



# 2018 General Election Nonpartisan Voters Guide

League of Women Voters® of Tarrant County

P. O. Box 100175, Fort Worth, TX 76185

817-348-VOTE • [www.lwvtarrantcounty.org](http://www.lwvtarrantcounty.org) • [lwvtarrantcounty@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lwvtarrantcounty@sbcglobal.net)

Early Voting October 22 – November 2, 2018 Election Day November 6, 2018 • Polls open 7am to 7pm

## VOTER IDENTIFICATION: WHAT TO TAKE TO THE POLLS TEXAS REQUIRES MOST VOTERS TO SHOW PHOTO ID

The seven forms of approved photo ID's are: (must not be expired more than 4 years; for voters age 70 or older no limit on the expiration of the ID)

1. Texas driver license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS);
2. Texas personal identification card issued by DPS;
3. Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS;
4. Texas handgun license issued by DPS;
5. United States military identification card containing the person's photograph;
6. United States citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph; (Note: Does not expire.)
7. United States passport

OPTIONS: Voters who do not have any of the approved photo IDs and who are on the official list of registered voters may sign a simple form called a "reasonable impediment declaration" and vote a regular ballot if they present a:

- Valid voter registration certificate (card)
- Certified birth certificate (original)
- Current utility bill
- Bank statement
- Government check
- Paycheck
- Any other government document with the individual's name and address (original).

ID address does not have to match the voter registration address.

## YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

2016 – 2017 Sample

VOTER REGISTRAR  
800-687-8548 / 817-547-1990  
2010 REDBUD BLVD., SUITE 102  
MCKINNEY, TX 75069  
[www.collincountytx.gov](http://www.collincountytx.gov)

Secretary of State's Office  
Elections Division  
1-800-252-VOTE (8682)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

VOTER REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE  
(Certificado de Registro Electoral)  
COLLIN COUNTY (condado de Collin)

CONGRESS (Congreso)	STATE SEN (Sen. Estado)	STATE REP (Rep. Estado)	COM	JP
CITY (Ciudad)	CITY DIST (Ciudad dist.)	ISD (Instituto)	ISD DIST. (Instituto dist.)	SBOE

Valid from (Valido desde) thru (hasta)

Name and Mailing Address (Nombre y dirección de correo)

Voter: John Q.  
1234 Street  
City Name, Tx 75024

John Q. Voter  
1234 Street  
City Name, Tx 75024

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## ABOUT THIS VOTERS GUIDE

This Voters Guide is funded and published by the League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund. For 99 years the League of Women Voters has been helping voters cast an informed vote when they go to the polls. Information included in this guide is current as of the date of publication.

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## LWV VISION STATEMENT:

We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.

## U.S. REPRESENTATIVES

United States Representatives have the power to pass federal legislation subject to further approval by the Senate and the President. However, the United States House of Representatives has several exclusive powers, including initiating revenue bills (taxes or expenditures), impeaching officials, and electing the President in case of an Electoral College deadlock. U.S. Representatives serve two year terms.

**Q1: IMMIGRATION:** What changes, if any, would you propose to our immigration policy for current undocumented residents? Do you support construction of a wall along our southern border? If so, how would you pay for it?

**Q2: FOREIGN INTERVENTION:** Under what circumstances should the US intervene militarily in a foreign conflict? What policy would you support regarding North Korea?

**Q3: BUDGET:** Social Security and Medicare are key programs which are relied upon by millions of Americans. Do you support changes to these programs in order to reduce the budget? If so, how would you accomplish that? If not, how would you reduce budget deficits?

**Q4: HEALTHCARE:** What legislation would you support, if any, to ensure comprehensive, affordable healthcare for all Americans? Should Obamacare be repealed, replaced or reformed?

**Q5: OTHER ISSUES:** What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the next session of Congress, and what is your position on these issues?

### U.S. Representative, District 6.....

#### Ron Wright (REP)

No Response



#### Jana Lynne Sanchez (DEM)

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**Occupation:** Entrepreneur; Communications Consultant

**Education:** Waxahachie High School Rice University, Political Science

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**A1:** Like many Americans, immigration is a focal point to my story. My grandfather came to the United States without documentation from Mexico in 1912, and for many years worked as an undocumented migrant farm worker providing backbreaking work on America's farms. I recognize that my grandfather's story is also the story of thousands of undocumented individuals seeking a sustainable future in a new country. As an advocate for humane immigration reform, I will strive for a better future for Latinos throughout the U.S. I do not support the construction of a border wall.

**A2:** I support a strong national defense that utilizes appropriate resources to protect our communities from threats, whether it is domestic or foreign. A diverse mixture of diplomacy, intelligence and deterrence is necessary to resolve foreign conflict if the safety of our military is at stake. Regarding North Korea, I value partnership with other world powers using due caution in order to protect different regions

against the use of nuclear weaponry. Our national leaders must keep the safety of the country at the forefront when engaged in dealings with North Korea.

**A3:** America is a nation of hard-working, contributing members of society that strive to obtain decent, comfortable lives. The older generation has paid their contributions to Social Security throughout their entire working lives, and therefore should be guaranteed the right to collect on it during retirement. To maintain Social Security, there should be an increase of the Payroll Tax Cap to around \$300,000 and increase it yearly until all income is subject to Social Security tax. Medicare is a key national social insurance program that many citizens rely on, and should be supported.

**A4:** From my past experiences living in Britain and the Netherlands, both states with universal healthcare, I understand that accessible and affordable health care is a basic human right that is beneficial for the United States. Republicans have threatened the health of all Americans by repealing the Affordable Care Act with no viable replacement. The life and health of District 6 is at risk if insurance is threatened by politicians. If elected, I pledge to voice my constituents' safety concerns and ensure their health is a top priority.

**A5:** When I graduated high school, many of my friends went directly into the workforce. At that time they could support themselves with the jobs available to high school graduates, but many high school graduates today have to work two or three jobs to support themselves and their families. Addressing the widening wealth gap in the United States will continue to be a pressing matter for Congress and all elected officials. For this reason, we have an obligation and an opportunity to invest in industries that will generate good jobs-- industries like health care, renewable energy, and technology.

#### Jason Allen Harber (LIB)

No Response

**Kay Granger (REP)**

No Response



**Vanessa Adia (DEM)**

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**Occupation:** Public middle school teacher

**Education:** Bachelor's in religion and philosophy from Texas Christian University and a Master's in social work from the University of Texas Arlington

**Experience:** A current, award-winning FWISD teacher, Ms. Adia previously managed charitable giving at an investment firm. She served as Vice-Chair of Benbrook Parks & Recreation Board and served on Benbrook's Planning & Zoning Commission.

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**A1:** Congress must work to institute comprehensive and compassionate immigration reform that identifies a clear path to citizenship for undocumented residents. As hundreds of thousands of Dreamers remain in limbo, Congress must also work to pass a clean DREAM Act. I do not support the construction of a wall along our southern border nor do I support the angry rhetoric and cruel family separation policies that have been used to target undocumented immigrants, many of whom were legally seeking asylum. As a result, Congress must prevent future implementation of similar family separation policies.

**A2:** The US should intervene militarily in foreign conflict only when all other measures have been exhausted and there is a proven threat to the American people or the values we hold dear, such as human rights atrocities or the invocation of NATO's Article 5. Our path forward regarding North Korea should focus on continuing our diplomatic efforts and working in partnership with our allies to do so. Our State Department has shrunk under the current administration, and without renewed commitment to our foreign-service workforce, our diplomatic efforts will be hampered.

**A3:** Many Americans are concerned about how the recent tax cut, which primarily benefits corporations and the wealthiest in our nation, will impact the earned benefits of everyday, hard-working Americans. People have paid into these earned benefits their entire working lives, and changing programs, like Social Security and Medicare, to reduce budget deficits is wrong. Instead, we should cut pork barrel spending and close tax loopholes for corporations. By ensuring corporations pay their fair share, we can reduce budget deficits without sacrificing the ability of Americans

to retire with dignity.

**A4:** All Americans deserve high quality, affordable health care. The Affordable Care Act provided us with a starting point for health care coverage and implemented much needed protections, especially around ensuring coverage for pre-existing conditions. However, it is now time for us to build on this progress and work to implement a Medicare-for-All type system. By investing money in a Medicare-for-All system, Congress has the ability to create a health care system that works for the American people, empowering them with the freedom to live their lives free from the worry of mounting medical debt.

**A5:** When I ask the people of District 12 how they would prioritize the work of Congress, the most pressing issues they identify are those that impact their daily lives: health care for all, an economy that works for all of us, a quality education for all of our children, and protections for Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid, so that working Americans can live and retire with dignity. The next session of Congress must address these issues and must address campaign finance reform. It is time to get corporate money out of politics and for members of Congress put the people they serve first.



**Jacob Leddy (LIB)**

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**Occupation:** Logistics

**Education:** Vincennes University

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**A1:** I would like to see the United States return to an Ellis Island-style system, allowing for disease and background checks while also improving the efficiency of the current system. While we do need strong border protection, I do not support the border wall. I propose admitting a portion of DACA kids per year over the next five years, while counting them against our immigration numbers each year until they are all legally admitted. We must make the process both more effective and efficient and we must be able to rely on that process.

**A2:** The US should remain involved in any conflict that impacts the United States in any fashion, but no action should be taken until Congress has had time to deliberate and decide on each action (assuming that there is no immediate threat). Each case is situational and the Constitution must be adhered to.

**A3:** Most millennials like myself won't see Social Security. These programs could work if the government would stop stealing money from them, but they clearly are not working

**Jacob Leddy (LIB) - Continued**

and have turned into virtual government-ran ponzi schemes. Individuals are better off saving for themselves and using free market tools to do so. There is no US dept that should be operating at a deficit. We need to pass balanced budgets and balanced budgets alone.

**A4:** Republicans won a trifecta in 2016 - yet they still seem unable to pass a full repeal of Obamacare. Healthcare for many Americans is more expensive than ever. Healthcare should be affordable. It becomes affordable through more competition - allowing insurers to sell across state lines and removing unnecessary barriers to entry that force monopolies to exist. It's imperative for taxpayer funds to stop being given to wealthy insurance companies.

**A5:** The US is \$21 trillion in debt. The federal debt costs us \$250 billion in interest payments each year alone. It's doing detrimental destruction to our economy. We must balance the budget, stop wasting money, and audit every aspect of the federal government for waste. The money wasted is OUR money - it's time to bring accountability to Washington.

## TEXAS SENATE

The Texas Senate is the upper house of the Texas Legislature and is comprised of Senators elected from 31 single-member districts. Senators must participate in committees that conduct research on a variety of issues: administration, agricultural and rural affairs, business and commerce, criminal justice, economic development, education, health, international relations and trade. Texas Senators also draft, debate and vote on legislation. State Senators are elected to four-year terms.

**Q1: EDUCATION:** What changes, if any, should be made to public education and its funding in Texas? What is your rationale for the change(s)?

**Q2: ECONOMY:** What state policies/legislation would you support to help Texas residents improve their economic positions? Why?

**Q3: ENERGY/ENVIRONMENT:** How would you balance the development of energy sources with environmental concerns?

**Q4: HEALTH CARE:** What changes in state policy/legislation, if any, are needed to increase availability of affordable health care for Texas residents? If none, please explain.

**Q5: OTHER ISSUES:** What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the next session of the Texas Legislature, and what is your position on these issues?

### State Senator, District 9.....

#### Kelly Hancock (REP)

No Response



**Gwenn Burud (DEM)**

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**Occupation:** Deaf Education Teacher, Fort Worth ISD

**Education:** Master of Science, Deaf Education; Bachelor of Science, Communication Sciences and Disorders; Associate of Applied Science, Sign Language Interpreting

**Experience:** Politically active since 2007 and have volunteered with several campaigns in the past. Additionally, I have served as the Secretary and Vice President of the Northeast Tarrant Democrats

**A1:** We need to restore the state funding ratios that were present prior to the 2011 cuts – where the State funded over 50% of the cost of educating our students. The current projections of the State to only fund 37% of our education costs is a reflection of the Republican legislature’s plans to borrow from our future to fund their current initiatives to keep their supporters happy. State funds should not be used to fund charter and/or private schools if it means those funds are diverted from public education. To cut funds to a school that needs improvement is giving up on public education – the teachers are committed, the principals are committed, the children are committed. The ones with the least at stake, the lawmakers, are the ones willing to sacrifice the school for a political win.

**A2:** Texas has a wonderful opportunity to educate its workforce through training programs and investing in the community college system. Texas already has many attractive traits including low corporate taxes, but a trained

workforce will be a differentiator in future businesses becoming attracted to Texas. An adjustment to the minimum wage in Texas to reflect the rate of inflation would help alleviate the burden of the working class. We also need to examine large employers who rely on state benefits so that they are not forced to pay for their labor force – they should be forced to pay their fair share rather than relying on taxpayers to underwrite their businesses.

**A3:** Texas is in a unique position to be at the forefront of renewable energy creation. We have the ability to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels through solar and wind energy capture, but the current tax incentives to the oil and gas industry make it uneconomic. Although Texas has seen economic benefit from the oil and gas industry, we need to be sure that we are considering our long-term future as well as our short term profit. Clean energy jobs are less dangerous than oil work; clean energy jobs do not create the pollution and waste we see in oil and gas operations; and clean energy provides a safer future for our children.

**A4:** Texas has a responsibility to accept the Medicaid expansion. There is an ever growing group of Texans who do not have health insurance – they forego preventive care and end up needing more severe medical interventions. The reduction in local clinics due to lower Medicaid reimbursements is putting more pressure on emergency rooms to provide routine medical care instead of emergency services. Texas has a growing population, and we need the federal dollars to be sure that all Texans are cared for.

**A5:** It seems that the time for marijuana legalization has come to Texas. The medical benefits are still being researched, but there are many who have received relief from chemotherapy, epilepsy, and other conditions from approved medical sources. Recreational marijuana creates an economic opportunity for our state – we could be bringing in around half a billion dollars each year to help fix our budget shortfalls on infrastructure and education. Texas should be leading the way on marijuana legalization instead of clinging to its racist underpinnings as a justification for the continued incarceration of people of color.

**Konni Burton (REP)**

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**Occupation:** State Senator

**Education:** University of North Texas, BBA in Marketing

**Experience:** Texas State Senator for District 10, small business owner, activist, wife, and mom.

**A1:** Improving public education is not simply a matter of more funding. Systemic changes are needed to address disparate outcomes, as well as ever-increasing cost to local taxpayers. Changes to public school finance should go hand-in-hand with property tax relief & reform. The state should move away from local property taxes as a source of education funding & have a centralized funding model. This is the only way to ensure equitable distribution of public education funds. I supported the creation of the Texas Commission on Public School Finance. I look forward to evaluating the ideas they propose & am hopeful that they will bring quality policy positions to consider. School choice, both within an ISD & externally, should be a central tenet of public education reform. As participants in the free market, we demand choice in virtually every aspect of our lives, including higher education; I see no reason we can't demand the same choice in publicly funded primary & secondary education.

**A2:** I am a strong supporter of fewer regulations, lower taxes, a stable & predictable business climate, & education reform. All of these policies contribute to positive social mobility. I supported over \$1.2 billion in property tax relief as well as \$2.5 billion in franchise tax cuts during the 84th Session. I have no doubt this has contributed to positive economic impact. The best policy platform of government to "help" citizens improve their fortunes is to get out of their way & let the free market work.

**A3:** The free market has led the way in clean & innovative solutions to our energy needs. This is evidenced by the rapid adoption of natural gas as a clean energy source. I am opposed to subsidies of any kind that favor certain energy sources over others & distort markets. These policies only hinder technological advancements & further development of inexpensive energy for businesses & consumers. I am opposed to any efforts to curtail the use of fossil fuels, given that they provide the greatest source of energy for the lowest cost with current technology. Any effort to move to renewable sources of energy should take place in the free market absent any influence from government. Renewable energy will become viable only when markets favor it. That's how markets work, & that's how it should be.

**A4:** The rising cost of healthcare is attributable to third party payments & government involvement in this large part of the private sector. The only way to expand access, increase quality, & control costs in healthcare is to bring meaningful market reforms to safety net healthcare programs. I see no reason not to implement changes to state healthcare programs to allow for cash-based direct patient care, fewer barriers between providers & patients, &

changes that ensure beneficiaries have "skin in the game" such as co-pays & work requirements. I am opposed to any effort to expand our state's broken medicaid system. The costs are spiraling out-of-control for a system that delivers inferior care.

**A5:** Property tax reform & relief is one of my top priorities, given that it is the issue I hear about most from my constituents. I am concerned that local governments are able to obfuscate their role in actually raising taxes, choosing instead to blame the state legislature, or rising appraisals. Elected local governing bodies are the only authority that can raise your local property taxes. I hope that the legislature gives a fair hearing to my highest criminal justice reform priority: Civil Asset Forfeiture reform. This process allows government to take & keep property they believe is involved in criminal activity, & place the burden of proof on individuals to prove that it's not. This is antithetical to our criminal justice system's requirement for "due process." Local governments shouldn't be allowed to spend public money lobbying the legislature. At the very least, they should report public monies that are spent for this purpose. In short, government should not lobby itself.



**Beverly Powell (DEM)**

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**Website:** beverlypowell.com

**Occupation:** Real Estate

**Education:** Texas Wesleyan, BS and MBA

**Experience:** Burseson ISD Board of Trustees, 2007-2017

**A1:** The state's share of funding for public education is at a 20 year low. Yet as a state, we continue to add an additional 1,000 residents every day. The math simply doesn't add up. If we do not invest in our schools, we will have overcrowded classrooms, facilities that can not handle the population growth and teachers who are even more overworked and underpaid. This is not a recipe for success. The state of Texas must find ways to strategically increase our state's share of education funding, thus reducing the property tax burden placed on Texas homeowners. We must also strategically use economic development programs to stimulate local economies. A line by line analysis of the state budget is desperately needed as there is not a greater investment we can make than in Texas' children.

**A2:** I would support continuing tax incentive programs that are proven to create good paying jobs. Right here in Tarrant County, businesses and families see the benefits of strategic economic development and tax incentive programs every single day. In Arlington, our state's event fund has helped attract the Super Bowl and College Football National Championship. In the northern part of Tarrant County,

### **Beverly Powell (DEM) - Continued**

bipartisan economic development legislation has attracted the Facebook data center. The success these programs have helped create good jobs in Tarrant County. We must fight back against attempts to dismantle these programs and instead look at ways to create new investment opportunities, educate our workforce and finds new ways to attract great businesses to Tarrant County.

**A3:** Energy production is the backbone of the Texas economy. It's crucial we balance the economic benefits of our state's thriving energy industry with a responsible environmental approach that ensures clean air and water and safe neighborhoods. The first approach is to encourage the development of clean, renewable energy such as wind and solar. At the same time, we have to recognize the economic benefits of natural gas and oil exploration. Not only do Texas companies benefit from oil and natural gas, but Texas families with mineral rights benefit. In the State Senate I will respect the rich history and tradition of energy exploration while keeping an eye toward the future long-term environmental challenges facing our state.

**A4:** Healthy Texans are productive Texans. Access to quality and affordable health care will keep our state economy strong and is crucial to our quality of life in North Texas. Texas-focused solutions like expanding Medicaid to improve health care options for all Texas families while encouraging job growth within the health industry should never be out of reach. I will focus on bringing more resources to the Tarrant County medical community to meet the critical needs of local patients and healthcare providers. Recent reports of Texas' rising maternal mortality rate are unacceptable. We must prioritize good care for mothers, for all women, and for the state's children as it is crucial to the health of the family and of Texas. I will focus my attention on expanding access to quality healthcare for all Texans, including our underserved populations--care focused on prevention, education and treatment.

**A5:** I think further action on CPS reform will at the top of the agenda next session after the recent federal court ruling stating that lawmakers and DFPS have not done enough to address the long-standing issues at CPS. As more reports show that kids under CPS care are being abused and even dying, it is incumbent that we make drastic reforms to save the lives of Texas' most vulnerable children. I believe that the state must further invest in additional CPS caseworkers to relieve the already overworked caseworkers. Hiring additional workers in addition to making salaries more competitive will go a long way toward solving many of the long-standing issues at CPS.

## TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Texas House of Representatives is the lower house of the Texas Legislatures, composed of 150 members elected from single-member districts. The Texas House of Representatives create and consider legislation and proposed constitutional amendments. All bills for raising revenue and appropriating funds for the operation of the Texas government must originate in the Texas House. Representatives are elected every two years.

**Q1: EDUCATION:** What changes, if any, should be made to public education and its funding in Texas? What is your rationale for the change(s)?

**Q2: ECONOMY:** What state policies/legislation would you support to help Texas residents improve their economic positions? Why?

**Q3: ENERGY/ENVIRONMENT:** How would you balance the development of energy sources with environmental concerns?

**Q4: HEALTH CARE:** What changes in state policy/legislation, if any, are needed to increase availability of affordable health care for Texas residents? If none, please explain.

**Q5: OTHER ISSUES:** What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the next session of the Texas Legislature, and what is your position on these issues?

### State Representative, District 91.....

#### Stephanie Klick (REP)

No Response



**Jeromey Sims (DEM)**

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**Website:** www.VoteSims.com

**Occupation:** Co-founder/VP Technology Tixedo Technologies, Inc.

**Education:** Sims' diverse background includes working on farms during summers off from school, graduating valedictorian of his senior class, studying electrical engineering and IT, and co-founding Tixedo Technologies, Inc. where he is now serving as VP Technology

**Experience:** A common-sense problem solver, Sims has had the same problems as other Texans. He knows what it's like to work hard & yet struggle with school loans & health insurance debt. Assisted by small business loans, he wants to ensure small biz funding.

**Facebook:**

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**A1:** Texas property taxes are too high and public school funding insufficient. Texas should pay at least 50% of school funding and stop forcing local property tax increases. Sims agrees with Lt Gov candidate Collier to: end voucher discussions and high stakes testing, restore retired teacher benefits, protect active teacher retirement, increase compensation for teachers and support staff, reduce class size, increase special education teachers, fully invest in pre-K, restore trade and technical training, and invest in school safety. This plan provides more funding by closing corporate

loopholes put into law in 1997, which has driven homeowner and small business taxes up, while forcing school districts to cut funding repeatedly, and will recover \$5 billion per year from large commercial and industrial properties who are gaming the system. With this money, we can increase investment in public education without raising property taxes. Sims does not support private school vouchers.

**A2:** Every Texan who is willing to work and has a chance to do so should benefit from the state's economic growth. Texas must invest in training, certification, and registered apprenticeship and internship programs to allow Texans--especially those without college degrees--to fill the demand for increasingly specialized professions. Minimum wages should be increased. Fair transparent markets allow Texans the opportunity to participate and prosper. All workers should benefit from the economic progress they help generate. Texas must encourage businesses to leverage their resources locally through Strategic Community Investments, and by supporting the development and transfer of skills, and access to social services--especially where levels of poverty and social risk are high--businesses can help field a readier and more adaptable workforce. Texas must also support stronger health, safety and wage regulations that protect workers and deceptive trade practice regulations to protect consumers

**A3:** Many states have implemented incentive programs to subsidize or otherwise increase investment in renewable energy resources including renewable portfolio standards, grants, rebate programs, tax incentives, loans, performance-based incentives, and more. The aim of these policies is to reduce the cost of renewable energy production for consumers, reduce regulatory compliance costs, reduce investment risks involving renewable energy, and/or increase the adoption of renewable energy sources by individuals and businesses. Because Texas is a fossil-fuel-rich state--and consequently one of the top producers of crude oil and natural gas and one of the least renewable fuel-producing states among the 50 states--Sims recommends balanced energy policies that respect Texas' powerful fossil fuel economic engine while taking every opportunity available to develop alternative sources. Texas energy policies should optimize the use of existing energy sources while incenting safe new and renewable ones.



## Jerome Sims (DEM) - Continued

**A4:** Millions of Texans--including far too many children--can't afford to see a doctor for preventive medicine or minor illness. When forced to treatment, due to illness or accident, Emergency Room options have exorbitant costs and often poor outcomes. Also, today, state medical providers must absorb billions of dollars due to the current Texas government's non-expansion of Medicaid. Texas taxpayers are already paying money for this program. We should take advantage of it by expanding Medicaid in Texas. Texas should provide affordable basic healthcare so that every Texan is able to get and stay well, with access to reasonably priced medical services and prescription drugs. Texas should support alternatives to addictive pain medications, including physician-approved access to medical marijuana.

**A5:** • Sims believes every Texan should be treated with respect and dignity and know that raising their voices

matters in our communities. • Government should reflect and answer to the people it represents and serves; end gerrymandering. • Texas should enact automatic voter registration for all eligible voters and move toward a vote-by-mail paper ballot system to make sure every citizen is able to exercise his/her right to vote. • Every Texan should have access to high-quality public education that will enable them to reach their desired potential. • Much of Texas' economy hinges on the immigrants who have always contributed to our society. • Sims believes in preserving the Second Amendment and supports comprehensive background checks for any potential gun buyer, as well as licensing and continuous training for gun owners. • Texas should end state incarceration for marijuana possession not intended for sale.

## Texas House, District 92 .....

### Jonathan Stickland (REP)

No Response



### Steve Riddell (DEM)

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**Occupation:** Tech Business Manager

**Education:** MBA from Texas Christian University BBA from St. Edward's University

**Experience:** Volunteer for Tarrant County Democratic Party - 8 years Volunteer for PTA - 14 years

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**A1:** An investment in public education is an investment in the future viability of the state, and our state's leadership has been failing to invest for years. Texas ranks in the bottom quintile of the fifty states for funding per student, and the Legislature tries to cut further every session. Texas used to fund around 50% of the costs of the state's public schools, while the local taxation authorities funded the other half. Over the course of the past ten years, Texas' funding has fallen back to 38%, and homeowners make up the difference in property taxes. It's how the formula is designed, but that design must be changed, so that the state always funds half, regardless of fluctuations in property tax valuation. This change will provide for Texas' schools and keep a downward pressure on property taxes. I believe the "equal and uniform" loophole in corporate property tax law should be phased out, so that corporations in Texas pay property tax on the actual value of their properties.

**A2:** Small businesses are the engine of economic development, and they create far more jobs in our state than large businesses do, and yet our state is continually striving to offer tax breaks and incentives to large corporations to entice them here. I believe we should shift our focus towards helping small businesses with a proven track record get over the next hurdle of expansion by offering them low interest loans for projects that have solid business plans and would increase employment in our communities. We should especially focus on growing employment in rural communities. I support a gradual increase of the minimum wage over the course of several years to bring it in line with the cost of living while also giving the employment market time to adjust to the increases. When consumers have more money in their pockets, they consume more, which increases economic development and improves economic positions statewide.

**A3:** Oil and gas have served Texas well throughout her history, and our economy still depends on fossil fuels to a great degree, but no one believes that fossil fuels are the fuels of our future. Texas should be discovering ways to economically leverage the fuels of the future by investing in renewable energy sources like wind power, solar power, geothermal and biomass. Individual communities within the state must be allowed to decide how best to employ - or not employ - their natural resources. If a community democratically chooses not to allow natural gas exploration or harvesting within their community, the State of Texas must honor that decision.

**A4:** Our State Legislature's choice to refuse the federal Medicaid expansion offered as a part of the Affordable Care Act was a disastrous one. Rather than accepting \$6 billion annually to improve healthcare, we now spend more as taxpayers, have the highest number of uninsured of any state in the nation and we're less attractive a state to live in for many. We get less, and we pay more. We should opt in to the Medicaid expansion right away. I also have concerns about women's health: we have a very high rate of maternal mortality in Texas. When the state shuttered dozens of clinics in 2011 in an attempt to reduce abortion, they left

**Steve Riddell (DEM) - Continued**

many women in rural and economically disadvantaged communities without any options for pre- or post-natal care. We should open clinics in the areas where the maternal mortality rates have increased the most to stop the crisis.

**A5:** I'd like to see the state invest in non-automobile transportation infrastructure, like light and high-speed rail, to move people around cities and between cities quickly and efficiently. This will provide a great incentive for

corporations to locate here, as it expands the available workforce for any company located within this state. Such an initiative will also increase employment options for Texans.

**Eric P. Espinoza (LIB)**

No Response

**Texas House, District 93.....**

**Matt Krause (REP)**

No Response



**Nancy Bean (DEM)**

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**Education:** MA, Counseling: West Texas A&M MDiv, Pastoral Ministry: The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary BS, Human Development and Family Relations/Early Childhood Education: University of Kentucky

**Experience:** Licensed Professional Counselor, Counselor/Educator, Classroom teacher from Pre-K to college. Pastoral ministry and ministry to children. Supporter of Faith in Texas Founding Board member of Friends of Justice, a Faith-based non-profit.

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**A1:** I will fight for full investment in public education in Texas. Public education is not only the foundation for equal opportunity for our children but is foundational for a strong economy. Full investment means restoring funding to Pre-2008 levels with inflation as well as funding universal public Pre-K and Technical/College. I will also fight to restore the respect due to the teaching profession not only in public conversation but in pay and benefit protections. Education requires a permanent source of funding and a fixed formula distribution which ensures equity of opportunity for districts with higher need and fewer resources (lower tax base). I will fight for strengthening Community Schools and against legislation that increases privatization.

**A2:** Increasing funding to education is the foundation to improving the economy of Texas and of Texans. I will support legislation to increase the minimum wage to a living wage. No one who works full time should be forced to live in poverty. I will also support legislation to protect the rights of

workers to just workplace that includes Worker's Compensation. Texas is the only state which does not guarantee compensation for job-related injuries.

**A3:** I will support legislation to remove subsidies for non-renewable energy sources and increase incentives for the production and use of renewable and non-polluting energy sources. I will support innovations such as "Carbon Credits" and increased taxation on non-renewable energy production and consumption.

**A4:** I will join with others in the TX House to fight for the expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. I will fight for Health Care as a right rather than a market commodity, starting with expansion of Medicaid but with the goal of an expanded and improved single-payer system of Medicare for All. Health Care decisions should be made by Texans with their physicians and not by politicians and CEOs.

**A5:** Building Dignity of Work and Wages will be a top priority for me: increasing the minimum wage to a living wage and strengthening workers rights to organize for a just workplace. Allying with others to holding the line on extremist legislators' attempts to pass legislation to suppress voting rights, to suppress women's rights, and to discriminate against other minority groups will, unfortunately, be top priority for the upcoming session. Fighting against the encroaching privatization of infrastructure, including retirement of public workers, transportation, prisons, education, and Child protective services is crucial to the common good of ordinary Texans.

**Tony Tinderholt (REP)**

No Response



**Finnigan Jones (DEM)**

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**A1:** Teachers are in need of innovative policies that encourage educational experiences that are not burdened with standardized testing, vouchers, and non-profit or corporate owned schools that further segregate our students and challenge the validity of the "Nation's Report Card." The Republican- led legislative body has left open large corporate loopholes, they have imposed tax and fee increases on homeowner's and small business, and they restricted the business tax margins further reducing the revenues for Public Education, including Higher Education. I am in favor of re balancing the financial burden of education to achieve tax and fee relief for families and small business owners. Texas can afford to invest in educators, students, and programs necessary to provide a learning environment that produces a generation of well-trained individuals to compete globally in a rapidly changing world where robotics, math, science, arts, and technology hold the key to the future.

**A2:** Texas is one of the most diverse states in our nation. Our citizens should be thriving if you listen to our current administration. And yet that is not the truth. Many families are having to choose between much needed health care or paying the rent for the month. This is because wages have remained stagnant in many fields for our working class population while prices for every day expenses and health care have been on the rise. We must raise the minimum wage to keep up with the rest of the nation. I also support equal pay for equal work for women. The fact that I remember watching my mother fight this same battle when I was a child should be a disgrace to our current leaders. We must put a stop to the discriminatory legislation impacting our Texas economy. Business' have made it clear that they do not want to do business with a state that does not support a diversified work force.

**A3:** Texas sits on top of some of the largest known Shale basins in the country. HD 94 sits atop the Barnett Shale, a

geological formation located in the Bend Arch-Fort Worth Basin that covers 17 counties. Fracking has been the latest 'boom' for Texas despite the drawbacks of natural resource depletion, chemical injection, gas venting, and wastewater storage. Texas also accounts for the largest amount Wind Power production than any other State, accounting for over 12% of the electricity generated from over 40 project sites. Though HD 94 is not suitable for Wind Power production, we are suited for home energy production from solar panels or solar shingles, solar battery storage, and electric vehicles. I support legislation that would reduce carbon and methane emissions while transitioning us towards an energy independent future from sustainable renewable energy sources.

**A4:** The Affordable Care Act stopped insurance companies from denying healthcare for people with pre-existing conditions by forcing them into high-risk pools with outrageous out-of-pocket costs that forced many into bankruptcy or death. The ACA also provided pricing coverage for women at the same rate as men, as well as allowing young people to remain on their parent's policy until age 26. The failure of the current Republican legislature to expand Medicaid has left Texas ranked #1 in the Nation with the highest rate of uninsured at 16.6%, roughly 4.5 million individuals. This rate is partially attributed to our larger immigrant population, one of the weakest Medicaid programs in the Nation, and employer offered healthcare in Texas is lower-than-average when compared to other States. I will fight to expand Medicaid to improve the quality of life for those suffering with conditions for which they can receive no care. I will support a temporary fix, which includes a Medicare For All.

**A5:** Civil and Human Rights We must act to protect the most vulnerable groups in our society. I will work tirelessly to support, to protect, and promote equality for LGBTQIA+ people. I will support efforts to reduce the homeless population. I will stand up to the political bullies that demean and devalue our young people in schools who identify as Transgender or Gender Diverse. I will stand up for the families and allies of the LGBTQIA+ community in their efforts to be seen as human beings and deserving of equal rights as stated in the Constitution via Obergefell v. Hodges. Women's Rights It is crucial that we restore and fight for women's health care in our state as Texas leads the world in maternal mortality deaths. The decisions a woman makes with her doctor should be not be determined by government overreach. I will protect Planned Parenthood and the critical reproductive and preventative healthcare services provided to both women, and men.

**Jessica Pallett (LIB)**

No Response

## Texas House, District 95.....

### Stephen A. West (REP)

No Response

### Nicole Collier (DEM)

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**Education:** Bachelors of Science, Political Science, University of Houston Juris Doctorate, Texas Wesleyan University (now Texas A&M University School of Law)

**Experience:** 6 years of public service

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**A1:** We need to look at re-configuring the current financing mechanism because it is not working. Texas continues to grow in population and we have relied too heavily on property taxes as a source of funding for our public education system; which has proven to be insufficient. Moreover, raising local property taxes to compensate for the state's reduction in its constitutionally mandated obligation to provide a public education is not the answer and should not be a burden shouldered by taxpayers. We must look for common-sense solutions and the House version of HB21 filed during the 85th Regular Session was a start.

**A2:** I listen to the people I represent and use my own personal experiences as I navigate my way through various policies that come before the House. As a single mother of two children by the age of 18, I came to realize that it was important for me to finish high school so I could find a job that would pay the bills to provide a home for my family. However, I also knew it was important to take care of my health and that of my children. Once I realized that the job I

had would not get me to where I wanted to be, I continued my education. I believe we all have similar values: to care for ourselves and our loved ones. So I file and support bills that provide for earned paid leave like HB3483, expand access to affordable healthcare and affordable housing, eliminate zombie debt, expunge criminal records, and promote fair wages.

**A3:** I will continue to encourage the development and implementation of clean, renewable sources of energy in Texas such as solar, wind, geothermal and hydropower. I remain committed to ensuring that industry standards are followed and bad actors are held accountable.

**A4:** Expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Healthcare would have increased affordable healthcare for Texas residents. Ensuring that the 1115 Waiver Program is fulfilled will provide access to affordable healthcare and innovative programs are implemented within the communities where we live. Improving the Healthy Texas Women's program and reinstating Planned Parenthood as a provider will increase access to affordable health care as well.

**A5:** Last session we saw more than 6600 bills filed yet only 1200 or so made it to the Governor's desk and 51 of them were vetoed. Some would argue that they were all pressing. However, bills that deal with public school finance, teacher retirement, school safety, testing for lead in the potable water systems of public schools, improving health outcomes, providing livable wages, having access to earned paid leave, maintaining local control, safeguarding the environment, and ensuring consumer protection are just a few of the issues in my opinion, that deserve consideration during the 140 days of the next legislative session.

### Joshua G. Burns (LIB)

No Response

## Texas House, District 96.....

### Bill Zedler (REP)

No Response



### Ryan E. Ray (DEM)

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**Occupation:** Attorney focusing on Property Tax appeals.

**Education:** High School Diploma, Crowley High School Bachelor of Arts, Washington & Jefferson College Juris Doctor, Texas Wesleyan University School of Law (now A&M)

**Experience:** For the past six and half years I have served on the Crowley ISD School Board while at the same time as an attorney dealing intimately with our local appraisal districts, while representing property owners.

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**A1:** Our entire school funding system must be overhauled as it is failing our kids. We have dramatic inequality in the amount of money being spent from district to district, with some school districts spending more than twice per pupil what other districts have to spend. Every child in Texas should have access to high quality public education and that means changing the way we allocate funding. A crucial part of that is changing the funding weights which are supposed to help account for the varying needs of our children but in some cases the cost of actually providing services to children can be significantly higher than the small amount of additional funding coming from the state. An overhaul is

### Ryan E. Ray (DEM) - Continued

complicated and time consuming, a more immediate solution is for the State to meet it's obligation to fund at least 50% of the cost of educating our kids rather than pushing more and more of the burden onto local property tax payers.

**A2:** Texas has done a great job of creating jobs over the last decade, but unfortunately many of those jobs have been low wage positions. We already have a solid push to get our kids the skills they need starting in high school with CTE programming to have solid foundations in skilled trades, but we need to make sure that the folks in Austin are actively working to foster and invite development of the higher skilled and higher wage jobs that our citizens need to be successful. We have the opportunity to be a world leader in green energy development and to create a significant number of jobs that will provide a living wage. The states biggest role in economic development though is in creating a world class education system from pre-k through college, ensuring we have health care system that is meeting the needs of Texans, and making sure that our transportation infrastructure development keeps pace with the economic growth we already have and that we are seeking in the future.

**A3:** The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is one of the largest fossil fuel energy producers in the world, but they are keenly aware that while fossil fuels haven't run their course they are not the energy source of the future. Just like the Saudi royals, Texans must understand that while fossil fuel development is a large part of our history and economy, it is not the energy source of the future. We can be a world leader in green energy production and development, in fact Texas has the capacity to generate enough power through wind and solar to power the United States and then some. We must make developing a green energy economy in Texas a priority, meanwhile fossil fuel production will be a significant part of our economy for some time and we have a responsibility to make certain that the environmental concerns with fossil fuel production are carefully weighed against the benefits. Texas can both foster our fossil fuel development and work towards a green energy future.

**A4:** Texas has more uninsured people than any other state and serious problems with hospital closures in rural communities. We could significantly positively impact both of these issues by expanding Medicaid which would bring billions of federal dollars into our local economy and help save or improve thousands of lives. In addition to that we must find a way to expand the access to affordable healthcare to Texans. Certain folks in Austin have actively fought to undermine the Affordable Healthcare Act but have done nothing to advance any alternatives. The status quo is simply failing and people are dying as a result. Healthcare in Texas is great for those that can afford it, we have world class health systems and hospitals, but for the rest we need more options. One option is to help provide greater access as a lower cost is expanding the availability and use of telemedicine where it makes sense to provide a lower cost option to Texans.

**A5:** Texas incarcerates more people than another state and all but 9 nations on the planet. Lined up with the world we are just between Iran (with 4 times our population) and Mexico (with 5 times our population) in the total number of prisoners. Many of these inmates are in prison for low level drug possession offenses, these the victims of the drug trade who are criminalized and demonized. We could spend a fraction of the billion plus we spend each year to incarcerate over 46,000 people for low level drug possession charges and instead place these folks in drug treatment programs to help them work through their problems and move on to be productive citizens, our current policy practically ensures that they will have very little opportunity to do that as they are classified as felons with poor prospects for getting a job or even an apartment after prison. Our current policies are short sighted and this is a problem we can fix.

### Stephen Parmer (LIB)

No Response

### Texas House, District 97.....

#### Craig Goldman (REP)

No Response



#### Beth Llewellyn McLaughlin (DEM)

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**Occupation:** Public High School World Languages Teacher

**Education:** BA in French, German and Political Science,

University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa honors. Graduate hours in German and education at Nebraska and the University of Texas-Arlington.

**Experience:** Career educator, 29 years at Southwest High School in HD97. Served in school and district leadership positions. Active in exchange student organizations and political groups. Currently a volunteer docent at the Kimbell Art Museum.

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**A1:** The percentage of funding provided to local districts from the state of Texas has declined substantially over the past decade-from 51% to 39% as our student population is surging. To maintain services, local districts have turned to increases in property taxes. It is the constitutional duty of the Texas Legislature to adequately fund quality education

### **Beth Llewellyn McLaughlin (DEM) - Continued**

for ALL Texas students, regardless of where they live. We must prioritize where our budget money is spent-and education funding should be number 1. It is critical for the well-being and economic health of our people and our state. We should also have frank discussions about the value and efficacy of high stakes testing. Are our schools better than they were 20 years ago? Are our students better prepared to become healthy and productive citizens? The focus on standardized testing neglects the healthy academic and social development of differently-abled students. We must expand school curriculum beyond the goal of college readiness.

**A2:** I believe in modest and proportional economic incentives to bring new businesses and good jobs to Texas. However, we must ensure that the private sector pays its fair share of taxes which fund the infrastructure and the training of its workforce from which it benefits. Education is the gateway to better jobs. Any legislation which makes higher education more affordable and more equitable would have my support. Hard-working Texans who work forty or more hours per week should not fall beneath the poverty level. We should advocate for fair wages, and programs that can assist these families with affordable housing, childcare and health care.

**A3:** Texas has historically been, and currently is, the beneficiary of a vibrant oil and gas industry. These resources are not our future, however. We must encourage the investment in and pioneering of new energy sources such as

solar and wind as we transition into the 21st century and beyond. Long-range planning is critical to our environmental and economic health.

**A4:** We must reclaim the billions of dollars in Medicaid expansion funds available to Texas from the federal government. Refusing these funds-our own tax dollars being returned to us-makes no sense. It places an unnecessary burden on state resources to provide basic care to our most vulnerable citizens. Money from other critical needs-like education, infrastructure and more-is diverted to make up the funds lost. It is a ripple-effect of negative consequences.

**A5:** The most important job of a legislature that meets only 140 days every other year is to decide how to best allocate tax dollars for a two-year budget. The 2019 Legislature should examine which budget items serve the needs of the greatest number of Texans and allocate funds accordingly. Too much time has been spent on bills that espouse narrow ideological viewpoints that are irrelevant to the majority of Texans. Education funding, restoring health care benefits to current and retired Texas teachers, investing in infrastructure, assuring access to healthcare to women-especially new mothers-are issues that Texans do care about.

### **Rod Wingo (LIB)**

No Response

## **Texas House, District 98.....**

### **Giovanni Capriglione (REP)**

No Response



### **H. Todd J. Moore (LIB)**

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**Occupation:** Instructor / Teacher, Designer, Developer

**Education:** Philosophy BA - Ohio University Graduate Studies, Ohio University

**Experience:** Graduate Student Senate, 1994-95 Graduate Student Senate President, 1995-1996

**A1:** Decreasing in regulation for private schools. If taxation must be leveraged for education, then allocate more resources to choices in educational facilities. I prefer voluntary monies in this case. Should the state choose allocate funds, those funds should be obtained voluntarily, via a bond-measure or some other voluntary resource.

**A2:** Decrease sales and property taxes. If initiative is shown in attempting to start a business, or intent for more

education, then a bond fund could be established for investment in human capital.

**A3:** Increase tax alleviation for all businesses who show initiatives in establishing and maintaining profit-smart green policies.

**A4:** Decrease tax burden of any health care organization that allocates funding for community care - affordable, including free - emergency services in worst case scenarios. In regards to the abortion issue, I have struggled with this issue between Choice and the Non-Aggression Principle, and I finally, logically, must align as follows: In order to maintain complete Non-Aggression toward human beings, and because the ONLY specifically-definitive point in time at which one can clearly define that tissue changes to human, I must align with the Life Rights of the human fetus. I understand that this is not aligned to the Plank of the Libertarian Party of Texas, but I have to maintain my own lights in this regard, and those are logic and the Non-Aggression Principle (aka The Principle of the Non-Initiation of Force).

**A5:** I advocate that the State remove all oversight on personal, civil, liberties. I advocate any measure that decreases taxation of any kind. A advocate total liberty interpretation in adherence to the entire United States Bill of Rights, including all Amendments, 1st through 10th.

### **Mica J. Ringo (DEM)**

No Response

## Texas House, District 99.....

### Charlie Geren (REP)

No Response

### Michael Stackhouse (DEM)

No Response

## Texas House, District 101.....

### Chris Turner (DEM)

No Response



### James Allen (LIB)

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**Occupation:** Commercial Carpentry

**Education:** 40 hours of College Credit

**Experience:** Over three years of grassroots political activism within Texas communities - concentrated in Liberty and Cannabis Reform movements. Facilitated multiple charitable donation drives, mainly within the Fort Worth Butler Community.

**A1:** I believe that the public education system in Texas is one that is in dire need of reform within our community. The system is often criticized for the over-reliance on teaching only to standardized testing. There are discrepancies in quality from district to district, causing issues for recipients in lower tax income areas to access the education that they desire. I believe that the education system should be less reliant on public tax dollars as there are complaints about the usage of these dollars with low oversight, and the general consensus of low return value. Feeding more tax dollars into the system is not the solution and I believe Texas should be looking for more privately funded, community based education options, as well facilitating more homeschooling.

**A2:** I believe that Texas needs to be creating more opportunities for citizens in low-income areas to improve their economic positions. Some would argue that we need to feed into the fiscal system with more social aid, for example, or raise the minimum wage. I believe that opportunities for individual advancement through work are more sustainable. I would argue that the system for expunging nonviolent crimes from an individual's criminal record, for the purposes of job hiring and advancement, is one possible solution to aiding impoverished communities. These communities are typically disproportionately affected by over-policing, the war on drugs, and a shortage of resources to enable them to relocate outside of the community. The opportunity to expunge more nonviolent charges from their criminal records can eliminate barriers for them to go

farther in the workforce based solely on their individual commitment and work ethic.

**A3:** I would do everything in my power to facilitate the movement of commercial production to the usage of more renewable resources. One cause that I would support is the legalization of hemp growing within Texas. It would provide Texas another option in creating a number of products from a fast-growing, reliable, and renewable resource with a lower carbon footprint.

**A4:** I believe that heavy regulations are the driving force of high costs within the healthcare system of Texas. We need to pinpoint regulations that result in an undue burden on cost for doctors and hospitals, which in turn drives up the cost for patients. Restructuring these regulations can result in positive outcomes such as the facilitation of more private practices, or allowing more out-of-state physicians to practice within Texas for charitable causes. We should be looking for innovations such as an insurance system that is paid monthly or yearly to a primary doctor that allows for individuals to utilize a flexible, rather than set, amount of visits, treatments, and therapies.

**A5:** In the coming session of the Texas Legislature we will be facing the issue of Cannabis Reform. While some parties have already adopted reform onto their platform, it is apparent that citizens desire advancement in the scope of the Texas Compassionate Use Program, as well as more efforts to decriminalize possession. I believe that citizens are calling for change on this issue and fully support decriminalization and legalization efforts. The results of these efforts will lead to less citizens being damaged by nonviolent arrests and they would see an increase in safe consumption and awareness. In the next session the issue of unchecked, rising property taxes will also be addressed. The solution is one needing discussion; however rising taxes is increasingly causing a burden on Texas homeowners. Property taxes are high enough that citizens are paying amounts comparable to rent prices on a property that they own, and we may do well to institute some form of cap on property taxes.

## JUSTICES, COURT OF APPEALS

**Q1:** What, if anything, should be done to improve access to justice for low income residents in civil and criminal cases?

**Q2:** What can and should be done to run the court more effectively and efficiently to provide swift justice?

**Q3:** How will you maintain impartiality, given the necessity of raising funds for political campaigns?

**Q4:** What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the District courts, and how would you address them?

### Justice, 2nd Court of Appeals District, Place 5.....



**Dabney Bassel (REP)**

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**Occupation:** lawyer-specializing in appellate matters

**Education:** B.A. Trinity University J.D. Baylor University School of Law

**Experience:** 35 yrs. of litigation and appellate exper. Have been involved in more than a hundred civil and criminal appeals. Board Certified in Civil Appellate Law by the Texas Bd. of Legal Specialization since 2001-less than .5% of Tex. lawyers hold cert.

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**A1:** To improve access to justice in civil cases, other courts should look to the program of the Second Court of Appeals that assists parties who do not have a lawyer. How a party can access the program may be found at: [www.tex-app.org/DrawOnePage.aspx?PageID=83](http://www.tex-app.org/DrawOnePage.aspx?PageID=83). I am proud to have worked on this program.

**A2:** Justices on the Court of Appeals face two challenges—deciding appeals correctly and timely. The first challenge requires: 1) careful consideration of the arguments; 2) care in the preparation of opinions; and 3) an open-mind to the views of the other justices. The second challenge requires the dedication to make sure the parties have their appeals resolved timely.

**A3:** My guiding principles on the bench will be honesty and a commitment to a judicial philosophy that dictates total fidelity to the rule of law. Certainly, I am grateful to everyone who has supported my campaign. But the cases of those who supported me will receive the same treatment as everyone else's—a fair and timely resolution based on the law and the facts.

**A4:** I am running for an appellate court bench and not a District Court bench. Again, my focus on doing the job of an appellate judge will be the timely and correct resolution of the appeals that I might hear.



**Delonia A. Watson (DEM)**

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**Experience:** 34 years specializing in Appellate Advocacy/3.5 years as an Asst. Dist. Attorney (before the 2nd Court of Appeals and the TX Court of Criminal Appeals) 25 years as an Asst. U. S. Attorney, including as Appellate Chief/4.5 years in private practice

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**A1:** Local bar associations should be encouraged to offer clinics to low income residents in various areas of the law. Also, there should be more emphasis on attorneys providing pro bono assistance to those in need,

**A2:** Until elected, I cannot answer this question. I need to be part of the process so that I can see where improvements can be made.

**A3:** I will have no difficulty maintaining impartiality. Although I have not formally banned donations from attorneys, I have received most of my donations from non-attorneys thus far. I have received no donations from corporations or businesses, and do not anticipate receiving such donations.

**A4:** I am running for a seat on the Court of Appeals. This question is not applicable to me and my campaign.



## DISTRICT JUDGES

**Q1:** What, if anything, should be done to improve access to justice for low income residents in civil and criminal cases?

**Q2:** What can and should be done to run the court more effectively and efficiently to provide swift justice?

**Q3:** How will you maintain impartiality, given the necessity of raising funds for political campaigns?

**Q4:** What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the District courts, and how would you address them?

### Family District Judge, 322nd Judicial District .....



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**Occupation:** Associate Judge of 322nd District Court

**Education:** Board Certified Family Law-1989, Licensed to Practice Law-1981, Law Decree from South Texas College of Law-1980, Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, University of Texas Arlington-1976, and graduated Grand Prairie High School-1971

**Experience:** Associate Judge of the 322nd District Court. (2008 until present), Operated a successful Family Law practice. (1984 until 2007), Board Certified in Family Law since 1989, and Licensed to practice law since 1981.

**Facebook:** <http://jamesbmunfordforjudge>

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/munfordforjudge](https://twitter.com/munfordforjudge)

**A1:** There are programs for low income families. For example, I can think of six programs in Tarrant County with the primary one being the Access to Justice Program. As the Associate Judge of the 322nd District Court, I welcome self-represented individuals. A self-represented individual has access to the 322nd Family District Court and is treated with dignity and respect.

**A2:** As the 322nd Associate Judge I have worked to maintain an effective and efficient Court. I often come in early and stay late to resolve cases and accommodate the public. The 322nd Court has implemented staggered times for hearings thereby reducing costs and fees. The 322nd Court has implemented pre-trial scheduling orders to keep the case on schedule and reduce costs.

**A3:** I am seeking to be elected the Judge of the 322nd District Court. A judge has a duty to remain impartial. To remain impartial a judge should always follow the Rules of Procedure, the Rule of Law, the Rules of Evidence and the Judicial Code of Conduct. By following these rules and procedures the public will always have confidence in the judicial system.

**A4:** Transparency is one of the most pressing issues facing the Courts today. It is crucial that the public have faith in our judicial system. A court should be open to the public. This means helping the public to have access to the times and dates for hearings and trials to be scheduled. A person should have the ability to track their case online. A judge should conduct the Court's business in open court and on the record. This means conducting an evidentiary hearing and ruling on the law. The more the Court's business is conducted in the presence of the public, the more faith the public will have in the system.

### **Maryellen Whitlock Hicks (DEM)**

No Response

### Family District Judge, 323rd Judicial District .....

#### **Alex Kim (REP)**

No Response

#### **James C. Teel (DEM)**

No Response

## CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**Q1:** What uniquely qualifies you for the position of Criminal District Attorney?

**Q2:** What do you see as the primary role of the District Attorney?

**Q3:** What are the biggest challenges facing the District Attorney's office for the next four years?

**Q4:** What do you believe the goal of the criminal justice system should be?

### Criminal District Attorney .....



**Sharen Wilson (REP)**

**Email:** [sharen@sharenwilson.com](mailto:sharen@sharenwilson.com)

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

**Occupation:** Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney

**Education:** Texas Tech University Texas Tech University School of Law

**Experience:** Once known as "the toughest Judge in Tarrant County," Sharen sentenced many of the most dangerous criminals in North Texas. As our DA, she has built upon her excellent reputation.

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/sharenwilsonforda/>

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/SharenWilson4DA](https://twitter.com/SharenWilson4DA)

**A1:** I believe my professional experience has earned me a unique perspective as Tarrant County's Criminal District Attorney. I started my career as a criminal prosecutor and served as a state district judge for more than 20 years.

**A2:** This office represents the people of the State of Texas and Tarrant County. We are the voice of crime victims and are here to seek fair, accountable, transparent justice on their behalf.

**A3:** The exponential growth of our county creates many challenges. An increase in population leads to more criminal cases being filed. This creates a higher volume of work for our attorneys and investigators, the court system and law enforcement. More cases also mean more evidence that must be reviewed and provided to the defense for their review in each case.

**A4:** We have the greatest criminal justice system in the world, where every man and woman has the presumption of innocence until proven guilty. The right to legal representation. The right to a jury of their peers. The goal of our justice system should be to provide equal justice to all, protecting victims and holding criminals accountable for their actions.



**Albert John Roberts (DEM)**

**Phone:** (817) 653-7115

**Email:** [albertrobertsforda@gmail.com](mailto:albertrobertsforda@gmail.com)

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

**Occupation:** Private Practice - Criminal Defense Attorney

**Education:** Fort Worth Dunbar High School. Bachelors of Science in Electrical Engineering from Prairie View A&M University. Juris Doctorate from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University.

**Experience:** Prosecutor in Dallas County DA's Office: Awarded Dallas Prosecutor of the Year in 2011. Prosecutor in Felony Family Violence Division. Prosecutor in Tarrant County DA's Office. Partner at Scott & Roberts Law Firm, PLLC focused on Criminal Defense

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/albertrobertsforda>

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/ARobertsforDA](https://twitter.com/ARobertsforDA)

**A1:** I have tried over 100 jury trials, and I have spent the vast majority of my legal career serving the public at the District Attorney's Office. Criminal justice reform policies must be implemented by the chief law enforcement officer to be effective.

**A2:** "A prosecutor is the representative not of an ordinary party to a controversy, but of a sovereignty whose obligation to govern impartially is as compelling as its obligation to govern at all; and whose interest, therefore, in a criminal prosecution is not that it shall win a case, but that justice shall be done." Excerpt from *Berger v. U.S.*, 295 US 78 (1935)

**A3:** The District Attorney's Office is the most important branch of law enforcement because it has the ability to establish trust and accountability between taxpayers, victims of crime, the accused, police departments and other law enforcement agencies. The trust needed to be effective has been lost and needs to be restored. Fairness to the poor community is needed.

**A4:** The criminal justice system must help provide necessary safety to the entire community while making sure proper accountability measures are in place for all individuals involved. At times the system must punish, rehabilitate and deter those convicted of committing crimes. Too often minor criminal offenses prevent future education and job opportunities due to convictions.

## COUNTY JUDGE

**Q1:** What, if anything, should be done to improve access to justice for low income residents in civil and criminal cases?

**Q2:** What can and should be done to run the court more effectively and efficiently to provide swift justice?

**Q3:** How will you maintain impartiality, given the necessity of raising funds for political campaigns?

**Q4:** What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the District courts, and how would you address them?

### Tarrant County Judge.....

**Glen Whitley (REP)**

No Response

**Lawrence Larry Meyers (DEM)**

No Response

## DISTRICT CLERK

Serves as clerk and custodian of all records for the District Courts. Indexes and secures all court records, collects filing fees, and handles funds held in litigation and money awarded to minors.

**Q1:** The position of District Clerk requires expertise in judicial procedures as well as a strong administrative and managerial background. Please explain how your background qualifies you for this office

**Q2:** What can be done to improve customer service and efficiency in the District Clerk's office? If changes are necessary, what are those changes and how would you implement them?

**Q3:** What legislative changes, if any, would you make to improve efficiency and administration of the Texas justice system?

### District Clerk.....



**Tom Wilder (REP)**

**Phone:** (817) 884-1574

**Email:** [tawilder@flash.net](mailto:tawilder@flash.net)

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

**Occupation:** Elected official, constitutional officer

**Education:** Attended University of Dallas, UNT, over 500 hours of continuing education required by law taken thru UT Law School, Texas A&M and The District Court Alliance.

**Experience:** 30 years in business, 23 years as elected official. Served 7 years as appointee of Governor Bill Clements to board overseeing The Real Estate Center at Texas A&M, elected Chairman 1991-1992; appointed by Commissioners Court to serve on IT Steering Co

**Facebook:** <http://@re-electTomWilderdistrictclerk>

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/TomWilder1995](https://twitter.com/TomWilder1995)

**A1:** 23 years experience as incumbent District Clerk. "Best Practices Awards" from Texas Association of Counties for cost-efficient operation and recognition from the Texas House of Representatives for cost-efficient operation also. Appointed by Commissioners Court and currently serving on Tarrant County Information Technology Steering Committee, Justice Executive Planning Committee, E GOV Committee and the award winning Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee. Serves on County Bail Bond Board. These committees make evaluations of many county projects and then make recommendation to Commissioners Court for funding and implementation of projects. Also

serving on County Disaster Recovery Committee and E-filing Shareholders Committee. Member - Tarrant County Bar Association and Board of Directors for The Texas District Court Alliance. Prior to election in 1995, Tom was serving on the Board of the Real Estate Center at Texas A&M and owned The Wilder Company, a commercial Real Estate Services Co.

**A2:** Our reputation for customer service is well documented from complimentary letters and phone calls. Serving on committee to build a new case management system to better serve our litigants and judges. Building a new Web access system to replace the current one that will have more functionality for researchers on court cases and digital images. Building a new system for digitizing older records (1955 back to 1879). This is a cost-efficient way to do this without using general fund tax dollars.

**A3:** Advocating mandate of "Sensitive Data Sheet" on all court case filings. This will keep such data out of court pleadings that are available to the public but still allow use of data by attorneys and litigants as required under the law. Supreme Court Rules Committee or legislature can mandate. Have approached both to do so. Clerks need more input with the Texas Supreme Court that has rule making authority that sends unfunded mandates to our local taxpayers. Clerks' Association are gearing up to do this. Commissioners Court, CUC and Texas Association of Counties must be motivated to do more to stop these unfair practices from legislature and Supreme Court. By currently serving on legislative committees, we can hopefully do this. Criminal Justice reform in a number of areas needed. Our Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee and Commissioners Court are working on this.

**John Derewitz (DEM)**

No Response

## COUNTY CLERK

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**Q3:** What legislative changes, if any, would you make to improve efficiency and administration of the Texas justice system?

### Tarrant County Clerk.....

**Mary Louise Garcia (REP)**

No Response

**Karroll W Parker (DEM)**

No Response

## TARRANT COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR

The Tarrant County Tax Assessor-Collector is responsible for collecting property taxes on behalf of the county as well as several other entities, including municipalities and hospital, utility and school districts. Additionally, the Tax Assessor-Collector processes vehicle registration and collects state-mandated fees for alcoholic beverage permits.

**Q1: TAX COLLECTION:** What changes, if any, are needed in tax collection processes in the county?

**Q2: PROPERTY APPRAISALS:** What changes are needed, if any, to ensure fairness and accuracy for all property appraisals?

**Q3: OTHER ISSUES:** What other issues do you believe will be most pressing for the county Tax Assessor and Collector, and how would you address them?

### Tarrant County Tax Assessor-Collector.....

**Wendy Burgess (REP)**

No Response

**Ollie Anderson (DEM)**

No Response

## JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

**Q1:** What uniquely qualifies you for the position of Justice of the Peace?

**Q2:** Why did you choose to run for this specific court?

**Q3:** What role does a judge play in interpreting the law?

### Justice of the Peace, Tarrant County Precinct No. 2.....

**Mary Tom Cravens Curnutt (REP)**

No Response

**Ernesto Gloria (DEM)**

No Response

### Justice of the Peace, Tarrant County Precinct No. 3.....



**Bill Brandt (REP)**

**Phone:** (817) 891-3708

**Email:** Bill@BillBrandtJP3.com

**Website:** BillBrandtJP3.com

**Occupation:** 30 Yr USAF Vet Licensed Tx Attny FedEx B767 Capt

**Bill Brandt (REP) - Continued**

**Education:** Grapevine H.S., B.S. United States Air Force Academy, Sq. Officers School, Air Command & Staff College, M.B.A. University of Phoenix, Air War College USAF, J.D. Texas A&M University School of Law, Grad. Cert. New St. Andrews College, (In Prog.)

**Experience:** USAF Commander, 438 Air Expeditionary Group (AEG), Pakistan, 2003 & 506 AEG, Iraq, 2004. Licensed Texas Attorney, Civil Litigation, Mediator, Tarrant & Collin County Justice Courts. Numerous leadership positions at Messiah Lutheran Church, Keller.

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/billbrandtjp3/>

**A1:** Leadership, legal knowledge, and a life of service make

me the most qualified candidate. As a combat command veteran I know how both to manage and to lead under difficult circumstances. As a licensed Texas attorney I have the experience and legal training to know and apply the law to the facts to reach a just result. My ten grandchildren motivate me to continue to serve.

**A2:** Justice Courts in Texas are the courts closest to the people. At a time when the rule of law is in question we must have judges who can demonstrate transparency, civility and the ethical core to apply the law without prejudice. I feel called to this duty in the Justice Court for my community. In this way I can promote respect for the law by respecting all in the court.

**A3:** Lower court judges should apply rather than interpret. Paraphrasing Justice Gorsuch, judges should strive to apply the law as it is, focusing backward, not forward, and looking to text, structure, and history to decide what a reasonable reader at the time of the events in question would have understood the law to be, not based on moral convictions or policy consequences.

**Kris Jara (LIB)**

No Response

**Justice of the Peace, Tarrant County Precinct No. 4.....**

**Christopher (Chris) Gregory (REP)**

No Response

**Roger D. Metcalf (DEM)**

No Response

**Justice of the Peace, Tarrant County Precinct No. 6.....**

**Jason Charbonnet (REP)**

No Response

**Derek Thorn (LIB)**

No Response

**Deborah Hall (DEM)**

No Response

**Justice of the Peace, Tarrant County Precinct No. 7.....**

**Matt Hayes (REP)**

No Response

**A2:** Because I felt it was most impacted by the average citizen. JP Courts handle a lot of Truancy, Small Claims, Evictions, and disputes that are more often than not represented by attorneys. Many of the petitioners or defendants are citizens with limited resources who are just trying to make their voice heard in matters that may impact their living situation or other issues.

**A3:** The judiciary system balances the power of government and gives voice to the people against unjust enrichment of others and over-reach by government. As judge interpreting the law requires an understanding of the construction and intent of the law. It is important to understand legislative intent as the spirit of the law without over-reaching the actual letter of the law.



**Kenneth D. Sanders (DEM)**

**Phone:** (817) 454-1684

**Email:** kensand@hotmail.com

**Website:** www.voteKenSanders.com

**Occupation:** Independent Insurance Adjuster

**Education:** Bachelor's Of Arts Degree in Business, Southern University

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/VoteKenSanders>

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/KenSandersTX](https://twitter.com/KenSandersTX)

**A1:** Beyond meeting all qualifications outlined by the State of Texas, I am the most qualified candidate in this race and, as measured by any objective metric, I have been active in this community long before this election cycle in comparison to my opponents. I have the temperament essential in establishing a court room of procedural fairness and maintain proper decorum.

## COUNTY COMMISSIONER

4 year term. Must be 18 years or older, a U.S. citizen, a resident of Texas, and a resident of the district represented. Responsible for representing the citizens of the district in which he/she is elected in the Tarrant County Commissioners Court, which conducts the general business of the county and oversees financial matters.

**Q1: JUSTICE SYSTEM** - What are the main challenges in providing a justice system for the county and how would you address them?

**Q2: HEALTH CARE** - What would you think should be the priority focus for healthcare in the next few years?

**Q3: ELECTIONS** - What would you do, if anything, to encourage greater voter turnout in Tarrant County?

**Q4: OTHER ISSUES** - What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the county, and what is your position on these issues?

### Tarrant County Commissioner, Precinct No. 2.....



**Andy Nguyen (REP)**

**Phone:** (817) 614-8733

**Email:** [Andy@AndyNguyenCampaign.com](mailto:Andy@AndyNguyenCampaign.com)

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

**Occupation:** Public Service and Business

**Education:** B.A. in Business Management and Minor in Military Science from the University of Kentucky

**Experience:** 7 successful years as County Commissioner, US Army veteran, former owner and President of AIT Technologies, Co-Founder of Southeast Tarrant Transportation Partnership, currently serve on the BoDs of Catholic Charities, Salvation Army, RTC, TRTC, etc.

**Facebook:** <http://facebook.com/AndyNguyenCampaign>

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/AndyNguyenNow](https://twitter.com/AndyNguyenNow)

**A1:** Provide more support to law enforcement to divert prospective patients to behavioral health clinics, rather than booking these individuals into jail. Bond Release: Create a way to more consistently evaluate bond release based on risk and income.

**A2:** More focus on collaborative wellness & preventative care; provide more opportunities for education & good-paying jobs with insurance benefits; medical care service pricing should be more transparent & itemized where possible; JPS to build more community medical homes for primary care, geriatric care, and behavioral health intervention; more doctors and medical specialists.

**A3:** I have been encouraging Tarrant County Election to be more proactive and aggressive on voter education and mobilization. Also, I have been conducting talk shows and delivering speeches to community groups to educate listeners about the importance of civic involvement and voting.

**A4:** Soaring property tax & traffic congestion are big obstacles. TX Legislature has to allocate more transportation \$ &/or permit limited public/private funding options. Allow private tech companies to drive solutions to transportation issues. Manage local gov growth, state to provide more \$ to ISD, &/or combo property/sales tax are possible solutions to property tax burden.



**Devan Allen (DEM)**

**Phone:** (817) 262-1478

**Email:** [info@votedevanallen.com](mailto:info@votedevanallen.com)

**Website:** <https://votedevanallen.com>

**Occupation:** Realtor

**Education:** B.A., University of Texas at Arlington; Coursework - University of Colorado at Denver; Tarrant County College; The Cooper Institute; Kaplan Real Estate

**Experience:** Certified Emergency Medical Technician; Staffer: Council Aide, Fort Worth Mayor Pro Tem; District Director, Texas Senate and House; Campaign Manager for State Rep. Chris; Senior Director of External Affairs, UT Arlington; Small Business Owner

**Facebook:** <http://facebook.com/votedevanallen>

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/devanjallen](https://twitter.com/devanjallen)

**A1:** They include pre-trial services, additional resources for diversion programs, and reducing recidivism. I would evaluate current delivery of resources and follow best practices to ensure effective governance while maintaining public safety.

**A2:** In order to meet the needs of our county - one of the fastest-growing in the nation, we need additional neighborhood medical centers, psychiatric and behavioral health resources, and other recommended services. We have not had a bond election since 1985 and need to pass one to invest in infrastructure while ensuring affordable and accessible healthcare for all residents.

**A3:** Participating in the electoral process is critical to our democracy. I would establish partnerships with organizations that seek to provide information-based voter education and in a cost-effective manner, include voter registration and other voter information in as many methods that the county communicates with residents about other county-related matters.

**A4:** Residents of Southeast Tarrant County need better transportation options to get to school, work and to medical services – these are quality of life issues for hard-working families. We must have a long-term solutions approach to include increased state funding, reducing our reliance on toll roads, and investment in regional transportation.

## CITY COUNCILS

City councils in Texas each have specific responsibilities unique to their city. Duties of a city council generally include setting the tax rate, approving a budget, adopting local ordinances, and managing land transactions. City councils plan and oversee public services and facilities: police and fire protection; health and sanitation services; animal control; street construction and maintenance; garbage collection and disposal; transportation systems; recreational facilities; parking; airports; jails; parks and zoos; libraries and museums; hospitals and emergency services; building codes/zoning; and water and sewage service. City council members may also elect other municipal officers or appoint citizens to serve on boards and commissions.

**Q1:** Why are you running for city council?

**Q2:** How does your background prepare you for this office?

**Q3:** How will you increase transparency in city government?

**Q4:** How will you balance city revenue with service needs?

**Q5:** What are the most critical issues facing the city council, and what solutions can you offer?

## CITY OF BENBROOK

The City of Benbrook operates under the council/manager form of government within the framework of the Benbrook Home Rule Charter adopted by the citizens in 1983 and amended by subsequent charter elections. The City Council is primarily responsible for enacting legislation and public policy.

### Benbrook City Council, Place 2.....

**Renee Franklin**

No Response

**Jenevieve Williams**

No Response

### Benbrook City Council, Place 4.....

**Rickie Allison**

No Response

**Dustin Phillips**

No Response

### Benbrook City Council, Place 6.....

**Laura Mackey**

No Response

**Mark Washburn**

No Response

## CITY OF RIVER OAKS

### River Oaks City Council, Place 3.....

**Dan Dage**

**Phone:** (817) 626-1418

**Email:** dageldan@aol.com

**Website:** I can be found on Facebook at "The truth about River Oaks 76114" I am the Administrator

**Occupation:** I run an Automotive Restoration shop and also work

**Education:** I graduated from Western Hills High School and then Tarrant County College with an Associates Degree in Applied Science - Automotive Technology. Also Automotive Service of Excellence (ASE) Master Auto, Bus, and Truck Technician.

**Experience:** None as a city council person. I have run a small trucking company which requires understanding government regulation and also an automotive restoration shop. I understand what it means to meet government guidelines and to work within a budget.

**A1:** I have lived in River Oaks since 1987. I have watched the current city leaders for 24 years run our once great city into the ground. I can not stand by any more. It is time to change the direction the city has been moving for so long. The city needs

**A2:** I have learned over the years that it is important to listen to what my customers want and expect, and a council person should do the same thing. I understand what it means to work within a budget and that not everyone will be happy with that.

**A3:** In this day of technology there is no reason that all city meetings should not be recorded and both broadcast and podcast to the citizens of River Oaks. Most of River Oaks citizens are hard working people and cannot attend meetings. The only current information is a brief 2-page review from the city that glosses over what was said in the meeting, and some is just not repor

**Dan Dagele - Continued**

**A4:** River Oaks has been operating in the red now for a few years and has also recently taken out a 15 million dollar loan. The city is going to have to tighten its belt to survive. The city needs to concentrate on basic services..... water, sewer, police, fire, trash and streets. Once those services are met, then you can look at the luxury items like the library, the community

**A5:** Our water has been below state standards since 2006. The current repairs, 15 million dollars worth, may or may not fix the problem. There has been no guarantee from the state engineers or our own public works director that the current work will fix the problem. If it does not, it will be

time to see if we can make an agreement with the City of Fort Worth to purchase water in the future. We already use them for sewer disposal service.

**Sherrie Uptomore Dast**

No Response

**Darren Houk**

No Response

**CITY OF WATAUGA**

**Watauga City Council, Place 1.....**



**Lee W Griffin**

**Phone:** (817) 676-6852

**Email:** LEEGRIFFIN49@GMAIL.COM

**Occupation:** Retired LEO, Southwest Investigations Group

**Education:** BA Sociology and Psychology

**Experience:** Over 20 years service as an elected city councilman for the City of Watauga, Various positions in Texas Municipal League and North Texas Council of Governments.

**A1:** Several citizens have asked me to run for Hal's remaining term to add my prior experience to the existing Council. I encourage citizens and businesses to present their concerns either during meetings or individually with staff or council members.

**A2:** I have over 20 years of service to the city as an elected councilman dealing with the issues of city government. I have worked on budgets each of those years and dealt with problems as they arise while supporting goals to advance the community.

**A3:** Transparency is a function of communication between the government and the governed. Currently the city uses open meetings, emails, telephones and a website. I would

suggest having a tracker function on the website to show the number of inquiry's the city receives and the resolutions given in response so the government and the citizens can know the result.

**A4:** They are always balanced. There is no service without the money to pay for it. The goal should be to provide the most efficient service possible with the resources the city has. You can do that by proper budget allocation and feedback from the citizens on how the service is performed.

**A5:** With a decline in sales tax revenue, revenue to fund services will be an issue. Watauga is a booming real estate market however we are mostly built out and new construction will be limited. Existing properties should be encouraged to invest in improvements by developing partnerships with building suppliers and contractors that will support that goal. The council can pass policies that will make that possible.

**Scott Prescher**

No Response

**Jared Thompson**

No Response

**Andrew W Womack**

No Response

**CITY OF WHITE SETTLEMENT**

**White Settlement City Council, Place 4.....**

**Christina Grudzinski**

No Response

**Jason Smith**

No Response

**Sonia Smoak**

No Response



# PROPOSITIONS

## Tarrant County Hospital District Special Election.....

### Tarrant County Hospital District Proposition A

A The issuance of \$800,000,000 by Tarrant County on behalf of the Tarrant County Hospital District for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, improving, equipping or enlarging facilities of the hospital system, including, but not limited to, a new mental health and behavioral health hospital, a new main hospital tower for general and specialized patient care-physician nurse training- and Level One Trauma Care, a new cancer center, four new regional health centers, and a new ambulatory surgical center.

For or Against

## City of Arlington.....

### City of Arlington Proposition A

The issuance of \$137,835,000 general obligation bonds for street improvements, and the levying of a tax in payment thereof.

For or Against

### City of Arlington Proposition B

The issuance of \$19,165,000 general obligation bonds for park, open space and recreation improvements and the levy of a tax in payment thereof.

For or Against

### City of Arlington Proposition C

The issuance of \$24,500,000 general obligation bonds for police and fire fighting facilities and improvements, and the levying of a tax in payment thereof.

### City of Arlington Proposition D

The issuance of \$8,000,000 general obligation bonds for improvement and equipping existing city service and administrative facilities, and the levying of a tax in payment thereof.

For or Against

### City of Arlington Proposition E

Addition of Section 9 of Article IV of the City Charter to provide that no person shall serve as Mayor for more than three elected terms and no person shall serve as a Council Member for more than three elected terms and under no circumstances may any person ever serve more than twelve years in combination as a Council Member and Mayor and the term that each person as Mayor or as a Council Member is currently filling and all terms served prior to that current term shall be counted for purposes of determining whether three terms have been served and the renumbering of the existing Section 9 to Section 10.

For or Against

## City of Keller.....

### City of Keller Proposition A

The issuance of public securities in an amount not to exceed \$8,000,000 for new senior activity center at Johnson Road Park

For or Against

**City of Lake Worth.....**

**City of Lake Worth Proposition A**

Whether the City of Lake Worth Crime Control and Prevention District should be continued for ten years and the Crime Control and Prevention District sales tax should be continued for ten years.

For or Against

**City of Reno.....**

**City of Reno Proposition A**

"Authorizing the creation of the Tri-County Regional Municipal Development District and the imposition of a sales and use tax at the rate of one-half of one percent for the purpose of financing development projects beneficial to the district."

Yes or No

**City of Richland Hills.....**

**City of Richland Hills Proposition A**

The adoption of a local sale and use tax in the City of Richland Hills at the rate of three-eighths of one percent (3/8%) to provide for maintenance and repair of municipal streets.

For or Against

**City of Richland Hills Proposition B**

The adoption of a sales and use tax for the benefit of the Richland Hills Type B Economic Development Corporation for projects previously approved by the qualified voters of the City of Richland Hills and to include public park purposes, community facilities, related maintenance and cost of operation of publically owned projects, and the promotion of new and expanded business enterprises at the rate of two-eighths percent (2/8%).

For or Against

**Birdville Independent School District.....**

**Birdville Independent School District Proposition A**

The issuance of \$252,802,490 of bonds by the Birdville Independent School District for the construction, acquisition and equipment of school facilities in the District and the purchase of the necessary sites for school facilities and levying the tax in payment thereof, including the costs of any credit agreements executed in connection with the bonds.

For or Against

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