# 2022 VOTERS' GUIDE

## **Primary Election**

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

**Tuesday, July 19, 2022** 

Polls open at 7AM and close at 8:00 PM



Early voting is July 7 through July 14, 2022

Voters can register, update addresses and vote during early voting.

This Voters' Guide is published by the League of Women Voters of Baltimore City.

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email to: info@ lwvbaltimorecity.org

The League publishes the verbatim responses of candidates to questions important to voters.

The League offers this Voters' Guide to assist citizens in their decision process as they prepare for participation in the 2022

primary season.

The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any political candidate.

Learn more at:www.lwv.org·

Join Us!

#### **VOTING**

THE PRIMARY IS A CLOSED ELECTION.
YOU MAY VOTE ONLY IN THE PARTY IN WHICH YOU
ARE REGISTERED.

Some polling places have changed.

For updated in-person voting, early voting centers, drop off box locations and polling places, go to the Baltimore City Board of Elections web site:

https://boe.baltimorecity.gov/voter-information For your precinct and polling place, call them at 410-396-5550.

To check your voter status, precinct, polling place, or the status of your mail-in or provisional ballot (requested online or by mail before July 12), use the Maryland State Voter Lookup tool: https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch

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#### **GROUND RULES FOR THIS GUIDE**

All qualified candidates were invited to provide responses to specific questions. Candidates qualified if they met the following criteria:

They must have made a public announcement of their intention to run for office, and

Their names will appear on the Primary Ballot. Responses were limited to 400 characters and were then cut

off. No editing was done. If a candidate did not respond by the date of publication, "No response by print deadline" is printed.



#### **Maryland Statewide Offices**

#### Governor / Lt. Governor

**DUTIES:** The Governor is the head of the executive branch and appoints the heads of statewide departments and judges in the state courts. The Governor proposes the annual operating and capital budgets to the legislature and may veto legislation passed by the legislature.

The Lieutenant Governor assists the Governor and carries out specific duties assigned by the Governor. The Lieutenant Governor fills the office of Governor in case of death, resignation, or disability.

**TERM:** Four years. Limit of two consecutive terms.

**SALARIES:** Governor \$184,000, Lieutenant Governor \$165,000 as of January 23, 2023.

HOW ELECTED: Elected statewide as a team.

WEBSITE: msa.maryland.gov/msa/mdmanual/08conoff/html/01govf.html

#### **Questions**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for the duties of Governor?

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** What role should the state play in addressing the needs of economically disadvantaged people in Maryland?

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** What policies do you favor to reduce crime in Maryland while improving police accountability in communities?

**EDUCATION:** What actions will you take to improve education in Maryland, especially given the impact of the COVID pandemic?

**HEALTH CARE:** What are the most significant health challenges facing Maryland and how will you address them?

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** What is your greatest concern regarding Maryland's natural resources/environment and how will you address it?

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** How will you balance infrastructure needs with their environmental impact?

OTHER PRIORITIES: What other issues are priorities for you?

#### **Republican Candidates**

#### Vote for 1

#### Dan Cox / Gordana Schifanelli

Campaign Website: www.coxforfreedom.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** State Delegate Dan Cox is a husband, father, Republican conservative candidate for Governor of Maryland and believer in the goodness of God for the people of our great State.

He has been a leading force fighting for the lives and livelihoods of all Marylanders. A lifelong Marylander, Dan has served the People of Maryland as a small businessman, 15+ year Constitutional attorney, and Delegate.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** Boost the BOOST education programs for all and allow the money to follow the child under parental direction. Increase opportunity zone loans and grants, with follow-up grants and loans to small business start-ups to ensure stability and strength. Ensure equality for all and access to the market with lower taxes.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Ensure immediate ending of the catch and release of illegal foreign nationals into our streets, and double the pay of police officers while providing state of the art world-class training with protection from frivolous lawsuits and public information act requests of private and family information.

**EDUCATION:** Provide tax credits for those forced out of the public classrooms, while providing school choice and additional charter schools. Ensure audits of the spending and reduce administrative waste while increasing pay and training of teachers. End the ghost students and ensure every student has access to tutors as needed to ensure they understand and pass the material in each class.

**HEALTH CARE:** Ensuring our seniors have access to care without discrimination and restoring our health privacy freedoms. Additionally, expanding affordable health care coverage by opening up competition across state lines is necessary to lower premiums.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Ensuring the effluent into the Bay and estuaries from the various city and town sewers, including Baltimore City, are discovered and stopped. Additionally, preserving our farmland and right to farm, while also ensuring our timber forests are healthy, harvesting with conservation, and protecting our state forests and old standing timber

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** By preserving farmland and state forests, we can ensure land and growth areas are open for building to attract business and residents. Maryland has a net-loss of over 250,000 people since 2011. By granting access to our natural resources responsibly, and expanding energy production, we increase opportunity for all while ensuring the conservation and protection of our state lands and waterways.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** I will Restore Freedom to the Free State by ending all mandates on Day One of my administration. Furthermore, ensuring our Seniors have property tax assessment relief and retirement income relief will ensure we keep them here in Maryland.

#### Robin Ficker / LeRoy F. Yegge, Jr.

Campaign Website: cutmdsalestax2cents.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As Maryland's top civic activist, I have placed 25 questions on the ballot of Maryland's largest county by collecting 18,000 for each. These questions have received 2,537,403 votes. They imposed term limits, limits on property revenue increases, and kept sewage sludge trenching and garbage dumps out of residential zones.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** I am the only gubernatorial candidate in either party to cut taxes. Our 2 cent cut in the state's 6 cent sales tax amounts to a \$780/year/household fiscal stimulus. Every Marylander will get a tax cut every day. And it will give us a national business-friendly reputation, bringing in JOBS.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Our team's Jobs Strikeforce will reverse the avoidance of Maryland by all major US employers. A busy citizen is a happy one. Police need officer-friendly training. Rid us of the scourge of fentanyl, the number one cause of death for Marylanders 18-45 years old. Fund police drug labs.

**EDUCATION:** We will create the Governor's Annual Reading Contest whereby every classroom in the state will send a student who has read the most books in a year.

**HEALTH CARE:** I want to make Maryland THE SPORTS STATE. Kids in the school systems and most adults are too sedentary, devoting too much time to screen activity. We need to get them out and about, and involved in wholesome activity and exercise.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** I am most concerned about multiple instances of sewage treatment plant runoff into the bay. Some of these plants have been leaking for 20+ years. We need an environmental hotline to report violations. Fight climate change by doubling the electrical output of Calvert Cliffs to 2 million homes.

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Inadequate roads and idling cars pollute the air. We need to improve Maryland's highways. Construct additional Bay Bridge.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Forming Maryland's Jobs Strikeforce to visit multi-billion \$ companies like Apple, Amazon, Facebook, Google, Intel, Microsoft, Nucor Steel, Samsung, all of which have shunned Maryland.

Bring back well-paying jobs. Maryland's Department of Commerce has been asleep.

#### Kelly Schulz / Jeff Woolford

Campaign Website: www.KellySchulzForGovernor.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am the only candidate in this race who has a track record of success both in the legislative branch and as a member of Governor Hogan's cabinet. I've led two critical state agencies, the Department of Labor and Department of Commerce which are tasked with growing our economy. Because of our work, Maryland is the most improved state for business in the entire country.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** We must continue to make Maryland more affordable so that you, your family, and our state can prosper. I will stand up against tax increases and I will use my position to fight for tax cuts every single day that I am in office. We'll fight to repeal the Inflation Tax so that you can receive much needed relief at the gas pump and eliminate state taxes on the retirement income of all Marylanders.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** If you don't feel like your family is safe, nothing else matters. I'll make sure that police receive the funding and training they need, and I'll fight to keep violent offenders behind bars. We'll treat police like heroes and criminals like criminals. We'll work to improve the relationships officers have with the communities they serve; we'll support PAL programs and community mentorship programs.

**EDUCATION:** I have a Parental Bill of Rights which will empower parents and give every child the opportunity to receive a world class education. This means record funding our schools, providing real school choice, investing in innovative solutions like P-TECH schools, and bringing accountability and transparency to the classroom.

**HEALTH CARE:** We are blessed to live in a state that has some of the best hospitals and health care providers not only in the country, but in the world. Innovative approaches have been taken to stabilize health care costs and premiums. We must continue to do this while also allowing for a system in which we can have more competition so that consumers have more choices.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** The Chesapeake Bay is Maryland's greatest natural treasure and we are extremely proud of the impact it has on our livelihoods. Over the last eight years we have made tremendous progress in safeguarding our Bay, investing record funding, and pursuing innovative solutions to clean the Bay. We must continue to make significant progress to preserve and protect the Bay for future generations.

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Maryland has become a national leader on environmental issues, ranking as the fourth most environmentally friendly state in the country. To ensure our state's future economic success and viability, we must make sure that Marylanders have access to a world-class transportation infrastructure - that includes record investments in both our roads and in transit.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Our campaign is one focused on opportunity and ensuring that every Marylander has the chance to pursue their own dreams and have every shot at success. This is only going to happen if we continue to keep moving our state in the right direction, build upon the success that our state has experienced over the last eight years under Governor Hogan, and make our state safe, steady, and prosperous.

**Joe Werner / Minh Thanh Luong** No response by print deadline.

Campaign Website: wernerformaryland.com

#### **Democratic Candidates**

Vote for 1

Rushern L. Baker, III / Nancy Navarro

Campaign Website: rushernbaker.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** The Baker/Navarro ticket is the most experienced in the race, with unrivaled State and local governing experience. Both candidates understand how to get things done in Maryland like few others, precisely because they have done them. They will use this experience to bring together diverse stakeholders from across the State together to address our greatest challenges.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** The State is the central player in reducing economic disparities, and lifting up the people who have been historically left behind by the people in power. Our campaign has released the Roadmap for Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity which will tackle this problem and help disadvantaged communities support themselves today, build generational wealth for the future.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Both Rushern and Nancy believe strongly that the status quo in Maryland, and especially in Baltimore is unacceptable. We have a comprehensive plan to not only end the tide of violence that is occurring today using community policing, but also to address the underlying causes of crime, and build up those communities who have been hurt the most by it.

**EDUCATION:** Rushern and Nancy are strong supporters of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, but they know that it is late coming, and only the first step in improving schools. We need to first make sure that the Blueprint is fully funded, and that will take an executive who knows how to navigate the school system, and is committed to making the hard choices that come with education policy-making.

**HEALTH CARE:** Despite all that has purportedly been done on this issue, the prohibitive cost of healthcare in this country is shameful. That is why it is our goal to implement a single-payer system in the State to ensure all Marylanders are able to access the care they need, when they need it. We know that this will be a monumental task, but it is a necessary one for so many who have suffered without care.

**NATURAL RESOURCES**: Every Marylander knows that the heart and soul of the State rests in the Chesapeake Bay. It is our greatest asset, and at the moment we are not treating it with anywhere near the respect it deserves. To tackle this, we will establish a pollution revolving fund, which will incentivize polluters to clean up their own waste, and save taxpayers money in the process.

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Given the dire situation we are faced with right now, environmental concerns must take precedence over convenience. That said, we believe our infrastructure needs go hand in hand with our environmental ones. My infrastructure priorities are projects like the Baltimore Red Line and starting the Southern Maryland Light Rail. These projects will be done sustainably and take cars off the roads.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** One of the greatest challenges we face today is the corrupting influence of money in our political system. That is why we decided to fund our campaign through public financing, to ensure that voters know that we will not deal with PACs and big money donors. Our administration will expand this program, allowing more candidates the ability to run for office without letting dark money influence them.

#### Jon Baron / Natalie Williams

Campaign Website: jonbaron.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I'm a former nonprofit executive and Clinton Administration official with a record of driving real change from inside and outside government. After serving in the Clinton Administration, I founded a nonprofit that sparked a movement to advance evidence-based policymaking—working with the Bush & Obama Administrations to enact major reforms that led to significant gains in wages, education, & more.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** Wages for the bottom 40% in MD have been stagnant since the 1980s, as income inequality has soared. We'll partner with MD businesses to provide proven job training programs to every adult who wants to advance. Done right, job training can increase earnings 20-40%. The key is to focus on fast-growing industries, and work hand-in-hand with employers who provide paid internships to the trainees.

PUBLIC SAFETY: We'll fund crime-fighting strategies shown to produce big reductions in violent crime while building community trust, such as Focused Deterrence—an approach targeted at repeat violent offenders. When implemented in Oakland CA, it helped cut homicides by 50%. We'll also invest in community policing in "hot-spots" where half of all urban crime occurs—an approach found to cut crime as much as 25%.

EDUCATION: More than 1/4 of MD middle schoolers can't read at a basic level; more than 

can't do basic math. We'll expand solutions that are tested and proven to deliver results. For example, we'll raise an army of tutors from the community to help every struggling 1st and 2nd grader in MD-moving them up toward grade level early, before their problems become serious, & reversing COVID-related learning loss.

**HEALTH CARE:** Marylanders are paying 50% more in out-of-pocket healthcare costs than they were 10 years ago, after adjusting for inflation. That's unacceptable. Our administration will negotiate significantly lower prescription drug prices - saving Marylanders up to \$100 million each year - and offer a robust public option health insurance plan cheaper than those currently on the market.

NATURAL RESOURCES: MD must lead the nation in cutting carbon emissions. We'll pursue a regional approach, building on the successful Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative — an 11-state cap-and-trade program that's cut power plant emissions 47%. We'll expand this approach to other sectors by joining the Transportation and Climate Initiative (focused on transportation), as part of our comprehensive climate policy.

INFRASTRUCTURE: This is critical—our administration will ensure a thorough environmental review precedes implementation of any infrastructure project, and we will not pursue projects that would cause unnecessary or irreparable harm to the environment. From mass transit to highways and other investments, our administration will strike a balance between needed infrastructure and protection of our natural resources.

OTHER PRIORITIES: Our campaign is not taking a dime from corporations, PACs, or MD lobbyists, because Maryland deserves a governor who answers to the voters - not special interests. Our administration will also require independent assessments of our key policies - the results of which will be reported to the governor, voters and General Assembly at the same time.

#### Peter Franchot / Monique Anderson-Walker

Campaign Website: www.franchot.com

QUALIFICATIONS: I have spent the past 16 years serving as the State's Comptroller. My extensive track-record in public service has demonstrated that I know the issues that are unique to Marylanders, and I have successfully implemented solutions to solve their problems. I am the only candidate that has the statewide experience to hit the ground running on Day 1.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** The state should help people access job training and placement that lead to stable, lifelong careers. I define the middle class as good wages, healthcare, home ownership, and retirement. I believe the State can help stimulate these opportunities by investing in new infrastructure like world class public transit and renewable energy, and partnering with stakeholders like unions on them.

PUBLIC SAFETY: I have no tolerance for police misconduct or crime. My policies will approach public safety through a lens that situates it within a broader social context rather than as a stand alone challenge. I support policies such as ending no knock warrants, prioritizing community policing, evaluating police training standards, treating addiction as

a health issue, and focusing on violent repeat offenders

**EDUCATION:** I will be an education-oriented governor with a focus on empowering our students and teachers. I will address student/teacher burn-out by reducing standardized testing, and allow collective bargaining on classroom size. I will also pilot an experiential learning model, push for fully elected local school boards, and ensure no school building suffers from a lack of infrastructure.

**HEALTH CARE:** I am committed to lowering health costs and expanding affordable primary and preventative care. I will expand Medicaid coverage, focus on controlling prescription drug prices, and expand Maryland's total cost of care model for the commercial insurance market to control the rising costs. I will also ensure every Marylander is within a 15-minute commute to a Federally Qualified Health Center.

NATURAL RESOURCES: One of my greatest concerns is that we do not have a justice oriented approach to addressing environmental concerns. Improving the environment is a matter of effectuating justice. I will remove polluters which are disproportionately placed in communities of color, and provide job training/placement for those who work in industries that will become increasingly obsolete in the new economy.

INFRASTRUCTURE: I believe we can walk and chew gum at the same time, and I will implement policies that align our infrastructure initiatives with our environmental goals. That means building more public transit for the economy of tomorrow, while alleviating traffic congestion today. I will also require the entire fleet of state vehicles to convert to electric by the end of my first term.

OTHER PRIORITIES: I am committed to building a world-class transit system by reviving the Red Line project and increasing pedestrian/cycling trails. I will make voting more accessible, and secure access to high-speed broadband and 5G wireless technology for every Marylander. All of my policies are integrative, and with my experience I will improve the quality of life of all Marylanders.

#### Douglas F. Gansler / Candace Hollingsworth

Campaign Website: douggansler.com

QUALIFICATIONS: Maryland needs a governor with experience to address crime and rebuild our communities, schools, and businesses post-COVID. As a former federal prosecutor, Montgomery County State's Attorney, and MD Attorney General, I am the only candidate with a background in criminal justice, and along with my running mate, a former Mayor, we are the only team with executive-level experience in govern-

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** Safe communities are strong communities. As governor, I will be aggressive about lifting communities out of poverty through education and economic development. As we create new jobs, we will strengthen schools and workforce training to get Marylanders into these new jobs. By building more housing near transit, we can make living in Maryland more affordable and make access to these new jobs easier.

PUBLIC SAFETY: We cannot reduce crime without increasing accountability because when people don't trust the police they are less likely to call them when they need them most. My Safe Maryland plan, which will add 1,000 police statewide, recognizes this and weaves the need for better-trained and better-paid police with bold actions that will work to rid agencies of bad practices, bad policies, and bad officers.

EDUCATION: Teachers and students were resilient through COVID, but now two years later many have returned to the same unsafe buildings, large classrooms, and demanding tests they left – only this time with additional challenges due to the COVID learning gap. As governor, I will ensure full, timely implementation of the Blueprint, add SRO's, and take actions to increase student achievement and wellness now.

**HEALTH CARE:** We do not have enough nurses, doctors, home health workers, and mental health professionals to meet our state's needs. And now more than ever we must ensure abortion access and support for women. My administration will increase access and affordability by

investing in building the pipeline of healthcare professionals, expanding community health centers, and funding reproductive health centers.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** I will protect the Chesapeake Bay both from pollution and the devastating effects of climate change. As AG, I led 22 watershed audits of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, dramatically improving the water quality. We must impose a five-year, statewide moratorium on new residential, commercial and industrial development that is located within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area.

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** As we grow, maintenance of roads, bridges, and stormwater infrastructure is crucial. We'll rethink how we fund infrastructure to no longer incentivize car use while ensuring that we have enough to fund these projects and work with localities to enact land-use policies and directives that embed climate resiliency targets and reduce the overall environmental impact.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** The number one job of government is to keep people safe, and bringing crime down and justice up is my top priority. I also care deeply about making our state more inclusive of people with disabilities and would encourage voters to read my Accessible Maryland plan on my website douggansler.com.

#### Ralph W. Jaffe / Mark Greben

Campaign Website: fedupwithcrookedpolitics.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As a teacher, I started a movement - cleanse Maryland of sky high moral bankruptcy. Putting the movement into high gear and practicing what I preach, I went on ballot with platform to achieve movement's mission - no campaign contributions, one term only, no salary, tell whole truth, avoid professional lobbyists. 7 campaigns 2010-2018 - results - over 42,000 votes - budget by design \$1700.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** Put state legislature on 23/4 months recess. Let free enterprise system function without morally bankrupt politicians' interference. Free enterprise system will start to flourish. Businesses - small or big - will be able to hire people who have been jobless. Encourage business owners to partnership with employees giving them larger stake in the company as a paratial owner of the business

PUBLIC SAFETY: Twofold solution -

Short term - bring in National Guard for extended period of time. No big tanks, but lots of manpower- Yes -some restrictions on daily lives of people but major drop in surge of violence

Long term - Implementation of the TUTOR MENTOR TEAM PROGRAM -

More details on Facebook - Ralph Jaffe

The 2% or 3% of police officers tainting the rest of police force should be removed.

**EDUCATION:** A: Implementation of the TUTOR MENTOR TEAM PROGRAM. Long term connection between student and TEAM volunteer mentor results in motivating and challenging lost, troubled students to perform and become productive citizens instead of giving them reason to drop out of school, turning to streets and committing acts of crime. Students will receive care and hope they desperately need.

**HEALTH CARE:** Every citizen deserves good medical coverage. I'll assemble a group of qualified experts (exclude career politicians) to study ways to bring this about and make recommendations. I'll choose best course of action and do everything in my ethical power to implement their top suggestion.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Creating more healthy environment, dealing with climate change challenges, obtaining cleaner water, fresher air to breathe, protection of animal wildlife calls for group of experts (exclusion of career politicians) to study ways to bring this about making recommendations. I'll choose best course of action, do everything in my ethical power to implement the best of their best suggestions.

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Establish commission to determine best course of action for building new or repairing existing roads, bridges, and state

highways and make people feel safe as they travel on them. Commission's findings would be followed up by figuring out how state and federal funds can be used to finance their proposals. Will use my ethical power to implement their recommendations.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** People serving in government positions should remember they're in that office to serve their constituents, not themselves. Raising exorbitant amounts of money to get elected and re-elected (a better use of all that money - help poor & needy)) isn't proof they have these traits. It's matter of TRUST. Whom do voters trust the most to make Maryland a healthier, safer state.

#### Ashwani Jain / LaTrece Hawkins Lytes

Campaign Website: JainForGovernor.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** While I would be the nation's youngest Governor, I also have the experience and perspective needed to serve you well.

I am a 32-year-old cancer survivor, the son of immigrants and small business owners, and a product of Maryland public schools. I have worked in the public, private, and non-profit sectors, and served in the Obama White House and two federal agencies.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** We must have equality of opportunity. Part of this means being held accountable and giving residents a real seat at the table. And part of this means increasing revenue streams by keeping people in our state and encouraging more to move here. My "Maryland Now Plan" will help with eliminating the state income tax, free public transit, guaranteed jobs and anti-corruption measures.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** The way to increase accountability and safety is to tackle Criminal Justice comprehensively. That's why my plans include treating opioid/drug abuse as a disease not crime; removing SROs from public schools; investing in social workers; ending the money bail system; ending extreme sentences for children; legalizing marijuana and expunging records; access to jobs; and building community trust.

**EDUCATION:** My Education agenda includes fully funding the Blueprint; ensuring parents, students and educators have a real seat at the table; expanding access to broadband; easing student debt; reducing barriers to becoming an educator; protecting collective bargaining rights; making community colleges accessible; universal Pre-K; removing SROs from public schools; and opposing school privatization efforts.

**HEALTH CARE:** As a cancer survivor and someone who has worked in healthcare, I know we must expand Medicaid Eligibility; invest in Community Health Clinics; have full reproductive justice; ease medical debt; invest in mental health; create a statewide Caregivers Program; address food insecurity; and increase access to childcare. Full details at JainFor-Governor.com

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** To get to 100% renewables by 2035, I would focus on Climate Justice; stop subsidization of trash incinerators and paper mills; mandate Environmental Impact Studies; increase poultry farm inspections; invest in community solar programs for residents; offshore wind; free public transit; smart growth and mixed-use development; ban single-use plastic bags; and improve composting.

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** We need a comprehensive plan that includes making public transit free; ensuring environmental impact studies for all projects; expanding Metro (Red Line, Purple Line and Southern rail); expanding MARC services; more designated bus lanes; smarth growth and mixed-use development; and sustainably expanding the Bay Bridge (using the findings of the environmental impact studies that were conducted).

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** I believe decisions about us should not be made without us. That's why I'm fully accessible (because 100% of our events are free); I'm fully accountable (because 100% of our campaign is run by residents from every county); and I'm fully transparent (because we've shared the most comprehensive policy agenda since last January 2021). More at JainForGovernor.com

#### John King / Michelle Daugherty Siri

Campaign Website: Johnkingforgovernor.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As Sec. of Ed. under Pres. Obama, I managed a budget \$15 billion bigger than the budget of the state of MD. I have the executive leadership and public sector management experience to make MD a

national leader in every respect. Public schools saved my life after both my parents passed away, so I know that govt. can be a force for good in people's lives. That philosophy is how I will govern.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** We must ensure every Marylander has the opportunity to thrive by making sure they have the food they need to eat, health care, safe and affordable housing, quality child care, and transportation to jobs. My administration will do everything through the lens of equity, making sure our economy works for everyone in Maryland by directly tackling systemic disparities.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** We need to rethink public safety. We must focus the police on stopping violent crime and the flow of illegal guns - and ensure that officers are well-trained and accountable for protecting people's civil rights. We must also increase investments in violence prevention programs, education and job training for those who are incarcerated, and re-entry supports.

**EDUCATION:** I will ensure we fully fund and implement the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. As well, my recovery plan for our schools includes developing a statewide Student Support Corps to provide intensive tutoring, providing students with additional learning and activities during the school year and summer, and increasing investment in school counselors and mental health services for students and families.

**HEALTH CARE:** Almost 350,000 Marylanders are uninsured and there are serious racial and regional disparities in the quality of care. I believe health care is a human right and will remove barriers to health care for all Marylanders, regardless of immigration status, incentivize primary and specialty providers to locate in underserved communities, and create a permanent task force to address racial disparities.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** We must drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions. My goal is to reach net-zero emissions in MD by 2035, with a 60% reduction by 2030 and a carbon-free electricity sector in our state by 2030. I will ensure that our Renewable Portfolio Standard only includes true clean energy sources and transition the entire state public vehicle fleet to zero-emission vehicles by 2030.

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** I'm dedicated to ensuring environmental justice and will consider the environmental impact of every infrastructure project. I'll prioritize building clean public transit, improving pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, and oppose projects that encourage more driving, like the I-270 toll lanes. Our infrastructure investments will be designed to cut down on harmful effects like storm runoff.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** My other top priorities are housing justice and building our affordable housing stock, advancing women's economic equity, including protecting abortion rights in Maryland, making record investments in public transit which includes building the Baltimore Red Line, providing student debt relief, making higher education affordable, and supporting our immigrant communities and LGBTQ+ Marylanders.

#### Wes Moore / Aruna Miller

Campaign Website: www.WesMoore.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** State organizations and leaders—including the Maryland State Education Association and more state legislators than any candidate in this race—not only see us best positioned to win but also see my experience leading in every sector of American society as what is needed to build a stronger, more equitable future for our state. It's what I've dedicated my career to and it's what I'll do as governor.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** I will leverage this once-in-a-generation opportunity to build a stronger, more inclusive economy through work, wages, and wealth for every Maryland family. That means creating new

pathways to the workforce, accelerating our path to a \$15/hour minimum wage, and breaking down barriers to homeownership. It's what I've done my entire career, and it's exactly what I'll do as Maryland's next governor.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** I believe in policing with maximum accountability and appropriate intensity, bringing together federal, state, and local resources to prevent crime while building trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve. As governor, I will invest in proven community-based violence intervention programs, fix the Department of Parole and Probation, and invest in local re-entry programs.

**EDUCATION:** From cradle to career, education is one of the key pillars for Marylanders to access jobs, higher wages, and the opportunity to build wealth to pass on to their children. As governor, I will fix our broken childcare system and make pre-K free for every three and four year old in need, support our educators working their hearts out, fully fund the Blueprint, and build strong workforce pipelines.

**HEALTH CARE:** There are still over 257,000 Marylanders who lack health coverage and as governor, I will work to ensure universal access to affordable health coverage. Specifically, we will work to make enrollment and renewal in the Medicaid program easier, provide extra subsidies to make private health care more affordable, and provide affordable coverage options for people not eligible for the exchange.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Climate change is devastating our communities and inaction has cost us \$10 billion in the past decade and put our communities at risk. As governor, I will set aggressive targets to generate 100% clean energy by 2035, achieve net-zero emissions by 2045 and implement solutions to address sea-level rise and extreme heat, prioritizing environmental justice throughout the process.

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** As governor, I will ensure that we are building 21st-century transportation infrastructure that provides equity both in terms of access and its construction, environmental protections, and strong input from the communities. A Moore-Miller administration will ensure every step is taken to fully understand and mitigate the environmental impacts while meeting the transportation needs of Marylanders.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** No matter your start in life, you deserve an equal opportunity to succeed – a job you can raise a family on, a future you can look forward to. My top priority is to create opportunities for people to step into better jobs, earn higher wages, and build wealth they can pass down to their children. In the military we learned a mantra, "leave nobody behind" and that's exactly what I'll do as governor.

#### Tom Perez / Shannon Sneed

Campaign Website: tomperez.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have dedicated my life to fighting for jobs, justice, and opportunity. I've done it at the local level on the Montgomery County Council, at the state level as Maryland's Labor Secretary, and at the federal level as head of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division and as U.S. Labor Secretary under President Obama. I have a proven track record, and I'll continue that fight as governor.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** We are the richest state in the nation, but far too many Marylanders continue to fall behind. We will create stronger pathways to the middle class by focusing on job creation, creating pipelines to emerging fields through apprenticeships, investing in balanced transportation solutions, and fighting for fair wages while protecting the right to collective bargaining and prioritizing racial equity.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** The most important tool officers have is the trust of the community. I'll work to support efforts to interrupt violence, get illegal guns off our streets, and provide resources so probation officers can address the most serious crimes. I will also bring my experience with reform efforts at the Department of Justice Civil Rights Division to Maryland to ensure effective, accountable policing.

**EDUCATION:** We will fully implement the Blueprint for Maryland's Future-and go beyond. I will bolster educational resiliency by providing

alternative school schedules, integrating extracurriculars into existing educational systems, and offering optional additional grades to address learning loss. We will build a pipeline of diverse educators and increase services to address the growing mental health needs.

**HEALTH CARE:** We need to ensure that every Maryland resident has access to quality, affordable health insurance. We will streamline enrollment into coverage, including for immigrant communities; invest in our healthcare workforce by providing scholarships and free community college to aspiring professionals; and address mental health needs by increasing access to services and substance use treatment.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Combating climate change requires interagency coordination, which is why I will appoint a Climate and Resiliency Coordinator to lead these efforts. We will create tens of thousands of jobs in offshore wind and solar to make Maryland the national leader on green energy generation. We must prioritize climate equity by improving stormwater management, and cooling infrastructure across our state.

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** We need to prioritize public transit, walking, and biking by creating a balanced transit system that is dependable, accessible, and affordable. I will revive the Red and Purple Lines, build the Southern Maryland Rapid Transit, and enhance MARC capacity. I will also transition state vehicles to electric and help Marylanders do the same through price incentives and increased charging infrastructure.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** If Roe v. Wade is overturned, states may soon be the last bastion for protecting the fundamental right to abortion. I will lead the charge to ratify a state Constitutional amendment to enshrine abortion as an unimpeachable right-while continuing to expand access to reproductive health care for all women. We must also protect voting rights and make Maryland a national model for access to voting.

**HEALTH CARE:** We have yet to secure health care, including mental health, as a human right. Either we go to single payer, or we use the tax system to ensure that no one need spend more that 1/10th of income (a half day's pay) to cover all health expenditures including insurance

We also need a youth service corps to enable older people to age and ultimately pass on while at home and among loved ones.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** We are destroying the planet. The worst culprit is the pollution from automobiles. We need a massive investment in public transit, and a giant conversion to electric vehicles. This will only be possible for low income families, with the "Near Free EV" – GM makes them in China. We will bring them to Md. even if we have to build them with a state owned auto company.

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** We focus on infrastructure that improves the environment, such as public transport, and clean electricity. We don't encourage more use of the automobile. We limit highway and bridge investment to safety. We deal with congestion by expanding work at home and by moving to the 4 day work week.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Time Liberty: Giving anyone who has had a job for 3 years, the right to go 1/2 time or to a 4 day week without penalty.

- Giving people of retirement age the right to hold onto their jobs very part time.
- Viewing Beauty and Creativity as basic human needs.
- = Making love of books, and the ability to contribute to the beauty of the world central aims of our schools.
- Teaching virt

#### Jerome M. Segal / Justinian M. Dispenza

Campaign Website: SegalforGovernor.org

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I've been active in political struggle since the first Vietnam teach-in in 1965. I've worked for civil rights, for peace, and for social equity. I have a Ph.D in Philosophy, a Masters Degree in Public Policy, worked 4 years on Capitol Hill, including 2 on staff of the House Budget Committee, 10 years in the Executive Branch fighting global poverty, and 20 years at UofMD School of Pubic Policy.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** A legal right to a job.

- Zero interest mortgages for low income families to convert to home ownership and be mortgage free in 15 years
- Higher minimum wage
- "Near free EV" after subsides, less than \$5,000.
- Free 4 year colleges for those with modest means.
- Higer earned income tax credit.
- Progressive property taxes with 0% for modest homes, and high rates for McMansions.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Each neighborhood could veto the assignment to their neighborhood of any particular police officer they do not trust.

Truly humane prisons, so that very dangerous criminals can be removed from communities, yet given a real chance to develop into decent human beings.

- Two months free sleep away camp (Camp David Summer Camp) for children from low income families; counselor jobs for older youth.

**EDUCATION:** The Blueprint for Maryland is a terrific document on social equity issues - must be fully implemented. However, on the mission of public schools it is a dreadful impoverished document, out of touch with the skills young people will need in the future, and out of touch with the complex mission of schools, to teach America's real history, and to prepare youth for a full and culturally rich life.

#### Comptroller

**DUTIES:** The Comptroller is the financial officer of Maryland. He or she is responsible for collecting, managing and planning for revenue to support the state budget. The Comptroller collects and administers Maryland taxes on income (both personal and corporate), retail sales, motor vehicle fuel, tobacco, beer, and wine and liquor, as well as estate taxes. The Comptroller serves on the Board of Public Works along with the Governor and the state Treasurer, who is appointed by the General Assembly. The Board of Public Works must approve major contracts for the purchase of goods or service by any department of state government.

TERM: Four years. No term limit.

**ANNUAL SALARY:** \$150,000.

**HOW ELECTED:** Elected statewide.

#### WEBSITE

msa.maryland.gov/msa/mdmanual/08conoff/html/03compf.html

#### **Questions**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for the duties of Comptroller?

**STATE CONTRACTS:** What criteria would you use for evaluating contracts and capital projects that are subject to approval by the Board of Public Works?

**REVENUE SYSTEM:** What policies will you implement to improve the efficiency of the collection of Maryland taxes?

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{OTHER PRIORITIES:} What other issues are priorities for you? \\ \end{tabular}$ 

#### **Republican Candidates**

Vote for 1

#### **Barry Glassman**

Campaign Website: www.barryglassman.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I believe I am uniquely qualified to carry on the tradition of strong independent Maryland Comptrollers. As the leader of one of Maryland's largest counties, my Administration has earned praise for strong fiscal management and innovation with a fully funded pension obligation and 24 AAA bond ratings, a distinction earned by only 2% of counties nationwide. The next comptroller will need to be

**STATE CONTRACTS:** The Comptroller's role on the Board of Public Works is perhaps the most important responsibility of the office. As the taxpayer's representative, the Comptroller should strive to make sure As the only candidate for comptroller who has chaired a similar body, the Harford County Board of Estimates, I worked with my procurement office to save the taxpayers \$26.4 million over the past seven years

**REVENUE SYSTEM:** As Harford County Executive, I have launched over seven digital platforms to improve efficiency, save money and improve customer service. One of my first steps as Comptroller would be a top down evaluation of the Office's digital infrastructure to make sure the State is collecting taxes properly but processing returns and assisting preparers quickly as well.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Currently, the most pressing issue facing Maryland's families is the spiking inflationary pressures of food, services and goods. Energy prices continue to strain the budgets of our working families and small businesses. The cost of housing along with this increased cost of living threatens the next generation of Marylanders to live and raise a family here in our State. I have managed a local

#### **Democratic Candidates**

Vote for 1

#### Timothy J. Adams

Campaign Website: www.timadams.org

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I will bring 30 years of executive management experience to the comptroller's office. As a Mayor who governed during COVID-19 and a CEO running one of America's largest black owned companies, I have rigorously evaluated capital investments, improved equity in services, and prioritized transparency. This is the experience needed to make our taxes efficient and fair and ensure accountability.

**STATE CONTRACTS:** To earn my vote, capital projects must:

Create demonstrable value for Maryland taxpayers

Coincide with a transparent long-term strategy

Taken as a whole, provide equal opportunity for all Marylanders whether they live in Western Maryland, West Baltimore, or the Eastern Shore.

Taken as a whole, demonstrate that the state is on track to finally meet its procurement commitments to Minority Businesses

**REVENUE SYSTEM:** As Comptroller, I'd:

Work with the legislature to implement a return-free filing system for families making less than \$100,000, simplifying taxes for tens of thousands of Marylanders.

Launch an investigation into tax loopholes and publish recommendations for tax reform.

Author a report on adult-use Marijuana legalization that offers a framework for the legislature to raise new education revenues.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Accountability: I will launch an office of investigations and government accountability to fight public corruption and protect taxpayer funds.

Schools: I will implement a school funding audit to provide the public regular updates on the fiscal health of public schools.

Transportation: I will push for investment in transportation infrastructure, including the completion of Baltimore's Red Line.

#### **Brooke Elizabeth Lierman**

Campaign Website: www.brookelierman.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As a leader on the state's fiscal committees, including chair of the Pensions Committee, I have a track record of getting big things done. I'll be ready on day one to lead the office, advocate for families and small businesses, and modernize the agency to increase accountability and transparency.

**STATE CONTRACTS:** We must ensure the best value for all taxpayers. That means ensuring state spending grows our economy by keeping dollars local, tackling the wealth divide by investing in minority, women and veteran-owned businesses, and using sustainable practices to prepare for climate change. We must use purchasing power to build generational wealth and build for generations to come.

**REVENUE SYSTEM:** I will introduce new technology to modernize the process of paying taxes and make receiving refunds more efficient. This will ensure that each taxpayer and corporation pays their fair share and also allow every family & small business to know which tax credits they qualify for, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit. I will also create a Taxpayer Advocate Office to assist taxpayers at every step.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Maryland faces many economic challenges but also big opportunities. We must tackle inflation, the racial wealth divide, climate change, and fully fund public education. As Comptroller, I will be a leader who brings people together to find solutions that unlock the potential of our communities and small businesses, increase economic opportunity for all, and build financially-resilient families.

#### **Attorney General**

**DUTIES:** The Attorney General is the chief legal officer of Maryland, providing legal advice to the Governor, the legislature, all state departments and boards, and most commissions. The Attorney General represents the state in all cases that relate to the Governor, the General Assembly and most state agencies. The office also has responsibilities for consumer protection, civil rights, medical and investment fraud, and the juvenile justice system.

TERM: Four years. No term limit.

ANNUAL SALARY: \$150,000.

**HOW ELECTED:** Elected statewide.

#### WEBSITE:

msa.maryland.gov/msa/mdmanual/08conoff/attorney/html/06agf.html

#### **Questions**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for the duties of Attorney General?

**ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE:** What steps will you take to improve the efficiency and fairness of legal processes in Maryland?

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** What policies do you favor to reduce crime in Maryland while improving police accountability in communities?

**PUBLIC HEALTH:** What actions will you take to address issues such as domestic violence, human trafficking or substance abuse?

**JUVENILE JUSTICE:** What is your philosophy on the issues involved in juvenile justice?

**CONSUMER PROTECTION:** Describe your approach to consumer protection.

#### **Democratic Candidates**

OTHER PRIORITIES: What other issues are priorities for you?

#### **Republican Candidates:**

Vote for 1

Michael Anthony Peroutka No response by print deadline

Campaign Website: patriots4peroutka.com

Jim Shalleck

Campaign Website: jimshalleck.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I was a prosecutor for 24 years before going into private practice. I was an Assistant District Attorney in the Bronx, NY; Chief of the Bronx DA Homicide Bureau; Prosecuted David Berkowitz, "Son of Sam" killer, for 3 Bronx murders; an Assistant Attorney General of New York State; Attorney for United States Department of Justice, Antitrust Division. Since 1994, private law practice in Maryland.

**ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE:** I will establish community offices throughout the State where every month an Assistant Attorney General will meet with residents to hear their concerns, complaints and information that will help our office initiate, investigate and prosecute, if necessary, criminal conduct, discrimination, and other violations of law in areas such as the environment, elections, civil rights, and elder abuse.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Reducing crime will be my top priority. I will create a Major Offense Bureau to assist or replace local prosecutors in the prosecution of violent and repeat offenders. No plea bargaining or deals with these offenders. Police accountability will be reviewed by my staff with my personal involvement. Restoring public trust in policing and the criminal justice system will come from more transparency.

**PUBLIC HEALTH:** The most violent and serious offenders of these crimes must be prosecuted vigorously with no plea bargaining or deals. This includes dealers and distributors of illegal drugs and narcotics. Drug users and addicts should be given drug treatment, therapy and counseling. Addiction is a disease and should be treated so that they can be cured

**JUVENILE JUSTICE:** The crime committed by a juvenile and their history should determine their punishment and/or treatment. As a prosecutor, some of the most violent and heinous crimes I've seen have been committed by juveniles as young as 14. Juveniles committing non-violent offenses and who are not serious repeat offenders need treatment, counseling, drug or mental health programs.

Others may need incarceration.

**CONSUMER PROTECTION:** Consumer fraud is primarily an offense against the elderly, infirm and most vulnerable. To me, these are very serious criminal offenses

especially by those who prey on these victims. The most effective way to deter these scammers is to seek meaningful jail sentences against the worst offenders. This will deter others from scamming and defrauding victims not just fines and desist orders.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Reducing crime is my top priority. We must protect our residents and make Maryland a safer place to live and raise a family.

Other issues of major concern include environmental crime and pollution, election fraud, elder abuse, and rights of parents. The Attorney General's plate is very full and I pledge to devote all my energies and abilities to proudly serving the public.

#### Vote for 1

Anthony G. Brown

Campaign Website: anthonybrown.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** With three decades as a lawyer, in federal and state courts, Army JAG officer, and regulatory attorney, representing clients against big tobacco and pro bono clients, and with twenty-two years leading in the legislative and executive branches of government, I bring the breadth of experience needed to lead and manage the Attorney General's Office, the largest public interest law firm in Maryland.

**ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE:** As Attorney General, while I represent state government, I work for the people. They deserve efficiency and fairness of legal processes—criminal, civil and administrative. That begins with employing dedicated professionals who reflect Maryland's diversity and who are committed to equity and justice for all. I'll fight for needed reforms before the General Assembly and not accept the status quo.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** I am an original cosponsor of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act which seeks to improve police accountability, I supported the First Step Act to reduce recidivism, and I advocated in Annapolis for a ban on "ghost guns." I will seek pattern or practice investigation authority over police misconduct, and I will continue to advocate for stricter gun laws such as universal background checks.

**PUBLIC HEALTH:** These issues require greater public awareness and education on the risks and signs associated with them. Regarding domestic violence, I led the 2009 effort to authorize judges to order domestic abusers to surrender their firearms, eight months after my cousin was killed by her estranged boyfriend. I'll work, as I have in the past, with advocates to develop best practices to address these issues.

**JUVENILE JUSTICE:** We need to treat children like children and not treat them in a way that turns them into hardened criminals. Juvenile justice should focus on restorative justice, not retribution and punishment. Absent the involvement of a firearm, most misdemeanor offenses committed by juveniles should be resolved through diversionary programs, not incarceration. Mental health and educational services are a must.

**CONSUMER PROTECTION:** The Consumer Protection Division safeguards Marylanders' health, hard-earned dollars, and identity. I'll combat price-gouging at the pumps and in the grocery stores, take action against predatory lenders, protect seniors and vulnerable individuals from fraudulent scams, prosecute businesses engaging in deceptive and unfair trade practices, and prevent anticompetitive pricing by large corporations.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** The Attorney General is engaged in a wide range of issues across the enterprise of state government. Other top priorities for me will be addressing climate change, enforcing environmental standards and environmental justice; protecting workers' rights and enforcing labor standards; protecting civil and voting rights of all Marylanders; and defending against assaults on women's reproductive rights.

#### Katie Curran O'Malley

Campaign Website: www.katieformd.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have 30 years of experience working in Maryland's court rooms as an Assistant State's Attorney and as a District Court judge. I know how the criminal justice system works and how it doesn't. I will use that experience to protect Marylanders from rising crime, fight for a woman's right to choose, and defend Marylanders voting rights.

**ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE:** As a prosecutor and judge for 30 years, I understand the flaws of the justice system. I support reforming juvenile justice to prioritize compassionate rehabilitation, establishing a right to counsel in housing and immigration courts, and creating Sentencing and Conviction Review Unit to investigate wrongful convictions.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Since 2015, gun violence in Maryland has risen 36% while we all witnessed countless senseless police-involved killings. We can only achieve safer communities through equitable policing. I will work to reduce gun violence by prioritizing gun trafficking prosecutions, while simultaneously partnering with local and national advocacy groups to establish community-based law enforcement policies.

**PUBLIC HEALTH:** What actions will you take to address issues such as domestic violence, human trafficking or substance abuse?

Defending survivors has been a cornerstone of my career as a prosecutor and judge. As Attorney General, I will work to reduce the rape kit backlog, advocate for strong sexual assault laws, and ensure victims services are easily accessible for survivors of abuse, trafficking, and assault.

JUVENILE JUSTICE: We need to prioritize compassion and rehabilitation in juvenile justice, acknowledging that these children need guidance. I supported the General Assembly's recent juvenile justice reform laws. Non-incarceration solutions must be our priority. Moreover, we must expand educational programs that reorient juveniles towards healthy and productive lives.

**CONSUMER PROTECTION:** To protect our state's consumers, I will take on corporations and individuals that threaten Marylanders' economic liberties. As a past white collar crime prosecutor, I will bring cases that challenge predatory actors, corporate monopolies, and lobby for the President to forgive student loan debt. I will especially ensure that our seniors are protected from fraud and scams.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Voting rights and reproductive rights are two of my top priorities. Americans are facing an unprecedented conservative assault on our democratic and reproductive freedoms. When elected Attorney General, I will be a tenacious advocate – in courtrooms and in legislatures – for these basic freedoms.

#### U.S. Senator

**DUTIES:** U.S. Senators make laws along with the members of the U.S. House of Representatives. They also ratify treaties and conduct investigations on issues of national importance. The Senate confirms presidential appointments, including Supreme Court justices.

TERM: Six years. No term limit.

**ANNUAL SALARY:** \$174,000.

**HOW ELECTED:** Elected statewide. In 2022, Maryland voters will elect one of our two Senators. About one-third of the 100 members of the Senate are elected every two years.

WEBSITE: senate.gov/

#### **Questions**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for the duties of United States Senator?

**ELECTIONS:** What should the federal government's role be in the election process?

**COURT SYSTEM:** What measures, if any, would you support to reform the US federal court system?

**HEALTH CARE:** What changes in federal health care policy do you advocate and why?

**IMMIGRATION:** What changes would you propose in immigration policy?

**ENVIRONMENT:** How do you balance environmental concerns with the goal of strengthening our country's infrastructure and economy?

**GUN SAFETY:** Please provide your position on federal gun safety legislation.

OTHER PRIORITIES: What other issues are priorities for you?

#### **Republican Candidates:**

#### Vote for 1

Chris ChaffeeNo response received by print deadline.George DavisNo response received by print deadline.Nnabu EzeNo response received by print deadline.

#### Lorie R. Friend

Campaign Website: electafriend.org

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a woman of middle age, a mother, of three wonderful children, and a seasoned nurse at a hospital for over 25 years. I always rise to the call of duty, make hard call when stakes are high, and I am effective in complex and challenging institutional settings.

**ELECTIONS:** There is a present attempt by the Federal government to usurp our constitutional state based election process. I do not support the Federal Government taking control of our election process by either party.

**COURT SYSTEM:** There is present movement to" pack" the Supreme Court. I am opposed to further politicization of the Supreme Court by either party.

**HEALTH CARE:** I passionately support the freedom of patients to make independent medical decisions with the counsel of their own doctors. I am equally opposed to generalized and politically motivated medical movements.

**IMMIGRATION:** While it is fair to say that brevity is often the heart of wit, to answer these complex questions in 50 words or less is far too limited. That being said, I support secure borders and reasonable immigration policy.

**ENVIRONMENT:** As a conservationist, I support policies for clean water and safe air for the health of our families, I support renewable energy that is affordable and efficient. At the same time, I recognize that we need to be energy efficient.

**GUN SAFETY:** This seems as though it is a loaded question. pun intended. Firearms are inherently dangerous; accordingly, I favor gun safety training. I support our natural right to defend ourselves and our families.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** INFLATION, INFLATION, INFLATION!!! This is in effect a stealth tax caused by our irresponsible monetary policy and the deficit spending by the federal government. I strongly oppose these policies.

#### Reba A. Hawkins

Campaign Website: rebaformaryland.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have spent time organizing on the ground in Baltimore helping the disadvantage fight against payday loans and predatory lending and for better education opportunities. I have also been a small business owner for over 20 years.

**ELECTIONS:** The federal government should take an active role in safeguarding the right to vote for everyone. The John Lewis Act should be passed.

**COURT SYSTEM:** The most important is protecting the right to counsel by extending the time to acquire counsel for defendants from 21 days to 31 days

**HEALTH CARE:** Our healthcare system needs an overhaul. We have a staff shortage. I would support programs to help cover the cost of education for those in the healthcare field.

**IMMIGRATION:** We need to fix our broken immigration system. Anyone that wants to come and take part in the American Dream should be able to. I would support a pathway to citizenship for those already here and active in our society.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Our environment is important. Our infrastructure is import. We can strike a balance between the two. We never have to sacrifice one for the other.

**GUN SAFETY:** I am a supporter of the second amendment, and I believe in constitutional gun safety. The right to protect oneself and family is paramount, but we absolutely must address gun violence and mass shootings.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** We must do everything we can to support Black Women business owners who have been the drivers of our economy. I will work every day of my term to help remove red tape and access to capital. I will fight everyday to bring manufacturing to the USA and bring back apprenticeship for trades we need.

Jon McGreevey
No response by print deadline.

No response by print deadline.

Todd A. Puglisi
No response by print deadline.

James Tarantin
No response by print deadline.

No response by print deadline.

No response by print deadline.

#### **Democratic Candidates**

Vote for 1

Michelle L. Smith No response by print deadline.

#### **Chris Van Hollen**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I'm running for the U.S. Senate to uphold our values of justice, equality, and freedom; to protect our democracy; and to continue to deliver real results for Maryland. I've fought successfully to bring key investments to support our schools and students, modernize our infrastructure, protect the Chesapeake Bay, provide more affordable health care and housing, and help our seniors and veterans.

**ELECTIONS:** Every voice must be heard to achieve the goals of our democracy. I'm an original sponsor of the Freedom to Vote Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Act to fortify our democracy against the Big Lie, protect the right to vote, and end voter suppression. Both go hand-in-hand with my fight to rid our elections of secret, dark money that puts special interests ahead of the American people.

**COURT SYSTEM:** An independent judiciary made up of diverse voices is a key element of democracy and freedoms. We need to preserve and protect it from those trying to undermine the Constitutional rights it aims to safeguard. I'm working to confirm federal judges with an unwavering commitment to protecting Americans' rights and freedoms and delivering equal justice under the law.

**HEALTH CARE:** All Americans need affordable health care. I have defended the Affordable Care Act against GOP attacks and worked to increase access to mental health and other services with a goal of universal care. I have championed bills to reduce prescription drug and health care costs including allowing Medicare to negotiate on drug prices, tackle the medical debt crisis, and end health disparities.

**IMMIGRATION:** America is a nation of immigrants, from our founding to today. I believe that enabling immigrants to become a strong and vital part of our country is not only consistent with our values but is a proven path to strengthening our economic future. I support comprehensive immigration reform, which combines a path to citizenship for Dreamers, TPS recipients, and others with effective border security.

**ENVIRONMENT:** We must address the climate crisis. I proposed the Polluters Pay Climate Fund plan to require the worst polluters like Big Oil to help cover climate clean-up costs. We can grow our clean energy economy, prevent more damage, and create good-paying jobs. The new infrastructure law advances that goal with funds for the Bay, climate change, and cleaner options, like transit and electric vehicles.

**GUN SAFETY:** Too many Marylanders face the loss of loved from gun violence. We need common-sense reforms like universal background checks, and reinstating federal bans on high-capacity magazines and semi-automatic assault weapons. We can build on executive actions on limiting ghost guns, expand community violence prevention programs, and pass my legislation for stronger oversight enhancing gun safety.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** We must build a stronger, more inclusive economy with more shared prosperity. We can end tax giveaways for the super wealthy and increase paychecks for working families while cutting everyday costs on everything from prescription drugs to child care. Also, it's vital that we protect Americans' freedoms and pass the Women's Health Protection Act to codify the legal right to reproductive choice.

#### U. S. Representative

**DUTIES:** Representatives make laws along with the members of the Senate and may conduct investigations on issues of national importance. Laws that impose taxes always begin in the House of Representatives. Representatives can recommend that the Senate remove from office a public official accused of a crime.

TERM: Two years.

**ANNUAL SALARY:** \$174,000.

**HOW ELECTED:** Elected by voters in each congressional district. Maryland has eight of the 435 Representatives, based on the state's population in the 2020 Census.

Website:house.gov

#### **Questions**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for the duties of a Representative in the United States Congress?

**ELECTIONS:** What should the federal government's role be in the election process?

**COURT SYSTEM:** What measures, if any, would you support to reform the US federal court system?

**HEALTH CARE:** What changes in federal health care policy do you advocate and why?

**IMMIGRATION:** What changes would you propose in immigration policy?

**ENVIRONMENT:** How do you balance environmental concerns with the goal of strengthening our country's infrastructure and economy?

**GUN SAFETY:** Please provide your position on federal gun safety legislation.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** What other issues are priorities for you?

Congressional
Districts
for
Baltimore City



#### **Representative in Congress District 2**

#### **Republican Candidates**

Vote for 1

**Nicolee Ambrose** No response by print deadline.

**Berney Flowers** 

Campaign Website: berneyflowers.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a career Military Officer, retiring at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel after nearly 21 years of active duty and deployments to Iraq, Afghanistan, S. Korea and the Ukraine. After retiring from the Air Force, I spent nearly 2 years in private industry, and then another 13 years as a civil servant working in leadership roles in the Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, etc.

**ELECTIONS:** I believe the Federal government's role in elections should be limited to monitoring campaign contributions, ensuring that election standards are fair across the states and territories and that there is no foreign influence.

The Federal government should remain neutral, but available to support the states, if asked.

**COURT SYSTEM:** I like the "First Step Act that cuts federal drug sentences for lesser drug crimes. I would like to see a reduction in the reliance on the private prison systems, which I believe to interested only in profit and not the improvement of the lives of prisoners. I would like to see less activist judges and more adherence to the principles of the US Constitution.

**HEALTH CARE:** I believe that, Health Care should be accessible and affordable for all Americans while respecting the sovereignty and dignity of individual citizens. We must separate the issue of Health Insurance and Health Care. The recent COVID crisis illustrated the potential of our government to reach too far into the liberty and privacy of American citizens.

**IMMIGRATION:** America was founded as a bold experiment designed to demonstrate the possibility of creating a society governed by ordinary citizens. We have a process for legal immigration. We should enforce the immigration laws that we have in place. Legal immigrants who come to this country to become part of the Great American Melting Pot must realize that American Culture comes first.

**ENVIRONMENT:** I believe Americans should be good stewards of our environment. However, I also believe that we should use our environment for the betterment of the people living upon it. We will have to make hard choices in the future if we plan for our children to enjoy the high standard of living that the current generation of Americans enjoy.

**GUN SAFETY:** I believe in the US Constitution's 2nd Amendment, the right of the people to keep and bear arms. People who wish to maintain legal firearms should be allowed to do so. We should focus on removing unlicensed firearms from this country. The ability to register and maintain firearms should not be interfered with.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** On my first day in Congress, I will fight for School Choice & Vouchers so parents can choose the best education for their children. The roughly \$18K we spend in kids education in Baltimore should be given to parents for them to decide what school their kids attend. I support law enforcement. Crime in our community is out of control. Murder in Baltimore must be reigned in.

#### Michael A. Geppi

Campaign Website: www.mikegeppi.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am the only GOP candidate who has been elected as a legislator. I am a professor of management and economics and have started multiple tech companies. I keep my team with me. I ran the MD Dept. of Health as Deputy Secretary with a budget of \$13 billion and 8,500 people. I have had the some of the same staff for over 20 years. I love my

team and will have the best run office on the Hill.

**ELECTIONS:** The federal government should ensure that all ballots are secure and counted properly by maintaining close relationships with state boards of election. This country has a long history of foul play in the electoral process. Again, every citizen should be entitled to one vote that is accurately and safely counted.

**COURT SYSTEM:** I would lower the retirement age for federal judges and work to keep the judiciary independent of political influence. I find the recent protests in front of judge's homes to be repugnant.

**HEALTH CARE:** As a healthcare executive, having supervised multiple hospitals, the cost of healthcare needs to be driven down with competition and proper incentive alignment. We will be issuing a policy paper on this subject.

**IMMIGRATION:** The borders of the United States must be secured, period. Enough political grandstanding. Both parties are guilty. Close our borders, depot criminals immediately and create a fair system for legal immigration. My family fled fascism and communism in Europe. I believe in LEGAL immigration. Stop making a farce of our laws and sovereignty.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Climate change is a normal course of this planet's existence. We need to implement common sense measures. However, the United States can not stand alone while China, Russia, and other developing nations spew carbon into the air. Republicans, like Teddy Roosevelt, were the original environmentalists. I went to North Harford High School where the environment was respected!

**GUN SAFETY:** I fully support the 2nd Amendment, PERIOD. Responsible firearm owners must use safes, locks, and other measures to balance safety with self defense. As a former police officer, I have been fully trained not only to shoot accurately, but safely and in a conscious manner for civilians.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** 1. As a former police officer, injured in the line of duty, I support disbanding the Baltimore Police Dept and re-forming it due to failed leadership. 2. I am an economist and have long argued that inflation is the leading cause of war in modern history. 3. My students at the University of MD are scared to speak their minds for fear of receiving poor grades or being cancelled.

#### **Lance Griffin**

Campaign Website: www.LanceGriffinForCongress.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Representative's first duty is to take an oath to support and defend the Constitution. I have taken a similar oath as an enlistee in the Maryland Army National Guard, as an officer through OCS, as a Baltimore County Police Officer, and as a Special Agent with the FBI. I have a lifetime of experience of upholding this oath, and thereby protecting the Rights of the People of the United States.

**ELECTIONS:** The federal government's role is limited pursuant to the Constitution. Albeit for federal elections, the federal government's role should be regulating campaign finance; assisting the States with election security to respond to threats beyond normal state/local capabilities; ensuring no voter discrimination based on race, sex, or disability; and facilitate voting by the military overseas.

**COURT SYSTEM:** I do not believe there should be an increase in the number of Supreme Court Justices. There should be no packing of the Court. I do believe there is the need for an increase in the number of lower court judges due to the workload and complexity of issues.

**HEALTH CARE:** I believe that there should be legislation to increase greater competition within the health care system to include the expansion of the number of medical schools. Also, there should be an expansion of the availability and usage of Health Care Savings Plans. I am not for a public option or a single payer system. Countries with a system like that have poor service compared to the U.S.

IMMIGRATION: Propose legislation that anyone who is in violation of Federal Immigration Law should be remanded to their country of citizenship. Legal immigrants should have to work 80 quarters to be eligible for SSA or Medicare benefits to extend the Trust Funds. The E-verify system should be required usage for all companies and governments receiving federal funds, or that sub-contract using federal funds.

**ENVIRONMENT:** We can do both. We need energy that is cheap, abundant, and reliable while also being produced within the purview of the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act. It does no good to destroy the environment in the pursuit of an energy source. We have the technology to minimize our infrastructure footprint while continuing the high standard of living for Americans.

**GUN SAFETY:** Gun ownership is constitutionally protected. Federal gun safety legislation infringing upon same would be in violation. There should be more federal prosecutions for those that make a False Statement on ATF Form 4473 especially regarding questions about drug usage and being mentally defective. I am aware of the suicide rate by firearm and would advocate families to seek EPs for those in need.

OTHER PRIORITIES: The National Debt is over \$30 trillion, interest in excess of \$400 million/day; this is unsustainable. We need to make difficult decisions to get our house in fiscal order. Pay cut for Congress.

Education accountability-Federal money needs to follow the student due to the unacceptable record of some public schools. We want students to achieve. Schools not achieving need cameras inside.

Ellen "EJ" McNulty No response by print deadline.

#### **Dave Wallace**

Campaign Website: WallaceforAmerica.com

QUALIFICATIONS: I'm not a career politician. My Love of America & our Founding documents assure that I will abide by our U.S. Constitution. I have graduated with honors in Biology & worked in Research. I started my successful business of 40 years during the Reagan Revolution. I have been making and keeping promises to my customers. Further I founded RESTOREAMERICASMISSION; I founded FAIREnergyFoundation.org

**ELECTIONS:** The Constitutional provisions for election are clear. The Federal Government must stick to those provisions. The States role is also clearly delineated and those too must be followed to the letter of the Constitution. We need voter Id free of charge to any person if they don't have a valid id, rules to clear registration rolls to prevent cheating. End Mail in ballot; Easy to vote, hard to cheat

**COURT SYSTEM:** I oppose Supreme Court expansion. I support Keep 9.

There is no need to expand the federal court system.

The Federal Government should not be investigating Parents at school board meetings. It should be prosecuting federal crimes.

**HEALTH CARE:** I support transparency in HEALTHCARE & cost of health care procedures. It's important that health insurance plans can be customized to suit each person. I believe we maintain the Hyde Amendment to prevent federal money from funding abortion. Medicaid &VA healthcare needs to be privatized to assure good healthcare for poor. COVID Immunization is a private choice.

IMMIGRATION: Enforce the Law! I'd assure we reinstate the Southern Border. Reinstate Keep in Mexico policy. Complete the wall.

Except for emergency healthcare end federal welfare for illegal aliens. Assure legal immigration of the best and brightest. Hold President Biden accountable to uphold our Immigration Laws. Expand 287g, federal deputization of local law enforcement, as a force multiplier.

**ENVIRONMENT:** We need to assure permitting and leases are streamlined and not impeded for frivolous reasons. America needs to utilize its vast God Given Resources. Especially It's fossil fuels as well copper and iron as well as other minerals to assure robust economic growth. Our goal is to make America energy dominant and swing producers. We must restore private property rights to assure private mineral rights

GUN SAFETY: The Second Amendment is clear. It's the Right of the people to keep and bear arms. Further, we need to assure that we have authorized recognized militias under the auspices of the States.

OTHER PRIORITIES: Energy Security, The Federal reserve has proven itself to be useless in its role to control inflation. End Inflation by implementing the Gold Standard. We must assure Law enforcement is assured qualified immunity to protect all citizens from criminals.

We must codify the protection of parents as decided by the Supreme Court. We need to end CRT & indoctrination in schools & Add Civics 3Rs

#### **Democratic Candidates**

#### Vote for 1

#### **George Croom**

Campaign Website: www.croomforcongress.com

QUALIFICATIONS: I'm a leader. I've led soldiers as an officer in the Army National Guard for 7 years. I've been a business owner and Government Affairs Director for multiple companies and the Department of Defense giving me a thorough knowledge of the political process and how to make progress.

**ELECTIONS:** We need to make a constitutional amendment to take the federal election process away from the states. For state and local elections the state can govern themselves. However, federal employees should control the process and regulations of electing officials at the national level.

**COURT SYSTEM:** The federal courts, to include the Supreme Court, should be elected by the people by way of a constitutional amendment. Allowing partisan elected officials to decide who sits on the courts denies the will of the people to have an impact on how they're governed.

**HEALTH CARE:** While the ACA made great strides to provide insurance there needs to be a public option for all that want it. Congressionally we need to have oversight on how hospitals and insurance companies charge individuals seeking care to ensure that no person is denied adequate access to healthcare.

IMMIGRATION: I'll propose stand-alone immigrant integration and education legislation. We must properly integrate newcomers by providing pathways to success through education, healthcare, and employment that make the American dream possible. My plan provides the framework for proper integration of immigrants and their families living in Maryland and around the country.

**ENVIRONMENT:** I'll support US participation in the Paris Climate Agreement. I'll back the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, placing a price tag on carbon emissions and funding bold climate change initiatives. In addition, I'll push to use the US military's training and expertise to build our country back better.

GUN SAFETY: I'll propose a Universal Background check for every gun purchase, supported by a mental health HIPAA waiver that ensures everyone purchasing a firearm is mentally equipped to handle it.

OTHER PRIORITIES: I'll introduce legislation to fund non-profit state prisons. I'll push for proper transition of military members to civilian life. I'll support the removal of roadblocks that hinder the creation and maintenance of small businesses. I'll incentivize investors that create low-income rentals and develop affordable homes for the middle class.

#### **Marques Dent**

Campaign Website: marquesdent.com

QUALIFICATIONS: I served in the Air Force during one of the most volatile times in the nation's history. My missions included Operation Iraqi

Freedom, The Gulf Oil Spill, the Syrian Crisis and the North Korean Crisis.

In 2010, I began working at the Pentagon, where I supported the Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff in the National Military Command Center. I believe in building a better District 2.

**ELECTIONS:** We need to take a hard look at the Electoral Count Act and understand how to strengthen it to ensure Jan 6 never happens again.

**COURT SYSTEM:** The confirmation of judge Ketanji Brown Jackson is the first step to reformation. She is one of one, but we desperately need more of her and then true generational progress with be achieved. I will work with the top legal minds in the nation to ensure we push for sustainable reformation that will last the test of time. As a Nation we are in a no fail situation. Lives and family are at stake.

**HEALTH CARE:** Maryland is home to some of the very best hospitals, medical research institutions and health care facilities in the entire world - and that's something we should all be proud of. But at the same time, somany Marylanders can't access those institutions or even afford very basic care - and that shouldn't be the case.

IMMIGRATION: As a nation we must have a responsible and caring response to undocumented immigrants. Gaining legal status would mean three things for people now living in the US illegally. First, they woultr no longer be subject to deportation solely because they're in the country illegally, if they are law abiding in other ways.

Second, they would be authorized to work.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Climate change, which continues to pose a tremendous threat to our state, has cost us \$10 billion over the past decade, and is expected to cost us \$19 billion in real estate damage alone this century. It is also causing increasingly severe storms, worsening pollution, poorer air quality, and more frequent extreme heat events, burdening low-income communities and communities of color the most.

GUN SAFETY: I have lost countless members of my family and friends and students to gun violence. As an educator and coach, I have had bury far too many of my students and players due gun violence. I will suppor, advocate and enforce the regulation of firearms. Ultimately, all illegal firearms need to removed from our streets.

OTHER PRIORITIES: Neurodiversity describes the idea that people experience and interact with the world around them in many ways; there is no one "right" way of thinking, learning, and behaving, and differences are not viewed as deficits. Speaking directly with speech therapist and parents of Autistic children, it's clear the Diversity and Inclusion efforts must be extended.

Liri Fusha

No response by print deadline.

#### **Dutch Ruppersberger**

Campaign Website: www.dutchforcongress.com

QUALIFICATIONS: I have held this position for ten terms, helping tens of thousands of constituents cut through government red tape. I serve on the House Appropriations Committee and have secured hundreds of millions of dollars for Maryland infrastructure, schools, the Bay, local police and fire departments. Prior, I served as Baltimore County Executive, County Councilman and worked as a prosecutor.

**ELECTIONS:** We should update the Electoral Count Act (first passed in 1997) so that it cannot be exploited in an attempt to overturn a fair election again, as we saw on January 6, 2021. I also support HR1 to expand ballot access, end partisan gerrymandering and improve transparency in campaign finance. The federal government must also ensure our elections are secure.

**COURT SYSTEM:** We should remove the politicization of justices in the nomination process and ensure that federal judges are qualified as determined by the ABA Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary.

**HEALTH CARE:** We must strengthen the consumer protections provided by the Affordable Care Act by adding a public option that lowers prices by creating competition. We can also allow Americans to buy into Medicare at a younger age. We also must address soaring prescription drug prices that are generating record profits for the pharmaceutical industry at the expense of Americans in need of life-saving medicines.

**IMMIGRATION:** We should pass comprehensive immigration reform like S.744, which passed the Senate in 2013. It provided both sensible border security (with technology and manpower, not walls) and a reasonable path to citizenship. We should create a merit-based visa system to recruit the brightest minds into our country and provide asylum accommodations for victims of gang violence and sex trafficking.

**ENVIRONMENT:** We can rebuild aging infrastructure in sustainable ways, which is a primary goal of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The bill invests billions in clean energy through low-emission public transit fleets and in climate resilience, enabling communities to upgrade their critical infrastructure in ways that can sustain extreme weather events. These efforts will also create millions of jobs.

GUN SAFETY: I support: universal background checks for both gun and ammunition purchases, extending the background check review period, banning assault-style weapons, high-capacity magazines, and bump stocks and tougher penalties for straw purchases. People who have been convicted of misdemeanor hate crimes, as well as domestic abusers, should not be allowed to purchase guns.

OTHER PRIORITIES: Global inflation, pandemic-related supply chain backlogs and Putin's invasion of Ukraine has meant higher prices that are straining family budgets. I have supported efforts to reduce supply chain logjams and lower the costs of prescriptions, childcare, utility bills, gas and other everyday needs. The rising crime rates in urban areas across the country also remains a top priority.

#### Representative in Congress District 7

#### Republican Candidates:

#### Vote for 1

Ray Bly No response by print deadline. Scott M. Collier No response by print deadline. **Michael Pearson** No response by print deadline. Lorrie A. Sigley No response by print deadline.

#### **Democratic Candidates**

Vote for 1

Tashi Kimandus Davis

Campaign Website: www.tashidavisforcongress.org

QUALIFICATIONS: As a Baltimore native, U.S. Navy Veteran, Police Officer, and Program Manager, my journeyman service has more than prepared me for the responsibilities of Public Service. I see and understand the programmatic failures and requirements of our District, and know myself to be, not just capable of working with our District's leadership for resolution, but to also bring a dutiful mindset to the Capital

**ELECTIONS:** Recent events have shown numerous flaws and the potential for corruptibility, when it comes to our Nation's election process, when left to the respective States. This is a sad and inconvenient truth that needs swift mitigation. I believe an increased Federal oversight is required at this point. And not just to protect of the integrity of the Democratic process, but those executing it as well.

P.14 COURT SYSTEM: In addition to term limits, & with the understanding that

Federal Judges are picked by our POTUS, I would like to see increased participation, in the selection process, at the State & Local levels. With almost twice as many Federal Courts as States to house them, many of these Judges end up residing over jurisdictions they came up in. Local leadership could assist with their selection (or non).

**HEALTH CARE:** It remains a travesty that, in the wealthiest and most technologically advanced country in the world, Health Care remains leading cause of financial distress. If elected, I will keep a sharp focus and press on lowering prescription drug prices while applying pressure to healthcare providers for better coverage of patients with pre-existing conditions, to include Mental Health as a pre-exister.

IMMIGRATION: As a nation descended from and built by immigrants, we must not forget the advantages of filling our cities and towns with those who risk so much to come here, and only because they see the greatness and opportunity our Nation offers. The only change I would propose, is that we focus more on the legalization of the immigrants who are already here and being productive in their communities.

**ENVIRONMENT:** We have long been in need of an increased focus and diligence towards Environmental preservation and betterment. These past years have seen an increase in catastrophic weather events, communities dealing with dilapidation, unclean water and air, and the financial strain they've put on our economy. If elected, I will align myself with any legislation geared towards its cleanliness and repair.

GUN SAFETY: Sadly, about 12 out of every 100K Marylanders perish due to gun violence annually, with our city being on track to (again) surpass 330 shooting deaths for the year of 2022. It's imperative that our District pursues tougher gun laws & penalties for their usage. And it's no longer feasible to just go after repeat offenders. If elected, I intend to legislate the "pause" that's needed for those who se

OTHER PRIORITIES: Education Reform. Maryland ranks 2nd, nationwide, in education. However, our District fails to place a Public High School in the top 10 (statewide). Additionally, we can't ignore the direct correlation between our (lapsing) education system & our District's crime rate. If elected, I will lend myself to efforts that involve better schooling for our Children & increased pay for our Educators. **Effort** 

#### Elihu Eli El

Campaign Website: www.empathyandproblemsolving.com

QUALIFICATIONS: My career is not full of political alliances and gamesmanship. I am a career problem solver with ONLY these goals:

Ensure your safety and well-being.

Allocate resources in equitable and S.M.A.R.T. manners.

Would our children be healthy by running meetings or talking about feeding them instead of addressing their urgent need for healthy meals? Similarly, taxpayers deserve results, not meetings.

**ELECTIONS:** States should enact election laws that accommodate the needs of their citizens. However, the power of voting should not be diluted by gerrymandering enabled by intentional manipulations of malevolent partisan actors. I will fight to ensure that elections are constitutionally fair and safe as interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

**COURT SYSTEM:** Our US federal court system job does a poor job at defining and serving victims and citizens filing as plaintiffs. I will enact legislation that addresses complexities associated with consumer and environmental crime victimization. Federal lawsuits by filed victims are far too expensive for regular folks to receive justice. By voting for me, we can end hundreds of years of legalized victimization.

HEALTH CARE: Federal health should be a solution, not a continual debate or dispute. I will enact legislation that will commission a team of the best experts in health care to assess our nation's progress toward

elimination of disparities in health care. Following thorough analysis of solutions that have worked around the world, I will quickly work to enact solutions that will ensure equitable health care.

IMMIGRATION: I am a humanitarian and human dignity has no borders. I will solve our border crisis by addressing the root causes that compel immigrant refugees and asylum seekers to risk their lives to travel from their homelands in the first doggone place. Also, I will enact legislation equipping U.S. diplomats with the tools to find common ground with countries around the world.

**ENVIRONMENT:** I will enact legislation that prohibits the use of toxic "forever chemicals" called PFAS in the manufacture of fire fighter protective gear and clothing. PFAS is linked to kidney, testicular, prostate, breast, liver, and ovarian cancers, among other diseases. More than 66% of textiles generated in a year end up in landfills, according to 2018 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) data.

**GUN SAFETY:** We are all products of our exposures and experiences. There are many factors that contribute to people being desensitized to any respect for humanity. In regard to gun safety, radio and internet content should be rated similar to movies and TV shows by enacting an Internet Safety Act. The lure of dysfunctional culture can be regulated. Study this video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94zTrkr5\_xY

OTHER PRIORITIES: It is a crying shame that we can not safely eat fish caught within our local waters.

It is a crying shame that politics is more focused on competition and enforcing ideology than helping folks live their best lives possible.

It is a crying shame that we have poverty in Maryland.

It is a crying shame that we can not safely walk our streets day or night.

By voting for me, we will stop the crying.

Wayne "For Freedom" McNeal

No response by print deadline.

#### Kweisi Mfume

Campaign Website: MfumeforCongress.com

QUALIFICATIONS: An effective member of Congress must have the ability to listen to people, understand their concerns, empathize, and turn the needs of the people into real legislative action. As a former member of Congress and current member of Congress, I have successfully demonstrated those abilities in difficult times and effectively carried out the duties of a congressional representative with distinction.

**ELECTIONS:** The federal government must ensure full access to the election process by every eligible citizen. Further, the federal government must ensure the integrity of every election by having uniform, verifiable voting systems used in every state. I am a proud cosponsor of both the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and the For the People Act, crucia legislation passed by the U.S. House of Representatives.

COURT SYSTEM: While the federal judiciary is a third and equal branch of government, there is a growing concern with activist and potentially partisan rulings by some courts that do not appear to abide by well-established legal precedent and well-settled law. Congressional action to address those rulings is the most direct path to finding relief, although court reform is becoming a more viable consideration.

**HEALTH CARE:** I believe access to high quality and affordable health care is a right, not a privilege. I am an advocate for (i) lowering the cost of prescription drugs, (ii) lowering the age of Medicare eligibility, (iii) expanding the coverage of Medicare, (iv) expanding the Medicaid financial criteria so that more people are covered, and (v) ensuring people with preexisting conditions can afford insurance.

IMMIGRATION: Immigrants built America through hard work and a commitment to a "melting pot" of cultures. Our diversity is our cultural and economic strength. Unfortunately the rhetoric around immigration P.15 policy often becomes too divisive and unproductive. I try to cut through

that divisiveness and support a pathway to citizenship option for those new immigrants who want to help build a better America.

**ENVIRONMENT:** We must (i) commit to alternative fuel sources that are cleaner and healthier for the environment, (ii) invest in preparing a workforce for cleaner, "greener" jobs, (iii) invest in cleaner public transportation options, (iv) continue to invest in the health of the Chesapeake Bay and other American treasures, and (v) never seek short term gains that cause longer term environmental damage.

**GUN SAFETY:** I am a staunch advocate for federal gun safety legislation. In this Congress, I cosponsored and helped pass in the U.S. House of Representatives (i) the Bipartisan Background Checks Act and (ii) the Enhanced Background Checks Act. I believe too many people have access to too many guns and that access is the root cause of the violence we see locally and across the nation.

OTHER PRIORITIES: Crime and education are the most pressing issues facing our community. All of us have a role to play in addressing these critical issues. They underpin many of the divides we see from community to community, including the divides we see with the wealth gap, health gap, housing access, food access, and access to other opportunities. I urge all of us to address these priorities together.

#### **State Senator**

**DUTIES:** State Senators represent residents in each legislative district in the Maryland General Assembly. The General Assembly enacts laws, raises revenue through taxes and fees, and appropriates funds for all state agencies in an annual budget. The General Assembly may propose amendments to the state Constitution for ratification by the voters. The Senate also confirms the Governor's appointments of judges and the heads of certain government agencies.

TERM: Four years. No term limit.

**ANNUAL SALARY:** \$52,343 as of January 11, 2023.

**HOW ELECTED:** Elected districtwide. The state is divided into 47 legislative districts. Each district is represented by one State Senator.

WEBSITE: msa.maryland.gov/msa/mdmanual/07leg/html/gaf.html

**QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for the duties of State Senator?

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** What role should the state play in addressing the needs of economically disadvantaged people in Maryland?

PUBLIC SAFETY: What policies do you favor to reduce crime in Maryland while improving police accountability in communities?

EDUCATION: What actions will you take to improve education in Maryland, especially given the impact of the COVID pandemic?

HEALTH: What are the most significant health challenges facing Maryland and how will you address them?

NATURAL RESOURCES: What is your greatest concern regarding Maryland's natural resources/environment, and how will you address it?

LOCAL PROJECTS: What issues or projects are your priority for your own

OTHER PRIORITIES: What other issues are priorities for you?

#### **State Senator District 40**

#### **Republican Candidates:**

Vote for 1

#### **Christopher Anderson**

Campaign Website: www.tinyurl.com/electchris

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have worked in a bipartisan way with politics in Annapolis even before I ran for office as an political activist & lobbyist. I serve on the city's Central Committee making decisions for our city now & have on the state level as well. I have also traveled to different parts of the state helping other Central committees & members. I've help in Harford, Howard, Garrett & Baltimore counties.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** The state should start by lowering taxes & passing laws the benefit the economically disadvantage people of MD. Take, for instance, the inheritance tax that drives our senior citizens to other states to retire. We should be making better tax breaks to keep our seniors in their state not drive them away. Lowering taxes should also be a priority for our residents each legislative cycle.

PUBLIC SAFETY: One policy that I've already initiated by one of the first petitions to Congress was the support of police body cameras. Because of that petition, that got pushed back to the states, we have police body cameras as a reality in Maryland today. I also participated in the Freddy Gray uprising & as a result of those demonstrations, we have new laws in Maryland protecting our citizens upon arrest today

EDUCATION: Our current education, school to prison pipeline, is a failure. We need to tear it down & build it from scratch. We should fire the CEO, elect a new school board, & fire or recall anyone in city hall that supports that failed system that keeps failing our children. I support school choice for immediate relief for our parents. Parents should have the right to choose what school their children can go to.

HEALTH: We know that good health is not created equally. I believe that everyone deserves equal access to good health care coverage. People without insurance are less likely to receive care and more likely to have poor health. In 2016, Maryland's uninsured rate for all age groups was 5.6%, lower than the national average. We need to help people to put things in place to improve our health care system.

NATURAL RESOURCES: Out-of-state power plants are impacting our air quality in Maryland. A solution is needed to address pollution now. Maryland needs a science-based method to identify areas most at risk for phosphorus pollution as well. Our Soil should be tested to determine how much phosphorus it contains & when there is more phosphorus in our soil the excess runs off the fields and into nearby streams. We can do P.16 this

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** In Maryland, nearly 90% of drug overdose deaths involved opioids, the hardest hit area in Maryland is district 40. The opioid epidemic has spawned state efforts to develop strategies that involve law enforcement, public health, Medicaid, and other state agencies. Effectively coordinating these efforts will likely prove to be the key to reducing deaths. This will be my no.1 priority in district 40.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Addressing the inheritance tax for our seniors, the opioid crisis, food deserts in district 40 & the opportunity zones that would revitalize the Sandtown Mondawmin area are priority issues for me. Also helping our healthcare system & building a better school system for our children's future is a main priority as well. Addressing food insecurity and revitalizing district 40 will help out our state.

gaps. Decades of neglect, and disinvestment have prevented the rehabilitation of abandoned and vacant properties. SB 859 would administer financial assistance to affordable housing developers in low-income areas.

#### **State Senator District 41**

#### **Democratic Candidates**

Vote for 1

Jill P. Carter

No response received by print deadline.

#### (No Republican Candidates)

#### Democratic Candidates

#### Vote for 1

#### **Antonio Hayes**

Campaign Website: antoniohayes.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** The last four years in the State Senate have prepared me well to continue to serve the people of the 40th district. Prior to the Senate I served four years in the Maryland House of Delegates, several years as Assistant Deputy Mayor for Baltimore City and Chief of Staff for the largest human services organization in Maryland.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** We must address the housing crisis and ensure that housing is affordable for our residents all across the state. No one should have to choose between putting food on the table and getting treatment for cancer, caring for their newborn, or comforting a parent during their last days. SB275 will establish a system for paid medical and family leave that covers all working Marylanders.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** I worked to pass Senate Bill 929, also known as the "P.R.O.T.E.C.T Act," which is a solution meant to target the violent crime in Baltimore City and surrounding areas around the state. This bill lays out the implementation of resources and crime prevention measures targeting high-crime micro-zones. The act creates special coordinated teams to focus on increased supervision of violent offenders.

**EDUCATION:** Every person in Maryland deserves a quality, comprehensive education that will benefit them as they grow through life. During this past session in the Senate, we allocated \$7.9B for Maryland public schools, an increase of an estimated 6.8% from last year, in addition to another \$800 million as a downpayment on the Blueprint for Maryland's Future.

**HEALTH:** Currently the most significant health crisis facing Marylanders is the COVID-19 pandemic. Each new variant poses new challenges and health issues for our residents and continues to affect everyone and even those who have been vaccinated. In the 2021 legislative session, I introduced the "Maryland Health Equity Resource Act," HERC Program, which provided a total of \$59 million over several years.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** My Senate colleagues and I passed the Climate Solutions Act of 2022 (SB528) to set bold, aggressive, and practical goals for reducing Maryland's emissions of greenhouse gasses 60% by 2030 and reaching net neutral emissions by 2045. If we can, as a state, work towards lowering our carbon emissions and to net zero emissions, we can set a precedent for surrounding states to do the same.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** I have championed legislation that will allocate money for the West North Avenue Development Authority project to revitalize North Avenue in Baltimore City that will go towards cleaning up and restoring North Avenue business. This past session I also worked to pass the Paid Family and Medical Leave Act that will ensure 12 weeks of paid family and sick leave.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Another priority is to address the appraisal gap. SB 859 will make financial assistance available to affordable housing developers working in low-income neighborhoods to close appraisal

#### **State Senator District 43**

#### **Democratic Candidates**

Vote for 1

#### **Mary Washington**

Campaign Website: www.senatormarywashington.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I approach my work with optimism and a relentless pursuit of fairness. I have distinguished myself as a leader in ensuring equitable education funding, and housing and services for unaccompanied homeless youth. My legislation centers on matters such digital and social media privacy and promoting affordable water, I have experience bringing agencies and advocates together to solve problems.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** The state needs to play an active role to enable Marylanders to build the resources they need to achieve economic security. We need to do this in many ways from ensuring living wages and access to health care; to making sure public schools are well resourced; to investing in public transit systems; to expanding the ability of people to form or join unions; to investing in job training programs.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** To reduce crime, we need to build trust between law enforcement and communities. Improving transparency and accountability also improves public trust and cooperation. I sponsored legislation requiring law enforcement agencies to make mental health support available to officers. In some cases, we can reduce crime by supplementing the work of police with support from health professionals.

**EDUCATION:** The Blueprint for Maryland's Future promises to make a difference in addressing the structural problems facing schools. Other education initiatives I will champion are the Community Schools strategy; accelerated learning through after-school and summer programs; support for teachers utilizing peer-to-peer coaching; and literacy coaches to support students who are not reading on grade level.

**HEALTH:** The most significant health challenges are access and equity: Too many Marylanders lack access to insurance and our problems fall disproportionately on Black and Brown communities. Although reforms have expanded coverage, about 350,000 Marylanders remain without insurance. In 2021 I was the lead sponsor of legislation that established the MD Commission on Health Equity.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Climate change poses a threat to our public health and the economy and disproportionately impacts Black and Brown communities. We need to increase the amount of energy we get from renewable energy. We need to retrofit older buildings to reduce carbon footprints. We need to invest in bus, train, and bike infrastructure. I was an early supporter of the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** The people, institutions, and businesses of the 43rd District share concerns about a range of issues that are critical to the quality of life, health, and economic security of our communities. Those

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concerns include reducing crime, enhancing educational opportunities for students, improving air quality, addressing the effects of climate change, and revitalizing the Greenmount/York Road corridors.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** My priorities include Expanding affordable housing; Decriminalizing substance abuse; Enabling youth struggling with homelessness or aging out of the foster care system to get access to support; Investing resources in communities that have suffered from disinvestment and racial discrimination; Protecting women's reproductive rights; and Protecting LGBTQ+ citizens against discrimination.

(No Republican Candidates)

#### **State Senator District 45**

#### **Democratic Candidates**

Vote for 1

**Cory V. McCray** No response by print deadline.

(No Republican Candidates)

#### **State Senator District 46**

#### **Republican Candidates**

Vote for 1

**Emmanuel Digman** No response by print deadline

#### **Democratic Candidates**

Vote for 1

**Bill Ferguson** No response by print deadline.

#### **House of Delegates**

**DUTIES:** Members of the House of Delegates represent residents in each legislative district in the Maryland General Assembly. The General Assembly enacts laws, raises revenue through taxes and fees, and appropriates funds for all state agencies in an annual budget. The General Assembly may propose amendments to the state Constitution for ratification by the voters.

TERM: Four years. No term limit.

**ANNUAL SALARY:** \$52,343 as of January 11, 2023.

**HOW ELECTED:** Elected districtwide. The state is divided into 47 legislative districts. Each district is represented by three Delegates, for a total of 141 Delegates statewide. Most of the Delegate districts are three-member at-large districts, but some areas of the State have a district subdivided into three single-member districts, or a one single-member district and one multi-member district.

**WEBSITE:** msa.maryland.gov/msa/mdmanual/07leg/html/gaf.html

#### **Questions**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for the duties of the House of Delegates?

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** What role should the state play in addressing the needs of economically disadvantaged people in Maryland?

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** What policies do you favor to reduce crime in Maryland while improving police accountability in communities?

**EDUCATION:** What actions will you take to improve education in Maryland, especially given the impact of the COVID pandemic?

**HEALTH:** What are the most significant health challenges facing Maryland and how will you address them?

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** What is your greatest concern regarding Maryland's natural resources/environment, and how will you address it?

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** What issues or projects are your priority for your own district?

OTHER PRIORITIES: What other issues are priorities for you?

#### **House of Delegates - District 40**

#### **Republican Candidates**

Vote for 1

Zulieka A. Baysmore No response by print deadline.

#### **Democratic Candidates**

Vote for up to 3

Marlon D. Amprey No response by print deadline.

Campaign Website: www.marlonamprey.com

#### **China Boak Terrell**

Campaign Website: www.chinaterrell.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Results set me apart from any other candidate. I'm 100% focused on making residents in Baltimore safer, healthier and wealthier. I'm the CEO of a national nonprofit, based in Baltimore. I'm a corporate lawyer, wife and mother, and used to be a foster mom. In four years, I've raised \$13.5 million to help rebuild Baltimore and \$1.5 million for small businesses. I fight for the working-class.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** The state's role is to provide resources and infrastructure! In Baltimore, we must raise incomes and improve quality of life in working-class neighborhoods, especially black and brown. Our communities need strong schools with small classes, street lighting, and repaired roads and sidewalks. Grocery, banks, and restaurants are needed too. We must build value and opportunity for the working-class.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** In Baltimore, I worked with residents to establish a volunteer comfort stop for police officers. It's helped strengthen police and resident relationships and officer morale. I support group violence reduction strategy, cognitive behavioral therapy for young people, reducing vacant properties from 40,000 to near zero, reviving PoliceAthletic Leagues, deep training and manageable workloads for BPD.

**EDUCATION:** Even before COVID, Baltimore City Public Schools struggled with children missing from school—especially our Black children. For school year 2018-19, 44% of Black children missed nearly a month or more of school. We must engage every child and end absenteeism. I am for

small classes, higher teacher pay, reliable student transportation, parent resources, and student and staff mental health services.

**HEALTH:** The cost of prescription drugs is too high; not everyone is insured; and some insurance has too many gaps. I support building on the Affordable Care Act, expanding government insurance options, and improving drug coverage. I am for automatic enrollment in health insurance. I want Maryland to expand insurance coverage for undocumented immigrants. Small businesses also need help with rising costs.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Net zero emissions and energy are the future of affordability and wealth-building. We must build on the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 with urgency. While green technology still sells at a premium, we must help make the journey toward net zero emissions and energy affordable for working-class communities and small businesses. I support developing incentives to offset the cost of going green.

LOCAL PROJECTS: West Baltimore (District 40) priorities:

- -Double recreation centers and improve programming;
- -Build stronger schools with small classes;
- -Eliminate gun violence;
- -Reduce vacant properties to near zero;
- -Build infrastructure, mass transit and amenities;
- -Build age-friendly communities;
- -Advocate for older adults in senior residences;
- -Keep streets and alleys clean;
- -Reduce water bills and taxes.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** We must raise incomes and help residents build wealth:

- -Establish a Baby Investment program;
- -Make the Earned Income Tax Credit one fully refundable credit up to 100% of the federal credit, paid out monthly and in advance;
- -Expand universal pre-K to age 3;
- -Peg minimum wage to inflation;
- -Champion competitive economic policies, including slashed real and personal property taxes in Baltimore City

Frank M. Conaway, Jr. No response by print deadline.

#### Cameron E. Green, Sr.

Campaign Website: www.greenforbaltimore.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I'm a dad, a first-generation college graduate, and an advocate for Baltimore youth and disadvantaged communities. Since matriculating at the former Northwestern High School I have listened to our families, small business owners, and faith leaders from neighborhoods across our City and we all can agree "Baltimore Deserves Better". I'm running because I believe through faith all things are possible

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** As one of the wealthiest states in the country, I believe our state must assist in addressing this issue. If elected, I would fully support a child allowance, universal income, and increasing the state wage. We also have the power to use state surplus as an investment tool to uplift those that have been historically disadvantaged.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** I believe that we have enough on the books, especially after the most recent General Assembly. We need to support a policy that removes repeat offenders, addresses ghost guns, and protects the most vulnerable, over-policing isn't the answer, however, the policy must be

put in place that ensures effectiveness, and efficiency.

**EDUCATION:** As an alumnus of Baltimore City Schools, I recognize that we must prioritize educational excellence. We must ensure that our educational ecosystem challenges our children's intellectual curiosity. I will advocate for increased public school funding, more capital for community schools, and a better pay scale for our hard-working teachers.

**HEALTH:** Access to Affordable care is the most challenging, many residents do not have basic health coverage, due to affordability, or general ignorance. We must empower our Health Institutions both small and large to support our communities with these resources, creating policy that directly addresses this issue would include a Universal health care plan for Marylanders.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Environmental racism is the most concerning, specifically in the 40th District, neighborhoods are depleted of basic resources. The state must work on carbon pollution, we can overhaul our public transportation system to electric, and we must close the trash incinerator and all large landfills that are directly in the proximity of residents.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** Our priorities will include advocating for policy, capital, and resources that directly bring solutions to the areas of public education, public safety, and the economic stability of our families.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Ensuring that educational opportunities are expanded for adult learners, and formerly incarcerated, the state should create facilities throughout the state that are one-stop shops for families in need of resources.

#### **Crystal Jackson Parker**

Campaign Website: www.crystaljacksonparker.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My background in sociology, law, and 25 years of legislative experience serving Baltimore City and County delegations prepares me well for the mandates of the Delegate. I am a State Central Committee member. I am a community association President and a frontline advocate for the safety and sanctity of all neighbors. I collaborate to bring resources to the most vulnerable areas of the district.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** Assess needs and allocate funds equitably across the board. Develop and implement sufficient workforce and entrepreneurial development programs in relevant fields based upon the community stated interest. Provide affordable and efficient transportation services for workers. Integrate financial literacy into school curriculum, work training and pre-release programs

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** I support increased funding for: programs that require offenders to participate in mental health and crime deterrence services, job creation, sustainable support services for returning citizens, and equitable environmental solutions (trash pickup, transportation, etc.) Officers as partners: new officers: 6-months community service in work area; all officers required Mental Wellness sabbaticals.

**EDUCATION:** Advocate for: PreK-12 education that includes family and social support services: funds and mandate that all City schools meet 21st Century physical and curriculum standards. Leverage, train, and support parents as partners. Address social isolation of COVID with increased services to bridge the student lag gap, increase mental wellness services through the arts and nature integrations.

**HEALTH:** Medical insurance, prescription drug cost, chronic diseases like diabetes, kidney failure, hypertension, and equity in services. I advocate for Medicare for All. Limiting health disparities by addressing all Food Desserts with quality, affordable options. Address equity in transportation to create access to heal increase walkable areas and centers for active living and wellness.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Climate change is a major concern. I would fund mass consumer education on Greenhouse emission (Resident Carbon otprint information, calculation tools); support like SB696 the Electric

School Bus Pilot Program, Climate Solutions Act of 2022, and a true definition of Zero Waste in all legislation without compromise, so we can meet our 2035 Net Zero deadline

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** Public safety, employment, and environmental blight and cleanliness are top priorities in my district. I recently secured funding from the Community Safety Works grant to create a collaborative pilot project to address these concerns. As well, through other partners Our Baltimore project proposal will bring an intergenerational approach to safety and environmental concerns.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Resources for older adults and veterans in housing, transportation, healthcare, and tax relief. Employment, housing, mental health substance misuse services for returning citizens.

#### **Kathy Shulman**

Campaign Website: www.kathyshulman.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** For more than 30 years, I have fought tenaciously for the rights of renters about to be unfairly evicted, children to thrive in schools, and women suffering domestic violence. I formed a food service social enterprise that makes 5,000+ meals a day for food insecure families, led the Public Justice Center & Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism, and been a volunteer in my community.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** State policies should ensure that our State is as fair and affordable to our residents as possible. This includes expanding affordable housing, creating jobs that pay a living wage, and subsidizing childcare for working mothers. We need affordable water and energy, a comprehensive safety net for all Marylanders who cannot work, and progressive state taxes for low-and middle-class taxpayers.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** For the majority of voters in District 40, public safety is their major concern. Too many older residents feel trapped in their homes. To solve Batlimore's perpetually high violent crime rate, we need a multi-tactic strategy. This should include providing adequate resources for (1) effective policing, (2) proven prevention programs & (3) ways to build trust between police and the community.

**EDUCATION:** The pandemic exacerbated damaging disparities in our educational system. In response, I support fully funding and implementing the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. This includes: 1) Send local school districts enough money for high quality schools; 2) Deliver mental health services for children; 3) Pay teachers what they are worth, and 4) Give high school students the chance to learn a trade.

**HEALTH:** Affordable, accessible health care is a human right. I would expand access & outreach to Marylanders re. availability of high quality health care through the Maryland Health Exchange. I would support legislation to establish a state fund to provide subsidies that enable small businesses and non-profits to provide health care. We must dramatically increase access to mental health services.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** We must reduce MD's greenhouse emissions to 60% by 2030 and achieve net zero emissions by 2045, I support efforts such as electrifying the state's fleet of vehicles and local school buses, providing incentives for building energy efficient buildings, and improving our public transportation system. We must act on all these issues with a justice lens and protect the health of the Chesapeake Bay.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** A top priority is to greatly reduce the crime rate. I will work tirelessly so that all residents have access to jobs paying a living wage, safe and affordable housing, high quality schools, reliable public transportation and adequate health care. We must right the wrongs of redlining and ignoring areas like District 40 by investing a large share of economic development dollars there now.

OTHER PRIORITIES: I'm running for Delegate so that I can collaborate with legislators and activists to pass transformational legislation solving Maryland's major challenges. I am inspired by recent bold legislative reforms that passed on education, climate change and paid family leave. I will be a servant leader, collaborating with district residents and ensuring that their voices are heard in the State House.

Juan Snell

No response by print deadline.

#### **Melissa Wells**

Campaign Website: DelegateMelissaWells.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am currently representing the 40th district in the Maryland House of Delegates. Prior to office I spent 15 years advocating for policies that help workers and families build wealth. During my first term I have learned how to effectively move legislation that results in passage. I have also built successful partnerships with colleagues in the legislature as well as constituents and stakeholders.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** The state must advance legislation and investments that promote equity especially in historically redlined communities. In the 40th district I represent a multitude of communities that have historically received the least support and investment. I will continue to advocate for legislation that advances equity so all communities can thrive.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Crime is often a symptom of deeper issues in access education, employment, and opportunity. I believe we must continue to invest in public education and use our budget to leverage employment opportunities. We must continue to get illegal guns off the street.

Public trust in police is critical, which is why we must support civilian oversight to ensure oversight and accountability of police.

**EDUCATION:** The state needs to provide clear guidance on how to transition to virtual learning. We must continue to increase access to affordable broadband. We must commit to fully fund our children's education and ensure every child has access to a state of the art school and enriching programs regardless of zip code.

**HEALTH:** Far too many communities are facing health disparities. We must expand access to community health practitioners and affordable health care and continuum of care. The opioid crisis continues to grow as more and more Marylanders deal with substance use disorder. We must provide more access to residential treatment programs. Lastly, we need more mental health providers, especially for our schools.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Addressing climate change and reducing carbon emissions. The legislature must advance a surface transportation plan to increase access to public transit and expand use of electric vehicles. We must also expand production of renewable and clean energy. This new economy must offer the same level of family supporting wages and benefits that fueled Baltimore and our states middle class.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** We must build the Red Line to ensure residents have access to reliable transportation that connects them to jobs and employment, education, and other necessary resources. We must also continue to focus investment and development along the North Ave/Pennsylvania Ave Corridor which is a gateway into Baltimore city and include communities that desperately need economic development and revitalization.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** (1) Increasing rental protections and expanding access to affordable housing and homeownership. (2) Supporting urban farmers and agro-businesses to continue to expand access to healthy foods while also growing food retail in areas that have been abandoned by big box grocery stores. These farmers need more resources to help them make necessary capital improvements and grow production.

#### **House of Delegates - District 41**

#### **Republican Candidates**

**Scott Graham** 

No response by print deadline.

#### **Democratic Candidates**

Vote for up to 3

#### **Bilal Ali**

Campaign Website: www.delegateali.com

QUALIFICATIONS: As the former state delegate in the 41st district having introduced over 50 bills during my two years in office, and being the highest graded state delegate in that district both years straight in the report card given by the Leaders of a Beautiful Struggle, I am proud to say that my learned experiences give me a unique ability to hit the ground running on Day One in Annapolis.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** Our legislators need to start listening to their constituents, especially those whose communities they don't live, in order to get a better understanding on their concerns in order to effectively represent their interests in Annapolis. Our current elected officials seem to only represent the interests of a select few or those who look and live like them which does a disservice to the others.

PUBLIC SAFETY: We need to work hand-in-hand with our law enforcement community as well as our local officials in addressing the rising crime epidemic and begin to treat crime with the same urgency as we did the COVID pandemic. We need to allow the feds to begin charging and convicting gun possession and homicides, working to ensure that those repeat violent offenders serve their full time of incarceration

EDUCATION: We need to begin to address the diffencies that exist within our school system, including having regular audits of where the money is being spent and how effectively those dollars are being allocated. We have put plans in place to ensure our schools receive the necfinancial support, now we need to ensure they have the quality learning tools necessary for a quality education.

**HEALTH:** Mental health is a silent killer that we continue to ignore in this country, the third rail of politics. This, along with substance abuse, are the two leading causes of death in our communities that we must begin to address through therapeutic counseling and drug treatment while ensuring that women's reproductive rights are upheld to the fullest extent of the law.

NATURAL RESOURCES: We must do a greater job addressing the environmental issues that face Black Baltimoreans, including the lead in the water and lead pain that continues to lead to case after case of young african american boys and girls who grow up with mental and physical issues based on their exposure to these harmful chemicals at a young age.

LOCAL PROJECTS: I want to focus on shrinking the generational wealth gap that currently exists within my community, while also working to close the digital divide that continues to plaque communities of colors across my district and the city as a whole. Food deserts are a major concern, as are the lack of educational resources and services from libraries to therapeutic services for those suffering from PTSD

OTHER PRIORITIES: My main priorities are looking to give tax breaks to the middle class who continue to get taxed while offering these breaks to the lower class and rich. We need to do a better job in bringing small business to our communities, offering them tax breaks as well to ensure we stop taxing them out of business while also looking to improve the quality of life across the 41st district.

#### **Dalya Attar**

Campaign Website: www.dalyaattar.com

QUALIFICATIONS: I believe it is critical that District 41 continues to have a strong advocate in Annapolis and I am not afraid to fight for more state
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funding for our communities. My work the last four years as a Delegate proves this.

I also serve as an Assistant State's Attorney in Baltimore City and my hands-on experience assists me in finding ways to combat violence.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** Ensuring my constituents have an income and can pay for basic needs is crucial. The State plays a significant role in this via tax policy and other support for low-income individuals. As a member of the Ways and Means Committee, I have spent a significant amount of time analyzing our tax policy and finding ways to ensure life is affordable

PUBLIC SAFETY: As a prosecutor I have seen how crucial it is for our communities to work together with police in order to reduce crime. This can only happen if our communities trust the police and there is police accountability. We must therefore ensure there are accountability procedures in place, while also ensuring our police and violence prevention programs are funded appropriately.

**EDUCATION:** The Blueprint for Maryland's future must continue to be funded. In the event that we have another pandemic, we must ensure that our children are receiving an appropriate education. Making sure every student has access to internet and a computer, and teachers are provided sufficient resources and training to teach virtually is crucial.

**HEALTH:** no response -

NATURAL RESOURCES: We must provide a healthy environment for all Marylanders. Our children should no longer grow up in homes with lead paint and in environments that continue to cause serious health problems, like asthma, for many children. We have been working on reducing carbon emissions and developing renewable energy sources for a long time and we passed the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022.

LOCAL PROJECTS: Providing a great education for our children is the most important issue in my district. We cannot neglect our children, and in order to create a strong future and reduce crime long-term, we need to ensure our children are being taken care of now- and that begins with education. It is also crucial to fund local projects, keep our neighborhoods safe and redevelop the Pimlico Race Track.

OTHER PRIORITIES: My district is home to many forms of public transportation including the light rail, the subway and the bus line. The Red Line is the top transportation priority in my district. Ensuring we can get appropriate funding for this again is crucial.

Making sure my constituents can afford basic necessities and life is affordable for all is also a priority.

#### **Tony Bridges**

Campaign Website: www.tonybridges41.com

QUALIFICATIONS: I have fought in Annapolis each year since being elected for better schools, better public transportation, smarter public safety policies, and equal community development for our neighborhoods. I have consistently connected what's happening in Annapolis and what's needed in the district. I'm running for re-election for Delegate because the work is not done.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** In order to meet the needs of the economically disadvantaged, we have to create and support legislation that approaches our issues through an equity lens, being deliberately inclusive and supportive of people from all backgrounds. Those needs vary in terms of providing resources, creating equitable policies around policing, and addressing affordable health care.

PUBLIC SAFETY: We must ensure we are providing more resources for our public safety agencies to address crime but also hold them accountable when processes fail as we have seen with home detention monitoring. In addition, we must ensure we have a more transparent court system which is why I sponsored a bill to have court hearings livestreamed so the public is made more aware of what happens.

**EDUCATION:** We should prepare for at-home/virtual learning and provide the technology and infrastructure for internet access so we do not have to struggle with connectivity issues and lack of equipment for students. We also have to find better ways to ensure that teachers stay connected with students and families to know what supports are needed not just for students but also families with wrap around service

**HEALTH:** We have to continue to find ways to protect and restore the waterways and stop pollution, that includes working on ways to address the problems with the wastewater treatment plants. Additionally, the cost of hospital care accounts for a large portion of our health care expenditures. We have to improve coverage and reimbursement requirements and get creative in using our federal funds for support.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** We have strengthened our commitment to reduce greenhouse gasses and meet the net-zero statewide emissions by 2045. We now have to ensure we continue to follow a data driven process and use the best and newest technologies in reaching our goals. Additionally, we must invest in electric grid upgrades and improvements and create additional incentives to achieve 100% zero emissions.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** There are a number of projects within the district to work on such as the redevelopment of the Edmonsdon Village Shopping Center, ensuring that we create a better Pimlico Race Course and build a new library in Park Heights. Additionally, we have to continue to support the redevelopment of the Ambassador Theater and make the schools within the district new 21st century facilities.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** An equitable and reliable public transportation system is still missing in the region. HB1336 which I sponsored is a step in the direction that will allow us to make recommendations for a new governance and funding structure that's different from what the state of Maryland currently has.

#### **Chris Ervin**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** With previous experience and relationships in Annapolis as well as a history as a community and issue advocate, what I am also well known for is showing up. It's time for a representative who will show up in the community throughout the year in order to listen to the community's issues and not just show up right before elections for campaign purposes.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** The role of the state in addressing the needs of the economically disadvantaged is creating through state agencies and funding, training and jobs programs, supporting and supplementing other social areas such as housing, education and transportation (the red line), but also by actually showing up in communities and spaces where they can hear from constituents first hand.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Maryland needs a full throated effort at addressing repeat offenders that we hear so much about. For non violent felons, we need to address the affect of the unit rule in inhibiting expungement and meaningful reentry. Police accountability would best be found in creation of a uniform code similar to the UCMJ of the US military https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=2890725

**EDUCATION:** Dedicated funding to create, support and maintain a full-time, online learning portal with the accessibility and engagement of popular social media apps such as IG or TikTok. Learning is an environment and it is clear that today's youth have an attraction to gaining information online and in app forms. We need to use that knowledge to create an educational experience that they will be attracted to

**HEALTH:** The most significant health challenges facing Maryland are growing mental health challenges previous to as well as resulting from COVID, women's rights to choose, heart disease, cancer and strokes. Baltimore is home to some of the most forward leaning health professionals in the country. These professionals and the impacted demographics should lead the discussions and I would advocate with them.

NATURAL RESOURCES: The greatest concern is the health of the

Chesapeake Bay. Both the University of Maryland and the Baltimore Aquarium maintain consistent studies of Maryland waterways and these professionals should be leading regular dialogues over the health of this resource.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** The overall health of Gwynns Falls/Leikin Park, the restoration of the Ambassador Theater, The completion of the Pimlico facility, The full completion of the Howard Park Serenity Park and traffic calming on Edmonsdon Avenue

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** The current state of policing and a clear resolution to detective Sean Suiter's death. A clear articulation of who constituted the chain of command for the Gun Trace Task Force and why no one has been held accountable for that units actions beyond the rank of sergeant. And a deeper investigation of how systemic the actions of the unit were.

#### S. I. "Sandy" Rosenberg

Campaign Website: www.delsandy.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My legislative experience will be valuable to advance the needs of the State and my constituents. I have been a leader on the death penalty repeal, a woman's right to choose, and the redevelopment of Pimlico Race Track.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** I supported the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. A solid education is an important part of ensuring economic security for Maryland's children. The Red Line will provide greater economic opportunities, and I will continue to be a leader on bringing this project to Baltimore.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Keeping guns off the street and having the police work with communities to address the specific problems in their neighborhoods will help reduce crime. Funding for this work was increased by the Governor and the General Assembly.

**EDUCATION:** I will work to ensure that the Blueprint for Maryland's Future is effectively implemented in the schools in my district and that funding continues at appropriate levels to ensure success in the long term.

**HEALTH:** I will continue to be a leader in preserving a woman's right to reproductive health care and increasing access to healthcare for all Marylanders.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Climate change is the biggest threat to Maryland's environment. I supported the Climate Solutions Now Act and will continue to support legislation reducing GHG emissions. This session, I introduced HB 1033 which would ensure that we are investing state resources in poorer communities to address the harms to those neighborhoods from discredited environmental practices.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** I initiated the redevelopment of Pimlico Race Track and will continue to work with all the affected communities to ensure that the redevelopment benefits them.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** The Supreme Court is expected to weaken the government's ability to limit the carrying of concealed weapons. I am working on limiting the negative effect on public safety of such a ruling, which is expected by late June.

#### **House of Delegates - District 43A**

#### **Republican Candidates**

Gwendolyn O. Butler

No response by print deadline.

#### **Democratic Candidates**

Vote for up to 2

**Reginald Benbow** 

Campaign Website: www.reginaldbenbow.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I know what it takes to overcome obstacles and combat systemic inequities in education and healthcare. I am a son of Baltimore, raised by a single mother with a father in prison. Yet, I rose to become the first person in my family to graduate from college. And after, I became a Baltimore City public school teacher and now work to improve healthcare as a management consultant.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** There is so much talent in Baltimore. Yet, there is an opportunity gap throughout Baltimore; from healthcare to education and jobs. Let's expand opportunities and close these gaps by transforming public policies to create better outcomes: free community college and digital upskilling programs; a green new deal for green sector jobs; an economic bill of rights guaranteeing a livable wage.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Enough inaction. It's time for change. We cannot expect different results by re-electing the same people and perennial candidates. We can have public safety and police accountability. Let's increase local/state/federal crime coordination and implement a co-responder model for 9/11 calls. We must create a state level police misconduct registry to track bad officers and end qualified immunity.

**EDUCATION:** As a former Baltimore City Public Schools teacher and forever educator, education is my top priority. Baltimore students deserve the same quality of education and opportunities as students in Columbia and Rockville. 1) Fully fund and implement the Blueprint 2) Universal, full day Pre-K 3) Alleviate burnout and increase teacher retention 4) At home devices and internet for all City students

**HEALTH:** A hidden but critical issue are Mental & behavioral health services. Let's address what residents actually need by widening access to mental and behavioral support through telehealth, recruiting more providers to Maryland, funding more school counselors for K-12 youth, and increasing the number of social workers available for vulnerable populations, especially the unhoused.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** The climate crisis threatens Maryland with rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and severe economic disruption. Let's pass a comprehensive Green New Deal for Maryland that mandates achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2035; an ambitious but necessary goal: 100% clean and renewable energy, repair the generational harms to marginalized communities, and green sector living wage jobs.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** Transit equity is not just about transit, but about economic mobility. In the Baltimore region, only 9% of jobs are currently accessible by public transit in an hour or less. We can strengthen the city's reach to have more jobs accessible by public transit by building the east-west Redline, and investing in a north-south transit corridor along York rd/ Greenmount ave in the 43rd district.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Baltimore is becoming unaffordable. The minimum wage in Maryland is \$12.20/hour, but you are only meant to spend one-third of your income on rent. You can't afford an apartment on this income. We must address our affordability crisis by ending single family zoning, preserving and expanding the supply affordable rentals, and holding developers accountable for building affordable homes.

#### Regina T. Boyce

Campaign Website: reginatboyce.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Working and living in Baltimore for 22yrs has prepared me for the duties of delegate. I worked at a university gaining customer service skills. Living in the city I know the true value of each community. Working at city hall I know the workings of government and the meaning of public service, while earning my MPA. I spent valuable time in a non-profit providing educational services to adults.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** The role the state should play is financially supporting those who are under employed and unemployed with guaranteed income, free healthcare, and investing in historically redlined and disinvested communities: housing that is affordable, amenities, and

schools; and provide educational, upskilling, and career training opportunities.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** The policies I favor are those passed in the police reform and accountability act, 2021: implicit bias training, repeal of LEOBOR, civilian driven actions, disciplinary framework, no-knock warrants, and local control. This year the bill on legalization of recreational cannabis, juvenile justice reform, child interrogation protections, and banning qhost guns all are critical for our communities.

**EDUCATION:** Actions I will take are those found and funded in the Blueprint for Maryland Future which includes focusing on the concentration of poverty in school districts. Legislation this year requires studying virtual learning best practices, setting up criteria for virtual learning schools, and mandating each board of education to have a plan in place for transitions to long term virtual learning.

**HEALTH:** Challenges include ongoing COVID infections, substance use disorder, access to healthcare/abortion care and affordability. The General Assembly made healthcare more affordable by charging large health companies a reinsurance fee creating more affordability. We removed physical and financial barriers to reproductive healthcare, expanding who can provide care, and training for care in Maryland.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** My greatest concerns are the bay, oysters, green space/tree canopy, urban flooding, air quality, and EJ communities. Climate Solutions Now commits to addressing the climate crisis with greenhouse gas reductions and net-zero goals, and defines EJ communities. We ensured oyster restoration, protected and enhanced our state parks, and created procurement laws to meet the state's environmental goals.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** There are many projects in the district! To mention a few, there is the Greenmount Ave streetscape, the Northwood shopping center, the League for People with Disabilities, Enhancing the Alameda Shopping center (both), future renovations of the Northwood baseball field and the 29th street community center, and addressing traffic calming at the most dangerous intersections in the district.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** The issues of the residents are my priority. Development in disinvested communities, addressing the socio-economic divide of Greenmount Ave/York road that has existed for decades, and taking care of our seniors who desire to live in place and need estate planning. My overall priority for Baltimore City is growing the agriculture and farming industry.

#### **Elizabeth Embry**

Campaign Website: www.embryfordelegate.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have spent my career working in City and State government, including as head of the Criminal Division in the Attorney General's Office, Deputy State's Attorney, and Special Assistant to the Secretary of DLLR. I know how government works and how to effectively represent the 43rd District and Baltimore City in the General Assembly to bring resources and partnership from the State.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** Maryland is by many measures the wealthiest state in the nation, while Baltimore is home to areas of extreme concentrated poverty. The health of Baltimore is key to the health of the State as a whole and the State plays a key role in providing the education, transportation and infrastructure necessary to eradicate the deep gaps in economic opportunity.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Effective prison reentry is the single most impactful thing that could be done at the State level to reduce violence in Baltimore City and across the State. The reforms to police accountability and transparency passed in the past two sessions are big steps forward and I look forward to adjusting and adding to them to make sure that the reforms are real and measurable.

**EDUCATION:** I will fight for full Blueprint funding every year. We also need to look at strategies to reengage students and parents who disappeared from the system during COVID, provide extra support to teachers, and

make sure the system is prepared for future waves of the pandemic.

**HEALTH:** Gun violence and opioid addiction are two acute challenges. I have outlined my approach to gun violence in my public safety plan on my website. With regard to the opiate crisis, in addition to expanded treatment, it is also important to crack down on pill mills and other sources of illegally distributed prescription opiates.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** The recently passed Climate Solutions Now Act has set ambitious but achievable goals and I look forward to working on legislation to make those goals a reality. It is also critical that communities in Baltimore and across the State most impacted by pollution and climate change are front and center in the State's transformation to a clean energy economy.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** My top priorities are improving public transportation options, getting all necessary school operational and construction funds, and addressing public safety.

OTHER PRIORITIES: no response -

#### **Logan Endow**

Campaign Website: www.loganendow.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** After training at Stanford and the London School of Economics, I worked in public health and violence prevention for the past decade. I worked on youth violence prevention in Baltimore, led a contact tracing team in Liberia's most violent township during the Ebola outbreak, and currently work on Baltimore's COVID-19 response focused on vaccine equity.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** I will fight to accelerate Maryland's \$15 minimum wage and ensure it's indexed to inflation. I will also fight increased wages and hazard pay for teachers, paramedics, and other public sector essential workers. I will also secure more resources for the Attorney General to combat price gouging and wage theft. I will strengthen the Pharmaceutical Affordability Board to reduce medicine prices.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** I will sponsor legislation to strengthen the restrict the flow of guns into the black market, and prevent dangerous individuals from accessing weapons through red flag laws. I will also work to increase funding for home visitation programs and women's shelters to combat all-time high levels of domestic violence. I will work to expand mental healthcare through school based health centers.

**EDUCATION:** The median starting income for a graduate of Baltimore's public schools is \$15,093. I will work to invest in vocational training and advanced STEM to create pathways to increase economic mobility. I will also fight for school-based health centers, improved ventilation, and HEPA filtration to enhance school health and keep kids in the classroom.

**HEALTH:** COVID is a continuously evolving pandemic, and we must upgrade our public health infrastructure to protect our children. I will advocate for installing HEPA filtration in every school (because it reduces infectious aerosols by 65%) and distributing free N95 masks to every student and teacher (because they're 75 times more effective than surgical masks(1). I will also advocate for improving ventila

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** I will fight to transition Maryland to 100% renewable energy by 2030. We have an incredible opportunity to build transit/green infrastructure and bring jobs to create a pathway out of poverty for thousands of families. I will work to upgrade our transit by resuscitating the Red Line and expanding fare-free transit. I will also work to eradicate lead poisoning

LOCAL PROJECTS: I will fight to increase the frequency of buses in my district, expand fare-free transit, and empower a Regional Transit Authority to take back control of Baltimore's transit agenda. I will also work to expand speed bumps/stop signs and reduce speed limits in residential areas to improve road safety. I will secure funding to repair our District's sidewalks and ensure they're ADA compliant

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** I will fight for increased investments in education, trade school, and workforce development. I will also fight for increased public health expenditure to invest in stronger ventilation, HEPA

filtration, and mass N95 mask distribution. Economic relief is also critical. I will advocate for tax relief for seniors on fixed incomes and low-income families and targeted medical debt/student loan relief.

#### Sherricka Alayshia McGrier-Douglas

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am an alumni of the Marion Barry Youth Leadership Institute. A summer youth employment program that teaches young adults on the skills of leadership. my experience in this program prepared me to be a leader by representing the community and writing bills for legislation.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** I want to give the people what the people want. I am a person of the people, by the people, and for the people. If the state has adequate funds, then the state should address the economic disadvantages of the people in Maryland. Increased funding should go to education, law enforcement, housing for the homeless, and health care. It just makes sense.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** I favor funding the police department and removing the restrictions on police officers so that they can do their duty of enforcing the law and protecting the people.

I also favor increasing fines and jail time.

**EDUCATION:** I want to discontinue choice schools. I want to incorporate free public schools that require interview and testing for admittance and non-free private schools to encourage good academic performance. I want to discontinue "head-count" funding. The schools will only receive funding for the amount of students graduated the previous year and not the amount of students attending next year.

**HEALTH:** Increase in crime and drugs. Health care workers are over worked, underpaid, and not protected.

I want to refund the police department to decrease the crime and drugs.

I want to decrease the work hours, increase the wages and legal protections on health care workers.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** There is too much trash in Maryland. I want to implement a specialized sanitation committee within the department of health to specifically target high polluted areas.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** Decrease crime and drugs such as shootings and drug dealing along the Alameda.

**OTHER PRIORITIES: Education** 

Law Enforcement

Housing/Homelessness

Health Care

**Rikki Vaughn** No response by print deadline.

Campaign Website: www.rikkivaughn.com

#### **House of Delegates - District 45**

#### **Republican Candidates**

Antonio Barboza

No response by print deadline.

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#### **Democratic Candidates**

#### Vote for up to 3

#### Jackie Addison

Campaign Website: jackieaddison.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have a number of years of experience in constituent services, childcare, and community advocacies. I also believe the relationships I have created with other elected officials will be fruitful during my time in office.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** The state of Maryland needs to focus more on funding and assistance programs that will address the needs of low-income families. These programs need to cover healthcare, education, transportation, and job security, just to name a few. The state could further, use housing subsidies to increase options in higher opportunity areas for low-income families.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** I would expand pathways towards meaningful employ ment as a way of increasing the opportunity costs of committing crime. I would prioritize investments in job creation initiatives. Additionally, investments in affordable housing, substance abuse and mental health programs are vital to improving public safety, and the quality of life for all of Baltimore's residents.

**EDUCATION:** Now, more than ever, I believe that we need to equitably disperse our educational resources and devote significantly more funding towards our school system. This including the creation of a hybrid style learning system where children will have the necessary tools needed to effectively and successfully pass their courses.

**HEALTH:** Covid 19 has devastated millions of people around the world and does not appear to be going away anytime soon. It is imperative that elected leaders do everything they can to ensure the safety of their citizens. I would push to have more at home Covid tests dispersed to help identify those diagnosed with the disease to get them the immediate assistance they need.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Climate change is an issue we face throughout the world. I recognize that we should utilize multiple modes of energy to

yield the most effective outcome for our environment and I look forward to working with all communities to combat the issue.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** A priority that I would like to address within my own district is public safety.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Priorities that I plan on addressing once I get into office would be the lack of wrap around services for our children, workforce development opportunities, and safer streets.

**Chanel Branch** No response by print deadline.

Campaign Website: www.chanelbranch.com

#### George Johnson

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I've been involved in our community for more than a decade. I was nominated to the board of Belair Edison Neighborhood Inc. After that I became president of the Belair Edison Community Association. I've been teaching for 28 years. I was nominated for teacher of the year my first year teaching. I've been a building representative for the Baltimore Teachers Union. It's about helping better the 45th.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** The state should play a major and active role. Representatives of the state should court companies to provide jobs as well as writing legislation to make sure that inequities are solved. Moreover, activities that are causing citizens to suffer inequities in employment and other endeavors should be addressed and changed.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** The quality of life in Baltimore city is being challenged. Teens are carjacking vehicles, dirt bikers are wreaking havok, gangs and drug dealers are committing murders at an alarming rate. Policies that are not being enforced as well as policies that need to be written must be

done so that police officers are impowered to do their jobs to make us safe in our communities.

**EDUCATION:** The actions that I will take is to make sure that students in Baltimore City are in school and not at home or on the streets being squeegee kids or underperforming students. In addition, youth that enact violence against teachers, staff and other students will lose the right to attend school in person. Those that are caught dealing drugs and are caught will firearms will also be taught virtually.

**HEALTH:** Gun violence and drug addiction are two of the most significant health challenges facing Marylanders. I will work with the State's Attorney to write legislation because these issues are interrelated.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** I am a proponent for clean neighborhoods. I have partaken in community clean ups quite often. I have a concern for the water quality in our streams, lakes, rivers and bay. I will work with Blue Water and other environmental groups to ensure water quality and cleanliness. I will support legislation and enforce the legislation that is already in existence.

LOCAL PROJECTS: Education, crime and cleanliness.

OTHER PRIORITIES: Job creation and training.

#### Stephanie Smith

Campaign Website: www.electstephaniesmith.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** In her first term. Del. Smith successfully sponsored over 24 laws covering public safety, economic justice, community development and education. Del. Smith's colleagues unanimously elected her chair of the Baltimore City Delegation—twice. A first-generation college graduate, Del. Smith is an attorney, HBCU alum, urban planner, homeowner, and a proud Baltimore City public schools parent.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** The state has economic development leadership through the Departments of Labor and Commerce. Maryland also faces double digit vacancies across virtually all agencies. As a member of Appropriations and the Education and Economic Development Subcommittee, Del. Smith called for greater workforce training pipelines to fill vacancies with Marylanders who need employment.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** We need the state to establish a real-time public safety data tracker that's accessible to the public, a fully-staffed probation and parole and corrections system and continuously improve community ties through lawful crime fighting. Quality investigations are central to prosecutors building a successful case.

**EDUCATION:** Continue to champion expansion of community schools, funding for facilities in our state's oldest schools and expanding digital access/literacy. Del. Smith will focus on our community colleges serving as a pipeline for economic mobility. We must refine state guidance on career and technical education and build a more diverse teacher corps.

**HEALTH:** Access to mental health providers and provider diversity is a huge challenge. That's why Del. Smith will reintroduce a bill from the 2022 session to grow and diversify the mental health workforce through alternative pathways to licensure, peer counseling and scholarships for future mental health providers from underrepresented groups.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Del. Smith is proud to have supported the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 because the impact of climate change is the biggest threat to our lives and natural heritage. What Maryland also needs to focus on is developing local green sectors in conjunction with our workforce development needs.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** Del. Smith is committed to leveraging state resources to continue to improve economic development in our primary corridors (Monument St, Belair Rd, and Harford Rd) and monitor the Penn Station redevelopment.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Del. Smith will work to ensure any eventual recreational marijuana market provides economic opportunities and

revenue support to the communities most impacted by criminalization and that there are dedicated opportunities for research and development at our HBCUS.

Caylin Young No response by print deadline.

Campaign Website: www.caylinyoung.com

#### **House of Delegates - District 46**

#### **Republican Candidates**

Vote for up to 3

**Mekkah X. Mohammed** No response by print deadline.

Campaign Website:

MEKKAHX4FreedomGOP2022.com

J. Brian VossPete WatersNo response by print deadline.

#### **Democratic Candidates**

Vote for up to 3

**Vince Andrews** 

Campaign Website: vinceandrewsforbaltimore.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As a former Baltimore City Public Schools teacher, I taught our children in a building with little heat and no potable water fountains. Today, as a non-profit public health attorney, I helped design the legal architecture which enabled the free CV19 testing services at the Baltimore Convention Center. This work motivates and prepares me to pass equity based legislation as a Delegate in Annapolis.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** Without state intervention we would see an economy that, to an even larger extent than exists today, advantages white men over the participation of women and minorities. Therefore, the state must enforce gender equity legislation and pass additional laws, such as mandatory maternity leave requirements, enhanced childcare tax credits and so much more, to continue advancing economic equity.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Year over year, 60% of murders and 80% of violent crimes go unsolved in Baltimore. The reason for this is because our communities have little relationship with the officers that are charged with their safety and too many folks are scared to participate in the criminal justice process. Through policy/funding/oversight, the state must build a community-centered policing model.

**EDUCATION:** As a former teacher and as an expectant father, we must advance universal pre-K and enhanced after school programming to increase learning hours for kids and relieve childcare pressures on parents. Using my healthcare knowledge, I would also like to leverage the billions of dollars in our health care system and incentivize health care providers to see children and families in our school buildings.

**HEALTH:** The lack of affordable primary, preventive and continuing health care services is the most serious health challenge facing communities. We need to build on the lessons we learned during this pandemic - - that providing no-cost health care to the patient both saves lives and, in the long-run, reduces total health care costs. This means universal insurance coverage and increasing primary care.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** As a state, we must reduce our carbon emissions. Climate change is the single greatest threat to humanity (really all current living ecosystems) of our time. This is why we must transition our energy generation from burning coal and trash to wind and solar

generation. We must also address the waste that we produce in our society, to ensure it doesn't end-up in our communities and the Chesapeake.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** As follows: increase programming options available in our recreation centers; address the lack of viable grocery options in Cherry Hill/Brooklyn/Curtis Bay communities; revitalize our downtown and Harbor Place districts; ensure the redevelopment of the Perkins Homes meets the mixed-income promises; accelerate the Hanover Street Bridge project, to rebuild it and create a pedestrian mall.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** I support fully funding/advancing a "Complete Streets" transit model, where we increase room for walking, biking, and non-gas oriented modes of transportation. We can address this issue by creating a Baltimore Metropolitan Transportation Authority governed by an independent board of experts whose mission is to plan and manage these massive, multi-decade infrastructure projects

#### Sean D. Burns

Campaign Website: www.seandburns.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I served as Deputy Director of Federal Relations for Governor O'Malley. I currently work for a national non-profit advocating for HBCUs, where I played a key role in helping our schools obtain \$3.4 billion in federal relief funding to help these schools mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic and address the digital divide, food and housing insecurity, and shortages in personal protective equipment.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** I will work to ensure that our state will explore every tool at its disposal to help our most disadvantaged citizens, building upon the recent tax relief package passed by the General Assembly. Ultimately, I believe that investments in our public education system provide are crucial to creating greater employment and economic opportunity for all.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Public safety will be my highest priority. I will support investing in proven initiatives aimed at getting guns and violent offenders off our streets. I will also support investments in proven violence reduction initiatives and work to improve the relationship between the BPD and our communities, including improved community oversight and increased funding for training.

**EDUCATION:** I support fully funding the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, which is crucial to reducing the achievement gap in our state. As a delegate, I will ensure that Maryland fulfills its obligations to its students, including investing in community schools and providing world-class career and technical education to ensure that our students are better prepared to participate in today's workforce.

**HEALTH:** The cost of healthcare serves as a significant challenge to Marylanders. I will support legislation that makes the cost of care more transparent and work to strengthen the Maryland Drug Prescription Affordability Board, ensuring the entity is effectively pursuing ways to lower prescription drug prices in Maryland.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Rising sea levels pose a challenge to Baltimore. Targeted climate change adaptation will be critical for Baltimore and Maryland at large moving forward. it is important to increase data monitoring of storm surges, stormwater runoff and heavy rains to better understand the threat. I will make it a top priority to close data gaps to allow the government to better address our needs.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** I will continue to advocate for investment in and revitalization of Baltimore's Inner Harbor and Downtown, which will be a major boost to the region's economy. In addition. I will work with our federal, state, local, private partners and most importantly residents, to build an efficient and equitable East-West rapid transit line.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** As noted above, revitalization of Baltimore's Inner Harbor will be a key priority for me. It is a deeply personal priority given my late uncle, former Baltimore Mayor Clarence H. "Du" Burns poured his heart and soul into creating Harborplace in his capacity as Chair of the City Council's Urban Affairs Committee. Thus, this is a full circle moment for me.

#### Augusta Yeager Christensen

Campaign Website: www.augustaforbaltimore.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I've been working behind the scenes in Democratic politics for ten years and I have established great relationships with many current legislators in Annapolis, and I look forward to enlisting their help in providing for D46. I'm the only challenger candidate who is not a lawyer - I'm a community college alum, Maryland public school grad, and my lived experiences reflect those of the district.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** Maryland should be paving the way for lifting our citizens out of poverty. I support the universal basic income pilot starting here in Baltimore, as well as a child allowance that would lift thousands of our children out of deep poverty. The state must also increase affordable and integrated housing, as well as raise the minimum wage.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** First and foremost, control of the BPD should be turned over fully to the City of Baltimore. Second, the state legislature must establish standards of practice, training guidelines, and ethical standards for law enforcement statewide. It is also imperative that we rebuild trust between neighborhoods and police through the kind of on-the-ground beat policing that fosters relationships.

**EDUCATION:** Public education is one of our most fundamental American values, and it's under attack. I support the full implementation of the Blueprint for MD's Future, raising wages for our support staff as well as teachers. It is also time to reevaluate both how we fund our schools and how we calculate per-student costs to ensure that this increase in funding is doing the most good for our students.

**HEALTH:** The most significant health challenges we face are long-term COVID-related disabilities, mental health crises that have been exacerbated by the pandemic, and the opioid epidemic that has continued alongside the pandemic. We need to be proactive in offering care in all of these areas, and shift our approach to treating addiction as a public health crisis rather than a criminal issue.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Climate change is the greatest concern for Maryland in the coming years. I was heartened to see sweeping climate change legislation pass in Annapolis last session, making us the national leader in emissions reduction standards. I support these measures plus an expansion of safe, zero emissions nuclear energy and investment in sustainable, energy-efficient development across the state.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** We need to bring a grocery store to Cherry Hill for the first time in nearly 25 years.

The Howard Street Tunnel expansion project is a great opportunity to bring jobs to D46.

Infrastructure is a huge issue: we must have drinkable water and functioning HVAC in our schools, and redevelop our streets to be safer for pedestrians and cyclists.

We also need to resettle more refugees here in Baltimore.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Public transportation is absolutely essential here in District 46 and the city at large. The lack of a regional rail system and reliable bus system has been holding us back for decades. I will fight to bring back, build, and expand on the proposed Red Line, as well as establish a Baltimore Regional Transit Authority to work with the MTA to bring our transportation into the 21st century.

#### Luke Clippinger

Campaign Website: www.luke46.org

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a native Baltimorean who grew up in a Dollar House in Reservoir Hill. I graduated from City Schools, and now work as an Assistant State's Attorney in Anne Arundel County. My experiences growing up in Baltimore and working as a prosecutor fighting for victims of crime have given me a great perspective not only as a Dele-

gate, but as Chair of the House Judiciary Committee.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** I voted to expand the Earned Income Tax Credit in 2021, making it the highest credit in the nation. I voted to put more funding into child care to make it more affordable and available. I also voted to eliminate state income taxes for senior citizens with incomes under \$100,000. We should continue to build on these programs and initiatives in the next Legislature.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** As the Chair of the House Judiciary Committee, I've taken the lead to ban ghost guns, fund programs that trace guns used in crimes, and reform our juvenile justice system. I also led the efforts to reform our police misconduct process in Maryland, require police officers to have body cameras, and require independent investigation of police involved deaths. I will continue to work on these issues.

**EDUCATION:** We took great steps forward by passing - and funding - the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. We must monitor the Blueprint's progress and ensure that it's properly funded going forward. The Blueprint will help students with learning loss from the pandemic, but we must also prepare for the next pandemic now and address the structural changes needed to allow for virtual learning in the future.

**HEALTH:** I will continue to support legislation that protect and expand lower-cost access to Medicare and Medicaid plans and services, secure the Affordable Care Act, lower prescription drug prices, and ensure access to quality physical and mental health services for all Marylanders.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Maryland must continue to lead on climate change. I voted for the Climate Solutions Act in 2022 which will lower our carbon emissions and bring us to net-neutral on carbon by 2045. We must generate more energy from renewable sources. I sponsored community solar, a program that enables Marylanders to buy a small portion of a larger solar array and count the power created against their power bill

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** We must continue to renovate schools in the 46th District and across Baltimore City. I was proud to support the bills that funded new schools at Patterson, John Ruhrah, Cherry Hill, Arundel and Baybrook, among others. We should continue with the next round of construction. I also support reconstruction of the Hanover Street Bridge and improvements to parks across the district.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** We must have an effective transportation system; that's why I voted for the Greater Baltimore Transit Governance and Funding Commission this year which will identify ways to improve the performance of public transportation in Baltimore. It will also recommend ways to properly fund and operate, potentially, a new regional transportation system.

#### Mark Edelson

Campaign Website: www.electedelson.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As the former President of the Canton Community Association, an adjunct professor at Goucher University, a civic-minded attorney, and an elected member of the Democratic State Central Committee, I believe I am uniquely qualified to push innovative, community-focused policies and achieve tangible results for my constituents.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** Significant. I strongly believe in a greater focus on equity in state policy and state investment decision-making. I would support an equity analysis requirement for all bills introduced in the General Assembly, as well as requiring a percentage of all public project spending to be invested in historically neglected communities.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** We must walk and chew gum at the same time. Public safety must include mental health and social services, allowing public safety professionals to focus on violence prevention. And, investing in public safety programs that work, like addressing our significant warrant backlog and reforming the Department of Parole and Probation.

**EDUCATION:** Technology. Being out of the classroom resulted in learning **P.27** deficiencies for all students, but the gulf was significantly wider for our

students without access to quality devices, training, and reliable wireless broadband. We must focus on addressing these deficiencies now by bridging the digital and technological divide for all students.

**HEALTH:** We must do more to provide Baltimoreans with access to healthy food and ensure that all communities are not adversely impacted by pollution and waste. I would support state incentive programs to attract grocery stores to our communities and ensure residents can afford healthy food.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Waste and pollution in Baltimore. Our trash is processed at an incinerator, which has forced south Baltimoreans to bear a disproportionate share of our trash burden, resulting in poor air quality and adverse public health impacts. If elected, I would immediately support legislation to end "clean energy" subsidies for trash incinerators.

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** Baltimore is home to numerous transit systems, yet our existing transit assets are largely disconnected from one another. We must invest in projects that create true multi-modal connections for transit users, like an east Baltimore MARC station and extending the light rail to the south Baltimore peninsula, and provide real bicycle and pedestrian access to transit hubs.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** If elected, I would be only the fourth foreign-born immigrant currently serving in the House of Delegates. Therefore, issues such as affordable housing, tenants' rights, immigration policy, and access to economic opportunity will always be my priority. I am also squarely focused on fully funding the Blueprint for Maryland's Future.

#### Robbyn Lewis

Campaign Website: www.robbynlewis.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My education, public service, legislative experience and values prepare me to serve a 2nd term in the Maryland House of Delegates. I hold a MPH from Columbia University, and BA from the University of Chicago. After 20+ yrs working in international public health, incl. service in the US Peace Corps, I became a Delegate in 2017. Since then, I've helped pass laws to improve the lives of Marylanders.

**ECONOMIC INEQUITIES:** The state has great responsibility for the well being of all residents, especially those who are vulnerable. The state should address needs of economically disadvantaged people using all tools at its disposal, e.g., policies that enable quality public education, safe affordable housing, efficient and accessible modal-multi transit, safe and clean water & air, and family-wage sustaining employment.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Violent crime reduction is very important, especially in Baltimore city. I support efforts to prevent violent crime before it happens, thru policies such as access to quality education, incl, universal pre-K, reducing obstacles to employment and stable housing. Regarding the need for police accountability, I have voted to pass police reform laws, because public trust is necessary for public safety

**EDUCATION:** I voted to pass major, historic education reform including the Blueprint for Maryland's future, and have helped bring billions of dollars to Baltimore to build new schools, increase pay for teachers and educational workers and more. I will support all efforts to address the impact of Covid, particularly its impact on mental and behavioral health.

**HEALTH:** These include the COVID-19 pandemic and other emerging infectious diseases, traffic violence, lead poisoning and more. I will continue to advance polices and investments to tackle these issues.

NATURAL RESOURCES: no response -

LOCAL PROJECTS: no response -

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Access to affordable health care for all people living in Maryland, transit, land use, and public

health.

## **Baltimore City Judge of the Circuit Court - Circuit 8**

**DUTIES:** Judges preside over trials in the Circuit Court, which is a court that hears major civil cases and serious criminal cases, such as those requiring a jury trial. Circuit Courts may decide appeals from the District Court and certain administrative agencies.

**TERM:** Fifteen years, no term limit. Mandatory retirement age of 70 years.

**ANNUAL SALARY:** \$184,433 as of July 1, 2022.

**HOW ELECTED:** Elected countywide. The state is divided into 8 Judicial Circuits. When there is a vacancy, the Governor appoints a person to fill the office from a list recommended by a judicial nominating commission.

The nominating commission reviews each applicant's experience as an attorney before making recommendations to the Governor. Each newly appointed judge must stand for election at the first election that occurs at least one year after the vacancy happened. Sitting judges must also run for re-election after serving for 15 years. Attorneys who are members of the Maryland Bar may also run to challenge a newly appointed or sitting judge. All candidates run on both the Democratic and Republican primary ballots.

WEBSITE: msa.maryland.gov/msa/mdmanual/31cc/html/ccf.html

#### **Questions**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this judgeship?

**PRIORITIES:** What are your priorities for this office?

**COURT SYSTEM:** What are the greatest challenges facing Maryland's court system and how should these be addressed?

MOTIVATION: What inspires you to serve in this judgeship?

JUDICIAL PHILOSOPHY: What is your judicial philosophy?

#### **Candidates:**

#### Vote for up to 4

Erik Atas
 Charles Mario Blomquist
 Myshala E. Middleton
 Barry G. Williams
 No response by print deadline
 No response by print deadline

#### **Baltimore City Offices**

#### **Baltimore City State's Attorney**

**DUTIES:** The State's Attorney is the chief law enforcement official in Baltimore City, responsible to the citizens of Baltimore for enforcing the law. She/he manages a staff of attorneys responsible for the prosecution of all criminal cases and juvenile matters. In addition, the office is involved in advocating for the public interest in legal matters and involving the community to address and resolve issues regarding crime and the criminal justice system.

**ANNUAL SALARY:** \$278,709

**TERM:** 4 year term.

**HOW ELECTED:** Citywide

#### **Ouestions**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for this office?

**VIOLENT CRIME:** What plans do you have to address the problem of violent crime in Baltimore City?

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE CRISIS:** How would you address the impact of the opioid crisis on the criminal justice system and what policies would you implement to address the opioid crisis?

**PUBLIC CONFIDENCE:** How do you plan to address the problem of public confidence in law enforcement?

**PERSONNEL:** How will you attract, recruit and retain qualified prosecutors?

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** In addition to the issues you described in the other questions, what are your priorities for this office?

#### **Democratic Candidates**

Vote for 1

#### **Ivan Bates**

Campaign Website: www.batesforbaltimore.com/

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As a father, the safety and well-being of my five-year-old daughter and all Baltimoreans is my number one priority. I developed discipline and work-ethic in the US Army and turned that into over 25 years of trial work in state and federal courts as both a prosecutor and defense attorney. I built one of the most successful law practices in Maryland, and this is the only office I have ever pursued.

**VIOLENT CRIME:** I discuss this at length in my prosecution plan for a safer Baltimore: https://www.batesforbaltimore.com/ivansplan -

I will hold lawbreakers accountable through swift and certain consequences, bring proven programs like Milwaukee's homicide review, collaborate with law enforcement and restore broken relationships. I will restore morale in an office that saw 100% prosecutor turnover in eight years.

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE CRISIS:** Participation in court-sponsored drug treatment has plummeted as a result of the current officeholder's policy on ignoring low-level offenses; under 200 opioid deaths in 2014 but almost 1000 in 2020. I do not believe in a one-size fits all approach or ignoring those who need dire help. Under my administration, prosecutors will steer simple possession of illegal drugs toward Drug Treatment Court.

**PUBLIC CONFIDENCE:** In recent years, I fought to expose the criminal activity of the Gun Trace Task Force ("GTTF") even after the current officeholder ignored my calls for concern. I represented over thirty individuals to bring attention to the system's failures and call for reform. Under my leadership, prosecutors will not turn a blind eye, but receive ongoing training as mandated reporters of police misconduct.

**PERSONNEL:** I know how to build a strong law office-I built my firm, one of Maryland's best- from scratch. I have been blessed with a long legal career and developed relationships with former prosecutors, retired and retiring judges, who indicated their desire to work with me to rebuild the SAO. I would implement stronger intern and law clerk programs for local students with a path to full-time employment.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Reducing gun violence will be my administration's top priority. In the seventh straight year of 300+ murders, Johns Hopkins found 44.9% of cases involving illegal gun possession failed to gain any conviction/consequence. I will hold violent criminals accountable while upholding my reputation of defending victims from police misconduct, as seen with my history exposing the Gun Trace Task Force.

#### Thiru Vignarajah

Campaign Website: justiceforbaltimore.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** A son of city school teachers, I went from Woodlawn High to Yale College and Harvard Law, where I was elected president of the Harvard Law Review. I later served as law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer before becoming a city, state, and federal prosecutor. I have managed complex organizations, tried serious cases including murders, and visibly served Baltimore.

**VIOLENT CRIME:** To return from 333 murders every year—the average under Mosby—to 2011 when we had fewer than 200, we must mend fences with police, federal prosecutors, and the Governor.

We will focus on unsolved crimes that bear the markings of repeat offenders, like daytime homicides, high-caliber guns, and headshots. We will also use wiretaps, state gang laws, and federal RICO statutes to prosecute gangs.

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE CRISIS:** Overdose fatalities now exceed gun-related murders. To reverse this, we must expand pre-arrest diversion to ensure victims of addiction get the help they need. Second, we must target drug organizations that lace drugs with fentanyl. Finally, we must treat addiction as a public health challenge not just a matter of criminal justice.

**PUBLIC CONFIDENCE:** Transparency is vital. We will track and publish race-based data for arrest and clearance rates as well as detention and diversion decisions. To help rebuild the trust that has been broken between police and community, we will adopt a community model where prosecutors are assigned to specific neighborhoods, so citizens get to know the prosecutors who are responsible for cases in their communities.

**PERSONNEL:** Like former Manhattan District Attorney Robert Morgenthau, we will use the city's heartbreak as a lightning rod to attract true public servants because New York City isn't Gotham anymore—Baltimore is.

We must also improve the culture of this office through reorganization: assigning prosecutors to districts, creating citywide specialty units, and employing dedicated juvenile justice prosecutors.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Untested prosecutors are currently assigned to firearms cases to gain experience based on the flawed assumption that gun possession is a victimless crime rather than a precursor to violence. This must change. Also, more firearms cases should go to federal court where repeat offenders face stiffer and more certain penalties. Finally, we must expand to scale pretrial diversion and reentry programs.

## Baltimore City Clerk of the Circuit Court

**DUTIES:** The Clerk of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City handles administrative duties for the Circuit Court. The office maintains records of criminal, civil, and juvenile cases, as well as land transactions. Clerks also issue business and marriage licenses and administer oaths to some local officials.

#### ANNUAL SALARY:

TERM: 4 year term.

**HOW ELECTED:** Citywide

#### **Questions**

QUALIFICATIONS: How does your experience prepare you for the duties

Marilyn J. Mosby

No response by print deadline.

of this office?

**RESOURCES:** Does the Clerk's office have sufficient resources to support its functions and, if not, how will you address its lack of resources?

**ASSISTANCE TO THE PUBLIC:** How will you improve service by the Clerk's office to the public?

**PRIORITIES:** In addition to the issues you described in the other questions, what are your priorities for this office?

#### **Democratic Candidates**

#### Vote for 1

#### **Kim Banks**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Over twenty five years of experience in the Circuit Court for Baltimore City and Maryland Parole Commission uniquely qualifies me for the office of Clerk of the Court for Baltimore City. My skills in communication, criminal justice, organization, business and management, will enable me to perform the job quite effectively.

**RESOURCES:** The Clerk's office could have more resources, however, an effective administrator has to manage funds, training, staffing and retain quality employees. I will continually seek additional resources while managing the court's strategy to improve on a consistent basis.

**ASSISTANCE TO THE PUBLIC:** I can best serve the public by utilizing my experience with the Circuit Court to guide and manage, with transparency and integrity, while making sure that my employees aspire to giving the public their best each day. My goal will be to make sure each citizen is treated with respect.

**PRIORITIES:** I will, upon entering office, immediately, work on improving employee conditions, promoting superior customer service, balancing the budget, improving morale and making the Circuit Court for Baltimore City the most efficient and best Circuit Court to work for and visit, in the State of Maryland.

#### Xavier A. Conaway

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I administer contracts for national advertisers that exceed the annual budget of the Judiciary. I cannot disclose these advertisers for confidentiality requirements, but they involve the clothes that many of us wear and some of the medicines we take every day. Ensuring every dollar is spent with transparency and accountability is essential to the Clerk's of Circuit Court's office.

**RESOURCES:** No, as there is a staffing crisis at the Clerk's office. In recent years there has been a rise in workplace injustices such as intimidation tactics, mismanagement, emotional and verbal abuse, etc. We must eliminate this culture Day 1 is essential to running one of the biggest Clerk's offices in Maryland. There should be 5 employee appreciation days every week to ensure the public is best served.

**ASSISTANCE TO THE PUBLIC:** Citizens approach the courthouse with great hopes and great fears. The Clerk can't try cases and render decisions. However, we can do our work in a way that reduces the public's anxiety about the tasks in the courtrooms. I propose to help remove this anxiety and confusion from the process by having personable employees of the Clerk's office stationed at the entrance to assist the public.

**PRIORITIES:** My highest priority is restoring public faith in the Clerk of Circuit Court's office. There is an opportunity to establish a collaborative management system that values employee and public input. In addition, removing the digital divide between Baltimore City and other Maryland counties can reduce the delays in records we provide to the public. Civil service will be front and center on Day 1.

#### Lenora A. Dawson

Campaign Website: www.DawsonforClerk.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have worked as a Public Executive for 15 years. I hold a master's degree Psychology/Conflict Management & Negotiation. My leadership experience is extensive. I currently serve as the Public Safety Chair of the NAACP MCS, board member on the Justice Reinvestment Advisory Board, former Board President No Boundaries Coalition, and former board member for Advocates for Children & Youth.

**RESOURCES:** Funding for the Clerk's office is essential because the Maryland Electronic Court System is coming to Baltimore City. With this expansion, I will leverage my relationships with friends in the legislature and advocate to fully fund the budget.

With the State Budget currently having a \$1.3 billion structural surplus, I believe this holds an opportunity for the Clerk's office to achieve this goal.

**ASSISTANCE TO THE PUBLIC:** The Clerk's office is responsible for filing, processing, and maintaining civil, criminal, & juvenile actions. I will provide proper training to all employees, ensure that motions and other filing and processing actions are correctly administered, offer convenient electronic payment options for citizens and work collaboratively with the Jury Commissioner to improve the jury duty process.

**PRIORITIES:** I plan to offer electronic payment options for services such as business licenses and land records fees, work with the Jury Commissioner to improve the jury duty experience, ensure that all clerks are properly trained to adequately discharge their duties and responsibilities and manage the successful integration of MDEC so that justice will not be delayed or denied.

#### **Shanai Dunmore**

Campaign Website: www.shanaidunmore.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have been a public servant since 2005. I am the former Chief Deputy in the Register of Wills office for Baltimore City. I know the day to day operations of the court system, as well as the overall organization, service and strategic vision of the Clerks office. I trained and managed court clerks and oversaw departments such as the Record Room and the Fiscal Administration Department.

**RESOURCES:** Yes, the proposed budget for fiscal year 2023 is approx. \$16 million. 82% of the proposed budget is for personnel costs, salaries etc. The budget needs to be managed correctly and not continue to systematically place valued employees at the bottom of the priority list. I will ensure that employees will not be denied appropriate and earned increases and will not be denied viable work environments.

ASSISTANCE TO THE PUBLIC: Improve accessibility to commonly used forms. Educate citizens on services provided by the Clerk's office, create a welcoming environment by improving the customer service experience. Increase the accessibility of vital court-related information (easily accessible, user friendly, technology based). Improve, enhance and modernize technology usage.

**PRIORITIES:** I will staff my administrative office with experienced court professionals. Individuals with substantial knowledge of the operational procedures, policies and protocols of the Circuit Court of Baltimore. I will work to restore employee morale by reestablishing trust in the administration. I will restore department heads ability to run their individual departments.

#### **Denise McCready**

QUALIFICATIONS: Positions within the Clerk's Office

Chief Deputy 02/2017-11/2017

Asst. Chief Deputy 10/2015-02/2017

MGR II, Land Records & Licenses Dept.  $\,$  05/2013-10/2015

MGR I, Land Records & Licenses Dept. 04/1997-04/2013

ASST. MGR. Land Records & Licenses Dept. 01/1992-04/1997

Supervisor, Business Licenses Dept. 01/1982-12/1991

Office Clerk, Business Licenses Dept. 04-1972-12/1981

**RESOURCES:** The Clerk's Office for the past 5 years has had sufficient resources to support it functions, however if the office should have a lack of resources, requests can be made to the Maryland Judiciary for additional funds with proper justification

**ASSISTANCE TO THE PUBLIC:** In each deprtment of the Clerk's Office there would be informational pamphlets or posted notices of services we can provide for the public.

All employees of the Clerk's Office would be required to take Customer Service Training which is offered through Maryland Judiciary Professional Development, and this would be a scoring category on their annual performance evaluation.

**PRIORITIES:** To maintain a good working relationship with the employees so they will know they are valued and appreciated.

Continue to move forward into the Maryland Electronic Courts (MDEC) project. This would create a single judiciary-wide integrated case management system. The Courts will be able to collect, store and process records electronically.

#### **Baltimore City Register of Wills**

**DUTIES:** The Register of Wills handles administrative duties dealing with estates and heirs. The office appoints representatives to make sure that a deceased person's property passes to others, assists in legal paperwork dealing with wills and probate, collects inheritance taxes, keeps records of wills and probate documents, and does clerking duties for the judges of the Orphans' Court.

**ANNUAL SALARY: \$124,000** 

TERM: 4 years

**HOW ELECTED:** Citywide

#### **Questions**:

**QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this office?

**AREAS OF NEED:** What are the areas of greatest need in the Orphans' Court system and how would you address them?

**ASSISTANCE TO THE PUBLIC:** How will you improve the service provided by the Register's office to the public?

**PRIORITIES/GOALS:** In addition to the issues you described in the other questions, what are your priorities for this office

#### **Democratic Candidates**

#### Vote for 1

#### Belinda K. Conaway

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have held this office since 2014. Before that, I was Chair of the Baltimore City Council's budget committee and I worked as a counselor for Baltimore Public Schools. I understand how to manage people, how to navigate the fiscal and budget processes, and how to deal with agencies that interact with the office.

**AREAS OF NEED:** The greatest need of the Orphans' Court system is consistency. The "customers" are citizens who are either planning for bereavement or citizens who are trying to make the probate process work for their family after someone passes from this life. The Register of Wills has to be there when needed with compassionate and diligent service.

**ASSISTANCE TO THE PUBLIC:** Diligence and compassion are the essential elements of the Register's office. I am proud to say that the

Baltimore City Register of Wills office never closed during the pandemic. Schedules had to be modified, but we were always there for the public.

PRIORITIES/GOALS: There is an ongoing need to obtain space to store the office's records, which are voluminous.

## **Baltimore City Judge of the Orphans' Court**

**DUTIES:** Judges of the Orphans' Court supervise the administration of estates. The Orphan's Court shares jurisdiction with the Circuit Court over guardianships of minors. Orphan's Court Judges conduct hearings that involve probate and guardianship disputes, review and act upon administration accounts, and request payments from estates or quardianships.

**ANNUAL SALARY:** \$115,042.

**TERM:** Four years with no term limits.

**HOW ELECTED:** Elected countywide.

#### **Questions**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this judgeship?

**PRIORITIES:** What are your priorities for this office?

**COURT SYSTEM:** What are the greatest challenges facing Maryland's

court system and how should these be addressed?

 $\textbf{MOTIVATION:} \ \textbf{What inspires you to serve in this judgeship?}$ 

JUDICIAL PHILOSOPHY: What is your judicial philosophy?

#### **Democratic Candidates**

#### Vote for up to 3

Charles "Chuck" Bernstein

No response by print deadline.

#### **Lewyn Scott Garrett**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have practiced law for about 44 years and been an Orphans' Court Judge for 27 years. At this point in my career I am one of the most seasoned and experienced persons in this area.

**PRIORITIES:** To always make the best decision under the peculiar circumstances to that case and treat everyone with respect.

**COURT SYSTEM:** To provide individuals with the legal representation and information that they need to pursue their cases. The Bar Associations and other legal non-profits organizations have attempted to provide legal clinics and sources for those who need them. These organizations need to be financially supported.

**MOTIVATION:** One of the inspirations was the desire to help people, but the number one inspiration to be totally candid was my mother.

**JUDICIAL PHILOSOPHY:** To treat people the way you would want to be treated.

#### Michele E. Loewenthal

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have been an Orphans' Court judge since 2011 so I have 10 years experience as an Orphans' Court judge.

**PRIORITIES:** My priorities include providing grieving families a forum for the resolution of the distribution of their deceased relative's assets.

COURT SYSTEM: The Orphans' Court system is working well.

**MOTIVATION:** I enjoy helping people, in an area of law which is not well known, so that the assets of their deceased relatives can be transferred in a guick and efficient manner.

**JUDICIAL PHILOSOPHY:** My judicial philosophy is to allow the litigants an opportunity to be heard in a more user friendly forum.

#### **Baltimore City Sheriff**

**DUTIES:** According to the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office, its duties include the following: • Service of Writs of Execution, Summonses, Subpoenas, and Writs of Possession • Service of Rent Court Orders and Evictions • Execution of Arrest Warrants • Execution of Sheriff's Sales • Collection of Fines and Court Costs • Transportation of prisoners to place of incarceration • Maintaining order in the Circuit Court courtrooms • Custodial charge of prisoner during trial • Custodial charge of jurors during sequestration, including transportation to and from overnight accommodations • Execution of Domestic Violence and Peace Orders • Criminal Patrol and Crime Suppression Details • Traffic Enforcement.

TERM: Four years, no term limit.

**ANNUAL SALARY: \$186,194.** 

#### **Ouestions**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for this office? Resources: Does the Sheriff's office have sufficient resources to support its functions and, if not, how will you address this lack of resources?

**DISCRIMINATION:** What policies will you implement to prevent discrimination in law enforcement?

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** In addition to the issues you described in the other questions, what are your priorities for this office?

#### **Democratic Candidates**

Vote for 1

**John W. Anderson** No response by print deadline.

#### Sam Cogen

Campaign Website: Electcogen.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I began my 25-year career at the Sheriff's Office as an intern and was promoted eight times to become a top commander. I provided leadership to the Sheriff's operational units ranging from violent offender fugitive apprehension to community engagement.

I believe the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office currently has the resources necessary but is not properly utilizing them.

**DISCRIMINATION:** Currently, at the Sheriff's Office, women are underrepresented in middle and upper management. They are also underrepresented in the specialized unit. I will work with the unions to develop a program that seeks to adjust this imbalance so moving forward, more women are trained and prepared to take on special assignment roles and take the sergeants test which is the pathway to leadership.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Other priorities of my campaign are Humanizing the eviction process and Reducing violent crime. The current eviction process does not offer resources to prevent evictions and only seeks to remove people. By humanizing the process more resources will b offered to tenants and landlords while offering a connection to services once an eviction is carried out.

#### PROVISIONAL BALLOTS

A provisional ballot allows someone who thinks he or she is an eligible voter to vote but who is not in the electronic poll book. A provisional ballot will "count" if the Board of Elections determines that the voter is registered and eligible. Examples include voters who moved and did not update their address, who are listed as an absentee voter or as having already voted, or primary voters claiming a different party affiliation than what is shown in the electronic poll book, among other reasons. *No voter will be denied the opportunity to vote.* 

#### **Party Offices**

## **Baltimore City Republican Central Committee**

**DUTIES:** The Republican Central Committee is responsible for leading and organizing the day-to-day operations of the local Republican Party. The Committee recommends candidates to the Governor to fill vacancies in state and local offices when a member of the party resigns or dies in office. County Central Committees work with the State Central Committee, which in turn works with the national party.

TERM: Four years, no term limit.

SALARY: None.

**HOW ELECTED:** Republican Central Committee members are elected by registered party members. Election is by councilmanic district.

WEBSITE: Maryland Republican Party

Answers to questions for Republican Central Committee may be found at Vote411.org.

#### **Candidates**

Members of this party may vote for no more than 2.

District 1	KJ McKenzie	
District 2	Brendon Joyner-El	Toria White
District 3	Antonio Barboza	Shannon Wright
District 4	(No Candidate)	
District 5	(No Candidate)	
District 6	Scott Graham	
District 7	Christopher Anderso	on Tamu I. Davenport
	William J. Hellman	Jovani M. Patterson
District 8	Dennis Betzel	
District 9	(No Candidate)	
District 10	Emmanuel Digman	Mekkah X. Mohammed
	Michael W. Nolet	J. Brian Voss
District 11	Gary M. Collins	Makelle Collins
	Tom Kennedy	Pete Waters
District 12	(No Candidate)	
District 13	Blaire Freed	Larry O. Wardlow, Jr.
District 14	D Dante Anthony Hay	yes .

**David Rivera** 

## **Baltimore City Democratic Central Committee**

**DUTIES:** The Democratic Central Committee is responsible for leading and organizing the day-to-day operations of the local Democratic Party. The Committee recommends candidates to the Governor to fill vacancies in state and local offices when a member of the party resigns or dies in office. County Central Committees work with the State Central Committee, which in turn works with the national party.

TERM: Four years, no term limit.

SALARY: None.

**HOW ELECTED:** Democratic Central Committee members are elected by registered party members. In Baltimore City, voting is by legislative district. Voters may vote for the candidates of their choice. The winners will be determined by the greatest number of votes, while taking into consideration that those elected will be as equally divided by gender as possible.

WEBSITE: Maryland Democratic Party

Answers to questions for Democratic Central Committee may be found at Vote411.org.

#### **Candidates**

Vote for up to 8.

No more than half of the members can be elected from the same gender.

#### **District 40**

Dwayne Benbow (male)	Roxane Prettyman (female)	
Robin D. Boston (female)	Dytonia L Reed (female)	
Monica Cooper (female)	,	
Tia Hopkins (nonbinary) Kwame Kenyatta-Bey (male) Emanuel Moore (male)	Eric Stephenson (male)	
	Braxton C. Street (male)	
	Ronald Thomas-Bey (male)	
	Derrick S. Whiting (male)	
	Florence P. Wyatt-El (female)	

#### **District 41**

Haki Shakur Ammi (male)	Dayvon Love (male) Chris McSherry (female)
Lakesha Brown (female)	
Shaq Carbon (male)	Sandy Rosenbluth (female)
Brian K Easley (male)	Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer (male)
Alex Friedman (male)	Evan L. Serpick (male)
Bassheva "Shevy" Friedman	Tzvi Skaist (male)
(female)	Tammy Stinnett (female)
Angela C. Gibson (female)	Tzvi Topper (male)

## District 43A Warren Gatewood-Brooks (male) Karenthia A. Barber (female) Keith Holt (male) Scherod Barnes (male) Francesco Legaluppi (male) Warren Maurice Branch (male) Sonja Merchant-Jones (female) Cindy R Camp (female) Stevie Thompson (male)

**Angie Winder (female)** 

Diana Emerson (female)

#### **District 45**

Jermaine Jones (male) Antwan D Askia (male) Tiffany Jones (female) Dantwan Broady (male) Genae S Carney (female) Kevin W. Parson (male) Joe Richards (male) Jasmine A. Collins (female) Calvin LSmith, Jr. (male) Martin Edward Davis (male) Harry Spikes (male) Marques Dent (male) Kashawna Duncan (female) Robert Stokes, Sr. (male) Randolph Wells, III (male) **Derrell Frazier (male)** Antonio "Tony" Glover (male) Phillip Lee Westry (male)

**District 46** 

Ashelle Henry (female)

Trebor R Johnson (male)

Keisha D. Allen (female) Nick Frisone (male) Mike Ball (male) Nancy M Mead (female)

**Baltimore Rob Yochem (male)** Joe DiSeta (male)

#### **Nonpartisan Offices Baltimore City**

Sabrina Wiggins (female)

Morgan Wright (female)

### **Board of Education At Large**

**DUTIES:** The Board of School Commissioners is responsible for the management of the Baltimore City Public School System. The Board determines educational policy for the Department of Education, provides forums at which residents of the City may express their views about educational policy and decision-making, and submits the annual budget for the Department. The Board also confirms or rejects all nominations by the Superintendent of principals, teachers, supervisors, directors, and other professional employees. Specifications for all educational supplies and equipment used by the Department are determined by the Board.

Plans and specifications for school buildings, including changes in plans and specifications, are prepared under the direction of and approved by the Board. Moreover, the Board also has authority to select school sites. In addition, the Board has charge of the transportation of pupils; the maintenance and operation of vehicles and equipment used for such purposes; and the care, storage, and distribution of supplies and equipment used by the Department.

**SALARY: None** 

**HOW ELECTED:** Two at-large members are elected. Nine members are appointed by the mayor.

TERM: 4 years

#### **Questions**:

FUNDING FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION: What policies will you support to ensure adequate and fair funding of public education, particularly with regard to historically divested communities?

CURRICULUM: What changes, if any, would you support in the curriculum used in public schools, particularly in public high schools?

PARENT PARTICIPATION: How would you ensure the engagement of parents, students, and the general community in making transparent Board of Education decisions?

OTHER PRIORITIES: In addition to the issues you described in the other questions, what are your priorities for this office?

#### Candidates:

Vote for up to 2.

#### Karen Yosafat Beleck

Campaign Website: KarenForEducation.com

FUNDING FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION: I support adequately funding public school education to ensure the academic success of our students, to include programming that introduces our students to a variety of extracurricular activities to engage their minds and hearts with new ideas, that they may be able to expand on their choices as productive adults in our society.

**CURRICULUM:** I would do away with twice yearly testing, which I do not believe tests the strengths of our students. I support a code of conduct that both protects the students and the educators to promote a safe and effective learning environment. I want to have the schools return to basics in education, to provide a good foundation for higher learning.

PARENT PARTICIPATION: I will be creating opportunities to train parents on how to create PTAs in their children's schools, so that they will be visible, and be able to be vocal, to ensure transparency of the schools, the programming, and the environment. I will work to create volunteer opportunities for parents to become involved in their children's academic success in their schools.

OTHER PRIORITIES: I want all children to learn the material in a language they understand, and to receive a thorough English as a Second Language foundation, separate but coordinated with the curriculum materials. We are losing precious time with our students who are struggling to learn the language, and they are missing the information they need to be learning. This needs to be stopped immediately.

#### **April Christina Curley**

Campaign Website: www.electapril.com

FUNDING FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION: To ensure adequate funding within BCPSS, I will enlist the collective efforts of cross-industry stakeholders to play a more active role in the development of our schools, teachers, and kids. I will tap into my network to rally tech stakeholders in shaping schools of the future and funding the transformation needed to meet the needs of an ever-growing technical workforce.

**CURRICULUM:** By bridging the digital divide, I hope to ensure that every student in Baltimore City has access to quality wifi and hardware, make computer science education a requirement to graduate since every job category will require a tech/CS skillset in the future, and restructure  $\,$ computer science curriculum so that it meets the technological skillset of the high-paying, high-quality jobs of the future.

PARENT PARTICIPATION: I believe that the Board of School Commissioners has an inherent responsibility to operate in full transparency, especially with all relevant community stakeholders such as parents, students, and community members. I will work to create policy that requires more direct transparency and accountability of School Board members in driving key strategy and overall decision-making.

OTHER PRIORITIES: As a proud baltimorean who relies on public transportation myself, I will work to create innovative transportation options for all children and families. Also, as someone who deeply understands the barriers that mental health issues can pose, I am running to increase access to mental health services for all students and teachers P.34 across Baltimore City.

#### Ashley E. Esposito

Campaign Website: ashleyesposito.com

**FUNDING FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION:** I fully support the Blueprint of Maryland Future. I recently became a Certified Blueprint Advocate through Strong Schools Maryland. I plan to ensure that we implement the plan in Baltimore City. I have been actively involved in advocating against permanent school closures. Closures destabilize communities and impact voter turnout where people rely on schools for polling places.

**CURRICULUM:** I would support moving away from curriculum focused on standardized testing. Teachers have expressed concerns that the testing is prioritized over actual learning. The focus on testing does not benefit different learning styles, english language learners, and others. Testing is a tool but should not be a focus or interfere with a teachers ability to teach all of their students.

**PARENT PARTICIPATION:** BCPSS communication & outreach needs work. As a working mom, I have not been able to attend meetings or share them with my community because there was little notice. We must use multiple forms of communication such as in-person outreach, mail, email, phone calls, etc. to meet people where they are. Communication needs to be consistent and timely for the community to participate.

OTHER PRIORITIES: My priorities are:

- ~ equity and accessibility
- ~ multi-lingual support
- ~ investing in arts & vocational programs
- ~ keeping every school open
- ~ free school-based wellness centers every school
- ~teacher retention
- ~ accurate data & information
- ~ community outreach
- ~ supporting green initiatives
- ~helping boost morale by fixing all issues in BCPSS.

All of these are very important to me.

#### Salimah Jasani

Campaign Website: salimahjasani.com

**FUNDING FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION:** BCPSS has been chronically underfunded by the state and city. With the recent increase in federal and state funds, we have an opportunity to promote equity by addressing specific schools, neighborhoods, and students with a high level of need. I support policies ensuring wrap-around services, targeted student interventions, and improved digital and physical infrastructure for all our students.

**CURRICULUM:** As a former Baltimore City Schools teacher, I would support enhancing the curriculum to incorporate more student choice and personalized learning. I also support incorporating competency-based education and exposure to real world experiences and learning opportunities so our students develop both technical skills and self-advocacy skills that will help them transition to college or careers.

**PARENT PARTICIPATION:** I would host town halls and board meetings in communities where our families live; create planning and advising teams that include students, families, and community members; revamp the feedback process such that there are clear avenues for the community to give feedback on proposals; and ensure that Board decisions, budgets, and processes are accessible and published in family-friendly language.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** (1) Ensure that ALL our students, including students with disabilities and English learners, have access to opportunities that enable them to thrive.

- (2) End the school-to-prison pipeline by shifting the way we address behavior and mental health needs.
- (3) Ensure implementation of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future with fidelity alongside the effective use of funds to improve student outcomes.

#### Michael Eugene Johnson

Campaign Website: www.citizensformej.com

**FUNDING FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION:** Addressing the unfortunate disparities in public education requires taking a hard look at gaps in funding, This intense challenge and years of failed policies to eliminate deep inequities in public education, and funding reforms we must lobby for the power we have to shift the status quo. We must lobby and increased Federal funding. And by all means use the money we have in a real productive way

**CURRICULUM:** Teaching more civics and more physical education throughout K-12 Children entering into the 9th grade needs a curriculum for financial education. At 18 years old, kids are thrust out into a world where every step they take from graduation to retirement will be directly impacted by their financial knowledge and money management skills.

**PARENT PARTICIPATION:** Moving our school board meetings in and around the city so that parents can be part of the conversation. Assisting with beefing up the PTA at every school

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Transperacey and finding solutions to the challenges in the education of our children, bringing equity to all students with innovation and creating a partnership with parents

#### **Kwame Kenyatta-Bey**

**FUNDING FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION:** Funding for education has been configured in the past to be dependent upon a time space: already stressed population. While the community is a great beneficiary of the results of public education, the weight should not rest totally on the shoulders of this population. One of the greatest beneficiaries of public education is the commercial community. I would look for ways that businesses and profit

**CURRICULUM:** There are three primary areas that interest me that demand focus in curriculum development

1. Rigor and accountability. We have placed the burden upon staff to supply all the rigor and be accountable for the success of scholars. At the same time we have alleviated this aspect vital to learning off the shoulders of these same scholars. This provides a false lesson that there is no responsibility

**PARENT PARTICIPATION:** While I hesitate to get into a diatribe concerning parenting and the many responsibilities attached to this process, let me first say that we are no longer living in a 50's where the fantasy was one parent always being available to handle any inconsistencies in their scholars performance. It is in truth with todays demands tat parents are occupied in the chores dedicated to simple survival.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** The complexity of education can yield an unending list of concerns. We as a human family have dealt with the best methodology of teaching what is of Important to community survival since the beginning of humanity, whether it was where to find and hunt game or where and how to plant seed. Let me enumerate just a few.

I was invited to speak on this subject at a conference in the nation's capitol

#### Kevin W. Parson

**FUNDING FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION:** I will fully support a funding formula that allows for fair, sufficient, and adequate weighted resources to schools in need in low performing, high FARMS (Free and Reduced Meals), ELL- English Language Learners, and Special Needs; I support fair funding and fair distribution of resources based on need and not unfair tax base formulas.

**CURRICULUM:** I would like to see an authenti based curricilum that meets the needs of students to better prepare them for a career path and college readiness. We must prepare our students to be workforce ready and collegel ready.

**PARENT PARTICIPATION:** There must be complete transparency and stakeholder involvement in critical decisions and opportunities for stakeholders' input. We must make meetings live-streamed and make meeting notes available. We must have community/ board meetings in respective communities. Stakeholders must be treated as partners. We must meet the needs of families of diverse backgrounds and family challenges.

**OTHER PRIORITIES:** Schools must be safe for teachers and students so that teaching and learning can occur at a very high level. Providing a climate and culture of safety is a must. Next, teacher retention and recruitment are essential. Adequate training and support for teachers is a must. We must address the teacher shortages. Third, a good bargaining agreement and an evaluation system that respects workers.

**Cortly "C.D." Witherspoon** No response by print deadline.

#### **Ballot Drop Boxes Locations:**



Academy for College & Career Exploration School 427

1300 W 36th Street 21211

Achievement Academy at Harbor City High School 413

2201 Pinewood Avenue 21214

**Baltimore Museum of Art** 10 Museum Drive 21218

Barclay Elementary School 54 2900 Barclay Street 21218

**BCCC-Liberty Heights Campus** 2901 Liberty Heights Avenue 21215

Benjamin Franklin HS at Masonville Cove 239 1201 Cambria Street 21225

Carver Vocational Technical High School 454 2201 Pressman Street 21216

Cross Country @ Northwestern School 247 6900 Park Heights Avenue 21215

**Dickey Hill Elem/Middle School 201** 5025 Dickey Hill Road 21207

**Digital Harbor High School 416** 1100 Covington Street 21230

**Elections Board Office** 417 E. Fayette Street 21202

**Election Board Warehouse** 301 N. Franklintown Road 21223

Forest Park High School 406 3701 Eldorado Avenue 21207

Frederick Douglass High School 450 2301 Gwynns Falls Pkwy 21217

Hamilton Elementary School 236 6101 Old Harford Road 21214 Hampden Elementary School 55 3608 Chestnut Avenue 21211

Herring Run Library 3801 Erdman Avenue 21213

Holabird Academy 229 1500 Imla Street 21224

Leith Walk Elem/Mid School 245 5915 Glennor Road 21239

Morgan State University (Tyler Hall)
1700 E Cold Spring Lane 21251

Mount Pleasant Church and Ministries 6000 Radecke Avenue 21206

Patapsco Elementary School 163 844 Roundview Road 21225

Patterson High School 405 100 Kane Street 21224

Paul Laurence Dunbar High School 414 1400 Orleans Street 21231

Pimlico Elementary School 223 4849 Pimlico Road 21215

Public Safety Training Center 3500 West Northern Pkwy 21215

Reach! Partnership School 341 2555 Harford Road 21218

Renaissance Academy 433 1301 McCulloh Street 21217

Southeast Anchor Library 3601 Eastern Avenue 21224

The League for People with Disabilities 1111 E. Coldspring Lane 21239

**University of Maryland Engagement Center** 16 S. Poppleton Street 21201

Violetville Elementary School 226 1207 Pine Heights Avenue 21229

Western High School 407 4600 Falls Road 21209

Westside Skill Center 4501 Edmondson Avenue 21229



## Early Voting Centers 2022 Election

July 7 2022 to July 14, 2022 7:00 am to 8:00 pm

Westside Skill Center 4501 Edmondson Ave Rear of Building Enter on Athol Ave Baltimore, MD 21229

The League for People With Disabilities 1111 E Coldspring Lane Baltimore, MD 21239

Mount Pleasant Ministries 6000 Radecke Ave Baltimore, MD 21206 Public Safety Training Center 3500 W Northern Parkway Enter on Manhattan Ave Baltimore, MD 21215

Southeast Anchor Library 3601 Eastern Ave Baltimore, MD 21224

University Of Maryland Engagement Center 16 S Poppleton Street Baltimore, MD 21201

Patapsco Elem Sch 844 Roundview Road Baltimore, MD 21225





- Polling Places
- Election and Registration Dates
- · Candidates views

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Go to VOTE 411.org

Select Find what's on your ballot

Enter your address, then pick "Go to My Races"

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