Anti-Defamation League, I managed hate-crime/incident intake for half the state and was one of the only attorneys in the region to successfully gain entry into a immigration child-detention center fighting to unify separated children. I've worked with every-level of government for our communities, bringing both legal and executive-level governance expertise.

**Website:** [www.AbbieKamin.com](http://www.AbbieKamin.com)

**ISSUES:** There are a number of issues where we can build on the progress of the current county attorney: (1) Reform the Children's Protective Services and Department of Family Services divisions to ensure transparency and the best scenarios for children in CPS, protecting parents rights whenever possible; (2) Expand our capacity to protect neighborhoods and residents, including creating a portal where residents can submit complaints for potential investigation; (3) Create a new division to handle the increase in civil rights complaints; (4) Create an immigrants know-your-rights program and a portal where residents can upload evidence of law enforcement (ICE) misconduct; (5) Improve transparency and public access to all services in the office.

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### Audrie Lawton Evans

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I'm the only candidate with both trial and judicial experience. I earned my J.D. from Thurgood Marshall School of Law and have dedicated my career to serving Harris County. As Judge of Civil Court at Law No. 1, I've presided over thousands of civil cases mirroring the County Attorney's daily work. Before the bench, I was an Asst. Attorney General overseeing civil litigation and a Sr. Trial Attorney where I tried over 50 jury trials. My experience as in-house counsel managing 50+ staff prepared me to lead the County Attorney's 300+ employees. This combination of civil litigation expertise, trial skills, judicial perspective, and governmental experience has prepared me to represent Harris County and fight for all residents from day one.

**Website:** [audrieforcountyattorney.com](http://audrieforcountyattorney.com)

**ISSUES:** Harris County faces relentless attacks from right-wing extremists trying to undermine our government, suppress voters, and overturn the people's will. From Abbott to Paxton to Trump, we're a prime target facing illegal election interference, school district takeovers, and attacks on our officials. As County Attorney, I'll fiercely defend Harris County in court and publicly, fighting voter suppression, protecting elections and officials, and challenging state overreach. Corporate polluters are poisoning our communities, especially working-class neighborhoods. Chemical facilities, creosote, and concrete batch plants countywide create cancer clusters. I'll aggressively sue violators, challenge weak permits, and force cleanup.



## IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Texas law does not allow voters to access information or personal notes using electronic devices (such as mobile phones or tablets) while at the polling place. However, you may take printed or handwritten notes into the voting booth, including a printed copy of this Voters Guide.

## DISTRICT CLERK • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Serves as registrar, recorder, and custodian of all court pleadings, instruments, and papers that are part of any legal cause of action in the Harris County district courts and the county criminal courts at law. Assesses and collects court costs, fines, and fees.  
Maintains the court registry. Manages juror summons and selection process for the courts.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

**Angie Dozier**

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED**



**Roslyn "Rozzy" Shorter**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a proven coalition builder and results-driven leader with over 25 years of management experience and more than 15 years of leading teams. I currently serve as a Parole Revocation Hearing Administrator with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, coordinating hearings and managing sensitive records to ensure accuracy, compliance, and adherence to statutory requirements, core functions that align directly with the District Clerk's Office. I also advanced to the runoff for this seat in 2018 and have since intentionally prepared for this role. My educational background, combined with my expertise in judicial operations, nonprofit leadership, and financial management, prepares me to serve with excellence and be effective from day one.

Website: [www.RoslynShorter.com](http://www.RoslynShorter.com)

**ISSUES:** Two of the most pressing issues I will face are modernizing jury services and improving efficiency through technology. To address jury challenges, I plan to expand and diversify the jury pool while ensuring constitutional compliance, building on successful improvements to online registration and management. For efficiency, I will continue advancing digital solutions like e-filing, e-plea processing, and electronic document management, reducing delays, cutting costs, and improving accessibility for attorneys and the public, ensuring the office operates seamlessly in both standard and crisis conditions. My commitment to fiscal responsibility and innovation ensures the District Clerk's Office operates efficiently, saving taxpayers' dollars.

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**Donna G. Glover**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring over 20 years of experience in administration, program, non-profit, and education management by handling complex operations, maintaining accurate records, ensuring compliance with policies and deadlines, as well as implementing systems to improve efficiency and accountability. My professional training includes strategic planning, process improvement, technology integration, and staff supervision—skills essential to overseeing a large public office and supporting the courts. As an educator and administrator, I have extensive experience safeguarding sensitive information, producing accurate documentation, and providing consistent, high-quality service to diverse populations. I am well-versed in working with all stakeholders.

Website: [www.donnaglover.com](http://www.donnaglover.com)

**ISSUES:** The District Clerk's office processes and safeguards millions of records. Delays or errors can disrupt court proceedings and harm public trust. I will conduct a comprehensive review of workflows to identify issues and redundancies, implement standardized procedures across divisions, and strengthen quality-control checks to reduce errors. I will prioritize staff training to ensure consistency, and work with county partners to fully leverage technology for timely filings, and reporting. Also many residents find the court system difficult to navigate, which discourages participation and disproportionately affects communities with limited resources. I will expand user-friendly online services with language access and community education.

**Desiree Broadnax**

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED**

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**Jose "Alex" Maldonado**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As an educator with an academic background in applied mathematics and statistics, I am trained to analyze data, improve process outcomes, and evaluate performance targets through hands-on work in the classroom and across my campus. I also have experience in implementing user-friendly digital tools that promote accessibility, clear communication, and efficiency for all users. The 21st century has transformed technology and human interaction. My research at Rice University and implementation of culturally relevant pedagogy reflects my ability to adapt to how people engage, communicate, and learn. As a Music Coordinator, I applied this same approach by implementing live-streaming services to maintain operations and community engagement.

Website: [www.alexmaldonadotx.com](http://www.alexmaldonadotx.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues in the District Clerk's Office are ensuring an efficient user friendly IT system and retaining qualified employees. I would expand the easy-to-use online tools that allow residents to securely access their records, track case status in real time, and understand the stage of their filing. Similarly, invest in systems that streamline workflows, reduce duplicate data entry, and minimize manual corrections for staff and judges. Employee retention is essential to preserving specialized knowledge in the District Clerks Office. This requires conducting a pay comparison study with similar roles across county agencies. As well as establishing structures and consistent training programs for onboarding new clerks.

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### Pernell Davis

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I currently serve as Deputy Chief of Staff in the Harris County Commissioner Precinct 2 Office, where I help lead an organization of more than 400 employees and manage complex operations, multimillion dollar budgets, and cross departmental initiatives. In this role, I have developed a practical, working understanding of how Harris County government functions, how departments coordinate, how budgets are executed, and how operational decisions translate into real outcomes for residents. The Harris County District Clerk's Office is one of the largest and most operationally complex administrative offices in county government. My career has been defined by managing complex public systems, large budgets, and diverse teams in Harris County.

Website: [www.pernelldavis.com](http://www.pernelldavis.com)

**ISSUES:** I will make targeted changes to improve how the Office serves the public, attorneys, and the courts: Improve online access to court records and case information, expanding transparency and making it easier for users to track filings, deadlines, and case status. Strengthen and modernize the jury process -- jury service is one of the most direct ways residents interact with our justice system, and it should be efficient, respectful, and transparent. Enhance the passport acceptance program by improving appointment availability, customer service standards, and operational efficiency. And standardize customer service expectations, invest in staff training, and strengthen coordination with judges, court staff, and county partners.

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### Darrell Jordan, Jr.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring a unique combination of legal, judicial, and leadership experience that directly aligns with the responsibilities of the District Clerk's office. I've practiced law for 20 years and served as a Harris County Criminal Court Judge for 8 years, giving me an in-depth understanding of court operations, case flow, filings, jury management, and the real-world impact administrative efficiency has on justice.

I have worked daily with district clerks, court staff, attorneys, and the public, and I understand where breakdowns occur and how to fix them. My 24 years in the Army/Texas Army National Guard, including senior leadership roles, has given me extensive experience in managing large teams and leading organizational change.

Website: [www.darrelljordanjr.com](http://www.darrelljordanjr.com)

**ISSUES:** 1. Modernizing infrastructure and technology. The clerk's office is central to court operations, and outdated systems slow case processing, frustrate the public, and increase costs. I will prioritize upgrading technology, improving network reliability, and streamlining workflows so filings and records access are handled efficiently and securely. 2. Increasing jury participation by addressing compensation barriers. Around 20% of those summoned report for jury service. To ensure residents have juries of their peers, I will advocate for increasing juror pay to \$20/per hour, the Harris County minimum wage. Salaried jurors earning more than \$20/per hour would not receive extra pay. Removing this financial barrier will increase participation.



### Carlis Lollie

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My background working as a healthcare professional, nonprofit founder, and community servant uniquely prepares me to serve as Harris County District Clerk, as each role demands accountability, precision, and a deep commitment to public service. As a nurse practitioner, I handle critical information and life-impacting decisions in highly regulated environments where accuracy, confidentiality, and compliance are non-negotiable. These same standards apply to managing court records and public documents. As a nonprofit founder, I've built programs, managed budgets, ensured compliance, and led teams. Together, my experience reflects a commitment to service, careful stewardship of public resources, and dedication to advocacy.

Website: [www.carlislollie.com](http://www.carlislollie.com)

**ISSUES:** As your next District Clerk, my campaign is centered on "Restoring Trust" through the C.A.R.E. Plan that is centered on the foundations of Compassion, Accountability, Results, and Efficiency. Two of the most pressing issues I will address are modernizing court services and ensuring transparency. Too many customers experience slow, confusing, and frustrating interactions with the court system. I will streamline filings, implement modern tracking systems, improve staff training, and reduce document processing times by 30% in the first year. I will also provide ethical leadership, conduct regular audits, and share clear public reports so that every decision, every process, and every dollar builds confidence and trust in our office.

## HARRIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

The Board of Trustees acts to establish policies governing the operation of Harris County Department of Education.

As a governmental body, it can take action only by majority vote at a legally called public meeting.

The board elects the County Superintendent as its chief executive officer to administer the organization. Six-year term.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

## HARRIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, PLACE 5

### Salvador Serrano

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

### Erica Davis

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Hears traffic and other Class C misdemeanor cases punishable by fine only (e.g. criminal mischief, bad check writing, public intoxication).

Hears civil cases involving up to \$20,000. Hears landlord and tenant disputes. Hears truancy cases. Performs marriages. 4-year term.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 2, PLACE 2

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PRECINCT 2, PLACE 2  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

### Dolores Lozano

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I currently serve as Justice of the Peace for Harris County Precinct 2 Place 2, presiding over civil, criminal misdemeanor, truancy, and eviction cases. I have completed hundreds of hours of judicial education through the Texas Justice Court Training Center and continue ongoing education in ethics, procedure, and court management. I was appointed to the Bylaws and Constitution Committee for the Justices of the Peace and Constables Association, reflecting my peers' trust in my leadership. My background in public service and strong courtroom management, combined with a fair and impartial temperament, allow me to apply the law consistently while ensuring every person who appears before the court is treated with dignity and respect.

Website: [www.doloreslozano.com](http://www.doloreslozano.com)

**ISSUES:** One of the most pressing issues facing Justice Courts is access to justice for unrepresented litigants. Many residents appear without legal counsel and struggle to navigate the process. I addressed this by integrating free onsite legal aid, interpreters, and plain language materials directly into court operations so parties can meaningfully participate. A second critical issue is housing stability. I implemented an award winning eviction diversion initiative that helps keep families housed while supporting landlords in getting paid by connecting parties to mediation, rental assistance, legal support, job placement, and more. Using judicial discretion, I promote lawful resolutions, reduce default judgments, and ensure impartial outcomes.



### Oscar Salazar, Jr.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a 20 year resident of Pct. 2. I am a United States Marine. I served honorably and proudly. I own Mornings Kolaches. As a small business owner of 35 years, I can say that I have a tremendous work ethic, which will come with me as your judge, ensuring you always have access to every service to which you are entitled. As a business owner, I am very qualified to deal with the public in every aspect. I also resolve many varied employee issues with fairness and impartiality on a daily basis. I am careful in making crucial decisions, weighing all evidence before me. I treat my employees with utmost respect. Likewise, I will treat everyone before my bench with dignity and compassion. My decisions will be rendered competently.

Website: [salazar4jp.com](http://salazar4jp.com)

**ISSUES:** Evictions are very critical. I will inform landlords and tenants of available rental assistance and make legal aid services accessible in my very courthouse. I will listen to eviction cases with empathy and in rendering a decision, I will know my job, do my job and only my job. I will always be fair, above all. Many parties in Justice Court appear without an attorney. This can be very intimidating and daunting. I am bilingual and this will help with Spanish speaking people before my bench. I will ensure that the proper translator is available to anyone who needs one. My goal is equal and fair justice to everyone before my bench. Impartiality is of utmost importance. No one will ever be discriminated against, and that is my solemn vow.

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 4, PLACE 2

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 4, PLACE 2  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY

### Sean Simon

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

### Nasir Malik

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Perspective: I have taken Citizen Academies with FBI, DEA, Sheriff, Constable and ATF which has given me deep insight into how the judicial system works from law enforcement and citizen perspectives. My career from busboy to a landlord has broadened my perspective and allows me to relate to people in a variety of situations and socioeconomic levels. Decision Making: As a business owner, I deal with disputes constantly. I work with my tenants to ensure consideration is given to all sides of the situation. I believe in 2nd chances. Integrity: I have served my spiritual community for many years as an elected leader. Their trust has been earned through my perspective and fairness across all situations.

Website: [malikforjp.com](http://malikforjp.com)

**ISSUES:** Justice delayed is justice denied. This is the prevailing philosophy that will influence me in office. My first focus will be on our youth. Our young people need role models - by treating youth and family cases with a focus on individual attention and ensuring that I provide ample time to hear each side, our court will render decisions that are fair and do not inflict further harm on families. I will also engage with schools and communities so that our youth have a greater understanding of the justice system and their rights. My second focus will be to streamline processes in the pursuit of justice. Court dates should be scheduled as soon as possible so the community does not remain in limbo while awaiting a judgement.



## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PRECINCT 5, PLACE 2



### Davis Mendoza Darusman

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I've spent my career fighting for working-class and everyday Houstonians as a community organizer, nonprofit administrator, and small business owner. I've helped secure over \$1 million in grants for local nonprofits and have co-organized educational and civic engagement events across the city, serving thousands of residents. Precinct 5 is one of the largest and wealthiest Justice of the Peace precincts in Texas, but Place 2 has yet to fully implement lifesaving initiatives already operating in other Harris County courts, including eviction diversion and pro bono legal aid programs. My experience uniquely positions me to bring these much-needed resources to this court so residents can navigate our difficult systems with clarity and dignity.

Website: [www.DavisForJustice.com](http://www.DavisForJustice.com)

**ISSUES:** 1. Too many Houstonians lose their homes because they didn't receive clear notice, legal guidance, or enough time to respond (in fact, Texas has one of the fastest eviction processes in the nation). I will establish an Eviction Diversion Program that connects tenants to rent and utility assistance, facilitates settlements between all parties, and partners with pro bono legal aid providers. I will also establish a legal resource center on-site to further assist. 2. Outdated court practices in Precinct 5-2 are leading to unnecessary defaults. I will expand virtual hearings, send automatic text reminders, and improve outreach to make it easier for people to participate in their cases without sacrificing work, childcare, or transportation.



### Lisa Jefferson

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I'm qualified through a combination of training, experience, and character grounded in service, fairness, and integrity. I have over 15 years of experience in Human Resources, 13 years working in Harris County Justice of the Peace courts, serving alongside 9 judges across 5 JP Courts. I've gained deep knowledge of courtroom procedures, case management, civil and criminal processes, and the needs of the community over the years. My extensive experience working with prosecutors and defense attorneys, and hands on leadership within the courts, has equipped me to make fair, informed, and ethical decisions. I'm known for being compassionate, firm when necessary, professional, and committed to respecting every person who enters the courtroom.

Website: [lisajefferson4jp.com](http://lisajefferson4jp.com)

**ISSUES:** Promoting professionalism, improving courts efficiency, being courteous, and consistent in all courtroom interactions is important to gain the respect of our community. Strengthening the community outreach and education so residents better understand the court's role and resources is a must. It is important to foster a courtroom environment grounded in integrity, ethics, and respect to all who seek justice in the courtroom. Leading by example to build confidence in the Justice Court and ensure it reflects fairness and accountability is key to an effective court. To be a profound leader requires integrity, respect, compassion, and accountability. I am committed to delivering justice that is fair and efficient to all we serve.

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 6, PLACE 2

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

### Luis Garza

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have 32 years of experience in the justice of the peace courts as court clerk. I served from 2022-2023 in the Texas Justice Court Education Committee. This committee would develop classes for judges and court clerks across Texas. Under Chpt. 27 of the government code the clerks assist the judge in all matters of the court. I have been doing it for 32 years. I also hold a bachelor's degree in business administration. I currently hold the position of Chief Clerk for JP 2-1. As a chief clerk I over see the budget and accounts payable and account receivables. I also do docket management.

Website: [www.garza4jp.com](http://www.garza4jp.com)

**ISSUES:** The first issue is to treat people with dignity and respect. Nobody likes to go to court and not be treated with dignity and respect. By treating respectfully and listening to their facts about the case and gathering the facts about their case to be able to rule accordingly to the law. The second issue is having access to justice. The justice of the peace is the people's court. You do not need an attorney. These courts were designed so people can access justice, i would make sure that we would have a trained staff directing people on how to access justice. There all types of case with a diversity of court users. I would have my staff trained to give the court users access to all the services the justice of the peace has to offer.

### Angela D. Rodriguez

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

## Markia Bordeaux

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring a rare combination of public service, legal training, and courtroom experience that directly prepares me to serve as Justice of the Peace for Precinct 7-2. I began my career as a social worker in Harris County, working directly with children and families impacted by housing instability, domestic violence, substance use, mental health needs, and financial hardship. I now serve as an Assistant County Attorney where I continue to advocate for those same vulnerable communities. I have the unique experience of practicing in a specialty court, where I have handled hundreds of trials, hearings, and mediations, and work closely with judges, court staff, and community partners while managing a complex high-volume docket.

Website: [www.markiabordeaux.com](http://www.markiabordeaux.com)

**ISSUES:** Eviction & Housing Stability: Evictions dominate the JP docket and destabilize families and neighborhoods. I will prioritize mediation as the first step in landlord-tenant disputes, expand diversion options, and ensure tenants are connected to rental assistance, legal aid, and housing resources. I will establish a Court Resource Hub and hire a Community Liaison to coordinate on site referrals so cases are resolved fairly, before displacement occurs. Lack of Community Engagement: Elected Officials must be accessible, not distant. I will hold regular town halls, legal clinics, and community workshops, beginning within my first 60 days in office, and partner with trusted nonprofits to ensure residents understand the court and their rights.



## Sharon Burney

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I attended Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University. Upon passing the State Bar I practiced law for ten years during which I took multiple Law CLEs. I was first elected Justice of the Peace eight years ago and have been trained by our department for eight years gaining 20 plus hours in the education each year needed to hold the position,

Website: [www.electsharonburney.com](http://www.electsharonburney.com)

**ISSUES:** One of the two (2) most pressing issues that I am faced with as Justice of the Peace are that most of the people before me lack knowledge of the law. The second issue is that as of January 1, 2026, the laws are changing and most people will be unaware of the changes in the law. Although I try to explain most laws to them, I doubt that they understand why I must follow the law and not that I should just listen to their story then solve it for them. Seldom do they have contracts or any evidence that proves their case. Located in Pct. 7-2, I want to offer more classes to educate the average man and woman of the law and to actions that a person should take before a case becomes necessary in a court.



## Melanie Miles

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a board-certified family law attorney with more than 20 years of legal experience handling cases that regularly come before Justice of the Peace courts, including landlord-tenant disputes, small claims, traffic matters, and Class C misdemeanors. I have tried over 200 cases to the bench and/or jury-trials, including in JP courts. In addition to my legal background, I have successfully managed a law practice for two decades, giving me the administrative and leadership skills needed to run an efficient court. I am known for being fair, prepared, and respectful, and I bring a calm, patient demeanor to resolving disputes involving self-represented litigants.

Website: [www.milesforhouston.com](http://www.milesforhouston.com)

**ISSUES:** The first pressing issue is lack of fairness and dignity in court proceedings. Many litigants feel rushed, confused, or disrespected. I will address this by setting clear expectations for respectful courtroom conduct, ensuring people are heard, explaining procedures in plain language, and managing dockets so cases are not treated like an assembly line. The second issue is limited access to justice and resources, especially in eviction cases. I will implement best practices used in other JP courts, including partnerships with legal aid and housing assistance providers, clearer written guidance for self-represented litigants, and improved scheduling, including monthly Saturday court, to make the court more accessible.

## COUNTY CHAIR • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Serves as head of the county executive committee, comprised of precinct chairs who are elected from voting precincts within the county. Presides over meetings, appoints party officers, runs the primary election every two years. Also, hires and manages staff, serves as the party's spokesperson, raises money to fund the organization, and generally is charged with helping to elect party candidates in elections.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.



#### Mike Doyle

**QUALIFICATIONS:** In many ways, I believe that my experience in legal work and community engagement across all of Harris County's communities has guided me into this position. I inherited a Harris County Democratic Party with almost no cash on hand, hundreds of thousands in unpaid invoices, unpaid rent, and no funds to pay existing staff. Since then with tremendous help from the HCDP staff, precinct chairs, Precinct Chair Support Committee, and volunteers: Raised more than \$3.4 million and substantially lowered the inherited debt. Almost doubled the number of HCDP sustaining members; Built a volunteer database of over 5,000 Democrats; Improved financial management;

**ISSUES:** Tens of millions of targeted misinformation from Musk, Abbott, and their cronies and concern from voters ready to "give up" on our political system; **RESPONSE 1:** Increase fundraising for HCDP beyond the record numbers already achieved. **RESPONSE 2:** Increase community engagement from the strides made in 2024 and 2025 into a compelling 2026.



#### Traci A. Gibson

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a lawyer, community organizer, and experienced organizational leader with a strong background in governance, fundraising, and civic engagement. I served as President of the Houston Lawyers Association, where I built advocacy programs focused on voter education, election protection, and public engagement, and led the organization through consecutive six-figure fundraising years. I have experience managing large, diverse teams, building coalitions, and turning values into measurable outcomes. As a precinct chair, I have seen firsthand how party infrastructure succeeds or fails at the local level, and I am prepared to lead with transparency, accountability, and results.

**Website:** [www.traciagibson.com](http://www.traciagibson.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues are rebuilding party infrastructure and increasing voter participation. Harris County Democrats must operate year-round, not just during election cycles. My plan is to strengthen precinct-level organizing, recruit and train local leaders, and centralize voter education and outreach so the party is the hub for engagement. Second, we must address declining turnout and ballot drop-off, especially in local and judicial races. I will prioritize civic education, culturally competent outreach, and coordinated voter engagement efforts that make it easier for people to understand the ballot and participate fully in every election.

## MORE QUESTIONS? GET ANSWERS

[HOUSTONVOTERSGUIDE.ORG](http://HOUSTONVOTERSGUIDE.ORG)

[WWW.HARRISVOTES.COM](http://WWW.HARRISVOTES.COM)

[WWW.CHRON.COM](http://WWW.CHRON.COM)

# RUNNING UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

## UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Shaun Finnie, DISTRICT 2  
Lizzie Pannill Fletcher, DISTRICT 7

## JUSTICE, 15TH COURT OF APPEALS UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Tom Baker, PLACE 2  
Marc M. Meyer, PLACE 3

## JUDGE, COUNTY CIVIL COURT AT LAW UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Sonia Lopez, NO. 1  
M. Monica Singh, NO. 4

## COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Clayton Tucker

## JUSTICE, 1ST COURT OF APPEALS UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Veronica Rivas-Molloy, PLACE 3  
Julie Countiss, PLACE 4, UNEXPIRED TERM  
Amy Guerra, PLACE 5

## JUDGE, COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT AT LAW UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Alex Salgado, NO. 1  
Matthew Ruben Perez, NO. 2  
Carlos Alberto Aguayo, NO. 3  
Shannon B. Baldwin, NO. 4  
David M. Fleischer, NO. 5  
Kelley Andrews, NO. 6  
Erika Ramirez, NO. 8  
Toria J. Finch, NO. 9  
Juanita A. Jackson, NO. 10  
Sedrick T. Walker II, NO. 11  
Ashley Mayes Guice, NO. 12  
Raul Rodriguez, NO. 13  
Tonya Jones, NO. 15

## RAILROAD COMMISSIONER UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Jon Rosenthal

## CIVIL DISTRICT JUDGE UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Latosha Lewis Payne, 55TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Rabeea Collier, 113TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Tamika "Tami" Craft, 189TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Beau Miller, 190TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Lauren Reeder, 234TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Cory Don Sepolio, 269TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Donna Roth, 295TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

## JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Chari Kelly, PLACE 2, UNEXPIRED TERM  
Gisela D. Triana, PLACE 8

## JUDGE, COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Okey Anyiam, PLACE 3  
Audra Riley, PLACE 4  
Holly Taylor, PLACE 9

## JUVENILE DISTRICT JUDGE UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Samantha Y. Davis, 313TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Michelle Moore, 314TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

## MEMBER, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Michelle Palmer, DISTRICT 6

## STATE SENATOR UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Ron C. Angeletti, DISTRICT 4  
Borris L. Miles, DISTRICT 13  
Erica Gillum, DISTRICT 18

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Michelle Williams, DISTRICT 127  
Desiree Klaus, DISTRICT 128  
Albert Wittliff, DISTRICT 129  
Sara McGee, DISTRICT 132  
Josh Wallenstein, DISTRICT 133  
Ann Johnson, DISTRICT 134  
Odus E. Evbagharu, DISTRICT 135  
Gene Wu, DISTRICT 137  
Tyler Smith, DISTRICT 138  
Armando Lucio Walle, DISTRICT 140  
Senfronia Thompson, DISTRICT 141  
Ana Hernandez, DISTRICT 143  
Christina Morales, DISTRICT 145  
Lauren Ashley Simmons, DISTRICT 146  
Jolanda Jones, DISTRICT 147  
Penny Morales Shaw, DISTRICT 148

## CRIMINAL DISTRICT JUDGE UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Stephanie Morales, 180TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Danilo "Danny" Lacayo, 182ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Katherine "Kat" Thomas, 184TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Andrea Beall, 185TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Beverly D. Armstrong, 208TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Alyson Almaguer, 228TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Chris Morton, 230TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Hilary Unger, 248TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Lori Chambers Gray, 262ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Melissa Marie Morris, 263RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Veronica M. Nelson, 482ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Tiffany M. Hill, 495TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Breanna Schwartz, 497TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

## FAMILY DISTRICT JUDGE UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Angela M. Lancelin, 245TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Angela Graves-Harrington, 246TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Janice Berg, 247TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Sandra Peake, 257TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Damiane Dianne Curvey, 280TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Gloria Lopez, 308TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Linda Marie Dunson, 309TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Sonya L. Heath, 310TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Germaine Janet Tanner, 311TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Teresa Waldrop, 312TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

## JUDGE, PROBATE COURT UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Jerry Simoneaux, NO. 1  
Pamela Medina, NO. 2  
Jason Cox, NO. 3

## COUNTY CLERK UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Teneshia Hudspeth

## COUNTY TREASURER UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Carla L. Wyatt

## HARRIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Silky Joshi Malik, PLACE 7

## COUNTY COMMISSIONER UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Adrian Garcia, PRECINCT 2  
Lesley Briones, PRECINCT 4

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Steve Duble, PRECINCT 1, PLACE 2  
Lucia Bates, PRECINCT 3, PLACE 2  
Nicolas Juan, PRECINCT 8, PLACE 2

## CHIEF JUSTICE, 15TH COURT OF APPEALS UNOPPOSED • DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Jerry Zimmerer



# 2026 BALLOT PROPOSITIONS • DEMOCRATIC PARTY



**WHEN VOTING, YOU WILL CHECK **YES** IF YOU AGREE OR  
**NO** IF YOU DO NOT AGREE WITH THE STATEMENT.**

**PROPOSITION 1** Texas should expand Medicaid and ensure access to affordable healthcare for all.

**PROPOSITION 2** Texans should support humane and dignified immigration policies and pathways to citizenship.

**PROPOSITION 3** Texans should have the right to make their own healthcare decisions, including reproductive rights.

**PROPOSITION 4** Texas should address the state's housing crisis in affordability and access in both urban and rural communities.

**PROPOSITION 5** Texas should fund all public schools at the same per-pupil rate as the national average.

**PROPOSITION 6** Secure online voter registration should be accessible to all eligible Texas residents.

**PROPOSITION 7** Texas should have a clean and healthy environment that includes water, air, and biodiversity. Texas must preserve the state's natural, cultural, scenic, and recreational resources.

**PROPOSITION 8** Texas should legalize cannabis for adults and automatically expunge criminal records for past low-level cannabis offenses.

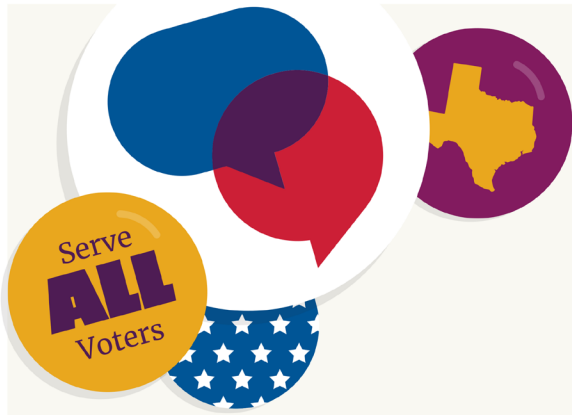
**PROPOSITION 9** Texas should raise salaries to at least the national average and should provide a cost-of-living increase based on the national Consumer Price Index every two years to current/retired school and state employees.

**PROPOSITION 10** Texas should ban racially motivated redistricting, ban mid-decade redistricting, and create a non-partisan redistricting board to redraw lines every 10 years.

**PROPOSITION 11** The Working Class should be eligible for greater federal income tax relief and have their tax burden fairly shifted onto the wealthiest.

**PROPOSITION 12** Texas should expand accessible public transportation opportunities in rural and urban communities so residents can get to their workplaces, schools, and healthcare.

**PROPOSITION 13** Texas should prevent individuals with a history of domestic abuse from purchasing firearms by implementing "red flag" laws.



# EMPOWERING VOTERS DEFENDING DEMOCRACY

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# REPUBLICAN PARTY PRIMARY ELECTION

## U. S. SENATOR • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Six-year term. One of two members of the U.S. Senate from Texas. With the U.S. House, the Senate makes laws; raises revenues, appropriates federal funds and manages the federal debt; regulates commerce among states and with other nations; declares war and maintains and regulates the military; establishes the federal court system and defines federal crimes; and directs the census every ten years. The Senate has the exclusive power to advise and consent on presidential nominations to executive and judicial offices, to ratify U.S. treaties, and to try impeachments. Current annual salary: \$175,000

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ECONOMY:** What specific policies would you support to address the growing wealth gap between the highest and lowest earners, and what do you see as the appropriate role of the federal government in this issue?

**IMMIGRATION:** What policy changes would you propose to make the U.S. immigration system more effective and humane?

**BALANCE OF POWER:** The Constitution establishes a system of checks and balances among the three branches of government. As a Senator, what specific actions would you take to preserve the system so that the federal government can serve the people?

**HEALTHCARE:** What role should the federal government play in promoting a healthy American population, and what steps would you take to ensure that healthcare is affordable and accessible for all Americans?

Wesley Hunt

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Virgil John Bierschwale

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

John O. Adefope

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

John Cornyn

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Anna Bender

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Sara Canada

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



Gulrez 'Gus' Khan

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Healthcare entrepreneur, author, former pro athlete, philanthropist. Fighting for Texas—reviving 25 closed rural hospitals, economy, secure borders, term limits, Energy Dominance, Election Integrity.

**ECONOMY:** I support pro-growth policies: fair reciprocal tariffs, American manufacturing incentives, and deregulation to create jobs and lift wages. The federal government's role is to protect free markets, ensure opportunity, and remove barriers, not punish success, so all Texans—especially low- and middle-income families—can prosper.

**IMMIGRATION:** I support secure borders, strong enforcement of immigration laws, and ending chain migration abuses. At the same time, we should streamline legal immigration for skilled workers and families, improve processing efficiency, and ensure the system is fair, orderly, and humane—protecting Texans while rewarding those who follow the rules.

Website: [www.gkhanforsenate.com](http://www.gkhanforsenate.com)

**BALANCE OF POWER:** I will fight to uphold the Constitution, support term limits, and hold the executive and judiciary accountable to the law. I will oppose federal overreach, ensure Congress enacts laws that serve the people—not bureaucrats—and restore power to states, communities, and citizens while protecting individual freedoms.

**HEALTHCARE:** The federal government should remove barriers, reduce bureaucracy, and empower patients and providers, not control care. I will expand access to primary care, home based and palliative care, and revive the 25 rural Texas hospitals closed in the last 20 years, ensuring affordable, accessible healthcare while letting Texans make their own decisions.

Ken Paxton

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Two-year term. One of 38 members of the U.S. House of Representatives from Texas. With the U.S. Senate, the House of Representatives makes laws; raises revenues, appropriates federal funds and manages the federal debt; regulates commerce among states and with other nations; declares war and maintains and regulates the military; establishes the federal court system and defines federal crimes; and directs the census every ten years. The House has the exclusive power to impeach federal officers, including the President. Current annual salary: \$175,000

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 2

Steve Toth

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Dan Crenshaw

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



N. Lee Plumb

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring military legal training, executive-level operational leadership, and a disciplined, accountability-driven approach to public service. I served in the U.S. Army and Navy in military justice roles supporting courts-martial, joint operations, and overseas deployments, where decisions carried real consequences. In the private sector, I led large-scale operations at Walmart and Amazon, fixing broken systems, enforcing standards, and delivering measurable results at scale. I am routine-driven, direct and independent, with a track record of oversight, problem-solving and follow-through. This experience equips me to represent the district with judgment, integrity, and resolve.

Website: [www.nleelplumb.com](http://www.nleelplumb.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues are the erosion of the middle class and the breakdown of lawful governance. First, labor displacement and wage suppression driven by immigration and visa abuse. I will push for strict enforcement of existing law, a temporary moratorium on large-scale migration and a full congressional rewrite of employment-based immigration so American workers cannot be replaced or undercut. Transparency, audits and penalties must be real, not theoretical. Second, the collapse of accountability in federal government. I will prioritize aggressive oversight of agencies that exceed congressional intent, oppose inflationary spending and restore clear lawmaking so policy outcomes match what voters were promised.

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

Martin Etwop

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a licensed attorney, fighting for Texans defending their religious rights, civil liberties, and holding government accountable, from the school board all the way to the federal government. I have experience drafting legislation, statutes, and municipal ordinances. I currently serve as a Municipal Utility District (MUD) director and as a board member for a nonprofit organization that supports communities after major disasters. My diverse professional background includes education, church planting, retail, automotive manufacturing at Tesla, and small business ownership, giving me an all-round perspective on the challenges facing working Americans in TX-02. Born in Uganda and a legal immigrant. Am proven America First, constitutionalist.

Website: [www.martinetwop.com](http://www.martinetwop.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues are unsecured borders fueling crime and resource strain, and runaway federal spending driving crushing national debt and inflation. On borders, I will author and champion legislation to finish the wall, mandate E-Verify, end catch-and-release, and remove activist judicial oversight by restoring full executive authority over immigration enforcement. I will ensure Texas receives federal resources to secure its border when Washington fails. On spending, I will demand proper annual budgets over continuing resolutions, eliminate foreign aid and bloated bureaucracy, and sponsor bills to shrink non-essential agencies. We must stop saddling our children with debt. We can't leave them with an American nightmare.



## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 7

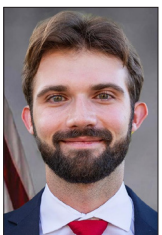


**Tina Cohen**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have strong leadership, integrity, and accountability, ensuring I represent my constituents faithfully. Effective communication and collaboration skills, I am able to work across party lines when needed while staying true to my conservative principles. Being a parent of 3 grown children, I have a deep understanding of suburban families' concerns, with a focus on parents' rights, education, and public safety and the resilience, empathy, and the determination, qualities essential for navigating the challenges of Congress.

Website: [www.tinablumcohen.com](http://www.tinablumcohen.com)

**ISSUES:** Ending drug and human trafficking in Houston by seeking out violent criminals and getting them off Houston streets. Getting the unemployed back to work and being productive members of society.



**Alexander Hale**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring both public and private sector experience. I've seen broken processes inside the beltway and in global companies, and I've worked to fix both. For years in Houston, I've served as a consultant resolving distressed situations for major companies. We move fast to assess problems and put out fires. We think practically, not theoretically. This pragmatic skill set translates directly to Congress—our country needs someone who can mend divisions and solve real problems. Lastly, I grew up here. I love Houston and poignantly feel the pain of illegal entry, frequent crime, and mediocre public education. My Christian faith, strong work ethic, and collaborative nature enable me to work with anyone to make a meaningful difference in TX-07.

Website: [www.halefortexas.com](http://www.halefortexas.com)

**ISSUES:** Curbing Crime: Houston has one of the highest crime rates in America. I'll fight to secure the federal resources needed to catch criminals, solve crimes, and empower local law enforcement to do their jobs effectively. Our state / local authorities need support, and not obstacles. Reducing Govt Spending: Well-intentioned, federally funded programs are too easily exploited for fraudulent purposes. I've spent years in my current role auditing and examining distressed organizations and exposing inefficiencies. I'll bring that same rigor to Congress—establishing stronger oversight and auditing processes to root out waste and fraud before taxpayer dollars disappear. Every dollar lost to fraud is a dollar stolen from hardworking Texans.

**Alexander Z. Kalai**

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED**

**Erin M. Montgomery**

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED**

## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 8

**Jay Fondren**

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED**

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

**Stephen Long**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have spent more than 30 years in the oil and gas industry, working alongside people from all walks of life and from around the world. I have lived in the The Woodlands area for 25 years, where I raised three children to adulthood and am currently raising my 14-year-old. I participated in the American Shale Revolution that helped the United States achieve energy independence, and I have trained and mentored many others throughout the energy industry. My work has brought me into contact with people from diverse backgrounds and cultures, giving me a broad understanding of global perspectives.

**ISSUES:** I am running with a particular focus on addressing the national debt, which I believe is one of the greatest threats to our country's future. Requiring that a balanced budget be passed—without exceptions—would force departments to make necessary and difficult cuts. I consider myself a moderate republican and would listen to the constituents of Texas district 8 and pursue policies that would improve their lives.

**Jessica Hart Steinmann**

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED**

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

**Nick Tran**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My father and I fled Vietnam during the Fall of Saigon with nothing but the clothes on our backs as communism destroyed our homeland. Adrift for three days without food or water, we were rescued by the U.S. Navy. America saved our lives and gave us a future I will never forget. I repaid America the only way I knew how. I put on the uniform, and fought for us in three separate wars. After the military, I spent 12 years in the Oil & Gas industry, advancing energy independence while empowering thousands of veterans to find healing and successful reintegration. I swore an oath to defend our country from all enemies, foreign and domestic. Now I'm stepping up to save the America that saved me by facing our enemies destroying us from within.

Website: [nicktranfortexas.com](http://nicktranfortexas.com)

**ISSUES:** In TX08, the two issues I hear most from families are border security, illegal immigration, inflation, energy costs, jobs, and infrastructure strained by our rapid growth. First, border security. As a combat veteran, I will fight to finish the wall, reinstate Remain in Mexico, end catch & release, fully fund ICE and Border Patrol, cut federal dollars to sanctuary policies, and protect our communities from crime. Second, jobs, the economy, and growth. We will unleash American energy by slashing regulations to lower fuel and grocery prices, create good-paying jobs, curb wasteful spending, and deliver federal funding for vital road expansions in booming areas in TX08, all without raising taxes.

**U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 8**  
continued on page 54

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED**Deddrick T. Wilmer**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am qualified for this position through executive leadership, financial expertise, and public service. I have more than two decades of senior-level experience in banking, mortgage finance, and real estate, including leadership roles at Wells Fargo, Bank of America, Capital One, JPMorgan Chase, Citibank, and Freedom Mortgage. I served as a National Underwriting Manager and hold HUD Direct Endorsement Underwriter and VA Staff Appraisal Reviewer credentials, providing deep experience in regulatory compliance, risk management, and economic policy. I currently serve as President of Gumbeaux Lending Group and was elected Director of Harris County Municipal Utility District 248 in 2022, where I oversee public infrastructure & budgets

Website: [www.wilmerfortexas.com](http://www.wilmerfortexas.com)

**ISSUES:** Modernizing the VA Health and other federal agencies, and fund underground flood control infrastructure. As a partner with many Federal Agencies, I have firsthand experience with federal systems that are outdated, inefficient, and unresponsive. I will push for technology modernization, and patient-centered care "Tri-Care Health Plan for Life"—especially for veterans & spouses-Current facility will only support Mental & Rehab service. As an elected Director of a Harris County Municipal Utility District, I oversee infrastructure, drainage, and capital planning, giving me practical experience addressing flood risk. I support large-scale underground flood control systems to protect homes, businesses, & taxpayers while preserving surface land

**Brett Jensen**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** While in school, I founded a software company that developed one of the first web content management systems, that was used by several Fortune 500 clients. After selling the business in my twenties, I began a career in energy, building several successful businesses in E&P, midstream transportation, and oil services. These business created thousands of jobs and provided significant economic impact on many small communities throughout south and west Texas. Today, I have mostly divested from the energy business and runs a small office with primary interests in real estate, finance and venture capital.

Website: [www.jensenfortexas.com](http://www.jensenfortexas.com)

**ISSUES:** Capitalism has the unique ability to unleash the human spirit of creativity and innovation. The power of free markets and entrepreneurship changed the trajectory of my life just as it has for countless other Americans. Capitalism and the nation of small businesses it fosters have lifted generations of Americans out of poverty and has been the foundation of what made America great. I will give the Trump Administration the resources, they need to deport criminal illegals, gang members, so that our communities can be safer once and for all. That also means giving our local law enforcement officers the tools they need to assist in deporting dangerous illegals out of our communities.

## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 9

**Jaimy Blanco**

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

**Dwayne Stovall**

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

**Steve Stockman**

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

**Briscoe Cain**

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED**Michael A. Curran**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As one of original innovators of immunotherapy of cancer, I know what it's like to lead for positive change. The constituents of District 9 need better affordable health care options and with my decades of experience in the health care field I am uniquely qualified to deliver that. As a local business founder and owner, I also understand how to better promote the success of our home industries. I have multiple children in local public schools giving me insights into improving safety and core curriculum. Finally, my education in computer science and in foreign affairs with a Russia concentration have prepared me to meet the challenges of Artificial Intelligence policy as well as the ongoing war in Ukraine.

Website: [curran4texas.com](http://curran4texas.com)

**ISSUES:** Our government has failed to deliver health care that is accessible and affordable and continuing to "kick the can down the road" will soon bankrupt us. I propose a smarter approach to health care where the government focuses on PREVENTING people from getting sick through a universal wellness plan and then insurance is available at a lower cost for those that do become ill across a spectrum of budgets with coverage for pre-existing conditions. This plan would be complemented by focused boosting of the NIH medical research budget to accelerate cures for the most prevalent and debilitating illnesses. A second critical issue is access to Xhigh quality public education for which we have an innovative plan covering birth to graduation.

**Alex Mealer**

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



### Dan Mims

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have spent my life creating jobs in my business career as well as preparing students for the workforce. I have decades of real-world business experience and community service in this district, a place that I have been blessed to call home for my entire life. For 35 years, I ran Mims Meat Company, a family business that achieved over \$50 million in annual sales, served thousands of clients, and provided hundreds of jobs in our community. I have been a member of the Board of Trustees at San Jacinto College for over 20 years, and I'm honored to currently serve as its chairman. I am proud to say that during that time, San Jacinto College has grown to become the number two community college in the country, according to the Aspen Institute.

Website: [danmimsfortexas.com](http://danmimsfortexas.com)

**ISSUES:** As a businessman, I want to eliminate government policies that hold back great ideas and kill good businesses. I will work to end the reckless spending, waste, and irresponsible debt levels that have been driving up prices. I will advocate for pro-growth policies that will create good paying jobs that can support a family and allow our young people to benefit from home ownership and live the American Dream. I will be a tireless advocate for public safety. We need more Border Patrol, better technology, and must finish building the wall. We also need more enforcement to remove criminal aliens who have been bringing drugs and crime into our communities. It's time to get the criminal gangs and the cartel out of our communities.



### Terry Lee Thain

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Leader in my industry, combat veteran, study of government and history

Website: [www.voteterrythain.com](http://www.voteterrythain.com)

**ISSUES:** Debt and social security. I plan to introduce a bill to allocate tariff revenue to the social security trust fund. Congress must pass a budget for the first time since 1996



NO PHOTO  
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### Crystal Deleón Sarmiento

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring nearly two decades of executive-level experience in business development and operations, leading teams, managing complex initiatives, and delivering results in high-accountability environments. I currently serve in elected local office, where I have hands-on experience in governance, budget oversight, infrastructure, and constituent representation. My training in executive leadership and behavioral analysis strengthens my ability to evaluate complex issues, lead decisively, and communicate effectively. I am results-driven, service-oriented, and grounded in real-world experience, not theory.

Website: [www.CrystalUSCongress.com](http://www.CrystalUSCongress.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues are economic security and public safety. I will focus on lowering costs for working families by supporting policies that strengthen domestic energy production, protect critical infrastructure, and expand good-paying jobs tied to ports, manufacturing, and skilled trades. On public safety, I will advocate for stronger border enforcement, support law enforcement, and oppose policies that weaken community safety. My approach is practical and results-driven: securing supply chains, protecting the grid, and ensuring laws are enforced so families and businesses can thrive.

## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 18

### Ronald Dwayne Whitfield

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

### Elizabeth Vences

**QUALIFICATIONS:** For decades, I have worked side by side with our community, helping families with everything from home loan modifications to selecting insurance benefits. Through this work, I have come to truly understand our community's needs.

**ISSUES:** Experiences: I am committed to addressing our communities' needs and implementing the changes required to move us forward. Age: As I enter my seventies, it simply means I have lived long enough to witness many mistakes our government has made—and continues to make.

## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 22



NO PHOTO  
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### Trevor Nehls

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring decades of leadership experience in law enforcement, the military, and public service. I served more than 30 years in law enforcement with the Sugar Land Police Department and was twice elected Constable for Fort Bend County Precinct 4, where I managed personnel, budgets, and operations with a focus on public safety and accountability. I also served 33 years in the U.S. Army Reserve, completing multiple overseas tours, including deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, and retiring as a Colonel. I hold two master's degrees and am a proven leader who understands public safety, fiscal responsibility, and the importance of serving with integrity.

Website: [www.trevornehlsforcongress.com](http://www.trevornehlsforcongress.com)

**ISSUES:** 1) Making District 22 and Texas Affordable for Families. I am committed to rebuilding an economy that puts American workers, families, and taxpayers first. I will work to tackle inflation and lower the cost of groceries, gas, housing, and everyday necessities. I support lower taxes, fewer regulations, and a pro-growth agenda that strengthens the American economy. 2) Protect Our Children and Empower Parental Choice. Parents—not bureaucrats—must be in control of their children's education. I will defend parental rights and oppose radical ideological agendas being pushed on our kids. I will vote to eliminate DEI mandates, block gender ideology in schools, protect girls' sports and require full curriculum transparency.

U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 22  
continued on page 56

## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 22 (continued from page 55)

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 22  
REPUBLICAN PARTY

NO PHOTO  
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### Rebecca Clark

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring a rare blend of technical experience and grassroots leadership. As a geophysicist, I understand the data-driven precision that complex, large-scale budgets and projects require. As a mother of four and rancher, I share the same concerns as Tx-22 families. My track record proves I get results: I've led winning conservative campaigns, served as a Precinct Chair and Election Judge, and helped analyze and edit state policy during the 88th and 89th Legislative sessions. From leading a local government accountability group to reviewing TEA curriculum, I have the experience to bridge the gap between community needs and legislative action. I am a proven organizer ready to defend American values with transparency and unwavering resolve.

Website: [www.rebeccaclark4congress.com](http://www.rebeccaclark4congress.com)

**ISSUES:** The lawless federal budget and unaccountable bureaucracy are most pressing. Washington is on autopilot, spending billions on hundreds of programs that have no legal authorization to exist. These programs shouldn't get another dime. I will advocate for zero-based budgeting, requiring each agency to account for every dollar to end the cycle of unauthorized spending. Second, I must navigate a system that protects Washington insiders over Tx - 22 families. As a geophysicist, I used hard data to solve complex problems. I will apply that same technical scrutiny to streamline the regulatory hurdles that stall our economy and drive up our bills. I will work to use the power of the purse to rein in the bureaucrats who think they run this country.

## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 36

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 36  
REPUBLICAN PARTY

### Brian Babin

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

### Jonathan "Pipeliner" Mitchell

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring over 15 yrs of hands on experience in the energy sector, working directly in pipeline construction, inspection, and regulatory compliance on midstream infrastructure projects. I understand how federal policy impacts jobs, safety, and energy costs because I've lived it in the field. I'm also pursuing a degree in Petroleum Engineering, strengthening my technical and economic understanding of energy policy. My background reflects strong work ethic, accountability, leadership, and a no nonsense approach to problem solving, focusing on results, not politics.

Website: [www.mitchellfortx.com](http://www.mitchellfortx.com)

**ISSUES:** Energy and border security: On energy, I will push to expand domestic oil and gas production, streamline permitting, protect pipeline infrastructure, and roll back regulations that raise costs, this will help to lower fuel and electricity prices while keeping good paying jobs here. On border security, I will support finishing physical barriers where needed, restoring enforcement of existing law, increasing resources for Border Patrol, and work with local law enforcement to stop fentanyl and human trafficking.

## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 38

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 38 • REPUBLICAN PARTY



### Barrett McNabb

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a retired U.S. Army officer with service as an Infantry Officer and Paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division, where I learned decisive leadership, accountability, and mission focus. I later served as an Army Foreign Area Officer assigned to U.S. Embassies in Africa, gaining firsthand experience in geopolitics, national security, and countering foreign influence. As a small business owner, I have created jobs, met payroll, and navigated federal regulations, giving me real-world insight into how government policy impacts families and employers. I am a principled, constitutional conservative committed to limited government, individual liberty, strong national defense, and America First values.

Website: [www.barrettmcnabb.com](http://www.barrettmcnabb.com)

**ISSUES:** The first pressing issue is affordability for everyday Americans. I will support policies that lower energy costs through domestic production, reduce inflation by opposing reckless federal spending, and roll back regulations that increase prices on food, housing, and transportation. Lowering the cost of living starts with a disciplined federal government and a strong private sector. The second issue is the national debt. I will push for mandatory audits of federal agencies, stronger inspector general authority, and the elimination of duplicative and ineffective programs. Reducing fraud, waste, and abuse, while opposing omnibus spending bill, is essential to restoring fiscal responsibility and protecting future generations.

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RECEIVED

### Michael Pratt

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am the most qualified to serve as U.S. Congressman for Texas Congressional District 38 because I've led, managed, and served—not just talked. I spent seven years on active duty as an Officer in the U. S. Marine Corps, learning discipline, accountability, and peace through strength. In the private sector, I have managed a multi-billion-dollar global business for a Fortune 80 technology company, balancing real budgets and delivering results. I am the only candidate who has been publicly elected! I serve on the Tomball Independent School District Board of Trustees and have been President (3x), lowering taxes while maintaining excellence. I've delivered conservative results in the USMC uniform, in business, and here in TX-38—results matter!

Website: [www.PrattforTexas.com](http://www.PrattforTexas.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues facing Texas Congressional District 38 are border management and the cost of living. On border security, I support strengthening enforcement of existing laws, ensuring the Border Patrol has the necessary resources, improving border infrastructure, and restoring policies that promote order, accountability, and humane treatment while reducing incentives for illegal immigration. To address cost-of-living, I will focus on fiscal responsibility, reducing wasteful spending, encouraging a balanced budget, and supporting a reliable, affordable energy mix that includes domestic oil, gas, and nuclear power, alongside regulatory reform and pro-growth tax policies so families can better afford food, fuel, and housing.



**Jeff Yuna**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** 6th-generation Texan, Christian husband, father of three, and grandfather of five, I've lived in TX-38 all 60 years. As owner of Tomball Pawn & Jewelry and a licensed firearms dealer, I've built businesses from the ground up—starting with mowing lawns at 12—while battling taxes, regulations, and inflation that hurt families and jobs. Independent, and beholden to no donors or lobbyists, I bring proven business experience, not political baggage. My qualifications: real-world problem-solving, payroll-meeting grit, and unwavering Texas values—faith, family, freedom. TX-38 needs a citizen-legislator who puts voters first, fights for smaller government, secure borders, and America First policies. I'm ready to deliver.

Website: [www.jeffyunafortexas.com](http://www.jeffyunafortexas.com)

**ISSUES:** Inflation/Debt: Inflation is a hidden tax caused by reckless borrowing. I'll file the Homestead Protection Amendment on day one—a constitutional ban on all ad valorem property taxes on primary residences, ending the practice of taxing families out of their homes to pay Washington's debt interest. Force 15% across-the-board federal spending cuts, starting with all foreign aid. Borders/America First: Finish the wall using seized cartel assets, mandate E-Verify nationwide, defund sanctuary cities, and stop every dime of foreign giveaways. Money saved reduces debt and funds tax relief for Texans—not foreigners. Texas families first. Secure borders. Balanced budget. Real results.

**Craig Goralski**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** For 40 years I have resided in communities now served by the 38th US Congressional District. I have also committed my adult life and career to serving Texans. In the early 1980s, I patrolled the areas of Washington Avenue, River Oaks, and Memorial. Later, I served years overseeing criminal investigations in the Houston Police Department. I have also served as the Manager of Texas TEA's Safe and Supportive Schools Program supporting to help make safe all local education agencies in Texas, including Cypress, Klein, Spring Branch, Katy, Tomball and Houston ISDs. On the education side, I have four graduate degrees, including a J.D., and master's degrees in leadership, public service and administration, and business and economics.

Website: [www.craigforthe38th.org](http://www.craigforthe38th.org)

**ISSUES:** #1 is the economy. I would support our GOP's energy creation plan and deregulation initiatives. I would work to require educational institutions receiving federal funds to create trade majors for growing job markets such as energy, medical, and AI infrastructure development. I would also support more alternative mortgage strategies and pressure the Federal Reserve to further lower interest rates. #2 is Safety, Law and Order. I would support efforts to secure the border while creating merit-based immigration policies. I also would work to increase support and funding for law enforcement agencies and monitor implementation. Texas cities and communities should be safe spaces for all families—not sanctuaries for lawlessness and predation.

**Jennifer Sundt**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My experience as both a small business owner and a trial attorney make me uniquely qualified to represent the district in Congress. I have distinct skills related to entrepreneurship, job creation, contract negotiations, budget management, elimination of waste and dealing with government regulation that shape my understanding and implementation of effective economic policies. Additionally, my years of being a trial attorney have taught me: (1) the skills of effective advocacy, negotiation and building an argument; (2) problem solving; and, (3) when necessary, the art of questioning a witness. I have had to read and interpret the law, create solutions when none exists and draft legal papers and agreements.

Website: [www.jennifersundt.com](http://www.jennifersundt.com)

**ISSUES:** 1. We must repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act which in its current format is a fiscal disaster and the greatest threat to our economic prosperity. We need to deregulate the health insurance industry, permit cross state competition of insurance providers and give the consumers more choice for the scope of coverage they want. 2. I also intend to introduce a constitutional amendment to impose term limits for members of Congress. Without term limits long serving members of Congress have too much power and lack accountability to the voters. Members are elected to serve the people, not vice versa.

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

**Avery Ayers**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am qualified for this position through a combination of formal education, real-world experience, disciplined training, and lived understanding of the people this role is meant to serve. I have taken the long road—learning not only how systems work when they succeed, but how they fail, and how to fix them. a) Training and Education: My training is both academic and practical. b) Characteristics and Leadership Qualities: Character matters. I am disciplined, accountable, and direct. Character matters. c) Judgment and Decision-Making: Good leadership requires judgment. I weigh long-term consequences over short-term applause. d) Conclusion: This position requires competence, integrity, and perspective. My education provides the framework.

Website: [www.ayers4.us](http://www.ayers4.us)

**ISSUES:** 1) Economic Affordability and Workforce Readiness: Families are being squeezed by rising housing costs, inflation, and a labor market that is changing faster than workers can adapt. 2) Restoring Public Trust in Institutions and Fair Administration. The second pressing issue is the erosion of public trust in government institutions—particularly in justice, regulatory enforcement, and administrative decision-making. -a) I will advocate for administrative reforms that emphasize consistency and due process. Rules should be applied evenly, appeals should be accessible, and penalties should be proportional. b) I will support structured second-chance pathways that are earned—not automatic. Relief mechanisms such as record sealing, rights restored



### Shelly deZevallos

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I bring a proven track record of leadership, business experience, & conservative values to Congress. I am a successful businesswoman & aviation industry leader with over 5,000 hours of flight experience. As President of West Houston Airport, I've created jobs & navigated federal regulations. I've served on aviation advisory boards, been appointed by the Trump Administration & Governor Abbott to federal & state advisory committees, & worked with policymakers to improve safety & efficiency. I hold a Bachelor's degree, an EMBA from Texas A&M, & a Doctorate in Aviation & Space Science. I'm a wife & mother rooted in Texas values of faith, family, & hard work, & I will bring that same commitment to serving the people of the 38th District.

Website: [shellyforcongress.com](http://shellyforcongress.com)

**ISSUES:** 1) Securing our border & combating crime: Chaos at our border threatens public safety, fuels cartel violence, & harms Texans. In Congress, I will work with President Trump to enforce immigration laws, equip law enforcement, & stop drug cartels & traffickers from putting Texans at risk. I was appointed by the Trump Administration to help keep families safe, & I will help finish the job by securing the border & supporting law enforcement. 2) Unleashing our economy & cutting costs: Texans face high taxes, inflation, & red tape. As a former Abbott appointee to Texas DOGE, I know how to cut waste & make the government serve the people. I will cut regulations, reduce taxes, & support small businesses to create jobs & keep Texas competitive.

### Larry Rubin

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



### Jon Bonck

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I was raised by my grandparents on their farm, grounded in faith, hard work, and responsibility from an early age. After attending LSU and working a year for minimum wage, I moved to Houston, broke into the oil and gas industry, and later built a successful real estate and mortgage brokerage with my wife. For more than two decades, we've helped Houston families navigate challenges caused by red tape and outdated policies. In Washington, I'll fix those barriers because I've lived them, and I'll fight for the same families we've served for years. As a father of two young children, I understand how today's policies affect parents and their futures, and I want to give them back control. I am an America first, Texas first candidate.

Website: [www.jonbonck.com](http://www.jonbonck.com)

**ISSUES:** My first priority is affordability. Families need relief from rising costs, and that starts with cutting the barriers that make it harder to start businesses, buy homes, and own a piece of the American dream. We must continue rolling back the policies driving up costs and limiting opportunity. My second priority is immigration. We must secure the border, enforce the law, and continue large scale removal of those here illegally while putting the safety and wellbeing of American citizens first. Texans bear the brunt of illegal crossings from South America, and I will work with President Trump to stop it.

## GOVERNOR • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Four-year term. The governor is chief executive of the state, which means that they carry out the law. They appoint members to boards and commissions; appoint statewide executive officials, state judges and district attorneys when vacancies occur; deliver the State of the State address; provide guidance to the Legislature; call special sessions of the legislature and set the agenda. The governor can veto legislation (including a line-item veto on appropriations), sign legislation, or allow it to become law without their signature. Current annual salary: \$153,750

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**HEALTHCARE:** What changes need to be made to Texas abortion laws to ensure women have access to proper medical care in the event of pregnancy complications?

**EDUCATION:** Share your thoughts on the role of state and local government in public education.

**IMMIGRATION:** How would you address immigration issues affecting our state while ensuring all individuals within our borders have access to due process protections?

**NATIONAL GUARD:** Share your position on when it is appropriate for the Federal government to deploy the National Guard in Texas cities.



### Mark V. Goloby

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Have been active in activism all my life. I founded and run TC Technologies that delivers the Internet of Things wireless solutions.

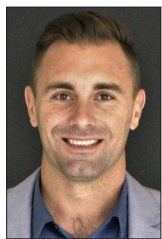
**HEALTHCARE:** Key in my campaign is adoption and foster care. Here is a link to my website. <https://markgolobyfortexas.com/adoption%2Ffoster-care> IT would be more appropriate for women's health to be directed to the medical procedures as outlined as complications. Most complications do not require aborting the pregnancy. In the case of miscarriages, there are prescribed DNC procedures going back decades.

**EDUCATION:** Going back to Texas 2nd President of Texas, Lamar Texas has declared the importance of an educated electorate. Texas has a significant role, unfortunately the current Governor and his appointed Commissioner has let our public education decline. First step is to have the Texas Public Education Commissioner elected not appointed. It is time to put the I back in Independent School District

Website: [goodgovernance.today](http://goodgovernance.today)

**IMMIGRATION:** Governors have the Constitutional authority to enforce the state's borders to protect the citizens, their livelihoods and property. That the Texas border and the US border are the same is a matter of geography not sovereignty. Because someone inhabits Texas does not avail them the same protections as natural born or naturalized US Citizens. Justice requires their rights not be disregarded.

**NATIONAL GUARD:** The national guards are state functions. The Federalization of these troops was wrong. If an overwhelming need to bring force to bear, it is the Governor's role to be first to respond, then determine adequacy. But local cities have a responsibility to maintain safe healthy communities. Too many cities are doing anything but serve the law abiding citizens creating a situation in need of force.



## Charles Andrew Crouch

**QUALIFICATIONS:** A bible believing son of God. Ex-Navy SEAL who understands the threat of Islam. A Business owner who understand the economy. An Author on the subject of Godly Leadership which is what Texas needs.

**HEALTHCARE:** No changes to the law need to be made. Our current healthcare system does a great job keeping women safe in the event of pregnancy complications.

**EDUCATION:** This issue is one of my top 3 issues. Our current education system is a joke and viewed by most a simply a daycare system for parents to hold full time jobs. Our current education system does not prepare kids for life. And when people throw more money at the problem, the problems only grow. That's because it's not a money problem, its a culture problem. Please view my stance on education!!!

**IMMIGRATION:** Immigration legally is a celebrated event. I love our state and I love it when people who love those same values come here as well. Due process is reserved for those who follow the law. People here illegally will be deported... and deported quickly. At the same time, I know what it's like to be on the front lines. As governor, I am prepared to allow our BP to enforce strict laws.

**NATIONAL GUARD:** It is appropriate under the Insurrection Act of. This usually requires the governor to declared that help is needed. As your future Governor, we need all the help we can get and I will be accepting all the help offered for the time being. Long term, my leadership will develop a self sufficient Texas without any help needed.



## Ronnie Tullios

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Police captain, project manager, State Guard member, and Shriners Chief of Staff with proven leadership over large teams and strong service to Texans.

**HEALTHCARE:** I am pro-life but believe women must receive emergency care. I support clear laws and better education so doctors confidently treat complications while protecting both mother and unborn life.

**EDUCATION:** I believe parents not politicians or activists should direct their children's education. State & local government should support schools, ensure transparency, & keep politics, DEI agendas, & ideological content out of the classroom. I support returning to traditional, biblically grounded values, strong academics, & empowering parents to make decisions for their children.

Website: [www.ronnetulliosfortexas.com](http://www.ronnetulliosfortexas.com)

**IMMIGRATION:** I believe prior federal policies strengthened border security and that immigration enforcement is first a federal responsibility: secure the border and enforce laws on the books. Texas should cooperate to locate and process those here illegally, while every person is treated humanely and given due process. If you broke the law, you broke the law—but it must be applied fairly.

**NATIONAL GUARD:** I believe the Governor, not Washington, should deploy the National Guard to protect Texas communities. Federal involvement should be rare and only at the state's request. If the federal government must step in without Texas asking, it means the Governor failed to lead and did not fulfill his duty to keep Texans safe.

## Pete "Doc" Chambers

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



## Stephen Samuelson

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Military service, leadership experience, policy research, and hands-on work translating complex laws into plain English. Independent thinker focused on accountability, problem-solving, and serving Tex

**HEALTHCARE:** Texas should clarify medical exceptions so doctors can act immediately in emergencies, protect physician judgment, and ensure timely care. At the same time, address root causes of abortion through better prenatal care, maternal health access, economic support, and family stability so fewer women face those choices.

**EDUCATION:** State government should set clear academic standards, protect funding fairness, and ensure transparency. Local control matters, but it must stay focused on education, not political or ideological agendas. Parents and communities deserve schools centered on learning, skills, and student success.

Website: [www.texanresilience.net](http://www.texanresilience.net)

**IMMIGRATION:** Texas should secure the border by restoring order, verifying identities, and reducing trafficking and cartel influence, while ensuring due process through clear screening, lawful procedures, and cooperation with federal authorities. Safety, fairness, and the rule of law must apply to everyone in Texas.

**NATIONAL GUARD:** Federal deployment of the National Guard should be limited to true emergencies, natural disasters, or when state and local authorities request support. Texas should lead its own response, with federal involvement as a last resort.

## Nathaniel Welch

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

**R.F. "Bob" Achgill**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** 67-year-old Texas A&M mechanical engineer with experience in chem. plants and the Space Shuttle program. I focus on protecting Texas water, power, and self-governance from long-term financial pressure

**HEALTHCARE:** Watching the birth of our first daughter, I could not see the doctor's fear as he skillfully balanced life and death as both mother and child faltered. I owe him 38 years of blessing! I cannot imagine a world without my daughter—or my daughter without her mother. Over half of maternal deaths occur after birth, often postpartum, when care fades but risk remains. Thyroid, Thyroid, Thyroid.

**EDUCATION:** We assume earlier generations lacked wisdom, writing by candlelight. That illusion breaks when reading the U.S. Constitution—an unprecedented document that still endures. The family once grounded education, because more is caught than taught. As moral foundations faded, have our outcomes improved—or declined? And will early adoption of AI hasten that decline?

Website: [www.hishandsreader.org/bob.html](http://www.hishandsreader.org/bob.html)

**IMMIGRATION:** Texas should enforce worker-verification laws consistently and lawfully, removing incentives for illegal hiring and increase enforcement through whistleblowing. I have seen legal labor work: employers who recruit seasonal workers on visas, train and house them, and send them home to their families. This approach respects due process, protects families, and avoids shifting social costs onto Texas.

**NATIONAL GUARD:** Texas has a long history of guarding its resources from excessive federal control. Today, federal pushes for massive data centers, untested nuclear projects, and space privatization are accelerating the depletion of Texas water security and straining power and governance. These efforts should pause until risks are understood and economic fairness for all Texans.

**Greg Abbott****NO RESPONSE RECEIVED****Kenneth Hyde****NO RESPONSE RECEIVED****Evelyn Brooks**NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have experience teaching and service on the Texas SBOE delivering Texans with the results they deserve. I have a strong moral compass with vision, effective communication, and people skills.

**HEALTHCARE:** Protecting women is crucial and they should be kept safe with life-saving care in event of pregnancy complications. Texas abortion laws must require simplification to ensure this care is provided without legal ambiguity for doctors and patients. Medical ethics recognizes a woman's fundamental right to life, which means her well-being is not secondary to the baby when faced with severe risks.

**EDUCATION:** The state's role should be limited as seen in provisions like (TEC) Section 7.003, which reserves powers to districts. Texas public education has shifted away from local control and community-driven schools and universities to state centralization through unconstitutional mandates. Public education must be restored back to traditional teaching and pedagogy practices where the focus is academics.

Website: [brooksfortexasgovernor.com](http://brooksfortexasgovernor.com)

**IMMIGRATION:** I would limit state cooperation with federal enforcement that threatens to take away the Constitutional rights, liberty, and privacy from Texans and state sovereignty. Due Process must be given to all within our borders.

I would support clear and reasonable enforcement actions and assess our state's vulnerabilities to make swift solutions to restore and maintain our statewide security.

**NATIONAL GUARD:** My position is to follow U.S. and Texas State Constitutions for the deployment of the National Guard in Texas cities. By using this dual system I hope to avoid the federal Posse Comitatus Act to limit federal military involvement in domestic law enforcement. My goal would be to keep the Federal government separate from policing duties in Texas cities unless a clear legal exception applies.

**Arturo Espinosa**NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

**QUALIFICATIONS:** The true statement begins with either verb intransitive or verb transitive in the present tense. Am Father Arturo Espinosa Professional Chemical Engineer (CH 5954). Am a truthful man: Am homosexual

**HEALTHCARE:** Equate English adjective true to Greek adjective αληθής. Change, and define the Greek word αληθής: Utter the truth to each woman and to each man at every site. Ask the doctor to be one hundred percent truthful in every part of the pregnancy to ensure every woman has safe medical care.

**EDUCATION:** Teach to state and local government personnel that partial or complete money dependence and partial or complete money reliance is evil, wrong, abusive, and destructive: Know complete woman and complete man dependence and reliance is good and healthy, is necessary to exist and live in happiness, is necessary to live and exist in joy, and is necessary to live and exist in complete freedom.

**IMMIGRATION:** Announce one earth, one nation, one people, one constitution one truthful woman or one truthful man leading and teaching 8.2 billion people.

**NATIONAL GUARD:** Reject the National Guard in any Texas city.



## LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Four-year term. The lieutenant governor is powerful because of their position as president of the Texas Senate, where they appoint the chairs and vice-chairs of committees; appoint senators to committees; assign bills to committees; and control the Senate's agenda.

They are also a member of several commissions and boards, and serve as governor in the governor's absence.

Current annual salary: \$7,200 plus \$221 for every day the Legislature is in session, including any special sessions.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**WOMEN'S HEALTH:** What changes need to be made to Texas abortion laws to ensure women have access to proper medical care in the event of pregnancy complications?

**HEALTHCARE:** What role should the state government play in promoting a healthy Texas population, and what steps would you take to ensure that healthcare is affordable and accessible for all Texans?

**CANNABIS LEGISLATION:** What legislation would you support regarding cannabis?

**WATER:** What legislation would you recommend to ensure that Texans and Texas businesses have enough water for the future?

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

#### Perla Muñoz Hopkins

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Perla serves as policy & ed advocate. She's a USAF Veteran. In 2010 Gen Rice presented her the Inaugural AETC Key Spouse of the Year Award, San Antonio. Perla has collaborated w/legislators since '19.

**WOMEN'S HEALTH:** Perla protects women and children. She is a mother of 3 adult children. More education, funding, and services (ultrasounds) need to be allocated to women pregnancy centers to ensure that every woman, unborn child, and family has the opportunity to thrive and achieve the American Dream. It is a detriment to witness any efforts to deny a mother-to-be, the joy of God's most precious gift, a child.

**HEALTHCARE:** We must ensure that TX Families have the best access to nutritious foods and real beef. Perla promotes improved measures for TX farmers and ranchers. She plans to begin the ban on bio-engineered foods, such as meat. Make Texas Healthy Again is a priority for Perla. TX is served by some of the world's most renowned professionals & she's proposed a med LT Gov Task Force(s) for improved healthcare.

Website: [perlahopkins.com](http://perlahopkins.com)

**CANNABIS LEGISLATION:** Many populations rely on medicinal products, including our U.S. veterans and patients with chronic pain. Texas should consider medical subject matter experts, studies, research, findings, and the most recent schedule policy, as well as federal regulations when drafting and/or implementing this form of legislation.

**WATER:** The LT Gov & Texas Senate must do everything possible to continue working w/everyday Texans on Water Conservation legislation and measures. We must be forward thinking and tackle Data Center water consumption implications and improve water recycling and irrigation. Citizens are concerned, and with good reason, over well limitations or lack thereof. NO Texan should be forced to leave their home.



#### Esala Wueschner

**QUALIFICATIONS:** 1: I helped uncover the Investigation into ActBlue democratic money laundering scheme 2023. 2: Defended Free Speech and exercised my Freedom of Speech as a Pro-Se against the Judo-Christian Zionist.

**WOMEN'S HEALTH:** This scientific evidence proves that life begins at the moment of conception according to Buddhism. When a sperm enters an egg at the moment of conception, it produces a "Light" called "zinc spark". This Biochemical event release creates a visible burst of light resembling tiny fireworks. I will look into the existing bill proposals and do my best to protect women's pregnancy complications.

Website: [www.wueuniversal.com](http://www.wueuniversal.com)

**HEALTHCARE:** I will look into making Texas Hospitals and Insurance companies "non-profit" in order to reduce healthcare costs.

**CANNABIS LEGISLATION:** Legalize cannabis in order to help Texans to be able to grow their spirituality and help point them in the direction of their spiritual growth that we need in order to compete with A.I like we used to be over 6,000 years ago based on Buddhism and Hellenistic Paganism before Monotheism, before Abraham.

**WATER:** I will look into sanctioning California and the northern states that are diverting their rain water which runs down the Colorado river to the ocean instead of the proper aquifers.



#### Timothy Mabry

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Former fire lieutenant, Navy veteran, and small business owner. Proven under pressure, mission-focused, and skilled at bringing people with different views together to solve complex problems.

**WOMEN'S HEALTH:** I believe life begins at conception. Medical treatment for ectopic pregnancies or non-viable pregnancies should never be classified as abortion or delayed, as it can endanger a woman's life. Elective abortion is not a right.

**HEALTHCARE:** Texas must lower healthcare costs through price transparency and reasonable caps on hospital charges. ER visits should result in one clear, fair bill, not layers of inflated fees so care is affordable and accessible.

Website: [mabryfortexas.com](http://mabryfortexas.com)

**CANNABIS LEGISLATION:** I support regulating, not criminalizing cannabis. Industrial, medical, and recreational uses must be clearly separated. Medical access should allow low-potency products without excessive barriers. Recreational use should be treated like alcohol, with strict age limits and impairment testing, not mere presence.

**WATER:** Water policy must prioritize people, agriculture, then business. We should limit excessive water use by data centers, require recycling, expand rain capture, reservoirs, and explore desalination and infrastructure to protect Texas' future supply.

Dan Patrick

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

## ATTORNEY GENERAL • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Four-year term. The attorney general is the chief law enforcement officer of the state; represents the state and state officials in legal matters; issues opinions; oversees collection of child support; administers the crime victims compensation fund; enforces the open records/open meetings acts; approves public bond issues; and enforces consumer regulations. Current annual salary: \$153,750

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ELECTIONS:** How would you protect Texans' freedom to vote while maintaining safe and secure elections?

**IMMIGRATION:** How would you address immigration issues affecting our state while ensuring all individuals within our borders have access to due process protections?

**PRIORITIES:** How would you identify, evaluate, and prioritize which state legal cases to pursue?

**LEADERSHIP:** What specific improvements or reforms do you envision for the Texas Attorney General's office in the coming years?



#### Aaron Reitz

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Endorsed successor to AG Ken Paxton. U.S. Marine officer. Senior Trump DOJ official. Deputy Texas AG. Chief of Staff to Sen. Ted Cruz. Texas Supreme Court law clerk. Winning legal record.

**ELECTIONS:** Secure elections are essential to liberty and self-government. As AG, I will aggressively enforce the Texas Election Code, protect lawful voters, prosecute fraud, and stop Left-wing efforts to weaken and steal elections, enhance ballot security, and restore public confidence in election outcomes.

**IMMIGRATION:** I will work hand-in-glove with President Trump and Texas law enforcement to reverse the Biden-era invasion of aliens and remove those here illegally. The rule of law and sovereignty must be restored. Illegal aliens are entitled only to swift identification, detention, and deportation—not endless delays and meddling by anti-American, pro-alien leftist organizations.

Website: [AaronReitz.com](http://AaronReitz.com)

**PRIORITIES:** I will prioritize cases by fidelity to the U.S. and Texas Constitutions and the law as written. I will aggressively litigate, investigate, sue, defend, and appeal to protect Texans' sovereignty, liberty, and public safety, and to defeat the forces of the Left that threaten everything we hold dear—just as my record shows I've done throughout my career.

**LEADERSHIP:** I will build on AG Paxton's legacy with even greater speed, strength, and resolve. With senior Trump DOJ experience, I will fully align Texas with the Administration to deliver uncompromising law enforcement, border security, and an America First Law and Order Agenda without apology.



#### Chip Roy

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have courtroom and prosecutorial experience as a US Attorney, a nationally recognized conservative voting record in Congress, and senior leadership experience as First Assistant Attorney General.

**ELECTIONS:** As Attorney General, I will rigorously enforce Texas election law so that every eligible voter is protected and every unlawful ballot is prevented. This includes prosecuting election fraud, defending voter ID and citizenship verification requirements, and resisting federal attempts to undermine Texas's election safeguards.

**IMMIGRATION:** Texas must use every lawful tool available to defend itself: litigation against unlawful federal policies, support for state and local enforcement efforts, aggressive action against cartel networks, and NGOs that facilitate illegal activity, and prosecution of crimes tied to human trafficking. As Attorney General, I will treat border security as a top priority and have a record of doing so.

Website: [chiproy.com](http://chiproy.com)

**PRIORITIES:** As a former First Assistant Attorney General, I understand how the office functions day to day and how to align its work with clear strategic priorities. I would prioritize defending Texas sovereignty against federal overreach, aggressively prosecuting human trafficking, cartel activity, election fraud, and corporate cronyism and misconduct; and protecting Texans' constitutional liberties.

**LEADERSHIP:** As First Assistant Attorney General, I effectively served as the chief operating officer of the office overseeing daily operations, coordinating across divisions, managing personnel, and ensuring the Attorney General's priorities were executed. My goal is an office that is feared by criminals, respected by the courts, trusted by law enforcement, and dedicated to serving the people of Texas.

#### Joan Huffman

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

#### Mayes Middleton

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

## COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Four-year term. The comptroller is the chief financial officer of the state; collects state taxes and fees; pays the state's bills; provides revenue estimates to the legislature; certifies the budget; reports the condition of the state's finances; and provides economic development assistance to local governments and private businesses. Current annual salary: \$153,750

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**RAINY DAY FUND:** How do you think Texas should use its Rainy Day Fund?

**EDUCATIONAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (ESAs):** What oversight measures will you support to ensure that ESAs are funded and administered transparently?

**BUDGET MANAGEMENT:** How will you ensure budget transparency so taxpayers can easily see how their money is allocated and spent?

**PRIORITIES:** What do you see as your greatest challenge as Comptroller over the next four years, and how will you address it?

Kelly Hancock

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



#### Christi Craddick

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Having served and managed a large state agency as Commissioner of the Railroad Commission since 2012; Bachelor's Degree as Plan II graduate and a Doctorate of Jurisprudence from UT Austin.

**RAINY DAY FUND:** The Comptroller doesn't pass laws, but plays a key role in how we budget. Priorities change all the time. I would partner with legislators to protect conservative priorities, ensure accurate revenue forecasts, and keep Texas a low-tax, pro-growth state.

**EDUCATIONAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (ESAs):** Real-time auditing and verification systems to prevent misuse or double-billing; Vendor and provider audits to confirm compliance and quality in approved services; Public transparency dashboards so taxpayers can see exactly how ESA dollars are being spent; Close coordination with the TEA and the Legislature; Swift

Website: [christicraddickforcomptroller.com](http://christicraddickforcomptroller.com)

penalties and clawbacks for any individual or vendor found abusing the program.

**BUDGET MANAGEMENT:** Audit everything, launch a local government efficiency task force, and upgrade outdated technology. Texas taxpayers deserve to know where their money is going. I will launch a top-to-bottom audit to ensure every dollar is tracked, every program is reviewed, and no waste goes unchecked. From city budgets to special districts, there should be reviews of local budgets to help communities cut waste

**PRIORITIES:** Ensuring that the office is responsive to taxpayers. At the Railroad Commission I led efforts to cut permitting delays from months to 48 hours. I'll bring that same approach to the Comptroller's Office to bring faster refunds for Texas businesses. When small businesses overpay their taxes, they shouldn't have to wait months to get their money back.



#### Michael Berlanga

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am the only certified public accountant on the ballot and would make Texas history as such if elected. In addition, I am also licensed as a senior property tax consultant and real estate broker.

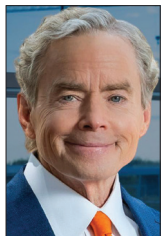
**RAINY DAY FUND:** The Texas Rainy Day Fund should be used for one-time emergencies, like natural disasters or sudden revenue drops, to prevent service cuts, fund major one-time projects (water, education), and stabilize the budget during downturns. It should not be used for chronic underfunding or ongoing programs. I understand prioritizing prudence while allowing investment for growth while funding efficiently.

**EDUCATIONAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (ESAs):** As a CPA I am uniquely trained and committed to ensure transparency and accountability. Annual audits, programmatic reporting, defined qualifying expenses, account suspension/fund recovery procedures, digital wallet technology are legislated measures that will only safeguard taxpayer

dollars ensuring that funds are used strictly for their intended purposes when quality oversight is my authority.

**BUDGET MANAGEMENT:** Implementing user-friendly online tools like "Where the Money Goes," data charts, graphs on spending by agency/category, citizen-centric reports, and the Transparency Stars program for local governments, designed to make complex state finances accessible and understandable for taxpayers. Simplifying state finances, foster greater trust and more participation in fiscal oversight unlike before.

**PRIORITIES:** Achieving the Governor's goal of eliminating school property tax 3 years & 10 sessions ago. My God given talents to calculate and communicate will influence the Legislature to do what Texas has ever done before. The Constitutional Duty of the Legislature is to fund education efficiently. My priority will make property more affordable for every Texan and achieve universal choice truly universal



#### Don Huffines

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I exposed a multi-million-dollar corruption scandal that sent six to prison and saved taxpayers millions. As senator, I refused salary and perks. As Comptroller, I'll audit spending and fight fraud.

**RAINY DAY FUND:** The Rainy Day Fund belongs to taxpayers, not the government. I'll examine how the ESF is invested to maximize benefits for its rightful owners, Texas taxpayers. It should be reserved for true emergencies so Texas can pay its bills on time. As a lifelong businessman, fiscal discipline matters to me, and I earned a 99% scorecard as a Texas Senator from Texans for Fiscal Responsibility.

**EDUCATIONAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (ESAs):** I've always fought for education freedom and real competition, because competition lowers costs and raises the quality. As Comptroller, I'll manage Texas' new Education Savings Account program so parents can choose the best school for their child. I'll ensure it's transparent and empowers parents with no strings attached.

Website: [donhuffines.com](http://donhuffines.com)

**BUDGET MANAGEMENT:** We need a budget that's simple, transparent, and easy to understand, not just for the Legislature, but for every Texas taxpayer. Too many in government forget whose money they spend. Every dollar belongs to taxpayers, not government. The Comptroller must do more than track revenue, it must ensure dollars are spent wisely, efficiently, and transparently.

**PRIORITIES:** The greatest challenge is ending the culture where bureaucrats treat taxpayer money like it's theirs. As Comptroller, I'll make the office a watchdog: audit government, expose fraud, waste, and corruption, and work with law enforcement to put thieves in jail. Then I'll fight to return the savings to Texans.

## COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Four-year term. The agriculture commissioner's principal job is promoting Texas' agricultural products.

In that capacity, the commissioner facilitates trade and marketing of agricultural products; regulates weights and measures; regulates pesticide use and application; certifies organically produced products; administers the National School Lunch and School Breakfast programs; provides financial help to farmers; and helps solve issues related to natural disasters. Current annual salary: \$140,938

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN AND SCHOOLS:** How would you ensure the nutritional needs of Texas children are met year-round?

**TARIFFS:** How would you protect Texas farmers from potentially higher costs or lost sales due to tariffs?

**RURAL DEVELOPMENT:** What is the greatest challenge facing rural communities, and how would you address it?

**WATER:** What policies would you support to balance water usage between farming and other uses?



#### Nate Sheets

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Lifelong conservative Republican, Navy veteran, Christian w/ a decade in full-time ministry. Built the nation's #1 honey brand from one backyard hive by championing transparency & purity for consumers.

**FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN AND SCHOOLS:** Texas ranks 44th in school lunches under current leadership. I'll re-prioritize state food dollars toward Texas-grown produce and meat to improve nutrition, support farmers, and get better results for kids.

**TARIFFS:** Farmers once earned over 40¢ of every food dollar—today it's about 14¢. I'll reform outdated, inefficient programs to help producers sell directly to consumers, keep more profit, and strengthen Texas agriculture.

Website: [NateSheets.com](http://NateSheets.com)

**RURAL DEVELOPMENT:** The biggest challenge in rural Texas is losing jobs and opportunity. Instead of subsidizing multinational processed food companies, I'll use the state's buying power to buy from Texas farmers and ranchers—keeping dollars local.

**WATER:** I'll protect landowners' water rights, support common-sense conservation, and ensure agriculture isn't pushed aside by urban growth—balancing Texas water needs without mandates or overregulation.



#### Sid Miller

**QUALIFICATIONS:** With decades in Texas agriculture and years serving as Ag Commissioner, I bring proven leadership, real-world experience, and a Texas-strong commitment to serving the people of this great state.

**FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN AND SCHOOLS:** Under my leadership, Texas ranks first in delivering healthy meals to schoolchildren. By expanding year-round nutrition programs, supporting community efforts like the MAHA movement, collaborating with leaders such as Robert F. Kennedy, and serving on Governor Abbott's newly created Texas Food Nutrition Committee, I work to ensure every Texas child receives the nutritious meals they deserve.

**TARIFFS:** I work hard every day to protect Texas farmers by advocating for fair trade policies, standing with President Trump on strengthening American agriculture, and pushing for relief tools that offset higher costs or lost sales. By promoting Texas-grown products, expanding new markets, and fighting for producers at every level, my focus always remains on keeping Texas farmers strong and competitive.

Website: [sidmiller.com](http://sidmiller.com)

**RURAL DEVELOPMENT:** The greatest challenge facing rural communities is access to healthcare, markets, infrastructure, and opportunity. I work every day to expand broadband, strengthen local economies, support rural schools and hospitals, protect our water, and ensure state resources reach small towns. By championing rural voices and cutting red tape, I stay focused on keeping rural Texas strong and thriving.

**WATER:** I support protecting farmers' water rights while promoting long-term conservation through rainwater harvesting, desalinating brackish supplies, recycling fracking & oilfield produced water for irrigation, tapping newly discovered deep-water sources, improving storage, and offering incentives for efficiency. My focus is ensuring Texas agriculture and communities have reliable water for the future.



## RAILROAD COMMISSIONER • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Six-year term. The Railroad Commissioner is one of the three-member Texas Railroad Commission. The commission regulates the oil and gas industry, gas utilities, pipeline safety, safety in the liquefied petroleum gas industry and surface coal and uranium mining.

It has no regulatory authority concerning railroads. Current annual salary: \$140,937

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC SAFETY:** What steps would you take to eliminate the backlog of uncapped abandoned oil, gas, and injection wells across the state?

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** How would you improve transparency and public participation in the Commission's rulemaking and permitting process?

**MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT:** How would you ensure that the Commission is able to provide adequate monitoring and enforcement to the oil, gas, and mining sectors?

**CHALLENGES:** What do you see as the two greatest challenges to the office, and how would you address them?

Bo French

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

### Jim Wright

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Currently Chairman of the Texas Railroad Commission. Started working in energy industry at age 19. Later created a group of environmental management companies that service the energy sector.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC SAFETY:** The RRC is currently working with the U.S. Department of the Interior to streamline and improve the federal Orphaned Wells Grant Program. That and recent legislative initiatives in the state legislature make it easier to cut through red tape and allow the RRC to utilize its world-renowned well plugging expertise and save taxpayers money.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** We engage with the public through open meetings and the RRC website, making information available on proposed rules. We have sector based advisory groups and remote listening sessions, hosted by the Office of Public Engagement. Those allow energy experts to answer questions on rulemaking and permitting processes. As chairman, I know transparency in what we do as a government agency is critical.

Website: [wrightfortexas.com](http://wrightfortexas.com)

**MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT:** RRC has been hard at work to improve our efficiency in staffing and the use of new data tools to flag potential potential issues or questionable recordings. That commitment results in better follow up to serious complaints by the general public and ensures consistency in the reporting. Improved data results in improved monitoring and enforcement.

**CHALLENGES:** 1. Support the best use of our natural resources to benefit Texans, while maintaining stewardship of the environment. 2. Balancing the needs and wants of the various sectors and sizes of energy related businesses from small businesses to multi-million dollar interests so that decisions are fair to all stakeholders.



### Katherine Culbert

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a Process Safety Engineer who helps Oil & Gas companies operate safely to protect communities and workers and follow regulations. I care about my fellow Texans and want everyone to thrive here.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC SAFETY:** RRC received added funds in the last budget to plug orphan wells. This funding level needs to continue, and yearly plugging targets need to continue to be exceeded. New plugging requirement laws will help keep new wells from being added to the list. We need better oversight during the well-plugging activities to ensure our dollars are being spent effectively and wells are being properly plugged.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Texans deserve clear oversight, responsible stewardship of natural resources, and a Commission that is open about how decisions are made and how public input is used. Monthly RRC meetings are streamed, and we need

Website: [www.katherine4texas.com](http://www.katherine4texas.com)

to allow remote public input to the meetings. Communication about upcoming rulemaking and permitting needs to be improved to allow for increased public participation.

**MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT:** The annual monitoring and enforcement plan defines strategic priorities. It is necessary to work with impacted community members and the professionals in the agency to develop a comprehensive plan. Adequate staffing levels and expertise are necessary for proper implementation.

**CHALLENGES:** Texans need access to reliable and cost-conscious energy. I will pursue policies that help prevent unnecessary rate burdens and ensure that families, businesses and communities benefit from a stable and efficient energy market. Texas must be prepared for a rapidly changing energy landscape. From new tech to shifting market demands, we need to modernize operations and plan for long-term resilience.



### James (Jim) Matlock

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have twenty years in field experience in many areas of the oil and gas industry. I have worked with the service companies, SWD's, leasing, pipelines, and right of ways.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC SAFETY:** I have a plan to address this by working with the independent producers of the state. Plugging is not the right answer for most of the wells. Due to the high salinity and other corrosive properties under extreme pressure, the metal casing deteriorates over time which will cause subsurface damage long before it reaches the surface. We need to repurpose these wells for geothermal or lithium mining.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Since most people can't take the time to drive to Austin, I plan to host district meetings monthly.

Website: [matlockfortexas.com](http://matlockfortexas.com)

That will give everyone the opportunity to come out and voice their concerns. I understand that there are a lot of concerns we need to address.

**MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT:** We need more inspectors. Or inspectors are overloaded with the territory they are expected to cover.

**CHALLENGES:** Everyone has a vested interest in the industry they were elected to regulate. I have no vested interest in the industry. I do love the industry, but we need regulators, no more corporate self governance. We need representatives who are not afraid to have difficult conversations and take responsibility for issues such as lake Boehmer.



### Hawk Dunlap

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Fourth generation oil and gas. Grew up around men who taught me to do it the right way. 30 years operational field experience from fighting oil well fires to excavating over 150 "plugged" wells.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC SAFETY:** Texas has over 10,000 documented orphaned wells with at least 100,000 that will likely be orphaned in the next few years. We also have an over abundance of produced water. I propose a \$.10 per barrel tariff on each barrel of produced water that is injected. At 30 million barrels per day, we'll have \$1 billion in new annual revenue to plug the riskiest wells the right way.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** First, allow remote electronic participation by the public. Second, actually ask questions during the monthly public meetings the Commission currently has that goes through 600+ agenda items in 30 minutes. Third, I would

Website: [Hawk4texas.com](http://Hawk4texas.com)

have factually informative social media posts as opposed to the current propaganda. The regulators need to regulate, not brag about how many wells they issued drilling permits for

**MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT:** I'll be in the field, not in the office. I intend to travel the state to each of the districts, and help ensure experienced oil and gas men and women are leading with integrity. Treating everyone equally. That means consistent and fair application of the rules. I will also help create a portal for the public to more readily report and check on the status of their complaints.

**CHALLENGES:** 1. Lack of accountability to the public. I have experienced firsthand how Commissioners treat those making public comments at the open meetings. They are condescending. It's unacceptable. 2. Getting oil and gas money out of the political arena. Not just in this race, but in politics generally. Operationally - see above for water injection and orphaned wells.

## JUDGE, COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Six-year term. The Texas Court of Appeals is Texas' highest court for criminal cases. The Court includes a Presiding Judge and eight Judges, each of which is elected by voters of the entire state. The court must review all cases in which the death penalty is assessed. It also exercises discretionary review in other criminal cases and issues rulings about wrongful imprisonment. Current annual salary range: \$168,000 to \$211,680

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ETHICS:** How will you ensure your rulings remain impartial and free from both political pressure and the interests of your campaign donors?

**ISSUES:** What do you see as the most pressing challenge facing the courts today, and how would you propose addressing it?

**PHILOSOPHY:** What is your judicial philosophy?

## JUDGE, COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS, PLACE 3



### Alison Fox

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have almost 20 years in criminal appellate law, drafting opinions, reviewing records, and litigating writs. I am known for my rigor, neutrality, and fidelity to the Constitution.

**ETHICS:** I will decide every case based solely on the law and the record. Ethical rules, precedent and judicial restraint - not politics or donors - govern my rulings.

**ISSUES:** I believe the greatest challenge is applying the law consistently and impartially while resisting political pressure, misinformation, and demands for results over justice. I can

Website: [www.foxforjudge.com](http://www.foxforjudge.com)

address these problems by applying the law consistently, writing clear opinions, respecting precedent, and maintaining independence from politics -- courts build trust through fairness, transparency, and restraint.

**PHILOSOPHY:** My judicial philosophy is grounded in fidelity to the Constitution, respect for precedent, and judicial restraint. Judges must apply the law as written, decide cases on the record, and remain independent from politics or personal views.

### Brent Coffee

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

### Thomas Smith

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

### Lesli Fitzpatrick

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



### Jennifer Balido

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have over 33 years of criminal law experience as a district judge, prosecutor, public defender, and criminal defense attorney, trying cases and arguing appeals, including death penalty cases.

**ETHICS:** Transparency is key to the public's trust in the judiciary. Aside from accurate and timely reporting to the Ethics Commission, a judge should make the parties aware of any potential conflicts of interest, either personal or professional, however slight, and let the parties decide if they wish to ask the judge to recuse herself. As a district judge, I have recused myself when necessary.

Website: [www.judgebalido.com](http://www.judgebalido.com)

**ISSUES:** The most pressing challenge facing appellate courts is the length of time it takes for a case to go through the appellate process. Delays occur at every turn, and victims of crime and defendants deserve a swift but thorough examination of the trial record and applicable law and a thoughtful appellate opinion addressing the issues raised in the case. Panel opinions could clear more cases quickly.

**PHILOSOPHY:** As a sitting district judge, people come before me facing the most difficult situations of their lives. Crime victims, defendants, their families, and their attorneys are looking to me to set the tone. I treat everyone with respect, I allow everyone to have their say, and I fully consider the arguments of both sides. You may not agree with my decision, but you will know that you were heard.



### John Messinger

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Representing Texas in this court has been my job for 15 years. Few people have comparable experience: over 125 petitions for review, over 100 briefs, and 26 oral arguments in this court alone.

**ETHICS:** We're blessed to be able to elect (and un-elect) judges. I have a long record of advocating for what the law requires, not what I would prefer. The voters will ensure that I keep my promise to continue enforcing the law as written.

**ISSUES:** Although the court has found many novel ways to reverse convictions in the last few years, the biggest problem is the time it takes. The average time it took the court to review a decision and issue an opinion was over 500 days last year. It used to be under 200. You fix this by electing people who've spent their careers analyzing complex legal issues in 30 days or less. That's me.

Website: [messengerforjustice.com](http://messengerforjustice.com)

**PHILOSOPHY:** Justice through law enforcement. In a system of law, judges are not empowered to do whatever they think is fair or right in a given case. They must apply the law as written. If the law is properly interpreted and the result is not what the legislature intended, it is the legislature's job to rewrite the law. Judges should have the humility to accept their limited roles and limited wisdom.

# DEMOCRACY WINS WHEN WE ALL SHOW UP



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## EARLY VOTING STARTS FEBRUARY 17th!

## MEMBER, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Four-year term. The fifteen-member board decides curriculum, standards, student testing, special education programs, and textbooks for Texas public schools. It also oversees the Permanent School Fund. Current annual salary: Members of the Board do not receive pay, but are reimbursed for expenses to attend meetings.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM:** How should the K-12 social studies curriculum balance state, national, and world history to best prepare students to be responsible citizens in today's world?

**TEACHER SUPPORT:** How can the SBOE strengthen teacher preparation, certification, and ongoing professional development to support high-quality instruction?

**DIGITAL EDUCATION:** How can the SBOE balance technology use with traditional instructional methods to best support student learning?

**RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS:** Should Christianity or any other religious beliefs be incorporated into the public school curriculum? Explain your position.

**OTHER ISSUES:** What other issues do you believe will be the most pressing for the State Board of Education?

## MEMBER, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 6

MEMBER, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 6  
REPUBLICAN PARTY



**Barbara Denson**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I graduated Magna Cum Laude in Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh. I built a successful career as an engineer, later I focused on environmental science.

I'm effective with varied viewpoints

**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM:** The recently approved social studies framework has an excellent balance of each. Historical documents should be used to accurately teach core constitutional principles, civic duties, and global context. Texas history is American history, and teaching both thoroughly will build informed, responsible citizens who understand their state, their nation, and their place in the wider world.

**TEACHER SUPPORT:** The SBOE has strengthened instruction by encouraging high-quality residencies. Data shows that 90% percent of candidates who complete Texas' high-touch, hands-on model return for a third year of teaching. The SBOE should review data to evaluate the results of teacher mentorship programs and instructional materials/resources to ensure every teacher has sufficient training, tools and resources.

**DIGITAL EDUCATION:** The SBOE can blend technology with proven teaching by using digital tools and AI to enhance—not replace—traditional teaching. AI in particular offers exciting possibilities, but it must be used carefully and responsibly to protect students and keep learning grounded in strong instruction. I would never want a child's education to rely solely on computers without guidance from a live adult teacher.

**RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS:** I believe that parents should guide their children's moral and ethical upbringing according to their own values. However, Texas law says that there must be TEKS for religious literature that ensure school districts provide religious instruction—either integrated into other subjects or, where appropriate, as a standalone course—as a condition of accreditation.

**OTHER ISSUES:** Problems (teaching what to think, not how to think) with the science books are what pushed me into this race. In addition, updating science every 8 years is far too slow. That cycle must be shortened. CTE is also increasingly vital as high-tech companies move in, and we need stronger, modern training in a vast array of CTE areas so students can compete and thrive in a rapidly evolving workforce.

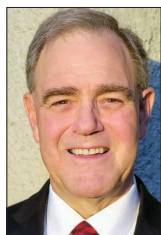
Website: [barbaradenson4texas.com](http://barbaradenson4texas.com)

**Tiffany Nelson**

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED**

## MEMBER, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 8

MEMBER, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 8  
REPUBLICAN PARTY



**George Brian Vachris**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Licensed P.E. in Texas with 4 degrees; Former Certified Teacher of mathematics, physical science, engineering (6-12); Taught 9 years at a Title 1 school in Houston. Go to [vachriscampaign.com](http://vachriscampaign.com)

**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM:** The course curriculum is set by statute and SBOE vote already. What are being developed now are the individual course TEKS. I have submitted pages of written testimony to SBOE with specific suggestions to improve the TEKS. For a general outline, go to [vachriscampaign.com](http://vachriscampaign.com). There is not enough room in 400 characters to specify changes to one course, never mind all of chapter 113 TAC.

**TEACHER SUPPORT:** While there is currently an emphasis on teaching methodology, there is far too little emphasis on teaching facts and specific subject matter. Teacher professional development should include methods to teach specific content as specified in the TEKS. This should emphasize student memorization of basic material such as times tables, historical timelines with key facts, etc.

Website: [vachriscampaign.com](http://vachriscampaign.com)

**DIGITAL EDUCATION:** Digital Education, including calculators, should not be used in elementary grades. Students need to learn to read the printed word. Students need to learn to calculate with pencil and paper. Student testing should be on paper. Federal Title one requires State student tests but does NOT require on-line testing. This should be reserved for upper grades. Computer Sciences should include MS Excel.

**RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS:** Our Judeo-Christian heritage is embedded into our legal system and our entire culture. It is WRONG to murder or steal. History should teach the Christian religious founding of the colonies, this is historical reality. The role of Christians in the abolition movement is historical reality. The first Amendment does not mention "separation of church and state", rather it guarantees religious freedom.

**OTHER ISSUES:** The State Board of Education is responsible for oversight of the Texas Permanent School Fund. Investments should be made with the dual goal of preserving and growing the investment capital value while maximizing the return on investment. While these goals can be in conflict, they are not mutually exclusive, and careful attention should be paid to the proper mix of investments.





### Audrey G. Young

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Audrey brings more than three decades of distinguished service in Texas public education. Her career reflects academic rigor and a career-long dedication to understanding the needs of Texas children.

**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM:** As a member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Social Studies, Audrey has worked collaboratively with educators, content experts, and community stakeholders to ensure that the curriculum framework reflects both academic rigor and real-world relevance. She has developed a structured approach that includes clear strands, coherent course sequencing, and the integration of primary sources.

**TEACHER SUPPORT:** Dr. Young has been a vocal supporter of National Board Certification, recognizing it as one of the most rigorous and research-based professional credentials available to teachers. By encouraging policies that expand access to National Board programs, she has helped more Texas educators pursue advanced certification, deepen their instructional expertise, and remain in the profession long-term.

Website: [SBOE8.com](http://SBOE8.com)

**DIGITAL EDUCATION:** Audrey recognizes digital tools can expand access, however, she believes that engaging in foundational practices: reading physical texts, writing by hand, participating in discussion, and learning through hands-on activities are most effective for Texas students. Audrey has been a steady advocate for ensuring that technology enhances—not replaces—high-quality teaching and learning.

**RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS:** Dr. Young supports teaching about religion in an academic, historical, and culturally relevant context. This includes supporting curriculum standards that allow students to study the historical influence of various religions while preparing students to understand the diverse world around them. As an educator, she values ensuring that students receive a well-rounded, academically sound education.

**OTHER ISSUES:** Several pressing issues: school board training, mathematics standards, and the adoption of high-quality instructional materials. Audrey believes that strengthening school board training is essential to ensuring that locally elected trustees are well-prepared to govern effectively, understand their legal responsibilities, and make informed decisions that support student achievement and outcomes.

## STATE SENATOR • REPUBLICAN PARTY

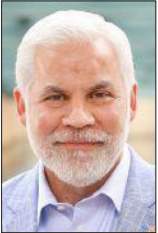
Four-year term. The Texas Senate has 31 members from separate districts across the state. With the Texas House of Representatives, the Texas Senate: enacts and amends laws; passes the state budget and raises or lowers taxes; passes proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution; and redraws congressional and legislative district maps every ten years. The Texas Senate has the exclusive power to approve or reject appointments made by the governor to fill vacancies in state or district offices and to hold trial for officials impeached by the Texas House of Representatives. Current annual salary: \$7,200, plus \$221 for every day the Legislature is in session, including any special sessions.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

## STATE SENATOR, DISTRICT 4



### Brett W. Ligon

**BACKGROUND:** I bring nearly two decades of experience enforcing Texas law and protecting public safety at the highest level of responsibility. As District Attorney, I led a major law-enforcement office and made decisions that directly impacted community safety. I have personally visited the Texas border and prosecuted cases involving human and sex trafficking tied to cartel and smuggling activity, giving me firsthand experience with the real consequences of border failures on our communities. I also worked closely with legislators to help pass laws strengthening public safety and supporting law enforcement statewide. As Montgomery County's DA, I delivered results while responsibly managing taxpayer resources.

Website: [www.LigonForTexas.com](http://www.LigonForTexas.com)

**ISSUES:** The biggest issues facing Senate District 4 are property tax reform and border security. I will work to deliver meaningful property tax reform by advocating the limit of excessive appraisal increases and reducing the reliance on property taxes. I will also support strong state-level border enforcement efforts targeting cartel activity and human trafficking.

### Charlie Miller

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Two-year term. The Texas House of Representatives has 150 members from separate districts across the state. With the Texas Senate, the Texas House enacts and amends laws; passes the state budget and raises or lowers taxes; passes proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution; and redraws congressional and legislative district maps every ten years. The Texas House has the exclusive power to impeach officials. Current annual salary: \$7,200, plus \$221 for every day the Legislature is in session, including any special sessions.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your "specific" plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 126

NO PHOTO  
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### Polly Looper

**BACKGROUND:** I bring 29+ years of law enforcement and investigative experience, including roles as a police officer, licensed private investigator, and internal investigator. I hold a Master's in Criminal Justice and a Bachelor's in Organizational Leadership, graduating summa cum laude both from Texas A&M. As owner of Trace Investigations and developer of a special district in Houston, I have led complex investigations and collaborated with law enforcement, community members, and local stakeholders to improve public safety. My leadership is grounded in integrity, moral clarity, and service to the community.

Website: [www.pollylooperfortexas.com](http://www.pollylooperfortexas.com)

**ISSUES:** 1. Public Safety: HD 126 faces property crime, violent crime, and nuisance issues. I will expand community-based policing, strengthen collaboration with law enforcement and local stakeholders, and advocate for targeted funding for crime prevention, officer training, and technology-driven monitoring. Reducing crime will drive initiative number two. 2. Housing and Economic Growth: Families and businesses need affordable housing and vibrant commercial areas. I will support responsible development, streamline permitting by working with leaders to cut red tape, and promote public-private partnerships to revitalize neighborhoods while ensuring safety, livability, and economic opportunity.



### Stan Stanart

**BACKGROUND:** I worked for many years as an electronics and software engineer and manager on major projects at LTV Aerospace, McDonnell Douglas, and Compaq Computer. As your elected County Clerk and Chief Election Official from 2010 to 2018, I completely modernized the office from mainframes and microfilm to modern computer systems. I created the electronic iPad poll book used for the last 10 years at polling locations. For the last 2½ years, I've volunteered as the Harris County Republican Party Vice-Chair for Election Integrity and Chairman of the Ballot Security Committee. I'm known nationally as an election integrity leader, and I've worked with the Texas Legislature for 15 years on election laws, fighting for fair and secure elections.

Website: [www.StanStanart.com](http://www.StanStanart.com)

**ISSUES:** In the Texas House, I'll fight for property tax reform and strengthening the integrity of our elections—my two top priorities—while also supporting law enforcement, flooding infrastructure efforts and leading on conservative issues. My experience serving as Harris County Clerk and Chief Election Official, along with my relationships with Texas leaders and legislators, will make me very effective on day one in the Texas House. I'm known across Texas as a proven conservative leader who has delivered competent, conservative, and efficient government. As a former precinct chair, three-term Republican Club President, and 30-year resident of HD126, I'm ready to serve as its next State Representative.

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

### Kelly Peterson

**BACKGROUND:** I have extensive experience in public service, constituent advocacy, and legislative operations. I previously served as District Director for State Representative Sam Harless, working directly with constituents, state agencies, and local governments to resolve issues and navigate state services. My professional background includes business administration, oil field consulting, real estate development, and small business ownership, including operating a dance studio serving students of all abilities. These experiences strengthened my understanding of workforce needs, special needs, and community inclusion. I am known for being organized, accessible, and solutions-focused, with a commitment to accountability and effective communication.

Website: [kellypetersonfortexas.com](http://kellypetersonfortexas.com)

**ISSUES:** One of the most pressing issues is rising crime and ensuring residents feel safe in their communities. I will support coordinated efforts with law enforcement, prosecutors, and local officials, advocate for resources that improve response times and crime prevention, and work to strengthen victim assistance and community safety initiatives. A second key issue is managing rapid growth so infrastructure and public safety keep pace. I will work with local governments and state agencies to prioritize road improvements, drainage, and responsible development while supporting funding approaches that protect homeowners from unnecessary cost increases.

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 129

Bob Mitchell

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

### Scott Bowen

**BACKGROUND:** I've been involved in policy as a Republican for my entire adult life, serving as a local volunteer and leader in the party and then on the Clear Creek ISD school board for six years. In all of those roles, I've brought a problem-solving mindset that I've developed in my professional life as a chemical engineer. I'm a lifelong resident of the district, having grown up in Clear Lake and still living there today, and I know the needs of our region and our industry well. I also know the needs and challenges that face our public schools and will be an advocate for parents and our schools at the state level. I have the experience, the knowledge, and the passion to ensure our district continues to be represented well in the Texas Legislature.

Website: [bowenfortx.com](http://bowenfortx.com)

**ISSUES:** Property taxes - I agree with Governor Abbott's proposal to use state sales tax surpluses to give 100% homestead exemptions on the school M&O tax, which is the largest tax any homeowner pays. Combined with local spending limits and appraisal caps, we can significantly reduce the burden of taxation on our homeowners. Crime - Harris County has failed miserably at its job of getting criminals off our streets and keeping us safe. I will fight for judicial accountability, to end cashless bail for violent and repeat offenders, and to give the Attorney General the ability to prosecute violent criminals and election crimes when local District Attorneys refuse to.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 129  
REPUBLICAN PARTY

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 134



### Mike Michna

**BACKGROUND:** I am a 20-year firefighter with the City of Houston, currently serving as an Engineer Operator, where I make critical decisions under pressure to protect lives and property. I am also a United States Marine Corps veteran who served in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom, which instilled discipline, leadership, and accountability. In addition, I have real-world experience in small business and financial management, giving me a practical understanding of budgets and economic policy. Raised in a family rooted in law enforcement, faith, and public service, I bring integrity, calm leadership, and a results-driven mindset to representing House District 134.

Website: [www.votemichna.com](http://www.votemichna.com)

**ISSUES:** Issue 1: Property taxes and cost of living. Rising property taxes are pricing families out of District 134. I will support increasing the homestead exemption, limiting annual appraisal increases, and requiring voter approval for new local tax hikes. I will also oppose unfunded state mandates that shift costs onto homeowners and push for disciplined state budgeting to ensure tax relief is sustainable. Issue 2: Public safety and infrastructure reliability. I will advocate for consistent funding for firefighters, police, and emergency services, and support investments in flood control, drainage, and grid reliability. Protecting lives and property must remain a core function of state government.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 134 • REPUBLICAN PARTY



### Carolyn B. Bryant

**BACKGROUND:** Dynamic, driven professional with more than 20 years of experience in leadership, innovation and grassroots level advancements in public policy, sports and nutrition.

Website: [carolynbbryantforcongress.com](http://carolynbbryantforcongress.com)

**ISSUES:** Winning the primary is first goal. And convincing voters to select candidates based on policy instead of a blind allegiance to a particular party in the general election.

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 137

NO PHOTO  
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### Helen Zhou

**QUALIFICATIONS:** (1) Mindset and attitude: Immigrant who loves the country and grateful for the opportunities and freedoms that America has to offer. The economic opportunities and civil liberties we have did not come free. Others have given their lives earning and defending it. (2) Cultural background: Bilingual (Mandarin/English) and with a biography to counter Gene Wu's soft-on-crime, entitlement mindset, absence of self responsibility, perpetuate a dependent class to keep Democrats in power. (3) Successful professional (4) I have been involved with local civic organizations for decades including the Chinese Civic Association and Sharpstown Civic Association (5) Active in Harris County Republican Politics (Precinct lead, delegate to Texas State

Website: [www.helenforstaterep.com](http://www.helenforstaterep.com)

**ISSUES:** 1. Crime and Community Safety. HD 137 has 2 zip codes that are on FBI's list for being the most dangerous in the country. I will work to improve public safety to remove those zip codes from the FBI watch list. 2. Low income. Income per capita is 30-40% below Harris county average. I would like to focus my attention on skilled trade job training and job opportunities - This is a big one and is striking a chord. The income level of the district is 30-40% below Harris County average. Re-introduce skilled trade jobs into HISD and bring that training to adults who want to learn a skilled trade. This is overwhelmingly supported by the voters and Proposition #1 passed 70% in November 2025 by Texas voters.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 137 • REPUBLICAN PARTY

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

### Robert McKenzie

**QUALIFICATIONS:** City of Houston Manager for the Public Works, Finance & Administration, and Aviation departments, N.A.S.A. Program Director for Space Shuttle and Space Station programs, PricewaterhouseCoopers Director of Global Energy for clients Texaco, Shell, Chevron, BP, and ConocoPhillips for strategy, process, and information technology projects worldwide, Oppenheimer & Co. Financial Advisor and Registered Representative managing client investments, NFLPA certified contract advisor ("NFL Agent") representing NFL players, Authored the five volume The Chair, a historical fictional saga of the past, present, and future of the Great State of Texas and the USA, Student Body President at Huffman High School located on the shores of Lake Houston

Website: [www.mckenzie4texas.com](http://www.mckenzie4texas.com)

**ISSUES:** 1) PUBLIC SAFETY • I propose legislation to enhance penalties for human trafficking to first-degree felonies, increase state funding for border interdiction operations targeting fentanyl and trafficking networks, and establish dedicated task forces for coordinating with federal agencies on resource reimbursement and enforcement along the Texas-Mexico border 2) TEXAS ENERGY INDEPENDENCE • I propose introducing a bill to slash state severance taxes on oil production by 20% for the next to incentivize drilling, partner with the Railroad Commission to streamline permit approvals to under 30 days, and advocate for surplus budget allocations to subsidize seismic surveys in under-explored shale plays, framing it as "unleashing Texas energy"

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 138

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 138  
REPUBLICAN PARTY

Lacey Hull

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Natalie Blasingame

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Josh Flynn

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

## JUSTICE, COURT OF APPEALS • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Six-year term. There are 14 Courts of Appeals in Texas located in 14 cities throughout the state. Each of these Courts includes a Chief Justice and at least two other Justices. These Courts hear appeals on civil and criminal cases from lower courts in their districts. Current annual salary range: \$154,000 to \$184,800

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ETHICS:** How will you ensure your rulings remain impartial and free from both political pressure and the interests of your campaign donors?

**EQUITY:** What role should the Supreme Court play in expanding access to justice for persons or groups who may be underserved?

**ISSUES:** What do you see as the most pressing challenge facing the courts today, and how would you propose addressing it?

**PHILOSOPHY:** What is your judicial philosophy?

## JUSTICE, 1ST COURT OF APPEALS DISTRICT, PLACE 3

JUSTICE, 1ST COURT OF APPEALS DISTRICT, PLACE 3 • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Elizabeth Ling Urrego

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

**Todd Frankfort**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** (I have represented hundreds of clients across Texas during my 30+ years in practice, both at the trial court and appellate court levels. I am also Board Cert. in Family Law and an Adjunct Prof of law.

**ETHICS:** As a Justice on the Court of Appeals, my job is to interpret the law and ensure that the trial court acted appropriately. When elected, I will follow the law 1000% of the time. Neither political pressure nor the interests of campaign donors come into play.

**EQUITY:** I have, through my 12+ years of service on the Houston Bar Association's Board of Directors helped both raise money for and awareness about the programs offered to those in need of legal services.

Website: [www.frankfortforjudge.com](http://www.frankfortforjudge.com)

**ISSUE:** Managing the growing caseloads while delivering timely, high-quality justice. I would address it by working efficiently, collaborating with colleagues, writing clear opinions, and using technology and case-management tools to ensure every appeal is decided fairly, promptly, and predictably.

**PHILOSOPHY:** Follow the law - regardless. My job as a Justice on the Court of Appeals will be to rule fairly under the law, not to look for ways to undo laws that may not fit my personal philosophy.

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

**Zach Gibson**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am uniquely qualified for this job. As a prosecutor, I have handled over 100 cases in the courts of appeals. I understand what the First Court does, and I will be ready to do this job on day one.

**ETHICS:** Judges and justices must swear an oath to "preserve, protect, and defend" the law. I am prepared to set aside any political pressures and simply do what the law requires. Living up to an ethical standard higher than the average attorney is something that I am used to. As a prosecutor, I have a duty "not to convict, but to see that justice is done." I will take my judicial oath as seriously!

**EQUITY:** Reform of our legal system is usually tasked to the legislature and other policymaking bodies. I defer to them. I will show respect to all litigants.

Website: [zachforjustice.com](http://zachforjustice.com)

**ISSUE:** Decline in the respect for our courts over the last few years—especially in matters of criminal justice. Judges/justices are tasked with applying the law competently. If elected, I will lead by example. I will always follow what the law requires and never impose my own preferences. If all judges/justices behave this way, it will ensure confidence that our courts are places of impartial justice.

**PHILOSOPHY:** Courts are there to apply the law as written. Whether it is the text of a statute or the Constitution, I will look to the written text and give it a fair meaning. A justice may look to history to see how that text has been historically understood. I have written about several constitutional and statutory questions. You may see samples at [zachforjustice.com](http://zachforjustice.com)

Malcolm E. Whittaker

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



Presiding officer of Commissioners Court which has budgetary and administrative authority over all county government operations: adopts and approves the county's budget; sets tax rates; fills vacancies and appoints officials; calls for bond elections; builds and maintains county infrastructure such as roads and bridges; oversees courthouses, jails, libraries, parks and Harris County Flood Control District. Also, county's director of emergency management. 4-year term.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

**George Harry Zoes**

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED**

**Warren A. Howell**

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED**



**Oscar Gonzales**

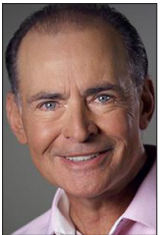
**BACKGROUND:** 30 years with the Harris County Sheriff's Office. Deployed to all natural disasters and threats. Worked with commissioners court and the budget office to improve working conditions and get pay increases and incentives for employees. Served on several boards of directors for employee groups. Worked at the Harris County Hospital District and the Flood Control district. Experience working in the jails, courts, streets, administration. I'm entering the 38th year of serving the community, rescuing animals, helping kids and families in foster care, helping veterans, sponsoring back to school events, and more. I have 37 years of networking and supporting people in the community.

**Website:** [www.oscargonzalesforharriscountyjudge.com](http://www.oscargonzalesforharriscountyjudge.com)

**ISSUES:** 1. Public safety/Crime We don't have prosperity if we don't have safe streets. We need hire more staff to open unused jail space, and we need to hire more police officers to patrol the streets. The O'Donnell decree must be dismissed and the Bondsmen must once again become a part of the symbiotic system that worked when we were safer than we are today. 2. Wasteful Spending Various programs and positions need to be reviewed to determine whether they are effective, especially if the department has a large budget, but doesn't have the data to support its claims of effectiveness. Forensic audits could be useful to determine which departments need attention.

**Marty Lancton**

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED**



**Orlando Sanchez**

**BACKGROUND:** 6 years Houston City Council, 12 years Harris County Treasurer, Certified County Investment Officer. Honors BA University of Houston, 18 years bank board of directors, HCA Hospital board of directors, UH Foundation board of trustees & investment committee chairman. Winner of two transparency awards in government finance. U.S. Air Force & Texas National Guard. First responder with North Channel EMS. The only candidate for county judge who has helped pass a property tax rate cut in the city of Houston earning the Political Courage Award from the Harris County Republican Party. I'm the only candidate with nearly two decades of experience at the city & Harris County. A conservative and NOT a member of the AFL-CIO & never endorsed a Democrat.

**Website:** [www.orlandosanchez.com](http://www.orlandosanchez.com)

**ISSUES:** 1) CRIME: Over 40% of homicides in the County remained unsolved last year, rape statistics are even worse: Sheriff's Office at 12% and HPD at around 9.9%. There are over 12,065 certified peace officers in Harris County, yet, if a citizen's life is in danger, there is no assistance from a nearby agency. Why couldn't Metro Police respond, or a nearby school district peace officer, perhaps a constable? I will create a "Public Safety District" allowing any peace officer to respond to emergencies. 2) TAXES: Stop the corruption, misuse & waste of property tax payer's money. Since 2018, when I was Harris County Treasurer, the tax rate has increased dramatically along with wasteful spending. I will fight to CUT property taxes & STOP Corruption.

**Aliza Dutt**

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED**

## COUNTY CLERK • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Maintains the records of Commissioner's Court, probate courts, and county civil courts-at-law; records vital documents such as property records, marriage licenses, assumed name certificates, birth and death certificates. Serves as chief election official for Harris County. Four-year term.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

#### Lynda Sanchez

**BACKGROUND:** My experience in public service, leadership, and administration prepares me to serve as Harris County Clerk. I spent over 15 years as a Spanish teacher, developing strong organizational and communication skills. I served seven years as President of Precinct 287 Civic Association, coordinating community initiative and collaborating with residents. I also worked as an interpreter in the Harris County District Criminal Courts, communicating legal information clearly and accurately. For more than 28 years, I have managed a family-owned transportation business, overseeing operations, financial and administrative records. These experiences demonstrate my ability to manage responsibilities and provide efficient, reliable public service.

Website: [lyndasanchez.com](http://lyndasanchez.com)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues are, first, making sure elections are conducted securely and ballots are counted accurately and on time. This can be achieved by maintaining clear procedures, providing thorough training for staff and poll workers, and carefully managing the ballot-counting process. Secondly, ensuring that vital and property records are accurate and accessible is very important for residents and businesses. By streamlining workflows and following consistent procedures, the office can reduce delays and minimize errors. Providing clear guidance and resources helps residents obtain the documents they need efficiently and reliably, improving overall service and accessibility.



#### Mike Wolfe

**BACKGROUND:** As a longtime veteran of multiple government offices, including Attorney General Ken Paxton's office and former District Clerk Chris Daniel's office and as a former countywide elected official myself, having served 12 years as a Harris County School Trustee, I have decades of experience serving the public as a dedicated conservative fighter. I have the background and temperament needed to bring conservative leadership to an organization that has been in search of leadership ever since former County Clerk Stan Stanart left office.

Website: [MikeWolfe.com](http://MikeWolfe.com)

**ISSUES:** As Harris County Clerk, I will work diligently to properly staff the thousands of election judge and clerk positions in key voting precincts that are necessary to run fair elections in Harris County. As Harris County Clerk, I will also work to run the office in a way that brings credit to all citizens in Harris County. Securing our elections and working with our legislators in Austin and Washington where I have many longstanding relationships, I will work in a transparent manner to bring all stakeholders together for the betterment of the office.

## COUNTY TREASURER • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Chief custodian of all Harris County funds. Maintains records of all funds deposited and withdrawn from county's bank accounts. Reconciles all county funds bank statements to ensure accuracy and safety of county funds. Responsible for disbursing county funds as directed by Commissioners Court. Submits monthly report to Commissioners Court regarding county's finances. 4-year term.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

#### Hayley Lane Hagan

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

#### Marc Cowart

**BACKGROUND:** I am currently the Chief of Staff to the Fort Bend County Judge. In this role, I build relationships with elected officials, community leaders, and county department heads. I also manage a large staff, help to formulate policy, review budgets, and create public-facing and internal messaging. I have also been a small business owner and a financial services professional, holding two insurance licenses and a mortgage loan officer license. I am the former Executive Director of the Harris County Republican Party and have relationships with elected officials and policymakers across the state. I have the government, political, communications, and financial experience to lead the County Treasurer's Office from day one.

Website: [www.MarcCowart.com](http://www.MarcCowart.com)

**ISSUES:** The first issue is to restore transparency to the Harris County Treasurer's Office. The public must be able to see how Harris County is spending their hard-earned tax dollars so that they know their money is being spent and managed. When Orlando Sanchez was Harris County Treasurer, he won several awards for transparency for his policies, which included maintaining a searchable database of every single financial transaction. I intend to restore Orlando's award-winning systems, which is one reason he has endorsed my candidacy. The second issue facing the office is a lack of trust in the current administration. I plan to restore that trust by immediately performing a thorough performance review of the office to identify waste and inefficiency.

## HARRIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION • REPUBLICAN PARTY

The Board of Trustees acts to establish policies governing the operation of Harris County Department of Education.

As a governmental body, it can take action only by majority vote at a legally called public meeting.

The board elects the County Superintendent as its chief executive officer to administer the organization. 6-year term.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

## HARRIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, PLACE 7

Denise Dick

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Madison Guillory

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Beverly Barrett

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

HARRIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION, PLACE 7  
REPUBLICAN PARTY

## COUNTY COMMISSIONER • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Member of Commissioners Court which adopts and approves the county's budget; sets tax rates; fills vacancies and appoints officials; calls for bond elections; builds and maintains county infrastructure such as roads and bridges; oversees courthouses, jails, libraries, parks and Harris County Flood Control District.

Responsible for overseeing the maintenance in county roads, bridges, and parks, and other services within own precinct. 4-year term.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

## COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 2

Raquel Hernandez Boujourne

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

NO PHOTO  
RECEIVED

**Richard Vega**

**BACKGROUND:** I am qualified to serve as Harris County Commissioner for Precinct 2 because of my commitment to public service, hands-on leadership experience, and understanding of community needs. I have worked closely with residents, nonprofits, and local leaders to address infrastructure, flooding, public safety, transportation, and quality-of-life issues. I understand the responsibilities of Commissioners Court in managing budgets, allocating resources, and overseeing essential county services. I bring integrity, transparency, and accountability to public office, and I believe government should be accessible and responsive. As Commissioner, I will listen to constituents, collaborate with partners, and work to ensure Precinct 2 receives its fair share

Website: [www.richardvega.us](http://www.richardvega.us)

**ISSUES:** The two most pressing issues facing Harris County Precinct 2 are flooding, infrastructure, and public safety. Flooding threatens homes, property values, and local businesses. As Commissioner, I will focus on core responsibilities by prioritizing flood control projects, maintaining drainage systems, and ensuring bond and federal funds are spent efficiently and where they are needed most. Public safety is equally critical. I will support strong law enforcement, faster emergency response, and coordination with first responders to keep neighborhoods safe. Investing in reliable roads, lighting, and basic services will protect taxpayers, strengthen communities, and ensure county government works responsibly and effectively.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 2 • REPUBLICAN PARTY

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Hears traffic and other Class C misdemeanor cases punishable by fine only (e.g. criminal mischief, bad check writing, public intoxication).  
Hears civil cases involving up to \$20,000. Hears landlord and tenant disputes. Hears truancy cases. Performs marriages. 4-year term.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

### JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 5, PLACE 2

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 5, PLACE 2 • REPUBLICAN PARTY

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#### Mark Fury

**BACKGROUND:** I am the most experienced candidate in this race, having been elected to serve 2 terms as Justice of the Peace at the Precinct 5 Courthouse on Chimney Rock. There, my staff and I pulled together to reduce a massive court backlog by more than 70,000 cases while staying current on 60,000 annual new case filings. My court came to lead the county JP Courts in civil case filings -- litigants and lawyers chose my Court because of the reputation for fairness and efficiency we developed. A tribute to fair rulings and good judgment, the appeals rate for my court was one of the lowest among Harris County JP courts. I consistently "won" the Bar Poll -- a measure of attorney preferences for judges -- particularly impressive for a non-attorney JP.

Website: [www.BringBackAGoodJP.com](http://www.BringBackAGoodJP.com)

**ISSUES:** The most pressing issue facing the Justice of the Peace Pct. 5, Place 2 on Clay Rd. is the Court's growing backlog of cases, now the largest among the County's sixteen Justice Courts at 68,000 undisposed cases. The second issue is a perceived lack of direction and motivation for the Court's staff, as the current officeholder appears often to be absent. As the former Justice of the Peace for Pct. 5 at Chimney Rock, I have proven experience in reducing a backlog of cases. My talents align perfectly with the need at the Clay Rd. Courthouse. First and foremost is a Judge's dedication to work hard and treat this office as the full-time position it is. I will be present each day and work a full day. Justice of the Peace will be my only job.



#### Bob Wolfe

**BACKGROUND:** Proven Leadership & Efficiency: Precinct 5-2 is one of the largest JP Courts in Texas, handling over 8,100 cases monthly—more than triple the volume of the average court. Before Bob Wolfe took office in 2023, families waited over three years for a hearing. Today, that wait has been slashed to just 2.5 months. Eviction cases are heard within 21 days. Bob Wolfe is a graduate of South Texas College of Law with over 40 years of legal experience and a background as a CPA he kept his promise: ending the backlog because justice delayed is justice denied.

Website: [bobwolfe.org](http://bobwolfe.org)

**ISSUES:** • A Clear Choice for Integrity: While Bob Wolfe has spent decades serving the law, his Republican opponent resigned his previous JP post in lieu of disciplinary action following criminal charges for falsifying government records. Choose the candidate you can trust. • The Only Qualified Legal Expert: Bob Wolfe is the only Republican candidate with a law degree. His experience and a background as a CPA, he brings a level of expertise critical for navigating complex legal disputes.

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## COUNTY CHAIR • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Serves as head of the county executive committee, comprised of precinct chairs who are elected from voting precincts within the county. Presides over meetings, appoints party officers, runs the primary election every two years. Also, hires and manages staff, serves as the party's spokesperson, raises money to fund the organization and generally is charged with helping to elect party candidates in elections.

### QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**ISSUES:** What are the two (2) most pressing issues that you will face in the office that you seek? Describe your specific plans/ideas for addressing these issues.

NO PHOTO  
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#### Cindy Siegel

**BACKGROUND:** I have been the Chairman for the past 5 years. I have been active within the Republican Party for many years - serving as the treasurer and a precinct chair. Additionally, I have held leadership roles within several Republican women's clubs. I have also run for office and served as the Bellaire Mayor for 8 years and Bellaire City Councilman for 6 years. I have the political knowledge and experience having run for office 9 times and won 8 times in addition to my understanding of the business and fundraising side of politics.

Website: [cindysiegelforchair.com](http://cindysiegelforchair.com)

**ISSUES:** Raising funds for the Harris County GOP's 2026 campaign and targeting and persuading independent voters to vote for Republican candidates. Fundraising plans for the 1st quarter are already in place. We have a data-driven strategic plan that focuses on targeting and persuading certain segments of the independent vote in addition to turning out the Republican base.



#### Michelle Bouchard

**BACKGROUND:** -Proven large-scale organizational growth & turnaround as the CEO of HealthCorps.org for Dr. Mehmet Oz -Exceptional fundraising & resource mobilization expertise: \$70mm -Rare public-private partnership & experience as the first CFO for Governor's Island in NYC -Hands-on political campaign & party leadership experience as a candidate, campaign manager & Harris County precinct chair and senate district VP -Extensive operational and public audit experience -Proven leader of large, diverse teams -Media, communications, & public narrative expertise -Track record of succeeding in challenging political terrains -Extensive community activism in Montrose, Sharpstown, Gulfton and across Harris County

Website: [michelleforcountychair.com](http://michelleforcountychair.com)

**ISSUES:** Issues: -Republicans have lost over 80% of all county elections in Harris County in (the largest county in Texas) over the past 5.5 years. -Republicans don't retain the building blocks of the party - good precinct chairs - fill only half our possible chair positions and fail at cultivating and preparing good candidates far enough out. Solution: Rebuild a united and common sense Harris County Republican Party with -Efficient organizational infrastructure and resources for Republican activists and candidates -Accountability and transparency -Compelling messaging from a "Big Tent Party" that inspires all voters to support Republican candidates who'll improve the issues we all care about in our own backyards.

#### Don Hooper

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

# RUNNING UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Martha Fierro, DISTRICT 29

## COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Dawn Buckingham

## CHIEF JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Jimmy Blacklock

## JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

James P. Sullivan, PLACE 2

Kyle Hawkins, PLACE 7

Brett Busby, PLACE 8

## JUDGE, COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Kevin Patrick Yeary, PLACE 4

## MEMBER, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Julie Pickren, DISTRICT 7

## STATE SENATOR UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Dennis Paul, DISTRICT 11

Lois W. Kolkhorst, DISTRICT 18

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Charles Cunningham, DISTRICT 127

Tom Butler, DISTRICT 128

Tom Oliverson, DISTRICT 130

Scott Whitmarsh, DISTRICT 131

Mike Schofield, DISTRICT 132

Mano Deayala, DISTRICT 133

Liz Ramos, DISTRICT 135

Kyle Harding, DISTRICT 139

Laura Garcia DeLeon, DISTRICT 140

Julie Hunt, DISTRICT 141

Heidi Hall, DISTRICT 142

Frank Salazar, DISTRICT 143

David Flores, DISTRICT 144

Inocencia Moreno, DISTRICT 145

Alexandria Nicole Butler, DISTRICT 146

Theodis Daniel, DISTRICT 147

Amanda Labrie, DISTRICT 148

Dave Bennett, DISTRICT 149

Valoree Swanson, DISTRICT 150

## CHIEF JUSTICE, 15TH COURT OF APPEALS UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Scott Brister

## JUSTICE, 15TH COURT OF APPEALS UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Scott K. Field, PLACE 2

April Farris, PLACE 3

## CHIEF JUSTICE, 14TH COURT OF APPEALS UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Kevin Jewell

## JUSTICE, 1ST COURT OF APPEALS UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

David Gunn, PLACE 4, UNEXPIRED TERM

Jessica Caird, PLACE 5

## JUSTICE, 14TH COURT OF APPEALS UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Ken Wise, PLACE 7

## CIVIL DISTRICT JUDGE UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Nile Copeland, 55th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Paul M. Sullivan, 113th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Gerald Fowler, 157th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Vance Christopher, 189th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Aaron Adams, 190th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

David "Dave" Harvey, 234th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Celena Guerra Pawlak, 269th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Brian Staley, 270th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Chris Carmona, 281st JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Greg Travis, 295th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

## JUVENILE DISTRICT JUDGE UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Amy Strickling, 313th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Maria Valeria Brock, 315th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

## CRIMINAL DISTRICT JUDGE UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Tami C. Pierce, 180th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Brent Haynes, 182nd JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Lance Long, 183rd JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Heather Hudson, 184th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Mark Goldberg, 185th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Stephen F. Driver, 208th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Tony Coveny, 209th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Caroline Dozier, 228th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Megan Long, 230th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Chuck Silverman, 232nd JUDICIAL DISTRICT

David W. Overhuls, 248th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Nathan Moss, 262nd JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Jason A. Campo, 263rd JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Bryan Honeycutt, 482nd JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Lori Ann Deangelo, 495th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Dan Simons, 496th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Peyton Peebles, 497th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

## FAMILY DISTRICT JUDGE UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Paula Vlahakos, 245th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Rosa Cardenas, 280th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Melissa Fertel, 309th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Joe Radler, 311th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Jesus Guillen, 312th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

## JUDGE, COUNTY CIVIL COURT AT LAW UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Paul Coselli, NO. 1

Mark Montgomery, NO. 2

Israel Garcia, NO. 3

John Donovan, NO. 4

## JUDGE, COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT AT LAW UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Erin Swanson, NO. 1

Matt Alford, NO. 2

Leslie R. Johnson, NO. 3

Rebecca Philips Aceto, NO. 4

Stella Stevens, NO. 5

Joshua Normand, NO. 6

Thomas Adam Brodrick, NO. 7

Victor Flores, NO. 8

Xavier Alfaro, NO. 9

Bao Hoang, NO. 10

Elizabeth Buss, NO. 11

Anna Emmons, NO. 12

Amber Cox, NO. 13

Jessica N. Padilla, NO. 14

Stephen C. St. Martin, NO. 15

## JUDGE, PROBATE COURT UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Loyd H. Wright, NO. 1

Paul Shanklin, NO. 2

Ronald Schramm, NO. 3

Kevin Fulton, NO. 4

## COUNTY ATTORNEY UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Jacqueline Lucci Smith UNEXPIRED TERM

## DISTRICT CLERK UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Chris Daniel

## HARRIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Sartaj Bal

## COUNTY COMMISSIONER UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Steve Radack, PRECINCT 4

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE UNOPPOSED • REPUBLICAN PARTY

Jack Ezell, PRECINCT 2, PLACE 2

Laryssa Korduba, PRECINCT 4, PLACE 2

Louie Ditta, PRECINCT 8, PLACE 2

# 2026 BALLOT PROPOSITIONS • REPUBLICAN PARTY



**WHEN VOTING, YOU WILL CHECK **YES** IF YOU AGREE OR  
**NO** IF YOU DO NOT AGREE WITH THE STATEMENT.**

## **PROPOSITION 1**

Texas property taxes should be assessed at the purchase price and phased out entirely over the next six years through spending reductions.

## **PROPOSITION 2**

Texas should require any local government budget that raises property taxes to be approved by voters at a November general election.

## **PROPOSITION 3**

Texas should prohibit denial of healthcare or any medical service based solely on the patient's vaccination status.

## **PROPOSITION 4**

Texas should require its public schools to teach that life begins at fertilization.

## **PROPOSITION 5**

Texas should ban gender, sexuality, and reproductive clinics and services in K-12 schools.

## **PROPOSITION 6**

Texas should enact term limits on all elected officials.

## **PROPOSITION 7**

Texas should ban the large-scale export or sale of our groundwater and surface water to any single private or public entity.

## **PROPOSITION 8**

The Texas Legislature should reduce the burden of illegal immigration on taxpayers by ending public services for illegal aliens.

## **PROPOSITION 9**

The Republican-controlled Texas Legislature should stop awarding leadership positions, including committee and subcommittee chairmanships and vice chairmanships, to Democrats.

## **PROPOSITION 10**

Texas should prohibit Sharia Law.

# About This Voters Guide

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization that does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. For more than 100 years, the League has worked to empower voters and strengthen democracy through informed and active participation in government.

The League of Women Voters of Houston publishes this Voters Guide as a public service to help voters make informed decisions at the ballot box. The information provided is intended to support thoughtful participation in elections by offering clear, factual, and nonpartisan election information.

## THIS GUIDE INCLUDES:

- important details about the voting process,
- explanations of the roles and responsibilities of offices on the ballot, and
- candidate information for races appearing on the ballot in Harris County.

The content in this guide is consistent with the League's national voter education efforts, including [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org), which provides election information to voters nationwide. Voting is a vital part of our democratic process, and this guide is designed to support informed participation in every election.

No portion of this Voters Guide may be reproduced for use in political campaigns or political advertising. Other uses are permitted only with prior written authorization from the League of Women Voters of Houston.



This Voters Guide is a voter education publication of the League of Women Voters of Houston. The selection, organization, and presentation of the information contained herein are the property of the League of Women Voters of Houston and the League of Women Voters.

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## How This Voters Guide is Prepared

The **League of Women Voters of Houston** invites **all candidates whose names appear on the ballot** to participate in this Voters Guide by completing a candidate questionnaire. Participation in the Voters Guide is **voluntary**. Candidates are asked to provide biographical information and to respond to questions about issues relevant to the office they are seeking.

Candidate responses are published **exactly as submitted**. The League does not edit, fact-check, or verify candidate statements. Each candidate is solely responsible for the accuracy and content of their responses. Candidates are informed of character limits when submitting their answers. **Inclusion of candidate responses does not imply endorsement by the League of Women Voters.**

Candidates who do not respond to the League's invitation **by the print publication deadline** are listed in this guide with the notation **"No response received."** Candidates without a photograph did not submit one. While this printed Voters Guide reflects responses received by the deadline, the **online Houston Voters Guide at [HoustonVotersGuide.org](http://HoustonVotersGuide.org) is updated on an ongoing basis** and may include candidate responses submitted after the print deadline.

To ensure a respectful and informative resource for voters, the League of Women Voters reserves the right not to publish responses that contain obscenities, slurs, or egregious personal attacks.

Information about **Texas statewide races & candidates** is provided by the **League of Women Voters of Texas**.

This Voters Guide is also available at [HoustonVotersGuide.org](http://HoustonVotersGuide.org).

## 5 SIMPLE STEPS TO VIEW YOUR BALLOT ONLINE

1. Go to [HoustonVotersGuide.org](http://HoustonVotersGuide.org).
2. Click on Sample Ballot.
3. Enter your name, your address or your Voter Registration Certificate Number.
4. Make sure your personal information is correct, then click on "Sample Ballot" to view your ballot just as it will look when you go to vote.
5. You may print your sample ballot, take notes, and bring it with you when you go to vote.



The League of Women Voters of Houston wishes to thank the Houston Chronicle for its partnership in providing this print edition of the Voters Guide to Harris County voters. For more election information and news please visit [www.chron.com](http://www.chron.com).