



VOTERS GUIDE

Published by the League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi Area

March 6, 2018 Joint Primary Election

Early Voting Locations: February 20-March 2, 2018
February 20-24: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
February 26-28: 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
March 1-2: 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

Curbside voting will be available at all locations.



CALLEN ISD (Administration Building)
4205 Wildcat Dr., Corpus Christi, TX 78410

THE VALENCIA
6110 Ayers St. Corpus Christi, TX 78415

DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING CENTER
5151 McArdle Rd., Corpus Christi, TX 78411

VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL
3750 Cimarron, Corpus Christi, TX 78414

ETHEL EYERLY SENIOR CENTER
654 Graham Rd., Corpus Christi, TX 78418

TEMPORARY EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

GREENWOOD SENIOR CENTER
4040 Greenwood Dr., Corpus Christi, TX 78416

BANQUETE ISD
4339 Fourth St., Banquete, TX 78339
February 28: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
March 1 & 2: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

HILLTOP COMMUNITY CENTER
11425 Leopard St., Corpus Christi, TX 78410

BISHOP COMMUNITY CENTER
102 West Joyce St., Bishop, TX 78343
February 20-24: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
February 26-27: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

JOHNNY CALDERON BUILDING
710 E. Main St., Robstown, TX 78380

DAVID BERLANGA COMMUNITY CENTER
1513 Second St., Agua Dulce, TX 78330
February 20-24: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
February 26-27: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

NUECES COUNTY COURTHOUSE
901 Leopard St., Corpus Christi, TX 78401
* Saturday, Feb. 24, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
* Sunday, Feb. 25, 12 Noon-5 p.m.

PORT ARANSAS COMMUNITY CENTER
408 North Alister St., Port Aransas, TX 7837

PETRONILA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
2391 County Road 67, Petronila, TX 78380
February 28: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
March 1 & 2: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

SCHLITTERBAHN
14353 Commodores Dr., Corpus Christi, TX 78418

RACES THAT ARE INCLUDED IN THIS GUIDE

The following races have opposing candidates in the Democratic and/or Republican primaries and are featured in this Voters Guide:

U.S. Representative, District 27 (10 candidates)

State Board of Education, District 2 (4 candidates)

Judge, 148th District Court (4 candidates)

District Clerk (2 candidates)

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1/ Place 3 (2 candidates)

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2/ Place 2 (3 candidates)

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 5, Place 2 (2 candidates)

SEE PAGE 17 FOR UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES

VOTE411.org: The LWV Online Voters Guide for All Texas 2018 Primary Races

Readers, you may have noticed that this printed Voters Guide only contains information about candidates in local and selected state races.

Where can you find information about all the other Texas candidates seeking election in Texas or to a congressional position?

Check out VOTE411.org!

Launched by the League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF) in October of 2006, VOTE411.org is a “one-stop-shop” for election related information. It provides nonpartisan information to the public with both general and state-specific information on the following aspects of the election process:

- Absentee ballot information
- Ballot measure information (where applicable)
- Early voting options (where applicable)
- Election dates
- Factual data on candidates in various federal, state and local races
- General information on such topics as how to watch debates with a critical eye
- ID requirements
- Polling place locations and voter registration deadlines, plus voter qualifications, voter registration forms, and voting machine details.

POLLING PLACE LOCATOR

An important component of VOTE411.org is the polling place locator, which enables users to type in their address and retrieve the poll location for the voting precinct in which that address is located. The League has found that this is among the most sought-after information in the immediate days leading up to, and on, Election Day.

League of Women Voters Education Fund, (2006). About Us. Retrieved from VOTE411.org: Election Information You Need: <http://www.vote411.org/about#.Wnn4BainHIU>

Candidates Forum Set Thursday, February 15, 6-9:30 p.m., CC City Hall

The candidates featured in this Voters Guide have been invited to participate in the Candidates Forum on Thursday, February 15, from 6-9:30 p.m. at Corpus Christi City Hall, 1201 Leopard Street. The public is cordially invited to attend and learn more about the candidates.

Procedures for Voting in Person

All citizens wishing to vote in the Primary Election must be on the official list of registered voters. *For the March 6th election, the deadline to register was Tuesday, February 6, 2018.*

Voters are required to use one of seven (7) forms of photo ID listed below. **IDs may be expired up to four years.**

- Texas Driver license
- Texas Election Identification Certificate (EIC)
- Texas Personal Identification Card issued by Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas license to carry a handgun issued by DPS
- US military identification card containing the person's photograph
- US passport



- US citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph

ADDITIONALLY, registered voters without photo ID may sign a one-page form titled “Voter’s Declaration of Reasonable Impediment or Difficulty” and present it with one of the following documents to **vote a regular ballot**:

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

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, political organization encouraging informed and active participation in government. It works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and to influence public policy through education and advocacy. The League does not support or oppose candidates or political parties.

US Representative District 27

Candidate responses to LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Background and Education

Explain your position on immigration to the U.S. Please address DACA, a pathway to citizenship, and border security.

What would you do to ensure affordable health care access for all citizens?

Identify three measures you would support that reduce gun violence.



**Bech
Bruun (R)**

Chairman, Texas Water Development Board (2013-2017). Former Senior Staff to Gov. Rick Perry. Former Chief of Staff to Rep. Todd Hunter (Corpus Christi). Bachelors of Business Administration, University of Texas at Austin. Doctor of Jurisprudence, University of Texas School of Law.

I support legal immigration and believe that the federal government has fallen down on its responsibility of securing our borders. I support a path to citizenship for “Dreamers”, but in doing so believe the federal government should first address its failure to enforce existing immigration laws. Also, I believe we should rely on local law enforcement as to their needs in addressing border security and do everything in our power to support them on a federal level.

I would support continued efforts to dismantle Obamacare in ways that would result in more of a “market based” approach to healthcare as opposed to government mandates and limited options. Healthcare costs have sky rocketed and they will continue to do so if an until we can get federal bureaucracy out of the way. This is especially true as it relates to access to quality healthcare for our veterans which vastly needs to be improved.

I would vehemently defend the 2nd Amendment. I would support legislation to remove barriers and inconsistencies between states that hamper an individual’s ability to legally carry a concealed weapon. I would support measures to address mental health issues that can be linked to violent behavior.



**Michael
Cloud (R)**

State Republican Executive Committeeman, four-term Victoria GOP Chair. Owner of Bright Idea Media, former staff at Faith Family Church. Oral Roberts University.

Our immigration system is broken. An unwillingness to enforce the law over the past several decades has favored those who choose to break the law rather than go through the legal process. And Congress has been negligent in finding a solution to this serious problem. The first step in any immigration policy must be border security and enforcement, and Congress should pursue an “all of the above” approach. We should build a wall where it makes sense. President Trump’s approach to include DACA in a solution that secures the border and defunds “sanctuary cities” is a practical balanced approach.

Obamacare has not only increased the cost of healthcare but has also restricted the freedom of Americans to choose their healthcare options. Obamacare must be repealed. Limiting regulation and lawsuit abuse would bring down costs, as would preventing Medicare fraud, which by itself costs each U.S. household on average nearly \$500 per year. An approach that restores free market principles will lower cost and increase access to quality care.

The right to keep and bear arms is essential to a free society. This is why the 2nd Amendment affirms the right of citizens to defend themselves not only from others but also from tyranny. Americans are safer today from gun crime than at any time since the 1960s. The Supreme Court should recognize the right of citizens to carry arms nationwide. Neither federal nor state/local governments may impose any requirement making the process of acquiring arms burdensome.

Voters: Please visit the [VOTE411](#) online voters guide to read responses to additional questions posed to the US Representatives, District 27, candidates.

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Eddie Gassman (R)

contractor, and salesman. Mary Carroll High School , Del Mar Jr. College, Corpus Christi State University.

There are three basic points to my position on immigration. 1. immigration reform, 2 What to do with Illegal Adults already in the country and DACA, 3. border security. We must have immigration reform that reduces the incentives to come here illegally .. No free benefits! Instead, Immigration should include incentives to immigrate Legally which includes faster processing, immigration should not take years to accomplish. We need to find a status .not citizenship for people here more than 5 yrs. We need their tax money to help pay for increased border security and a partial barrier where needed

1. allow part-time employees to partake of their employers group healthcare programs. Its cheaper than individual plans. It will also cover more students and single parents, and the elderly who supplement their retirements It will also help people without upper levels of education 2. Get rid of the open enrollment time frame. People who miss open enrollment must go the whole year without insurance. Imagine if we did that with car insurance and other forms of insurance. 3. Create more competition by allowing people to buy insurance anywhere they choose...4 Get the government out of healthcare

I don't believe in the term Gun Violence. Its people killing people using guns. 1..better background checks for people with mental health problems. Huge mental healthcare problem in America that is not be addressed 2Reducing the availability of guns where there is no background check at all and where the chances of fraudulent paperwork is not properly checked and proper screening is not taking place. 3. fix the failure of agencies charged with checking and screening and granting permits not communicating with each other..Restricting people from legally owning a gun is not the answer.



John Grunwald (R)

Raised on a 400+ acre produce farm. CPA Worked in business since 1970. BBA Western Michigan 1970.

Illegal is Illegal. Those affected by DACA must go back to the country of origin. They must be given expedited consideration for reentry and citizenship. Those that are willing to enter and will join the military service including the Coast Guard for at least three years may auto-matically become citizens. Those that have lived here as if citizens, filed tax returns, etc. must be given expedited consideration but still must go through the full process including reading, speaking English and passing the exam before they become citizens. If not done, deport and start over.

Health care is not an entitlement nor a right. People must work for it. Then they may become part of Medicare and Medicaid. Consideration must be made for their income. Most of us worked to get it.

Guns do not kill people. People kill people. More people are killed by hammers than by guns. 1 Get the liberal news out of sensationalizing the incidents. 2 Educate the press and those that are pushing for more gun control about guns. 3 Educate the gun control advocates what really kills more people than guns and see if they want to control hammers, cars, etc.

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No Photo
Furnished

**Jerry
Hall (R)**

Left home at the age 15 and had to make my own living and continued my education on my own. I built several businesses and put over 6,000. I have specialized education from Harvard in Negotiations, Pepperdine University in Conflict Resolution, Finance from Indiana University, UofH, UMKC

I would like to help these people find a way to legal status, due to no fault of their own they are in the USA. I am in support of building the WALL, I have numerous rancher friends along the border who have been killed or robbed by the criminals coming across the border we need to Protect Americans first, we have a door by which anyone can come through legally we will accept them with open arms, but legally. It is unfair that the ones who did follow the rules are being insulted by the ones who don't. Why should they get special treatment.

Open the start lines and allow competitive pricing, allow over the counter purchases of most medicines, demand competitive pricing for medications. Tort reform nationwide on medical malpractice suits. Medicare is something all retirees paid into and then there are being charged again. I want to stop the double billing on Medicare. We should not have to pay again.

1) Increase the punishment for violent crimes with a weapon
2) Allow open carry in every state
3) Gun shows sales with a government background check



**Christopher K.
Mapp (R)**

I understand the needs for families and small businesses. Education through vocation, college, or apprenticeship training programs are the basis for a. I am currently going full time to obtain my Bachelor's degree. When I win the primary I will continue until the general and then suspend briefly.

The immigration policy in our country has been ignored through multiple administrations. President Trump is correct to have congress fund building the wall as this is the first step to controlling the areas of entry. Sanctuary cities should be illegal and the Mayors, councilpersons and city managers should be indicted for their participation. DACA - The H1B visa program is good model to allow employers to sponsor immigrants wanting to work in the U.S. The H1B Visa program is capped at 65,000 per year and requires a Bachelor's degree. Sponsorship could be a legal avenue to gain citizenship.

Healthcare is not a right. Access to health care is a right. A free market solution for competing policies is a positive solution. Health savings accounts are the best mobile vehicle much like a 401K which goes with the person and the employer or employee can contribute. The 401K should be in lieu of social security as well as the health savings accounts. Accounts should be independent; government has raided social security and should not have access to the funds. Health savings accounts should have the same tax deduction model as IRA's. Citizens should participate in self responsible benefits.

Three years required military service would be the first goal. The second would be to use the laws we already have on the books to prosecute criminals who should not have weapons. Third, we should allow reciprocation of gun carry laws from state to state. FFA and FHA programs are great places to start training young people about guns. We should be looking at guns as a tool needed for national sovereignty and not as a foreign object. Responsible gun owners are not criminals they are men and women who believe in the our Second Amendment. The Second Amendment was not made for duck hunters.

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**Raul (Roy)
Barrera (D)**

Born and raised in Robstown, TX, living in C.C., TX. 35 years as a Sworn Officer and Public Servant and continued to this date. Robstown High School Grad. Del Mar College certified Peace Officer and Communications Officer and continue as public servant @ Federal Court C.C., TX

The opposition party has stalled on immigration reform. We should not do away with DACA. These people who arrived here as children are Americans in every sense of the word but don't have citizenship. They are part of our Military, Police Forces, Teachers, and are in various other professions. They contribute billions of dollars into our economy. Criminals who are not here legally should be deported back to their respective countries. People who contribute to our society should be granted citizenship or at least, permanent status.

The new Tax Reform has removed the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) mandate. Now the insurance rates will go up as there are not enough healthy people signing up for ACA as they are not required to do so. Republicans are slowly depriving the ACA of funds and that is how they will try to do away with ACA health care that is needed for all. We need to strengthen the ACA and not deprive it of funds. A Public Option should be considered also as long as the public option can provide the same services that a private insurance company provides.

We agree with the Second Amendment and we will defend the right to own guns. What needs to be law is a background check for all at all times. Turning a semi-automatic weapon into an automatic weapon with a simple Bump Stock should not be allowed. No one should be allowed to purchase a gun clip that will hold more than 10 rounds at a time. This type of weaponry is military grade and should be used by the military only.



**Vanessa Edwards
Foster (D)**

No previous public sector, nor any paid lobbyist experience. However 20 years active in politics from campaigns to unpaid lobbying in DC & Austin, etc. Del Mar College, Lone Star College.

Not in favor of the border wall—wasted money! Am in favor of DACA which may be law soon. Immigration should not simply be absolute open borders, though. We should consider immigration in a case-by-case basis of need. Am concerned about issues such as chain-migration and the lottery system, and feel it should be vetted thoroughly rather than random selection. However we need to make the path toward legal emigration more streamlined, ensure its not strictly for wealthy emigres only and perhaps should increase the legal limits which are a causative factor in so many circumventing the legal path.

Very much in favor of expanding Medicare for all! The recent tax cuts stripping \$370 billion from Medicare & \$1 trillion to pay for the law is a travesty! Every civilized nation has government healthcare for all. Personally I would sponsor and heavily go to bat for nationalized healthcare, preferably expanding Medicare, as well as backing strong government negotiation of pricing on prescription drugs with big Pharma. Additionally, I'd join Sen. Grassley, Rep. Thompson & others in pressing non-profit hospital corps. on fulfilling their promise and expanding their charity care of the indigent!

The primary issue is the lack of mental health support and funding. Since the mid 80's, we've slashed budgeting and simply released people to the streets and homelessness untreated. The safety net for those with mental or physically violent histories has disappeared and needs to be addressed and funded responsibly. We need to ensure our gun registry is up-to-date and fully communicating with all agencies. We also need public education on instructing civilians not to simply reach for a gun & react in anger, plus incentives for violence-prone areas to dissuade from gun culture (ex: Richmond CA)

US Representative District 27

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**Eric
Holguin (D)**

Born, raised, and educated in Texas to a Hispanic working-class family of public servants. Previously worked for a US Congresswoman & NYC Comptroller. Bachelor of Arts-Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi

Our country is strong because of our diversity - and that includes immigrants. Tearing families apart is not only cruel, it's not how America is, nor should be. We need to pass a clean DACA bill to support our DREAMers, and also work to pass DAPA, so that immigrant families can stay together. The current pathway to citizenship is long & expensive. I learned this while helping immigrants deal with USCIS. We need to cut the red tape on the path to become naturalized. I believe we can have border security without a wall, & we do that by investing in technology to better monitor our borders.

I fully support a single-payer healthcare system, because healthcare is a RIGHT and not a privilege. In order for this to happen, we need to expand Medicare - and we do that over a 5-10 year process by lowering the age requirements to be eligible for Medicare.

In order to reduce gun violence, we need to begin by having that conversation - no matter how uncomfortable some may find it. I do believe we can protect our right to bear arms, while fighting to ensure violent members of society don't get access to a firearm. First, we need to stand up to the gun lobby. The amount of money the NRA puts into legislators pockets is disgusting and should be illegal. We need to close any loopholes that allow violent/convicted offenders to be able to buy guns - including the Charleston Loophole. We need to reinstate the assault weapons ban as well.

**Ronnie
McDonald (D)**

No responses or photograph were received from Ronnie McDonald.

INFORMATION FOR VOTERS

Find your personalized ballot by going to VOTE411.org.

Enter your zip code and you will see the ballot as it will appear on Election Day in your precinct. You will also see the same information and questions to candidates with their answers that appear in this printed Voters Guide. All of this with your tablet or laptop in the comfort of your recliner! (See additional information about VOTE411 on Page 2.)

Curbside Voting

Curbside Voting for voters who are unable to leave their vehicles will be available at all Vote Centers located in Corpus Christi unless otherwise stated. If questions, please call the County Clerk's Office at 880-0580.

State Board of Education, District 2

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

Does the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) adequately and efficiently diagnose individual student learning needs? Why or why not?

What measures, if any, would you take to improve a) investment policies for the Texas Permanent School Fund and b) equitable distributions for public schools?

What other issues do you consider the most important, and how would you address them?



Eric Garza (R)

I am a product of a private school, a public school, and a public university. As the son of an assistant principal and currently as a school board member for a charter public school district in south Texas, I am an ardent supporter of educators and understand the need to reform our education system in a manner that provides all Texas' students with equitable resources. I know the blessing of an education and want to ensure students are prepared to meet the demands of vocational training or higher education. My career has been spent serving my community and active in the educational arena.

The STAAR test does not adequately and efficiently diagnose student learning needs. The STAAR grades test performance based on the state's curriculum standards outlined as the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Therefore, the test is not a good indicator of a student's academic performance, ability and readiness and is geared more at measuring testing performance.

Invest of dollars from the Texas Permanent School Fund should be spent in a responsible manner that holds districts accountable for how they spend their dollars for instruction and not for higher level administrative salaries and costs. Public dollars must go to the classroom, to closing the achievement gap, incentive educators and increase the sustainability and pay of our teachers. Equitable distribution of technology and resources for our school districts and their campuses is a top priority. The same opportunities and resources should be afforded equally to all school districts.

The state's mandated exam given to students should test all subject matters and not certain subject matters that hinder a well-rounded education and incentivizes teachers and educators to teach material is tested. All content areas must be taught. Our emphasis should be on measuring everything and not just teaching testing strategies. All students, including special education students, should experience testing success. The Texas Education Agency needs greater oversight to ensure state standards are met and our students are prepared for the workforce and higher education



Charles "Tad" Hasse (R)

I graduated from St. Joseph Academy and went on to earn a B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Texas at Brownsville. During my tenure as Scoutmaster of Troop 1, our troop produced more Eagle Scouts than any troop in the Rio Grande Valley Council. I was awarded the District Award of Merit and the Silver Beaver Award. I have taught many young people over the years, both through my years as a leader with the Boy Scouts and in the classroom teaching High School Mathematics. Math has remained a passion of mine; it is the queen of all the sciences. The SBOE needs at least one math expert.

Obviously not, or Texas would be at least up to average nation wide. Standardized testing has been inflicted upon teachers and students as a result of Federal government, states and school districts having skewed priorities and the stress and blame for poor performance is being pushed down the ladder. Teaching to a test does not lead to deep understanding and creative, innovative thought and holds students and teaching to a floor level of learning, yet the system encourages this. STAAR tests a skeletal skill set, and the solution is not more testing. In 2018 there has to be a better way.

A) Here we have a problem in risk. Tax dollar investment must be free of unacceptable risk, which means lower potential returns. Even though the potential growth is high, it would be unacceptable to trade in commodities and options, like Orange Co. in California did, with disastrous results. The overlaid legislative framework is actually what controls investments. B) Again, legislative framework is the overriding factor controlling distribution. I would work with the legislature as the most effective means to affect funding and distribution.

Real vocational education, not the academic under-performing dumping ground of the '70's. Trying to prep everyone for college has created far too many debt-ridden failures of otherwise productive people. The goal of public education is to serve its citizens to reach their potential, not to try to craft some ideal society. Teach where the jobs are! Math is the basis for all scientific and logical thought. The deepest understanding possible will improve *all* areas of learning, whether college bound or straight into industry. We owe our kids nothing less.

State Board of Education, District 2

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Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

Does the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) adequately and efficiently diagnose individual student learning needs? Why or why not?

What measures, if any, would you take to improve a) investment policies for the Texas Permanent School Fund and b) equitable distributions for public schools?

What other issues do you consider the most important, and how would you address them?



Ruben Cortez, Jr. (D)

As a father to 4 children in public school and husband to a lifelong educator and current elementary school principal, I am completely immersed in the educational arena and focused on shaping a stronger educational system for all Texas children. I have served on policymaking boards -from state to local- since 2006 to include the Brownsville ISD Board of Trustees, Region 1 Educational Service Center Board and various others. I have served on the SBOE since 2012 and led various efforts to strengthen our communities and provide a voice to educators, parents, students, and other stakeholders.

As a father to four public school children, I will tell you that I am not a fan of standardized tests. I have seen firsthand the undue stress caused by the exams and have heard from other parents and educators who share similar experiences. Our children are way too young to experience this type of anxiety. The system in place is not perfect and requires a review. If the State Board of Education was granted the authority, I would propose re-thinking the entire strategy and work a lot closer with educators to develop a better system.

The Texas Permanent School Fund is the largest educational endowment in the country and has performed beyond our expectation in the last five years. Every biennium, we distribute money for the purchases of instructional materials and technology. Currently, the legislature always keeps half of that disbursement. If I could make any changes, it would be to ensure that 100% of that disbursement went straight to our schools, enabling them to make the critical purchases needed to support our children's education. The last biennium we funded over \$2.1B dollars of which half was taken.

My leadership style has always led me to work with others to identify issues and work toward a resolution. I plan to continue working with educators from K12 and higher education, workforce partners, parents, and student in an effort to identify problems, find solutions and create stronger pathways of opportunity for our students. I firmly believe that we can't work in silos and a stronger educational system can only be achieved by strong partnerships and shared vision. We must keep politics out of our classrooms.



Michelle Arevalo Davila (D)

Dr. Michelle Arévalo Dávila is a Texas State certified classroom teacher with 15 years of professional experience, multiple degrees in education and 12 state teaching credentials. A native of Corpus Christi's West Side, Michelle overcame poverty and adversity to achieve professional and personal success. Despite many hardships, Michelle received a Bachelor Arts degree in History, Spanish and French from TAMU-Kingsville, a Master of Science degree in Secondary Education from TAMU-CC and a Doctor of Education degree from TAMUK-Kingsville. She is a member of the Mathis ISD Board of Trustees.

No, STAAR is not an appropriate diagnostic tool. An assessment to diagnose would be formative, rather than punitive. STAAR fails to consider testing bias, fluctuating student performance levels, achievement gaps, the unique needs students of lower socioeconomic levels face, levels of parental involvement, or differences in school funding that make district comparisons difficult to measure. Students with special needs are not tested at cognitive ability level, but rather on grade level. Foreign language students are given few testing options that assist with the transition to academic language.

When working with public funds, it is imperative that our investments be conservative in nature. I am a fiscal conservative and would like to ensure that our Texas Permanent School Fund maintains a healthy fund balance and is able to provide for all students an equitable, fair and comparative public school experience. To produce an educated citizenry, we must assist low property tax districts in providing a comparable student spending ratio to that of property tax wealthy districts. These children are already at a disadvantage in terms of lack of local resources, and require assistance.

My greatest concern is the passing of rigorous, academically appropriate curriculum standards that are age appropriate for their corresponding grade level. I am very concerned about the quality of our textbooks and instructional materials currently adopted, and their lack of correlation to the State curriculum standards. Inadequate materials cause undue further expenditures for local districts and educators who must provide outside materials to bridge the gap. Maintaining and recruiting top teaching talent; creating a safe environment for students and staff, and oversight of Special Education.

District Judge, 148th Judicial District

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Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What areas of law have you practiced during the last 10 years and how will they impact your ability to serve?

In your opinion, what are the two major issues facing the Court in the coming term?

What attributes make you the best choice for this position?



Bill Kelly (R)

Attorney for 32 years with experience ranging from insurance defense to family and education law. Married for 32 years to Evon Kelly, raised two children and actively involved in public service as a city councilman and school board member. Served on community boards including CASA and Metro Ministries. Rotary Club, Knights of Columbus and serve as a Eucharistic Minister at St. Thomas The Apostle Catholic Church.

Board certified family lawyer who has represented people in the worst crisis in their lives. As a family law attorney, clients sometimes fight over their children and their property and everything they have accumulated over a lifetime. Because people can own anything, I've been introduced to various other legal disciplines such as property law, business law and oil and gas law. Sometimes family law clients even commit crimes which has exposed me to criminal law. I have tried numerous jury cases, bench trials and prosecuted appeals,

1.) Judicial demeanor. As a mediator I have a similar perspective as should be expected of a judge. I listen. I hear the positions and arguments of both sides. This requires me to be patient and respectful of those involved, not only of the litigants but also of the attorneys. 2.) Don't legislate from the bench. The job is to apply the facts to the law written by the legislature, not to create your own laws through your decisions.

— 32 years of legal experience, being recognized as Board Certified Attorney, being trusted by judges and other attorneys as a mediator; and as a featured speaker at legal seminars on mediation and family law.
— Knowledge of the community based on years of civic and public service.
— Empathy for crime victims. My wife and I were robbed at gunpoint and I understand the impact crime has on its victims.



Mark W. Stolley (R)

Lifelong resident of Nueces County, married 19 years with three children. attended local schools. Graduate of Corpus Christi State University with highest honors. Juris Doctorate-Unv. of Houston, Licensed Attorney of Texas since 1995. Solo Practitioner since 2001, Former Prosecutor for Nueces County Attorney's Office, and District Attorney's Office (1996-2001) with numerous jury trials from misdemeanors to first degree felonies. Extensive trial court experience regarding, mental health commitments, attorney for children in abuse cases and family cases, Juvenile, and special prosecutor.

The 148th District Court is a trial court, and I am a trial attorney, who, in the last 10 years, has practiced in the Coastal Bend region, handling weekly multiple county dockets in criminal defense, attorney for children and parents in abuse/family law cases, juvenile, attorney and judge for mental commitments, guardian ad litem in civil, probate, and as a special prosecutor for the State of Texas. I have tried dozens of cases to a jury from misdemeanor to capital murder and as an attorney for children and parents in abuse or neglect cases. My experience will allow for effective court management.

1: Case management tools need to be effectively used, namely Odyssey, the County's newly purchased computer program that allows for effective case management. By utilizing Odyssey, the Court and parties can see the chronology of events in a case, papers filed and orders of the Court, which results in more timely case disposition. 2. Generating a unified team approach to solve problems with a willingness to adapt and compromise by effective use of all programs adopted by the board of judges of Nueces County thereby minimizing risk to the public and upholding rights of the people.

The 148th is a trial court. With over 22 years experience as a prosecutor, attorney for children, parents, juvenile offenders, guardianship, proposed wards and patients and as a judge in mental commitments, and as a criminal defense attorney, I have seen cases from all angles and vantage points. My experience of family and raising children, combined with my professional experience as a jury trial attorney and business owner will allow for the effective management of this Court by combining stability and fairness resulting in promptly giving people their day in Court and reducing public cost.

District Judge, 148th Judicial District

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What areas of law have you practiced during the last 10 years and how will they impact your ability to serve?

In your opinion, what are the two major issues facing the Court in the coming term?

What attributes make you the best choice for this position?



Deborah Rios (D)

I was born and raised in Corpus Christi and I've worked here my entire life. I've been in private practice for the majority of the last 15 years. I grew up as an excruciatingly shy child. I was the kid in the corner that sat and listened to the adults in the room. The traits I developed as an introvert are the very same traits that I believe make me the best candidate. I'm patient with a deep sense of empathy and compassion for others. I'm a great listener with an ability to gauge a person's genuineness. Most importantly, I'm committed to ensuring the justice system works for everyone.

I've worked almost all the types of cases that come before a district court judge. I've worked in civil law, insurance defense, personal injury, criminal law and family law. For the past six years I've narrowed my practice areas to criminal law and family law. Currently my caseload is 70% criminal law and 30% family law. My two years working as an assistant attorney general in the child support division gave me invaluable experience handling large case dockets as well as strengthening my leadership skills by leading my legal support team for a year without a supervising attorney.

First and foremost will be the backlog of cases. The 148th District Court has struggled for some time with a large backlog of cases. While Judge Williams was making progress, his suspension has now resulted in a situation that will revert the court back to dealing with a large case backlog. Second will be restoring dignity to the 148th. This court, in recent history, has been defined by justice being determined on the mood of the judge rather than the facts of the case. If I'm elected, justice will be determined by the facts of each case and not on the relationship with the Judge.

My passion to ensuring that the justice system works for everyone equally. The issues at the courthouse change with time. I've been actively practicing in the Nueces County Courts for the last 15 years. I know what the current issues are. I understand the dynamics of the wheels of justice in Nueces County. I've got the resolve to stand up for issues that need to be changed or addressed as well as the leadership skills to encourage new ideas. Finally, I've got the work ethic needed to tackle the backlog of cases along with the integrity to ensure that it does not come at the expense of justice.



Carlos Valdez (D)

I was County Attorney for 8 years, District Attorney for 17 years, City Attorney for almost 4 years. I have personally handled some of the most difficult and high profile cases in the history of this county. I have advised judges, City Councils, Commissioners Courts as well as the public during my 38 years of practicing law. I have lectured throughout the country regarding the trial of cases. I am actively involved in training Mexican lawyers on trial techniques.

During the past 10 years I have been involved in the trial of major and highly publicized cases involving criminal, civil and administrative matters. I have personally tried criminal cases ranging from misdemeanor cases to capital murder. I have litigated matters of a civil nature involving complex areas of government and administrative law. And I have handled private practice cases involving all areas of the laws. This experience will be important in handling matters in a district court that has general jurisdiction.

Two major issues presently facing the court are: The absence of a regular judge on the bench for several months will create a serious backlog that must be addressed by someone with the experience required to reduce the backlog while assuring that access to justice is not curtailed. The confidence of the legal community in dealing with the court must be regained. This can only be done through hard work and diligence.

My overall professional experience as well as my many years in the practice of law and in public service make me the best choice for this court. The voting public knows what to expect when they vote for me.

District Clerk

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What are the duties of the District Clerk?

What specific skills do you possess that will enable you to fulfill the responsibilities of this office?

What changes, if any, would you make in the District Clerk's office?



Gerald G. Garza (D)

I had a catholic school upbringing from Cathedral Elementary to Corpus Christi Academy to St Joseph Junior High before I began attending W.B. Ray High School. From there I attended Del Mar College and transferred to U.T. in Austin to complete my degree, a Bachelor of Business Administration with a focus in accounting. I worked for 3 years with a local C.P.A. firm, 1 year with an investment company and ran a construction company for over 20 years. I was the chief deputy district clerk for Nueces County for 10 years and I am certified as a public manager in public administration.

The district clerk for Nueces County manages an office of over 56 employees and a budget (including jury administration) of over 3.9 million dollars. The clerk and his staff serve as the clerk of the court and custodian of all records for 8 District Courts. Nueces County is only one of 3 counties (our size) in the entire state that also requires the district clerk to serve the county courts (5). The office also collects filing fees, handles funds held in litigation, money awarded to minors and coordinates the jury panel selection process.

My education and experience in accounting and investments provides me an insight to not only oversee a budget of over 3.9 million dollars but to also understand and implement new requirements as they become effective thru the government code. My experiences running a construction company with over 60 subcontractors at any given time and the 10 years I was the Nueces County chief deputy (with 56 employees) gives me the unique skill needed to manage and develop a staff of over 56 employees.

- Focus on destroying older records (following state guidelines). This will free up storage space and reduce costs. It will also reduce future maintenance costs because once records become too old they then become historical records that can't be destroyed.
- Implement staff training and promote cross training to increase production without increasing the staff size or negatively affecting office moral. In the last 3 years the district clerk's budget has increased \$600,000 without equal improvement in services.
- Improve communication with the public and offer continuing e-filing training.

**No Photo
Furnished**

**Ray
Madrigal (D)**

iAM A GRADUATE OF Texas A&M Corpus Christi and also a graduate of Del Mar College Legal Assistant, I was the Judge Of Seadrift Texas also I have over fifty years of business experience as owner of several businesses and most important I am a military disabled veteran.

tO FILE AND PRESERVE AL RECORDS FOR THE COUNTY

my business experience and having worked for the U.s. Census in the filing department

Make sure that it was accessible to all people that needed court records

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1, Place 3

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What are the most pressing issues in your precinct and how would you address them?

What personal abilities do you possess that will enable you to perform the many responsibilities of this office?

Why do you want to hold (be elected to) this office?



Randy Balderas (D)

I have 13 years of Law Enforcement experience. I started my career at Nueces County Sheriff Department in 2004 working in Corrections/Jail. I transferred in 2009 to be a Bailiff for County Court at Law 5. In 2010 I became a certified Peace Officer through the State of Texas. In 2011 I transferred to Nueces County Constable Pct. 4 Office to become a Deputy Constable. I have 1400 continuing education Civil/Law training hours. My Job Details as a Deputy is serving warrants and civil papers for the J.P office, Serve as a Bailiff for the J.P. office. I attended college and studied Criminal Justice.

The Most pressing issues in the Precinct are Civil Litigations, Evictions, criminal and traffic offenses. If I am elected to this office I will make sure that I will keep an open mind while hearing all sides of an argument from both parties and render a fair and impartial Judgment based on all the facts and evidence that is presented to me by the parties involved.

My personal abilities that I possess are my experience and education that enhance and enable me to be a Justice of the Peace Judge. As a Deputy Constable I serve civil and criminal court documents for the Justice of the Peace Court. I know the courtroom procedures of Justice of the Peace Court. I Bailiff for the Justice Of the Peace Court. As a Peace Officer, The State of Texas Mandates all Deputy Constables to take 48 hours of civil process course every 24 months to keep license active.

I have protected and served this community for 13 years and now I want to serve the community at the next level. I am the most qualified candidate based on my experience of making judgments everyday as a Law Enforcement Officer. I have a knowledge of all the Justice Of the Peace Court Documents that is used in the courts proceedings. I have studied the law and with that knowledge I can be fair and impartial and provided equal justice for all who appear in front of me.



Lucy Rubio (D)

I've been extremely blessed and privileged to serve on the local, city and State PTAs. I was Regional Vice President on the State PTA, I was also Inclusiveness Consultant where I taught classes to empower parents to become leaders. As a School Board Trustee, I'm honored to say that I made sure ALL students had a quality education, stressed the importance of staying in school and going to College. I also participated in getting students back to school. As a City Council Member, I am proud to say that we successfully had Fire Station #18 built after it had been promised since 2008.

While this court has a high volume of traffic violation cases the most pressing issue that needs to be addressed immediately is truancy. I would work very hard in getting the truancy cases back into this court where they belong. As a former School Board Trustee, I know the two Superintendents very well and I feel that my experience and knowledge of the importance of attending school would be a huge benefit. The first thing I would do is schedule a meeting with Dr. Nelson, Tuloso-Midway ISD and Dr. Almendarez, Calallen ISD to let them know that this court is ready to serve their students.

The personal abilities that I possess are being a strong community advocate. My 14 yrs. as a PTA leader taught me to be a good listener, to work with people and to get things done. My ability to have served as a School Board Trustee for almost 15 yrs. and work for students, parents, school employees and community taught me to also be a good listener, to ask tough questions and then vote on issues that made a difference. The same goes for being on the City Council where I make decisions that effect all our citizens.

I am a fair person, a good listener and I know that with all my life experiences I would be a good Justice. I also believe that with my rapport with the two Superintendents I would made a difference in the truancy cases that are no longer filed in this court, and I want to move them back. I have a proven record of community involvement that I have earned and I would love to have the privilege to serve our community in this capacity. I am a follow the rules person, I am an ethical person, I am a hard worker and plan to continue to serve as I have always served.

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2, Place 2

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What are the most pressing issues in your precinct and how would you address them?

What personal abilities do you possess that will enable you to perform the many responsibilities of this office?

Why do you want to hold (be elected to) this office?



Thelma Rodriguez (R)

I have worked for five Justices Of The Peace and have gained considerable knowledge from these Judges. I was elected Justice of The Peace in 2014 and I am now in my fourth year in office. Upon taking office I was able to confidently start hearing cases and have no back log on any cases brought before my court. I have attended seminars held by the Texas Justice Court Training Centers and have gained extensive knowledge from these seminars. Based on the experience I have gained, I have the knowledge and compassion to make the decisions needed on every case that comes before me.

Evictions: Due to time restraints I hear evictions every Wednesday to be able to expedite these matters in a timely fashion. My office is also opened through lunch to accommodate the parties involved. Truancy: My largest docket. Heard on an individual basis, as every student has their own reason why they are missing school. No two cases are the same and I have compassion and patience with every student, but am stern in my rulings. My court is second in the state for truancy cases heard. Due to my attention to these cases, Flour Bluff ISD truanancies have decreased by 45%.

Based on the knowledge I have gained over the past 22 years working for several JP's and the last 3 years as the Justice of the Peace, I possess the COMPASSION to listen to students that are having issues with attending school. I possess the ABILITY to rule in the best interest of the student and to instill the importance of attending school and getting an education. I possess the KNOWLEDGE to make EDUCATED judgments. I am RESPECTED by my peers, evidenced by them selecting me Presiding Judge. I was appointed by the Texas Justice Court Training Center as a MENTOR for newly elected Judges.

I worked for Nueces County Justices Of The Peace for 22 years and worked my way from clerk to office manager. I developed an interest in becoming a Justice Of The Peace and decided to run for this office. In 2014 I was elected by my constituents. I want to continue to be the Judge because I feel that I am not done. Since taking office I have made a serious impact addressing truancy and all other issues brought before my court. There are no back logs to any of my dockets. Upon being re-elected I will continue to serve my constituents, all law enforcement and most importantly the students.



Irma G. Serna (R)

I received my Bachelor of Business Administration Management Degree in May of 2009. I have worked in the private sector for the past 20 years. I have had the opportunity to oversee and manage the daily operations, fiscal budgets, annual inventory audits and administrative duties. I am a detail oriented person who strives to provide high quality service, compassion, excellent customer service and treat all individuals with respect and dignity. I possess and strive for high standards in my everyday responsibilities.

I would assure that the daily hours of operations would be from M- F (8 a.m.-5 p.m.). I would like to see a decrease of back log dockets in both the Civil and C misdemeanor cases. By having an efficient and effective court would allow us to expedite cases in a timely matter. There are always more efficient ways to improve processes by identifying gaps, redundancies and inefficiencies to streamline the daily process. Truancy continues to be a key focus in our community and schools. I would like to build a strong relationship with truancy officers and befriend the parents to make a difference.

I feel that my background in office administration as well as my Bachelor's Degree in Business will both be beneficial in running a proficient and successful precinct. As a Justice of the Peace, I will utilize my strengths to collaborate, communicate and be proactive in areas that are in need, such as truancy amongst our youth. I would like to both promote and enhance active student and parental community involvement. I also feel that my 20 years of experience working in a hospital setting will allow me to provide excellent customer service to any individuals that may require my assistance.

I have a true admiration of our community and I want to make a difference. My pledge is to represent the citizens of Precinct 2 Place 2 in a manner that ensures that their rights are protected and that the law is upheld in all matters. I am competent in complying with all of the court's responsibilities, which includes court reporting requirements, financials and record retention. I feel that my background, integrity and ethics can make a difference with me being a successful Justice of the Peace for Precinct 2, Place 2.

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2, Place 2

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What are the most pressing issues in your precinct and how would you address them?

What personal abilities do you possess that will enable you to perform the many responsibilities of this office?

Why do you want to hold (be elected to) this office?



Carlos Vela (R)

I am a licensed attorney and also the only prosecutor to handle the entire Nueces County's truancy and criminal cases in all nine of the county's justice courts. I personally review each and every single petition from every school district in the County. I am currently working with many of the school districts to help lower the truancy rate and have students be successful. As an attorney, I am familiar with all the civil and criminal laws that are most commonly used in these justice courts. I plan to dedicate my qualifications and time needed to analyze all aspects of law when ruling.

Having a judge available for our constituents at all times is of the utmost importance. Truancy rates in our schools indicate that our students are in a crisis. I will be a full time judge with an open door policy. I will be there readily available to conduct ordinary court business Monday through Friday 8-5. I also anticipate to set and achieve goals and implement programs and partner with our school districts to lower truancy rates. I will cater to all small claims, truancy, and every other matter conducted in this court. I will serve our constituents professionally and efficiently.

It is critical that a judge has a clear understanding of the law and make rulings based on legal analysis and not just from a personal perspective. Rules of evidence and rules of procedure are part of the court system. As an attorney, I have extensively studied the law, passed the bar exam, and have the ability to come up with proper legal analysis using case and black letter law. This will ensure that attorneys and private citizens will receive a fair trial based on the law and not just on personal beliefs or point of views. My patience and devotion will give everyone the attention deserved.

There is so much potential for this court, and I want to build on that. I have a passion for public service and I want to make a positive difference in people's lives. I want students to have the opportunity to be successful in life. Students in our school districts are in a crisis because they are being truant at an alarming rate. I will encourage parent's participation in education. My presence in the court and schools along with the programs that I will implement will help lower truancy rates. My commitment to this position is that of a full time judge and nothing less will be acceptable.



VOTERS GUIDES FOR STATE RACES ARE AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH ON LWV-TEXAS WEBSITE

The League of Women Voters of Texas has published a Voters Guide in English and in Spanish featuring candidates in state-wide races whose names are on the March Primary ballot. Those races include US Senate, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Land Commissioner, Railroad Commissioner, Supreme Court of Texas, Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, US House, State Board of Education, Texas Senate, and Texas House.

Visit the LWV-Texas website at www.lwvtexas.org to access or download copies of the Voters Guides.



STAY CONNECTED!

- Follow the League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi on Facebook: www.Facebook.com/LWVCC
- Visit the LWV-CC website at www.lwv-cc.org

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 5, Place 2

Candidate responses to LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What are the most pressing issues in your precinct and how would you address them?

What personal abilities do you possess that will enable you to perform the many responsibilities of this office?

Why do you want to hold (be elected to) this office?



Armando B. Gonzalez Jr. (D)

I have been a practicing attorney since 2003. One of my first jobs was working for Laura Jimenez at the Nueces County Attorney's Office. While there I handled protective orders and mental commitments. I helped people get protection from their domestic abusers. Up until a few years ago I was the city attorney for the City of Robstown. My duties included providing legal advice to the Mayor and Council and also serving as city prosecutor. As city prosecutor I prosecuted all class C misdemeanors for the City. In my private practice I represent clients in criminal and family law cases.

The most pressing issue in my precinct and in particular for Justice of the Peace 5-2 is that most people of the precinct are unaware of the Court. The Court is located at the far end of the Precinct and the people who do not live in that area are unaware they have access to it. There has not been sufficient community outreach educating the people about the boundaries of the court and it's functionality.

I have managed my own business for 10 years and I understand how to balance my personal and professional time. My business requires to interact with people at their worst moments and I feel a judge should be able to communicate in a reasonable and compassionate manner with the people that present themselves to the Court. Most importantly as an attorney I have a good understanding of the law and I have the ability to research and interpret the law when presented with conflicting opinions.

I want to hold this office because I feel I can do a great job. I feel I can provide a well balanced and fair courtroom environment for all the people of Nueces County. The people deserve to have options when choosing their elected officials. I intend to provide them an option that has the experience, education and temperament one comes to expect from a Judge. Most importantly I want to return the Court to the people and remind them as elected officials we work for them.



Hermilo "Milo" Pena Jr. (D)

The most valued credential in my resume prevalent for the past 24 years has been the trust and the will of the voting residents of precinct 5 in my ability to serve them as their Justice Court Judge. I have received hundreds of hours of training leading to certifications in advanced civil, criminal and ethical issues. I have been trained by TJCTC as an instructor and held that position for four consecutive years. I have been appointed by the Commission on Judicial Conduct to serve as a Mentor Judge to Sanctioned Judges. Adjudicated thousands of cases Criminal and Civil.

I believe the most pressing issue in our precinct happens to be our most valued resource "Our Children". Through our children we secure the future of our great nation. We must continue to battle the dropout rate, the failure to attend school, the use or consumption of prohibited drugs and those that cause themselves to fall through the cracks. We must identify it as a plague affecting our youth and offer them a viable way out of continued abuse through mentoring, counselling and yes even punishment. Save our future by saving our Children.

The abilities which enabled me to perform the responsibilities of this office are many. Most of which have shaped and molded me through the direct interaction with the people which I have served for two decades. I have the judicial temperament to be an effective Judge. I have the compassion, the honesty, ethical and moral values not only while in office but in my personal life. I am approachable and never give the impression that my position places me above anyone else. I am aware of the fact that this office belongs to the people. Dedicated, committed, dependable, passionate, trustworthy!!!

The residents of Pct 5 have honored me for more than two decades with their trust in my ability and experience. It has truly been an honor for me to have upheld the dignity and integrity of this office. We have navigated through numerous changes and have maintained efficiency in our public service. My commitment to this office is one based in HONESTY, INTEGRITY and EXPERIENCE. With the same dedication and loyalty to the office I pledged to uphold on January 1, 1995 I want to continue dedicating myself

Candidates on the March 6 Ballot Who Are Unopposed:

The following candidates' names will appear on the March 6 Primary ballots but are not featured in this Voters Guide because they are unopposed.

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY BALLOT

State Rep. District 34: Chris Hale
State Rep. District 32: Todd Hunter
Chief Justice, 13th Court of Appeals: Ernie Aliseda
Justice, 13th Court of Appeals/Place 2:
Greg Perkes
Justice, 13th Court of Appeals/Place 4:
Jaime Trevino
Justice, 13th Court of Appeals/Place 5:
Clarissa Silva
105th Court District Judge: Jack W. Pulcher
319th Court District Judge: David Stith
County Judge: Mike Pusley
Judge, County Court at Law/1: Russell Manning
Judge, County Court at Law/4: Mark H. Woerner
Judge, County Court at Law/5: Timothy McCoy
District Clerk: Anne Lorentzen
County Clerk: Kara Sands
County Commissioner/Pct. 1: Carolyn Vaughn
Justice of the Peace/1-2: Manuel (Manny) Rangel
County Chairman: Michael Bergsma

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY BALLOT

State Rep, District xx: Abel Herrero
94th Court District Judge: Bobby Galvan
105th Court District Judge: Craig D. Henderson
117th Court District Judge: Sandra Watts
County Judge: Barbara Canales
Judge, County Court at Law/1: Robert J. Vargas
Judge, County Court at Law/2: Lisa Gonzales
Judge, County Court at Law/3: Deeanne Svoboda
Galvan
County Clerk: Diana Barrera
County Commissioner, Pct. 1: Robert G. Hernandez
Justice of the Peace/1-2: Henry Santana
County Chair: Landers B. Balamonte



Am You Registered to Vote?

Not sure if you are registered to vote? *Am I Registered?* is an online search tool for the Texas statewide voter registration database. Accessing the webpage is easy.

1. Use this link to the *Am I Registered?* webpage:
<https://teamrv-mvp.sos.texas.gov/MVP/mvp.do>.
2. Use the drop-down menu to choose the Selection Criteria you want to use: VUID & Date of Birth; TDL & Date of Birth; or Name, County, & Date of Birth.
3. If you are registered to vote, you will see a screen like this with your personal information listed.
4. If you are NOT registered to vote, a pop-up window will state that your voter registration was not found. In some cases, the response will be incorrect. In that case, you should call the Nueces County County Clerk's office to confirm your voter registration status. As the webpage states, it is NOT your official voter registration record.

Ballot-by-Mail Application Available; Deadline To Apply Is February 23

Eligible voters may request to have an application for Ballot-by-Mail mailed to them by emailing VoteByMail@nuecesco.com or by calling (361) 888-0611. Ballot-by-Mail is available in English and Spanish, and the caller may specify which is needed. Applications must be received no later than the close of business **on Friday, February 23, 2018**.

Ballots by mail must be received by 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, or postmarked by 7:00 p.m., March 6, 2018 and received by 5:00 p.m., March 7, 2018.

If questions, please call the County Clerk's Office at (361) 880-0850.

Job Responsibilities and Length of Service

House of Representatives, District 27

Also referred to as a congressman or congresswoman, each representative is elected to a two-year term serving the people of a specific congressional district. Among other duties, representatives introduce bills and resolutions, offer amendments and serve on committees. To be elected, a representative must be at least 25 years old, a United States citizen for at least seven years and an inhabitant of the state he or she represents. (The House Explained, 2018)

Texas State Board of Education, District 2

The State Board of Education (SBOE) member is an elected official whose term of office is four years. The State Board of Education sets policies and standards for Texas public schools. The primary responsibilities of the SBOE include:

- Setting curriculum standards
- Reviewing and adopting instructional materials
- Establishing graduation requirements
- Overseeing the Texas Permanent School Fund
- Appointing board members to military reservation and special school districts
- Providing final review of rules proposed by the State Board for Educator Certification
- Reviewing the commissioner's proposed award of new charter schools, with authority to veto a recommended applicant (SBOE - State Board of Education, 2018)

Texas District Court Judge, 148th District

The office of district court judge is created by the Texas Constitution, Article V, Section 7. The district judge is an elected official whose term of office is four years. District courts are the primary trial courts in Texas.

- Original jurisdiction in all criminal cases of the grade of felony and misdemeanors involving official misconduct

- Cases of divorce
- Suits for title to land or enforcement of liens on land
- Contested elections
- Suits for slander or defamation
- Suits on behalf of the State for penalties, forfeitures and escheat (Nueces County, 2018)

Nueces County, District Court Clerk

The office of district clerk is created by the Texas Constitution, Article V, Section 9. The district clerk is an elected official whose term of office is four years. Duties of the district clerk in each county revolve around the district court. Specific statutory responsibilities are arranged in the following four categories: administrative, record-keeping, finance, and miscellaneous. (Texas Association of Counties, 2016)

- Serves as clerk and custodian of all records for the District Courts.
- Indexes and secures all court records, collects filing fees, and handles funds held in litigation and money awarded to minors.
- Coordinates the jury panel selection process.
- May process passport applications.
- Manages court registry funds.

Nueces County Justice of the Peace

The justice of the peace (JP) is elected for a term of four years from each justice precinct in the county (a precinct may have more than one justice of the peace). The justice of the peace is the presiding officer of the justice court and the small claims court and has jurisdiction over minor misdemeanor offenses (Class C), and in civil matters where the amount in controversy does not exceed \$10,000. A variety of civil process, as well as arrest and search warrants, can be issued by the justice of the peace. The JP also sits as judge of the small claims courts, in actions for the recovery of money, which does not exceed \$10,000. The justice of the peace may also preside over hearings pertaining to suspension of driver licenses and conduct other hearings and inquests. The JP may conduct marriage ceremonies and serves as ex-officio notary public for the precinct. The justice of the peace has administrative and financial duties concerning the keeping of records and fee and expense reports. (Texas Association of Counties, 2016)

- Hears traffic and other Class C misdemeanor cases punishable by fine only.
- Hears civil cases with up to \$10,000 in controversy.
- Hears landlord and tenant disputes and truancy cases
- Performs magistrate duties.
- Conducts inquests.

Sources

Court Structure of Texas. (2018, January 1). Retrieved January 17, 2018, from Texas Judicial Branch: <http://www.txcourts.gov/media/1439552/court-structure-chart-jan-2018.pdf>

Nueces County, T. (2018, January). 148th District Court (E). Retrieved January 17, 2018, from Nueces County, TX: <http://www.nuecesco.com/courts/district-courts/148th-district-court-e>

SBOE - State Board of Education. (2018, January). Retrieved January 17, 2018, from Texas Education Agency: <https://tea.texas.gov/sboe/>

Texas Association of Counties. (2016, February). 2016 Guide to Texas Laws for County Officials. (D. E. Brooks, Ed.) Retrieved January 17, 2018, from Texas Association of Counties: <https://county.org/member-services/legal-resources/publications/Documents/Guide%20to%20Texas%20Laws%20for%20County%20Officials.pdf>

The House Explained. (2018). Retrieved January 17, 2018, from United States House of Representatives: <https://www.house.gov/the-house-explained>

VOTE CENTERS (Nueces County voters can vote at any one of these **Vote Centers on Election Day, March 6, 2018, regardless of where they reside.)**

Baker Middle School--3445 Pecan St.
Banquete ISD--4339 Fourth St. - BANQUETE
Bishop High School—100 Badger Ln. - BISHOP
Blanche Moore Elementary--6121 Durant Dr.
Brooks A.M.E. Worship Center-- 2101 N. Port Ave
Calallen East Elementary--3709 Lott Ave.
Calallen Middle School--4602 Cornett Rd.
Cimarron Senior Apartments--2802 Cimarron Blvd.
Club Estates Elementary--5222 Merganser Dr.
Crockett Elementary School--2625 Belton Street
Cullen Middle School--5224 Greely Dr.
Cunningham Middle School--4321 Prescott St.
David Berlanga Community Center--1513 2nd St – AGUA DULCE
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center--5151 McArdle Rd.
Del Mar College--101 Baldwin Blvd.
Driscoll I.S.D. Guadalupe Hernandez Complex--315 West
Dragon Street - DRISCOLL
Ella Barnes Elementary--2829 Oso Parkway
Ethel Eyerly Senior Center--654 Graham Rd.
Fire Station #7--3722 S. Staples St.
Fire Station # 9--501 Navigation Blvd.
Fire Station # 11--910 Airline Rd.
Fire Station # 12--2120 Rand Morgan Rd.
Galvan Elementary--3126 Masterson Dr.
Gibson Elementary--5723 Hampshire Rd.
Gloria Hicks Elementary--3602 McArdle Rd.
Grace Presbyterian Church--6301 Yorktown Blvd.
Grant Middle School--4350 Aaron Dr.
Hamlin Middle School--3900 Hamlin Dr.
Harold T. Branch Academy--3902 Morgan Ave.
Hilltop Community Center--11425 Leopard St.
Island Presbyterian Church--14030 Fortuna Bay Dr.



John F. Kennedy Elementary--1102 Villarreal Rd.
Johnny Calderon Building -- 710 E. Main St. - ROBSTOWN
King High School--5225 Gollihar Rd.
Kolda Elementary--3730 Rodd Field Rd.
Korean Presbyterian Church--4326 McArdle Rd.
Kostoryz Elementary--3602 Panama Dr.
La Retama Central Library—805 Comanche St.
Lindale Senior Center--3135 Swantner Dr.
London ISD Middle/High School--1306 FM 43
Lotspeich Elementary--1000 Ruben Chavez Rd. - ROBSTOWN
LULAC West Apartments--10702 IH 37
Luther Jones Elementary--7533 Lipps Blvd.
Magee Elementary - Star Annex--4201 Calallen Dr.
Menger Elementary--2401 S. Alameda St.
Metro E Elementary--1707 Ayers St.
Mireles Elementary--7658 Cimarron Blvd.
Montclair Elementary--5241 Kentner St.
Moody High School--1818 Trojan Dr.
Nueces County ESD #4--5781 FM 666 - ROBSTOWN
Oak Park Recreation Center--842 Erwin Ave.
Parkway Presbyterian Church--3707 Santa Fe
Petronila Elementary--2391 Cnty Rd. 67 - ROBSTOWN
Port Aransas Community Center--408 North Alister-
PORT ARANSAS
River Hills Baptist Church--16318 FM 624 - ROBSTOWN
Robert Driscoll Jr. Elementary--122 W. Ave. H - ROBSTOWN
Ronnie H. Polston County Bldg. -- 10110 Compton Rd.

(VOTE CENTER list continues on Page 20)



This Voters Guide is published by the League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi and is available free of charge at local and area libraries and public buildings. For more information, call (361) 445-4436 or send an email to: lwvcorpuschristi@gmail.com

VOTE CENTERS (Continued from Page 19)

Rose Shaw Elementary--2920 Soledad St.
 San Pedro Elementary--800 W. Ave. D - ROBSTOWN
 Schanen Estates Elementary--5717 Killarmet Dr.
 Schlitterbahn--14353 Commodores Dr.
 Scott Veters Scout Hut--3221 McKinzie Rd.
 Smith Elementary--6902 Williams Dr.
 South Park Middle School--3001 McArdle Rd.
 St. Anthony Violet Catholic Church--3918 County Rd. 61 -
 ROBSTOWN
 T.G. Allen Elementary--1414 18th. St.
 The People's Baptist Church--1355 FM 665
 The Valencia Hall--6110 Ayers St.
 Tom Browne Middle School--4301 Schanen Blvd.
 Travis Elementary--3210 Churchill Dr.

Tuloso-Midway High School--2653 McKinzie Rd.
 Tuloso-Midway Middle School--9768 La Branch Dr.
 Veterans Memorial High School--3750 Cimarron
 Villa of Corpus Christi - South--4834 Yorktown Blvd.
 West Oso Junior High School--5202 Bear Lane
 Woodlawn Elementary--1110 Woodlawn Dr.
 Yeager Elementary--5414 Tripoli Dr.
 Zavala Senior Center--510 Osage St.

*NOTE: Polling Sites approved by Nueces County Commissioners Court (2/7/18)
 Prepared by the Nueces County Elections Department
 If questions, contact the Nueces County Elections Department at (361) 888-0865 or (361) 888-0303*



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Annual dues (June 1-May 31) are \$60 for an individual; \$90 for two individuals residing in the same household; and \$30 for a student. Other categories include "Friend of the League" (\$30) and "Sustaining Member" (\$100). Your check or money order gladly accepted; online Pay Pal also is available at <http://www.lwv-cc.org>.

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