

NONPARTISAN VOTERS GUIDE ROSENBERG COMMUNITY

MIDTERM GENERAL ELECTION ★ NOVEMBER 3, 2026

EARLY VOTING: October 19–30 ★ ELECTION DAY: NOVEMBER 3 ★ POLLS OPEN: 7am to 7pm

Para información en español,
por favor consulte las paginas 2 y 40-55.

★ HEAR DIRECTLY FROM CANDIDATES. REDUCE MISINFORMATION. VOTE INFORMED.

Make decisions informed by reliable information rather than misleading or inaccurate statements.

Avoid misinformation and disinformation by using this trusted, nonpartisan Voters Guide provided by the League of Women Voters of Texas and the League of Women Voters of Fort Bend.

★ VOTING IN THE MIDTERM GENERAL ELECTION

You may vote for candidates of any party in the November election regardless of how you previously voted or participated in a party's primary election or convention.

★ WHAT'S ON MY BALLOT?

1. Go to FortBendCountyVotes.com/9 and click on **Sample Ballot**.
2. Use your Precinct Number to find your ballot. Find this number on your Voter Registration Certificate.
3. Click on your Precinct Number to see your Sample Ballot.
4. For more information about your ballot, call the Fort Bend County Elections Administration office: (281) 341-8670.
5. *Note:* Your Voter Registration Certificate shows which districts you live in. You can use the look-up tool on FortBendVotes.org to view your Voter Registration Certificate.



YOU MAY PRINT YOUR SAMPLE BALLOT, TAKE NOTES, AND BRING IT WHEN YOU GO TO VOTE.

Texas law doesn't allow voters to use electronic devices (mobile phones, tablets, etc.) while at the polling place. This Voters Guide, or PRINTED OR HANDWRITTEN NOTES are allowed.

EMPOWERING VOTERS. DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.

Join Our League!

Join Our Mission in Supporting
Fort Bend Voters!

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF FORT BEND



★ VOTING IN PERSON

- **WHERE?** VOTE at ANY polling place during Early Voting AND on Election Day in Fort Bend county.
- Find polling places on FortBendCountyVotes.com/9.
- During Early Voting, **Early Voting Schedule** at FortBendCountyVotes.com/9, as all polling sites are not open the same hours.
- If you have a disability, you may request to move ahead of other voters in line, or vote using curbside voting.
- If in line before the poll closing time, you must be allowed to cast a ballot.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

FortBendCountyVotes.com/9

★ VOTE411

VOTE411 is your one-stop shop for voting and election information – **365 days a year!** Find the online, interactive version of this Voters Guide at VOTE411.org. Enter your address and view your personalized ballot. Compare candidates and create a printout to take to the polls.



★ HOW THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CREATES THE VOTERS GUIDE

The information included here was current as of Sept. 5, 2026. If a candidate responded or edited their answers AFTER the requested date, their responses may be visible only on the VOTE411.org website.

The League of Women Voters of Fort Bend makes multiple attempts to contact all candidates in races where there are 2 or more candidates. The candidates are asked to respond to our questionnaire.

Candidates without a photo did not submit one by the requested date.

Each candidate's response is published without editing or verification. Each candidate is personally and solely responsible for the content of his/her response. The League assumes no responsibility for content on campaign websites, including any links to website pages that are used as a response to a question.

No portion of this Voters Guide may be reproduced for use in political campaigns or advertising.

★ ABOUT THIS VOTERS GUIDE

This Voters Guide is funded and published by the League of Women Voters of Texas and the League of Women Voters of Fort Bend. The League never supports or opposes political candidates or political parties.

NO PARTIDISTA GUÍA DE VOTANTES COMUNIDAD DE ROSENBERG

ELECCIÓN GENERAL DE MEDIO TÉRMINO ★ 3 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2026

VOTACIÓN ANTICIPADA: 19-30 DE OCTUBRE ★ DÍA DE LA ELECCIÓN: 3 DE NOVIEMBRE ★ HORARIO DE VOTACIÓN: 7am a 7pm

Para información en español,
por favor consulte las páginas 2 y 40-55.

★ ESCUCHE DIRECTAMENTE A LOS CANDIDATOS. REDUZCA LA INFORMACIÓN ERRÓNEA. VOTE INFORMADO.

Tome decisiones basadas en información confiable en lugar de declaraciones engañosas o inexactas. Evite la información errónea y la desinformación utilizando esta Guía para votantes confiable y no partidista proporcionada por la League of Women Voters of Texas y la League of Women Voters of Fort Bend.

★ VOTACIÓN EN LA ELECCIÓN GENERAL DE MEDIO TÉRMINO

Puede votar por candidatos de cualquier partido en la elección de noviembre, independientemente de cómo haya votado anteriormente o de si participó en la elección primaria o convención de un partido.

★ ¿QUÉ HAY EN MI BOLETA?

1. Vaya a FortBendVotes.org y haga clic en **Sample Ballot** (boleto de muestra).
2. Use su número de precinto para encontrar su boleta. Encuentre este número en su Certificado de Registro de Votantes.
3. Haga clic en su número de precinto para ver su Sample Ballot (boleto de muestra).
4. Para obtener más información sobre su boleta, llame a la oficina de Administración Electoral del Condado de Fort Bend: (281) 341-8670.
5. *Nota:* Su Certificado de Registro de Votantes muestra los distritos en los que vive. Puede usar la herramienta de búsqueda en FortBendVotes.org para consultar su Certificado de Registro de Votantes.



PUEDEN IMPRIMIR SU SAMPLE BALLOT, TOMAR NOTAS Y LLEVARLA CON USTED CUANDO VAYA A VOTAR.

La ley de Texas no permite que los votantes usen dispositivos electrónicos (teléfonos celulares, tabletas, etc.) mientras se encuentran en el centro de votación. Esta Guía para votantes, o las NOTAS IMPRESAS O ESCRITAS A MANO, están permitidas.

EMPODERANDO A LOS VOTANTES. DEFENDIENDO LA DEMOCRACIA.

¡Únase a nuestra Liga!

¡Únase a nuestra misión de apoyar
a los votantes de Fort Bend!

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF FORT BEND



★ VOTACIÓN EN PERSONA

- ¿DÓNDE? VOTE en CUALQUIER centro de votación durante la Votación Anticipada y el Día de la Elección en el Condado de Fort Bend.
- Encuentre los centros de votación en FortBendCountyVotes.com/9.
- Durante la Votación Anticipada, consulte el horario de Votación Anticipada en FortBendCountyVotes.com/9, ya que no todos los centros de votación están abiertos en el mismo horario.
- Si tiene alguna discapacidad, puede solicitar pasar por delante de otros votantes en la fila o votar mediante la votación desde la acera.
- Si está en la fila antes de la hora de cierre del centro de votación, se le debe permitir emitir su voto.



PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN:

FortBendCountyVotes.com/9

★ VOTE411

VOTE411 es su recurso integral para obtener información sobre la votación y las elecciones, ¡los 365 días del año! Encuentre la versión interactiva en línea de esta Guía para votantes en VOTE411.org. Ingrese su dirección y consulte su boleta personalizada. Compare a los candidatos y cree una copia impresa para llevar al centro de votación.



★ CÓMO LA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CREA LA GUÍA PARA VOTANTES

La información incluida aquí estaba actualizada al 5 de septiembre de 2026. Si un candidato respondió o editó sus respuestas DESPUÉS de la fecha solicitada, es posible que sus respuestas solo estén disponibles en el sitio web VOTE411.org.

La League of Women Voters of Fort Bend hace varios intentos por comunicarse con todos los candidatos en contiendas en las que hay dos o más candidatos. Se les pide a los candidatos que respondan nuestro cuestionario.

Los candidatos que aparecen sin fotografía no enviaron una antes de la fecha solicitada.

La respuesta de cada candidato se publica sin edición ni verificación. Cada candidato es responsable, de forma personal y exclusiva, del contenido de su respuesta. La League no asume ninguna responsabilidad por el contenido de los sitios web de las campañas, incluidos los enlaces a páginas de sitios web que se utilicen como respuesta a una pregunta.

Ninguna parte de esta Guía para votantes puede reproducirse para su uso en campañas políticas o en publicidad.

★ ACERCA DE LA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

La League of Women Voters no apoya ni se opone a ningún candidato o partido político. La League of Women Voters es una organización cívica no partidista, fundada hace 106 años.

U.S. SENATOR

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: \$174,000

★ QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

ECONOMY: What policies would you support to reduce income inequality and expand economic opportunity?

BALANCE OF POWER: What specific actions would you take to protect the Constitution's system of checks and balances?

HEALTHCARE: What specific steps would you take to make healthcare more affordable for American families?

VOTING RIGHTS: What voting rights legislation would you support to ensure voters' ability to participate in our democratic processes?



Ken Paxton | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: Prior to Attorney General, I was a legislator and business owner. As a dad to three amazing daughters and a great son, I know politics has real consequences. So I lead with Texans at the forefront.

ECONOMY: The American Dream is slowly slipping away, and with it, economic opportunity. That's why my "Protecting the Texas Promise" plan will help Americans as costs continue to skyrocket. My plan will provide the largest tax relief in a generation and put thousands of dollars back in Texans' pockets to buy a home, raise a family, and live a healthy lifestyle without struggling.

BALANCE OF POWER: As your next Senator from Texas, I look forward to voting to confirm judges who will strictly uphold the Constitution and the rule of law, not legislate from the federal bench. Further, one of the most sacred check-and-balances we have as Americans is our election system. That's why I look forward to working to protect our democracy and our elections.

HEALTHCARE: While chronic illness continues to rise, corporations continue to profit. America continues to spend more than any other nation on healthcare, and the results do not align. That's why as Attorney General, I repeatedly took on Big Pharma for their deceptive practices, and as Senator I look forward to continuing to fight for healthier outcomes, transparency, and accountability in healthcare.

VOTING RIGHTS: Every citizen in the U.S. has the right to vote and to know that their vote counts. When a criminal illegal alien commits voter fraud, every citizen's vote is disenfranchised. That's why I look forward to working to pass the Save America Act that will require voter ID for federal elections; because it will preserve the faith and trust in our electoral process that every citizen deserves.

Campaign Website: [KenPaxton.com](https://kenpaxton.com)



James Talarico | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I'm a former middle school teacher, Presbyterian seminarian, and Texas State Representative. I've passed bipartisan bills to lower the cost of prescription drugs, child care, and housing.

ECONOMY: We need a government that serves working people instead of giant corporations by: closing tax loopholes that billionaires and corporations exploit, raising the corporate tax, raising the tax on corporate stock buybacks, passing a cost-of-living tax cut, and incentivizing raising wages by creating a tax on corporations that pay their top executives more than 250 times their median worker's salary.

BALANCE OF POWER: I will prioritize legislation to cap campaign contributions at every level of government, ban dark money groups and super PACs, and ban partisan gerrymandering so that every American has an equal say in our politics and our policymaking. I will outlaw Congressional stock trading and impose term limits on Supreme Court Justices and Members of Congress – and hold them to high ethical standards.

HEALTHCARE: In the legislature, I capped insulin at \$25 and imported cheaper drugs into the US. As Senator, I'll ensure every American can access a public healthcare option, cap copays for more prescription drugs, protect reproductive care, save rural hospitals, and break up the healthcare monopolies driving up prices. I'll protect Medicaid, Medicare, and the Affordable Care Act and fully fund the VA.

VOTING RIGHTS: In the Legislature, I broke quorum twice to fight back against gerrymandering and defend the freedom to vote. In the Senate, I will cap campaign contributions, ban dark money groups and super PACs, and ban partisan gerrymandering so that every American has an equal say in our politics and our policymaking. We must also pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act to protect our right to vote.

Campaign Website: jamestalarico.com



Ted Brown | LIBERTARIAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I've been an activist for liberty my entire adult life, promoting personal freedom, economic freedom, and an anti-war foreign policy. My professional experience has been in the insurance industry.

ECONOMY: More economic opportunity will lead to reduced income inequality. I strongly support small business and entrepreneurship and want people to be able to easily start their own businesses without all kinds of licensing and red tape to hold them back. We need to encourage job creation with lower taxes and less business regulation. We need to encourage more young people to learn high-paying trades.

BALANCE OF POWER: Congress needs to re-assert their constitutional role as the legislative branch. I oppose presidents governing by executive order, since this violates the Constitution. Executive orders should need congressional approval to go into effect. Congress has abdicated their lawmaking powers, and

presidents ignore any oversight. Congress must cut off war funding to rein in the President.

HEALTHCARE: We need less government in healthcare, since that involvement drives up costs. Obamacare should be repealed. Insurance companies should be able to offer different types of policies, like catastrophic care. Consumers should be able to buy drugs from other countries. Open up medical training to more students to become doctors to allow more competition. Less red tape and regulation is needed.

VOTING RIGHTS: Voter choice is limited by laws that make it hard for alternative party candidates to run for office. I would make it easier to run. It should be easier to vote, both in person or by mail. I reject Republican voter fraud paranoia and see no evidence that ineligible people have been voting. I oppose the SAVE Act, since there's no reason to make it hard for people to register to vote.

Campaign Website: tedbrown.org

U.S. SENATOR (CONTINUED)

Avery Ayers | WRITE-IN

Please see [VOTE411.ORG](https://vote411.org) for responses.

Bradford "Brad" Hall | WRITE-IN

Please see [VOTE411.ORG](https://vote411.org) for responses.

Zul Mohamed | WRITE-IN

Please see [VOTE411.ORG](https://vote411.org) for responses.

Jade Simmons | INDEPENDENT | WRITE-IN

Please see [VOTE411.ORG](https://vote411.org) for responses.

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 22

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

INFRASTRUCTURE: What is your approach to federal infrastructure investment, and how would you prioritize funding for energy, transportation, flood mitigation, and resilience needs in your district?

INFLATION: If elected to office, what will you do to address rising costs, especially with regard to groceries, childcare, and housing?

IMMIGRATION: What is your position on federal immigration enforcement and detention policies? What specific changes, if any, would you support to how those policies are implemented?

VOTING: What changes, if any, to current laws related to voter registration, voter ID, and mail-in ballots would you support and why?

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 22

Trever Nehls | REPUBLICAN

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



Marquette Greene-Scott | DEMOCRAT

INFRASTRUCTURE: Infrastructure must improve public safety, strengthen our economy, and prepare our communities for future growth. The fast growth in CD 22 has brought real opportunity but has also placed heavy demands on our roads, drainage systems, utilities, and emergency infrastructure. I would prioritize transportation investment by expanding roadway capacity to ease congestion. I would push federal infrastructure dollars toward regional drainage, flood control, and resilient water systems. Energy reliability matters just as much and must be addressed. Infrastructure is an investment in safety, growth, and the long-term success of every community in this district. I will fight to make sure it is built and paid for responsibly.

INFLATION: The first thing I would do is vote to end this war and those tariffs. They are both contributing to our rising costs. Too many families are choosing between groceries, childcare, housing and healthcare. Affordable childcare is essential for families. I support expanding childcare tax credits and investing in early childhood education. Housing affordability is one of the greatest challenges facing our district. I also support programs that help first time homebuyers and programs that preserve affordable housing for seniors and working families. Government's job is to create conditions where families and businesses can succeed. My goal is to strengthen the middle class by expanding opportunities and helping families build financial security.

IMMIGRATION: We must have strong border security while treating every person with dignity and respect. Border communities deserve the personnel, technology, and infrastructure necessary to carry out that mission effectively. Due process is important. We need to increase the number of immigration judges, asylum officers, and support personnel to resolve cases efficiently. We need comprehensive immigration reform that modernizes legal immigration. It must protect Dreamers and create a pathway to citizenship for long term undocumented immigrants who meet strict requirements. It must improve the efficiency of our asylum system. Our immigration laws should reflect both our commitment to public safety and our nation's values. That's what I will fight for.

VOTING: Protecting voting rights and election integrity are essential. We need to expand online registration through qualified government agencies. I support reasonable voter identification requirements. Every eligible voter must have meaningful access to a free government issued ID. Election laws should never create unnecessary barriers. Early voting should be as convenient as possible for every eligible voter. I support adding more early voting days and longer daily hours, including weekend and holiday access. Mail in voting should be secure, transparent, and accessible for eligible voters. Appropriate safeguards against fraud must remain in place. Every eligible voter should be able to cast a ballot, and every lawful ballot should be counted.

Campaign Website: marquettetreneescott.com

GOVERNOR

Four-year term. The governor is the chief executive of the state. They appoint members to boards and commissions; appoint statewide executive officials, state judges and district attorneys when vacancies occur; declare special elections to fill vacancies in certain elected offices; deliver the State of the State address; provide guidance to the legislature; call special sessions of the legislature and set the agenda; and serve as commander-in-chief of the state's military forces. 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 would you do to make health care more affordable for Texans?

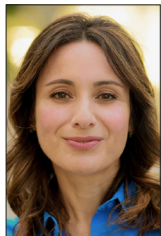
IMMIGRATION: How would you address immigration issues affecting our state while ensuring all individuals within our borders have access to due process protections?

EDUCATION: What would you do to ensure that public schools are adequately and reliably funded? Elections: As Governor, how would you empower voters to participate in democracy?

ELECTIONS: As Governor, how would you empower voters to participate in democracy?

Greg Abbott | REPUBLICAN

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



Gina Hinojosa | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I'm running for governor to build opportunity, not division. As a civil rights attorney, public education advocate, and legislator, I've spent my career delivering for working Texans.

HEALTHCARE: Every Texan deserves affordable, high-quality health care. I'll deliver billions for local health systems and will expand coverage, insure every Texas child, and rein in insurers that profit from bad-faith denials and prior authorization red tape. We need transparency and accountability so families get the care they already paid for.

IMMIGRATION: We can secure the border while treating immigrants humanely and protecting due process. Longtime, law-abiding residents should have a path to legal status. Fear-driven crackdowns that separate law abiding families and deter witnesses from cooperating with law enforcement make communities less safe, not more.

EDUCATION: I've fought Abbott's voucher scheme and for real, reliable funding for neighborhood public schools. As governor, I'll wipe clean the corrupt vendor contracts to raise teacher pay, end the voucher scam, and ensure Texans' taxpayer dollars go where they belong: into the neighborhood schools families depend on.

ELECTIONS: I've filed and supported dozens of bills to expand voting access, including online voter registration and better ballot access for students. I led the 2021 quorum break to protect Sunday voting and oppose barriers targeting eligible voters. I also support an independent redistricting commission so politicians can't pick their voters.

Campaign Website: www.ginafortexas.com



Pat Dixon | LIBERTARIAN

QUALIFICATIONS: Twice elected to city council Served 10 years as chair of Libertarian Party of Texas Have held executive positions in political, nonprofit, and industry <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dixonpatrick>

HEALTHCARE: The governor has leverage over health-care affordability, but many of the biggest changes require the Legislature, and some require cooperation from the federal government. Allowing more choice and competition will lower prices. While restrictions to new hospitals and health care have been reduced, I defend the free market. Open the market to new competitors and lower cost providers.

IMMIGRATION: If you are peaceful and productive, welcome Trump has dramatically reduced border crossings, but the ends don't justify the means. Praising Trump for these results while killing and harassing people is like being happy if crime was eliminated by putting everyone in prison. <https://patdixon.org/the-border/>

EDUCATION: Ideally, I would like a statewide scholarship. Every child would be given the same amount of money to follow them to any school. This would resolve the Robin Hood (Chapter 41) disputes and remove politically motivated testing mandates.

<https://patdixon.org/parent-teacher-empowerment/>

ELECTIONS: When you can only choose one candidate on the ballot, the incentive is for candidates to attack each other. There is no incentive for common ground. I favor Approval Voting, where you can vote for any candidate you approve of.

<https://patdixon.org/non-partisan-redistricting/> <https://patdixon.org/approval-voting/> <https://patdixon.org/election-integrity/>

Campaign Website: patdixon.org

Edward Earl Giles | WRITE-IN

Please see VOTE411.ORG for responses.

Jinghpaw Majoishingra | WRITE-IN

Please see VOTE411.ORG for responses.

Jenn Mack | WRITE-IN

Please see VOTE411.ORG for responses.

Mike Miller | WRITE-IN

Please see VOTE411.ORG for responses.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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?

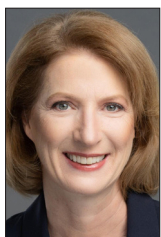
WATER: What legislation would you support to address the electricity and water demands of data centers while maintaining reliability and affordability for Texans?

EDUCATION: What would you do to ensure that public schools are adequately and reliably funded?

ELECTIONS: What election legislation would you bring to the floor?

Dan Patrick | REPUBLICAN

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



Vikki Goodwin | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I've served 8 years in the TX Legislature and have worked across the aisle to pass meaningful laws. I'm a small business owner, mom, wife, involved community leader, graduate of UT & the LBJ School.

WOMEN'S HEALTH: Too many women are dying in Texas due to pregnancy complications. Texas has the highest number of deaths in the US due to pregnancy/postpartum issues. Women need to be able to make their own personal, private healthcare decisions in consultation with their doctors, and doctors need to be able to practice their full scope of medicine without fear of losing their license or going to prison.

WATER: Legislation should: 1) require data center developers to provide information about how much water and energy they will use and where it will come from, 2) ensure costs for new transmission are not pushed onto household ratepayers, 3) end all data center sales tax exemptions, 4) allow counties land use authority and strengthen in cities, 5) ensure energy and water needs don't exceed capacity.

EDUCATION: The Texas Constitution calls for the provision of a free public education, not private education. I would end the voucher program in order to better fund our public schools. We must catch up to inflation; increase the basic allotment to at least \$7500/student with a provision to keep up with inflation through automatic adjustments. Simplify the formula, and base it on enrollment not attendance.

ELECTIONS: I would bring: 1) online voter registration, 2) improvements to vote by mail: no numbers required on the back of the envelope, online mail-in ballot request processing, 3) college student IDs accepted as forms of identification, and 4) improved high school civics classes. Given the recent attempts to decrease the number of polling locations in some counties, better polling location requirements.

Campaign Website: Goodwin4Texas.com

Anthony Cristo | LIBERTARIAN

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



Kevin McCormick | GREEN

QUALIFICATIONS: I have a degree in Political Science and a Law degree. I have practiced law, worked in agriculture, managed small business, and taught high school math. I am familiar with all the regions of Texas.

WOMEN'S HEALTH: I have a detailed proposal on public health. I favor expansion of FQHC clinics, taking full advantage of Medicaid, and expanding access. I would seek to repeal laws that discourage specializing in women's care or single out providers who offer abortion related services. I believe abortion is primarily the choice of the woman up to about 24 weeks. Also, it should be easier to have children.

WATER: I am opposed to tax breaks or incentives to data centers and they should pay for any increased capacity they require. Water use should be strictly limited and pollution forbidden. I am skeptical of the business case for data centers. I believe they are part of the AI bubble and an example of Wall Street mal-investment and of how our monetary system is not appropriate for the future.

EDUCATION: The state wastes a lot of money with high-stakes testing and excessive bureaucracy, which should be spent on teacher and parent resources and the well being of students. The voucher program is a threat to public education funding and should be repealed or at least means tested. I would consider the state acquiring school district bond debt and collecting only the principal, waiving interest.

ELECTIONS: I have a detailed election code reform proposal. I propose ranked-choice voting, a statewide primary for four parties and independents, reduced candidate filing fees, more polling places with better access, and a constitutional amendment with rules for electoral districts to eliminate gerrymandering. The voters' power in democracy must be restored.

Campaign Website: kmm2026.org

Arturo Espinosa | WRITE-IN

Please see VOTE411.ORG for responses.

Stephen Samuelson | WRITE-IN

Please see VOTE411.ORG for responses.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

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' voting rights while maintaining election security?

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

ETHICS: How would you increase public trust that the office is acting fairly and ethically?

LITIGATION: What is your position on legal actions against other states that provide abortion medications?

Mayes Middleton | REPUBLICAN

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



Nathan Johnson | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: As a Texas state senator, I passed more than 100 bills affecting virtually every policy space; built coalitions and led with independence and political judgment; commercial litigation practice.

ELECTIONS: Enforce existing election security laws without bias or political motive. Work closely with counties to ensure all rules are followed, election workers are not harassed, and voters are not intimidated. Challenge federal overreach in court (example: attempt to immediately block mail-in voting).

IMMIGRATION: Immigration concerns the AG related to public safety, individual constitutional rights, and separation of powers. Where appropriate I will work with federal authorities, but will not re-direct the AG's office away from its constitutional and statutory obligations. I will use investigative powers to counter threats from border activity and ensure that federal officers respect constitutional rights.

ETHICS: It took time to lose the public trust; restoring it will take time also. I will end the culture of corruption and politically-motivated investigations and lawsuits, and direct the office toward functions it was intended to serve: consumer protection, fair market enforcement, investigating and fighting corruption, assisting law enforcement, upholding the rule of law and preserving individual rights

LITIGATION: Texas law does not have extra-territorial jurisdiction.

Campaign Website: nathanfortexas.com



Tom Oxford | LIBERTARIAN

QUALIFICATIONS: With over 40 years of trial experience, including almost 20 years in management positions, I am fully qualified to both represent the state and manage the office.

ELECTIONS: Every citizen has a right to vote. I will take all steps necessary to enforce that right. That will include using the power of the AG's office to block any efforts to intimidate voters at the polling locations. I also support easy voter access with more polling locations and secure mail in voting.

IMMIGRATION: Due process applies to all of our neighbors, regardless of their legal status. It is a fundamental right recognized and protected by both the U.S. and Texas Constitutions. We can protect our borders without walking away from our founding principles. To the extent possible, I will use the powers of the AG's office to protect and promote due process.

ETHICS: Limited only by the obligation of attorney/client confidentiality, my office will be completely open and transparent. The days of back room deals and false narratives will end.

LITIGATION: These efforts will be ended on my first day in office. The state should have no involvement in decisions about our personal health.

COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

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?

BUDGET SURPLUS: How do you think Texas should use its Budget Surplus?

EDUCATIONAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (ESAs): What oversight measures will you support to ensure that ESAs (school vouchers) 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?

EFFICIENCY: What changes would you make, if any, to the office of the comptroller?

Don Huffines | REPUBLICAN

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



Sarah Eckhardt | DEMOCRAT

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.

BUDGET SURPLUS: The state has enjoyed two bienniums with historic budget surpluses. 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

EDUCATIONAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (ESAs): I will honestly audit the voucher program, showing who benefits most, least or not at all. I will also show how publicly subsidizing exclusive private schools is gutting public schools, which must accept any Texas child and are closing at an alarming rate due to underfunding and overregulation. I will also vigorously review the \$50M Odyssey contract to administer the program.

BUDGET MANAGEMENT: To build public trust, I will pursue modernization in the Comptroller's office to enhance transparency and increase accessibility. There should be a web-based dashboard providing easy-to-navigate overview of revenue and expenditures, supported by clear textual and graphic explanations that make it easy for the average Texan to understand how public funds are invested and performing.

EFFICIENCY: I will immediately rebuild the nonpartisan tax and audit expertise that has either fled or been fired since my opponent's appointment. I will follow the law and follow the money, refocusing the office on fair and efficient tax collection, revenue estimation and economic forecasting and away from punitive & duplicative oversight of public schools and politically motivated investigations.

Campaign Website: saraheckhardt.com

V. Alonzo Echavarria-Garza | LIBERTARIAN

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



Shehla Faizi | GREEN

QUALIFICATIONS: I'm a Texas mom sick of big political donors buying influence on our schools and government. My activism focuses on social and economic justice via my podcast, "I'm a Muslim (And That's Okay!)"

BUDGET SURPLUS: Let's invest in Texas, not in foreign countries. We must divest from Texas' \$280 million in Israel bonds - no more Texas taxpayer money for ANY foreign bonds. I support using the budget surplus for programs that serve Texans, like public schools, healthcare, and affordable housing. I don't take PAC money, so I work for Texans, not donors. No more tax breaks or handouts to big donors!

EDUCATIONAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (ESAs): The school voucher program drains money out of our public schools and gives handouts to private schools and education vendors. As Comptroller I would use all legal means and public pressure to end this program and focus on equitable funding for our public schools. Every Texas child should have equal access to an excellent free public school education.

BUDGET MANAGEMENT: The Comptroller office's website should be much more user-friendly and accessible. It should have clear infographics and charts. There should be an English AND Spanish version of the website. Just like TxDOT has billboards about safe driving, the Comptroller's office should sponsor billboards about the state budget. Most Texans would be surprised to see our state's budget priorities.

EFFICIENCY: The Comptroller's office should be run with honesty, straightforwardness and dedication to the betterment of Texans. Audits must be done without bias. Let's depoliticize Texas taxes, spending, and investments. The Comptroller's office should decline to enforce unconstitutional laws, like the Anti-Boycott of Israel Law and the Anti-Fossil Fuel Boycott Law.

Campaign Website: faizifortexas.com

COMMISSIONER OF GENERAL LAND OFFICE

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: What new initiatives or programs would you support to help veterans?

FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT: What strategies would you support to reduce flooding risk and strengthen long-term community resilience and disaster recovery.

EDUCATION FUNDING: What role should the General Land Office play in making sure that state lands generate long-term financial benefits for Texas public schools?



Dawn Buckingham | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: As a wife, mom, surgeon, small-business owner, former state senator, and Texas' first female Land Commissioner, I bring real-world experience and a proven record of delivering results for Texans.

DISASTER RECOVERY: Texas must prepare before disaster strikes and act decisively afterward. I will continue to invest in mitigation, resilient infrastructure, and flood planning; strengthen state, local and federal coordination; and cut red tape so aid reaches families faster. Recovery must help Texans return home, reopen businesses and rebuild stronger. Planning saves lives, property, and tax dollars.

VETERANS: Texas is home to millions of Veterans, and we must help them thrive after service. As Veterans Land Board chair, I delivered nearly \$2 billion in loans to over 7,200 Veterans and their families, raised the home-loan limit, expanded land loans and stewarded 10 Veterans Homes and 5 Veterans Cemeteries. I will keep expanding access to homeownership, employment, healthcare, and long-term care.

FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT: The GLO has delivered billions in flood mitigation during my tenure. I will continue investing in drainage and mitigation projects, improve floodplain planning, strengthen critical infrastructure and help communities prepare before storms arrive. The GLO will direct resources toward projects that protect homes, businesses, roads, and schools. Investments today will better protect Texans tomorrow.

EDUCATION FUNDING: The GLO must maximize the long-term value of state lands for Texas schoolchildren. I have generated over \$6 billion for public education without raising taxes. We will responsibly develop oil, gas, rare earth minerals, geothermal and nuclear energy, and other emerging resources while protecting Texas energy jobs and pursuing opportunities that strengthen our economic engine to benefit all Texans.

Campaign Website: dawnbuckingham.com



Benjamin Flores | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I've spent almost thirty years in cybersecurity and risk management, and I served on the Bay City City Council. I raise heritage pigs in Matagorda County, so I know land and livestock.

DISASTER RECOVERY: Texans shouldn't wait until disaster strikes to get organized. I'll have recovery vendors vetted and under contract before hurricane season, not after. I'll build recovery teams inside the regional councils of governments so local officials aren't starting from scratch. And I'll publish where every dollar goes and how long each step should take.

VETERANS: Most veterans I meet have never heard of the Veterans Land Board. So I'd take it to them. I'll put VLB outreach teams in rural and South Texas counties, working alongside county service officers, instead of waiting for applications to show up in Austin. I'll set a published deadline for every loan decision. And I'll keep pushing for a full VA hospital in the Valley.

FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT: I live in Matagorda County. Down here, we're getting priced out by insurance long before the next storm shows up. Any home rebuilt with GLO money will meet current flood maps and use stronger roofs and elevation, because that's what brings premiums down. I'll protect the dunes, wetlands and drainage that take the first hit for us.

EDUCATION FUNDING: This is the whole reason the office exists. The Permanent School Fund is worth over \$60 billion, and it should be earning from solar, wind and geothermal, not just oil and gas. I'll responsibly lease state land for every dollar it can honestly return, publish what each acre earns, and send more of it to classrooms. That money belongs to schoolkids, not to politics.

Campaign Website: letsgowithben.com



Neill Snider | LIBERTARIAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I have been a Mechanical Contractor for 33 years. I would bring knowledge from my industry to assist the General Land office in all aspects of construction,

DISASTER RECOVERY: Work with local and national food and construction material suppliers to get everything to everybody in storm affected areas. Get money directly to the people in need.

VETERANS: I wouldn't create any new programs. I would ensure existing Texas veterans are being well taken care of. If it doesn't already exist, possibly issue a debit card for them to receive treatments at any medical facility in Texas.

FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT: Work with nature and not against it. Make changes to areas that might be frequently damaged from storms and hurricanes. Nature eventually wins regardless of what we attempt.

EDUCATION FUNDING: Revenue from the General Land Office goes into the Permanent School fund. Open the Permanent school fund to all Texas school children and not only Public school children. Include Private school and Homeschool children. Let's support all Texas school children.

Campaign Website: voteneillsnider.com

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

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?

HEALTH: In what ways can the Texas commission work to improve nutrition and public health outcomes?

PROTECTING HERDS AND CROPS: What would you do to protect Texas ranches and farms from invasive pests (such as the New World Screwworm) and disease?

WATER: What policies would you support to balance water usage between the needs of farmers and the development of data centers?



Nate Sheets | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I'm a Navy veteran and ag entrepreneur who built America's #1 honey brand from one backyard beehive. I know how to create jobs, grow businesses, and help Texas producers sell more to more customers.

FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN AND SCHOOLS: Texas ranks 44th in school lunches under current leadership. Texans should feed Texans year-round. I'll prioritize Texas-grown meat, produce, and whole foods over ultra-processed options, giving our children better nutrition while creating dependable revenue for Texas farmers and ranchers. Better food means healthier kids and a stronger Texas. Food should make our children healthier, not sicker.

HEALTH: What we eat impacts our health, and agriculture is at the tip of the spear. From day one, my campaign mantra has been "Grow Food Better, Grow Better Food." Ultra-processed foods now make up 57% of the average American's calories, this must change. I'll champion cleaner, more nutrient-dense food, greater transparency, and Texas agriculture that helps build healthier Texans.

PROTECTING HERDS AND CROPS: Biosecurity is national security. Texas must detect threats early, respond quickly, and work closely with federal and state animal-health experts. On New World Screwworm, we need proven solutions, not publicity stunts. I'll strengthen surveillance, coordinate with USDA, and make sure ranchers and farmers have the information and resources to protect their operations.

WATER: I'm very concerned about data centers. Growth must work for Texans, not against them. Farmers and ranchers cannot be expected to sacrifice the water that produces our food to private development. Data centers must have responsible plans for water and electricity use, invest in needed infrastructure, protect local communities, and certainly should not receive tax subsidies.

Campaign Website: NateSheets.com



Clayton Tucker | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I grew up working on my family ranch, researched water and agriculture policy, and serve as the Texas Farmers Union Secretary. I know agriculture from the pasture to public policy.

FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN AND SCHOOLS: I will fight for free school meals for every child and defend summer food assistance. I will work to replace ultra-processed school foods with healthy meals sourced from Texas farmers and expand school community gardens. I will also allow qualified nonprofits to use school kitchens to prepare meals for children when school is out.

HEALTH: I will use the Texas Department of Agriculture to improve the food Texans eat by strengthening food safety, removing harmful chemicals and highly processed foods from school meals, and rebuilding local food systems. I will also use the State Office of Rural Health to expand access to affordable healthcare in rural communities.

PROTECTING HERDS AND CROPS: I will use every proven tool available to protect Texas agriculture from invasive pests and disease. For New World Screwworm, I support combining sterile flies with SWASS rather than relying on one method alone. I will also push to maintain permanent response capacity so Texas can act quickly when the next biological threat emerges.

WATER: I will put Texas agriculture and our water supply ahead of irresponsible data center development. Data centers should not compete with farmers, ranchers, or families for drinking water. I support requiring sustainable water plans, protecting farmland and aquifers, and using brackish or other non-drinking water for responsible projects.

Campaign Website: claytontuckertx.com

Austin R. Kelly | LIBERTARIAN

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

RAILROAD COMMISSIONER

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 would you do about uncapped abandoned oil, gas, and injection wells across the state?

DATA CENTERS: How should Texas prepare its energy infrastructure for increasing demand from data centers and population growth?

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?

NEW ENERGY: What energy technologies should be promoted to support a reliable way to meet energy demands?



Bo French | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I have personally been in the industry for decades. I also have extensive business expertise and am a rancher and mineral owner. I understand each perspective involved in Commission business.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC SAFETY: There are enforcement mechanisms that push operators to handle plugging of wells. Despite this, the Commission ends up having to plug many of them. I believe there are several inefficiencies at the Commission which, if addressed, will allow it to plug many more wells with the money appropriated for this purpose, and thus dramatically cut down on abandoned wells. This is just the beginning.

DATA CENTERS: I am interested in finding any solution we can find that will seriously and adequately address this issue. I will hear out any effective solution and work to make it happen. As far as energy generation is concerned, particularly in places like the Permian Basin, I believe increasing natural gas electricity generation is one solution that will help address this issue.

MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT: Technology has allowed businesses to do things we couldn't have dreamt of a few decades ago. It's no secret that the Commission is painfully behind on adoption of technology. I intend to bring the Commission into the 21st century, which will allow it not only to monitor and enforce regulations far better than before, but will make it much more transparent and responsive to citizens as well.

NEW ENERGY: Energy demand is skyrocketing. The Commission should work alongside industry, which spends massive resources developing new technologies to solve issues like this. We should ensure that they are able to develop and effectively deploy whatever innovations will allow Texas to meet our increasing demand. That's what I will do if elected.

Campaign Website: bofrench.com



Jon Rosenthal | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I worked 25 years in oil & gas as a project manager and engineer, leading billion-dollar projects worldwide. Also, four terms in the Texas House, including serving on the Energy Resources Committee.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC SAFETY: Lobby for increased RRC funding to ramp up well plugging. Incentivize responsible operators with lower costs and streamlined permitting; repeat violators get fined and face tougher permitting requirements. This will accelerate well plugging while discouraging bad operators. Update plugging best practices, monitoring, and evaluation requirements so the RRC can keep pace with the growing problem.

DATA CENTERS: We need statewide guardrails for systems that protect communities while enabling growth. Require resource management plans for water and power before construction, prohibit sites near homes, and coordinate plans with local governments. Preserve local input while avoiding a patchwork of regulations, ensuring communities are protected and industry provides sufficient justification and incentives.

MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT: I'd advocate for the RRC to get the resources it needs to enforce our current laws. Good operators ought to be expedited, bad operators disincentivized, and the RRC should help actors comply with the law. I'd also lobby for heavier fines and bonding for bad operators, third-party audits, site-level compliance reporting, public dashboards, and real-time complaint tracking.

NEW ENERGY: I support an "all-of-the-above" approach to our energy strategy. Natural gas, along with wind, solar, and nuclear, is doing a decent job keeping the lights on. We should incentivize new power generation startups of all types, across the board, to promote a healthy energy portfolio for Texas.

Campaign Website: jonrosenthaltx.com



Arthur DiBianca | LIBERTARIAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I have no personal connections to the oil and gas industry. I have no conflicts of interest, and there is no risk of "regulatory capture".

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC SAFETY: Going forward, all well-owning companies must be insured and/or bonded against well abandonment, as a condition of their liability protection. However, dealing with the damage caused by decades-old abandoned wells is a difficult problem. Remediation and capping should not be financed solely by taxpayers. Oil and gas companies should also pay into a fund for remediation and capping.

DATA CENTERS: Texas should allow all forms of energy production to compete in a free market. The state should not pick winners and losers. However, restitution should be readily available for property owners when oil and gas production causes property damage. That restitution can be provided in the form of insurance, bonding, and/or cleanup funds. Also, pipeline regulation should be transferred to TxDOT.

MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT: The legislature needs to ensure that the RRC has the tools it needs. Regulations should ensure that energy producers fully respect the property rights of landowners, and should provide for prompt restitution when the activities of energy producers cause property damage. Regulations should follow the principle that rights are more important than interests.

NEW ENERGY: As stated above, Texas and the RRC should not try to promote specific technologies. Energy producers and innovators should be allowed to compete in a free market. "Free market" means no favoritism, no cronyism, and no picking winners and losers.

Campaign Website: votedibianca.com

CHIEF JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT

PLACE 1

Six-year term. This Court includes a Chief Justice and eight justices, each of which is elected by voters of the entire state. Responsibilities of the Chief Justice include hearing appeals, assigning opinions, voting and deliberation. In addition, the Chief Justice has an administrative role by appointing judges to committees, presiding over meetings to evaluate court dockets, managing the assignments of justices and overseeing the rollout of statewide judicial technology. Current annual salary: \$266,700

★ 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?

PRECEDENT: What factors should the Supreme Court of Texas consider when deciding whether to change a past court ruling?

CHIEF JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT, PLACE 1



Jimmy Blacklock | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I have served on the Supreme Court since 2018 and as Chief Justice since 2025. My experience, judgment, work ethic, and commitment to the Rule of Law qualify me to continue serving.

ETHICS: My oath requires me to support and defend the U.S. and Texas Constitutions and follow the law wherever it leads. The text of the law and the Constitution's original meaning are my guides. If following the law costs me an election or angers a supporter, so be it. I would rather lose my job than violate my oath. Impartial courts are essential to liberty and justice.

EQUITY: SCOTEX leads the way in promoting access to justice for every Texan. We've developed forms that allow Texans to create basic documents like wills without expensive legal fees. We've promoted funding for legal aid programs. And we are always working to make Texas law clearer and simpler so that Texans can know their rights. There is much more to be done, but I am proud of the Court's steadfast work

ISSUES: Lawsuits should be decided by who is right under the law, not who can better endure the expense and burden of litigation. Too often, costs keep injured plaintiffs from court or force innocent defendants to settle. We should make procedural rules more efficient, while judges apply the law consistently and predictably. The Supreme Court works to promote clarity, consistency, and adherence to the law

PRECEDENT: Precedent promotes stability and predictability, so prior decisions should not be changed lightly. My oath, however, is to defend the Constitution, not Supreme Court decisions. Courts throughout Texas must follow our decisions, so if a Supreme Court precedent is clearly wrong, we may be the only people who can fix it. We must be open to doing so, guided as always by prudence and humility.

Campaign Website: [JimmyBlacklock.com](https://jimmyblacklock.com)



Maggie Ellis | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I've handled thousands of matters in court as a Justice on the Court of Appeals, a prosecutor, and as an attorney representing individuals around Texas. I've also led and counseled large organizations

ETHICS: Experience and a proven history of advocating fairly from all sides of the docket are good indicators 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 Court 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 commissions that address access to the courts.

ISSUES: We are 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.

PRECEDENT: For the public and practitioners to have confidence in our court system, it is imperative that rulings are consistent and follow the law. However, when a rule or law has proven unworkable, the Court should use its discretion and take great care to bring these rulings in line, so that they reflect the sound development of the law.

Campaign Website: maggieforjustice.com

JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT

PLACE 2 • PLACE 7 • PLACE 8

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: \$210,000–\$264,600

★ 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 barriers prevent Texans from accessing the court system, and what can courts do to reduce those barriers?

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

PHILOSOPHY: What qualities are most critical for a judge to possess for fair administration of justice?

JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT, PLACE 2 (UNEXPIRED TERM)



James P. Sullivan | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I've been a Texas Supreme Court Justice since January 2025. I previously served as Assistant Solicitor General and as the Governor's General Counsel, and attended Harvard Law School.

ETHICS: I take my judicial oath seriously and will always remain committed to saying what the law is, not what I might like it to be. Every litigant who comes before our Court is entitled to fair and impartial consideration of their arguments, without respect to who's making them.

EQUITY: The Texas Supreme Court has been a leader in narrowing the justice gap, as seen in the fundraising and volunteerism efforts of our Access to Justice Commission. And by making judicial proceedings more efficient through our rulemaking function, the Court can reduce the costs of accessing the court system.

ISSUES: Judges at every level face security threats that are corrosive to the rule of law. To address that risk, adequate funding must be given to the law-enforcement officers at DPS who keep us safe.

PHILOSOPHY: A good judge must have the courage to make an unpopular decision when that's what the law requires; the humility to understand that the judiciary plays an important but limited role in our system of government; and the work ethic to ensure that careful consideration is given to every party in every case.



Chari Kelly | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: Justice of 3rd Court of Appeals since 2019; authored 800+ opinions. One of 19 Texas judges board-certified in Judicial Administration. Former US Army JAG Captain, Texas Assistant AG, Assistant DA.

ETHICS: Independence is part of my record. On the 3rd Court, I ruled that the Texas Attorney General was not above the law in a whistleblower case, and that the governor does not possess absolute authority under the Texas Disaster Act. On the Supreme Court, I would decide cases the same way: based on the law, the record, and the arguments presented, not politics, donors, pressure, or personal preference.

EQUITY: Texans face barriers including cost, transportation, language, disability, lack of counsel, and legal complexity. As an appellate judge, UT Law adjunct professor, past Austin Bar president, and published writer on the need for pro bono legal services, I know courts must be accessible to everyone. Courts can expand plain-language resources, remote access, interpreters, and legal-aid partnerships.

ISSUES: The public lacks confidence that courts are independent and accountable. My record includes rulings on state power and public accountability. As a Texas Assistant Attorney General, I helped secure a \$19.9 million Medicaid fraud settlement for taxpayers. As a Supreme Court justice, I would continue to write clear and timely opinions, be transparent, and enforce the rule of law.

PHILOSOPHY: A judge needs integrity, independence, courage, patience, humility, command of the law, and freedom from bias. My lifelong public service as an Army paratrooper, prosecutor, appellate judge, Austin Bar president, and mentor to young attorneys has taught me that fair judging requires discipline, careful listening, respect for people, and decisions rooted in the law and the record.

JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT, PLACE 7

Kyle Hawkins | REPUBLICAN

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



Kristen Hawkins | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I am board certified in judicial administration, civil-trial law, and personal-injury law. In 2021, I was Tex-ABOTA Judge of the Year. 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: Many Texans lack the financial resources to hire lawyers. The Supreme Court can adopt rules expanding access to the courts and to ensure that Texans, including self-represented litigants, are not effectively locked out of the judicial system. The Court should choose cases important to all Texans and be mindful that the right to a trial by jury is embedded in the Texas Constitution.

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. It is critical that judges 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.

Campaign Website: judgehawkins.com

JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT, PLACE 8



Brett Busby | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: Based on my experience as a board-certified appellate lawyer and record as a fair judge, every Democrat and Republican in the Texas Senate voted unanimously in favor of my Supreme Court appointment.

ETHICS: My 14-year judicial record shows that I honor my oath by giving everyone the fair day in court they deserve and ruling impartially based on the law and the facts—not on politics, pressure, or personal preference. Compare the reviews we receive from lawyers who know our work: they consistently rate me among the best, hardest working, and most impartial appellate judges in Texas in anonymous polls.

EQUITY: With legal costs rising much faster than overall inflation, many Texans can't afford lawyers. I'm leading efforts to reform outdated regulations so that qualified paraprofessionals who pass an exam can become certified to help Texans with simple legal needs at reasonable prices. Like nurse practitioners for limited legal services, they would be trained and tested to ensure quality and ethics.

ISSUES: Court dockets are growing quickly as more Texans try to use AI to represent themselves. But court systems were designed to be used by lawyers, and AI-generated filings are often not on point or include mistakes. I am taking action to make courts easier for non-lawyers to use without AI by updating rules and procedures, creating plain-language forms, and educating Texans about available resources.

PHILOSOPHY: A Justice must give each side a fair hearing, study their arguments carefully, decide the case impartially based on the law and the evidence, and write a clear opinion so everyone can understand their rights and obligations under the law. A Justice must also work hard to improve the fairness, efficiency, and accessibility of the whole justice system by making changes like those just discussed.



Gisela D. Triana | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: UT Law-JD-1988. UTSA-BA-Poli Sci-1985 I have been a judge in Texas for over 30 years, serving on every level of Texas trial courts. I am currently serving on my 8th year at the 3rd Ct of Appeals.

ETHICS: By following the rule of law, since it is the bedrock of our democracy. It ensures we are governed by established legal rules rather than the mandates of the powerful. Judicial independence is paramount and as judges we must remain independent from special interests, donors and political pressure. Over my 30 years of service as a judge, I have developed a reputation for treating everyone fairly.

EQUITY: Lack of resources is the biggest barrier to access to justice. The courts should insure that the state has robust legal aid programs, especially in areas where there is the most need in indigent populations like housing, collections, and family law. However, access to justice should mean more than just opening the door to the courthouse, it should also be that justice is done once you are there.

ISSUES: Independence and legitimacy of the judiciary. It used to be that people believed in 3 separate but equal branches of the government with checks and balances between them. More now, the judiciary is and is perceived to be an extension of the other 2 branches, like a rubber stamp. We must do better at reclaiming our independence and worry less about keeping our jobs by placating political pressure.

PHILOSOPHY: Fairness, impartiality, and independence. A judge's role is to apply the law fairly and equally. Justice should not be sold to the highest bidder and judges should not be beholden to political parties or donors. All people and entities, including the government, should be held accountable under the rule of law. Laws should be publicly promulgated, equally enforced, and independently adjudicated.

JUDGE, COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

PLACE 3 • PLACE 4 • PLACE 9

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: \$210,000–\$264,600

★ 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 barriers prevent Texans from accessing the court system, and what can courts do to reduce those barriers?

PRECEDENT: What factors should the Court of Criminal Appeals consider when deciding whether to change a past court ruling?

PHILOSOPHY: What is your judicial philosophy?

JUDGE, COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS, PLACE 3



Thomas Smith | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: 30 years of legal experience including serving as a law clerk for the Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, and currently as a Special Assistant Attorney General for Criminal Justice.

ETHICS: Rulings are grounded in the law, not politics. The primary function of a judge is to apply the law faithfully.

EQUITY: That is a question that is best directed to those in charge of judicial administration in this state and the Legislature.

PRECEDENT: Again, rulings are grounded in the law. To the extent a past ruling may be overturned, it means the previous ruling did not properly apply the law.

PHILOSOPHY: Originalist.

Campaign Website: smithfortexas.org



Okey Anyiam | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I have practiced Criminal Law for 28 years and handled several thousand criminal cases. My goal has been to see that the due process rights of defendants are upheld, and justice is truly served.

ETHICS: I will abide by the Judicial Oath, just as I have upheld my Attorney Oath. I will be impartial. My rulings will be based on the law, independent of any outside influences.

EQUITY: Texans who live far from the courthouse will benefit from more satellite offices to meet with counsel, and virtual court proceeding where appropriate. A messaging system to keep abreast of court settings and requiring a court appearance only on disposition settings will reduce bond forfeitures. Lowering the threshold to qualify for court appointed counsel will help lower income earners.

PRECEDENT: New evidence such as scientific evidence that fundamentally changes the basis of the past ruling may be considered. Legislative changes may also be considered.

A persuasive recantation of the evidentiary testimony that formed the basis of a past ruling may also be considered. A past ruling may also be changed where it no longer serves the needs of today.

PHILOSOPHY: I believe in equal access to justice for all, upholding the law and following its clear intent, without legislating from the bench.

Campaign Website: okeyanyiamforjudge.com



Mark Ash | LIBERTARIAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I have worked as a criminal defense lawyer for over 30 years. Also, I have been a property tax arbitrator for over 15 years.

ETHICS: I am not running as a Democrat or Republican. As a Libertarian, I will keep partisan politics out of my judicial decisions.

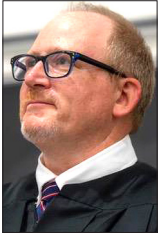
EQUITY: Court websites should be user friendly and uniform.

PRECEDENT: Judges need to follow the law. Statutes, administrative rules and other laws do change and the court must keep up with those changes. F

PHILOSOPHY: Follow the law as the legislature intended for it to be interpreted. Be fair and just to all parties.



JUDGE, COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS, PLACE 4



Kevin Patrick Yeary | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: St. Mary's Univ. Law School, 1991 Law clerk to Judge Bill M. White on the CCA, 1991-1992 Private Attorney, 1992-1995 Appellate Prosecutor, Dallas, Harris, Bexar Counties, 1995-2014 CCA Judge 2015-now.

ETHICS: I apply principles based decision making on the Court. One of my early and most commanding principles is that "opinions are not the law." By that I mean that Judges do not make law, we only apply law written or adopted by others. Opinions are important, but they are not the actual law. I have a list of 14 other principles, including "States are separate sovereigns from the Federal Government."

EQUITY: Lawyers are expensive. And language barriers exist for some too. We need Judges who understand these potential barriers and work to limit their impact. Our State Bar can help by producing information to assist people forced into our legal system. And I know our State is looking at possible changes that could lead to paralegals who demonstrate competence being allowed to provide legal help.

PRECEDENT: Opinions that judges write are not the law. The law is written by the Legislature. Opinions are important to explain rulings to parties, and they bind the lower courts, but when Judges see an opinion that has misconstrued the law, the opinion should be overruled. I can hardly imagine a more corrupting influence on judges than to tell them their opinions will be defended no matter how bad.

PHILOSOPHY: Our government separates powers on purpose. Judges do not set policy and do not make law. Those are the job of the Executive and Legislative departments. The text of the constitution and laws mean what they meant to reasonably educated citizens on the day they were written, nothing else. State judges should also understand their unique role in American federalism. States are separate sovereigns.



Audra Riley | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I bring 20+ years of criminal justice experience, including six years as a Criminal District Judge, nearly a decade as a prosecutor, criminal defense attorney, and work as a correctional officer.

ETHICS: My oath as a judge comes before any campaign contribution or political pressure. Every person who comes before me deserves a fair and impartial decision based on the law and the facts. Campaign contributions do not buy access, influence, or favorable rulings. That has been my standard on the bench, and it will remain my standard on the Court of Criminal Appeals.

EQUITY: A person's ability to understand and participate in the criminal justice system should never depend on income, language, or circumstance. Courts can reduce barriers by ensuring timely access to qualified interpreters and counsel and by making court procedures and legal rights clear and understandable. Meaningful access to justice means understanding the process and being heard.

PRECEDENT: Precedent provides stability and consistency in the law, but a prior ruling should not stand simply because it came first. The Court should consider whether the original ruling got the law right, whether the law has changed, how it has worked in practice, and the consequences of overturning it. Precedent deserves respect, but so does the Court's responsibility to correct the law when necessary.

PHILOSOPHY: My judicial philosophy is simple: follow the law, be fair, and treat every person with dignity and respect. Justice should never depend on who you are, or who you know. A judge must be impartial and consistent, while never losing sight of the people affected by each decision. The law must guide the outcome, but fairness, sound judgment, and humanity should guide how justice is administered.

JUDGE, COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS, PLACE 9



John Messinger | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: For almost 16 years, I have represented Texas in the Court of Criminal Appeals (CCA). In that time, no one has done more petitions for discretionary review, briefs, or arguments in the CCA.

ETHICS: As a career prosecutor, my ethical duty has always been to seek justice rather than convictions. In a system of law, justice can only come from following the law. I have followed the law even when I did not like where it led. My supporters know that my adherence to the law will eventually result in unpopular votes and opinions. For most of them, that adherence is the reason they support me.

EQUITY: In criminal law, defendants get access to the courts whether they like it or not. The more appropriate question for them is whether they have access to quality representation. Texas spends a tremendous amount of money on this. And courts are fairly lenient when it comes to filings made by defendants who for whatever reason proceed without counsel.

PRECEDENT: The most important factor is whether its ruling was correct. Courts do not make law, legislatures do. If the CCA misinterpreted a statute, the CCA should fix it. The exception is for statutes that were genuinely ambiguous when passed. If the CCA made a good-faith effort to interpret it and that interpretation has stood for a significant amount of time, that decision is owed some deference.

PHILOSOPHY: Courts exist to settle disputes and interpret laws, not to force their personal policy preferences on the public. Judges should have the humility to accept their limited authority. Too many judges (or would-be judges) view the courts as the place to do what is right in their own eyes regardless of what a statute or rule says.

Campaign Website: messingerforjustice.com



Holly Taylor | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: Having been a prosecutor, defense attorney, professor, and court attorney with broad jury trial and appellate experience, I've seen the system from all sides. I will work for just and fair rulings.

ETHICS: Judges must perform their duties without bias or prejudice, yet those who are not wealthy must raise money to campaign for office—often from lawyers who practice before them. The system needs to be reformed. Only a small number of my donations came from lawyers that practice in this court. I will recuse from any case where I served as counsel or where there is any possibility of bias or prejudice.

EQUITY: The judicial system is complicated and intimidating. Lawyers are expensive yet self-representation is not a good option for most. The appointment system in criminal cases can lead to overloaded lawyers and inadequate representation. Poor and minority litigants are disproportionately impacted. A crucial first step is to sufficiently fund indigent legal and interpretation services.

PRECEDENT: Following past rulings promotes stability and helps ensure that litigants with similar facts are treated fairly. When deciding whether to change a ruling, the court should consider the impact of new laws and high court cases, protection of constitutional rights and freedoms, the extent other courts have relied on the ruling, and its workability. The court should not act merely due to disagreement.

PHILOSOPHY: I am dedicated to upholding a justice system that is: independent, impartial, and not beholden to special interests; grounded in the constitution and the rule of law; free of bias based upon race, sex, religion, or other unconstitutional factors; respectful of due process and other constitutional rights; and fair, just, and compassionate to litigants, victims, and others before the court.

Campaign Website: hollyforjudge.com

MEMBER, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 7

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?

TEACHER SUPPORT: How can the SBOE invest in the profession of teaching to support high-quality instruction?

AI IN THE CURRICULUM: What knowledge and skills related to artificial intelligence (AI) should be included in the Texas curriculum?

CIVICS: How can Texas improve civics education and understanding of government?

READING LISTS: What considerations would guide your recommendations when revising books lists for required reading?

MEMBER, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 7

Julie Pickren | REPUBLICAN

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



Tiffany Perkinz | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I am a certified Texas educator with an M.A. in English and an M.ED. in Administration, a decade of classroom experience, and the ability to put students and public schools before politics.

TEACHER SUPPORT: The SBOE must listen to teachers and respect their professional expertise. That means adopting clear, age-appropriate standards, providing quality materials without scripted mandates, reducing unnecessary testing, and supporting preparation and development. Teachers need the time, resources, autonomy, and respect to deliver the high-quality instruction every Texas student deserves.

AI IN THE CURRICULUM: Students must learn how AI works, its sources, and how bias and errors enter its results. They should practice verifying AI claims, recognizing deepfakes, protecting their privacy, and using AI ethically—not as a substitute for thinking. AI literacy must include understanding how algorithms shape what students see, believe, and share, while preserving the essential role of teachers.

CIVICS: Texas must teach students how government works and how to participate meaningfully. Civics should explain the roles of state and local officials, show how local decisions affect daily life, and teach skills like tracking legislation, contacting elected officials, registering to vote, and giving public comment before governing boards, and ultimately how to participate in democracy beyond voting.

READING LISTS: Required reading should be selected by educators based on literary merit, age appropriateness, instructional value, and student needs. Lists should balance classics with contemporary works and include diverse voices. Students deserve challenging books that build knowledge, empathy, and critical thinking while exposing them to perspectives beyond their own.

Campaign Website: texasfortiffany7.org

STATE SENATOR

DISTRICT 18

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?

HEALTHCARE: Texas has the highest uninsured rate in the nation. What steps would you take as a state senator to ensure access to affordable healthcare, including mental health services, for Texans who are currently uninsured or underserved?

EDUCATION: What measures would you support to ensure adequate state funding for public schools and accountability for taxpayer funds used in voucher or education savings account programs?

HOUSING: What specific actions would you take to address the cost of living pressures facing Texans, including rising property taxes, homeowner and renter insurance costs, and housing affordability?

STATE SENATOR, DISTRICT 18

Lois W. Kolkhorst | REPUBLICAN

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Erica Gillum | DEMOCRAT

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

DISTRICT 26 • DISTRICT 28

Member of the Texas Legislature. Advocates for home district. Originates all bills for revenue and appropriation of funds for operation of state government. Working with the state Senate, he/she initiates proposals for constitutional amendments. Also, brings any charges of impeachment for trial in the Senate.

★ QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: What state policies would you support to increase the supply of affordable housing?

ECONOMY: If elected, what specific legislative actions would you propose to bring good-paying jobs and economic opportunities to communities that have been left behind?

DATA CENTERS: What regulations, if any, would you propose regarding data centers?

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 26



Matt Morgan | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: As a public adjuster and small-business owner, I've spent years fighting insurance companies on behalf of everyday Texans. experience I bring to consumer protection work in Austin. I serve on the Insurance and Land & Resource Management Committees, and have been active locally, from the Lamar Little League board to Habitat for Humanity builds.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: I voted to cut barriers driving up housing costs. SB 15 reduces excessive minimum lot sizes, SB 840 opens commercial land to multifamily and mixed-use housing, and HB 24 reforms the zoning protest process while preserving neighborhood input. I also backed property tax relief: SB 4 raised the homestead exemption to \$140,000 and SB 23 raised it to \$200,000 for seniors and people with disabilities. I filed HB 5018 to make taxing entities more accountable to voters.

ECONOMY: Good jobs follow a strong business climate and a skilled workforce. I support expanding career and technical education and apprenticeship pathways so students graduate ready for in-demand fields, cutting red tape that discourages small businesses and manufacturers from locating in underserved areas, and investing in the roads, water, and broadband infrastructure communities need to attract employers.

DATA CENTERS: I support ensuring large users bring their own power generation online and pay their fair share of grid costs rather than shifting them to residential ratepayers. We also need to address water concerns and ensure these developments do not appear near neighborhoods.

Campaign Website: www.morganfortexas.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/morganfortexas

Campaign YouTube: www.youtube.com/@MorganforTexas

Email Address: info@morganfortexas.com



Elizabeth "Eliz" Markowitz | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I hold degrees in Computer Science and Art, Business, Health Informatics, Public Administration, and Curriculum & Instruction. I teach at the University of Houston & work at The Princeton Review. My unique background prepares me to fight for affordable healthcare, strong public schools, and an economy that allows Texans to thrive, not just survive.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: Fort Bend is growing fast, but too many teachers, first responders, young families, and seniors are getting priced out of the communities they call home. I'd support workforce housing, smart infrastructure investments, and incentives to build more affordable homes while preserving the ones we already have. Growth should strengthen our communities, not push people out. I want an HD26 where families can build a future, seniors can stay in their homes, and the people who serve our community can afford to live here.

ECONOMY: I'd invest in paid apprenticeships, career and technical education, and college partnerships for good-paying jobs in healthcare, technology, manufacturing, and the trades.

I'd also expand childcare and transportation support so people can complete that training. If Texas gives companies tax breaks, I expect good jobs, decent wages, and local hiring in return. Additionally, I'd also support small businesses and local entrepreneurs. Economic growth only matters if working families can feel it in their paychecks and see it in their communities.

DATA CENTERS: I'm not opposed to data centers, but I am opposed to making Texas families pay the price for them. If these companies use massive amounts of electricity and water, they should cover those costs and the infrastructure they require, ensuring that local families aren't stuck with higher bills, unreliable service, or fewer resources. I'd also support stronger water-use, noise, and environmental standards and give local communities a real voice. Texas can welcome new technology and good jobs without giving massive corporations a blank check.

Campaign Website: www.Eliz4TX.com

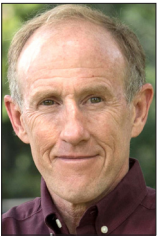
Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/eliz.markowitz

Campaign Twitter: [elizmarkowitz](https://twitter.com/elizmarkowitz)

Campaign Instagram: www.instagram.com/eliz4tx

Email Address: Eliz@Eliz4TX.com

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 28



Gary Gates | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I built the business I founded with a hammer and a pickup truck into a family-run property management company with over 400 employees. I have completed over 60 Iron Man Triathlons. When I set my mind to something, I am determined to succeed.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: The past legislative session I authored and passed HB 21, which closed a loophole allowing apartment owners to utilize a loophole in existing affordable housing laws to wipe out their property taxes, without lowering rents for any tenants. I am committed to continuing the fight to ensure affordable housing programs actually help people who need rent assistance, and do not merely line the pockets of already rich investors.

ECONOMY: My number one priority in the legislature is to expand Career and Technical Education, also known as vocational education. The Texas workforce has a severe shortage of skilled tradespeople entering the workforce, in fact the average plumber

in Texas right now is almost 60 years old. Last session I authored and passed HB 20, which I call the "Millionaire Next Door Bill". This bill allows Texas 11th and 12th graders to participate in workforce training full-time, so that they can graduate with a skilled trade, ready to work.

DATA CENTERS: Data Centers represent the infrastructure of the future, and I support their construction. However, this needs to be done responsibly, making sure that these data centers aren't a burden on the electrical grid and do not interfere with the water supply.

Campaign Website: www.gatesfortexas.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/gatesfortexas

Campaign Twitter: [GatesforTexas](https://twitter.com/GatesforTexas)

Email Address: gary@gatesfortexas.com



Sandy Ibanez | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I am a public school teacher, real estate professional, and former fintech executive. My experience has taught me that representation means being present, listening, solving problems, building partnerships across the aisle, and bringing people together drive real progress. Every community deserves an accessible, engaged, accountable representative.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: I would support policies that increase the supply of attainable housing while protecting property rights and local decision making. This includes reducing unnecessary barriers to housing construction, supporting workforce and starter housing, expanding access to down-payment assistance, and encouraging development near transportation and existing infrastructure. Texas should also address rising property taxes and insurance costs, which can make housing unaffordable even when mortgage costs are manageable.

ECONOMY: I would support expanding Career & Technical Education, apprenticeships, and workforce training aligned with the needs of Texas employers. I would also support small-business development, access to capital, broadband expansion, and infrastructure investments that help communities

attract and retain employers. Economic development should reach rural and underserved communities, not just the fastest-growing areas, and Texans should have opportunities to build careers without having to leave their communities.

DATA CENTERS: Texas should welcome innovation while ensuring data centers are good neighbors. I would support greater transparency regarding their expected electricity and water use, appropriate environmental and infrastructure reviews, and requiring large facilities to help address the infrastructure costs they create. We should also consider their impact on local water supplies, the electric grid, land use, and nearby communities. Economic growth should not come at the expense of reliable utilities or responsible resource management.

Campaign Website: www.SandyForTexas.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/SandyForTexas

Campaign Twitter: [x.com/SandyForTXHD28](https://twitter.com/x.com/SandyForTXHD28)

Campaign Instagram: www.instagram.com/SandyForTexas

Campaign YouTube: www.youtube.com/@SandyForTexas

Email Address: sandy@sandyfortexas.com

CHIEF JUSTICE AND JUSTICE, COURT OF APPEALS

Six-year term. There are 14 regional Courts of Appeals, each covering several counties, plus a specialized 15th Court with statewide jurisdiction. Each of these Courts includes a Chief Justice and at least two other Justices. The Chief Justice has additional administrative duties including case management and oversight of administrative staff. These Courts hear appeals on civil and criminal cases from lower courts in their districts. Current annual salary range: \$205,000–\$255,050

★ 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 barriers prevent Texans from accessing the court system, and what can courts do to reduce those barriers?

PRECEDENT: What factors should the Court of Appeals consider when deciding whether to change a past court ruling?

PHILOSOPHY: What is your judicial philosophy?

CHIEF JUSTICE, 15TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 1

Scott Brister | REPUBLICAN

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



Jerry Zimmerer | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: As a former 14th Court Justice with a J.D., two LL.M.s and PMP/Six Sigma credentials, I combine judicial experience with process expertise to manage complex dockets fairly and efficiently.

ETHICS: I strive for impartiality by anchoring every ruling strictly in the trial record, statutory text, and established precedent.

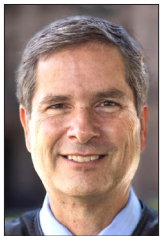
My core philosophy is built on civil respect for all parties. I have sponsored the HBA Implicit Bias Program, and my record demonstrates I actively work to eliminate outside influences, ensuring equal justice unaffected by political pressures.

EQUITY: Physical, financial, and digital barriers limit access to justice. I have advocated through HBA DEI for greater inclusion of people with disabilities. Courts can reduce these barriers by streamlining e-filing, expanding virtual access, and supporting legal aid. Technology can make justice more affordable and accessible for all Texans.

PRECEDENT: To change a past ruling, I balance legal stability with active reasoning. I view stare decisis as a shield against arbitrary power, but I believe we must always favor constitutional correctness over erroneous precedent. Superior court rulings always override my intermediate decisions. When I seek change, I write detailed opinions to provide clarity for our trial judges.

PHILOSOPHY: I believe a judge's role is to preserve the constitutional structure established by the people, and I favor our individual liberties as reflected in our Constitution. Stare decisis is my shield, but constitutional correctness comes first. Ruling with impartiality and efficiency, I call cases exactly as I see them - no fear and no favor.

JUSTICE, 15TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 2



Scott K. Field | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: Current Justice, 15th Court of Appeals. Previously Justice on the Third Court of Appeals and Judge of the 480th District Court, Williamson County. Eleven years as judge; 20 years private practice.

ETHICS: Our campaign donations are limited to small amounts that will not influence decisions. I comply with those limits. Many news outlets have correctly written on our court's judicial independence. I do not allow politics to play a role in deciding a case.

EQUITY: For an appeals court, the barriers are fewer than in other courts. But one barrier is the cost of the trial court record for litigants. My hope is that measures can be taken to reduce those costs, whether it be from free access to clerk's records or use of AI to streamline record preparation.

PRECEDENT: As a court of appeals, we are bound to follow Texas Supreme Court precedent. Absent a new case from that court that is in conflict with a prior ruling, then the other cause for a change would be a new or modified law created by the Legislature. We do not make law, we follow it; we would therefore ensure that our cases follow any new or modified law.

PHILOSOPHY: To apply the law in every case as written, without regard for who wins or loses a given case. In other words, no matter who the parties to the case or the lawyers involved in the case are, my decisions cannot and will not change.





Tom Baker | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I served 2019 - 2024 as Justice, Place 5, Third Court of Appeals, Austin, which had jurisdiction over the cases now within this new court's jurisdiction. I have 42 years of law experience.

ETHICS: I will ensure my rulings remain impartial and free from outside influence by focusing on the reporter's and clerk's records from the trial court, studying the applicable state and federal law and collaborating with my staff counsel and talking to the panel about the court's decision. I will not be concerned with running again for this office as I will not seek another term to this Court.

EQUITY: The biggest barrier to access to the court system is legal representation. The Court can reduce that barrier by fostering pro bono representation through the State Bar of Texas and its appellate law community. Alternatively, the Court can provide tools for litigants to represent themselves if the pro bono options are lacking. Education of the public about this new court is needed.

PRECEDENT: The Court should first determine whether precedent and stare decisis strictly control our decision. A court should consider changing a past court ruling where it causes a manifest injustice to a class of persons or it leads to some fundamental unfairness in justice. This appellate court must defer to Supreme Court precedent and may only suggest that Court to reconsider prior ruling.

PHILOSOPHY: My judicial philosophy is to respect discretion and decisions of trial courts unless a clearly wrong decision has occurred in the law or the sufficiency of the evidence. Only where the law is not clear does the appellate court step in to interpret the intent and words of the law. Even if I do not agree with the law, I will apply it as I read and understand it unless it violates the constitution.

JUSTICE, 15TH COURT OF APPEALS DISTRICT, PLACE 3



April Farris | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: Our Court handles business and constitutional appeals. I was an appellate partner at a top business litigation boutique. I am chair elect of the State Bar Constitutional Law section.

ETHICS: I take my oath to defend the constitution seriously. A judge has the obligation to rule without fear or favor. I have already developed a strong reputation for impartiality and fairness, even when criticized by powerful interests. Judicial campaign contribution limits are low in Texas. I have donors from both parties and divergent interests who believe in my ability to fairly interpret the law.

EQUITY: Texans often know very little about the legal system. Our court is a new court that many Texans may not know about. I have spoken at many legal and civic functions to inform people about the Fifteenth Court of Appeals and what it does. The judge that I clerked for taught me to personally review pro bono cases and not rely exclusively on staff attorneys to analyze them.

PRECEDENT: Factors include the constitutional soundness of the prior ruling, the workability of the prior ruling, and whether there have been any sweeping changes in technology that might not have been accounted for in the prior ruling.

PHILOSOPHY: I am a textualist. I believe that words have meaning, and that meaning can be interpreted from statutory context and tools like dictionaries. My role is to call balls and strikes. It is not to rewrite the law to suit my policy preferences.



Marc M. Meyer | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: While I have not been a judge, I am a trial attorney, Board Certified in Administrative Law, (highly relevant for the 15th Court), and I am a retired firefighter and RN with real world life experience

ETHICS: If elected, I am bound by the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct. As noted in the preamble to the Code, the legal system is based on the principle that an independent, fair and competent judiciary must honor and respect judicial office as a public trust. While the system to elect judges is a political system, judges must remain impartial to maintain confidence in the judicial system.

EQUITY: The greatest barriers to access is the cost of litigation with high legal fee and steep court costs that limit low income individuals from asserting their rights; and the complexity of the process due to specialized legal jargon, and confusing paperwork. The courts can address these issues by advocating for expanded legal aid and streamlined court proceedings.

PRECEDENT: Stare decisis is an important legal doctrine, and Appellate Courts should not take lightly any consideration of overturning a prior ruling. Some factors to consider: - Is there controlling precedent from the Supreme Court of Texas; - Is there splits between the other 14 Courts of Appeals; - Is there a compelling factual or legal issue that raises an issue with real world consequences

PHILOSOPHY: To a large extent my judicial philosophy would be based on prudentialism, a philosophy that emphasizes pragmatism, caution, and consideration of the real-world consequences of judicial decisions, rather than focusing solely on abstract legal principles or moral arguments.

CHIEF JUSTICE, 14TH COURT OF APPEALS DISTRICT



Kevin Jewell | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: 10 years as a justice on the 14th Court of Appeals; 23 years practice at a major Houston law firm (6 yrs on the firm's executive board); Board Certified Civil Appellate Law for 28 years; even-keeled.

ETHICS: The best evidence that I will continue to comply with my duty to issue impartial, neutral, and fair rulings is my 10-year service on this court, where I have authored hundreds of opinions steadfastly applying the law as written without fear or favor. Not a single complaint has been lodged alleging that any of my opinions were improperly influenced by factors other than the law and the evidence.

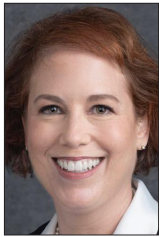
EQUITY: The most persistent barrier is the frequent financial inability of aggrieved individuals to access attorneys, particularly in family, debt, or housing matters. Unrepresented individuals simply do not have the necessary knowledge and skill to effectively secure legal relief in most cases.

Courts should continue working with the bar to incentivize attorney participation on a pro bono basis.

PRECEDENT: Changes in the law by the Legislature or the Supreme Court; the nature and significance of the past ruling and whether it has been perceived as error or become a minority view; the quality of the reasoning in the prior case; whether the prior ruling has proven unworkable; whether it has conflicted with other areas of the law; and the absence of reliance on, or support by, other courts.

PHILOSOPHY: I interpret and apply the law as written by the Legislature or as stated by relevant court precedent to the facts at hand. I adhere to Aristotle's principles of decision-making, which are objective, rational, and non-partisan. These principles include fully examining all relevant facts, considering all precedent, evaluating expert evidence (if any), and considering viewpoints of all parties.

Campaign Website: justicekevinjewell.com



Sarah Beth Landau | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I served as a justice on the First Court of Appeals from 2019 to 2024. Before the bench, I handled over 400 appeals in state and federal courts. I also had a federal judicial clerkship.

ETHICS: I black out the names of the attorneys when I review the briefs and records to stay neutral. In every case, one person is happy and the other unhappy so I am used to disappointing the losing side. Because I spent most of my career as a public defender, I am very independent and do what is right regardless of the consequences.

EQUITY: The cost of representation is a huge barrier to civil litigants. I think the State Bar and the Houston Bar Association do a lot to improve access but we can always do more. The courts can partner with these organizations to identify cases that would

qualify for pro bono or low bono representation and connect litigants with appellate resources.

PRECEDENT: The Court of Appeals must act en banc or as a whole to change the law, otherwise it remains binding. If the past court ruling is difficult for trial courts to apply or has other unforeseen consequences, that might be a basis to change it. Guidance from higher courts might also be a basis to change a past court ruling. Other areas of the law; and the absence of reliance on, or support by, other courts.

PHILOSOPHY: I am a fan of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's promise to "get it right and keep it tight."

Campaign Website: landauforjustice.com

JUSTICE, 1ST COURT OF APPEALS DISTRICT, PLACE 3



Todd Frankfort | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I bring over 30 years of broad civil practice, including corporate, real estate, and family law, a strong work ethic, and a commitment to judicial restraint.

ETHICS: A judge's duty is to the Constitution and the law - not political pressure, personal preference, or campaign support. I will decide every case on the record and governing law, comply fully with disclosure and recusal requirements, and maintain clear ethical boundaries. No donor, party, or interest group will receive special access or consideration.

EQUITY: Cost, delay, geography, language, disability, and lack of familiarity with court procedures can impede access to justice. Courts should use clear forms and instructions, appropriate technology, qualified interpreters, reasonable accommodations, and efficient case management. Judges need to apply the same rules fairly while ensuring that all litigants have a meaningful opportunity to be heard.

PRECEDENT: Precedent promotes stability and consistency, and should not be changed merely because a new panel may decide the issue differently. A court should consider whether the prior ruling conflicts with controlling authority, is clearly erroneous, has been undermined by later developments, and the level to which litigants currently rely on the prior ruling.

PHILOSOPHY: My judicial philosophy is restraint, fidelity to the Constitution and laws as written, and respect for precedent. A judge must apply the text according to its original public meaning, follow controlling authority, and decide only the issues presented. Courts should not rewrite statutes or substitute personal preference for the choices made by the legislature.

Campaign Website: frankfortforjudge.com



Veronica Rivas-Molloy | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: My role as a sitting justice and my combined 25 years of legal experience have equipped me well to meet the rigorous demands of this role with skill and sound judgment.

ETHICS: As a justice, my obligation is to remain faithful to the rule of law and to apply the law as written, guided by precedent and the record before the court. That obligation requires me to set aside political pressure, personal agendas, and the interests of campaign donors. Even when a decision is difficult or unpopular, the law—not politics or outside influence—determine how I rule.

EQUITY: Texans may face barriers like poverty, the cost of legal representation, language, and unfamiliarity with our court system. Courts must continue expanding access to justice through clear and user-friendly procedures, technology, simplified forms, and strong legal aid and pro bono services so that every party has a meaningful opportunity to be heard.

PRECEDENT: An appellate court should respect precedent and the stability it provides. Any departure from a past ruling should be grounded in the Constitution, statutes, controlling higher-court authority, or sound legal principles. Courts must remain faithful to the law while carefully addressing new or unforeseen circumstances.

PHILOSOPHY: My judicial philosophy is rooted in the principle that courts apply, rather than make, the law. I approach each case with careful attention to the text, precedent, and record, while understanding the limits of the judicial role. A judge's role is not to legislate or impose personal views, but to administer justice fairly and impartially according to the law.

Campaign Website: veronicarivasmolloy.com

JUSTICE, 1ST COURT OF APPEALS DISTRICT, PLACE 4 - UNEXPIRED TERM



David Gunn | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: Highest rated judge in latest evaluation by Houston Bar Assn; Named 2026 Appellate Judge of the Year; Law practice over 30 years, City council member 7 years; Board-certified civil appellate law

ETHICS: That's why we take an oath to the Constitution, not to any person or political party. Every opinion I issue has to be signed and explain its reasons, so that readers can have confidence that we are not tilting the outcomes or legislating from the bench.

EQUITY: The greatest need is for better small-claims courts, where no lawyer is required, but my court is an appellate court that hears the largest controversies. In my court, the step we need to take is to give more people a day in court. More people deserve a face-to-face hearing. Clients (and the public) will have greater confidence in the process if we all get into the courtroom together.

PRECEDENT: The first question is whether the ruling appears clearly wrong, but that's only the start. Other questions exist: Has experience shown the ruling to be problematic or hard to apply? How heavily have people relied on the ruling? How would changing course affect public confidence in the administration of justice? Have conditions changed since the ruling issued? All these questions deserve weight.

PHILOSOPHY: Law should be predictable, evenhanded, and transparent. Most policy questions are for the people to decide through their legislature and elected representatives, not through judges. We the people should resolve those hard questions. But judges have to step in to enforce the law that we the people pass, and to protect constitutional guarantees that keep us all free.



Julie Countiss | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I have a combined 23 years of experience as a Texas Appellate Court Justice, Assistant County Attorney in Harris County, and civil litigator. Named the 2022 Appellate Justice of the Year.

ETHICS: I believe strongly in the importance of an independent judiciary and in adhering to the Judicial Canon of Ethics. In my previous six years on the court, I issued rulings that were not always the outcome I wanted but were the outcome required by following the law. That is one of the most important duties of this position and I take it very seriously.

EQUITY: The biggest barrier is the high cost of attorneys. Courts can help by providing better legal resources to help self-represented litigants and encouraging attorneys to take on pro bono cases. Promoting early resolution through mediation can also help people resolve disputes before the legal fees get out of hand.

PRECEDENT: The court should look at rulings from the other thirteen appellate court districts around the state as well as any relevant federal court authority. Factors such as equity, fairness, judicial economy and public policy may also play a part in deciding to veer from previous precedent.

PHILOSOPHY: It starts with the text and the record, because that's the judge's job. Then, I ask myself what does this ruling actually mean for the parties in front of me, and did I give their arguments the full, reasoned consideration they deserve? Because the law should mean the same thing for everyone who comes before it, whether that's a small business owner, a single parent, or a major corporation.

JUSTICE, 1ST COURT OF APPEALS DISTRICT, PLACE 5



Jessica Caird | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: Over 400 appeals in the 1st, 14th Court of Appeals, Court of Criminal Appeals, Texas and United States Supreme Courts during 28 yrs as an Asst. D.A., 20 yrs. in appeals, and 5 yrs as Chief of Appeals.

ETHICS: Appellate judges follow the law given by higher appellate courts, the Legislature, and in the Constitution, apply that to the facts, and publish a defensible decision in all cases. I've had 28 years of balancing the expectations of a victim against the needs of the community and the accused in 100s of cases. Impartiality is key for the opinion to withstand higher court and public review.

EQUITY: The biggest barrier is the expense of litigation. Having access to resources remains essential. Some aid comes from local law schools and legal aid clinics that train young lawyers and increase legal aid for those without monetary resources. The second biggest barrier is the

length of time it takes to resolve a case. That's where courts need to increase efficiency and resolve cases quickly.

PRECEDENT: Changing precedent should be rare and happen only when the Legislature changed the law, when a higher court changed the precedent, or when the old interpretation added or subtracted words from the statute or rule necessary to its meaning. To reverse a lower court's judgment, the appellate court must find it misapplied or misinterpreted the applicable law.

PHILOSOPHY: I hold the United States and Texas Constitutions supreme recognizing those sacred texts must be read as written because they stand as the will of the people. The law applies equally to everyone and must remain so to thrive as a community. A justice's job is not to ignore or create the law, but to faithfully apply it as written by the Legislature and enshrined in the Constitution.



Amy Guerra | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I am the incumbent judge and have decided nearly 600 appeals in six years. I previously handled complex cases in state and federal trial and appellate courts, and I was named a Texas Super Lawyer.

ETHICS: I have been on this court almost six years and have always decided cases fairly and impartially, based on the law and the facts of each case. I carefully review cases, and I voluntarily recuse myself when my impartiality might reasonably be questioned. And I have never allowed my personal beliefs, political persuasion, or campaign donors to influence my decisions.

EQUITY: Costs of litigation can prevent parties from appealing rulings against them. This is especially true for litigants in civil cases because defendants in criminal cases have the right to have a lawyer appointed to represent them for free. For civil litigants who cannot afford a lawyer, I recommend visiting the "Self-Help Resources" on the court's website to help find a lawyer.

PRECEDENT: Overruling a prior decision from our court is not taken lightly. To consider a departure from our own precedent, we should determine whether there is a new decision from a higher court that informs our analysis, a change in the language of a statute, a new statute, or a noticeable shift in decisions from other courts with persuasive opinions on the same or similar facts.

PHILOSOPHY: I am passionate about public safety, upholding the rule of law, and ensuring everyone's rights no matter who you are. I review each case starting from a neutral position to arrive at a decision that is faithful to the law. I have issued signed opinions in hundreds of cases and each of my opinions has been 100% unanimous, showing I work well with all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle.



Ken Wise | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I have served as Judge of two District Courts and am completing my 14th year as a Justice on the 14th Court of Appeals. I have always been regarded as impartial and dedicated to the rule of law.

ETHICS: I have always decided cases without fear or favor. Our judicial system only works when judges decide cases based on the facts, the law, and nothing else. I have done that throughout my career and have received overwhelmingly positive feedback from both lawyers and the community.

EQUITY: I served two terms on the Texas Access to Justice Commission, which provides resources for those who cannot easily access the courts. When I was a Local Administrative Judge, we initiated several programs to ensure that citizens could access and understand the court system. I am glad to say technology has helped this situation tremendously across the state.

PRECEDENT: The doctrine of Stare Decisis, i.e., following prior precedent, is the foundation of the American legal system. It ensures that the common law evolves slowly and consistently. But the law must evolve. Judges must take into account statutory changes and other factors that necessitate an evolution in the common law.

PHILOSOPHY: I believe that each case merits the full attention of the Court. Large or small, that particular case is the most important case to those parties. I also believe that cases should be judged exclusively on the facts and the law. Judges must be free from outside influence. I am proud to adhere strictly to these tenets every day of my judicial service.

Campaign Website: wisefortexas.com



William Demond | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I have protected the People's constitutional rights, received awards and appointments for doing so, worked as a staff attorney to an appellate court, and regularly taught law to lawyers and judges.

ETHICS: First, I would immediately shut down (or walk away from) any improper attempt to exert pressure or to advocate outside the courtroom. Second, I would report any improper attempts to the relevant authorities (including the Bar). Third, my donors support me because they believe I will do what is right, not what benefits them to the detriment of the law. Fourth, I have made these positions public.

EQUITY: As a former appellate court staff attorney, I believe one important barrier is the general unavailability of affordable and experienced appellate counsel to indigent parties. Courts can (and frequently do) appoint counsel when there are fundamental constitutional rights at issue.

PRECEDENT: A panel of the Court is generally bound by a previous panel's ruling. The en banc (entire) Court can change the Court's precedent, but it requires specific circumstances. See Tex. R. App. P. 41.2(c). Therefore, I would typically examine whether the previous ruling was incorrect and, if so, whether that incorrectness requires en banc review.

PHILOSOPHY: I generally believe (1) in living constitutionalism in the constitutional context, (2) in textualism outside of it, and (3) that the Founders did not intend to hinder the Peoples' rights by requiring them to consistently undergo the amendment process. I also typically believe people (and legislatures) deliberately select the words they use.

Campaign Website: williamdemond.com

DISTRICT JUDGE

JUDICIAL DISTRICTS:

240th • 268th • 458th • 502nd

District courts try both criminal and civil cases; for example: felony criminal cases, which includes most violent crimes; civil lawsuits where the amount of money or damages is \$200 or more; divorce cases; land title cases; election contest cases. District Courts are established by the State Legislature. Term of office: 4 years.

★ QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

EQUITY: How would you promote fairness and equal access to justice for all parties appearing before your court?

BACKLOG: What steps would you take to address any backlog of cases?

ISSUES: What are the most pressing issues facing a District Court judge in Fort Bend County? Describe specific plans for addressing these issues.

DISTRICT JUDGE, 240TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT



Asha Reddi | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: With 35 years of legal experience, eight years as a municipal judge, and extensive trial and jury experience, I am prepared to serve as Judge of the 240th District Court. I bring integrity, fairness, independence, compassion, sound judgment, and a commitment to applying the law impartially.

EQUITY: I would promote fairness and equal access to justice by remembering that every person who enters my courtroom is carrying a story, a concern, and often a deep hope that they will be heard. I would treat each individual with dignity, compassion, patience, and impartiality, regardless of background, financial circumstances, or whether they have legal representation. Every person deserves a meaningful opportunity to speak and to understand what is happening in their case. I would apply the law consistently & fully explain my rulings clearly.

BACKLOG: I would address case backlogs through disciplined docket management, timely hearings, firm but reasonable scheduling, and efficient use of court resources. Unnecessary delays should be identified and reduced, while attorneys are

held accountable for moving cases forward. However, speed must never come at the expense of justice. Resolving cases efficiently is important, but reaching a fair, lawful, and just result is equally important. Every case deserves the time and attention it deserves.

ISSUES: Fort Bend County's growing population brings heavier dockets, complex criminal and civil cases, and public-safety concerns. We need judges with strong legal education, meaningful trial experience, and excellent communication skills. Backlogs must be reduced, but speed should never replace fairness. Judges must listen, communicate rulings clearly, apply the law consistently, and ensure every person is heard. Experience and sound judgment matter when liberty, property, and lives are at stake.

Campaign Website: www.ashareddi.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/share/1D359KCLFQ/?mibextid=wwXlfr

Email Address: contact@ashareddi.com



Surendran K Pattel | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I am the incumbent judge of 240th District Court. I have eliminated the onerous case backlog that I inherited. I have presided over more than 80 jury and more than 300 bench trials. Prior to taking the bench, I had practiced law for 26 years in two continents. I bring integrity, efficiency, judicial temperament, and experience to the bench.

EQUITY: It all begins with respect: * Respect for all men and women who enter my courtroom — defendants, plaintiffs, attorneys, witnesses and jurors. * Respect for basic courtroom decorum. * Respect for time-honored, traditional democratic values regarding fairness, equality and human dignity. * Respect for the U.S. Constitution and the laws of the State of Texas. * Respect for our differences as individuals.

BACKLOG: I believe wholeheartedly in the adage that justice delayed is justice denied. In fact, it was an unruly case backlog in 240th District Court that prompted me to run for office in the first place. As I noted in my answer to the first question, my

hard-working staff and I have eliminated that backlog in less than four years. We have committed ourselves to efficiency and firmly enforced deadlines, confident that our disciplined approach has been beneficial in the pursuit of justice in our county.

ISSUES: Staffing shortages, funding and budgets, legislative mandates, maintaining a solid and mutually beneficial relationship with law enforcement, our attorneys and other departments. In dealing with these concerns, perhaps the greatest challenge for the elected judge in our polarized society is the avoidance of partisanship. While I am a proud Democrat, when I enter the courthouse — when I take the bench — it is imperative, in the name of propriety and fairness, that I leave politics at the door. This I have done; this I will continue to do.

Campaign Website: judgesurendran.com

Campaign Facebook: facebook.com/surendran4judge

Campaign Instagram: instagram.com/judgesurendran

Email Address: judgepattelcampaign@gmail.com

DISTRICT JUDGE, 268TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT



Steve Rogers | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: Judge Steve Rogers holds two earned law degrees, the Juris Doctor and the post doctoral law degree earned Magna Cum Laude. After practicing law for twenty years as a second career attorney, he won the bench for the 268th District Court. Judge Rogers has focused on clearing the criminal case backlog, bringing justice to victims and defendants.

EQUITY: Judge Steve Rogers follows the law as written. Each side is held to the same standards sent down from the Texas legislature. Everyone deserves and receives the same treatment when appearing before the bench. Judge Rogers has a keen sense of justice and always looks out for the injured, oppressed, and the less fortunate. He ran on a Tired of Crime platform in 2022 and has heard over 35 sexual assault cases, with many victims being very young children at the time of the crime.

BACKLOG: The first two years on the bench, Judge Steve Rogers focused his energies almost exclusively on the backlog of criminal cases and their victims in the 268th. The second two year period with the help of his Associate Judge Craig Priesmeyer, they have been able to move thousands of cases on both the criminal and civil dockets. Judge Rogers' court has a clearance rate of over 90%.

ISSUES: Judge Steve Rogers has an MBA and a management background in corporate America, where he spent the first years of his career work life. His goal is to make the 268th District Court run as smoothly as possible given the finite resources of the county, as determined by the Commissioners Court. Judge Rogers works to retain the most qualified people in his staff positions to operate as efficiently as possible.

Campaign Website: SteveRogers.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/268thDistrictJudgeSteveRogers

Email Address: Steve@steverogers.com



Brendetta Scott | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: With over 25 years in complex litigation and mediation, I have served as a Texas Education Agency Independent Hearing Examiner, court-appointed receiver, and guardian ad litem. I taught at Thurgood Marshall School of Law for nearly 10 years and am a Texas Bar College member. My experience reflects integrity, fairness, and a commitment to justice.

EQUITY: I will promote fairness and equal access to justice by treating every person with dignity and respect, regardless of background, income, or representation status. I will ensure all parties have an opportunity to be heard, apply the law impartially, and maintain a courtroom that is accessible, professional, and efficient. My commitment is to uphold due process, follow the law, and make decisions based on the facts and evidence presented in each case.

BACKLOG: I would address any case backlog through active case management, timely hearings, and efficient scheduling. Clear expectations, early review of pending matters, and prompt rulings help keep cases moving. My goal would be to ensure that litigants receive timely access to the courts while maintaining fairness, due process, and thoughtful consideration of every case.

ISSUES: One of the most pressing challenges facing a district court judge is ensuring timely resolution of cases while maintaining fairness and due process. As judge, I would use active case management, scheduling orders, regular status conferences, and prompt rulings to keep cases moving efficiently. I also support the appropriate use of mediation and other alternative dispute resolution methods to help parties resolve disputes. My goal is an accessible, efficient court that delivers justice without unnecessary delay.

Campaign Website: brendettascott4judge.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/brendettascott4judge

Campaign Instagram: www.instagram.com/brendettascott4judge?igsh=MXFucXViYdxZTRyOQ%3D%3D&utm_source=qr

Email Address: brendettascott4judge@gmail.com

DISTRICT JUDGE, 458TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

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Maggie Jaramillo | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I bring substantial judicial experience and professional training to the bench. Twice appointed as a judge, I am committed to applying the law faithfully, exercising sound judgment and ensuring every person who comes before the court is treated with fairness, dignity and impartiality.

EQUITY: By applying the law equally to all parties, and providing each side a fair opportunity to be heard making decisions based on the law and the facts—not a person's background, status, or circumstance. My goal is a court where everyone is confident they will be treated fairly.

BACKLOG: If faced with a backlog of cases, I would begin with a thorough assessment of the docket to identify the age, status, complexity, and urgency of each matter. I would establish clear priorities, and set firm but reasonable deadlines for necessary

proceeding and filings reducing backlog responsibly, without sacrificing fairness, due process, or the quality of judicial decision.

ISSUES: The growing caseload and the potential for growing delays in getting cases to resolution. I would address the issue by knowing the docket and regularly review pending cases by age, complexity, and urgency so that older and time-sensitive matters receive appropriate attention. I would work with attorney, court staff, and litigants to identify avoidable delays, make use of technology, staff and associate judges to move appropriate cases forward and regularly evaluate the age of the docket and adjust it when necessary.

Campaign Website: maggiejaramillo.com

Campaign Facebook: facebook.com/maggjaramillo

Email Address: perez4law@aol.com



Tameika Carter | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: During my 22 yr. legal career I gained extensive experience as a Chief Prosecutor & Defense Attorney. I also served as presiding Judge of the 400th Dist. Ct. where I managed a busy docket, presided over serious cases and supported diversion programs for young people and certain nonviolent offenders—all while keeping public safety a top priority.

EQUITY: For me, fairness includes recognizing barriers that can affect a person's ability to meaningfully participate in the judicial process. Whether someone needs a qualified interpreter, cannot afford an attorney, or simply does not understand the court process, those circumstances should never determine the quality of justice they receive. As a judge, I will continue to approach every case with an open mind, listen carefully to all sides, and apply the law consistently and impartially.

BACKLOG: Addressing backlog requires Judges to actively manage their cases and run efficient, organized dockets. As a former District Court Judge, I understand the importance of managing

the court's calendar, monitoring the age of cases, setting meaningful trial dates, and avoiding unnecessary continuances. Judges must take ownership of their dockets and ensure cases move toward resolution without sacrificing fairness or due process. Efficiency and justice must work together.

ISSUES: Fort Bend County's growing caseload is one of our most pressing challenges. I would address it through active case management, efficient dockets and reasonable trial settings. I have also been a long time supporter of exploring dedicated civil and criminal district courts rather than requiring our general jurisdiction courts to manage both. Greater specialization could improve efficiency, reduce unnecessary delays and allow courts to better manage increasingly complex caseloads.

Campaign Website: www.tameikacarter4judge.com

Campaign Facebook: facebook.com/www.tameikacarter

Email Address: TameikaCarter4Judge@gmail.com

DISTRICT JUDGE, 502ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT



Mark H. Hanna | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: With 30 years as a prosecutor, more than 100 jury trials, and Board Certification in Criminal Law, I have successfully led major divisions in both Republican and Democratic Fort Bend District Attorney offices. I bring integrity, sound judgment, and a firm but compassionate approach that ensures every person is treated with dignity and respect.

EQUITY: I apply the law consistently and predictably, listening carefully to every party ensuring all voices are heard. There are two sides to every issue. My decades of experience as a prosecutor and now judge have reinforced the importance of impartiality, transparency, and treating everyone with fairness and respect. I study the issues thoroughly and come prepared, so decisions are based on the facts, the law, and a full understanding of the arguments presented. I recognize that these important decisions directly impact Fort Bend citizens.

BACKLOG: I run an efficient docket and start on time, with multiple civil and criminal dockets each week. I offer hearings virtually, by submission, and in person, and respect the time of litigants. I use docket-control orders to keep civil cases moving. I regularly work after hours to ensure I am prepared to handle

the next day's dockets. My criminal trial experience helps me prioritize cases and recognize those that need additional time to prepare for trial and those that will be resolved by agreement.

ISSUES: Fort Bend's rapid growth drives rising caseloads, requiring more courtroom space, use of associate judges, and modern case management technology. I use docket control orders to ensure that cases move along quickly but consistent with justice. I plan to work with county leadership and IT to modernize our case management system to improve efficiency, docket control, and public access. Recidivism is also a pressing issue; my work with Recovery Court supports rehabilitation and successful re-entry into society, strengthening public safety.

Campaign Website: judgemarkhanna.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/judgemarkhanna

Campaign Instagram: www.instagram.com/judgemarkhanna

Email Address: markhannacampaign@gmail.com



Tamecia Glover | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I bring broad experience, including nearly a decade serving Fort Bend County as an Assistant County Attorney and former Associate Judge, where I presided over civil and felony criminal matters, felony probation courts, and served as a magistrate judge. My experience also includes civil litigation, accounting, real estate, and financial services.

EQUITY: Fairness begins with recognizing that everyone who appears before you deserves to be treated with dignity and respect. My prior experience on the bench taught me that people come into court with different backgrounds, lived experiences, and familiarity with the legal system. I explain procedures and rulings clearly and make sure that litigants have a meaningful opportunity to be heard. I have found that people may not always like a ruling, but appreciate knowing the judge listened, explained the decision, and treated them fairly and impartially.

BACKLOG: Because the 502nd is a new court, my goal will be to build strong docket practices from day one to prevent a backlog from developing. That requires active case management and a

judge willing to do the work. I would regularly review pending cases, identify matters needing attention, set realistic deadlines, use court time efficiently, address issues before they cause delay, and make effective use of court resources to ensure that cases move toward resolution.

ISSUES: Fort Bend County is growing rapidly. And with that growth comes increased caseloads and more complex matters. District Judges will need to balance this growth with ensuring each case receives the attention it deserves. My focus on preparation, appropriate use of technology, and strong docket management will help manage that balance. Additionally, public confidence in the judiciary is a general concern for courts across the country. Through consistent application of the law, clear expectations, and respect, I hope to help build public trust.

Campaign Website: gloverforjudge.com

Campaign Facebook: facebook.com/GloverForJudgeOf502

Campaign Instagram: instagram.com/GloverForJudge

Email Address: info@GloverForJudge.com

DISTRICT JUDGE: FAMILY

JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

328th • 501st

The 328th and 501st District Courts are Family Law District Courts. They handle all matters related to custody of children; property division; visitation; establishment of parentage; abuse and neglect; termination of parental rights; adoption; and family violence protective orders. District Courts are established by the State Legislature. Term of office: 4 years.

★ QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

COLLABORATION: What steps would you take to maintain collaboration between the court and public and community partners to coordinate a system of care that serves the best interests of children and families?

EQUITY: How would you promote fairness and equal access to justice for all parties appearing before your court?

BACKLOG: What steps would you take to address any backlog of cases?

DISTRICT JUDGE, 328TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT



Richard Lybarger | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I have practiced family law for 37 of my 40 years in practice representing over 2,000 people. I bring extensive experience, sound judgment, understanding, and empathy for families facing the uncertainties of family court. I graduated from St. Mary's Law School in 1986 and hold a Master's in Health Care Administration.

COLLABORATION: I would build strong, consistent communication among the court, CPS, schools, mental health providers, attorneys, and community organizations. I would encourage regular meetings, timely sharing of appropriate information, and clear accountability so services are coordinated rather than fragmented, while respecting confidentiality and privacy. My goal would be to develop practical partnerships that address each family's needs, with the safety, stability, well-being, and best interests of children at the center.

EQUITY: I would apply the Texas Family Code fairly and consistently, ensuring every party is treated with dignity, respect, and impartiality and given a meaningful opportunity to be heard. I would base decisions on the law and evidence, without regard to gender, marital status, income, or background. In cases involving children, I would give primary consideration to their best interests while ensuring equal access to justice, consistent procedures, and the protections provided by law.

BACKLOG: I would first identify the oldest and most time-sensitive cases and establish a plan to move them promptly. I would use efficient docket management, timely hearings, firm but reasonable scheduling deadlines, and appropriate use of mediation and other alternative dispute resolution. I would also monitor the docket regularly to ensure cases continue moving toward resolution while protecting the best

Email Address: rick@lybargerlawfirm.com



Monica Rawlins | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I am currently the Presiding Judge of the 328th District Court. I brought 22 years of family law experience to the bench when I was first seated. Since taking the bench, I have eliminated the backlog, disposed of the highest number of cases for 2024-2025 for district court and county courts at law. My Court is efficient, fair and professional.

COLLABORATION: I host, plan and participate in community activities to address the needs of the community. Additionally, I have maintained an active role in the community so that I am in tune with the needs of the people. I've made myself accessible by holding conversations with the community forums and educating the community of my role as a judge. My desire is for the community to be clear on my role. My rulings are consistent and fair.

EQUITY: Each litigant is treated the same. I have local rules that all are expected to follow to promote consistency and fairness. My rules are clear and available for public viewing. Self-represented litigants are referred to legal agencies that may aid them in completing their cases, or they are directed to the law library to equip themselves with proper legal documents to move forward alone.

BACKLOG: There is no longer a backlog in this Court, as I eliminated the backlog within my two years of taking the bench. I have scheduled dismissal dockets that require litigants to set the matter for trial or the case will be dismissed. I established night court so that litigants may appear on Zoom, in the evening, if the matter is uncontested.

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/rawlins4judge

Campaign Instagram: www.instagram.com/rawlins4judge

Email Address: Rawlins4judge@gmail.com

DISTRICT JUDGE, 501ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT



Richard T. Bell | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I currently serve as a family district judge and have been on the bench for 11 years. I was previously appointed by both the Republican and Democrat parties on multiple occasions. Prior to taking the bench, I operated my own law practice handling complex family law matters. I teach as an adjunct professor at the University of Houston Law Center.

COLLABORATION: I actively serve in the community when I am not on the bench. I recently served as the president of the Exchange Club of Sugar Land, a non-profit that raises money for the prevention of child abuse and supports several local non-profits financially. I also serve and support organizations that protect survivors of intimate partner violence. I teach and speak regularly to educate the next generation of lawyers on how to properly handle these difficult cases. I am an active member of my church which also regularly serves the community.

EQUITY: I co-authored the self-represented litigation packet for the Fort Bend Family Courts. This packet gives forms and resources for individuals that are unable to afford an attorney, and helps them navigate the legal system efficiently. I also have a special docket every week for litigants that are representing themselves. This allows them to get in and out of the court system without having to wait for lawyers' cases to be heard. Additionally, each week I run a zoom docket allowing people with transportation issues to appear in my courtroom.

BACKLOG: I generated an excel spreadsheet which sorts the cases in my court by how long they have been pending. I utilized this same strategy while I was the associate judge in the 387th court. It allows a judge to force the older cases to completion by scheduling final trials. At the same time, I dispose of approximately 200 cases per month through trials and agreements. These steps prevent backlogs.

Campaign Website: judgebell.org

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/rick.bell.77478

Campaign Instagram: www.instagram.com/judgerichardbell/?hl=en

Email Address: Richard.belldc501@fortbendcountytx.gov



Latosha McGill Clayton | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I am qualified for this position because of my extensive legal experience and judicial training. With more than 20 years of family law experience, I understand the complexities of the cases that come before the court. I currently serve as an Associate Judge managing heavy dockets and remaining compassionate while making difficult decisions.

COLLABORATION: I would prioritize consistent communication and collaboration among the attorneys, mental health providers, and community organizations. I would seek regular opportunities to hear from these partners about barriers affecting children and families and identify practical ways to improve coordination while maintaining appropriate judicial boundaries. I would support connecting families with appropriate resources and reduce unnecessary delays in services. I would also follow up and evaluate whether available resources are meeting family needs.

EQUITY: My primary focus in every case is the facts, the evidence, and the law. Family court involves families facing real circumstances and decisions made can have lifelong consequences. I would promote fairness by ensuring every person appearing before my court is treated with dignity, respect, and impartiality. I would apply the law and provide each party an opportunity to be heard and remain mindful of the challenges faced by self-represented litigants. My goal would be for every person to leave the court knowing they were heard and treated fairly.

BACKLOG: I will issue carefully considered temporary orders structured with the expectation that, absent a change, they can transition smoothly into final orders to reduce unnecessary relitigation. I will also manage cases by setting realistic and appropriate time estimates. I will carefully review proposed orders to ensure accuracy to prevent post-judgment disputes that can congest the docket.

Campaign Website: www.voteclaytonforjudge.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/voteclaytonforjudge

Campaign Instagram: [instagram.com/voteclaytonforjudge](https://www.instagram.com/voteclaytonforjudge)

Email Address: atlymcgill@gmail.com

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

268th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Represents the people of the State of Texas in prosecuting all adult felony criminal offenses, and Class A and Class B misdemeanor cases. The District Attorney presents cases in the district courts, county courts at law, and justice courts. The District Attorney represents the State in cases of asset forfeiture, bond forfeitures, juvenile matters, and protective orders. Term of office: 4 years.

★ QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

PRIORITIES: What are your top priorities if elected, and how will you achieve them?

MANAGEMENT: Please describe how you would manage the District Attorney's Office, including budgeting, personnel management, and the fair and efficient prosecution of cases.

CASE RESOLUTION: What criteria would you use to decide when to pursue prosecution versus diversion, deferred adjudication, or other case resolutions for (1) nonviolent, low-level offenses and (2) defendants with mental health conditions?

DISTRICT ATTORNEY, 268TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT



Shawn McDonald | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I've seen our justice system from every seat, as prosecutor, a Judge, and private attorney. That's not about politics; it's about understanding what justice and community safety actually requires. Board Certified in Criminal Law, I bring the independence, judgment, and real-world experience Fort Bend County deserves in its next District Attorney.

PRIORITIES: Fort Bend County deserves a DA who answers to local families, not outside interests. With 25 years of courtroom experience, I'll prosecute violent crime aggressively, protect children and vulnerable victims, support law enforcement, and restore accountability and efficiency to the office. Every victim deserves dignity and a voice. This isn't about politics, it's about safety, integrity, and a justice system that finally works our Fort Bend County community.

MANAGEMENT: Drawing on experience as prosecutor, Judge, private attorney, and educator, I'd manage the office with a data-driven budget prioritizing violent crime and victim protection, and reducing backlogs through measurable efficiency. Personnel decisions would emphasize trial readiness and ethical rigor, empowering prosecutors rather than adding bureaucratic oversight. Case prosecution would balance consistency with no unchecked diversions or blanket dismissals and with

the procedural fairness my background taught me really matters. Having seen justice from every angle, I'd run an office accountable to victims, taxpayers, and the law itself.

CASE RESOLUTION: Diversion: Reserved for nonviolent, low-level offenses where it's likely to succeed. I weigh criminal history and victim impact, and require real accountability. Not just a dismissed case. Deferred Adjudication: Every case reviewed individually, with prior criminal history as a key factor with second chances being earned, not given. Mental Health Cases: For nonviolent offenses connected to untreated illness, I favor treatment-based programs with genuine follow-through addressing root causes, not just cycling people through the system. Violent Offenses: Public safety and victim protection come first, always. These are judgment calls informed by having seen our system from every side.

Campaign Website: www.McDonaldforDA.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61551751589243&view_as=10000686899395&id=61551751589243

Campaign Instagram: www.instagram.com/teamshawnmcdonald/?igsh=MWk3cDRkY2t1MWp6ZW%3D%3D#

Email Address: smcdonald2421@gmail.com



Brian M. Middleton | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor of Arts Economics 1994, Doctor of Jurisprudence 1997, Briefing Attorney @Tx Court of Criminal Appeals, Prosecutor of the Year by State Bar of Texas/Texas District and County Attorney's Association, Licensed as a Police Officer in 2024 after completing the WCJC Police Academy, 2026 President of Texas District and County Attorney's Association

PRIORITIES: Continue to keep Fort Bend County safe, train and recruit top litigators and investigators, continue to combat human trafficking through the Fort Bend County Anti-Trafficking Coalition, continue to protect vulnerable populations such as women and children through partnerships with NGOs and LEAs, increase transparency via use of technology and data, continue to utilize best practices and evidence-based decision-making, continue community engagement programs, and continue youth programs.

MANAGEMENT: Fort Bend's population has grown rapidly, and we have had to do more with less. We will continue seeking grant funding to support our employment needs. We will continue monthly training for current prosecutors and recruit top litigators. We will continue to maintain clearance rates while upholding due process. Refine our intake process using technology.

Continue prioritizing thorough case screening during intake and using experienced attorneys in the intake division to make critical decisions. Continue use of metrics and data to monitor caseload management and dispositions.

CASE RESOLUTION: Continue a process I devised that requires prosecutors to complete a thorough case evaluation before recommending punishment, including but not limited to an assessment of the evidence, criminal history, restitution, impact on the victim, the victim's expectations for punishment, any collateral consequences, and any available mitigation. Punishment options, including pre-trial diversion and deferred adjudication, will be offered to defendants who are shown worthy of consideration and who meet state-mandated eligibility requirements for such dispositions. We will continue to use our specialty courts and mental health division to manage cases involving mentally ill defendants.

Campaign Website: www.middletonforda.com

Campaign Facebook: facebook.com/middletonforda

Campaign Instagram: instagram.com/fbdamiddleton

Email Address: info@middletonforda.com

COUNTY JUDGE

The county's chief administrator. The presiding officer of the County Commissioners Court, which has budgetary and administrative authority over all county government operations. Responsibilities include: approve county's budget and tax rate; appoint officials; Director of Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management; point of contact for coordination between county, state, federal and city governments; Chair of the County Elections Commission. Term of office: 4 years.

★ QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

EFFECTIVENESS: As presiding officer of Commissioners Court, how will you establish and maintain an effective governing body?

UTILITIES: How will you address the county's need for adequate, reliable water and power infrastructure?

VOTERS RIGHTS: As Chair of the County Elections Commission, and as County Judge, what is your role in protecting voting rights and ensuring secure elections?

MISSION: Why do you want to serve as Fort Bend County Judge?

Daniel Wong | REPUBLICAN

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



Dexter L. McCoy | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I grew up in Fort Bend and I'm the only candidate with extensive federal and local government experience, from serving in President Obama's administration to working for Fort Bend ISD. As County Commissioner, I've delivered results: hosting 30+ townhalls, expanding internet access, fixing roads, improving healthcare access and raising wages.

EFFECTIVENESS: Governing is about strong relationships and aligned systems. I will govern by focussing on getting stuff done for our community. I will lean in where there is alignment on things like infrastructure and high-quality services and let that be what guides our work. I will let transparency be our mantra so that the truth guides our work and move beyond the chaos that has come to define our government.

UTILITIES: To address our water and power needs we have to work with our state legislators to give local governments the authority to address these issues. We need to know what will be the water needs for every development that comes to our community and we need.

VOTERS RIGHTS: A healthy democracy depends on an informed, engaged electorate. As Judge, I will work to make voting simpler by expanding legal access to the voting booth, improving voting operations, and making the process of registering easier to understand. Additionally, I will ensure voting locations are placed in more convenient locations, advocate for longer hours to ensure workers have time to vote, and supercharge voter education efforts, including information in all relevant languages.

MISSION: For too long, Fort Bend has prioritized politicians over people. I'm running because this moment demands action for those who feel left behind. As County Judge, I'll set a people-first agenda, bring transparency to what happens in government, defend the marginalized, and act immediately with proven Commissioners Court experience.

Campaign Website: www.dexterlmcocoy.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/dexterlmcocoyt

Campaign Instagram: www.instagram.com/dexterlmcocoy

Campaign Twitter: [dexterlmcocoy](https://twitter.com/dexterlmcocoy)

Campaign YouTube: www.youtube.com/@dexterlmcocoycampaign5875

Email Address: info@dexterlmcocoy.com

JUDGE, COUNTY COURT AT LAW

NO. 1, NO. 2, NO. 3, NO. 4, NO. 6

This is a county-level trial court. It hears a broad range of cases including criminal misdemeanors; civil litigation up to \$250,000; juvenile, civil mental health, probate, and guardianship cases; appeals from Justice of the Peace courts. Term of office: 4 years.

★ QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

EFFICIENCY: What will you do to ensure that cases before your court are heard in a fair & timely manner?

ALTERNATIVES: How do you approach cases involving defendants with mental health conditions, and what is your understanding of the alternatives to incarceration that Texas law provides?

JUDGE, COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 1



Chris Morales | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I have served as Judge of County Court at Law No. 1 for eleven years. As a lawyer, I practiced in each of this court's areas: juvenile and criminal law, civil litigation, probate and guardianship, and civil mental health commitments. I also speak annually on probate and guardianship and teach trial advocacy at the University of Houston Law Center.

EFFICIENCY: Fairness begins with respect: everyone who comes before me is treated with dignity and heard. The implementation of docket control orders in my court has cut criminal trial times from 24 months to 12, and civil trials from 4 years to under 14 months. Of the region's 33 statutory county courts, mine was one of the top at resolving cases in 2025. That is justice for everyone: victims see closure, convicted criminals are held accountable, and the system is not stuck in neutral. It is a court that works for the citizens of Fort Bend County.

ALTERNATIVES: Treatment with accountability protects the public better than a revolving door. Since 2015 I have presided over and grown Fort Bend County's only Misdemeanor Mental Health Court, a court designed to reduce recidivism and improve the lives of those who successfully complete the program. It keeps families together and makes Fort Bend County safer. Texas law provides other alternatives, from early identification and treatment bonds to competency restoration, and I use every tool it allows. Real compassion and real accountability are not opposites.

Campaign Website: judgemorales.com

Campaign Facebook: facebook.com/judgechrismorales

Campaign Instagram: instagram.com/judgemorales2026

Campaign YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UCXI4BNiULRVOh_J6wkfkZw

Email Address: contact@judgemorales.com



Nireasha Murray | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: With over a decade of legal experience in criminal, juvenile, probate, family, education, and mental health law, I bring sound judgment, compassion, integrity, and a deep commitment to fairness. As a Fort Bend native and former educator, I understand the importance of accountability, dignity, and equal justice for all.

EFFICIENCY: I will ensure every case is treated fairly, impartially, and with respect for all parties. I will work to reduce unnecessary delays through strong courtroom management, timely rulings, and clear expectations for attorneys and litigants. I will be prepared, accessible, and committed to giving each case the attention it deserves while protecting every person's right to due process.

ALTERNATIVES: I will approach defendants with mental health conditions with fairness, compassion, and respect for due process while protecting public safety. Texas law provides alternatives to incarceration, including mental health courts, treatment programs, community supervision, diversion programs, and competency services. I will consider appropriate options based on the law, the facts, the individual's needs, and the safety of our community.

Campaign Website: votennurrayforjudge.com

Email Address: nmurraylawfirm@gmail.com

JUDGE, COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 2



Jorden Maljovec | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: My qualifications are uniquely suited to the broad and diverse responsibilities of a CCL Judge. I have over a decade of experience practicing in the very areas that come before this court. As a former small business owner, mother, and active Fort Bend County member, I understand and share the values of our community.

EFFICIENCY: Jorden is committed to an efficient courtroom where loved ones' estate matters are handled simply and promptly, criminal cases move without delay, and taxpayer dollars are used responsibly. She will thoughtfully use technology to streamline proceedings, reduce backlogs, and improve access to justice for all Fort Bend families. Every person deserves dignity, respect, and equal treatment under the law. Jorden is committed to ensuring fairness in the courtroom while keeping the safety and well-being of the community we call home a top priority.

ALTERNATIVES: This is an area I am passionate about. I represent clients with mental health challenges & am familiar with treatment centers, providers, diversion programs, & existing mental health courts. I believe these cases require a thoughtful, individualized approach. They should balance accountability, public safety, & treatment to reduce recidivism & help defendants return to the community. I recognize that treatment can be a more effective long-term solution than incarceration, while a mental health diagnosis should not automatically excuse crimes.

Campaign Website: jordenforjudge.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/share/1JzFjk9eEs/?mibextid=wwXlfr

Campaign Instagram: www.instagram.com/jorden4judge?utm_source=qr

Campaign Twitter: [JordenMalj](https://twitter.com/JordenMalj)

Email Address: jordenforjudge@maljoveclaw.com



Tyra McCollum | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I have been effective and efficient as the Presiding Judge. I have served as an Asst. District Attorney/ Juvenile Division Chief, and an Asst. City Attorney.

My professional ethics and judicial integrity are unblemished. My rulings are consistent, thoughtful, and adhere to the law. My judicial temperament is unbiased, respectful, and patient.

EFFICIENCY: I implemented Fort Bend County Court at Law No. 2 "Rules of Court" which outline specific policies, guidelines, and procedures that promote efficient case resolution. The rules limit the number of resets in undisputed criminal and juvenile cases. Contested civil cases follow docket control orders. I hold multiple dockets per month for each area of my jurisdiction. This generally allows litigants the flexibility to set cases within 30 day periods. These practices resulted in my 125% clearance rate from the Office of Court Administration.

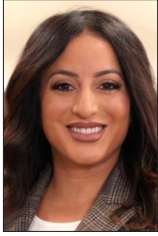
ALTERNATIVES: I was appointed to the statewide Judicial Commission on Mental Health in 2023. I also serve as the Presiding Judge for my county's Veterans (Treatment) Court. These roles highlight my sensitivity towards cases involving defendants who have evidence of mental health conditions. Restorative justice options can be a meaningful and proper use of judicial resources. Alternatives such as my treatment court demonstrate the value of addressing needs through rehabilitative diversion programs and community supervision without compromising public safety.

Campaign Website: www.judgetyramccollum.com

Campaign Instagram: www.instagram.com/judgetyramccollum?igsi=MnJkNmhkeXR4bXlz&utm_source=qr

Email Address: tyra@judgetyramccollum.com

JUDGE, COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 3



Jessica Jaramillo | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I have a trial lawyer for 15 years. I was an adjunct professor at University of Houston Law Center. I work for South Texas College of Law Houston. I am a former city council woman. I am familiar with the areas of law within County Court Number Three's jurisdiction and am familiar with public service.

EFFICIENCY: I will impose trial scheduling orders and call docket regularly on time each day.

ALTERNATIVES: In Fort Bend we have specialized dockets and resources to assist with the mental health caseload.

Campaign Website: jessicajaramillocampaign.com

Email Address: jnjm.esq@gmail.com



Juli A. Mathew | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I bring over 20 years of legal experience, including nearly eight years as Presiding Judge of County Court at Law No. 3, 15 years as an attorney, and service as a municipal judge and as an adjunct law professor. I bring experience, integrity, sound judgment, compassion, and a commitment to fairness and equal justice.

EFFICIENCY: I will continue to ensure cases are handled fairly, efficiently, and with respect. I listen carefully to all sides, follow the law, and make decisions based on the facts and evidence. I actively manage my docket to prevent unnecessary delays while giving each case the attention it deserves. In 2024 to 2025, my court achieved a 135% clearance rate, the highest in Fort Bend County. I will continue working to ensure timely justice without ever sacrificing fairness.

ALTERNATIVES: I approach defendants with mental health conditions with fairness, respect, and accountability. Mental health challenges do not eliminate responsibility, but treatment can sometimes be more effective than incarceration. Texas law provides alternatives including diversion, specialty courts, treatment, counseling, and community supervision. My approach balances accountability, rehabilitation, treatment, and public safety.

Campaign Website: www.judgejulimathew.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/JuliMathewForJudge

Campaign Instagram: www.instagram.com/judgejulimathew

Campaign Twitter: [Juliforjudge](https://twitter.com/Juliforjudge)

Campaign YouTube: www.youtube.com/@julimathew9703

Email Address: info@judgejulimathew.com

JUDGE, COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 4



Michael Cody Moore | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: Before becoming a lawyer, I ran a commercial beekeeping business—hard, hands-on, blue-collar work that taught me discipline. I carried that ethic into law, building a solo practice handling civil, probate, family, misdemeanor and felony cases of all types. I've served as Justice of the Peace and currently serve as Municipal Judge in Needville.

EFFICIENCY: Years of running my own business taught me to manage time and resources efficiently, and my time as a Justice of the Peace and Municipal Judge gave me hands-on experience managing a docket and moving cases promptly. As a solo practitioner, I have handled civil matters ranging from mom-and-pop disputes to multi-national corporate litigation, along with misdemeanor and felony criminal cases. That breadth of experience taught me to weigh fact patterns from every angle, ensuring every litigant is heard fully, fairly, and on time.

ALTERNATIVES: Being tough on crime doesn't mean abandoning every alternative. As a Justice of the Peace, I conducted mental health warrant examinations, giving me firsthand experience with citizens in crisis. Incarceration isn't always best—not for the individual or Fort Bend County citizens. Texas law provides for mental health courts, pairing judicial oversight with treatment plans, and diversion programs routing citizens into counseling and community care. As judge, I will protect our community while ensuring those who need help have access to treatment.

Campaign Website: www.judgemichaelmoore.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61571495968110

Email Address: judgemichaelmoore@gmail.com



Toni Wallace | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I've served on the bench for nearly a decade, presiding over County Court at Law No. 4 since 2018 and earlier as the inaugural judge of CCL5, after prosecuting felonies as an ADA and practicing law for individuals and small businesses. That range, paired with patience, compassion, and a genuine love of the law, shapes a fair, steady courtroom.

EFFICIENCY: As presiding judge for County Court at Law Number Four, I cut our inactive case backlog by 70% through disciplined dockets and case management tools that keep cases moving without rushing them. I rule promptly and make sure no case sits without reason. I secure qualified interpreters for every non-English speaker, because timely justice means nothing if a party can't understand it. Every person who appears before me gets the chance to tell their story. I hold self-represented litigants to the same fairness and respect as those with counsel.

ALTERNATIVES: I preside over mental health commitment and forced medication hearings, so I've seen firsthand how often mental illness underlies criminal conduct. I look closely at competency and treatment needs before assuming punishment is the answer. Texas law offers alternatives, such as mental health courts, deferred adjudication, treatment-based probation, and competency restoration. I am required to use them where appropriate. My work building specialty courts for at-risk youth reflects that same belief: accountability and treatment aren't opposites.

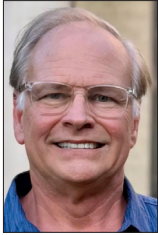
Campaign Facebook: facebook.com/judgetoniwallace

Campaign Instagram: instagram.com/judgetoniwallace

Campaign Twitter: [judgetwallace](https://twitter.com/judgetwallace)

Email Address: info@judgetoniwallace.com

JUDGE, COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 6



Dean Hrbacek | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: Judge Hrbacek is a Board Certified attorney with over 40 years of experience. He has served as Judge of County Court at Law #6 since January 1, 2023. Judge Hrbacek is also a CPA. Judge Hrbacek has reduced the criminal caseload by more than 50% and the civil caseload by more than 70%, ensuring cases move quickly while protecting the rights of all.

EFFICIENCY: Judge Hrbacek believes a fair and timely court starts with equal justice, respect for due process, and a well managed docket. Every person deserves to be heard, every case deserves careful consideration, and every case deserves to be heard in a timely manner.

ALTERNATIVES: Judge Hrbacek approaches defendants with mental health issues with both fairness and accountability. The Court must ensure the defendant understands the proceedings and received due process, while protecting victims and the community. When appropriate and allowed, treatment should be part of the solution, not simply incarceration. Fort Bend County's Mental Health Court may be an alternative. Each case should be evaluated individually, based on the facts, the law and mental health experts.

Campaign Website: www.judgedeanhrbacek.com

Campaign Facebook: facebook.com/DeanHrbacekforJudge

Email Address: dean@judgedeanhrbacek.com



Stephen Longoria | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I earned my undergraduate degree from The University of Texas at Austin in 1988 and Law Degree from Texas Southern's Thurgood Marshall School of Law in 1993. I practiced criminal and juvenile law for the past 32 years.

My patience, passion for service and extensive experience in and out of the courtroom qualifies me as the best candidate for judge.

EFFICIENCY: I believe it is important from filing to end that cases are prioritized as to urgency of matter and complexity. I would use scheduling tools and set realistic timelines to ensure fair and impartial proceedings. Communication with all involved parties and strict adherence to scheduling will assist in moving cases in a timely matter. Fairness is about listening first and foremost and applying the law to facts presented. Fairness is not about going into a hearing or trial with a preconceived notion on how you will rule or trying to prove a point.

ALTERNATIVES: Mental health conditions of course cover a wide range of severity. The initial question as to defendants is to determine if they understood actions at the time to be criminal. Short of that determination is then what is the best treatment plan to help the person with their health, best prevent recidivism or relapse but all weighed against the safety of the public. It is important to involve qualified medical personnel to establish treatment plans. Fort Bend has mental health courts to assist non violent defendants get needed treatment.

Campaign Website: Longoriaforjudge.com

Email Address: stephenlongoria@msn.com

DISTRICT CLERK

The District Clerk serves as registrar, recorder, and custodian of all District Courts' records; summons and manages jurors for District Courts; secures court records; collects court costs and filing fees; handles funds held in litigation and money awarded to minors; and records the proceedings and acts of the court. Term of office: 4 years.

★ QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

JURY DUTY: How would you encourage citizens to be more responsive to jury duty service so that prospective jurors represent a broad cross-section of our diverse community in Fort Bend County?

RESPONSIBILITIES: Besides managing jury service, what are two of the most important responsibilities of the District Clerk, and how would you fulfill those responsibilities if elected?

Audrey Lee | REPUBLICAN

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED



Beverley McGrew Walker | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: 1. 7 years, 8 months on-the-job experience, 2. B.A. Languages- Texas A&M University, 3. M.Ed. Counseling- University of Houston, 4. J. D. - Texas Southern University, 5. Licensed TX Attorney, 6 Graduate- National Association of Counties' (NACO) Professional Leadership Academy, 7. Graduate - Texas Association of Counties' (TAC) Leadership 254, 8. An outstanding, available record of service

JURY DUTY: Jurors are selected randomly. Assembling a cross section of people is impacted by those who seek to get out of participating. I would encourage participation by: 1. Asking the Texas Legislature to increase juror pay 2. Encouraging schools to develop a curriculum that encourages young people to perform their civic duty 3. Looking for further opportunities to speak at community gatherings, churches and civic events 4. Encouraging citizens to waive (not take) unnecessary exemptions

RESPONSIBILITIES: 1. Managing the largest passport facility in the Southeast In fiscal year 2025, the Fort Bend District Clerk's Office processed 31,077 passport applications and collected \$1,336,577 in passport fees. 2. Managing the court records of 4 very active family courts and 6 very busy general jurisdiction courts and a court registry of over 10 million dollars

Campaign Website: Beverleywalker.com

Email Address: Beverleymcgrewwalkercampaign@gmail.com

COUNTY CLERK

Serves as the official record keeper of the county, and clerk and custodian of minutes and documents for the Commissioners Court. Responsible for securely keeping all public records such as birth and death certificates; business and legal documents; marriage licenses; deeds; documents for county-level courts. Responsible for keeping records organized, secure, and accessible. Vice-chair of the County Elections Commission. Term of office: 4 years.

★ QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

RECORDS: What would you do to make county records easily accessible to the public, while maintaining the necessary security and confidentiality of sensitive information?

PRIORITIES: What will be your priorities for the next 4 years? What actions will you take to accomplish them?



Tamara McFarlane | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: As your County Clerk, I will always work hard to protect your elections, records, and home titles using my decades of experience as a an award-winning government auditor, Fortune 500 land acquisitions & diversitures expert, legislative advocate, and Central Count Election Judge.

RECORDS: The County Clerk's office has an incredible staff with decades of experience. I would work with this amazing team to set goals for process improvement, system upgrades, and ensure robust cybersecurity.

PRIORITIES: 1. Modernize and integrate the existing systems to improve accessibility & ease of use for companies and residents. 2. Property Fraud prevention -Implement an Audit team utilizing my Audit expertise ensuring that no fraudulent Deed Transfer is ever recorded again. 3. The County Clerk sits as Vice Chair of the county's Election Commission. I will utilize my extensive election experience to ensure Election Integrity. 4. Community Outreach - Preserving the beautifully diverse heritage of Fort Bend. Advocate for children as well as animal shelter.

Campaign Website: www.tamaraforfortbend.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/share/18Ny4VGkK/?mibextid=wwXlfr

Email Address: Info@tamaraforfortbend.com



Sonya Jones | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: As a 14-year Fort Bend County resident and former FBISD Trustee and MUD Director, I have dedicated my public service to Fort Bend families and taxpayers. I bring experience in governance, budgeting, policy, technology, and AI, with a leadership record grounded in integrity, transparency, fiscal responsibility, and service.

RECORDS: I would continue modernizing the County Clerk's Office by expanding secure digital access to legally public records, making them easier for Fort Bend County residents and legal professionals to search, view, and obtain. Records containing confidential or legally protected information would remain restricted through legally required redaction, cybersecurity, and access controls. My goal is transparency and accessibility while protecting privacy and security.

PRIORITIES: My priorities are to continue modernizing the County Clerk's Office so Fort Bend residents can access records and services more easily, securely, and efficiently. I will expand convenient digital services, improve language access and customer service, protect sensitive information, and identify cost savings opportunities to responsibly manage tax dollars. My goal is a modern, efficient, and responsive office that saves residents time, protects their information, and puts their needs first.

Campaign Website: www.sonya4fortbend.com

Campaign Facebook: facebook.com/sonya4fortbend.com

Email Address: sonya@sonya4fortbend.com



LOCAL ELECTIONS MATTER MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD



Libraries



Streets & Traffic



EMS & Hospitals



Police, Fire, Courts



Utilities



Housing & Land Use



Parks & Recreation



Schools



Join Our League!

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF FORT BEND

**Join Our Mission in
Supporting Fort Bend Voters!**



COUNTY TREASURER

Responsible for the safekeeping, effective investment and professional management of county funds. Core duties include receiving, disbursing, and accounting for all monies belonging to the county, including county bank accounts. Serves as Treasurer for county agencies such as Toll Road Authority, and Drainage District. Term of office: 4 years.

★ QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

RESPONSIBILITY: What do you consider to be the most important responsibility of the County Treasurer, and how would you fulfill that responsibility if elected?

SOLUTIONS: What are the most pressing problems, if any, facing this office and how will you address them?



Bill Rickert | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: Since 2019, I have served as Fort Bend County Treasurer, overseeing the custody of public funds, banking, payroll, disbursements, and investments. I have completed 369.75 hours of treasurer, Public Funds Investment Act, and investment training. My prior global oil-and-gas executive leadership, financial systems experience, integrity, independence, and commitment to transparency equip me to serve.

RESPONSIBILITY: The Treasurer's most important responsibility is safeguarding public money while ensuring it is available to meet the county's obligations. I will continue strong internal controls, positive pay, secure electronic payments, and rolling fund-by-fund cash-flow forecasting to meet payroll, vendor, debt service, and emergency needs. I will follow state law and county policy, prioritize safety and liquidity over yield, and report clearly to the public.

SOLUTIONS: The most pressing challenges are increasingly sophisticated payment fraud and cyber threats, successful implementation of the county's new ERP, and making complex financial reports useful to residents. I will reinforce segregation of duties, bank-account controls, staff training, secure payments, and prompt reconciliations; rigorously test the ERP conversion; and use the new system to provide clearer, more timely public reporting.

Campaign Website: rickert.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/BillRickertFortBendCountyTreasurer

Campaign Instagram: www.instagram.com/bill.rickert

Campaign Twitter: [BillRickert](https://twitter.com/BillRickert)

Campaign YouTube: www.youtube.com/@billrickert

Email Address: treasurer@rickert.com



Jeffrey L. Boney | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I bring over 11 years of banking experience, 8 years of elected public service on Missouri City Council, where I served as Mayor Pro Tem and Chair of the Missouri City Finance Committee and Chair of the H-GAC Audit Committee. I am the most qualified because my experience isn't limited to one industry. I have experience in banking, government, business, nonprofits, economic development, insurance.

RESPONSIBILITY: The County Treasurer is responsible for: collecting revenue, such as local taxes, particularly the real property and personal property taxes, along with sales taxes, fees, and fines; Managing and safeguarding all county funds; Disbursing funds; Investing the county's money; Handling core payroll functions; and other important matters. My experience gives me the insight and perspective to not only oversee the Treasurer's Office, but bring new ideas, and connect the office to the community.

SOLUTIONS: For me, transparency has to be something residents can actually see and understand. Fort Bend County must have a precinct-level spending report that shows taxpayers exactly where their county dollars are going—how much is being spent in each precinct, what the dollars are spent on, and which major projects, services, or contracts those expenditures support. I want residents to be able to compare information over time, so they can see where money has been spent and is being spent. We also need to connect this office to the entire community.

Campaign Website: www.jeffreyboney.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/share/1DNrFxlCaG/?mibextid=wwXlfr

Campaign Instagram: [instagram.com/boneyforfbctreasurer](https://www.instagram.com/boneyforfbctreasurer)

Email Address: teamboney@boneycampaign.com

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

PRECINCT 1, PLACE 1 • PRECINCT 1, PLACE 2
PRECINCT 3, PLACE 1 • PRECINCT 3, PLACE 2

A Justice of the Peace presides over small claims courts. They hear lawsuits for money damages up to \$20,000; issue warrants; set bonds; conduct juvenile detention hearings; perform marriage ceremonies; handle landlord & tenant disputes and eviction notices; and Class C misdemeanor cases, including traffic ticket violations. They aren't required to be a licensed attorney, but must obtain a required number of continuing education hours. Term of office: 4 years

★ QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

QUALIFICATIONS: What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you to serve as a Justice of the Peace?

EFFICIENCY: What changes, if any, are needed in court procedures to make the court more efficient and effective in fulfilling its duties?

PROCESS: Please explain the decision-making process that you will apply when performing your duties as a Justice of the Peace.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 1, PLACE 1



Kelly Crow | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I have held this position since 2019 and before that I serve and continue to serve as the municipal court judge for the City of Fulhear. Prior to being elected here I served as the DA for all of Fort Bend County's JP courts. I am a licensed attorney for 27 years.

EFFICIENCY: Reduce our dependence on paper to become a Paper Lite court. Since being elected I implemented QR codes on citations for defendants to be able to access the court website and see their options.

PROCESS: I am a constitutionalist judge. I don't believe a judge should be an activist and bend the law to what they think it should be. The judge should follow the law as written. I also believe in everyone's constitutional right to be heard and so everyone gets that opportunity in my court.

Campaign Website: judgekellycrow.godaddysites.com

Campaign Facebook: facebook.com/kelly.crow.3152

Campaign Instagram: www.instagram.com/kelly.crow?igsi=azU0Mjc0ZHY5OG9t

Email Address: kncrow70@gmail.com



Martin B. Sanchez | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: A graduate of the University of St. Thomas in Houston with a Bachelor's in International Business, I have extensive mediation experience across small claims, private, and consumer banking. Currently, serve as a full-time educator at a work-based learning site for SPED students in KISD. My professional journey has been defined by a commitment to ethical and moral principles.

EFFICIENCY: To establish a community liaison or social service coordinator as a resource to help individuals access support for housing, food, and employment. Collaborate closely with the local school district and its leadership to implement strategies that reduce truancy and prevent bullying within our precinct. Engage in community outreach through educational seminars and establish a task force comprising youth, law enforcement, and county officials to foster a stronger connection community.

PROCESS: To effectively serve the people's court, you must be prepared to listen to all individuals within our precinct. As a mediator, educator, and student of the law, you will make significant decisions daily that will profoundly impact people's lives. Decisions include identifying areas of common ground and devising strategies to improve individuals' lives without compromising impartiality. With my extensive experience, I will help build a court that serves the people, not special interests.

Campaign Website: martinsanchezfortx.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61584844842340

Don't have ID?

VoteRiders is here to help you for free!

We pay for:

- ☐ Documents like a birth certificate or Social Security card
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- ☒ Helpline@VoteRiders.org
- ☐ Call or text 866-432-8683

VOTERIDERS

In Texas you are asked to show a photo ID to vote in person

VoteRiders.org/TX

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 1, PLACE 2



Tricia Krenek | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: As your Justice of the Peace, I combine my formal legal education with my business/accounting degrees and practical experience through judicial clerkships, litigation, and mediation to serve you. My background as a small business owner enhances my administrative skills. Also, my service in local government ensures I am deeply connected to my community and committed to upholding the rule of law.

EFFICIENCY: I will continue to implement standards and procedures for all types of cases, simplify forms, and expand remote and written options. My knowledge of legal process allows me to manage dockets effectively, identify settlement opportunities by prioritizing mediation, increase real-time access to language services, and use data-driven case flow management tools to minimize delays, ensuring the Court remains accessible and effective for all.

PROCESS: As a Justice of the Peace, my decision-making is rooted in a conservative, constitutionally sound approach that applies the law exactly as written and rejects judicial activism. I prioritize fairness, impartiality, and compassion, guided by a servant's heart and dedication to public service. By thoroughly preparing for each docket, leveraging technology, and standardizing practice rules, I ensure efficient, effective justice for all citizens.

Campaign Website: www.triciakrenek.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/TriciaThompsonKrenek

Email Address: triciakrenek@gmail.com



Hortencia Sanchez | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: Hortencia Sanchez dedicated over a decade to community service and legal assistance. Pursuing education as a Legal Assistant, she interned at the Nueces County Criminal Department. Hortencia has actively participated in community initiatives, serving on the Oil and Gas advisory Committee and as a PTA Executive Liaison. She is a professional Mediator and Arbitrator with exceptional listening skills.

EFFICIENCY: Establish an online court accessible to all individuals who require its services. Additionally, comprehensive training should be provided to staff on the utilization of this technology. Furthermore, public education should be conducted to highlight the significance of subjects such as wills and probate in everyday life. Lastly, translators should be made available to ensure that individuals from diverse backgrounds can fully comprehend their rights and

PROCESS: Justice of the Peace courts are public institutions that serve the people equally, adhering to the laws and regulations. They are not designed to benefit only the privileged few.

Campaign Website: hortencia-sanchezfortx.com

Campaign Facebook: [www.hortencia-sanchezfortx.com](https://www.facebook.com/hortencia-sanchezfortx.com)

Campaign Instagram: [hortencia.b.gonzalez](https://www.instagram.com/hortencia.b.gonzalez)

Email Address: Hortencia.b.sanchez@me.com

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 3, PLACE 1



William Ferguson | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I have served as a Texas peace officer since 1992, including 33 years in Fort Bend County, and five years on Sugar Land City Council. My law enforcement, public service, and business experience have taught me to listen, apply the law fairly, make sound decisions, and treat every person with dignity and respect.

EFFICIENCY: I would focus on timely case management, clear communication, and greater use of technology to reduce unnecessary delays. The court should regularly review its docket, resolve cases efficiently, and make procedures easy for the public to understand while protecting due process and ensuring every person is treated fairly.

PROCESS: I will listen carefully to all parties, consider the facts and evidence, and apply the law consistently and impartially. Each decision should be based on the merits of the case, not personal opinions or outside influence. I will treat everyone with dignity and ensure each person has a fair opportunity to be heard.

Campaign Website: www.fergusonforyou.com

Email Address: Sanwillie@yahoo.com



Sonia Rash | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I am a licensed attorney with over 20 years of legal experience and the only candidate licensed to practice law. As the current JP, I have presided over 6,000 civil & criminal cases. I believe Justice Court is truly the People's Court, where everyone deserves to be heard and treated with dignity & fairness. My legal experience & commitment to doing what is right guide me as I serve our community.

EFFICIENCY: Courts must evolve with the needs of the people while ensuring fairness, accessibility and access to justice. I have improved efficiency by creating the County's only night court for working people; implemented online hearings & trials for those with difficulty appearing in person; and provided the County's only free legal resource kiosk. I will continue using technology & innovation to reduce barriers to justice while ensuring every person receives due process & a fair opportunity to be heard.

PROCESS: My decision-making begins with listening carefully to all parties and ensuring each person has a fair opportunity to be heard. I evaluate the facts and evidence, apply the law fairly and consistently, and make decisions without bias or outside influence. Every case is different, but my guiding principles remain the same: follow the law, protect due process, treat everyone with dignity and respect, and do what is right.

Campaign Website: judgesoniarash.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/sonia.behrana

Campaign Instagram: [instagram.com/sonia_rash](https://www.instagram.com/sonia_rash)

Campaign Twitter: [RashSonia](https://twitter.com/RashSonia)

Campaign YouTube: www.youtube.com/@JudgeSRash

Email Address: Behranalawfirm@yahoo.com

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 3, PLACE 2



Ken Cannata | REPUBLICAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I bring more than 12 years of judicial experience at both the Justice of the Peace and State District Court levels. I have more than 40 years of legal experience. I am Board Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in Civil Trial Law. I am rated AV Preeminent by Martindale Hubbell which is the highest level of professional excellence awarded for legal expertise and ethical standards.

EFFICIENCY: This court was created in January of this year. I accepted over 3400 cases from the Justice of the Peace Pct 3 Place 1 and immediately implemented procedures to review and determine the status of those cases some of which dated back to 2002. We have conducted daily dockets to close those cases which were no longer being pursued. We also held pre-trial conferences, set trial dates and created a docket control order in every case to provide for the orderly and prompt resolution of each case.

PROCESS: Throughout my judicial career I have remained steadfast in my commitment to protecting individual rights and safeguarding the well-being of Fort Bend County residents making these priorities the foundation of every decision I make. I ensure that each litigant has an opportunity to be heard and if necessary I elicit pertinent facts from the parties. Then, by applying the facts to the law in a fair and impartial way I make a determination that is in conformity with the law and fair and equitable.

Campaign Website: judgekencannata.com

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61591485972330

Email Address: judgecannata458@gmail.com



Rachelle Carter | DEMOCRAT

QUALIFICATIONS: I bring 15 plus years of legal experience handling civil, criminal, and family law matters and currently serve as an Associate Municipal Court Judge. As a former educator, attorney, small-business owner, and judge, I bring legal knowledge, courtroom experience, patience, fairness, and a commitment to treating every person with dignity and respect.

EFFICIENCY: Justice Court is truly the people's court and should be accessible, efficient, and easy to navigate. I would work to reduce delays, improve communication, and make procedures understandable. I would also explore innovative technology, including legal-access kiosks that connect people with legal resources and assistance, and consider evening or Saturday dockets to better serve the community.

PROCESS: My decision-making process will begin with listening. Justice Court is the people's court, and everyone who appears before me—whether represented by an attorney or representing themselves—deserves to be heard and treated with dignity and respect. I will carefully consider the facts, evidence, and applicable law, remain impartial and open-minded, and make fair, consistent, and well-reasoned decisions based on each individual case.

Campaign Website: carterforjp3.com

Campaign Facebook: facebook.com/share/1frf3xebfd

Email Address: info@rachellecartercampaign.com

FORT BEND CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nonpartisan. Three members of the Central Appraisal District (CAD) are elected at-large. Duties and authority are prescribed by the Texas Property Tax Code and include: hire the Chief Appraiser and appoint the Taxpayer Liaison Officer; approve the CAD budget; approve contracts; and set general policies. The Board of Directors DOES NOT appraise property, adjust appraisals, set tax rates, or take any action related to property valuation. www.fbcad.org/board-members

★ QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

VISION: Why are you seeking this position?

LEADERSHIP: What qualifications will you look for in a Chief Appraiser?

FORT BEND CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS, POSITION 1

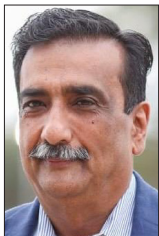
Martin John | NON-PARTISAN

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

Shaizad "Sam" Chatriwala | NON-PARTISAN

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED

FORT BEND CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS, POSITION 2



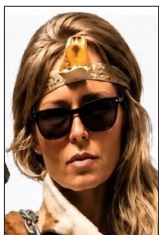
Muzaffar Vohra | NON-PARTISAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I bring 25+ years of small-business experience, financial management, and community leadership. As a longtime Fort Bend County resident, I understand how property values and taxes affect families, seniors, homeowners, and businesses. My civic training includes the Sugar Land Police and Fire Citizens Academies, Fort Bend DA Citizens Academy, FBISD Board Leadership Academy, and Rotary leadership.

VISION: I am seeking this position to give Fort Bend County taxpayers a strong, independent voice. As a small-business owner and longtime resident, I understand the impact of property values and taxes on families, seniors, homeowners, and businesses. I want to promote fairness, accuracy, transparency, and accountability in the appraisal process.

LEADERSHIP: I will look for a Chief Appraiser with strong leadership, integrity, professional expertise, and a commitment to fairness and accuracy. The Chief Appraiser should be independent, transparent, accountable, knowledgeable about appraisal laws and technology, and responsive to taxpayers while maintaining a fair and consistent appraisal process.

Email Address: mvohra@hotmail.com



Dayna Druke | NON-PARTISAN

QUALIFICATIONS: I have called Fort Bend County home for over 20 years, this is where my children were born and raised. I am a geoscientist, beekeeper, and owner of two Fort Bend businesses. I bring a strong work ethic, attention to detail, and an independent voice. I will work to ensure our CAD follows the law, treats property owners fairly, and operates transparently.

VISION: I'm running because I don't believe we should simply accept the way things have always been done. Property owners deserve someone willing to challenge the status quo, dig into the details, and speak up when something doesn't look right. I'm willing to do the work, ask the questions, and hold the line when it matters.

LEADERSHIP: I would look for a chief appraiser who is competent, ethical, transparent, and willing to be accountable. They should have a strong understanding of Texas appraisal law, lead a professional and efficient organization, and treat property owners with fairness and respect. Most importantly, I want someone who follows the law, not politics, and is willing to stand behind their decisions.

Campaign Facebook: www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61592552047365

Email Address: jordayna@gmail.com

FORT BEND CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS, POSITION 3

Ameer Malik | NON-PARTISAN

CANDIDATE IS RUNNING UNOPPOSED.

VOTING BY MAIL IN TEXAS

USE THIS CHECKLIST TO MAKE
SURE YOU COMPLETE EVERY STEP
OF THE VOTE BY MAIL PROCESS.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF FORT BEND



SENADOR DE LOS EE. UU.

Mandato de seis años. Uno de los dos miembros del Senado de los Estados Unidos por Texas. Junto con la Cámara de Diputados de los Estados Unidos, el Senado dicta las leyes; recauda ingresos, asigna fondos federales y gestiona la deuda federal; regula el comercio entre estados y con otras naciones; declara la guerra y mantiene y regula al ejército; establece el sistema de tribunales federales y define los delitos federales; y dirige el censo cada diez años. El Senado tiene el poder exclusivo de asesorar y dar consentimiento sobre las nominaciones presidenciales a cargos ejecutivos y judiciales, ratificar tratados estadounidenses y dictaminar juicios políticos. Salario anual actual: \$174,000

★ PREGUNTAS A LOS CANDIDATOS

COMPETENCIAS: ¿Qué tipo de capacitación, experiencia, y antecedentes hacen que esté calificado para este puesto?

ECONOMÍA: ¿Qué políticas apoyaría usted para reducir la desigualdad de ingresos y ampliar las oportunidades económicas?

EQUILIBRIO DE PODERES: ¿Qué medidas concretas tomaría usted para proteger el sistema de controles y contrapesos de la Constitución?

ATENCIÓN MÉDICA: ¿Qué medidas concretas tomaría usted para que los servicios de salud fueran más asequibles para las familias estadounidenses?

DERECHO AL VOTO: ¿Qué legislación sobre el derecho al voto apoyaría usted para garantizar que los votantes puedan participar en nuestros procesos democráticos?



Ken Paxton | REPUBLICANO

COMPETENCIAS: Antes de ser Procurador General, fui legislador y empresario. Como padre de tres hijas maravillosas y un hijo estupendo, sé que la política tiene consecuencias reales. Por eso, lidero priorizando a los texanos.

ECONOMÍA: El sueño americano se desvanece lentamente, y con él, las oportunidades económicas. Por eso, mi plan "Proteger la Promesa de Texas" ayudará a los estadounidenses a medida que los costos siguen disparándose. Mi plan brindará el mayor alivio fiscal que se ha dado en una generación y devolverá miles de dólares a los bolsillos de los texanos para que puedan comprar una casa, formar una familia y llevar una vida sana sin dificultades.

EQUILIBRIO DE PODERES: Como su próximo senador de Texas, espero votar para confirmar jueces que defiendan estrictamente la Constitución y el estado de derecho, y no que legislen desde el tribunal federal. Además, uno de los controles y contrapesos más sagrados que tenemos como estadounidenses es nuestro sistema electoral. Por eso, espero trabajar para proteger nuestra democracia y nuestras elecciones.

ATENCIÓN MÉDICA: Mientras las enfermedades crónicas siguen aumentando, las corporaciones siguen ganando dinero. Estados Unidos sigue gastando más que cualquier otra nación en servicios de salud, y los resultados no son los esperados. Por eso, como procurador general, me enfrenté repetidamente a las grandes farmacéuticas por sus prácticas engañosas, y como senador, espero seguir luchando por mejores resultados, transparencia y rendición de cuentas en los servicios de salud.

DERECHO AL VOTO: Todo ciudadano de EUA tiene derecho a votar y a saber que su voto cuenta. Cuando un inmigrante ilegal y criminal comete fraude electoral, el voto de cada ciudadano se ve anulado. Por eso, me comprometo a trabajar para aprobar la Ley para Salvar a Estados Unidos (Save America Act), que exigirá a los votantes identificación para votar en las elecciones federales; porque preservará la fe y la confianza en nuestro proceso electoral que todo ciudadano merece.

Página web: KenPaxton.com



James Talarico | DEMÓCRATA

COMPETENCIAS: Fui maestro de secundaria(middle school), soy seminarista presbiteriano y representante estatal de Texas. He aprobado proyectos de ley bipartidistas para reducir el costo de los medicamentos con receta, del cuidado infantil y de la vivienda.

ECONOMÍA: Necesitamos un gobierno que sirva a la gente trabajadora en lugar de a las grandes corporaciones: cerrando las lagunas fiscales que los multimillonarios y las corporaciones explotan, aumentando el impuesto corporativo, aumentando el impuesto sobre la recompra de acciones corporativas, aprobando una reducción de impuestos por costo de vida e incentivando el aumento de los salarios mediante la creación de un impuesto a las corporaciones que pagan a sus altos ejecutivos más de 250 veces el salario medio de sus trabajadores.

EQUILIBRIO DE PODERES: Priorizaré la legislación para limitar las contribuciones de campaña en todos los niveles de gobierno, prohibiré los grupos de dinero oscuro y los super PAC, y prohibiré la manipulación partidista de los distritos electorales para que cada estadounidense tenga la misma voz en nuestra política y en la formulación de políticas. Prohibiré el comercio de acciones por parte de los congresistas e impondré límites de mandato a los jueces de la Corte Suprema y a los miembros del Congreso, y les exigiré altos estándares éticos.

ATENCIÓN MÉDICA: En la legislatura, limité el precio de la insulina a \$25 e importé medicamentos más baratos a EUA. Como senador, me aseguraré que todos los estadounidenses tengan acceso a una opción pública de servicios de salud, limitaré los copagos para más medicamentos con receta, protegeré los servicios de salud reproductiva, salvaré los hospitales rurales y dismantlaré los monopolios de servicios de salud que elevan los precios. Protegeré Medicaid, Medicare y la Ley de Cuidado de Salud a Bajo Precio y financiaré completamente al Departamento de Asuntos de Veteranos (VA).

DERECHO AL VOTO: En la Legislatura, rompí el quórum dos veces para combatir la manipulación de distritos electorales y defender la libertad de voto. En el Senado, limitaré las contribuciones de campaña, prohibiré los grupos de dinero oscuro y los super PAC, y prohibiré la manipulación partidista de los distritos electorales para que cada estadounidense tenga la misma voz en nuestra política y en la formulación de políticas. También debemos aprobar la Ley John Lewis para Promover el Derecho al Voto con el fin de proteger nuestro derecho al voto.

Página web: jamestalarico.com



Ted Brown | LIBERTARIO

COMPETENCIAS: He sido activista por la libertad durante toda mi vida adulta, promoviendo la libertad personal, la libertad económica y una política exterior pacifista. Mi experiencia profesional ha sido en el sector de los seguros.

ECONOMÍA: Una mayor oportunidad económica conducirá a una menor desigualdad de ingresos. Apoyo firmemente a las pequeñas empresas y al espíritu empresarial, y quiero que las personas puedan iniciar sus propios negocios con facilidad, sin trámites burocráticos ni licencias que las frenen. Necesitamos incentivar la creación de empleos con impuestos más bajos y menos regulación empresarial. Necesitamos alentar a más jóvenes a que aprendan oficios bien remunerados.

EQUILIBRIO DE PODERES: El Congreso debe reafirmar su función constitucional como poder legislativo. Me opongo a que los presidentes gobiernen por medio de órdenes ejecutivas, ya que esto viola la Constitución. Las órdenes ejecutivas deben requerir la aprobación del Congreso para entrar en vigor. El Congreso ha renunciado a sus poderes para declarar la guerra, y los presidentes ignoran cualquier supervisión. El Congreso debe detener el financiamiento de la guerra para controlar al Presidente.

ATENCIÓN MÉDICA: Necesitamos menos intervención gubernamental en los servicios de salud, ya que esa participación eleva los costos. Obamacare debería ser derogada. Las compañías de seguros deberían poder ofrecer diferentes tipos de pólizas, como la atención para casos catastróficos. Los consumidores deberían poder comprar medicamentos de otros países.

Se debe abrir la formación médica a más estudiantes para que se conviertan en doctores y así permitir que haya una mayor competencia. Se necesita menos burocracia y regulación.

DERECHO AL VOTO: La libertad de elección de los votantes está limitada por leyes que dificultan que los candidatos de partidos alternativos se postulen para cargos públicos. Yo facilitaré la candidatura. Debería ser más fácil votar, tanto en persona como por correo. Rechazo la paranoia republicana sobre el fraude electoral y no veo evidencia de que personas no elegibles hayan estado votando. Me opongo a la Ley SAVE, ya que no hay razón para hacer difícil que las personas se registren para votar.

Página web: tedbrown.org

Avery Ayers | CANDIDATO POR ESCRITO

Visite VOTE411.ORG para ver las respuestas.

Bradford "Brad" Hall | CANDIDATO POR ESCRITO

Visite VOTE411.ORG para ver las respuestas.

Zul Mohamed | PCANDIDATO POR ESCRITO

Visite VOTE411.ORG para ver las respuestas.

Jade Simmons | INDEPENDIENTE | CANDIDATO POR ESCRITO

Visite VOTE411.ORG para ver las respuestas.

GOBERNADOR

Mandato de cuatro años. El gobernador es el jefe ejecutivo del estado. Nombra a los miembros de las juntas y comisiones; nombra a los funcionarios ejecutivos estatales, jueces estatales y fiscales de distrito cuando se producen vacantes; convoca elecciones extraordinarias para cubrir vacantes de ciertos cargos de elección popular; pronuncia el discurso sobre el estado del Estado; brinda orientación a la legislatura; convoca sesiones extraordinarias de la legislatura y establece la agenda; y actúa como comandante en jefe de las fuerzas militares del estado. El gobernador puede vetar leyes (incluido el veto a partidas presupuestarias), promulgar leyes o permitir que se conviertan en ley sin su firma. Salario anual actual: \$153,750

★ PREGUNTAS A LOS CANDIDATOS

COMPETENCIAS: ¿Qué tipo de capacitación, experiencia, y antecedentes hacen que esté calificado para este puesto?

ATENCIÓN MÉDICA: ¿Qué haría usted para que los servicios de salud sean más asequibles para los texanos?

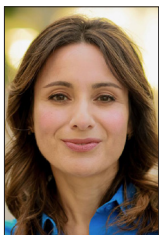
INMIGRACIÓN: ¿Cómo abordaría usted las cuestiones relacionadas con la inmigración que afectan a nuestro estado, garantizando al mismo tiempo que todas las personas que se encuentran dentro de nuestras fronteras tengan acceso a las garantías procesales?

EDUCACIÓN: ¿Qué haría usted para garantizar que las escuelas públicas cuenten con fondos adecuados y estables?

ELECCIONES: Como gobernador, ¿cómo empoderaría usted a los votantes para que participen en la democracia?

Greg Abbott | REPUBLICANO

SIN RESPUESTA



Gina Hinojosa | DEMÓCRATA

COMPETENCIAS: Me postulo para gobernadora para crear oportunidades, no divisiones. Como abogada de derechos civiles, defensora de la educación pública y legisladora, he dedicado mi carrera a apoyar a los trabajadores texanos.

ATENCIÓN MÉDICA: Todos los texanos merecen atención médica asequible y de alta calidad. Invertiré miles de millones en sistemas de salud locales, ampliaré la cobertura, aseguraré a todos los niños de Texas y controlaré a las aseguradoras que lucran con las denegaciones de mala fe y la burocracia de la autorización previa. Necesitamos transparencia y rendición de cuentas para que las familias reciban la atención por la que ya pagaron.

INMIGRACIÓN: Podemos asegurar la frontera tratando a los inmigrantes con humanidad y protegiendo el debido proceso. Los residentes que llevan mucho tiempo viviendo aquí y cumplen la ley deberían tener una vía para obtener un estatus legal. Las medidas represivas basadas en el miedo, que separan a familias que cumplen la ley y disuaden a los testigos de cooperar con las fuerzas del orden, hacen que las comunidades sean menos seguras, no más.

EDUCACIÓN: He luchado contra el programa de vales escolares de Abbott y por un financiamiento real y confiable para las escuelas públicas de barrio. Como gobernadora, eliminaré los contratos corruptos con proveedores para aumentar el salario de los maestros, acabaré con la estafa de los vales escolares y garantizaré que el dinero de los contribuyentes texanos vaya a donde corresponde: a las escuelas de barrio de las que dependen las familias.

ELECCIONES: He presentado y apoyado decenas de proyectos de ley para ampliar el acceso al voto, incluyendo el registro de votantes en línea y un mejor acceso a las boletas para los estudiantes. Lideré la iniciativa de 2021 para proteger el voto dominical y oponerme a las barreras dirigidas a los votantes elegibles. También apoyo que exista una comisión independiente de redistribución de distritos para que los políticos no puedan elegir a sus votantes.

Página web: www.ginafortexas.com



Pat Dixon | LIBERTARIO

COMPETENCIAS: Elegido dos veces para el concejo de la ciudad. Fungí 10 años como presidente del Partido Libertario de Texas. He ocupado cargos ejecutivos en política, organizaciones sin fines de lucro e industria. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dixonpatrick/>

ATENCIÓN MÉDICA: El gobernador tiene influencia sobre la asequibilidad de los servicios de salud, pero muchos de los cambios más importantes requieren la aprobación de la asamblea legislativa, y algunos requieren la cooperación del gobierno federal. Permitir una mayor libertad de elección y competencia reducirá los precios. Si bien se han reducido las restricciones a los nuevos hospitales y centros de salud, defiendiendo el libre mercado. Abramos el mercado a nuevos competidores y proveedores de menor costo.

INMIGRACIÓN: Si eres pacífico y productivo, bienvenido. Trump ha reducido drásticamente los cruces fronterizos, pero el fin no justifica los medios. Alabar a Trump por estos resultados mientras se mata

y se acosa a la gente es como alegrarse si el crimen se eliminara metiendo a todos en prisión. <https://patdixon.org/the-border/>

EDUCACIÓN: Idealmente, me gustaría una beca estatal. Cada niño recibiría la misma cantidad de dinero para que lo acompañara a cualquier escuela. Esto resolvería las disputas tipo Robin Hood (Capítulo 41) y eliminaría los mandatos de exámenes con motivaciones políticas. <https://patdixon.org/parent-teacher-empowerment/>

ELECCIONES: Cuando solo se puede elegir un candidato en la boleta, el incentivo es que los candidatos se ataquen entre sí. No hay incentivo para llegar a un consenso. Estoy a favor del voto aprobatorio, donde se puede votar por cualquier candidato que uno apruebe. <https://patdixon.org/non-partisan-redistricting/>
<https://patdixon.org/approval-voting/>
<https://patdixon.org/election-integrity/>

Página web: patdixon.org

Edward Earl Giles | CANDIDATO POR ESCRITO

Visite VOTE411.ORG para ver las respuestas.

Jenn Mack | CANDIDATO POR ESCRITO

Visite VOTE411.ORG para ver las respuestas.

Jinghpaw Majoishingra | CANDIDATO POR ESCRITO

Visite VOTE411.ORG para ver las respuestas.

Mike Miller | CANDIDATO POR ESCRITO

Visite VOTE411.ORG para ver las respuestas..

VICEGOBERNADOR

Mandato de cuatro años. El vicegobernador goza de poder gracias a su cargo como presidente del Senado de Texas, donde nombra a los presidentes y vicepresidentes de los comités; nombra senadores para los comités; asigna proyectos de ley a los comités; y controla la agenda del Senado. También es miembro de varias comisiones y juntas, y ejerce como gobernador en ausencia del gobernador. Salario anual actual: \$7,200 más \$221 por cada día de sesión de la Legislatura, incluyendo sesiones extraordinarias.

★ PREGUNTAS A LOS CANDIDATOS

COMPETENCIAS: ¿Qué tipo de capacitación, experiencia, y antecedentes hacen que esté calificado para este puesto?

SALUD DE LA MUJER: ¿Qué cambios es necesario hacer en las leyes de Texas sobre el aborto para garantizar que las mujeres tengan acceso a una atención médica adecuada en caso de complicaciones durante el embarazo?

AGUA: ¿Qué medidas legislativas apoyaría usted para hacer frente a la demanda de electricidad y agua por parte de los centros de datos, al tiempo que mantiene la confiabilidad y la asequibilidad para los texanos?

EDUCACIÓN: ¿Qué haría usted para garantizar que las escuelas públicas cuenten con fondos adecuados y estables?

ELECCIONES: ¿Qué ley electoral presentaría usted ante el pleno?

Dan Patrick | REPUBLICANO

SIN RESPUESTA



Vikki Goodwin | DEMÓCRATA

COMPETENCIAS: He servido 8 años en la Legislatura de Texas y he trabajado con el otro partido para aprobar leyes importantes. Soy dueña de una pequeña empresa, madre, esposa, líder comunitaria activa y graduada de la Universidad de Texas y de la escuela LBJ.

SALUD DE LA MUJER: Demasiadas mujeres mueren en Texas debido a complicaciones del embarazo. Texas tiene el mayor número de muertes en EUA por problemas relacionados con el embarazo y el parto. Las mujeres deben poder tomar sus propias decisiones personales y privadas sobre su salud, en consulta con sus médicos, y los médicos deben poder ejercer su profesión en su totalidad sin temor a perder su licencia o ir a prisión.

AGUA: La legislación debería: 1) exigir a los desarrolladores de centros de datos que proporcionen información sobre cuánta agua y energía usarán y de dónde provendrá, 2) garantizar que los costos de la nueva transmisión no se trasladen a los usuarios residenciales, 3) poner fin a todas las exenciones del impuesto sobre las ventas para los centros de datos, 4) permitir a los condados autoridad sobre el uso de la tierra y fortalecerla en las ciudades, 5) garantizar que las necesidades de energía y agua no excedan la capacidad.

EDUCACIÓN: La Constitución de Texas exige la provisión de educación pública gratuita, no privada. Eliminaría el programa de vales escolares para financiar mejor a nuestras escuelas públicas. Debemos ajustarnos a la inflación; aumentar la asignación de fondos educativos básicos a un mínimo de \$7,500 por alumno, con una disposición para mantenerla al día con la inflación mediante ajustes automáticos. Simplificar la fórmula y basarla en la matrícula, no en la asistencia.

ELECCIONES: Yo aportaría: 1) registro de votantes en línea, 2) mejoras al voto por correo: no se requieren números en el reverso del sobre, procesamiento en línea de solicitudes de boletas para votación por correo, 3) aceptación de identificaciones de estudiantes universitarios como formas de identificación, y 4) mejores clases de educación cívica en las escuelas preparatorias (high school). Dados los recientes intentos de disminuir el número de centros de votación en algunos condados, mejores requisitos para los centros de votación.

Página web: Goodwin4Texas.com

Anthony Cristo | LIBERTARIO

SIN RESPUESTA



Kevin McCormick | VERDE

COMPETENCIAS: Tengo una licenciatura en Ciencias Políticas y un título en Derecho. He ejercido el derecho, trabajado en la agricultura, administrado pequeñas empresas y enseñado matemáticas en la escuela preparatoria (high school). Estoy familiarizado con todas las regiones de Texas.

SALUD DE LA MUJER: Tengo una propuesta detallada sobre salud pública. Estoy a favor de la expansión de las clínicas FQHC, el aprovechamiento total de Medicaid y la ampliación del acceso. Buscaría derogar las leyes que desalientan la especialización en la atención de la mujer o que discriminan a los proveedores que ofrecen servicios relacionados con el aborto. Creo que el aborto es principalmente una decisión de la mujer hasta aproximadamente las 24 semanas. Además, debería ser más fácil tener hijos.

AGUA: Me opongo a las exenciones fiscales o incentivos para los centros de datos y creo que deberían pagar por cualquier aumento de capacidad que requieran. El uso del agua debe limitarse estrictamente y la contaminación debe prohibirse. Soy escéptico sobre la viabilidad comercial de los centros de datos. Creo que forman parte de la burbuja de la IA y son un ejemplo de las malas

inversiones de Wall Street y de cómo nuestro sistema monetario no es apropiado para el futuro.

EDUCACIÓN: El estado malgasta mucho dinero en exámenes estandarizados de alto impacto y burocracia excesiva, dinero que debería destinarse a recursos para maestros y padres de familia, así como al bienestar de los alumnos. El programa de vales escolares representa una amenaza para el financiamiento de la educación pública y debería derogarse o, al menos, estar basado en los recursos económicos. Consideraría que el estado adquiera la deuda de bonos de los distritos escolares y cobre solo el capital, condonando el pago de intereses.

ELECCIONES: Tengo una propuesta detallada de reforma del código electoral. Propongo el voto por orden de preferencia, primarias estatales para cuatro partidos e independientes, reducción de las cuotas de inscripción de candidatos, más centros de votación con mejor acceso y una enmienda constitucional con reglas para los distritos electorales que eliminen la manipulación electoral. Se debe restaurar el poder de los votantes en la democracia.

Página web: kmm2026.org

Arturo Espinosa | CANDIDATO POR ESCRITO

Visite VOTE411.ORG para ver las respuestas.

Stephen Samuelson | CANDIDATO POR ESCRITO

Visite VOTE411.ORG para ver las respuestas.

PROCURADOR GENERAL

Mandato de cuatro años. El fiscal general es el principal funcionario encargado de hacer cumplir la ley en el estado; representa al estado y a sus funcionarios en asuntos legales; emite opiniones; supervisa la recaudación de la manutención infantil; administra el fondo de compensación para víctimas de delitos; aplica las leyes de registros y reuniones abiertas; aprueba la emisión de bonos públicos; y aplica las normas de protección al consumidor. Salario anual actual: \$153,750

★ PREGUNTAS A LOS CANDIDATOS

COMPETENCIAS: ¿Qué tipo de capacitación, experiencia, y antecedentes hacen que esté calificado para este puesto?

ELECCIONES: ¿Cómo protegería usted el derecho al voto de los texanos al tiempo que garantiza la seguridad electoral?

INMIGRACIÓN: ¿Cómo abordaría usted las cuestiones relacionadas con la inmigración que afectan a nuestro estado, garantizando al mismo tiempo que todas las personas que se encuentran dentro de nuestras fronteras tengan acceso a las garantías procesales?

ÉTICA: ¿Cómo aumentaría usted la confianza de la ciudadanía en que la oficina actúa de forma justa y ética?

LITIGIOS: ¿Cuál es su postura respecto a las acciones legales contra otros estados que suministran medicamentos para el aborto?

Mayes Middleton | REPUBLICANO SIN RESPUESTA



Nathan Johnson | DEMÓCRATA

COMPETENCIAS: Como senador estatal de Texas, aprobé más de 100 proyectos de ley que afectaron prácticamente a todos los ámbitos políticos; formé coaliciones y lideré con independencia y criterio político; práctica en litigios comerciales.

ELECCIONES: Hacer cumplir las leyes de seguridad electoral vigentes sin sesgos ni motivos políticos. Colaborar estrechamente con los condados para garantizar que se cumplan todas las normas, que los trabajadores electorales no sean acosados y que los votantes no sean intimidados. Impugnar ante los tribunales cualquier extralimitación del gobierno federal (por ejemplo, intentar bloquear de inmediato el voto por correo).

INMIGRACIÓN: La inmigración le concierne al procurador general en relación con la seguridad pública, los derechos constitucionales individuales y la separación de poderes. Cuando sea apropiado, trabajaré con las autoridades federales, pero no desviaré a la

Procuraduría General de sus obligaciones constitucionales y legales. Utilizaré mis facultades de investigación para contrarrestar las amenazas derivadas de la actividad fronteriza y garantizar que los funcionarios federales respeten los derechos constitucionales.

ÉTICA: Perder la confianza pública llevó tiempo; recuperarla también llevará tiempo. Acabaré con la cultura de corrupción y las investigaciones y demandas legales con motivaciones políticas, y orientaré la oficina hacia las funciones para las que fue creada: protección del consumidor, aplicación de leyes justas de mercado, investigación y lucha contra la corrupción, asistencia a las fuerzas del orden, defensa del estado de derecho y preservación de los derechos individuales.

LITIGIOS: Las leyes de Texas no tienen jurisdicción extraterritorial.

Página web: nathanfortexas.com



Tom Oxford | LIBERTARIO

COMPETENCIAS: Con más de 40 años de experiencia en juicios, incluyendo casi 20 años en puestos gerenciales, estoy plenamente calificado tanto para representar al estado como para administrar la oficina.

ELECCIONES: Todo ciudadano tiene derecho a votar. Tomaré todas las medidas necesarias para garantizar ese derecho. Esto incluye usar el poder de la Procuraduría General para bloquear cualquier intento de intimidar a los votantes en los centros de votación. También apoyo facilitar el acceso al voto con más centros de votación y un sistema seguro de votación por correo.

INMIGRACIÓN: El debido proceso se aplica a todos nuestros vecinos, independientemente de su estatus legal. Es un derecho

fundamental reconocido y protegido tanto por la Constitución de los Estados Unidos como por la de Texas. Podemos proteger nuestras fronteras sin renunciar a nuestros principios fundacionales. En la medida de lo posible, utilizaré las facultades de la Procuraduría General para proteger y promover el debido proceso.

ÉTICA: Limitada únicamente por la obligación de confidencialidad entre abogado y cliente, mi oficina será completamente abierta y transparente. Se acabaron los acuerdos secretos y los falsos discursos.

LITIGIOS: Estos esfuerzos terminarán el primer día que asuma el cargo. El estado no debería tener ninguna injerencia en las decisiones sobre nuestra salud personal.

CONTRALOR DE CUENTAS PÚBLICAS

Mandato de cuatro años. El contralor es el director financiero del estado; recauda los impuestos y cuotas estatales; paga las cuentas del estado; presenta estimaciones de ingresos a la legislatura; certifica el presupuesto; informa sobre la situación financiera del estado; y brinda asistencia para el desarrollo económico a los gobiernos locales y a las empresas privadas. Salario anual actual: \$153,750

★ PREGUNTAS A LOS CANDIDATOS

COMPETENCIAS: ¿Qué tipo de capacitación, experiencia, y antecedentes hacen que esté calificado para este puesto?

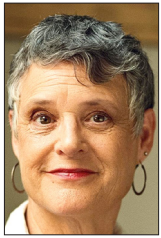
SUPERÁVIT PRESUPUESTARIO: ¿Cómo cree usted que Texas debería usar su superávit presupuestario?

CUENTAS DE AHORRO PARA LA EDUCACIÓN (ESAS): ¿Qué medidas de control apoyará usted para garantizar que las ESA (vales escolares) se financien y administren de forma transparente?

MANEJO DEL PRESUPUESTO: ¿Cómo garantizará usted la transparencia presupuestaria para que los contribuyentes puedan ver fácilmente cómo se asigna y se gasta su dinero?

EFICIENCIA: ¿Qué cambios introduciría usted, si fuera el caso, en la oficina del contralor?

Don Huffines | REPUBLICANO SIN RESPUESTA



Sarah Eckhardt | DEMÓCRATA

COMPETENCIAS: Abogada; maestría en Asuntos Públicos; senadora estatal; jueza del condado de Travis; etc. - dos décadas de experiencia en y gestionando equipos profesionales, presupuestos, tasas impositivas, compras y contratos.

SUPERÁVIT PRESUPUESTARIO: El estado ha disfrutado de dos bienios con superávits presupuestarios históricos. Se proyecta que el Fondo para emergencias alcance los \$28 mil millones. Utilizaría el fondo de inmediato para ayudar a los texanos de bajos ingresos con los costos del seguro médico en el primer año después de la pérdida de los créditos fiscales de la ACA. También asesoraría a la asamblea legislativa sobre la evitación de costos y los beneficios económicos de las inversiones únicas del Fondo en infraestructura hídrica, extremo en todo el estado [sic]

CUENTAS DE AHORRO PARA LA EDUCACIÓN (ESAS): Auditaré con honestidad el programa de vales, mostrando quiénes se benefician más, menos o nada. También demostraré cómo el subsidio público para las escuelas privadas exclusivas está consumiendo a las escuelas públicas, las cuales deben aceptar a cualquier niño de Texas y están cerrando a un ritmo alarmante debido a la falta de fondos y la excesiva regulación. Asimismo, revisaré rigurosamente el contrato de \$50 millones con Odyssey para administrar el programa.

MANEJO DEL PRESUPUESTO: Para generar confianza pública, impulsaré la modernización de la oficina del contralor para mejorar la transparencia y aumentar la accesibilidad. Debería haber un tablero en línea que ofrezca un resumen fácil de entender de los ingresos y gastos, respaldada por explicaciones claras, tanto textuales como gráficas, que hagan fácil que el texano promedio entienda cómo se invierten y se comportan los fondos públicos.

EFICIENCIA: Reconstruiré de inmediato la experiencia apartidista en impuestos y auditoría que se ha ido o que ha sido despedida desde el nombramiento de mi oponente. Me apegaré a la ley y seguiré el rastro del dinero, reorientando la oficina hacia una recaudación de impuestos justa y eficiente, la estimación de ingresos y los pronósticos económicos, y alejándola de la supervisión punitiva y redundante de las escuelas públicas y las investigaciones con motivaciones políticas.

Página web: saraheckhardt.com

V. Alonzo Echavarria-Garza | LIBERTARIO SIN RESPUESTA



Shehla Faizi | VERDE

COMPETENCIAS: Soy una madre de Texas harta de que los grandes donantes políticos compren influencias en nuestras escuelas y gobierno. Mi activismo se centra en la justicia social y económica a través de mi podcast, "I'm a Muslim (And That's Okay!)" ("Soy musulmana (¡y eso está bien!)").

SUPERÁVIT PRESUPUESTARIO: Invirtamos en Texas, no en países extranjeros. Debemos desinvertir los \$280 millones de dólares que Texas tiene en bonos israelíes; ¡no más dinero de los contribuyentes de Texas para NINGÚN bono extranjero! Apoyo el uso del superávit presupuestario para programas que beneficien a los texanos, como escuelas públicas, atención médica y vivienda asequible. No acepto dinero de PACs, así que trabajo para los texanos, no para los donantes. ¡No más exenciones fiscales ni dádivas a los grandes donantes!

CUENTAS DE AHORRO PARA LA EDUCACIÓN (ESAS): El programa de vales escolares desvía fondos de nuestras escuelas públicas y otorga subsidios a escuelas privadas y proveedores de servicios educativos. Como contralora, utilizaría todos los medios legales y la presión pública para poner fin a este programa y centrarme en un financiamiento equitativo para nuestras escuelas públicas. Todos los niños de Texas deberían tener acceso equitativo a una excelente educación pública gratuita.

MANEJO DEL PRESUPUESTO: El sitio web de la Contraloría debería ser mucho más fácil de usar y accesible. Debería tener infografías y gráficos claros. Debería haber una versión en inglés y en español. Así como el Departamento de Transporte de Texas (TxDOT) tiene anuncios panorámicos sobre seguridad al conducir, la Contraloría debería patrocinar anuncios panorámicos sobre el presupuesto estatal. La mayoría de los texanos se sorprendería al ver las prioridades presupuestarias de nuestro estado.

EFICIENCIA: La oficina del contralor debe ser administrada con honestidad, transparencia y dedicación al bienestar de los texanos. Las auditorías deben llevarse a cabo sin sesgos. Despolitizamos los impuestos, el gasto y las inversiones de Texas. La oficina del Contralor debe abstenerse de hacer cumplir leyes inconstitucionales, como la Ley contra el Boicot a Israel y la Ley contra el Boicot a los Combustibles Fósiles.

Página web: faizifortexas.com

COMISIONADO DE LA OFICINA GENERAL DE TIERRAS

Mandato de cuatro años. Como jefe de la Oficina General de Tierras, el comisionado administra los terrenos del estado, incluyendo propiedades petroleras y gasíferas (que aportan fondos al Fondo Escolar Permanente) y El Álamo. El comisionado preside la Junta de Tierras para Veteranos, que administra programas para veteranos de Texas, y es responsable de la protección ambiental de la costa texana. Otras juntas estatales que preside incluyen la Junta de Terrenos Escolares y el Comité Asesor de Coordinación Costera. Salario anual actual: \$140,938

★ PREGUNTAS A LOS CANDIDATOS

COMPETENCIAS: ¿Qué tipo de capacitación, experiencia, y antecedentes hacen que esté calificado para este puesto?

RECUPERACIÓN ANTE DESASTRES: ¿Qué medidas debería adoptar el Estado para responder de forma rápida y eficaz a los desastres?

VETERANOS: ¿Qué nuevas iniciativas o programas apoyaría usted para ayudar a los veteranos?

MANEJO DE LAS ZONAS INUNDABLES: ¿Qué estrategias apoyaría usted para reducir el riesgo de inundaciones y fortalecer la resiliencia de la comunidad y recuperación ante desastres en el largo plazo?

FINANCIAMIENTO PARA LA EDUCACIÓN: ¿Qué papel debería desempeñar la Oficina General de Tierras para garantizar que los terrenos estatales generen beneficios económicos de largo plazo para las escuelas públicas de Texas?



Dawn Buckingham | REPUBLICANO

COMPETENCIAS: Como esposa, madre, cirujana, propietaria de una pequeña empresa, ex senadora estatal y la primera mujer Comisionada de Tierras de Texas, apporto experiencia del mundo real y un historial comprobado de brindar resultados para los texanos.

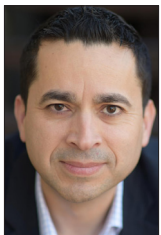
RECUPERACIÓN ANTE DESASTRES: Texas debe prepararse antes de que ocurra un desastre y actuar con decisión después. Seguiré invirtiendo en mitigación, infraestructura resiliente y planificación ante inundaciones; fortaleceré la coordinación estatal, local y federal; y simplificaré los trámites burocráticos para que la ayuda llegue más rápido a las familias. La recuperación debe ayudar a los texanos a regresar a casa, reabrir negocios y reconstruir con más fuerza. La planificación salva vidas, propiedades y dinero de los contribuyentes.

VETERANOS: Texas es el hogar de millones de veteranos, y debemos ayudarlos a prosperar después de prestar su servicio. Como presidenta de la Junta de Tierras para Veteranos, otorgué casi 2 mil millones de dólares en préstamos a más de 7,200 veteranos y sus familias, aumenté el límite de los préstamos para vivienda, amplié los préstamos para terrenos y administré 10 residencias para veteranos y 5 cementerios para veteranos. Continuaré ampliando el acceso a la propiedad de vivienda, el empleo, los servicios de salud y la atención de largo plazo.

MANEJO DE LAS ZONAS INUNDABLES: La Oficina General de Tierras (GLO) ha destinado miles de millones a la mitigación de inundaciones durante mi mandato. Continuaré invirtiendo en proyectos de drenaje y mitigación, mejoraré la planificación de zonas inundables, fortaleceré la infraestructura crítica y ayudaré a las comunidades a prepararse antes de la llegada de las tormentas. La GLO destinará recursos a proyectos que protejan hogares, negocios, carreteras y escuelas. Las inversiones de hoy protegerán mejor a los texanos mañana.

FINANCIAMIENTO PARA LA EDUCACIÓN: La Oficina General de Tierras (GLO) debe maximizar el valor a largo plazo de las tierras estatales para los niños en edad escolar de Texas. He generado más de \$6 mil millones para la educación pública sin aumentar los impuestos. Desarrollaremos de manera responsable el petróleo, el gas, los minerales de tierras raras, la energía geotérmica y nuclear, y otros recursos emergentes, protegiendo al mismo tiempo los empleos del sector energético de Texas y buscando oportunidades que fortalezcan nuestra economía para beneficio de todos los texanos.

Página web: dawnbuckingham.com



Benjamin Flores | DEMÓCRATA

COMPETENCIAS: He dedicado casi treinta años a la ciberseguridad y la gestión de riesgos, y fui miembro del Concejo de la ciudad de Bay City. Crío cerdos de razas autóctonas en el condado de Matagorda, así que conozco la tierra y el ganado.

RECUPERACIÓN ANTE DESASTRES: Los texanos no deberían esperar a que ocurra un desastre para organizarse. Me aseguraré de que los proveedores de servicios de recuperación estén debidamente evaluados y contratados antes de la temporada de huracanes, no después. Crearé equipos de recuperación dentro de los consejos regionales de los gobiernos para que los funcionarios locales no tengan que empezar de cero. Y publicaré a dónde va cada dólar y cuánto tiempo debería tomar cada paso.

VETERANOS: La mayoría de los veteranos que conozco nunca han oído hablar de la Junta de Tierras para Veteranos. Así que la llevaré a donde ellos están. Pondré equipos de divulgación de la Junta en los condados rurales y del sur de Texas, trabajando junto con los funcionarios de servicios del condado, en lugar de esperar a que las solicitudes lleguen a Austin. Estableceré una fecha límite pública

para cada decisión sobre los préstamos. Y seguiré presionando para que se construya un hospital de veteranos completo en el Valle.

MANEJO DE LAS ZONAS INUNDABLES: Vivo en el condado de Matagorda. Aquí, los precios de los seguros nos hacen salir mucho antes de que llegue la próxima tormenta. Cualquier casa reconstruida con fondos de GLO cumplirá con los mapas de inundaciones actuales y utilizará techos y elevación más resistentes, porque eso es lo que reduce las primas. Protegeré las dunas, los humedales y los sistemas de drenaje que reciben el primer impacto por nosotros.

FINANCIAMIENTO PARA LA EDUCACIÓN: Esta es la razón de ser de esta oficina. El Fondo Escolar Permanente tiene un valor de más de \$60 mil millones y debería generar ingresos a partir de energía solar, eólica y geotérmica, no solo de petróleo y gas. Arrendaré de forma responsable terrenos estatales por cada dólar que puedan generar honestamente, publicaré los ingresos por acre y destinaré más fondos a las aulas. Ese dinero pertenece a los estudiantes, no a la política.

Página web: letsgowithben.com



Neill Snider | LIBERTARIO

COMPETENCIAS: He sido contratista mecánico durante 33 años. Aportaría conocimientos de mi industria para ayudar a la Oficina General de Tierras en todos los aspectos de la construcción,

RECUPERACIÓN ANTE DESASTRES: Trabajar con proveedores locales y nacionales de alimentos y materiales de construcción para hacer llegar todo a todas las personas en las áreas afectadas por la tormenta. Hacer llegar el dinero directamente a las personas necesitadas.

VETERANOS: No crearía ningún programa nuevo. Me aseguraría de que los veteranos de Texas estén bien atendidos. Si aún no existe, posiblemente les emitiría una tarjeta de débito para que puedan recibir tratamiento en cualquier centro médico de Texas.

MANEJO DE LAS ZONAS INUNDABLES: Trabajar con la naturaleza y no contra ella. Hacer cambios en las áreas que puedan sufrir daños frecuentes por tormentas y huracanes. La naturaleza siempre prevalece, independientemente de lo que intentemos hacer.

FINANCIAMIENTO PARA LA EDUCACIÓN: Los ingresos de la Oficina General de Tierras se destinan al Fondo Escolar Permanente. Abramos el Fondo Escolar Permanente a todos los niños de Texas, no solo a los de escuelas públicas. Incluyamos a los niños de escuelas privadas y a los que reciben educación en el hogar. Apoyemos a todos los niños de Texas.

Página web: voteneillsnider.com

COMISIONADO DE AGRICULTURA

Mandato de cuatro años. La función principal del comisionado de agricultura es promover los productos agrícolas de Texas. En su calidad de comisionado, facilita el comercio y la comercialización de productos agrícolas; regula pesos y medidas; regula el uso y la aplicación de pesticidas; certifica los bienes producidos de forma orgánica; administra los programas nacionales de almuerzos y desayunos escolares; brinda ayuda financiera a los agricultores; y ayuda a resolver problemas relacionados con desastres naturales. Salario anual actual: \$140,938

★ PREGUNTAS A LOS CANDIDATOS

COMPETENCIAS: ¿Qué tipo de capacitación, experiencia, y antecedentes hacen que esté calificado para este puesto?

AYUDA ALIMENTARIA PARA NIÑOS Y ESCUELAS: ¿Cómo garantizaría usted que se satisfagan las necesidades nutricionales de los niños de Texas durante todo el año?

SALUD: ¿De qué manera puede la comisión de Texas contribuir a mejorar la nutrición y los resultados en materia de salud pública?

PROTECCIÓN DE REBAÑOS Y CULTIVOS: ¿Qué haría usted para proteger los ranchos y las granjas agrícolas de Texas de las plagas invasoras (como el gusano barrenador del Nuevo Mundo) y las enfermedades?

AGUA: ¿Qué políticas apoyaría usted para equilibrar el uso del agua entre las necesidades de los agricultores y el desarrollo de centros de datos?



Nate Sheets | REPUBLICANO

COMPETENCIAS: Soy veterano de la Marina y emprendedor agrícola que construyó la marca de miel de abeja número 1 de Estados Unidos a partir de una colmena en el patio trasero. Sé cómo crear empleos, hacer crecer negocios y ayudar a los productores de Texas a vender más a más clientes.

AYUDA ALIMENTARIA PARA NIÑOS Y ESCUELAS: Texas ocupa el puesto 44 en almuerzos escolares bajo el liderazgo actual. Los texanos deben alimentar a los texanos durante todo el año. Daré prioridad a la carne, los productos agrícolas y los alimentos no procesados cultivados en Texas por encima de las opciones ultraprocesadas, brindando a nuestros hijos una mejor nutrición y generando ingresos estables para los agricultores y ganaderos de Texas. Una mejor alimentación significa niños más sanos y un Texas más fuerte. La comida debe hacer que nuestros hijos estén más sanos, no más enfermos.

SALUD: Lo que comemos influye en nuestra salud, y la agricultura es la punta de lanza. Desde el primer día, mi lema de campaña ha sido "Cultivemos mejor los alimentos, cultivemos mejores alimentos". Los alimentos ultraprocesados ahora representan el 57% de las calorías del estadounidense promedio; esto debe cambiar. Defenderé alimentos más limpios y nutritivos, mayor transparencia y una agricultura texana que contribuya a la salud de los texanos.

PROTECCIÓN DE REBAÑOS Y CULTIVOS: La bioseguridad es seguridad nacional. Texas debe detectar las amenazas a tiempo, responder con rapidez y colaborar estrechamente con expertos federales y estatales en salubridad animal. En cuanto al gusano barrenador, necesitamos soluciones comprobadas, no estrategias publicitarias. Fortaleceré la vigilancia, coordinaré con el USDA y me aseguraré de que los ganaderos y agricultores cuenten con la información y los recursos necesarios para proteger sus explotaciones agrícolas.

AGUA: Me preocupan mucho los centros de datos. El crecimiento debe beneficiar a los texanos, no perjudicarlos. No se puede esperar que los agricultores y ganaderos sacrifiquen el agua que produce nuestros alimentos para favorecer el desarrollo privado. Los centros de datos deben contar con planes responsables para el uso de agua y electricidad, invertir en la infraestructura necesaria, proteger a las comunidades locales y, por supuesto, no deberían recibir subsidios fiscales.

Página web: NateSheets.com



Clayton Tucker | DEMÓCRATA

COMPETENCIAS: Creí trabajando en el rancho de mi familia, investigué políticas hídricas y agrícolas, y funjo como secretario del Sindicato de Agricultores de Texas. Conozco la agricultura desde el pastoreo hasta las políticas públicas.

AYUDA ALIMENTARIA PARA NIÑOS Y ESCUELAS: Lucharé para que haya comidas escolares gratuitas para todos los niños y defenderé la asistencia alimentaria durante el verano. Trabajaré para reemplazar los alimentos escolares ultraprocesados con comidas saludables provenientes de agricultores de Texas y expandiré los huertos comunitarios escolares. También permitiré que organizaciones sin fines de lucro calificadas utilicen las cocinas escolares para preparar comidas para los niños durante las vacaciones de la escuela.

SALUD: Utilizaré el Departamento de Agricultura de Texas para mejorar la alimentación de los texanos, fortaleciendo la seguridad alimentaria, eliminando los químicos dañinos y los alimentos altamente procesados de las comidas escolares y reconstruyendo los sistemas alimentarios locales. También utilizaré la Oficina Estatal de Salud Rural para ampliar el acceso a servicios de salud asequibles en las comunidades rurales.

PROTECCIÓN DE REBAÑOS Y CULTIVOS: Utilizaré todas las herramientas disponibles y comprobadas para proteger la agricultura de Texas de plagas y enfermedades invasoras. Para el gusano barrenador, apoyo la combinación de moscas estériles con SWASS en lugar de depender de un solo método. También impulsaré el mantenimiento de una capacidad de respuesta permanente para que Texas pueda actuar con rapidez cuando surja la próxima amenaza biológica.

AGUA: Priorizaré la agricultura de Texas y nuestro suministro de agua por encima del desarrollo irresponsable de centros de datos. Los centros de datos no deberían competir con los agricultores, ganaderos o familias por el agua potable. Apoyo la exigencia de planes de agua sostenibles, la protección de las tierras agrícolas y los acuíferos, y el uso de agua salobre u otras aguas no potables para proyectos responsables.

Campaign Website: claytontuckertx.com

Austin R. Kelly | LIBERTARIO
SIN RESPUESTA

COMISIONADO DE FERROCARRILES

Mandato de seis años. El Comisionado de Ferrocarriles es uno de los tres miembros de la Comisión de Ferrocarriles de Texas. La comisión regula la industria del petróleo y el gas, los servicios públicos de gas, la seguridad de los oleoductos, la seguridad en la industria del gas licuado de petróleo y la minería superficial de carbón y uranio. No tiene autoridad reguladora en materia de ferrocarriles. Salario anual actual: \$140,937

★ PREGUNTAS A LOS CANDIDATOS

COMPETENCIAS: ¿Qué tipo de capacitación, experiencia, y antecedentes hacen que esté calificado para este puesto?

SEGURIDAD PÚBLICA Y AMBIENTAL: ¿Qué haría usted con los pozos de petróleo, gas e inyección abandonados y sin taponar que hay por todo el estado?

CENTROS DE DATOS: ¿Cómo debería preparar Texas su infraestructura energética para enfrentar el aumento de la demanda por parte de los centros de datos y el crecimiento poblacional?

SUPERVISIÓN Y CUMPLIMIENTO: ¿Cómo garantizaría usted que la Comisión pueda llevar a cabo una adecuada supervisión y cumplimiento de la normativa en los sectores del petróleo, gas y minería?

NUEVAS ENERGÍAS: ¿Qué tecnologías energéticas deberían fomentarse para garantizar una forma confiable de satisfacer la demanda energética?



Bo French | REPUBLICANO

COMPETENCIAS: He estado personalmente en la industria durante décadas. También tengo amplia experiencia empresarial y soy ganadero y propietario de derechos minerales. Entiendo cada perspectiva involucrada en los asuntos de la Comisión.

SEGURIDAD PÚBLICA Y AMBIENTAL: Existen mecanismos legales que obligan a los operadores a encargarse del taponamiento de los pozos. A pesar de ello, la Comisión termina teniendo que taponar muchos de ellos. Creo que existen varias ineficiencias en la Comisión que, de corregirse, le permitirían taponar muchos más pozos con los fondos asignados para este fin, lo que reduciría drásticamente el número de pozos abandonados. Esto es solo el comienzo.

CENTROS DE DATOS: Estoy interesado en encontrar cualquier solución que podamos hallar para abordar este problema de manera seria y adecuada. Escucharé cualquier solución efectiva y trabajaré para que se concrete. En lo que respecta a la generación de energía, particularmente en lugares como la cuenca Pérmica, creo que aumentar la generación de electricidad a partir de gas natural es una solución que ayudará a abordar este problema.

SUPERVISIÓN Y CUMPLIMIENTO: La tecnología ha permitido a las empresas hacer cosas que no podíamos haber imaginado hace unas décadas. No es un secreto que la Comisión está muy rezagada en la adopción de tecnología. Mi intención es modernizar la Comisión, lo que le permitirá no solo supervisar y hacer cumplir las regulaciones mucho mejor que antes, sino también ser mucho más transparente y receptiva a los ciudadanos.

NUEVAS ENERGÍAS: La demanda de energía se está disparando. La Comisión debería colaborar con la industria, que invierte enormes recursos en el desarrollo de nuevas tecnologías para resolver problemas como este. Debemos garantizar que puedan desarrollar e implementar eficazmente las innovaciones que permitan a Texas satisfacer nuestra creciente demanda. Eso es lo que haré si resulto elegido.

Página web: bofrench.com



Jon Rosenthal | DEMÓCRATA

COMPETENCIAS: Trabajé 25 años en la industria del petróleo y gas como gerente de proyectos e ingeniero, liderando proyectos de miles de millones de dólares en todo el mundo. Además, estuve en la Cámara de Representantes de Texas durante cuatro mandatos, incluyendo mi participación en el Comité de Recursos Energéticos.

SEGURIDAD PÚBLICA Y AMBIENTAL: Presionar para que aumente el financiamiento de la RRC para redoblar esfuerzos para el taponado de pozos. Incentivar a los operadores responsables con menores costos y permisos simplificados; los infractores reincidentes serán multados y enfrentarán requisitos de permisos más estrictos. Esto acelerará el taponado de pozos y desalentará a los operadores irresponsables. Actualizar las mejores prácticas de taponado, los requisitos de monitoreo y evaluación para que la RRC pueda mantenerse al día con el creciente problema.

CENTROS DE DATOS: Necesitamos salvaguardas estatales para sistemas que protejan a las comunidades y, al mismo tiempo, permitan el crecimiento. Exigir planes de gestión de recursos hídricos y energéticos antes de la construcción, prohibir instalaciones cerca de viviendas y coordinar planes con los gobiernos locales. Preservar la participación local al tiempo que evitamos una mezcla de regulaciones, garantizamos la protección de las comunidades y la industria ofrece justificación e incentivos suficientes.

SUPERVISIÓN Y CUMPLIMIENTO: Abogaré por que la RRC obtenga los recursos necesarios para hacer cumplir nuestras leyes vigentes. Los buenos operadores deberían ser procesados con rapidez, los malos operadores deberían ser desincentivados y la RRC debería ayudar a los actores a cumplir con la ley. También presionaré para que se impongan multas y fianzas más elevadas a los malos operadores, auditorías de terceros, informes de cumplimiento a nivel de sitio, tableros de información públicos y seguimiento de quejas en tiempo real.

NUEVAS ENERGÍAS: Apoyo un enfoque integral para nuestra estrategia energética. El gas natural, junto con la energía eólica, solar y nuclear, está cumpliendo bien su función de mantener el suministro eléctrico. Deberíamos incentivar a las nuevas empresas de generación de energía de todo tipo, sin distinción, para promover una cartera energética saludable para Texas.

Página web: jonrosenthaltx.com



Arthur DiBianca | LIBERTARIO

COMPETENCIAS: No tengo vínculos personales con la industria del petróleo y gas. No tengo conflictos de interés y no existe riesgo de "captura del regulador".

SEGURIDAD PÚBLICA Y AMBIENTAL: En adelante, todas las empresas propietarias de pozos deben estar aseguradas y/o tener una fianza contra el abandono de pozos, como condición para su cobertura de responsabilidad. Sin embargo, lidiar con los daños causados por pozos abandonados hace décadas es un problema complejo. La remediación y el taponado no deben ser financiados únicamente por los contribuyentes. Las empresas de petróleo y gas también deben contribuir a un fondo para remediación y tamponado.

CENTROS DE DATOS: Texas debería permitir que todas las formas de producción de energía compitan en un mercado libre. El estado no debería favorecer a unos sobre otros. Sin embargo, los propietarios deberían tener acceso a una compensación cuando la producción de petróleo y gas cause daños a sus propiedades. Dicha compensación podría proporcionarse

mediante seguros, fianzas o fondos para la limpieza. Asimismo, la regulación de los oleoductos debería transferirse al Departamento de Transporte de Texas (TxDOT).

SUPERVISIÓN Y CUMPLIMIENTO: La asamblea legislativa debe garantizar que la RRC cuente con las herramientas que necesita. Las regulaciones deben asegurar que los productores de energía respeten plenamente los derechos de propiedad de los terratenientes y deben brindar una pronta restitución cuando las actividades de los productores de energía causen daños a la propiedad. Las regulaciones deben regirse por el principio de que los derechos son más importantes que los intereses.

NUEVAS ENERGÍAS: Como se indicó anteriormente, Texas y la RRC no deberían intentar promover tecnologías específicas. Se debe permitir que los productores e innovadores de energía compitan en un mercado libre. "Mercado libre" significa que no haya favoritismos, ni nepotismo, ni se elija a ganadores y perdedores.

Página web: votedibianca.com

PRESIDENTE DE LA CORTE SUPREMA DE TEXAS

PUESTO 1

Mandato de seis años. Esta corte está compuesta por un presidente y ocho jueces, cada uno de los cuales es elegido por los votantes de todo el estado. Entre las responsabilidades del presidente se incluyen ver apelaciones, asignar dictámenes, votar y deliberar. Además, el presidente desempeña una función administrativa al nombrar a los jueces para formar parte de las comisiones, presidir las reuniones para evaluar los expedientes judiciales, gestionar las asignaciones de los magistrados y supervisar la implantación de la tecnología judicial en todo el estado. Salario anual actual: \$266,700

★ PREGUNTAS A LOS CANDIDATOS

COMPETENCIAS: ¿Qué tipo de capacitación, experiencia, y antecedentes hacen que esté calificado para este puesto?

ÉTICA: ¿Cómo garantizará usted que sus veredictos sigan siendo imparciales y que no se vean afectados ni por presiones políticas ni por los intereses de los donantes de su campaña?

EQUIDAD: ¿Qué papel debería desempeñar la Corte Suprema en la ampliación del acceso a la justicia para las personas o grupos que pudieran estar desatendidos?

PROBLEMAS: ¿Cuál considera usted que es el reto más urgente al que se enfrentan hoy día los tribunales y cómo propondría abordarlo?

PRECEDENTE: ¿Qué factores debe tener en cuenta la Suprema Corte de Texas a la hora de decidir si revocar o no un veredicto judicial anterior?

PRESIDENTE DE LA CORTE SUPREMA DE TEXAS, PUESTO 1



Jimmy Blacklock | REPUBLICANO

COMPETENCIAS: He sido juez de la Corte Suprema desde 2018 y presidente de la Corte Suprema desde 2025. Mi experiencia, criterio, ética laboral y compromiso con el estado de derecho me califican para seguir desempeñando mis funciones.

ÉTICA: Mi juramento me exige apoyar y defender las Constituciones de Estados Unidos y de Texas, y acatar la ley dondequiera que nos lleve. El texto de la ley y el significado original de la Constitución son mi guía. Si acatar la ley me cuesta una elección o enfada a un simpatizante, que así sea. Prefiero perder mi trabajo antes que violar mi juramento. Los tribunales imparciales son esenciales para la libertad y la justicia.

EQUIDAD: La Corte Suprema de Texas (SCOTEX) marca el camino en la promoción del acceso a la justicia para todos los texanos. Hemos desarrollado formularios que permiten a los texanos crear documentos básicos como testamentos sin costosos honorarios legales. Hemos promovido el financiamiento de programas de asistencia legal. Y trabajamos constantemente para que la ley de Texas sea más clara y sencilla, de modo que los texanos conozcan sus derechos. Aún queda mucho por hacer, pero me enorgullece el trabajo constante de la Corte.

PROBLEMAS: Los litigios deben resolverse según quién tenga razón conforme a la ley, no según quién pueda soportar mejor los gastos y la carga del litigio. Con demasiada frecuencia, los costos impiden que los demandantes perjudicados acudan a los tribunales o fuerzan a los demandados inocentes a llegar a un acuerdo. Debemos hacer que las normas procesales sean más eficientes, mientras que los jueces aplican la ley de manera coherente y predecible. La Corte Suprema trabaja para promover la claridad, la coherencia y el cumplimiento de la ley.

PRECEDENTE: El precedente promueve la estabilidad y la previsibilidad, por lo que las decisiones anteriores no deben modificarse a la ligera. Sin embargo, mi juramento es defender la Constitución, no las decisiones de la Corte Suprema. Los tribunales de todo Texas deben acatar nuestras decisiones, así que si un precedente de la Corte Suprema es claramente erróneo, podríamos ser los únicos que podamos corregirlo. Debemos estar dispuestos a hacerlo, guiados, como siempre, por la prudencia y la humildad.

Página web: JimmyBlacklock.com



Maggie Ellis | DEMÓCRATA

COMPETENCIAS: He gestionado miles de asuntos en los tribunales como jueza de la Corte de Apelaciones, fiscal y abogada que representa a particulares en todo Texas. También he dirigido y asesorado a grandes organizaciones.

ÉTICA: La experiencia y un historial comprobado de defensa justa desde todas las perspectivas son buenos indicadores de la probabilidad de que un candidato sea justo e imparcial. He manejado miles de casos desde todas las perspectivas, incluyendo: dictar sentencias justas como jueza; defender a personas en riesgo de perder su libertad, sus hijos y sus hogares; y abogar por la justicia como fiscal.

EQUIDAD: La Corte debe ser un ejemplo a seguir. Como persona que creció siempre moviéndome de un lugar a otro y en situación de calle, y con el 15% de los texanos viviendo por debajo del umbral de pobreza, comprendo la necesidad. He recibido reconocimientos por mi labor para facilitar el acceso al sistema judicial para las personas más vulnerables mediante la redacción de leyes y la creación de clínicas pro bono. Pondré esta experiencia al servicio de la ampliación de las comisiones que abordan el acceso a los tribunales.

PROBLEMAS: Estamos presenciando una erosión de nuestra separación de poderes y de nuestros derechos civiles. Estas elecciones llegan en un momento crítico, cuando nuestro poder judicial está siendo atacado y sometido a presión política. Como la primera mujer abiertamente gay en servir como jueza de apelaciones en Texas, restableceré el equilibrio en nuestros tribunales; no cederé ante la presión política; y protegeré las leyes que protegen a todas las personas.

PRECEDENTE: Para que el público y los profesionales confíen en nuestro sistema judicial, es imperativo que las resoluciones sean coherentes y se ajusten a la ley. Sin embargo, cuando una norma o ley ha demostrado ser impracticable, la Corte debe ejercer su discreción y tener sumo cuidado en armonizar dichas resoluciones, de modo que reflejen el desarrollo adecuado de las leyes.

Página web: maggieforjustice.com

JUEZ DE LA CORTE SUPREMA DE TEXAS

PUESTO 2 • PUESTO 7 • PUESTO 8

Mandato de seis años. La Corte Suprema de Texas es el tribunal de último recurso para asuntos civiles en Texas. Este Tribunal incluye un Presidente del Tribunal Supremo y ocho Jueces, cada uno de los cuales es elegido por los votantes de todo el estado. Este tribunal emite decisiones finales sobre apelaciones civiles y juveniles; emite ciertas órdenes a los funcionarios gubernamentales para que tomen medidas y los a individuos para que comparezcan ante el tribunal y tiene jurisdicción sobre órdenes o sentencias de los tribunales de primera instancia si la Corte Suprema determina que son importantes para el sistema legal de Texas. Rango salarial anual actual: \$ 210,000 a \$264,600

★ PREGUNTAS A LOS CANDIDATOS

COMPETENCIAS: ¿Qué tipo de capacitación, experiencia, y antecedentes hacen que esté calificado para este puesto?

ÉTICA: ¿Cómo garantizará usted que sus veredictos sigan siendo imparciales y que no se vean afectados ni por presiones políticas ni por los intereses de los donantes de su campaña?

EQUIDAD: ¿Qué obstáculos impiden a los texanos tener acceso al sistema judicial y qué pueden hacer los tribunales para reducir esos obstáculos?

PROBLEMAS: ¿Cuál considera usted que es el reto más urgente al que se enfrentan hoy día los tribunales y cómo propondría abordarlo?

FILOSOFÍA: ¿Cuáles son las cualidades más importantes que un juez debe tener para garantizar una administración imparcial de la justicia?

JUEZ DE LA CORTE SUPREMA DE TEXAS, PUESTO 2



James P. Sullivan | REPUBLICANO

COMPETENCIAS: He sido juez de la Corte Suprema de Texas desde enero de 2025. Anteriormente trabajé como abogado general adjunto y como asesor jurídico general del gobernador, y estudié en la Escuela de Derecho de Harvard.

ÉTICA: Me tomo muy en serio mi juramento judicial y siempre me mantendré firme en mi compromiso de decir lo que dice la ley, no lo que me gustaría que dijera. Todo litigante que comparece ante nuestro Tribunal tiene derecho a una consideración justa e imparcial de sus argumentos, sin importar quién los presente.

EQUIDAD: La Corte Suprema de Texas ha sido pionera en reducir la brecha de acceso a la justicia, como lo demuestran las iniciativas de recaudación de fondos y voluntariado de nuestra Comisión de Acceso a la Justicia. Además, al hacer más eficientes los procedimientos judiciales mediante nuestra función de elaboración de normas, la Corte puede reducir los costos de acceso al sistema judicial.

PROBLEMAS: Los jueces de todos los niveles se enfrentan a amenazas a la seguridad que corroen el estado de derecho. Para abordar ese riesgo, se debe brindar financiamiento adecuado a los agentes del orden del Departamento de Seguridad Pública (DPS) que nos mantienen a salvo.

FILOSOFÍA: Un buen juez debe tener el valor de tomar una decisión impopular cuando eso es lo que exige la ley; la humildad de comprender que el poder judicial desempeña un papel importante pero limitado en nuestro sistema de gobierno; y la ética de trabajo para garantizar que se preste una consideración cuidadosa a cada parte en cada caso.

JUEZ DE LA CORTE SUPREMA DE TEXAS, PUESTO 2 (CONTINUADO)



Chari Kelly | DEMÓCRATA

COMPETENCIAS: Jueza de la Tercera Corte de Apelaciones desde 2019; autora de más de 800 opiniones. Una de los 19 jueces de Texas certificados en Administración Judicial. Ex capitana del Cuerpo de Abogados Militares del Ejército de EUA, procuradora general adjunta de Texas, procuradora de distrito adjunta.

ÉTICA: La independencia es parte de mi trayectoria. En la Tercera Corte, dictaminé que el procurador general de Texas no estaba por encima de la ley en un caso de denuncia de irregularidades, y que el gobernador no posee autoridad absoluta bajo la Ley de Desastres de Texas. En la Corte Suprema, decidiría los casos de la misma manera: basándome en la ley, el expediente y los argumentos presentados, no en la política, los donantes, las presiones ni las preferencias personales.

EQUIDAD: Los texanos enfrentan barreras como el costo, el transporte, el idioma, la discapacidad, la falta de asesoría legal y la complejidad jurídica. Como jueza de apelaciones, profesora adjunta de la Escuela de Derecho de la Universidad de Texas, expresidenta del Colegio de Abogados de Austin y autora de publicaciones sobre la necesidad de servicios legales pro bono, sé que los tribunales deben ser accesibles para todas las personas.

Los tribunales pueden ampliar los recursos en lenguaje sencillo, el acceso remoto, los intérpretes y las alianzas de asistencia legal.

PROBLEMAS: La ciudadanía no confía en que los tribunales son independientes y rinden cuentas. Mi trayectoria incluye fallos sobre el poder estatal y la responsabilidad pública. Como procuradora general adjunta de Texas, ayudé a obtener un acuerdo de conciliación por fraude de Medicaid de 19.9 millones de dólares para los contribuyentes. Como jueza de la Corte Suprema, seguiría redactando opiniones claras y oportunas, actuando con transparencia y velando por el cumplimiento del estado de derecho.

FILOSOFÍA: Los jueces necesitan integridad, independencia, valentía, paciencia, humildad, dominio de la ley y ausencia de prejuicios. Mi trayectoria de servicio público como paracaidista del Ejército, fiscal, jueza de apelaciones, presidenta del Colegio de Abogados de Austin y mentora de abogados jóvenes me ha enseñado que juzgar con imparcialidad requiere disciplina, escucha atenta, respeto por las personas y decisiones basadas en la ley y las pruebas.

JUEZ DE LA CORTE SUPREMA DE TEXAS, PUESTO 7

Kyle Hawkins | REPUBLICANO

SIN RESPUESTA



Kristen Hawkins | DEMÓCRATA

COMPETENCIAS: Estoy certificada en administración judicial por el colegio de abogados, derecho procesal civil y derecho de lesiones personales. En 2021, fui nombrada Jueza del Año por Tex-ABOTA. He presidido más de 200 juicios con jurado y sin jurado.

ÉTICA: Como jueza de primera instancia, baso mis decisiones en los hechos y en la ley, no en contribuciones de campaña. De ser elegida para la Corte Suprema, eso no cambiaría. Me esfuerzo por la predictibilidad y la coherencia para que las partes sepan qué esperar cuando comparecen ante la corte. Trato a todas las personas con cortesía y respeto, independientemente de su estatus socioeconómico, afiliación política o si han hecho donaciones.

EQUIDAD: Muchos texanos carecen de los recursos económicos para contratar abogados. La Corte Suprema puede adoptar normas que amplíen el acceso a los tribunales y garanticen que los texanos, incluidos los litigantes que se representan a sí mismos, no queden excluidos del sistema judicial. La Corte debe seleccionar casos importantes para todos los texanos y tener

presente que el derecho a un juicio con jurado está consagrado en la Constitución de Texas.

PROBLEMAS: Los constantes ataques contra los jueces, tanto a nivel estatal como federal. El poder judicial es un poder del gobierno con igual jerarquía, y mantener la independencia judicial es fundamental para la sostenibilidad de nuestra democracia. Yo dictaría sentencia basándome en la ley y los hechos, y me esforzaría por una aplicación coherente y justa de la ley, sin favorecer a ninguna parte.

FILOSOFÍA: La Constitución exige que toda parte que comparezca ante un tribunal reciba un trato igualitario ante la ley y garantiza el derecho a un juicio con jurado. Es fundamental que los jueces apliquen la ley por igual a todas las personas que comparecen ante el tribunal y que se respeten los jurados y sus veredictos. La aplicación coherente y predecible de la ley es lo que todo texano debe esperar de nuestro sistema judicial.

Página web: judgehawkins.com

JUEZ DE LA CORTE SUPREMA DE TEXAS, PUESTO 8



Brett Busby | REPUBLICANO

COMPETENCIAS: Con base en mi experiencia como abogado de apelaciones certificado por el colegio de abogados y mi historial como juez imparcial, todos los demócratas y republicanos del Senado de Texas votaron unánimemente a favor de mi nombramiento para la Corte Suprema.

ÉTICA: Mi trayectoria judicial de 14 años demuestra que cumplo mi juramento al brindar a todos el juicio justo que merecen y dictar sentencias imparciales basadas en la ley y los hechos, no en la política, las presiones ni las preferencias personales. Compare las opiniones que recibimos de abogados que conocen nuestro trabajo: en encuestas anónimas, me califican sistemáticamente como uno de los mejores, más trabajadores y más imparciales jueces de apelaciones de Texas.

EQUIDAD: Dado que los costos legales están aumentando mucho más rápido que la inflación en general, muchos texanos no pueden pagar abogados. Estoy liderando iniciativas para reformar regulaciones obsoletas de manera que los asistentes no titulados y calificados que aprueben un examen puedan obtener la certificación para ayudar a los texanos con necesidades legales sencillas a precios razonables. Como si fueran enfermeros de

práctica avanzada para servicios legales limitados, recibirían capacitación y serían evaluados para garantizar la calidad y la ética.

PROBLEMAS: La cantidad de expedientes judiciales está creciendo rápidamente a medida que más texanos intentan usar la IA para representarse a sí mismos. Pero los sistemas judiciales fueron diseñados para ser utilizados por abogados, y los documentos generados por IA a menudo no son precisos o contienen errores. Estoy tomando medidas para que sea más fácil para las personas que no son abogados usar los tribunales sin recurrir a la IA, actualizando las normas y los procedimientos, creando formularios en lenguaje sencillo e informando a los texanos sobre los recursos disponibles.

FILOSOFÍA: Los jueces deben brindar a cada parte una audiencia justa, estudiar sus argumentos cuidadosamente, decidir el caso imparcialmente con base en la ley y las pruebas, y redactar una opinión clara para que todos comprendan sus derechos y obligaciones conforme a la ley. Los jueces también deben esforzarse por mejorar la equidad, la eficiencia y la accesibilidad de todo el sistema de justicia mediante cambios como los que se acaban de mencionar.



Gisela D. Triana | DEMÓCRATA

COMPETENCIAS: Doctorado en Jurisprudencia - Escuela de Derecho UT 1988. Licenciatura en Ciencias Políticas - UTSA 1985. He sido jueza en Texas durante más de 30 años, sirviendo en todos los niveles de los tribunales de primera instancia de Texas. Actualmente estoy en mi octavo año en la Tercera Corte de Apelaciones.

ÉTICA: Apegarse al estado de derecho, que es la base de nuestra democracia. Esto asegura que nos regimos por normas legales establecidas y no por los mandatos de los poderosos. La independencia judicial es primordial y, como jueces, debemos mantenernos independientes de intereses particulares, donantes y presiones políticas. A lo largo de mis 30 años de servicio como jueza, me he forjado una reputación de tratar a todas las personas con imparcialidad.

EQUIDAD: La falta de recursos es la mayor barrera para el acceso a la justicia. Los tribunales deben garantizar que el estado cuente con programas sólidos de asistencia jurídica, especialmente en áreas donde existe mayor necesidad entre la población indigente, como vivienda, cobro de deudas y derecho familiar. Sin embargo,

el acceso a la justicia debe significar más que simplemente abrir la puerta del juzgado; también debe implicar que se haga justicia una vez que se está allí.

PROBLEMAS: Independencia y legitimidad del poder judicial. Antes la ciudadanía creía en tres poderes de gobierno separados pero iguales, con controles y contrapesos entre ellos. Ahora más que antes, el poder judicial es, y se percibe como, una extensión de los otros dos poderes, como un mero trámite. Debemos esforzarnos más por recuperar nuestra independencia y preocuparnos menos por conservar nuestros empleos cediendo a la presión política.

FILOSOFÍA: Justicia, imparcialidad e independencia. El papel de los jueces es aplicar la ley de manera justa y equitativa. La justicia no debe venderse al mejor postor y los jueces no deben estar supeditados a partidos políticos ni donantes. Todas las personas y entidades, incluido el gobierno, deben rendir cuentas bajo el estado de derecho. Las leyes deben ser promulgadas públicamente, aplicadas por igual y juzgadas de forma independiente.

JUEZ DE LA CORTE DE APELACIONES PENALES DE TEXAS

PUESTO 3 • PUESTO 4 • PUESTO 9

Mandato de seis años. La Corte de Apelaciones de Texas es el tribunal más alto de Texas para los casos penales. El Tribunal incluye un Juez Presidente y ocho Jueces, cada uno de los cuales es elegido por los votantes de todo el estado. El tribunal debe revisar todos los casos en los que se impone la pena de muerte. También ejerce una revisión discrecional en otros casos y cuestiones penales que generen sentencias de encarcelamiento injusto. Rango de salario anual actual: \$210,000 a \$264,600

★ PREGUNTAS A LOS CANDIDATOS

COMPETENCIAS: ¿Qué tipo de capacitación, experiencia, y antecedentes hacen que esté calificado para este puesto?

ÉTICA: ¿Cómo garantizará usted que sus veredictos sigan siendo imparciales y que no se vean afectados ni por presiones políticas ni por los intereses de los donantes de su campaña?

EQUIDAD: ¿Qué obstáculos impiden a los texanos tener acceso al sistema judicial y qué pueden hacer los tribunales para reducir esos obstáculos?

PRECEDENTE: ¿Qué factores debe tener en cuenta la Corte de Apelaciones Penales a la hora de decidir si revocar o no un veredicto judicial anterior?

FILOSOFÍA: ¿Cuál es su filosofía jurídica?

JUEZ DE LA CORTE DE APELACIONES PENALES DE TEXAS, PUESTO 3



Thomas Smith | REPUBLICANO

COMPETENCIAS: 30 años de experiencia legal, incluyendo haber trabajado como asistente legal del presidente de la Corte Suprema de Ohio y, actualmente, como procurador general adjunto especial para la justicia penal.

ÉTICA: Las resoluciones se fundamentan en la ley, no en la política. La función principal de los jueces es aplicar la ley con fidelidad.

EQUIDAD: Esa es una pregunta que conviene dirigir a quienes están a cargo de la administración judicial en este estado y a la asamblea legislativa.

PRECEDENTE: Una vez más, las resoluciones se basan en la ley. Si una resolución anterior puede ser revocada, significa que no aplicó correctamente la ley.

FILOSOFÍA: Originalista.

Página web: smithfortexas.org



Okey Anyiam | DEMÓCRATA

COMPETENCIAS: He ejercido el derecho penal durante 28 años y he llevado varios miles de casos penales. Mi objetivo ha sido garantizar que se respeten los derechos al debido proceso de los acusados y que se haga justicia de verdad.

ÉTICA: Cumpliré con el juramento judicial, tal como he cumplido con mi juramento como abogado. Seré imparcial. Mis decisiones se basarán en la ley, independientes de cualquier influencia externa.

EQUIDAD: Los texanos que viven lejos del juzgado se beneficiarán de más oficinas satélite para reunirse con sus abogados y de procedimientos judiciales virtuales cuando sea apropiado. Un sistema de mensajería para mantenerse al tanto de las fechas de los juicios y la comparecencia obligatoria solo para las fechas de resolución reducirá la pérdida de fianzas. Reducir el umbral para acceder a un abogado de oficio ayudará a las personas de bajos ingresos.

PRECEDENTE: Se pueden considerar nuevas pruebas, como pruebas científicas que modifiquen sustancialmente la base del fallo anterior. También se pueden considerar cambios legislativos. Asimismo, se puede considerar una retractación convincente del testimonio probatorio que sirvió de base a un fallo anterior. Una resolución anterior también puede modificarse cuando ya no satisface las necesidades actuales.

FILOSOFÍA: Creo en la igualdad de acceso a la justicia para todas las personas, el respeto a la ley y el cumplimiento de su clara intención, sin legislar desde el estrado.

Página web: okeyanyiamforjudge.com



Mark Ash | LIBERTARIO

COMPETENCIAS: He trabajado como abogado defensor de lo penal durante más de 30 años. Además, he sido árbitro de impuestos sobre la propiedad durante más de 15 años.

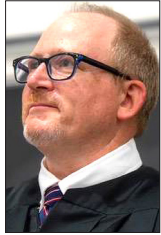
ÉTICA: No me presento como demócrata ni como republicano. Como libertario, mantendré la política partidista al margen de mis decisiones judiciales.

EQUIDAD: Los sitios web de los tribunales deben ser fáciles de usar y uniformes.

PRECEDENTE: Los jueces deben acatar la ley. Los estatutos, las normas administrativas y otras leyes cambian, y la corte debe mantenerse al día con esos cambios. F

FILOSOFÍA: Apegarse a la ley tal como la asamblea legislativa pretendió que se interpretara. Ser justo y equitativo con todas las partes.

JUEZ DE LA CORTE DE APELACIONES PENALES DE TEXAS, PUESTO 4



Kevin Patrick Yeary | REPUBLICANO

COMPETENCIAS: Escuela de Derecho de la Universidad de St. Mary's, 1991 Asistente legal del juez Bill M. White en la Corte de Apelaciones Penales, 1991-1992 Abogado privado, 1992-1995 Fiscal de apelaciones, condados de Dallas, Harris, Bexar, 1995-2014 Juez de la Corte de Apelaciones Penales 2015-presente.

ÉTICA: Aplico la toma de decisiones basada en principios en la Corte. Uno de mis principios fundamentales es que "las opiniones no son ley". Con esto quiero decir que los jueces no creamos leyes, solo aplicamos las leyes escritas o adoptadas por otros. Las opiniones son importantes, pero no constituyen la ley en sí. Tengo una lista de otros 14 principios, entre ellos: "Los estados son soberanos independientes del gobierno federal".

EQUIDAD: Los abogados son caros. Además, existen barreras lingüísticas para algunos. Necesitamos jueces que comprendan estas posibles barreras y trabajen para limitar su impacto. El Colegio de Abogados de nuestro estado puede ayudar proporcionando información para asistir a las personas que se ven obligadas a entrar a nuestro sistema legal. Y sé que nuestro estado está considerando posibles cambios que podrían permitir que los asistentes legales no titulados que demuestren competencia puedan brindar asistencia jurídica.

PRECEDENTE: Las opiniones que escriben los jueces no son ley. La ley la escribe la asamblea legislativa. Las opiniones son importantes para explicar las resoluciones a las partes y obligan a los tribunales inferiores, pero cuando los jueces ven una opinión que ha interpretado erróneamente la ley, dicha opinión debe ser revocada. Me cuesta imaginar una influencia más corruptora para los jueces que decirles que sus opiniones serán defendidas sin importar lo erróneas que sean.

FILOSOFÍA: Nuestro gobierno separa poderes a propósito. Los jueces no establecen políticas ni crean leyes. Esas son funciones de los poderes ejecutivo y legislativo. El texto de la constitución y las leyes significa lo que significaban para los ciudadanos razonablemente instruidos el día en que fueron redactadas, y nada más. Los jueces estatales también deben comprender su papel único en el federalismo estadounidense. Los estados son soberanos independientes.



Audra Riley | DEMÓCRATA

COMPETENCIAS: Aporto más de 20 años de experiencia en justicia penal, incluyendo seis años como jueza de distrito penal, casi una década como fiscal, abogada defensora de lo penal y trabajo como funcionaria penitenciaria.

ÉTICA: Mi juramento como jueza está por encima de cualquier contribución de campaña o presión política. Toda persona que comparece ante mí merece una decisión justa e imparcial basada en la ley y los hechos. Las contribuciones de campaña no compran acceso, influencia ni fallos favorables. Ese ha sido mi principio rector en el estrado y lo seguirá siendo en la Corte de Apelaciones Penales.

EQUIDAD: La capacidad de una persona para comprender y participar en el sistema de justicia penal nunca debería depender de sus ingresos, idioma o circunstancias. Los tribunales pueden reducir las barreras garantizando el acceso oportuno a intérpretes y abogados calificados, y haciendo que los procedimientos judiciales y los derechos legales sean claros y comprensibles. El acceso efectivo a la justicia implica comprender el proceso y ser escuchado.

PRECEDENTE: El precedente brinda estabilidad y coherencia al derecho, pero una sentencia anterior no debe mantenerse simplemente por que se hizo primero. La Corte debe considerar si la sentencia original interpretó correctamente la ley, si la ley ha cambiado, cómo ha funcionado en la práctica y las consecuencias de revocarla. El precedente merece respeto, al igual que la responsabilidad de la Corte de corregir la ley cuando sea necesario.

FILOSOFÍA: Mi filosofía judicial es sencilla: apegarse a la ley, ser justa y tratar a cada persona con dignidad y respeto. La justicia nunca debe depender de quién seas o a quién conozcas. Los jueces deben ser imparciales y coherentes, sin perder nunca de vista a las personas afectadas por cada decisión. Las leyes deben guiar el resultado, pero la equidad, el buen juicio y la humanidad deben guiar la forma en que se administra la justicia.



John Messinger | REPUBLICANO

COMPETENCIAS: Durante casi 16 años, he representado a Texas en la Corte de Apelaciones Penales (CCA). En ese tiempo, nadie ha presentado más peticiones de revisión discrecional, escritos o argumentos en la CCA.

ÉTICA: Como fiscal de carrera, mi deber ético siempre ha sido buscar justicia en lugar de condenas. En un sistema legal, la justicia solo puede provenir del cumplimiento de la ley. Me he apegado a la ley incluso cuando no me gustaba el resultado. Mis partidarios saben que mi fidelidad a la ley eventualmente dará como resultado votos y opiniones impopulares. Para la mayoría de ellos, esa fidelidad es la razón por la que me apoyan.

EQUIDAD: En derecho penal, los acusados tienen acceso a los tribunales, les guste o no. La pregunta más pertinente para ellos es si tienen acceso a una representación legal de calidad. Texas invierte una enorme cantidad de dinero en esto. Y los tribunales son bastante indulgentes con las solicitudes presentadas por acusados que, por cualquier motivo, proceden sin abogado.

PRECEDENTE: El factor más importante es si su fallo fue correcto. Los tribunales no crean leyes, las asambleas legislativas sí. Si la CCA malinterpretó un estatuto, la CCA debería corregirlo. La excepción son los estatutos que eran genuinamente ambiguos cuando se aprobaron. Si la CCA hizo un esfuerzo de buena fe para interpretarlo y esa interpretación se ha mantenido durante un tiempo significativo, esa decisión merece cierta deferencia.

FILOSOFÍA: Los tribunales existen para resolver disputas e interpretar leyes, no para imponer sus preferencias políticas personales al público. Los jueces deben tener la humildad de aceptar su autoridad limitada. Demasiados jueces (o aspirantes a jueces) consideran que los tribunales son el lugar para hacer lo que les parece correcto a ellos, independientemente de lo que diga una ley o reglamento.

Página web: messengerforjustice.com



Holly Taylor | DEMÓCRATA

COMPETENCIAS: Habiendo sido fiscal, abogada defensora, profesora y abogada de tribunales con amplia experiencia en juicios con jurado y apelaciones, he visto el sistema desde todos los ángulos. Trabajaré para obtener fallos justos e imparciales.

ÉTICA: Los jueces deben desempeñar sus funciones sin parcialidad ni prejuicios, pero quienes no son adinerados deben recaudar fondos para sus campañas electorales, a menudo de abogados que ejercen ante ellos. Se necesita reformar el sistema. Solo una pequeña parte de mis donaciones provino de abogados que ejercen en este tribunal. Me abstendré de participar en cualquier caso en el que haya actuado como abogada o en el que exista alguna posibilidad de parcialidad o prejuicio.

EQUIDAD: El sistema judicial es complejo e intimidante. Los abogados son caros, pero la autodefensa no es una buena opción para la mayoría. El sistema de nombramientos en casos penales puede provocar sobrecarga de trabajo para los abogados y una representación inadecuada. Los litigantes pobres y pertenecientes a minorías se ven afectados de manera desproporcionada. Un primer paso crucial es financiar adecuadamente los servicios legales y de interpretación para personas indigentes.

PRECEDENTE: Seguir las sentencias anteriores fomenta la estabilidad y ayuda a garantizar que los litigantes con hechos similares reciban un trato justo. Al decidir si modificar una sentencia o no, el tribunal debe considerar el impacto de las nuevas leyes y de los casos de tribunales superiores, la protección de los derechos y libertades constitucionales, la medida en que otros tribunales se han basado en la sentencia y su viabilidad. La corte no debe actuar simplemente por estar en desacuerdo.

FILOSOFÍA: Mi compromiso es defender un sistema de justicia que sea: independiente, imparcial y que no esté supeditado a intereses especiales; basado en la constitución y el estado de derecho; libre de prejuicios basados en la raza, el sexo, la religión u otros factores inconstitucionales; respetuoso del debido proceso y otros derechos constitucionales; y justo, equitativo y compasivo con los litigantes, las víctimas y otras personas ante el tribunal.

Página web: hollyforjudge.com

JUNTA ESTATAL DE EDUCACIÓN

DISTRITO 7

Mandato de cuatro años. La junta de quince miembros decide el plan de estudios, los estándares, las pruebas de los estudiantes, los programas de educación especial y los libros de texto para las escuelas públicas de Texas. También supervisa el Fondo Escolar Permanente. Salario anual vigente: los miembros de la Junta no reciben remuneración, pero sí se les reembolsan los gastos de asistencia a las reuniones.

★ PREGUNTAS A LOS CANDIDATOS

COMPETENCIAS: ¿Qué tipo de capacitación, experiencia, y antecedentes hacen que esté calificado para este puesto?

APOYO A MAESTROS: ¿Cómo puede la Junta Estatal de Educación (SBOE) invertir en la profesión docente para fomentar una enseñanza de alta calidad?

IA EN EL PLAN DE ESTUDIOS: ¿Qué conocimientos y competencias relacionados con la inteligencia artificial (IA) deberían incluirse en el plan de estudios de Texas?

CIVISMO: ¿Cómo puede Texas mejorar la educación cívica y la comprensión de cómo funciona el gobierno?

LISTAS DE LECTURA: ¿Qué consideraciones servirían de orientación para sus recomendaciones al revisar las listas de libros de lectura obligatoria?

JUNTA ESTATAL DE EDUCACIÓN, DISTRITO 7

Julie Pickren | REPUBLICANO

SIN RESPUESTA



Tiffany Perkinz | DEMÓCRATA

COMPETENCIAS: Soy una educadora de Texas, certificada y con una maestría en inglés y una maestría en administración educativa, una década de experiencia en el aula y la capacidad de poner a los estudiantes y las escuelas públicas primero que la política.

APOYO A MAESTROS: La SBOE debe escuchar a los docentes y respetar su experiencia profesional. Esto implica adoptar estándares claros y apropiados para cada edad, ofrecer materiales de calidad sin mandatos estrictos, reducir las pruebas innecesarias y apoyar la preparación y el desarrollo. Los docentes necesitan el tiempo, los recursos, la autonomía y el respeto necesarios para brindar la instrucción de alta calidad que todo estudiante de Texas merece.

IA EN EL PLAN DE ESTUDIOS: Los estudiantes deben aprender cómo funciona la IA, sus fuentes y cómo los sesgos y errores influyen en sus resultados. Deben poner en práctica la verificación de las afirmaciones de IA, el reconocimiento de deepfakes, la protección de su privacidad y el uso ético de la IA, no como sustituto del pensamiento crítico. La alfabetización en IA debe incluir la comprensión de cómo los algoritmos influyen en lo que los estudiantes ven, creen y comparten, a la par de preservar el papel fundamental de los docentes.

CIVISMO: Texas debe enseñar a los estudiantes cómo funciona el gobierno y cómo participar de manera significativa. La educación cívica debe explicar el papel de los funcionarios estatales y locales, mostrar cómo las decisiones locales afectan la vida cotidiana y enseñar habilidades como dar seguimiento a la legislación, ponerse en contacto con los funcionarios electos, registrarse para votar y dar comentarios públicos ante juntas directivas, y, en última instancia, cómo participar en la democracia más allá del voto.

LISTAS DE LECTURA: Los educadores deben seleccionar las lecturas obligatorias basándose en el mérito literario, lo apropiado para cada edad, el valor didáctico y las necesidades de los estudiantes. Las listas deben equilibrar los clásicos con las obras contemporáneas e incluir voces diversas. Los estudiantes merecen libros desafiantes que fomenten el conocimiento, la empatía y el pensamiento crítico, a la vez que los exponen a perspectivas más allá de las suyas.

Página web: texasfortiffany7.org



VOTE: IDENTIFICACIÓN DEL VOTANTE: QUE LLEVAR AL CENTRO DE VOTACION

Puede usar una de las siete formas de identificación con fotografía que se indican a continuación.

- Licencia de conducir de Texas
- Certificado de Identificación Electoral de Texas
- Tarjeta de Identificación Personal de Texas emitida por el Departamento de Seguridad Pública (DPS)
- Licencia para portar armas de fuego de Texas emitida por el DPS
- Tarjeta de identificación militar de los Estados Unidos que contenga su fotografía
- Certificado de Ciudadanía de los Estados Unidos que contenga su fotografía
- Pasaporte de los Estados Unidos (libreta o tarjeta)

Nota:

- Las identificaciones pueden haber vencido hasta 4 años antes.
- Las personas de 70 años o más pueden usar una identificación vencida, independientemente de la fecha de vencimiento.
- La dirección de la identificación NO tiene que coincidir con la dirección del registro de votantes.
- El nombre en la identificación con fotografía debe coincidir con el nombre en la lista de votantes registrados o ser "sustancialmente similar". Si su nombre no coincide exactamente, aún puede votar, pero tendrá que firmar un formulario que indique que usted es la persona que aparece en la lista de votantes registrados.

Si está registrado pero no tiene una identificación con fotografía y no puede obtener una razonablemente, puede firmar un formulario y presentar documentación alternativa. Obtenga más información en www.votetexas.gov/voting/need-id.html.

ACOSO A LOS VOTANTES

- Los funcionarios electorales no pueden interrogar a un votante sobre el uso de un tipo de identificación.
- Los observadores electorales no pueden: conversar con un votante; grabar en el centro de votación; ni observar a un votante mientras vota.
- Si lo acosan, ¡llame o envíe un mensaje de texto a Election Protection al 866-687-8683!



Election Protection Project
is an alliance of voting rights organizations
including Common Cause, the League of Women Voters,
the Texas Civil Rights Project and others.
Powered by volunteers, donations, and grants.

**VOTING
SHOULD
BE EASY**

When it's not, call us.

Reporting problems:

If you experience or observe any voting issues, call or text the Election Protection Hotline:

English: 866-OUR-VOTE or 866-687-8683
Spanish: 888-VE-Y-VOTA or 888-839-8682
Arabic: 844-YALLA-US or 866-925-5287
Asian languages: 888-API-VOTE or 888-274-8683
ASL (video call): 301-818-VOTE or 301-818-8683

Voters with disabilities can contact the following voter protection and assistance hotlines:

Disability Rights Texas: 888-796-VOTE or 888-796-8683
National Association of the Deaf: 1-301-818-VOTE or 1-301-818-8683



iDONE!

**Se agradecen las donaciones
a la League of Women
Voters of Fort Bend!**



¡SEA UN VOTANTE DE TEXAS!

VOTE POR CORREO

Puede votar por correo si:

- Tiene 65 años o más.
- Está enfermo o padece una discapacidad.
- Se encuentra fuera del condado durante la Votación Anticipada y el Día de la Elección.
- Espera dar a luz dentro de las 3 semanas anteriores o posteriores al Día de la Elección.
- Está en la cárcel, pero cumple con los demás requisitos para votar.

- ¡Para votar por correo en Texas, debe presentar una solicitud cada año! Vaya a lwvtexas.org/votebymail para obtener una solicitud de voto por correo e instrucciones fáciles de entender sobre cómo votar por correo.
- Use el rastreador en línea de VoteTexas.gov: **TRACK MY BALLOT**. Si hay un error en su solicitud de voto por correo o en su boleta, la oficina electoral de su condado debe notificárselo e indicarle cómo corregirlo, ya sea por correo, en persona o mediante el rastreador en línea.

VOTE EN PERSONA MEDIANTE LA VOTACIÓN DESDE LA ACERA

- Si físicamente no puede entrar al centro de votación sin asistencia personal o sin la posibilidad de perjudicar su salud, puede estacionarse en el espacio de estacionamiento para la votación desde la acera y llamar al número indicado para solicitar que un funcionario electoral lleve una boleta a su automóvil.
- Después de marcar su boleta, entréguesela al funcionario electoral o a un acompañante para que la deposite en la urna por usted.



VOTE AUN SI ES UN VOTANTE SUSPENDIDO

¡Aún puede votar si su registro de votantes está suspendido, siempre y cuando esté registrado en su condado! "Suspensión" significa que el registrador de votantes de su condado necesita confirmar su dirección de votación.

VOTE CON UNA BOLETA LIMITADA

Si se mudó a un nuevo condado y no se registró en ese condado antes de la fecha límite de registro, puede ser elegible para votar con una boleta limitada. Una boleta limitada es aquella que le permite votar por los candidatos y las medidas que aparecen en la boleta tanto de su condado anterior como de su nuevo condado, así como las contiendas estatales y nacionales.

• *Nota:* La votación con una boleta limitada solo está disponible durante la Votación Anticipada en el centro de votación principal de Votación Anticipada de su condado.



CONTACTOS Y SITIOS WEB ÚTILES

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF TEXAS: lwvtexas.org

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF
FORT BEND: fortbend.lwv.org
lwvfortbend@gmail.com

ELECCIONES DEL CONDADO DE
FORT BEND: (281) 341-8670

SECRETARIO DE ESTADO:
VoteTexas.gov

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN:
FortBendCountyVotes.com/9

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VOTER ID: WHAT TO TAKE TO THE POLLS

You may use one of seven forms of photo ID, listed below.

- Texas Driver License
- Texas Election Identification Certificate
- Texas Personal Identification Card issued by the Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas Handgun License issued by DPS
- US Military Identification Card containing your photograph
- US Citizenship Certificate containing your photograph
- US Passport (book or card)

Note:

- IDs may have expired up to 4 years.
- Persons 70 years or older may use an expired ID, regardless of expiration date.
- ID address does not have to match the voter registration address.
- The name on the photo ID should match the name on the list of registered voters or be "substantially similar". If your name doesn't match exactly, you can still vote but will need to sign a form stating you are the person on the list of registered voters.

If you are registered but do not have a photo ID and cannot reasonably obtain one, you may sign a form and present alternative documentation.

Learn more at www.votetexas.gov/voting/need-id.html.

VOTER HARASSMENT

- Election officials cannot question a voter about the use of an ID type.
- Poll watchers may not: converse with a voter; record in the polling place; or observe a voter voting.
- If you are harassed, call or text Election Protection at 866-687-8683!



Reporting problems:
If you experience or observe any voting issues, call or text the Election Protection Hotline:
English: 866-OUR-VOTE or 866-687-8683
Spanish: 888-VE-Y-VOTA or 888-839-8682
Arabic: 844-YALLA-US or 866-925-5287
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Donate!

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Fort Bend are appreciated!**



BE A TEXAS VOTER!

VOTE BY MAIL

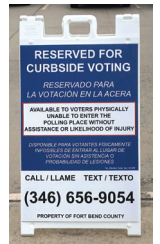
You can vote by mail if you are:

- 65 years or older
- Sick or disabled
- Out of the county during early voting and on Election Day
- Expecting to give birth within 3 weeks before or after Election Day
- In jail, but otherwise eligible to vote.

- To vote by mail in Texas, you must apply every year! Go to lwtexas.org/votebymail for a vote-by-mail application and easy-to-understand instructions on voting by mail.
- Use the online tracker at VoteTexas.gov: **TRACK MY BALLOT**.
If there is an error in your vote-by-mail application or ballot, your county election office is required to notify you and instruct you how to fix it either by mail, in person or via the online tracker.

VOTE IN PERSON USING CURBSIDE VOTING

- If you are physically unable to enter the polling place without personal assistance or likelihood of injuring your health, you may park at the curbside voting parking space and call the number that is posted to ask that an election officer bring a ballot to your car.
- After you mark your ballot, give it to the election officer or hand it to a companion to deposit in the ballot box for you.



VOTE EVEN IF YOU ARE A SUSPENDED VOTER

You can still vote if your voter registration is in suspense as long as you are registered in your county! "Suspense" means that your county voter registrar needs to confirm your voting address.

VOTE A LIMITED BALLOT

If you have moved to a new county and have not registered in that county by the registration deadline, you may be eligible to vote a limited ballot. A limited ballot is one that allows you to vote on candidates and measures that are on the ballot for both your former county and your new county, such as statewide and national races.

- Note: Voting a limited ballot is only available during early voting at your county's main early voting polling place.



HELPFUL CONTACTS AND WEBSITES

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF TEXAS: lwtexas.org

SECRETARY OF STATE:
VoteTexas.gov

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF
FORT BEND: fortbend.lww.org
lwwfortbend@gmail.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
FortBendCountyVotes.com/9

FORT BEND COUNTY ELECTIONS:
(281) 341-8670

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