

Early voting: October 22 – November 2 Election day: Polls open 7am to 7pm

Cast an informed vote in the General Election
Candidates' answers on issues that affect you:

Immigration • Foreign Intervention • Energy • Education • Judicial Impartiality

ABOUT THIS VOTERS GUIDE

This printed *Voters Guide* lists candidates in more than 50 contested races who are on the November 6, 2012, General Election ballot and provides their answers to questions posed by LWV-Texas.

Additional information can be accessed online at www.VOTE411.org, including an online *Voters Guide* with candidate videos, races not included in this *Voters Guide*, and an "On Your Ballot" feature allowing voters to enter an address and review races and ballot initiatives specific to that address.

This *Voters Guide* is funded and published by the League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund. For more than 90 years, helping voters cast an informed vote when they go to the polls has been the primary goal of the League of Women Voters. As an organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, the League believes that all of us are stakeholders in *Making Democracy Work*. Neither the League nor the Education Fund supports or opposes any political party or candidate.

This *Voters Guide* lists candidates for President of the United States, as well as statewide and regional races in Texas, including U.S. Senator, Railroad Commissioner, Supreme Court, Court of Criminal Appeals, Courts of Appeals, and the State Board of Education.

Questionnaires were sent to all candidates in contested races. Candidate replies are printed without editing or verification. Due to space restrictions, candidates were given strict word limits. Replies exceeding the word limit are indicated by slashes (///). Candidates were also asked to avoid references to their opponents. Candidates appearing with no photo failed to submit one.

This *Voters Guide* is organized by office, with candidates listed by party. Ballot order may vary from county to county. The names of unopposed candidates are also listed.

VOTING IN THE GENERAL ELECTION

In the General Election in November, voters in Texas may vote for any

TABLE OF CONTENTS

United States President.....	2-3
U.S. Senator.....	3-4
Railroad Commissioner.....	5
Voting for Judges in Texas.....	6
Supreme Court.....	6-7
Court of Criminal Appeals.....	8
Courts of Appeals.....	9-18
State Board of Education.....	18-24

candidate they wish, regardless of whether they voted in a party primary or participated in a party convention. All candidates from all parties are on the same ballot.

WHAT TO TAKE TO THE POLLS

When you go to vote, take your registration certificate with you. If you do not provide a voter registration certificate, you may vote by providing some other form of identification. You will be allowed to vote if your name appears on the rolls in your county of residence. The following are acceptable forms of identification for the November 6, 2012, election:

- Drivers license
- Personal identification card issued by the Dept. of Public Safety
- Another form of identification containing your photograph
- Birth certificate
- United States citizenship papers
- United States passport
- Official mail addressed to you from a governmental entity
- Pay check that shows your name and address
- Current utility bill
- Bank statement
- Government check, or other government document that shows your name and address.

LWV-Texas Voters Guides are funded by the League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) corporation that is supported by contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations. LWV-TEF gratefully acknowledges major contributions in the past year from The Association of Texas Professional Educators, Brown Foundation, Harold Simmons Foundation, HEB, Jacob and Terese Hershey Foundation, LWV Education Fund, O Live Fund, Elaine Bridges, Susybelle Gosslee, Edith Jones, Linda Krefting, Nancey Lobb, Carolie Mullan, Betty Sanders, Barbara Swartz, Patricia Vaughan, Linda Wassenich, and Nancy Wilson. Special thanks to Jacqueline Pike for the Spanish translation of the Voters Guide.

GROUND RULES

- All qualified presidential candidates were invited to provide biographical information and responses to six specific questions. Candidates were qualified if they met the following criteria: 1. The candidate must have made a public announcement of her/his intention to run for President; 2. The candidate must qualify for the ballot in enough states to win a majority of electoral votes; and, 3. The candidate must meet the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act's minimum contribution threshold requirements for qualifying for matching funds, based on the most recent data publicly available on the FEC website by the date of publication.
- Responses were limited to a specific number of characters and were truncated thereafter.
- If a candidate did not respond by the date of publication, "Candidate has not responded." is printed.

Duties: The President is the head of state of the United States of America and is the Chief Executive Officer and is the Commander in Chief of all military forces. The powers of the President are described in the Constitution and federal law. The President appoints the members of the Cabinet, ambassadors to other nations and the United Nations, Supreme Court Justices and federal judges, subject to Senate approval. The President, along with the Cabinet and its agencies, is responsible for carrying out and enforcing the laws of the United States. The President may also recommend legislation to the United States Congress. **How Elected:** Every four years, political parties nominate candidates to run for President of the United States in a general election that is held on the first Tuesday, after the first Monday in November. The popular vote for President and Vice President within each state determines how the members of the Electoral College may vote. There are 538 members in the Electoral College, with 270 votes required to win the Presidency. See <http://www.lwv.org/files/ElectingThePresident.pdf> for more details.

Term: Four years. Limit of two terms. **Base Salary:** \$400,000 per year.

United States President

Question 1: Please identify your top three goals if elected.

Question 2: In this time of high unemployment, what are the most important things that should be done to improve our nation's economy?

Question 3: How can the federal government, in collaboration with other levels of government, provide an equitable, quality public education for all children pre-K through grade 12?

Question 4: Please explain why you do or do not support cutting Medicare and Social Security to address the federal deficit.

Question 5: Please explain why you do or do not support requiring timely and full disclosure of all political expenditures in federal campaigns.

Question 6: Please explain why you do or do not support the Environmental Protection Agencies' efforts to enforce strong clean air and clean water standards in America.

MITT ROMNEY (R)



Candidate has not responded.

Website: www.mittromney.com | Campaign Phone: (857)288-3500 |
Address: Mitt Romney for President, PO Box 149756, Boston, MA, 02114

BARACK OBAMA (D)



Candidate has not responded.

Website: www.barackobama.com | Campaign Phone: (312)698-3670 |
Address: Obama for America, PO Box 803638, Chicago, IL, 60680

GARY JOHNSON (L)



Personal Statement: After having built a successful business, I entered public service by asking the people of New Mexico to give me an opportunity to bring common sense leadership to the Office of Governor. I pledged to reduce taxes, reduce the size of state government (///)

Answer 1: 1. Balance the Federal Budget. 2. Cut Federal spending by the amount necessary to eliminate deficit spending without raising taxes. 3. Remove the United

States from unnecessary and costly foreign wars and interventions, including Afghanistan.

Answer 2: The Federal Budget must be brought under control to eliminate the massive deficits that are threatening the economy and our security. Removing the burden of deficits and debt will restore confidence and free up capital to permit the economy to grow.

I advocate a consumption tax which would allow us to eliminate taxes on income, capital gains and businesses – creating millions of new jobs.

Answer 3: The Federal government cannot and should not try to provide public education. Decades of increasing federal interference in education has done little other than stifle innovation and competition in public educa-

Website: www.garyjohnson2012.com | Email: mail@garyjohnson2012.com | Campaign Phone: (801) 303-7922 | Address: 731 E South Temple Salt Lake City, UT 84102

tion. Education should be left to the states, which will permit the types of innovation and education choices that will allow us to regain its competitive advantage in global education.

Answer 4: It is not possible to preserve health care programs for future generations, while bringing federal spending under control and not reducing Medicare. Not addressing Medicare and Medicaid spending will result in an insolvent system. Under a program of block grants, the states can fashion their own health care programs for those who need assistance, more effectively than the Federal government.

Answer 5: Full and immediate disclosure and transparency for campaign contributions and expenditures is the only effective way to give the American public confidence in the system and allow them to make their own decisions regarding the propriety of how one candidate or another finances his or her campaigns.

Answer 6: The Federal government's most fundamental role is to protect citizens. To the extent that fulfilling that role requires enforcement actions by the EPA, that enforcement should be reasonable, but adequate to protect us from harm. The EPA, however, should not be in the business of managing the environment through regulations that force decisions that should be left to the marketplace, such as energy (///)

JILL STEIN (G)

Personal Statement: We can't afford four more years of Wall Street bailouts and an economy for the superrich. We must guarantee every individual a job at a living wage, quality health care, tuition-free education, Social Security and a healthy climate and environment.

Answer 1: I stand for a Green New Deal that will deliver 1) A recession-proof economy that provides a job at a living wage for every American willing and able to work, 2) An economy based on clean, renewable energy, 3) Replacement of the predatory Wall Street banks with a public interest banking system, and 4) A real democracy in which politicians are accountable to voters not big money donors.

Answer 2: My Green New Deal will create 25 million jobs through a nationally funded but locally controlled direct employment initiative. This will eliminate long term unemployment by letting workers simply go to the local employment office and get a job. It will deliver the most effective stimulus of all: millions of workers with paychecks.

Answer 3: I will end Washington's attempts to promote high stakes testing, corporatization of public schools, and destructive union-busting schemes.

Website: www.jillstein.org/ | Email: HQ@JillStein.org | Address: PO Box 260217 Madison, WI 53726-0217

**Additional information on presidential candidates is available at www.VOTE411.org.
The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any candidate or political party.**

U nited States Senator

Six-year term. Must be at least 30 years old, a resident of the United States for at least nine years, and a resident of Texas. One of 100 members of the U.S. Senate which has specific powers to advise and consent to presidential appointments and treaties and to try impeachments. Powers the Senate shares with U.S. House of Representatives include the power to levy taxes, borrow money, regulate interstate commerce, and declare war.
Current annual salary: \$174,000

Immigration: What specific changes, if any, would you propose to the current immigration policy? Please explain.

Foreign Intervention: Under what circumstances should the U.S. intervene militarily in a foreign conflict?

Elections: The Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision has changed the

role of money in politics. What changes, if any, do you support to regulation of campaign financing?

Health Care: What changes, if any, should be made to the health care system in the U.S.?

Gridlock: How will you avoid the gridlock that has crippled Congress?

PAUL SADLER (D)

Immigration: Continue our efforts to strengthen and support border security. Policies must be streamlined to effectively allow use of the system to legally apply for citizenship. A temporary work visa program and reasonable pathway to citizenship should be created for those without a criminal record and willing to learn English. We should pass the DREAM Act for innocent young students.

Foreign Intervention: US interest in foreign conflict must be backed by a set of policies directed toward ensuring effective and legitimate intervention that is based on the sanctity of human rights while also respecting national sovereignty. Priority should be given to our national security, with a clear objective, sufficient force to achieve the objective, and a clear strategy to resolution.

Elections: Citizens United is the most devastating decision to campaign finance reform and the influence of special interests in elections. Know-

ing the source is critical; transparency, disclosure, and disclaimer requirements are necessary to protect against undue influence. Unlimited use of corporate/individual money through Super PACs jeopardizes voter rights to informed decisions.

Health Care: The Affordable Care Act, although not perfect, has important features that benefit us as consumers, patients and human beings. It contains measures to encourage and incentivize efficiencies within health care. To build upon this, we must continue to look for creative solutions to Medicare and Medicaid funding issues, improve access to quality care and further reduce costs.

Gridlock: I will bring my proven record of problem solving to the Senate, working toward practical solutions, understanding that the best ideas can come from any person. Texans deserve a leader with political courage and integrity - I have demonstrated commitment to that idea. Being a legislator isn't about partisanship, it's about developing solutions to better the lives of Texans.

Education: Bachelor in Business Administration and Management, Baylor University, 1977; J.D. from Baylor Law School, 1979. | Experience: Served in the TX House of Representatives from 1991 – 2003; Chairman of Public Education Committee, 1995-2003; appointed to the Legislative Budget Board. Executive Director of the Wind Coalition, 2008-2012. | Web Site: sadlerforsenate.com | Email: info@sadlerforsenate.com

KEY

(R) - REPUBLICAN (D) - DEMOCRAT (L) - LIBERTARIAN (G) - GREEN (///) - OVER WORD LIMIT

JOHN JAY MYERS (L)

Immigration: We have made it impossible for peaceful people to immigrate to this country legally. I believe in border security that stops the violent, but not an iron curtain of federal quotas that blocks people who want to work, shop, or travel. We also need to end the other programs that unfairly target immigrants, such as the drug war, the welfare state, and the war on terror.

Foreign Intervention: Only when our own country is immediately threatened with attack, and only to the extent necessary to defeat that threat. Otherwise, honest trade and peace with all nations is the key to preserving our security. Our CIA and military interventions have only fueled terrorism and sponsored the worst of the worst such as Saddam Hussein and Osama bin Laden. War is a racket.

Elections: As long as government has power to grant economic favors, monied interests will find a way to game the system. Reducing the power

Education: Southwest Missouri State University | Experience: Libertarian National Committee, Vice-Chair of Libertarian Party of Dallas County, Liberty Activist | Web Site: johnjaymyers.com | Email: john@johnjaymyers.com

DAVID B. COLLINS (G)

Immigration: Start by fixing the root of the problem, the dire poverty and economic instability of Mexico and Central America. If people can make a proper living in their home countries, they will not need to risk their lives migrating to the U.S. Assist sustainable agriculture and promote living-wage green jobs both here and there. Also, provide immigrants a path to citizenship.

Foreign Intervention: None. U.S. intervention has a history of making things worse, whether immediately or long-term. We typically intervene because our business interests are threatened, which happens because these interests rip off host nations' economies and destroy their ecosystems. The United Nations should be sufficiently funded to fulfill its purpose and prevent foreign conflicts.

Elections: The answer is easy, though the solution is difficult: Amend the Constitution, as proposed by movetoamend.org, to state that corporations

Education: BA in Classics from Rice University, 1984; cum laude from Cypress Creek High School, 1980. | Experience: Green Party organizer and member since 1996; first time as a candidate; veteran of five Texas ballot-access petition drives. | Web Site: texasgreencandidates.com/davidcollins.html | Email: dbc4senator@gmail.com

NO REPLY RECEIVED: TED CRUZ (R)

of government is the first step to preventing corruption. A government that has no power to grant favors will not be bought. No amount of regulation will stop money from going to political cronies while government continues to dole out profits.

Health Care: Government programs designed to help people have had the opposite effect. Pumping money into this industry artificially inflates demand and increases prices. It's time to phase out Medicare and Medicaid over the next 20 years before health resources become so scarce that they are affordable for no one. Malpractice issues should be handled by the courts and the people.

Gridlock: Congress is not crippled. The fat cats still have their way while the people are divided over the scraps from their table. The incumbent parties still collude against us while perpetuating the fiction that we have a choice between two polar opposites. Unlike greed, freedom is nonpartisan, and I will support other Senators whenever they take freedom positions on issues.

are not people and money is not speech. Greens also favor public funding of campaigns, which works in many other nations. The current private system awards power to the highest bidders.

Health Care: Single payer national health care, already adopted in 24 other nations, produces measurably better health outcomes while spending far less in overhead. The Affordable Care Act makes some improvements, but an inadequate compromise that mostly benefits insurance companies by requiring people to purchase coverage. By international law, health care is a human right.

Gridlock: Too many current Congressmembers act on behalf of their corporate patrons, who spend millions to keep government from doing anything to help the common people but reap billions in benefits via subsidies and tax loopholes. Switch to public financing, get the corporations' and the billionaires' "dark money" out of the game.

REGISTER TO VOTE

You must register to vote at least 30 days before the election date. The last day you can register to vote in the 2012 General Election is October 9.

www.VoteTexas.gov. The website also allows you to search to see if you are already registered.

To register to vote, you must be a citizen of the United States, a resident of the county, and at least 18 years old on Election Day. You must not have been declared mentally incapacitated by a court of law. If you have been convicted of a felony, you may register to vote only after you have completed the punishment phase of your conviction, including any terms of incarceration, parole, supervision, or period of probation ordered by the court.

After you apply, a voter registration certificate will be mailed to you within 30 days. This certificate includes your precinct for voting on Election Day as well as your congressional, state legislative, county, and local districts.

You can register in person at the voter registration office in your county, or fill out an application that can be mailed or returned in person to the voter registrar in your county of residence. Application forms are available at many libraries, government offices and high schools. The application is available online at the Secretary of State's voter information website,

The registration will remain in effect until you move and a new certificate will be sent to you every two years without further application on your part. If you move, however, your registration certificate will not be forwarded to your new address. If you move within the same county, you must notify your county clerk or election administrator in writing of your new address as soon as possible. Then a new certificate will be mailed to you. If you move to another county, you must re-register by applying to the election office in your new county.

Railroad Commissioner

Six-year term (on a three-person commission). Must be at least 25 years old, a citizen of the United States, a resident and registered voter of Texas. Among duties: regulation of the oil and natural gas industry, including drilling production and environmental protection; natural gas utilities; natural gas and hazardous liquids pipeline safety; surface mining of coal, uranium, and iron ore gravel, including land reclamation; transportation and storage of liquefied petroleum gas, compressed natural gas, and liquefied natural gas; encourages the use of clean-burning propane and researches new technologies for its use. Current annual salary: \$115,200 - \$137,500

Energy: How would you balance the use of existing energy sources with the development of alternate energy sources in Texas?

Urban Drilling: What are the main health and safety issues related to oil and gas drilling and transmission in urban areas, including fracking, and

how would you address them?

Other Issues: Aside from the issues above, what are the two most serious issues the Railroad Commission will face during the next term, and how would you address them?

CHRISTI CRADDICK (R)



Energy: In Texas, we are extremely fortunate to have large energy reserves and resources. The solution to American energy security begins in Texas and the example we set with pro-growth energy policies. This requires the vision, discipline and willingness to execute an "all of the above" strategy that begins with proven production of oil and gas.

Urban Drilling: The safety of the general public and qual-

Education: I am a Plan II graduate, earning my B.A. and J.D. at the University of Texas at Austin. | Experience: Born and raised in the Permian Basin, I have worked with and represented most participants of the energy industry, from mineral and surface owners, oil and gas producers and pipeline companies. I am a small business owner and lifelong conservative. | Web Site: www.ChristiCraddick.com | Email: Info@ChristiCraddick.com

ity of life in urban production areas is of the utmost importance. I believe we need to increase the number of pipeline safety inspectors in the field. The Commission must provide good facts and information and be fair and balanced when handling public concerns.

Other Issues: I believe the most important issue facing the Texas oil and gas industry is unnecessary and punitive federal regulations. I will work to ensure the industry is healthy, prosperous and continues to be a job-creator. The biggest challenge facing the Railroad Commission is the need to educate the public about the industry and the job of the Railroad Commission.

CHRIS KENNEDY (G)

Energy: While continuing safe and current operations in Texas energy use I would like to explore and implement the most effective, safest, and beneficial alternative energy sources available. I will look to filter the good from bad with scientific data, corporate involvement, and public opinion. Texas is one of the largest producers of energy and I look to keep it that way.

Urban Drilling: I would address all health and safety issues as they should be addressed by the commission, very strictly! No amount of money or convenience is ever worth putting peoples, animals, or Texas lands health

Email: CDKennedy86@gmail.com

and safety at risk. Fracking is one method that jeopardizes Texas drinking water. Water is our most precious resource and we should treat it as one. Don't mess with Texas

Other Issues: The most important issues are alternative energy and the 2013 Sunset review of the Railroad Commission. To continue to exist the commission needs to quickly intensify safety regulation and implementation of clean, sustainable, alternative energy production. While invoking public opinion I will focus on these and many other issues when elected commissioner.

NO REPLY RECEIVED: DALE HENRY (D); VIVEKANANDA (VIK) WALL (L)

BARRY SMITHERMAN (R) - UNEXPIRED TERM

Energy: Texas has an abundance of oil, natural gas, coal, wind, and sun. Renewable energy has a role to play, but that role should not be subsidized with taxpayer money. To secure energy independence, we must increase oil & gas production in Texas and throughout America. This will provide better jobs for Texans, greater national security for our country.

Urban Drilling: As Chairman of the Railroad Commission, I will enforce the law against those who jeopardize our health and safety by violating the rules that are already on the books. Texas doesn't need more regulations;

Education: Please visit www.smithermantx.com for biographical information. | Web Site: www.smithermantx.com | Email: campaign@smithermantx.com

instead, we must make sure everyone is complying with our existing laws. The RRC will continue to work with TCEQ, to help ensure environmental integrity.

Other Issues: The most serious issue is keeping Obama out of Texas. Obama appointees at EPA and other agencies are trying to stop Texas from recovering our God-given oil, natural gas, and coal. The second issue is effectively enforcing existing laws and providing a stable regulatory environment so companies can create jobs in Texas.

JAIME O. PEREZ (L) - UNEXPIRED TERM

Energy: There is no question Texas must continue an aggressive program of identifying and exploiting traditional energy resources such as oil and coal. Alternate energy resources are in the emerging state so private sector energy companies should be encouraged to assist the development of alternate energy resources as part of their medium term investment strategy.

Education: 1. Brandeis University - Bachelor's Degree 2. UC Berkeley - Master's Degree; 3. JFK Harvard University - Certificate Community Building; 4. UT Austin - Graduate Studies | Experience: 1. Policy Analyst For 2 City Representatives - City of El Paso; 2. Chief of Staff - County of El Paso; 3. Teacher - El Paso Community College | Web Site: www.jaimeoperez.com | Email: jaimoperez@yahoo.com

Urban Drilling: Ensuring adherence to safety policies, remediation and protection of population centers must continue to be the central focus of the Commission.

Other Issues: 1. The ongoing challenge will continue to be the balance of drilling vs. environmental impact. 2. Due diligence is the task of the the Commission and I will seek the best science on the important issues when making policy choices and recommendations.

NO REPLY RECEIVED: JOSH WENDEL (G), UNEXPIRED TERM

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

Why are judicial elections important?

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

What should voters look for when electing judges?

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

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

Unlike candidates for most political offices, judicial candidates cannot make promises about future decisions when certain issues or types of cases come up in their court. However, they can tell voters what improvements they would make to their court, what their qualifications are (education, experience, and personal traits) and which individuals and organizations

support or endorse their campaigns.

Texas Court System

The Texas court system is made up of a statewide network of trial courts and appellate courts. In trial courts, judges and/or juries evaluate the facts and the law and make a decision in a civil or criminal legal dispute. When decisions in most trial courts are appealed, they are sent to an appellate court where judges consider what happened at the trial court, evaluate legal arguments, and then decide if a mistake was made. See <http://www.courts.state.tx.us/pubs/court-overview.pdf> for a chart of the Texas court structure.

The state's two highest courts, the Texas Supreme Court and the Court of Criminal Appeals, have both administrative and appellate responsibilities. Through their administrative powers they manage the entire system of justice in both civil (including juvenile) and criminal cases.

The Supreme Court is the final court of appeals within Texas for both civil and juvenile cases. The Court adopts all rules related to civil trial practice, evidence, and appellate procedure. This court has one Chief Justice and eight other Justices and requires the agreement of five members for a decision on a case.

The Court of Criminal Appeals hears criminal cases that are appealed from one of the 14 Courts of Appeals and death penalty cases that by law go straight to the Court of Criminal Appeals. It adopts evidence and appellate rules for criminal cases and judicial education regulations for Texas judges. This court has one Presiding Judge and eight other Judges.

All members of each court are elected for six-year terms, with three elected every two years. Any vacancies are filled by gubernatorial appointment until the next general election, when the voters fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. Each term of either court begins and ends with the calendar year.

Justice - Texas Supreme Court

Six-year term. Must be at least 35 years old, a U.S. citizen, and a Texas resident. Must have been a practicing lawyer for at least 10 years or a lawyer and a judge of a court of record for at least 10 years. Serves as a member of the court of final appellate jurisdiction in civil matters in the state; has the power to issue writs of mandamus, and preside over proceedings for removal of judges; regulates and licenses lawyers; manages the Basic Civil Legal Services Program for the poor. Annual authorized salary: \$152,500 (Chief Justice), \$150,000 (Justice)

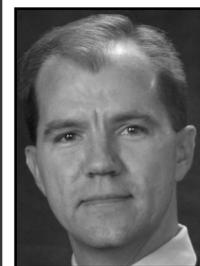
Impartiality: How do you maintain impartiality, given the need to raise funds for political campaigns?

Public Protection: The Texas Supreme Court oversees and controls rules and standards for the legal profession. What changes to the attorney disci-

plinary rules are needed to provide better protection to the public?

Access to Justice: How have you worked toward improving access to justice for all Texans and what role should the Texas Supreme Court play in ensuring access to justice?

DON WILLETT (R) - PLACE 2



Impartiality: Former United States Chief Justice Roger Traynor was on target: “there is no unobjectionable way to decide who shall judge or to judge those who do.” I’ve endured firsthand the drawbacks to our imperfect system – most acutely the unseemly and relentless fundraising – though I confess I haven’t devised the perfect replacement. Former Chief Justice Tom Phillips appointed (///)

Public Protection: Texas lawyers in 2011 rejected an overhaul of the Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct – the culmi-

nation of a process that started in 2003. While some reforms are open to debate, others – like forbidding sex with clients – seem like no-brainers. Everyone doubtless shares the same goal: smart changes that better protect lawyers and clients. The Court must chart a pa (///)

Access to Justice: The Supreme Court plays an integral role, spurring lawyers, banks, the Legislature, the Attorney General, and other civic-minded Texans to help overwhelmed legal-aid providers. In 2011, Texas lawyers contributed almost \$900,000 to Access to Justice with their bar dues, funding life-changing legal services – defending against wrongful foreclosures, securing FEMA payments f (///)

Experience: I’ve served on the Supreme Court since 2005. Texas’ then-living former chief justices cheered, saying, “Willett brings to the court one of the most varied and wide-ranging legal backgrounds in recent memory.” Before judging, I advised everyday Texa (///) | Web Site: www.donwillett.com | Email: don@donwillett.com

The *Voters Guide* is protected by copyright. For permission to duplicate the *Guide*, please call the LWV-Texas office at 512-472-1100.

TOM OXFORD (L) - PLACE 4

Impartiality: I do not accept campaign donations. A review of Texas Supreme Court decisions over the past ten years would certainly indicate a reason for concern. The groups providing the funds seem to also be the groups benefiting from the Court's decisions. Maybe that is just a coincidence?

Education: The University of Texas, The University of Houston | Experience: Managing Attorney Waldman and Smallwood PC | Email: Oxford@waldmansmallwood.com

Public Protection: The rules are generally adequate as written. We do need more attention paid to conflicts of interest for Judges.

Access to Justice: I previously managed a non profit legal aide office that provided legal assistance to low income Texans. I am currently active in the Jefferson County Pro Bono program.

CHARLES E. WATERBURY (G) - PLACE 4

Impartiality: Reject contributions from PACs of any kind.

Public Protection: The present disciplinary rules are appropriate and provide protection to the public.

Education: Baylor Law JD May 1992 Texas Christian University BS May 1989 | Experience: Actively practiced law since 1992. Run my own law firm since 1996. | Email: charles@waterburylawpc.com

Access to Justice: By representing individuals against insurance companies for over sixteen years. The Supreme must return to focusing on protecting individuals rather than protecting entities that may provide subsequent employment opportunities.

NATHAN HECHT (R) - PLACE 6

Impartiality: Texans want to elect their judges, and campaigning is expensive, but from my first race for the Texas Supreme Court, I helped pioneer contribution limits that have since become law. I have tried to raise broad support from many people and avoid any appearance of impropriety. I am always mindful of my solemn oath to faithfully execute the duties of my office.

Public Protection: Attorney ethics rules should be revised to prohibit unreasonable fees, better protect client confidentiality, prohibit

Education: J.D., SMU Law School cum laude; B.A., Yale University (Honors in Philosophy) | Experience: Justice, Texas Supreme Court (elected 1988, re-elected 1994, 2000, 2006); Justice, Fifth Court of Appeals, Dallas (1986-1988); Judge, 95th District Court, Dallas (1981-1986); attorney, Locke firm (1976-1981); Lieutenant, USNR, JAG Corps | Web Site: justicenathanhecht.com | Email: campaign@justicenathanhecht.com

improper intimate relationships with clients, ensure lawyer loyalty, and provide for fair but strict discipline of violators. The Texas Supreme Court has supported rules revisions to provide high ethical standards for lawyers and protect the public.

Access to Justice: The Texas Supreme Court is committed to improving access to justice for all Texans. I am responsible for overseeing the Court's efforts and have worked hard to obtain crucial financial support from the Legislature and Congress, and to encourage legal aid providers. Access to justice is not a partisan issue. At stake is nothing less than the integrity of the rule of law.

MICHELE PETTY (D) - PLACE 6

Impartiality: My campaign is 90% self-funded. Judges should not solicit money from lawyers and litigants with cases pending in their courts. As a briefing attorney for the Texas Supreme Court, I saw justice for sale. One Justice told me, "The name of the game is you reward your friends and you punish your enemies," and that was exactly how he voted. Justice should be for EVERYBODY.

Public Protection: The Disciplinary Rules should be amended to cover sexual harassment. I represented women who were sexu-

Education: Baylor Law School, Top Graduate May 1984 Juris Doctor; Baylor University Summa Cum Laude 1982 B.A.; Winston Churchill High School, San Antonio 1978 Top 5% | Experience: Board Certified in Civil Trial Law; Texas Supreme Court Briefing Attorney/researched & wrote opinions 85, Recognized Nationally for Jury Verdict. Handled Employment, Rape, Deceptive Trade, Securities, Family Law, Worker's Comp. P.I, Toxic Tort, Wills | Web Site: www.michelepetty.com | Email: pettyforjudge@gmail.com

ally harassed by lawyers. One was stalked, and propositioned. She filed a grievance but nothing was done by the State Bar despite at least 5 prior other serious sexual complaints against this attorney. Lawyers who take sexual advantage of clients should be disciplined.

Access to Justice: I was director of the Family Law Project, providing indigent and low income Texans (who could not get help from Legal Aid) with trial attorneys in contested divorce & child custody battles for nominal or extremely reduced fees. I personally handled several of the trials and hearings. The Court should begin implementing the 2012 Solutions Task Force Recommendations.

MARK ASH (L) - PLACE 6

Impartiality: Judges may raise funds for political campaigns and should not be prohibited from doing so. However, the actual need to raise funds for judicial campaigns is questionable. I am not seeking any campaign contributions and therefore, I hope that by not seeking any campaign funds that my impartiality would not be questioned.

Public Protection: No substantive changes in the disciplinary rules are needed to provide better protections to the general public. People who need legal services should be encouraged

Education: Graduate of South Texas College of Law, 1992 | Experience: Criminal and civil defense lawyer for over 19 years. I have actively represented individuals in many civil and criminal matters. | Email: markashlawyer@yahoo.com

to seek a second opinion. The public should be provided with information about alternative avenues other than attorney services when seeking services pertaining to a legal or a financial matter.

Access to Justice: I have actively represented individuals as an attorney. By representing individuals, I do my part to improve access to the courts. Use of alternative dispute resolution programs should be encouraged and streamlined. The Texas Supreme Court could make user-friendly forms available online with instruction manuals for public use in the District and County trial courts.

Judge, Presiding Judge - Court of Criminal Appeals

Six-year term. Must be at least 35 years old, a U.S. citizen, and a Texas resident. Must have been a practicing lawyer for at least 10 years or a lawyer and a judge of a court of record for at least 10 years. Serves as a member of the court of final appellate jurisdiction in criminal matters, including death penalty cases, in the state; has the power to issue writs of habeas corpus for felons; administers publicly funded judicial and lawyer education. Annual authorized salary: \$152,500 (Presiding Judge), \$150,000 (Judge)

Impartiality: How do you maintain impartiality, given the need to raise funds for political campaigns?

Criminal Justice: The Texas criminal justice system has undergone a number of reforms in indigent criminal defense. How is the system working now and what improvements are still needed?

Obligations: What are the most important obligations of a Court of Criminal Appeals judge and why?

KEITH HAMPTON (D) - PRESIDING JUDGE



Impartiality: Keith has and will continue to strictly comply with the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act. While this court does not decide financial matters like civil courts, Keith will recuse himself under any circumstance where impartiality becomes an issue due to campaign contributions. He will not participate in any case in which my impartiality might reasonably be questionable.

Criminal Justice: Keith was very involved in most of the DNA testing procedure, innocence clinics, life without parole, assistance

Education: Keith Hampton graduated from The University of Texas 1984 and graduated from St. Mary's School of Law 1989. Attended the Institute on World Legal Problems, Innsbruck, Austria. He is Board Certified in Criminal Law. | Experience: Keith has defended the Texas Constitution for the last 20 years. Keith has been appointed by Gov. George Bush and Justice John Cornyn to judicial commissions. He was voted as the "Best Qualified" candidate in 2012 by attorneys and judges across Texas | Web Site: hamptonforjudge.com/ | Email: info@hamptonforjudge.com

for mentally disabled, and the Fair Defense Act reforms. The criminal justice system has improved, but lawmakers should do more to support rehabilitative approaches (like drug and veteran courts) which have shown to be more cost effective.

Obligations: The two fundamental duties of the court are to uphold the constitution and see that justice is fair and equal for all Texans. The first is an oversight function ensuring equal, impartial treatment. The second – reaching a truly just outcome – is often harder, but is vital to the integrity of our system.

MARK W. BENNETT (L) - PLACE 7



Impartiality: The influence of money is not a serious issue in the criminal courts. A greater problem is some candidates' innate biases in favor of the government and against the people, against the U.S. Constitution, against the Texas Constitution, and against freedom.

Criminal Justice: Texas courts at all levels are too lax in their judgments of the effectiveness of lawyers. As a result, the standards for effective representation are shockingly

Education: BA Religious Studies, Rice University, 1992. JD, University of Houston Law Center, 1995. | Experience: Seventeen years as a solo and small-firm lawyer defending the U.S. Constitution, the Texas Constitution, and freedom across Texas and nationwide. | Web Site: BennettDissenting.com | Email: mb@ivi3.com

low, and indigent defense counsel (as well as hired counsel) too often apathetically "phone it in." Texas courts need to be more willing to raise the bar by calling ineffective lawyers ineffective.

Obligations: A Court of Criminal Appeals judge's most important obligation is fidelity to the letter and the spirit of the U.S. and Texas Constitutions. Result must follow reason, not vice versa. Far too often the Court of Criminal Appeals applies reason in the service of some desired result, to the detriment of reason and of constitutions, and ultimately to the detriment of liberty.

ELSA ALCALA (R) - PLACE 8



Impartiality: I honor my oath to impartially and fairly follow the law. I have not taken any contributions from any party in any case.

Criminal Justice: The criminal justice system continues to improve as light is shed on it. Improvements in various

Education: Bachelor of Arts from Texas A&I University and Doctorate of Jurisprudence from the University of Texas School of Law | Experience: Assistant District Attorney at Harris County District Attorneys Office for 9 years; District Court Judge in Harris County for 3 1/2 years; Appellate Court Justice at First Court of Appeals for 9 years; Judge on Court of Criminal Appeals for 1 year. | Web Site: www.judgeelsaalcala.com | Email: judgeelsa@att.net

aspects is still needed. I, however, must refrain from specifically commenting on aspects of the law that might come before me in the future in order to maintain my impartiality.

Obligations: A Court of Criminal Appeals judge must apply the law as it is written. A judge must be impartial and even-handed so that everyone is treated the same.

WILLIAM BRYAN STRANGE III (L) - PLACE 8



Impartiality: I believe the public expects a judge to have no part of deciding a matter if lawyers or parties have made contributions to the election of that judge. Thus, I have elected to accept no contributions from anyone and I will not seek a second term.

Criminal Justice: Indigents will continue to be at an un-

Education: BA in political science from SMU; Juris Doctor from George Washington University and Science Masters from MIT. | Experience: I have over 33 years experience as an attorney and business manager. This includes a wide range of corporate and business matters that involve complex analysis of law and facts. As a U. S. Navy officer I served in the Vietnam War. | Email: wbstrangeiii@gmail.com

fair advantage so long as the legal system is strained with heavy case loads. We should reform the drug laws with an emphasis on rehabilitation and diversion of violators into social service programs.

Obligations: A judge should decide cases rapidly and in strict accord with precedent and existing laws (including the Texas Constitution). A judge must not impose personal values or prejudices and must assure that defense counsel for the accused is afforded maximum latitude to represent a client.

NO REPLY RECEIVED: SHARON KELLER (R), PRESIDING JUDGE; LANCE STOTT (L), PRESIDING JUDGE; BARBARA PARKER HERVEY (R), PLACE 7

Justice, Chief Justice - Court of Appeals

Six-year term. Must be at least 35 years old, a citizen of the United States, a resident of Texas and a district resident. Must have been a practicing lawyer or a lawyer and a judge of a court of record for a total of 10 years or more. Each Court of Appeals has intermediate appellate jurisdiction in both civil and criminal cases appealed from district or county courts in its district. Current annual salary: \$140,000 (Chief Justice), \$137,500 (Justice)

Impartiality: How do you maintain impartiality, given the need to raise funds for political campaigns?

Accomplishment: Describe an accomplishment of which you are proud and how it would help make you a better Texas Court of Appeals justice.

THE 1ST COURT OF APPEALS SERVES THE FOLLOWING TEXAS COUNTIES:

Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Grimes, Harris, Waller & Washington

JANE BLAND (R) - 1ST COURT, PLACE 2



Impartiality: I follow the Code of Judicial Conduct. I hear cases without prejudice to any person who appears in the court. I do not make promises about decisions in court cases, except to work hard and to fairly apply the law to the best of my ability. I voluntarily comply with the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act, which imposes limits on judicial

Education: Board Certified, Civil Appellate Law and Civil Trial Law; J.D., University of Texas School of Law, 1990, with high honors; B.B.A., Accounting/Honors Business, UT Austin, 1987, with highest honors. | Experience: Justice, First Court of Appeals, 2003-present; State District Judge, Harris County, 1997-2003; Baker Botts, L.L.P., 1991-1997 (general appellate and civil trial law practice); Law Clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, 1990-1991.

fundraising.

Accomplishment: I work to improve court access for low-income Texans, write rules and questions for juries, and mentor law students. In 2010, Supreme Court Chief Justice Roberts presented me with the Rehnquist Award, given by the National Center for State Courts to the "state judge who exemplifies the highest level of judicial excellence, integrity, fairness, and professional ethics."

RON LOVETT (D) - 1ST COURT, PLACE 2



Impartiality: I value the integrity of the bench. I have not accepted a political donation from anyone as of the date I completed this profile. However, in the event I do before the election, it will be from supporters who support me primarily because of my impartiality. There is no room on the bench for favoritism, partisan politics, or advancing a par-

Education: 1991 B.S. University of Houston 1995 J.D. South Texas College of Law | Experience: 1996-present Litigation attorney with an emphasis on personal injury and medical malpractice. Also handles commercial and business litigation. 2010-Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Specialization. | Email: lovettlaw@sbcglobal.net

tisan agenda. There is only the law.

Accomplishment: My greatest accomplishment is being the father of 3 wonderful children, with the help and dedication of my spectacular and adoring wife. I don't know how that will make me a better justice. I think a parent must be patient, understanding, objective, impartial, and sometimes stern. Will that make me a better justice? I hope so. One thing is certain though--It can't hurt.

HARVEY BROWN (R) - 1ST COURT, PLACE 6



Impartiality: I speak at and attend functions with various lawyer groups so I can understand different perspectives and needs. As a result, I have enjoyed wide-spread support from many lawyers representing a variety of interests. When both sides feel you have heard and understood their position, they are less inclined to blame rulings on politics.

Education: University of Texas at Austin, B.A., with high honors 1978; University of Texas at Austin Law School, J.D., with honors (top 5% of class) 1981 | Experience: Served as district court judge for 6+ years. Tried over 150 jury trials & over 200 non-jury trials. Appointed to court of appeals in November 2010. Have authored over 150 opinions. Over 20 yrs of trial & appellate experience in private practice. | Web Site: judgeharveybrown.com | Email: jharveybrown@gmail.com

I disqualify myself when appropriate.

Accomplishment: My service as district judge for 6+ years & my award as Appellate Justice of the year for 2011 by the Association of Civil Trial & Appellate Specialists. My community service. I was a board member for Houston Habitat for Humanity for 6 yrs, including when we built 100 homes in 1 week. I became a board member of KSBJ radio station in 2005 & am its vice chairperson.

CHUCK SILVERMAN (D) - 1ST COURT, PLACE 6



Impartiality: Simple, my campaign is self funded. Consequently, I will not be influenced by contributors and will be able to resolve cases impartially.

Education: Tulane University BA, 1982; Tulane University MBA, 1983; Tulane University JD, 1986 | Experience: As a business owner and successful attorney I have considered and helped dispose of hundreds of cases and resolved difficult issues. I am deeply committed to the rule of law and will interpret and apply the law fairly and impartially.

Accomplishment: Over a 26 year career it is difficult to pick just one accomplishment. I am proud of successfully representing my clients while maintaining my integrity and honesty. I am proud of my 25 year marriage and raising 3 great kids. Finally, I am proud of mentoring cub and boy scouts on their journey through scouting.

WHERE TO VOTE

All registered voters may vote early by personal appearance at any early voting location in their county. Check with your local newspaper or the county clerk or election administrator for early voting times and locations. Early voting days for the November 6, 2012, General Election are October 22 – November 2.

Election Day you must vote in your precinct of residence (unless your area is participating in a countywide vote center trial). Your precinct is listed on your registration card, or you may find out where to vote by calling or

going online with your county election administrator (the League provides county web links at www.lwvtexas.org). Voting places are also listed in most newspapers. If you report to the incorrect polling place, you will be redirected to the correct site or offered a provisional ballot. You can vote by provisional ballot, but if it is determined that you are not registered in the precinct where you vote, your ballot will not be counted by Texas law. More information on provisional voting appears on the Texas Secretary of State website www.VoteTexas.gov.

TERRY JENNINGS (R) - 1ST COURT, PLACE 7



Impartiality: I follow my oath of office and the Code of Judicial Conduct, which requires that judges "be faithful to the law," "not be swayed by partisan interest, public clamor, or fear of criticism," and "accord" all "the right to be heard according to law." By correctly applying the law in all cases, I have earned a reputation for fairness and sup-

port from both sides of the bar.
Education: J.D., The University of Houston Law Center, 1988; Associate Editor, Houston Law Review; Outstanding Law Review Candidate, 1987. B.A. in Gov't, University of Texas at Austin, 1982. | **Experience:** Justice, 1st Ct. of Appeals, since 2001; Board Certified in Civil Appellate Law, Tx. Bd. of Legal Specialization; 2009 Appellate Judge of the Year, Tx. Ass'n of Civil Trial & Appellate Specialists; 2011 "Houston's Best Appellate Judge," Houston Press | **Web Site:** www.justicejennings.com | **Email:** justiceterryjennings@gmail.com

port from both sides of the bar.

Accomplishment: I earned board certification, while an appellate judge, in civil appellate law. Because civil appellate law is intellectually demanding, the board certification process is especially rigorous. As one of very few Texas judges to set and reach this goal, this demonstrates my commitment to intellectual honesty and my duty to "maintain professional competence in the law."

NATALIA COKINOS OAKES (D) - 1ST COURT, PLACE 7



Impartiality: I have no fear of political retribution for any opinion I hand down. I follow the law whether I personally agree or not. Having had the experience of running for office, I know the necessary expenses.

Education: Sophie Newcomb College of Tulane University, New Orleans, La., Thurgood Marshall School of Law, TSU, Houston, Tx. | **Experience:** 12 years practicing in the Harris County Juvenile and Family Courts; interning/working for a lawyer handling Social Security and Disability claims. | **Web Site:** www.NataliaForJustice.com | **Email:** info@nataliaforjustice.com

Accomplishment: I followed my mother's advice and became a well-rounded individual: educated in the arts & sciences, well-travelled, a school teacher, an experienced business owner and a lawyer. I am most proud of going to law school, as a wife and mother, late in life and learning more about "the ways of the world". This court hears criminal, family and civil appeals and I am prepared for it.

MICHAEL MASSENGALE (R) - 1ST COURT, PLACE 8



Impartiality: Electing judges is a tradition in Texas, and contested elections cost money. Nevertheless, campaign contributions have nothing to do with any of my judicial decisions. My website provides clear notice to supporters that my decisions as a judge will never be influenced in any way by the fact that somebody has supported my cam-

Education: The University of Texas School of Law, J.D. (with honors); Dartmouth College, A.B. (Government major); Member of The College of the State Bar of Texas; attended appellate judges seminar at New York University School of Law | **Experience:** 3 years' experience as Justice, First Court of Appeals (appointed 2009 and elected 2010); private law practice at Baker Botts L.L.P. (trial partner, 2007-09, and associate, 1999-2006); law clerk, United States 5th Circuit Court of Appeals (1997-99) | **Web Site:** www.michaelmassengale.com | **Email:** mcm@michaelmassengale.com

paign, or by the amount of anyone's contribution.

Accomplishment: In 2010 I was appointed by the Texas Supreme Court to serve on its Permanent Judicial Commission for Children, Youth and Families. In this capacity I lead a project to improve training for attorneys in child-protection cases. My work as a commissioner has made me a better justice by improving my understanding of the many challenges facing our family and juvenile courts.

NILE COPELAND (D) - 1ST COURT, PLACE 8



Impartiality: This is a serious issue. We need campaign finance reform to rebuild the integrity of the judicial system. As such, I try to make a special point not to take contributions from attorneys/firms who have cases pending before the Courts. While this is not a requirement...yet...it is something would expect if not demand of our judiciary.

Education: Louisiana State University (BS Science and Masters in Education) South Texas College of Law - JD Mediation Training Advanced Mediation Training | **Experience:** Work experience: Practicing lawyer, mediator, real estate agent, Municipal Judge for the City of Houston, former Civil Service Grievance Hearing Office for the City of Houston Other: Volunteer Deputy Voter Registrar for Harris and Ft. Bend Counties | **Web Site:** www.copelandforjustice.com | **Email:** nile@e-justice.com

Accomplishment: When I was 3 I was a patient of Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children. I never forgot the helping hand of Freemasons and as such I became one in order to give back to others as so many have done in the past. We have forgotten the importance of helping each other which has always been our nation's strength. Its time to elect good people to the judiciary.

KATHY CHENG (D) - 1ST COURT, PLACE 9



Impartiality: It is my personal believe that a judge shall remain impartial irrespective of the organizations and/or individuals contributing to my political campaign. In my prior run for judicial office and with this current race, I make a point not to accept campaign donations from law

Education: South Texas College of Law-JD; Louisiana State University-Bachelor of Science-Biology | **Experience:** Professional: Currently practicing law with Cheng Copeland, PLLC in Houston. Legal practice areas include, but are not limited to asset protection and litigation shielding, business law, & criminal law. | **Web Site:** www.chengforjustice.com | **Email:** kathy@chengforjustice.com

firms and/or practicing attorneys.

Accomplishment: My accomplishment is my ongoing volunteer work with immigration forums, helping new citizens register to vote, and speaking to people on various legal topics. I feel judges and justices should give back to their communities without being asked. My passion to help others will be an asset as I motivate other justices to help others.

NO REPLY RECEIVED: REBECA HUDDLE (R), 1ST COURT, PLACE 9

You may bring this *Voters Guide* into the voting booth.*

*In 1995, the Texas law prohibiting use of printed materials, such as this *Voters Guide*, in the polling place was ruled unconstitutional (*Texas Election Code, Section 61.011*)

THE 3RD COURT OF APPEALS SERVES THE FOLLOWING TEXAS COUNTIES:

Bastrop, Bell, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Coke, Comal, Concho, Fayette, Hays, Irion, Lampasas, Lee, Llano, McCulloch, Milam, Mills, Runnels, San Saba, Schleicher, Sterling, Tom Green, Travis & Williamson

JEFF ROSE (R) - 3RD COURT, PLACE 2

Impartiality: I take seriously my oath to uphold the law and constitution - cases must be decided on the law, regardless of politics or the people involved. Judges must strictly follow that oath, as our imperfect system requires us to fundraise and campaign for office - and supporters must realize that they are helping to keep our experience

Education: Undergraduate - Baylor University, BBA in Finance and Business Management; Law Degree - Vanderbilt University | Experience: Board Certified, Civil Trial law; Former Partner, Strasburger & Price law firm; Deputy First Assistant Attorney General, Office of Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott; State District Judge, Travis County; Justice, Texas Third Court of Appeals | Web Site: www.KeepJudgeRose.com | Email: Jeff@Keepjudgerose.com

on the Court but will not receive any favor.

Accomplishment: I am proud of the legal accomplishments that led my peers in the State Bar poll to select me "most qualified" to serve on your court. I've earned partnership in one of Texas' oldest law firms, Board Certification in Civil Trial Law, service under Greg Abbott as Texas' Deputy First Assistant Attorney General, and service as a State District and Appellate Judge.

J. ANDREW HATHCOCK (D) - 3RD COURT, PLACE 2

Impartiality: Impartiality is absolutely necessary to being a good judge. Unless Texans decide to adopt public financing of judicial campaigns, elected judges and judicial candidates have no choice but to solicit campaign contributions. I am in strict compliance with the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act, which limits the amount of contribu-

Education: Judge Hathcock graduated from Rice University in Houston in 1981 and the University of Texas School of Law in 1984. He is Board Certified in Family Law and taught at the University of Texas Law School for 11 years. | Experience: After several years in private practice, Judge Hathcock served on the bench for twelve years, first as an associate judge for the Child Protection Court of Central Texas, and then as an associate judge for the District Courts of Travis County. | Web Site: www.judgehathcock.com/ | Email: info@judgehathcock.com

tions from individuals and law firms.

Accomplishment: I am proud to have spent my career as a lawyer and an associate judge protecting the best interests of children and families. These are some of the most important cases, and I have seen the damage done to children when their cases drag on in the appellate courts. Of the six judges on the Third Court of Appeals, I would be the only board certified family law expert.

SCOTT FIELD (R) - 3RD COURT, PLACE 3

Impartiality: I will maintain impartiality by following my conservative judicial philosophy and respect for the rule of law, and by practicing simple virtue. I appreciate the support donors have given my campaign. I will treat the donors the same as all parties arguing before me on the court, because the role of a judge is to apply the law fairly

Web Site: www.scottkingfield.com | Email: scott@scottkingfield.com

and equally according to the facts.

Accomplishment: I am proud to have raised three children and to have maintained a strong marriage while owning and operating a business, my law firm. This has give me a great deal of perspective on the practical effects of the law on our lives, and has kept me grounded and centered. I will serve humbly within the proper role for a judge - a neutral arbiter who calls "balls and strikes."

DIANE HENSON (D) - 3RD COURT, PLACE 3

Impartiality: By following the Canons of Judicial Conduct. I also comply with the voluntary limits of the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act. That Act provides strict limits on the amount lawyers and law firms may contribute and on the total amount of money that may be spent. These limits mean that no one firm or lawyer can make such large contributions as to expect favored status.

Education: J.D. with Honors, Drake University Law School; B.S. with distinction (Economics), Iowa State University | Experience: Justice on 3rd Court of Appeals - 6 years (on 2,000 three-judge panels, author of 700 plus opinions) Private Practice - 24 years (1st female litigation partner at Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody) Federal Prosecutor, U.S. Dept. of Justice | Web Site: www.dianehensonfortexas.com | Email: hensonlaw@aol.com

Accomplishment: During my career as a litigator, I worked on several cases dealing with children and their right to participate in scholastic and extracurricular activities. The Title IX cases I filed have literally opened the door for thousands of girls to play sports and compete for equitable scholarship dollars. Similarly, the cases I brought for disabled students are landmark cases.

DAVID PURYEAR (R) - 3RD COURT, PLACE 5

Impartiality: I maintain impartiality by consistently applying our laws, as they are written, to the facts before me, without regard to the party, the issue, or the lawyer before me. All judges should be firmly committed to this delivery of unbiased justice. Throughout my 20 years as a judge, I have demonstrated my unshakable commitment to the delivery of fair and impartial justice.

Education: Bachelor of Science in Education from Southwestern University (1978); Juris Doctorate from Texas Tech University School of Law (1983) | Experience: I am the senior member of the Third Court, having served on the Court since 2001. During that time, I have authored more than 1800 opinions, covering both civil and criminal cases. I also served as a trial court judge in Travis County from '91-'98. | Web Site: judgedavidpuryear.com | Email: mw@olsen-company.com

Accomplishment: I was fortunate to start my legal career as a prosecutor. As a result, I appeared before many judges on a daily basis for 7 years. This experience, I believe, made me a much more knowledgeable and well-rounded trial court judge. My 8 years of service as a trial court judge provided an invaluable base of experience for then serving as a justice on the Court of Appeals.

If you are a person with a disability and have questions about your voting rights, call: 1-888-796-VOTE.

KAREN L. WATKINS (D) - 3RD COURT, PLACE 5

Impartiality: Well, Texas law strictly limits judicial campaign contributions. Each justice must decide each appeal based on its own facts and the applicable law, not on the justice's feelings for anyone involved in the case. For six years, I made decisions as a member of an administrative court based only on the facts of each case and the applicable law, and know I can

Education: JD, Baylor University School of Law (1990); BA, General Business, Baylor University (1984) | Experience: Briefing Attorney, Third Court of Appeals (1990-91); Associate, McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, LLP (1991-1996); Partner, McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, LLP (1997-present); Board of Disciplinary Appeals, Member 2001-07; Chair, 2006-07. | Web Site: www.karenwatkinsforjustice.com | Email: karen@karenwatkinsforjustice.com

BOB PEMBERTON (R) - 3RD COURT, PLACE 6

Impartiality: America's greatness rests upon the Rule of Law, which requires that I faithfully and impartially apply our Constitution and laws without fear or favor. That cause is much greater than me or my self-interest. My longstanding commitment and adherence to these principles is reflected in the broad, bipartisan support detailed on my

Education: Harvard Law School (JD, with honors, Law Review, 1992); Baylor University (BBA, with highest honors, graduated top of class, 1989); Temple High School (1985). | Experience: Justice, Third Ct. of Appeals, Place 6, since 2003. Private appellate and trial practice with Baker Botts and Akin Gump. Judicial clerk to Chief Justice Tom Phillips, Tx. Supreme Ct. Rules Atty, Tx. Supreme Ct. Deputy General Counsel to the Governor. | Web Site: www.bobpemberton.com | Email: campaignhq@bobpemberton.com

BRYAN CASE (D) - 3RD COURT, PLACE 6

Impartiality: I have never run for public office before nor have I ever sought political office in any way. I believe that an experienced and independent judiciary is vital to the survival of our democracy. These characteristics are the focal point of my candidacy. I have been highly respected throughout my career for my integrity, fairness and pursuit of justice in all

Education: 1979 B.A. Magna Cum Laude Economics University of Texas at Austin, 1983 J.D. University of Texas School of Law | Experience: Bar License 1983, Assistant DA 26 years, Chief Prosecutor Child Abuse Division, Criminal Court, Major Narcotics Prosecutor, 1st Community Prosecutor, Board Cert. Criminal Law, Admitted to Bar of US Supreme Court 2003, Criminal Defense Lawyer 2 yr | Web Site: www.bryancase.com | Email: bryan@bryancase.com

THE 4TH COURT OF APPEALS SERVES THE FOLLOWING TEXAS COUNTIES:

Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Brooks, Dimmit, Duval, Edwards, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Kimble, Kinney, La Salle, Mason, Maverick, McMullen, Medina, Menard, Real, Starr, Sutton, Uvalde, Val Verde, Webb, Wilson, Zapata & Zavala

MARIALYN BARNARD (R) - 4TH COURT, PLACE 2

Impartiality: I strictly apply the law to all cases fairly and impartially regardless of who the parties are, who the attorneys are, and who has or has not contributed to my campaign. I merely apply the law to each case regardless of whether I like the decision or not. I liken my role to an umpire calling a ball a ball, a strike a strike regardless of

Education: St. Mary's University School of Law, J.D. 1992 University of Texas School of Law, summer & fall 1991 Texas A&M Univ. Commerce Masters in Public Admin. 12 hrs. Texas A&M Commerce, B.S. Poli. Sci. & English 1983 | Experience: Fourth Court of Appeals, Justice 2009-12 Private Practice Law Firm PHMY & solo 2006-08 CPS Energy Corporate Counsel 2001-05; KPMG, LLP - 1999-01 US Attorney's Office 1995-99; US Dist. Ct. Law Clerk 1994-95; Fourth Court of Appeals Law Clerk 1992-94 | Web Site: www.justicebarnard.com | Email: marialyn.barnard@gmail.com

NO REPLY RECEIVED: BALDEMAR GARZA (D), 4TH COURT, PLACE 2**REBECCA SIMMONS (R) - 4TH COURT, PLACE 3**

Impartiality: My duty is to resolve cases with honesty, integrity and courage based on the application of law to the facts. I focus on that duty rather than donors. I campaign on my experience and record and avoid any appearance of having predetermined an issue. I do not accept or solicit contributions from parties that I know have cases pending

Education: Austin College B.A., Baylor Law School J.D.; I was a notes & comments editor of the law review. In 1981, following a clerkship with the Texas Supreme Court, I studied jurisprudence at Durham University England on a Rotary International Fellowship. | Experience: I have 9 years of judicial experience; 7 on the 4th Court, 2 on the District Court, and was on the Tex. Supreme Court for 1 case. I practiced law 20 yrs. focusing on complex cases and appeals, and I also teach at St. Mary's Law School (1994-present). | Web Site: SimmonsforJustice.com | Email: Justicerebecca.simmons@gmail.com

continue to.

Accomplishment: In 2001, the Texas Supreme Court appointed me to serve on an administrative court that decides lawyer ethics complaints. In my six years of service, including one as chair, I saw lawyers' work from clients' perspectives. Clients have a right to expect lawyers to do work promptly, explain things clearly, and charge a fair fee. Justices should do the same.

website, www.bobpemberton.com.

Accomplishment: My dedication and ability to serve you well is reflected in my 9-year record of hard work and productivity—averaging 100+ majority opinions annually and leading all Texas appellate judges twice—while tackling the most complex, challenging caseload of any Texas court of appeals and the even more critical (and often more challenging) job of a husband and father.

my duties.

Accomplishment: Handling the worst sorts of criminal cases for 26 years, I am most proud of the DNA reviews I have handled since 2000: the re-investigation of the 1988 Pizza Hut murder and the 1983 Barton Creek rapist cases. In 2000-01 I handled the exoneration hearings of the three men mistakenly convicted. In 2003 I obtained a conviction and life sentence for the Pizza Hut killer.

any campaign contributions.

Accomplishment: Early in my legal career I was competitively selected to work (law clerk and intern) for several judges (Republican and Democratic, Federal and State). Those work and mentoring experiences have helped me to develop 1) excellent judicial temperament, 2) heightened awareness of clearly applying the law with impeccable integrity, and 3) sharpened research/ writing skills.

before me. My donors' names are public.

Accomplishment: As 2006 Chair of the Tex. Bar Foundation we donated over \$400,000 to educate the public and increase access to justice. Chief Justice Jefferson appointed me Chair of the Judicial Committee on Information Technology to increase transparency and access to all Texas courts resulting in the 4th Court, along with other Texas courts, becoming more efficient through e-Filing.

NO REPLY RECEIVED: PATRICIA ALVAREZ (D), 4TH COURT, PLACE 3**STEVE HILBIG (R) - 4TH COURT, PLACE 4**

Impartiality: The fact a contributor has a case before me has not and will not affect my decisions. My decisions are based on the U.S. and Texas constitutions, rulings of the Texas Supreme Court and the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, and our prior decisions from the Fourth Court of Appeals. I have recused myself and will continue to do so

Education: St. Gerard Grade School (1966), St. Gerard High School (1970), Associate in Arts San Antonio College (1972), Bachelor of Arts University of Texas - Austin (1974), Doctor of Jurisprudence University of Texas Law School (1976) | Experience: Assistant Bexar County District Attorney 1977-1981, Assistant United States Attorney 1981-1984, Private Practice 1984-1990, Bexar County Criminal District Attorney 1991-1998, Private Practice 1999-2006, Justice Fourth Court of Appeals 2007-present | Web Site: www.hilbigforjustice.com | Email: justicehilbig@gmail.com

when necessary to avoid ethical conflicts.

Accomplishment: My career as an attorney for over 35 years makes me a better justice. I have served as a state prosecutor, federal prosecutor, Bexar County Criminal District Attorney, and Justice on the Fourth Court of Appeals. I have recognized expertise in criminal law as shown by my certifications in Criminal Law and Criminal Appellate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

LUZ ELENA CHAPA (D) - 4TH COURT, PLACE 4

Impartiality: Raising funds is an unfortunate necessity in our current system of electing justices. Regardless of amount, I will not allow any contribution to play a role in or influence my judicial opinions. I will afford every attorney and every party an equal and fair opportunity to be heard.

Education: I received my J.D. from St. Mary's University School of Law in May, 1999, and B.A. in English from St. Mary's University in 1995. | Experience: I have been licensed to practice law in Texas for 12 years. I have practiced both as an insurance defense attorney and as a plaintiff's attorney handling numerous complex litigation cases in 7 out of the 32 counties, which the 4th Court represents. | Web Site: www.chapaforjustice.com | Email: luzelena@chapaforjustice.com

Accomplishment: Throughout my legal career, I am proud to state that I have earned a highly regarded reputation amongst colleagues and civic leaders. I have handled high-stakes, complex cases on both sides of the civil docket which have prepared me to serve on the appellate court. I am also a dedicated wife and mother who combines strong family values with a fair and balanced legal mind.

KAREN ANGELINI (R) - 4TH COURT, PLACE 5

Impartiality: Raising campaign funds is necessary to a successful campaign. Attorneys are naturally the largest contributors to judicial races, and their participation is vital. Therefore, I accept contributions from attorneys; however, I focus on the issues presented in an appeal rather than on the attorneys. I avoid accepting contributions from

Education: St. Mary's University School of Law, J.D. 1980, University of Texas at Austin, B.S. 1972 | Experience: Justice on 4th Court of Appeals (for over 15 years), Practicing attorney and managing shareholder at Brock and Fuller, Staff Attorney at U.S. District and Magistrate Courts, Briefing Attorney at 4th Court of Appeals | Web Site: JudgeKarenAngelini.com | Email: rangelini@satx.rr.com

litigants with cases pending before me.

Accomplishment: I have served in numerous legal and community leadership positions. Through these experiences, I have learned and demonstrated skills necessary to serving on an appellate court, including effective communication, well-reasoned problem-solving, consensus-building, and compassionate but decisive issue resolution.

NO REPLY RECEIVED: DAVID D. TOWLER (D), 4TH COURT, PLACE 5**PHYLIS J. SPEEDLIN (R) - 4TH COURT, PLACE 7**

Impartiality: I strive to maintain the highest level of integrity in all my actions. I decide legal disputes without regard to personal interest, outside influence, or campaign contributions. I make no campaign promises except that I will objectively evaluate the merits of each case and then render a decision applying the rule of law in a well-ana-

Education: St. Mary's University School of Law, San Antonio, J.D. with distinction 1983; Trinity University, San Antonio, M.S. Health Care Administration 1977; Incarnate Word College, San Antonio, B.S. Nursing 1975; Pitts.Presbyterian Univ.School Nursing 1970. | Experience: I began as a registered nurse. After law school, I practiced trial and appellate law for seventeen years. I then became a district court trial judge in Bexar County where I served for over three years before joining the 4th Court of Appeals in 2003. | Web Site: justicespeedlin.com | Email: pspeedlin@satx.rr.com

lyzed and well-reasoned written opinion.

Accomplishment: I received two prestigious awards this year for my work & leadership in improving access to justice--The State Bar of Texas "Judge Merrill Hartman Pro Bono Judge Award," and the American Bar Association "Harrison Tweed Award." Both awards commended my ongoing efforts to ensure that low-income residents and veterans in our community have equal access to legal representation.

REBECA C. MARTINEZ (D) - 4TH COURT, PLACE 7

Impartiality: I'm committed to sustaining the principle of justice that requires decision-making not based on bias or preference of one over another for improper reasons. Given the reality of campaign fundraising, I accept contributions allowed under the law from those who express nothing more than a desire to support a fair, impartial and

Education: J.D., Boston University School of Law B.A., Southern Methodist University Incarnate Word Academy High School | Experience: Law Clerk, U.S. Magistrate Briefing Attorney, 13th Court of Appeals Private Practice with experience in civil and criminal litigation | Web Site: www.Rebeca4Judge.com | Email: Rebeca@Rebeca4Judge.com

qualified candidate for the Court of Appeals.

Accomplishment: I am the proud daughter of a Vietnam Veteran, married to career law enforcement, and strengthened by my faith and family. In almost 20 years of practice and public service, my proudest accomplishments are experienced both in and out of the courtroom, where compromise is reached and a sense of real justice is accomplished for families.

Be the first to know! To receive email alerts when the *Voters Guide* is available, send a request with your email address to lwvtexas@lwvtexas.org.

THE 5TH COURT OF APPEALS SERVES THE FOLLOWING TEXAS COUNTIES:

Collin, Dallas, Grayson, Hunt, Kaufman & Rockwall

DAVID EVANS (R) - 5TH COURT, PLACE 2

Impartiality: I maintain impartiality by considering only the law applied to the facts. I do not consider contributions when making any rulings. I make sure I would make the same ruling even if the parties and their lawyers were in the other's position in the case, so that my ruling does not depend on who is the party but only on the law applied cor-

Education: • SMU SCHOOL OF LAW, J.D., 1984; Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Air Law & Commerce, 1983-1984 • UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, B.A. cum laude, 1977, in Philosophy and Greek • DALLAS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, 1977-1981, Hebrew and Greek | Experience: I handled complex civil litigation, the type of appeals that the Court of Appeals spends most of its time deciding. As a judge for twelve years I presided over the full range of civil cases and served on the juvenile board. | Web Site: JudgeDavidEvans.com | Email: David@JudgeDavidEvans.com

rectly to the case.

Accomplishment: My 12-year record of judicial leadership and achievements distinguish me from my opponent in this race: editor-in-chief of the law review; 39 district judges elected me as Local Administrative District Judge; 2005 Trial Judge of the Year; 2002 Outstanding Judicial Pro Bono Service Award; Instructor, Texas College for Judicial Studies, 2002, 2003, 2005.

DAN WOOD (D) - 5TH COURT, PLACE 2

Impartiality: I pledge to not accept campaign contributions after elected. Contributions offered after an election, after the voters have chosen, can be interpreted as attempts to adversely affect impartiality. Being vetted and endorsed as qualified by the Dallas Bar's Committee for a Qualified Judiciary, shows a history of integrity and impartiality I

Education: Texas A&M University, Finance Major. Baylor Law School, J.D., '86 | Experience: 25 years, civil and criminal trials and appeals, State and Federal courts. Indigent defense volunteer attorney in U.S. District Courts, frequent argument in appeals courts. Former city councilman, small business owner, Kaufman Co. Bar President. | Web Site: www.danwoodcampaign.com | Email: info@danwoodcampaign.com

will bring to the Court.

Accomplishment: Prevailing for clients on appeal to insure fairness and the rule of law in our criminal trial courts. Representing a wide spectrum of clients, including indigent defendants asserting their right of appeal, the research and presentation of many cases for these clients, has given me the broad base of experience to be a better Justice.

JIM MOSELEY (R) - 5TH COURT, PLACE 5

Impartiality: Impartiality is a matter of integrity—of what we value and respect. I'm a judge because I value—and take joy from—insuring our court system protects our personal & economic rights. I promise those supporting my campaign what I've always promised—to give each case full consideration, & to decide it based on the law & the

Education: Attended small country school (Olden) through 10th grade. Graduated from Eastland H.S. (near Abilene). Went to Tarleton State for 1 year; took summer classes at Cisco Jr. College. Graduated from Baylor University (1976) & Baylor School of Law (1978). | Experience: 5 years w/ trial & appellate firm (Odessa, TX); 4 years as Regional Director (Dallas), Federal Trade Commission during the Reagan Admin.; 9 years civil litigation w/ Locke Purnell Rain Harrell (Dallas); 16 years as Justice on the Court of Appeals. | Web Site: www.JusticeJimMoseley.com | Email: campaign@JusticeJimMoseley.com

facts, without favor.

Accomplishment: My wife Marian & I raised 2 independent-minded children; they have the courage of their convictions, value helping others, & work to support themselves. I'm a better Justice because the process of that accomplishment reimpressed on me that all of us are imperfect but valuable, & that our value comes from our Creator & not from what we do or think or own.

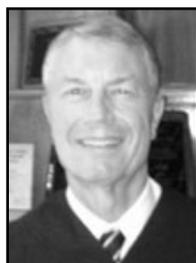
PENNY ROBE PHILLIPS (D) - 5TH COURT, PLACE 5

Impartiality: Loyalty to the oaths I've taken to uphold and defend the constitution of the United States and to support the constitution of Texas holds a higher priority than gratitude to anyone who makes campaign contributions. While I am grateful for contributions necessary to compete for election, that appreciation cannot override my commit-

Education: Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Texas Tech School of Law, 1992; Bachelor of Arts degree from Lubbock Christian University, with highest honors, 1989; Trinity High School, HEB ISD, Euless, Texas, 1985 | Experience: 20-year Lawyer, having served as a criminal prosecutor, Air Force lawyer (JAG Officer), corporate lawyer, and a lawyer for individuals and business owners helping with a broad range of legal matters | Web Site: www.PennyForJustice.com | Email: candidate@prjpc.com

ment to the oaths I have taken.

Accomplishment: I am proud of my service as a JAG officer for the Air Force. It taught me to apply the rules to a situation and make a decision based on the rules, even if the decision was unpopular with those affected or not what I might personally prefer. Our Air Force core values – integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do – will make me a better justice.

NO REPLY RECEIVED: DAVID LEWIS (R), 5TH COURT, PLACE 9; DAVID HANSCHEN (D), 5TH COURT, PLACE 9**DOUGLAS S. LANG (R) - 5TH COURT, PLACE 11**

Impartiality: When I became a judge ten years ago, I took an oath. I swore to uphold the Constitutions and laws of the United States and the State of Texas. I apply the law as written in accordance with the meaning of its plain written language. I do this regardless of whether litigants or lawyers have contributed. That is what my oath means to

Education: Drake University, B.S. Business Administration, 1969 University of Missouri, School of Law, J.D. 1972 | Experience: Justice, 5th Dist. Court of Appeals, PL 11, 2002-present (elected 2004, re-elected 2006); member, Texas Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation, 2003-2009; Law practice Dallas, 1973-2002, Law Clerk Supreme Court of Missouri 1972-73 | Web Site: www.justicedouglaslang.com | Email: langds@mindspring.com

me. It is a matter of integrity.

Accomplishment: I am most proud of founding a mentoring program for beginning lawyers, Transition to Law Practice. Over five years, hundreds of lawyers have been educated about professionalism and core values. I also wrote a book on core values, Deeds, Not Words-Mentors as Guiding Lights. Those efforts made it clear core values must be central to our lives. That makes me a better judge.

TONYA J. HOLT (D) - 5TH COURT, PLACE 11

Impartiality: One maintains impartiality by acting with integrity and honesty. Fund raising should not impact impartiality and my interpretation of the laws will be the same whether an individual donates to my campaign or not. I believe that everyone should be treated equally and that justice should not be for sale.

Education: Texas A & M, BA 1990; Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, JD 1995 | Experience: Office of Attorney General, State of Texas, 1996-1999; Law Office of Tonya J. Holt, 1999-2001; US Postal Service 2001-2004; The Holt Law Firm, 2004-2006; LSG Sky Chefs, 2006-2011 | Web Site: www.tonyaholtforjustice.com | Email: tonyaholtforjustice@gmail.com

Accomplishment: I am proud that I am the first in my family to graduate from college. I am very blessed. I worked hard then; I work hard now; and I will work hard as a Justice on the Court of Appeals. I believe that everyone has a right to be treated fairly and equally, and to have justice applied in accordance with the law. I will be a better justice because of my beliefs and experiences

ROBERT M. (BOB) FILLMORE (R) - 5TH COURT, PLACE 12

Impartiality: I have taken an oath as an appellate court Justice to adhere to the rule of law. That oath requires my decision-making to be based solely on the merits of each case. My commitment to Texans is that decisions I make as a Justice will never be influenced, in any way, by the fact I have received a campaign contribution.

Education: I earned an undergraduate degree in 1975 and a Juris Doctor degree in 1977 from the University of Kansas. | Experience: As an incumbent Justice, I have authored opinions in over 350 cases and participated in the decision of over 900 cases. I have over 30 years experience in the practice of law, and am a Visiting Professor of Law at Southern Methodist University. | Web Site: www.JusticeBobFillmore.com | Email: info@JusticeBobFillmore.com

Accomplishment: I currently serve as Chair of the Appellate Judges Legislative Committee, State Bar of Texas Judicial Section. In this role, I coordinate with the Texas Legislature on issues of importance to the judiciary and am at the forefront of policy development concerning the capacity of the judiciary to effectively render justice to those needing access to the courts.

LAWRENCE J. PRAEGER (D) - 5TH COURT, PLACE 12

Impartiality: I have agreed to abide by the voluntary limits of the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act. I will also not accept contributions from businesses, individuals, or lawyers who frequently appear before the court or anyone who "bundles" or gathers individual donations to avoid contribution limits.

Education: B.A. Simon's Rock College, Great Barrington, Ma. J.D. South Texas College of Law, Houston, Texas Basic Certificate in Law Enforcement; Career Prosecutor's Certificate, University of Houston Law School; Board Certified Family Law; Certified Mediator | Experience: 30 years trial experience representing individuals and small businesses in civil and criminal matters. I am a former prosecutor, Board Certified Family Law Specialist and a small business owner. Served 5 years on the State Bar Grievance Committee. | Web Site: praegerforjustice.com | Email: lpraeger@praegerlaw.com

Accomplishment: I represented a family wrongfully accused of child abuse. The case started in the District Court, went to the Court of Appeals, then resolved in the Texas Supreme Court. This case helped me understand the cost and impact of litigation on a family and how important it is to preserve our right trial by jury. It set a precedent for individuals to recover against the state.

THE 6TH COURT OF APPEALS SERVES THE FOLLOWING TEXAS COUNTIES:

Bowie, Camp, Cass, Delta, Fannin, Franklin, Gregg, Harrison, Hopkins, Hunt, Lamar, Marion, Morris, Panola, Red River, Rusk, Titus, Upshur & Wood

BAILEY C. MOSELEY (R) - 6TH COURT, PLACE 2

Impartiality: Unfailingly following and applying the law safeguards impartiality. Although I am not influenced by campaign contributions, I must avoid even the appearance of partiality. If, therefore, one could reasonably infer that a conflict of interests exists, I would recuse myself from the case.

Education: Bachelor of Business Administration-- University of Texas, Austin Juris Doctor -- University of Houston | Experience: General practice of law for 42 years, including prosecution and private practice. Have served on the Court of Appeals almost six years, authoring over 650 written opinions. | Web Site: www.baileymoseley.com/ | Email: moseleyforjustice@gmail.com

Accomplishment: Another justice and I have presented a program we designed to many service clubs and colleges which explains the judicial process. We also have presented free continuing legal education programs for attorneys throughout the judicial district so they can better represent their clients in appeals.

NO REPLY RECEIVED: FRANK L. SUPERCINSKI (D), 6TH COURT, PLACE 2**BALLOT BY MAIL**

Only specific reasons entitle a person to vote by mail (no longer called absentee voting). You may request a ballot by mail if you will be away from your county on Election Day and during early voting, are sick or disabled, are 65 years of age or older on Election Day, or are confined to jail.

Request an Application for Ballot by Mail (ABBM) from the early voting clerk in the county where you are registered, or download the form from www.VoteTexas.gov. The completed form must be received by mail or fax by October 30. Note: postmarks don't count. County elections addresses

and fax numbers are also available on the website.

A ballot will be mailed to you, and you must return your completed ballot to your county elections department by 7 p.m. on Election Day, November 6. The ballot must be received, not just postmarked, by that date. If you are mailing your ballot from outside the United States, the early voting clerk must receive your ballot by the fifth day after Election Day. (You must mail it no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day.)

THE 8TH COURT OF APPEALS SERVES THE FOLLOWING TEXAS COUNTIES:

Andrews, Brewster, Crane, Crockett, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Loving, Pecos, Presidio, Reagan, Reeves, Terrell, Upton, Ward & Winkler

CHRIS ANTCLIFF (R) - 8TH COURT, PLACE 2

Impartiality: The only way to educate voters about a candidate is through the media and that takes money. Attorneys know the judges better than most people and are the most common campaign contributors. Those attorneys do not expect and do not receive special treatment from me. I decide every case by applying the law to the facts without

Education: Austin High School, El Paso, Texas Bachelor of Arts, Texas Tech University JD, Texas Tech University | Experience: Former Judge of the 168th District Court. Former Judge of the 448th District Court. | Web Site: www.keepjusticeantcliff.com | Email: antcliff@aol.com

regard for who the parties or attorneys may be.

Accomplishment: I am most proud of my experience as a briefing attorney for a U.S. District Judge, as a lawyer, mediator, trial court judge and appellate justice rather than any specific accomplishment. The diversity of my background helps make me a better appellate justice as does my experience serving on various State and local, legal and community boards and committees.

NO REPLY RECEIVED: YVONNE RODRIGUEZ (D), 8TH COURT, PLACE 2**THE 13TH COURT OF APPEALS SERVES THE FOLLOWING TEXAS COUNTIES:**

Aransas, Bee, Calhoun, Cameron, De Witt, Goliad, Gonzales, Hidalgo, Jackson, Kenedy, Kleberg, Lavaca, Live Oak, Matagorda, Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio, Victoria, Wharton & Willacy

NO REPLY RECEIVED: TOM GREENWELL (R), 13TH COURT, PLACE 2; NORA LONGORIA (D), 13TH COURT, PLACE 2**BRADFORD M. CONDIT (R) - 13TH COURT, PLACE 4**

Impartiality: I will not solicit nor accept any money for my election efforts. Although harsh in its description, parties who give money to judges who are then called upon to decide cases involving those same parties reeks of influence buying. No judge should ever decide a case where a party has paid money to that judge.

Education: Undergraduate degree obtained from the University of Houston. Law degree from South Texas College of Law, Houston. | Experience: I am a lawyer with 29 years experience who has tried over 65 cases to a jury's verdict, I have represented clients in over 1,800 lawsuits, and I have written over 85 appellate briefs. | Email: bradcondit@sbcglobal.net

Accomplishment: Unfortunately the bedrock of decision-making based on law has given away to a legal standard called "abuse of discretion" that is not based on law. For 7 1/2 years in the case of Barr vs. City of Sinton I fought for a homeowner's right to worship God in his own home. The 13th Court of Appeals made obvious errors and was ultimately reversed by the Texas Supreme Court.

NELDA VIDAURRI RODRIGUEZ (D) - 13TH COURT, PLACE 4

Impartiality: I have ruled for and against litigants whose attorneys have contributed to my campaigns over the years and have found that their only expectations of me are to receive fair, well-balanced rulings. My reputation for honesty, integrity, and a balanced legal temperament is evidenced by the State Bar of Texas Judicial Poll wherein I

Education: Bachelor of Science, Secondary Education, 1974, Texas A&I University, Kingsville, Texas Juris Doctor, Cum Laude Graduate, 1981, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Texas Southern University Graduate, Texas College of Judicial Studies, 2007 | Experience: Justice, Thirteenth Court of Appeals, 1995-present Judge, Title IV-D Court Master, 1992-1995 Municipal Court Judge, City of Corpus Christi, Texas, 1990-1992 Partner, Attorney At Law, Rodriguez & Rodriguez, 1981-1990 | Web Site: [facebook.com/justicenelda](https://www.facebook.com/justicenelda) | Email: justicenelda@gmail.com

received 417 out of a total of 647 votes.

Accomplishment: With nearly eighteen years as an appellate judge, I have earned acclaim for my ability to dispose of cases promptly and efficiently. My propensity for collaborating with other judges and their staffs to foster professionalism in the court facilitates the disposition of business promptly and efficiently. As a result, litigants receive rulings in a timely manner.

NO REPLY RECEIVED: DOUG NORMAN (R), 13TH COURT, PLACE 5**GINA M. BENAVIDES (D) - 13TH COURT, PLACE 5**

Impartiality: Those who give to my campaign, do so because they know I am the best qualified candidate. I do not allow any campaign contribution to affect any rulings of my court.

Education: University of Houston Law Center - JD University of Texas at Austin - BA | Experience: Law offices of Jaime Gonzalez Adams & Graham Law Firm | Web Site: www.justiceginabenavides.com | Email: ginab9@hotmail.com

Accomplishment: I was voted Latina of the year by the National Hispanic Bar Association. I was elected by my fellow judges as chair of the Texas Center for the Judiciary. And I was appointed by the Texas Supreme Court to the Texas Access for Justice Commission.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

Secretary of State
www.sos.state.tx.us
www.VoteTexas.gov

League of Women Voters of Texas
www.lwvtexas.org

League of Women Voters (U.S.)
www.lwv.org

REPUBLICAN PARTY
www.texasgop.org

DEMOCRATIC PARTY
www.txdemocrats.org

LIBERTARIAN PARTY
www.lptexas.org

GREEN PARTY
<http://web.txgreens.org>

THE 14TH COURT OF APPEALS SERVES THE FOLLOWING TEXAS COUNTIES:

Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Grimes, Harris, Waller & Washington

BRETT BUSBY (R) - 14TH COURT, PLACE 3

Impartiality: By ruling based on the law and the facts, not on the identity of the parties or their lawyers. Like everyone who comes before me, contributors get fair treatment, not favored treatment. I publicly report all contributions, and I have accepted the voluntary limits of the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act, which means that no one

Education: After graduating from high school in Austin, I earned my undergraduate degree from Duke University (summa cum laude) and my law degree with high honors from Columbia University, one of the top 5 law schools in the country. | Experience: I serve on this court and have specialized in appeals for 14 years, giving me the most relevant experience for the job. I am a former U.S. Supreme Court law clerk, former partner at Bracewell & Giuliani, and am Board Certified in Civil Appellate Law. | Web Site: www.BrettBusby.com | Email: BrettBusbyforJustice@gmail.com

can fund a substantial part of my campaign.

Accomplishment: Before taking the bench, I represented people and companies as both plaintiffs and defendants. I often did free legal work, and I persuaded the U.S. Supreme Court to decide whether a judge could throw out a case based on an issue that no party had raised. I learned that judges must apply the law fairly to the issues raised, not decide cases based on their own preferences.

BARBARA GARDNER (D) - 14TH COURT, PLACE 3

Impartiality: I have a strong belief that neither party affiliation nor money should sway a judge's decision. The law is established for the Courts of Appeals, and it should be followed regardless of who the parties are or how much money they contributed. My upbringing in a family with solid values instilled in me a conviction to do what is mor-

Education: Graduated #1 in law school class, 1981, South Texas College of Law; B.A., Psychology, 1976, University of Colorado; B.A., Music, 1974, University of Houston. | Experience: Fed. Dist. Judge Carl Bue's Law Clerk 2 yrs; Bracewell & Patterson, Associate 2 yrs, Mandell & Wright, Partner 9 yrs; Popham Firm, Kansas City 5 yrs; solo practice 3 yrs; Tucker Vaughan, 2004-present. Many trials & appeals as lead atty-employment law. | Web Site: www.GardnerForJustice.com | Email: Barbara@GardnerForJustice.com

ally right and not yield to corruption.

Accomplishment: I am proud of graduating #1 in my law school class, which demonstrates not only my intellectual ability, but also my tenacious and industrious nature. I am determined to find solutions to problems. Being tenacious, inquisitive, and applying my intellect will help make me a better justice. Clerking for a federal judge also gave me an understanding of how courts function.

JEFF BROWN (R) - 14TH COURT, PLACE 4

Impartiality: First of all, it's a judge's job to be fair, and I endeavor everyday to be scrupulously fair in the cases I hear. Also, because I voluntarily comply with the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act, there are strict limits on the amount of contributions I accept. The reputation I've developed for fairness is something I hold dear, and I would never endan-

Education: JD, magna cum laude, University of Houston Law Center, 1995; BA, English, University of Texas, 1992 | Experience: 2007-present, Justice, 14th Court of Appeals; 2001-07, Judge, 55th District Court; 1996-01, attorney, Baker Botts; 1996, Law Clerk for Justice Greg Abbott, Texas Supreme Court; 1995, Law Clerk for Justice Jack Hightower, Texas Supreme Court; | Web Site: www.justicejeffbrown.com | Email: info@justicejeffbrown.com

ger it for a campaign check.

Accomplishment: Twenty-five years ago, I became an Eagle Scout, and it remains one of my proudest accomplishments. It has made me a better appellate justice because it taught me that honor, integrity, citizenship, and duty to God and country are high callings. I remain an active Scout leader today because I believe the values Scouting offers are vital to the survival of our republic.

NO REPLY RECEIVED: JIM WROTENBERY (D), 14TH COURT, PLACE 4; MARTHA HILL JAMISON (R), 14TH COURT, PLACE 5; TANNER GARTH (D), 14TH COURT, PLACE 5**JOHN DONOVAN (R) - 14TH COURT, PLACE 8**

Impartiality: Campaign fund raising by judges in Texas is regulated by strict laws which limit the time period in which fund raising is allowed, the amount of funds which may be raised and who may contribute. All contributions are disclosed. Furthermore, all judges take an oath of office to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution and

Education: I received my law degree with honors, J.D. cum laude, from South Texas College of Law, Houston, Texas in 1984. I received a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas in 1980 | Experience: I have 14 years experience as a Texas District Court Judge presiding over thousands of varied and complex lawsuits. I worked with Harris County Judge Ed Emmett resolving judicial & legal issues for Harris County(2009-2010.) I am certified in trial law | Web Site: judgejohndonovan.com | Email: judgejohndonovanforjustice@gmail.com

laws of Texas and the United States.

Accomplishment: Although I have many accomplishments as an experienced judge for 14 years, a lector for my church for almost 20 years, helping coach youth soccer, youth basketball and little league baseball, as well as volunteering with schools, the greatest accomplishment is my family. My family gives me perspective on the practical effect and impact of court decisions and rulings.

NO REPLY RECEIVED: JULIA MALDONADO (D), 14TH COURT, PLACE 8

This Voters Guide is available at www.lwvtexas.org. Additional candidate information and races are available at VOTE411.org. The "On Your Ballot" feature of VOTE411.org lets you identify the races and ballot initiatives specific to your address.

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES FOR THE COURT OF APPEALS

TERRIE LIVINGSTON (R) - 2ND COURT, CHIEF JUSTICE
BOB MCCOY (R) - 2ND COURT, PLACE 4
SUE WALKER (R) - 2ND COURT, PLACE 5
LEEANN CAMPBELL DAUPHINOT (R) - 2ND COURT, PLACE 6
CAROLYN WRIGHT (R) - 5TH COURT, CHIEF JUSTICE
MOLLY FRANCIS (R) - 5TH COURT, PLACE 10
ELIZABETH LANG MIERS (R) - 5TH COURT, PLACE 13
MACKAY K. HANCOCK (R) - 7TH COURT, PLACE 2
PAT PIRTLE (R) - 7TH COURT, PLACE 3
ANN CRAWFORD MCCLURE (D) - 8TH COURT, CHIEF JUSTICE

GUADALUPE "LUPE" RIVERA (D) - 8TH COURT, PLACE 3
DAVID GAULTNEY (R) - 9TH COURT, PLACE 3
HOLLIS HORTON (R) - 9TH COURT, PLACE 4
TOM GRAY (R) - 10TH COURT, CHIEF JUSTICE
JIM R. WRIGHT (R) - 11TH COURT, CHIEF JUSTICE
MIKE WILLSON (R) - 11TH COURT, PLACE 2
SAM GRIFFITH (R) - 12TH COURT, PLACE 3
ROY VALDEZ (D) - 13TH COURT, CHIEF JUSTICE
BILL BOYCE (R) - 14TH COURT, PLACE 6

State Board of Education

Four-year term. Must be at least 26 years old, a citizen of the United States, a resident of Texas for at least 12 months, a district resident for at least 12 months, and a registered Texas voter. Composed of 15 members elected from roughly equally populous districts, the Board adopts rules and establishes policies that govern a wide range of educational programs and services provided by Texas public schools. Among duties: establishes goals for the public school system; adopts and promotes four-year plans for meeting those goals; and oversees investment of the Permanent School Fund. Annual authorized salary: none

Curriculum: What criteria should be used in developing and approving curriculum standards for courses?

Funding: What changes, if any, would you make to current investment policies for the Permanent School Fund and to distributions to fund public schools? Please explain.

Charter Schools: What changes, if any, would you support to ensure sufficient oversight of charter schools?

Other Issues: What are the two most serious public education issues facing the State Board of Education during the next term, and how would you address them?

CARLOS "CHARLIE" GARZA (R) - DISTRICT 1



Curriculum: What is best for children.

Funding: None. The fund continues to grow.

Charter Schools: The SBOE does not have oversight over charter schools only their approval.

Education: Doctoral Candidate: University of Texas at El Paso; Doctoral Candidate: George Washington University, Washington, DC; M.S., Education Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA; B.S. Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL; National Dean's List | Experience: School Administrator at all level of education: High, Middle, Elementary and College; National Who's Who Among Teachers (4X); President's List, Dean's List, Student Advocate of the Year; Retired U.S. Navy 1979-1999 | Web Site: carloscharliegarza.com | Email: Charlie@charliegarza.com

Other Issues: The curriculum is the center of focus and must continue to ensure that students are able to compete in the 21st century. Ensure that any changes address the needs of the children and place them first. The recent changes have been good for Texas children given the recent report of increased graduation rates and the recent increase in NAEP scores.

MARTHA M. DOMINGUEZ (D) - DISTRICT 1



Curriculum: The criteria to develop and approve curriculum standards: Prepare students who can be critical thinkers and be able to think clearly, make sound decisions, be productive in their community, and lead successful lives.

Funding: Invest in areas that will ensure strong financial growth and continued support for education to provide equity for all students across the state. Every student that we educate is an asset to the state; therefore, all students should receive an equitable education.

Education: Doctorate in Educational Administration, 12/2008, New Mexico St. University, Las Cruces, NM; Masters in Secondary Education, 5/1980, Stephen F. Austin St. University, Nacogdoches, TX; 7/1972, Bachelor of Business Administration, University of TX at El Paso | Experience: Thirty-five years in education as instructional aide, teacher, assistant principal, instructional supervisor, special projects assistant, and personnel director with Texas certifications as a teacher and administrator (Mid Management & Supervisor).

Charter Schools: Charter schools should be subject to the same laws and accountability as the public school districts; therefore, they should receive the same oversight as public school districts. Oversight over all schools must be reviewed to ensure an equitable education for all students.

Other Issues: 1: Current curriculum focuses on testing-narrows the educational program. Solution: Have curriculum that allows teachers flexibility in their instructional program to develop well-balanced students. 2: Number of students who do not have a clear idea of their role in society. Solution: Add character ed. & citizenship ed. which will contribute in the students overall development.

STUDENT VOTERS

Students may use either their parents' address or their college address for voter registration, whichever they consider to be their permanent address. Students cannot be registered at both places. The general rule of thumb is that wherever students claim residency is the place where they should be registered to vote. Students who will be away from their address on Election Day and during early voting may request ballots by mail.

PROVISIONAL VOTING

The federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 provides for provisional voting if a voter's name does not appear on the list of registered

voters due to an administrative error. If your name is not on the rolls of registered voters in your precinct, but you believe you are registered, the election judge will attempt to determine if you are registered somewhere in your county. If your registration cannot be found, you may cast a provisional vote by filling out an affidavit and a paper ballot. This ballot is kept separate from the regular ballots, and the case will be reviewed by the provisional voting ballot board. The ballot will be counted only if the voter is determined to be a registered voter in that precinct. Provisional voters will receive a notice in the mail by the tenth day after the local canvass advising them if their provisional ballots were counted and, if they were not counted, the reason why.

LAURIE TURNER (R) - DISTRICT 2

Curriculum: Board members should confer with their teachers that they represent; asking them for directions in determining changes/deletions/additions. Teachers are the experts; therefore SBOE members should create a committee from these expert teachers to draft and revise curriculum. The new curriculum should be approved by the Board without altering it.

Funding: I would not change the current investment policies of the Permanent Fund. The Fund has gained a 9.99% interest return for the last 10 years. But what I would change is the spending of \$90 mil-

Education: Bachelor of Science: Criminal Justice, Masters of Public Affairs: Public Policy, Doctoral candidate at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi: Education Law and Policy, Teacher Certification: 4-8 Social studies and Social Studies Composite 8-12. | Experience: Taught history in a public school for the last 8 years; history department chair for the last three years; served on a variety of committees: Campus Improvement Plan; sponsored Student Council; and Safety 1st campaign to promote student wellness. | Web Site: www.lauriejturner.com | Email: turner4texasschools@hotmail.com

NO REPLY RECEIVED: RUBEN CORTEZ JR. (D), DISTRICT 2**LENARD NELSON (L) - DISTRICT 2**

Curriculum: The curriculum standards should be assessed to be sure that they address creativity, problem solving, and imagination. Otherwise the curriculum will not have utility.

Funding: Not having expertise in finance, I would make my judgements after consulting with experts in the field who hold differing views. As to distribution of the funds I believe the methodology has simply become to

Education: University of Texas, ICC Comm. Inspector #51589366-B2, ICC Coastal Const. Insp. #5189366-C1, TREC Professional Inspector #6800, TDI Res. Prop. Inspector #0070503599 | Experience: I grew up in a family of Educators that instilled in me the importance of education. From this background I have vigilantly kept a political interest in the Education processes at all Government levels. | Email: eaglinsp@dbstech.com

DAVID M. WILLIAMS (R) - DISTRICT 3

Curriculum: Curriculum standards should be designed to insure students graduating have the academic skills required to meet the entrance requirements of colleges and universities or to meet the needs of employers seeking qualified candidates.

Funding: Investment policies should be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that changes in the economy are addressed. Taxpayers deserve to get the best return for their investments. I would oppose investing in any gambling operations such as casinos. Funding should follow the child and incentives should be avail-

Education: Bachelors of Science Degree in Elementary Education with minors in mathematics and science. | Experience: 12 years teaching (9 in public school) experience preceded by 18 years US Army service and 4 years US Navy service. National Board for Professional Teaching Standards assessor 3 summer sessions. | Web Site: www.davidwilliamsdistrict3.com | Email: williamsfordistrict3@gmail.com

NO REPLY RECEIVED: MARISA B. PEREZ (D), DISTRICT 3**DOROTHY OLMOS (R) - DISTRICT 4**

Curriculum: There should be an ad hoc research panel committee in place alongside a selected moderator/agency for outside input to be discussed and criteria to be reviewed to ensure that it has been read, evaluated carefully for a full understanding and a consensus is reached for ratification procedure to follow, then taken and properly addressed before the entire board for a final v (///)

Funding: The permanent school fund must always be for educational purposes and be allocated strictly for the enhancement of funding public schools. The investment policies must be reviewed quarterly or even monthly to make sure that investments are not declining and the

lion dollars going to testing; redistributing the funds to schools and vocational education that would allow our students to have skills when they graduated.

Charter Schools: As a SBOE member I support initiatives to impose rigorous criteria for academic performance practices, compliance with state quality standards, governance requirements, and financial accountability.

Other Issues: 1: Schools have failed to recognize the needs of students who are not college-bound. My top priority is to build up vocational education with the introduction of Career-Technical Training; creating business and industry partnerships with school districts. 2: Schools today have lost focus on teaching the child while aimed completely upon testing.

complicated. It has become like the IRS Tax Code and needs simplification.

Charter Schools: I believe there is adequate oversight presently.

Other Issues: The first priority is for the elimination of the insane testing for student regurgitation, and allowing the teachers to teach students as individuals with individual abilities and needs. Secondly the Board needs to pressure the legislature with solutions to the budgetary shortfall for education.

able to excellent schools and educators.

Charter Schools: Auditing of all schools receiving public funds should be a routine practice. I would support a requirement that all schools support the Constitution of the United States and the State of Texas.

Other Issues: A student must feel safe and welcome before learning can take place. A zero tolerance for bullying is needed and this should include protection for students whose faith teaches some behaviors are wrong. Funding issues due to limited resources caused by a poor economy will remain an issue. Accountability and need must receive a high level of scrutiny.

stability of the investments are maintained accordingly.

Charter Schools: The Charter schools must have stringent oversight when awarded millions of dollars and the schools must be accountable for their actions taken in educating the students of Texas, therefore I strongly support any changes that would make each charter school accountable for their teaching practices as well as their accountability of the funds awarded.

Other Issues: There are several things But I do believe that the most critical is the curriculum that has been in place since 1997, TEKS better known as the Type 1 Philosophy of Education. The newest enhancement for Type 1 is the STAAR. It is going back to the basics of teaching in the classroom vs. the stringent testing for test scores leaving the educator to concentrate strictly on re (///)

NO REPLY RECEIVED: LAWRENCE ALLEN JR. (D), DISTRICT 4

KEN MERCER (R) - DISTRICT 5

Curriculum: Standards must remain online for all Texans to review. Example: some “academic experts” tried to revise and rewrite American History to their anti-American, anti-military, and anti-free enterprise, far-left ideology. Thanks to online standards, hundreds of parents emailed and protested against those outrageous experts. The result - a true and accurate American History.

Funding: New laws to protect this children's fund from future attempts of the Legislature to "raid" that endowment. The Founders of Texas wisely created this fund to provide free instructional materials for all students. In 2011, there was an attempt by certain elected officials to raid billions of dollars from the children. Such a raid is a bad precedent and

Education: M.B.A. - Management and Finance (St. Mary's University), B.B.A. - Business Data Systems (UT San Antonio), B.A. - UT Austin (Biology), A.S. San Antonio College, P.M.P. - Professional Project Manager. | Experience: SBOE Chair: School Initiatives (2011-present), Former Vice-Chair: Committee on Curriculum, Former Vice-Chair: School Planning and Initiatives, Former Chair: Teacher of the Year Committee, and Former State House Member: Committee on Higher Education. | Web Site: www.VoteKenMercer.com

REBECCA BELL-METEREAU (D) - DISTRICT 5

Curriculum: Clear, data-driven criteria should govern curriculum standards, selection of experts, and review committees. We need geographical and cultural diversity and a transparent, consistent process for public input that allows for effective participation. Board members should cooperate with legislators and TEA to establish goals, common ground, transparency, and accountability.

Funding: We need ethical management of the permanent school fund, to insure funds go to public education. We must examine requirements for charter schools, home schools, and alternative teacher certification, using data, not emotion, to determine success. Vouchers tend to siphon support away from public schools and benefit wealthier families,

Education: BA, MA, PhD in English, Indiana University | Experience: Taught as Peace Corps, Fulbright Scholar, and at University of Nebraska, Professor at Texas State University 1981-present, worked with public schools, Texas State president on student dropout rates, Planning & Zoning, Blue Ribbon Bonds, San Marcos Tx | Web Site: voterebecca.com | Email: Rebecca@voterebecca.com

MARK LOEWE (L) - DISTRICT 5

Curriculum: Criteria should include accuracy and importance of scientific and historical facts, promotion of students' abilities to gain knowledge and skills, successfully predict consequences of actions, and assess and communicate harms and benefits, and promotion of honesty, good citizenship, free enterprise, reason, science, useful arts, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Funding: I discovered errors of roughly \$752 Million in values of two international investment funds listed in the Texas Permanent School Fund Schedule of Investments Held as of August 31, 2009 (Unaudited). The SBOE's failure to notice these enormous errors suggests dereliction of its duty to oversee PSF investments. I would lead the SBOE

Education: Ph. D. Physics, University of Texas at Austin, B. S. Physics and B. S. Chemistry, Magna Cum Laude, University of California at Irvine, Fulbright Kommission support for physics research in West Germany, Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Pi Sigma, Phi Kappa Phi. | Experience: I coauthored a quantum mechanics textbook, taught physics at UT and Texas State, discovered incorrect scores issued on TAKS math and science tests, helped to develop a tiny on-wheel pump to maintain proper tire pressure, and do microelectronics R&D. | Web Site: www.markloewe.org/

NO REPLY RECEIVED: IRENE MEYER SCHARF (G), DISTRICT 5

poor public policy.

Charter Schools: First, revisit the "cap" on charter schools set by the legislature. Demand is huge - currently over 20,000 students waiting for a seat. Second, I asked the Commissioner of Education to help Texas build the best Charter School system in America. I want new rules to tighten the award process and procedures, and strengthen the audit and evaluation of existing Charter Boards.

Other Issues: The nationalization of education. 1979: President Carter announced we had the greatest system of education in the world. Then he created the Department of Education to "streamline" the process. 2012: Three decades later - our scores and rankings plummeted. That DOE is pushing a national curriculum, standards, test and diploma. Federal intrusion is the most serious issue.

not economically disadvantaged ones.

Charter Schools: The system for evaluation charter school needs to be consistent and comparable to evaluation for public schools, accounting for differences in income, requirements, and percentages of types of student population. Truly effective charter school innovations may offer models for best practices in public schools as well, if they are studied and blind tested for true efficacy.

Other Issues: We must escape from excessive emphasis on high-stakes testing and then develop multiple measures for student success in a broader curriculum—including accurate science and social studies, sex education, technical, art, and physical education—not a narrower curriculum. We need to trust good teachers, high standards, student success, and policies of no bullying in school.

to carefully oversee PSF investments.

Charter Schools: Sufficient oversight requires vouchers to empower millions of parents to reject mediocre schools and choose safe schools that better serve their children's individual needs, abilities, and interests. When choosing schools (government, voucher, and other), parents may compare results of government achievement tests given at all schools that receive public education funds.

Other Issues: Texas pays excessively high prices for mathematics and science textbooks. I wrote House Bill 2959 (2009) and would lead the SBOE to acquire low cost textbooks for children to keep permanently. I devised progressive vouchers to attract billions of additional private dollars per year into Texas K-12 education and to maximize public education funds available for any child.

The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes candidates for office, or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

TRACI JENSEN (D) - DISTRICT 6

Curriculum: Curriculum should be developed with the idea that students need to learn how to analyze, interpret, and synthesize information. Content should be accepted knowledge that is based upon research and facts. The board shouldn't be able to make major changes to the proposed curriculum created by the committee of educators and experts without their approval.

Funding: I am concerned about the direction of the PSF. Recently we just learned about the 5 hedge fund manager's excessive fees. We should not move quickly but examine all options. The PSF should not be used to fund charter schools which has been an issue brought before the board. We must keep our focus on the 5 million children attending public

Education: I have a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction. | Experience: I was a classroom teacher and education professor at University of Houston. I have worked in Cy-Fair, Alief, Aldine, Houston, Katy and Spring Branch schools. | Web Site: www.jensen4stateboard.com | Email: tracijensen@jensen4stateboard.com

NO REPLY RECEIVED: DONNA BAHORICH (R), DISTRICT 6; GENE CLARK (L), DISTRICT 6; G C MOLISON (G), DISTRICT 6; DAVID BRADLEY (R), DISTRICT 7

MATTHEW PETRE (L) - DISTRICT 7

Curriculum: The number one criteria for curriculum should be scientific and historical facts. In the case that there are theories that are still up for some scientific debate (e.g. Climate Change or Evolution) the curriculum should focus on teaching children the thinking skills that give them the best tools to come to their own conclusions.

Funding: The current policy for the Permanent School Fund is generally acceptable; however, I would work with other board members to find solutions to the current crisis regarding the retention of the highest quality teachers and would also work to increase funding of programs related to areas that have in the recent decades de-

Education: Middle Tennessee State University - B.S. Computer Science Mississippi State University - Chemical Engineering North Mesquite High School - Mesquite Texas - 2nd in Class | Experience: I am an active participant in our political process. I have been active in the Libertarian Party for over 20 years. I believe it is time for change to liberty-mindedness on our state's school board of education. | Web Site: www.khou.com/video?id=148583935&sec=548367 | Email: mpetre@petrohawk.com

BARBARA CARGILL (R) - DISTRICT 8

Curriculum: The board's current detailed process to oversee the revision of the curriculum standards results in rigorous, academically sound standards that prepare our students for college or the workforce. Our schoolchildren must be taught about their country, their rich heritage, and about the sacrifices that our forefathers made for them.

Funding: Serving as fiduciaries of the PSF is a great responsibility. We have done an excellent job in overseeing investment policies, resulting in the current value of the fund being about \$25 billion! We also wisely vote on the distribution rate. In July we voted on a 3.3 % rate which is expected to generate about \$830 million per year.

Education: Texas Woman's University • Master of Science in Science Education, 1992: Biology/Education Baylor University • Bachelor of Science in Education, 1982: Biology/English | Experience: Teacher, Garland I.S.D.: Garland High School (August 1982-May 1985) Teacher, Hurst-Euless-Bedford I.S.D.: L.D. Bell High School (August 1985-May 1991) Founder and Director of Wonders of the Woodlands Science Programs (1994-Present) • Chair, SBOE | Web Site: www.barbaracargill.com | Email: sboecargill@sbcglobal.net

schools and their needs.

Charter Schools: Charters must be held accountable when using tax payer money. Texas has seen cases of staggering mismanagement. Opening a charter doesn't require a background in education so it can become a for-profit endeavor. They are also only required to hire teachers with a high school diploma. I strongly support a change in the oversight system before programs are expanded.

Other Issues: Textbook Adoptions & Health Education: Textbooks shouldn't be chosen according to personal ideology. A complete education using materials that assist in the development of critical thinking should be the goal. Abstinence-Only programs haven't worked. Texas is 4th in teen pregnancy rates. Students need more than a mantra of "Just say no" in order to make informed decisions.

clined; namely art, philosophy and personal economics.

Charter Schools: I would support a statewide voucher program (probably a cost effective progressive voucher program like that supported by my colleague Mark Loewe from Austin.) Being the product of the public education system, I do not want to see it disappear nor in any way suffer from insufficient funding, but it is my belief that charter and private schools are the future of education.

Other Issues: The current attempt and state and local levels to create not just an equal playing field for students, but also to force equal outcome on students, is the greatest impediment facing the U.S. and Texas public education system. Testing cannot be the primary indicator of success. Separation of church and state protects our children, but also our religious beliefs.

Charter Schools: I would support changes so that the SBOE could have input and oversight after a charter school has opened its doors. Right now our job is done once the charter is awarded. Most charter awardees do an excellent job in organizing and running their charter school. However there are always charter schools that do poorly. SBOE oversight would result in more accountability.

Other Issues: I'll continue to fight to keep academic rigor in the state curriculum standards. Due to SB6, districts can use state money to purchase textbooks that the board has not approved. Who checks for errors? For academic rigor? For quality content? Our schoolchildren deserve the best instructional materials-- ones that have been vetted through the board's process.

Election Day Problems? Call one of these hotlines:

1-866-MYVOTE1 (866-698-6831)

1-866-OUR-VOTE (866-687-8683)

1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (en Español)

DEXTER SMITH (D) - DISTRICT 8



Curriculum: The process of developing and approving standards should include the input from the stakeholders of the public education system. Teachers, parents, professional groups and the business community should be afforded an opportunity to provide valuable insight on the direction of educational standards. They should also be based upon factual data void special interest groups.

Funding: I believe there should be more transparency for the public on decisions made concerning the Permanent School Fund. This helps to ensure the public trust and the ethical standards of board members remain intact. I do believe the SBOE should provide strict guidance with

Education: BA University of Houston MA University of Phoenix Regional IV Principal Certification Program | Experience: 11 years Elementary Social Studies | Web Site: www.dextersmith4sboe.com | Email: dexsmith187@msn.com

the distribution of money from the fund.

Charter Schools: I support charter schools. I have been a part of a successful public charter for my entire career. I feel that good charter schools are an integral and viable part of our public education system. Charters are obligated to meet the same accountability standards of public schools unlike private institutions that create or adopt their own.

Other Issues: 1. Develop a plan to ensure more consistency in alternative teacher certification programs in Texas. The SBOE should create a uniform alternative certification program that meets the Texas certification standards. 2. Develop a sensible alternative to the new STAARS and EOC examinations. The SBOE should advocate for an end to NCLB legislation and opt out of the test.

THOMAS RATLIFF (R) - DISTRICT 9



Curriculum: The SBOE should work closely with academic experts, Texas college and universities, educators, parents, students, business men and women, and locally elected school board members to ensure a well-rounded curriculum to ensure career and college readiness. The SBOE should not attempt to do wholesale revisions to standards at the 11th hour like has happened in the past.

Funding: I will continue to lead the effort to terminate expensive outside consultants and bring more management in-house. This is estimated to save over \$10 million/year and increase the amount of money available to school districts across Texas. We have wasted over \$70 mil-

Education: Graduated from Mt. Pleasant High School, B.B.A from Texas Tech University, M.P.A from University of Texas at Austin | Experience: Elected in 2010 to State Board of Education and am currently serving my first term. Have been active parent volunteer in my children's public schools for the past 10 years. | Web Site: www.thomasratliff.com | Email: Thomas@thomasratliff.com

lion over the past few years that could have been sent to classrooms, not consultants.

Charter Schools: I would add more financial criteria to the application process. More charter schools fail due to financial reasons than any other reasons. I would also like to see more ability for the SBOE to revoke charters if their academic performance isn't up to standard.

Other Issues: We continue to have difficulty raising the bar for "expert" reviewers for our standards. There is a faction on the SBOE that opposes more rigorous qualifications. In my opinion, this cheapens the process and brings politics into the standards setting process. We also need to get better clarification on the role we play in the standardized testing issue confronting us.

SHERRI L. LITTLE (L) - DISTRICT 9

Curriculum: Common sense, without preference to any particular organization's beliefs or practices, should be primary. Personal investigation into what has or has not worked in previous district's curriculum is necessary.

Funding: Without extended research as to the particulars, I cannot suggest specific changes.

Education: 2 years college, Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas | Experience: General manager, medical clinic, Pittsburg, Texas; Operations, major chemical company, Beaumont, Texas; Manager, parts dept. auto dealership, Beaumont, Texas; varied other careers, each of which provided a good deal of life experience. | Email: sheloulit@juno.com

Charter Schools: Personal involvement from an SBOE representative.

Other Issues: 1. Implementation of standardized testing mandates, i.e., StAAR, TAKS, TABS. I would advocate for suspension, which would allow the educator more time to teach, and would also save the school district wasted monies on same. 2. An environment that doesn't foster a desire to learn, and to teach. I would seek a way to stop ALL forms of bullying, by any means necessary.

TOM MAYNARD (R) - DISTRICT 10



Curriculum: Curriculum should be factual, accurate, free of political and social agendas and designed to prepare students for success in post-secondary education and careers and to be effective, responsible American citizens. It should be a continuum of coherent, age and grade appropriate steps resulting in preparedness for careers, post-secondary education and citizenship.

Funding: The State Board of Education is the chief fiduciary for the Permanent School Fund, but the staff members who manage it are subordinates of the Commissioner of Education. We should create separate lines of governance between the board and fund management. I also believe there should be more public transparency in disclosing man-

Education: Bachelor of Science, Animal Production, Texas Tech University Texas Teacher Certification, Agricultural Education | Experience: Classroom Teacher, Career & Technical Education-Agricultural Science-13 years; School Board Trustee-6 years; Public School Parent-5 children; Executive Director, nation's largest state career & technical student organization-12 years; Business owner | Web Site: www.maynardfortexas.com | Email: tom@maynardfortexas.com

agement fees and return on investment.

Charter Schools: Open-enrollment charter schools should demonstrate improved performance amongst similar demographic groups in a community. This measure would not necessarily apply to charter schools serving special populations in child care organizations. All charter schools must meet audit standards for accounting practices and appropriate use of public funds.

Other Issues: We must re-vitalize the workforce development piece of public education. Many students graduate with few or no marketable skills. We should facilitate industry partnerships and work to reduce unnecessary barriers in the certification process. We must set high standards, but restore local control and reduce unfunded mandates that contribute little to educating children.

GERALDINE "TINCY" MILLER (R) - DISTRICT 12

Curriculum: We must make certain that we maintain a strong emphasis on the basics in education. Our students must be proficient in reading, writing, and mathematics. We should emphasize phonics in our reading classes. Our students need to have an understanding of science and its applications. Additionally, we need to match up a portion of our curriculum to meet market demands.

Funding: I would prohibit the use of the Permanent School Fund for anything other than its intended purpose, and that is to fund textbooks for the public school children of Texas. This fund was created to pay for the textbooks for the independent school districts. I would make certain that it is being well managed and garnering the best returns

Education: Southern Methodist University - Bachelor of Science, Texas A&M Commerce - Masters Specializing in Reading | Experience: Former Member of the State Board of Education, Former Chairman of State Board of Education, Trained and taught in the Reading Laboratory at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital under Dr. Lucius Waites | Web Site: www.TincyMiller.com | Email: gtince@aol.com

LOIS PARROTT (D) - DISTRICT 12

Curriculum: Curriculum standards should be fact based. They should be determined after gathering input from teachers, educators, parents, scholars, local school board members and local school district employees. Decisions should be based upon evidence, facts, unbiased materials and information.

Funding: The fund should stay in tact as an endowment fund and not be released from the auspices of the Texas

State Board of Education.

Education: Ph.D.TX A&M Commerce Education interdisciplinary minor Masters degree Education major interdisciplinary minor | Experience: Elected Dallas County School Board two years Elected Dallas Independent School District Board of Education ten years President of Dallas Independent School District Board of Education two years Treasurer, Richland College Faculty Ass. 3 yea | Web Site: loisparrott.com | Email: loisparrott@loisparrott.com

S.T. RUSSELL (R) - DISTRICT 13

Curriculum: The criteria currently being used is not the problem. Teachers being monitored to ensure that the curriculum standards are being fully taught is the problem. It does not make any sense to develop and approve more curriculum standards, when the current ones are not being properly implemented because teachers know that their administration is not verifying compliance.

Funding: I would make no changes to current investment policies for the PSF. It is making money. I would change distributions funding by adding a textbook amendment. I see too many students walking home without

Education: Psychology Major | Experience: Frustrations from constituents and the news about the sorry state of Texas education | Web Site: strussell.com | Email: abouteducation@strussell.com

MAVIS BEST KNIGHT (D) - DISTRICT 13

Curriculum: Curriculum standards should reflect what students need to know/do based on current research in the field of study. Other criteria: understandable, manageable, measureable, age/grade appropriate, vertical/horizontal alignment, promotes integration/interdisciplinary approaches, and K-12 articulation. Curriculum standards should be devoid of any political biases.

Funding: Investment policies of the Permanent School Fund are sound, followed, and consistently reviewed. Adjustments are made to asset allocations as needed to protect the fund, minimize losses and enhance gains. Steps are being taken to minimize management ex-

Education: B.A., M.A. Psychology North Carolina Central University | Experience: Ten year member Texas State Board of Education, Local, State, tional PTA service, Non-profit Board service. | Email: mavbknight@aol.com

possible for a fund of its size.

Charter Schools: I support the expansion of charter schools and believe they are a necessary part of our public school program. I believe a five year review should be placed on charter schools giving them enough time to prove themselves. I also believe that the Texas Education Agency should be granted more authority to come in and shut down poorly performing charter schools.

Other Issues: I believe the most serious education issue facing the SBOE is protecting the Permanent School Fund for its intended purpose and that is providing free textbooks to our public school children. Another serious issue is to make certain we develop criteria for our curriculum so our students are prepared for the 21st century workforce.

Charter Schools: Each charter school should have to comply with the same budget reporting system as each public school has to comply with and have a transparent budget. They also need to have the same requirements as public schools have on serving special needs children. Public schools do not turn children away.

Other Issues: More funding needs to go to the classrooms. Also, a reduction in unnecessary student testing would allow students more time for classroom instruction and more funding could go to our schools. The legislature should restore funds which have been cut.

books. I would propose a change in which schools must use the PSF (the children's textbook fund) to make sure every student has a book to take home.

Charter Schools: I believe that all public schools (charter and ISDs) should be reviewed for education compliance every four years.

Other Issues: One issue is getting teachers to teach 'inside the box.' Teachers must be monitored by administration to ensure they are using the book. Also, I'd propose teacher incentive pay based on students' performances. Another issue is allowing parents to 'see' inside the classroom. I'd propose that parent portals be implemented in all schools.

penses by bringing select investment tools in house. Distributions from the fund are adequate based upon required formulas. (//)

Charter Schools: By statue, the Commissioner of Education has oversight over the operations of charter schools. I would support a shorter timeframe for closures and appeals. The Charter School Division also needs staffing levels restored to better assist charter schools.

Other Issues: There are two ongoing issues: 1. The alignment of curriculum with instructional materials with statewide tests and teacher certification. The cycles are out of sync. Presently, we are trying to match effective curriculum implementation dates with availability of instructional materials. Continued monitoring and tweaking of the cycles are needed as well as continued dialogu (//)

MARTY ROWLEY (R) - DISTRICT 15



Curriculum: A back-to-the-basics approach to education is foundational for any suitable curriculum. It should describe what students should know and be able to do at every grade level. Standards must be detailed, but should not contain so much content so as to detract from a teacher's ability to teach. The standards should be of sufficient rigor so as to meet national competition.

Funding: Revenues generated from the PSF should be prioritized to fund new instructional materials for Texas schoolchildren. This would include both traditional textbooks and electronic delivery options. When the SBOE passes new education standards and the legislature fails to provide funding for new materials, school districts are left with an

Education: Bachelor's degree in Business Administration; Eastern New Mexico University; 1979. J.D. degree; Texas Tech School of Law; 1982 | Experience: Certified Professional Mediator; Former Board Certified Attorney; Former Pastor 8000 member church; Current Pres. Maverick Boys & Girls Club; Former Pres. CareNet Pregnancy Center and Chair of Governmental Affairs of Amarillo Chamber of Commerce | Web Site: martyrowley.org | Email: marty@martyrowley.org

unfunded mandate, which I oppose.

Charter Schools: There needs to be a healthy balance between oversight and maintaining the freedom of charter schools to be innovative and cost effective. Too much governmental intrusion hinders their ability to produce results at a lower cost to taxpayers. There may be limited instances where oversight is needed, but such action must be carefully measured.

Other Issues: The first issue is empowering our teachers by creating an effective accountability system that ensures essential standards of knowledge and skills are being taught, but not so as to stifle individual learning. Secondly, schools need more freedom to offer career and technical training, thereby meeting Texas' workforce needs and creating better lives for graduates.

NO REPLY RECEIVED: STEVEN D. SCHAFERSMAN (D), DISTRICT 15

THERE IS A LOCAL LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS NEAR YOU!

- Amarillo
- Arlington Area
- Austin Area
- Bay Area
- Brazos County
- Comal Area
- Corpus Christi
- Dallas
- Denton
- El Paso
- Houston Area
- Irving
- Kerrville Area
- Lubbock County
- Marshall/Harrison County
- Midland
- Montgomery County
- Plano/Collin County
- Richardson
- Rio Grande Valley MAL Unit
- San Antonio Area
- San Marcos
- Sherman/Grayson County
- Tarrant County
- Tyler/Smith County
- Victoria
- Waco Area
- Wichita Falls
- Wimberley Valley MAL Unit

For local election coverage visit one of the local Leagues listed above for information in your area at www.lwvtexas.org/localleagues.php



ADVOCATING **AGITATING** **EDUCATING**

Who else but the LWV is a nonpartisan, political organization and one of America's most trusted grassroots organizations? The LWV...encouraging active participation in government...working to increase understanding of major public policy issues...influencing public policy through education and advocacy...making democracy work!

Learn more about our 29 Local Leagues and how they help shape today's important issues by visiting the League's website at www.lwvtexas.org.

Your tax-deductible contribution to the LWV-Texas Education Fund supports expanded distribution of this and other Voters Guides prepared by LWV-Texas. Contributions can be made online at www.lwvtexas.org or mailed to LWV-Texas Education Fund, 1212 Guadalupe #107, Austin, TX 78701.