



**Prince George's County  
Voters' Guide  
2024 Primary Election**

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**LWVPGC**

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# Prince George's County Voters' Guide

## 2024 Primary Election

League of Women Voters of Prince George's County

This *Voters' Guide* is published by the League of Women Voters of Prince George's County. The League has a long tradition of publishing the verbatim responses of candidates to questions important to voters. The League offers this *Voters' Guide* to assist citizens as they prepare for the 2024 election. The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any candidate or political party.

All candidates were asked to respond to a nonpartisan questionnaire. Candidates running for a particular office were asked identical questions. Responses from candidates are printed exactly as submitted. We did not edit for content, spelling, or grammar. All responses were limited to 400 characters and any additional material was cut off at that point. If a candidate did not respond by our deadline, "No response received by deadline" is printed.

Only voters registered with the Republican or Democratic parties may vote for candidates for most offices, though all voters may vote for Board of Education and some municipal offices. The deadline to update your registration to select a party affiliation is Tuesday, **April 23, 2024**.

Visit the online interactive Voters' Guide at [www.vote411.org](http://www.vote411.org)

### **VOTE411.ORG**

ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED

Polling Places • Election Dates • Absentee Ballot Info • The candidates' views on the issues in their own words

To build your personal Voters' Guide:

Go to [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org)

Enter your address.

Pick "Get personalized information on candidates and issues," then pick "Show My Races."

Additional information on the candidates is available at [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org), which has any updates received after our deadline. Candidate websites provide additional biographical and policy information. If the candidate submitted a campaign website, it is listed under their name.

2024 Primary Election LWV Prince George's County Voters' Guide.

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Judge of the Circuit Court  
Prince George's County Board of Education



## Voting Information

(EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS: <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/sites>)

When: **8:00 am to 8:00 pm** from Thursday, **May 2, 2024**, through and including Thursday, **May 9, 2024**. If you vote during Early Voting, you cannot vote by absentee ballot or on Election Day.

### **Prince George's County Board of Elections**

1100 Mercantile Lane, Suite 115A  
Largo, MD 20774  
301-341-7300  
Email: [election@co.pg.md.us](mailto:election@co.pg.md.us)

## BY MAIL

You may request that a mail-in ballot (formerly called an absentee ballot) be mailed to you or sent via an email link. Apply online or by printing out an application from the State Board of Elections website:

[www.elections.maryland.gov](http://www.elections.maryland.gov)

An application for a mail-in ballot must be received by your local Board of Elections

- **Tuesday, May 7, 2024**, if you want to receive your ballot by mail or fax; or
- **Friday, May 10, 2024**, if you want to download your ballot from the State's website. (You must still print and mail the ballot. You cannot return it by email.)

If you hand-deliver your ballot, you must deliver it to a ballot drop box, to your precinct polling place, or to your local board of elections by **8 pm** on **election day**. A list of drop box locations will be included in the materials you receive with your mail-in ballot.

If you mail your ballot, the envelope must be postmarked on or before primary election day (**May 14, 2024**) and received by your local board of elections by **10 am** on **May 24, 2024**.

NOTE: If you request a mail-in ballot, you will not be permitted to cast an ordinary ballot during Early Voting or on Election Day. You will be provided a provisional ballot that will be counted only if your mail-in ballot is not received.

## ELECTION DAY VOTING

7:00 am to 8:00 pm on **Tuesday, May 14, 2024**.

## ELECTION INFORMATION

***Don't know your polling place? Not sure if you are registered?***

Visit <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch>

***Rumors about the election?***

Visit <http://www.elections.maryland.gov> – Click on the link for “Press Room” and you will see a link labeled “Rumor Control.”

## Support the *Voters' Guide*

We invite you to support our efforts to provide more citizens with information about candidates and the election process. Please consider a tax-deductible contribution to the League of Women Voters of Prince George's County.

\$150\_\_ \$100\_\_ \$75\_\_ \$50\_\_ \$25\_\_ other\_\_

Send a check to:

**LWVPGC**

P.O. Box 3033

Laurel, MD 20709

or online at <https://www.lwvpgcmd.org/support>



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***Special thanks to our partner, Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., for their contribution to the publication of the League of Women Voters of Prince George's County 2024 Primary Election Voters' Guide.***

2024 Primary Election LWV Prince George's County Voters' Guide.

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## President of the United States

**DUTIES:** The President is: the head of state of the United States of America; the Chief Executive Officer; and the Commander in Chief of all military forces. The powers of the President are prescribed in the Constitution and federal law. The President appoints the members of the Cabinet, ambassadors to other nations and the United Nations, Supreme Court Justices, and federal judges, subject to Senate approval. The President, along with the Cabinet and its agencies, is responsible for carrying out and enforcing the laws of the United States. The President may also recommend legislation to the United States Congress.

**BASE SALARY:** \$400,000 per year.

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

**Note:** All candidates who will appear on Maryland's ballot are listed below, but only those that meet the following criteria were invited to respond to the League's questions in this guide: 1. The candidate must have made a public announcement of her/his intention to run for her/his Party's nomination for President; and 2. The candidate must meet the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act's minimum contribution threshold requirements for qualifying for matching funds, based on the most recent data publicly available on the Federal Elections Commission website.

### Questions

**COST OF LIVING:** What steps should be taken to address the high cost of living and depressed wages in America, including for families, people with disabilities, and people that are economically disadvantaged?

**HEALTH CARE:** What steps will you take to ensure all Americans have access to quality and affordable health care, including reproductive care and prescription drug coverage?

**ECONOMY:** What will you do to support an economy and job market that are strong and inclusive of all people?

**CITIZENSHIP:** What are the most important steps you will take to create an accessible path to citizenship, including Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients?

**ELECTIONS:** What measures do you support to expand voter access and restore trust in our elections?

### Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for no more than 1.

#### **Joseph Biden**

**Campaign Website:** <https://joebiden.com/>

**Campaign Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/joebiden>

**Campaign Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/joebiden/>

**Campaign Twitter:** joebiden

**COST OF LIVING:** President Biden and Vice President Harris will continue to invest in the American people and fight to lower costs for families. They will continue working to eliminate junk fees and call on

corporations with higher markups to pass savings onto consumers. President Biden and Vice President Harris are also pushing Congress to lower the cost of housing, lower prescription drug prices for more Americans, expand access to affordable, high-quality child care and long-term care, extend the enhanced Child Tax Credit, ensure access to paid family and medical leave for every American, make preK free and college more affordable, and more.

Additional information can be found in this letter: <http://tinyurl.com/BidenHarrisLetter>

**HEALTH CARE:** The Biden Administration is lowering prescription drug prices – President Biden was the first president to take on Big Pharma and win. He has capped the cost of insulin at \$35 for seniors and finally allowed Medicare to negotiate drug prices — starting with some of the costliest, most widely used drugs used to treat blood clots, cancers, diabetes and more. The Biden-Harris Administration is also defending in court a woman’s ability to access medication abortion, fighting to ensure that women receive the medical care they need in emergencies including miscarriages, working to protect the right to travel across state lines to access care, and strengthening privacy protections for patients and doctors.

<http://tinyurl.com/BidenHarrisLetter>

**ECONOMY:** President Biden and Vice President Harris came into office with a vision to grow the economy from the middle out and the bottom up—not the top down. They’re focused on an economy that builds more in America, invests in American workers, and promotes competition to lower costs – and their economic vision is working.

Additional information can be found in this letter: <http://tinyurl.com/BidenHarrisLetter>

**CITIZENSHIP:** President Biden and Vice President Harris are also using all the tools at their disposal to build a safe, orderly, and humane immigration system. While Donald Trump has repeatedly said that immigrants are poisoning the nation’s blood and is calling for an extreme immigration plan that would wreak havoc across communities while doing nothing to keep us safe, the Biden-Harris Administration has both increased legal pathways for migration and increased border enforcement. And, since Day One, President Biden has called on Congress to take action to build an orderly and humane immigration system.

Additional information can be found in this letter: <http://tinyurl.com/BidenHarrisLetter>

**VOTING AND ELECTIONS:** As president, Joe Biden has made the defense, protection, and preservation of American democracy the central cause of his administration. This starts with strengthening and fighting for our democratic institutions and free and fair elections and President Biden is using every tool at his disposal to do so – including through an Executive Order directing all agencies to promote voting and voter registration, calling on Congress to pass the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act to restore and strengthen the Voting Rights Act and the Freedom to Vote Act to establish national baseline standards for access to the ballot.

Additional information can be found in this letter: <http://tinyurl.com/BidenHarrisLetter>

## Dean Phillips

**Website:** [dean24.com](http://dean24.com)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/deanphillips2024/>

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

**Other:** [instagram.com/deanphillips2024/](https://www.instagram.com/deanphillips2024/)

This candidate did not meet the criteria above and was not asked to respond to questions.

## Marianne Williamson

**Website:** [www.marianne2024.com](http://www.marianne2024.com)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/williamsonmarianne/](https://www.facebook.com/williamsonmarianne/)

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

**Other:** [instagram.com/mariannewilliamson/](https://www.instagram.com/mariannewilliamson/)

**COST OF LIVING:** My Economic Bill of Rights Plan includes 10 transformational changes.

Right to a living wage: On day 1, I will issue an executive order that provides a living wage to all public and private sector employees paid with federal contracts will receive a living wage.

The right to a voice in the workplace through a union and collective bargaining.

The right to universal quality healthcare.  
The right to a cost-free higher education.  
The right to good, affordable housing.  
The right to a clean environment and a healthy planet.  
The right to a meaningful endowment of resources at birth.  
The right to sound banking and financial services.  
The right to an equitable and fair justice system.

**HEALTH CARE:** I favor a Medicare for All-style universal healthcare system, like those enjoyed by citizens of every other advanced democracy. My administration will also shift the focus away from a “sick-care system” to a healthcare system that actively invests in the building blocks of a healthy life by addressing root causes of our problems. I will also establish a Department of Children and Youth, taking our children from a national afterthought to a central position in the re-imagining of our nation. I will also center the rights of women. We will restore the right to abortion, provide reproductive care, close the gender gap in Social Security benefits, enact paid family and medical leave through the FAMILY ACT, and much more.

**ECONOMY:** My administration will make massive investments in our country on the scale of our mobilization during WWII. We will do it by creating millions of well-paid, unionized jobs building the housing, infrastructure, clean energy, education, childcare, and healthcare systems we need to create a fundamental U-turn. Supporting unions, instead of shutting them down the way Joe Biden did, gives the People a seat at the bargaining table. This empowers workers to improve conditions for all. But life happens. We will also ensure there is a robust social safety net there to catch people when they stumble, with extra emphasis on supporting the most vulnerable.

**CITIZENSHIP:** I firmly reject border walls, family separation, and dehumanizing rhetoric. I embrace immigrants and their pursuit of the American Dream, including Dreamers, as embodiments of our highest aspirations as a nation. I support comprehensive immigration reform and will provide a timely, ethical, transparent, and straightforward path to citizenship. I will protect the DACA program, expand protections for DACA recipients, ensure they have access to ACA/Medicaid coverage, update the registration date of the 1929 Registry Act to 1/1/2022, and restore Section 245(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which expired in April 2001, allowing people who have approved petitions to apply for their Green Card upon payment of a fine for the filing fee.

**ELECTIONS:** I have a number of proposals, from getting money out of politics, to restoring the right to vote to the 5 million plus Americans with a felony conviction, abolishing the Electoral college, creating an automatic voter registration system, establishing Election Day as a national holiday, returning power to the Legislative branch, increasing the number of Supreme Court justices to 15 (with 10 or 20 year terms, instituting ranked choice or STAR voting, and much more.

## **Republican Candidates**

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

### **Nikki Haley**

**Campaign Website:** <https://nikkihaley.com/>

**Campaign Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/NikkiHaley/>

**Campaign Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/nikkihaley/>

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

No response received by deadline.

### **Donald Trump**

**Campaign Website:** <https://www.donaldjtrump.com/>

**Campaign Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/DonaldTrump/>

**Campaign Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/realdonaldtrump/>

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

No response received by deadline.



# Statewide Offices

## U.S. Senator

**DUTIES:** U.S. Senators make laws along with the members of the U.S. House of Representatives, 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.

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

**HOW ELECTED:** Elected statewide. In 2024, 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:** [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov)

### Questions

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

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** What actions should the United States government take to protect voting rights and ensure the security of elections?

**ENVIRONMENT:** How would you address problems such as climate change and pollution?

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

**FIREARMS:** Please provide your position on national gun safety legislation.

### Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for no more than 1.

#### Angela Alsobrooks

**Campaign Twitter:** facebook.com/teamalsobrooks

**Campaign Facebook:** www.angelaalsobrooks.com

**Campaign Email:** info@angelaalsobrooks.com

**Campaign Website:** info@angelaalsobrooks.com

**Campaign Instagram:** @alsobrooksformd

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am proud to have spent my life in public service, first as an Assistant State's Attorney focused on domestic violence cases, then as State's Attorney, where under my tenure violent crime dropped by 50%, and most recently as Prince George's County Executive. I know Marylanders deserve a Senator who both fights for them and shares their concerns. I am running for Senate to be a voice for families like the ones I grew up with and whom I have worked for throughout my life.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** I will fight to eliminate the filibuster and pass critical legislation like the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and Freedom to Vote Act. I'm proud to be endorsed by Congressman John Sarbanes and End Citizens United // Let America Vote, two leading voices for protecting voting rights, strengthening election laws and taking money out of politics.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Urgent action is needed to address the climate crisis. I will be a vocal advocate for the Green New Deal, as well as for expanding tax credits for clean energy and ensuring that all U.S. Government purchases, from buildings to vehicles, align with emission goals. As County Executive, I issued an Executive Order for Prince George's County, setting ambitious targets to reduce the 2005 emission levels by half before 2030 and net zero by 2045. I believe the U.S. should adopt a similar

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timeline.

**IMMIGRATION:** I will be a strong advocate for comprehensive immigration reform to mend the broken immigration system, including creating a pathway to citizenship for those already living and working in the United States. I will support initiatives such as the American Dream and Promise Act, aimed at safeguarding the rights and future of DREAMers and TPS recipients. I firmly believe these individuals deserve certainty and security, regardless of who holds the office of the President.

**FIREARMS:** As a mother, I have been deeply affected by the tragic loss of too many children to gun violence and am frustrated by the lack of action from Washington. I am committed to fighting for essential gun safety legislation to protect children and communities from gun violence. I will work to implement universal background checks and red flag laws, close the gun show loophole, ban military-style weapons like AR-15s, and prohibit devices like bump stocks.

## **Michael W. Cobb, Sr.**

**Campaign Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/cobbroof/](http://www.facebook.com/cobbroof/)

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

**Campaign Website:** [cobbroof@gmail.com](http://cobbroof@gmail.com)

**Campaign Phone:** 4436900989

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Unlike the rest of the candidates, I am not a multi millionaire nor a career politician. What makes me most suitable as senator is that I am a blue class working person. I have endured server struggle these past few years. The current state of the political world has no clue what the experience is of the normal person who has to work all day to pay bills and afford to eat. But I do, and I with a closer connection to the people will be able to find the solution to their problems.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** The answer to this question is easy, when I was young it was same day voting, paper ballots, and ID required for voting. The election results were always known at 11pm the same now. Bring it back to the old way and it would solve the issue.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Climate change and pollution is not an american problem, we have some of the strictest regulations on emissions in the world. We need to force other countries such as China, Russia, and India to address their pollution emissions to more american standards.

**IMMIGRATION:** Lock the border down tight. Anyone who is illegal in the USA caught doing any criminal activity should be deported immediately, and follow all the laws that's already on the books. If anything it should be more difficult to entry the country, not easier.

**FIREARMS:** I am from Maryland, a state with some of the strictest gun laws in the country. I am a firm believer in the 2A rights of americans, including the right to carry. I have a carry permit myself. Background checks should be nation wide, not state by state. If a person is found with an illegally purchased fired, the court system must heavily enforce stricter punishment on them. There should always be a background check on any purchase of a firearm in any situation.

## **Marcellus Crews**

**Campaign Twitter:** [facebook.com/Crews2me](https://facebook.com/Crews2me)

**Campaign Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/Crews2me](http://www.facebook.com/Crews2me)

**Campaign Email:** [Info@marcelluscrews.com](mailto:Info@marcelluscrews.com)

**Campaign Website:** [MarcellusCrews.com](http://MarcellusCrews.com)

**Campaign Phone:** 3013258898

**Campaign Instagram:** [www.instagram.com/crewsmarcellus](http://www.instagram.com/crewsmarcellus)

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As a businessman, having the privilege of serving diverse clients across sectors like healthcare, construction, embassies, churches, and schools. Through my role as a state vendor, I've gained valuable insights into the needs and challenges of our community. With over 6,000 homes served, I've honed a unique ability to navigate complex issues and budgets while fostering trust and comfort through my leadership approach.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** We should pass H.R.4 – The John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2021 This bill would restore parts of the 1965 Voting Rights Act that prevented states from enacting certain changes to their voting laws. They must first seek federal approval.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Being immersed in technology innovation, I firmly believe that the primary impediment to progress often stems from the relentless pursuit of monetary gain, resulting in inertia.

I am confident in my ability to advocate for both businesses and governments to expedite the transition towards efficiency in renewable energy, electric vehicles, smart homes, smart businesses, and smart cities. Additionally, I am committed to mitigating toxic emissions originating from industrial sources.

**IMMIGRATION:** 1. Immigration processing needs to speed up all the way around. 2. More immigration judges to speed up for those seeking asylum. 3. If allowed to stay in our country while waiting a temporary work visa granted. 4. Dreamers should be given permanent status. 5. Temporary work visa granted processed quicker. 6. More Custom and border protection officers 7. More smart fencing along the boarder. We just need a comprehensive approach!

**FIREARMS:** 1. I advocate for the integration of advanced smart technologies in gun safety measures. 2. The implementation of Red Flag Laws nationwide is imperative. 3. It is crucial to raise the minimum age for purchasing long guns from 18 to 21. 4. We must prioritize the establishment of mental health programs with robust accountability measures. 5. "Stand Your Ground" laws, we should impose limitations on the circumstances under which deadly force is justified outside of one's home.

## **Brian E. Frydenborg**

**Campaign Twitter:** bfry1981

**Campaign Facebook:** <https://brian4md.com>

**Campaign Website:** [bf@brian4md.com](mailto:bf@brian4md.com)

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Over two decades experience engaging on national and international issues as a journalist, academic, and working with NGOs and government agencies. Passion for making a difference and two decades of studying, writing about, or working in public, politics, and international affairs. Deep knowledge of U.S. history, excellent communication skills, attention to detail, and that I am already putting out far more detailed plans than any of my competitors.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** First and foremost, we must call out, stand up to, and stop insurrectionist fascism. A big part of that will be protecting, preserving, and expanding voting rights; fighting cheating, gerrymandering, and discrimination; and expanding the Supreme Court while reforming the Senate to keep anti-democratic forces at bay. We must also protect against foreign election interference with our NATO allies and ensure that we instill digital literacy among our students and population.

**ENVIRONMENT:** We must take world leadership and engage in a new round of global climate talks. We should be phasing out coal power and oil while temporarily capitalizing on natural gas and nuclear energy while transition and fully developing far cleaner green energy projects with subsidies and tax breaks. We must also embrace carbon trading and modernize our infrastructure and energy grid, improve waste, food, and water management, and handle overaggressive deforestation and fishing managing soil quality.

**IMMIGRATION:** It has been decades over 4 presidencies that GOP has been blocking comprehensive immigration reform. We need to increase all immigration related staff and systems by between a factor of 1.5-2. That means that many more asylum/immigration courts, judges, application processors, administrative staff, border patrol, etc. Needs to be paths to citizenship/work visas to all migrants in good standing (helping address labor shortage), Must work Latin American partners to stabilize LATAM & stem migration

**FIREARMS:** My own deep research into the issue makes it clear that the 2nd Amendment has been wildly distorted by modern activists: the original cited right to keep/bear are only meant in the context of militia service dating back to ancient Saxon tradition. Common law individual right is not covered by 2nd A and can be regulated easily. We must expand SCOTUS to restore balance who will correctly interpret 2nd A, then Congress can pass reasonable national gun regulation, which empirically saves lives!

## **Scottie J. Griffin**

**Campaign Phone:** 3015895390

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My professional credentials and professional experiences in leadership specifically correlate with the requirements and experiences for achieving success and effectiveness as a United States Senator. have prepared me for immediately assuming and achieving the duties of the united

states senate. Most importantly, I am experienced at achieving responsibilities of a United States Senator through years of introducing and drafting bills, proposing and passing legislative policies, developing, organ

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** Congress must update the election infrastructure annually and establish consistent procedures and processes in every state and territory; inspect and replace older voting machines and conduct a nationwide post-election audit in each state and territory

**ENVIRONMENT:** I would decrease the number of trees to reduce excessive carbon; create vehicles that don't run on fossil fuel; decrease emission standards of greenhouse gases to decrease the number of carbon monoxide emitted by human activities, and continuously finance climate change initiatives.

**IMMIGRATION:** I would create a permanent process which stipulates that immigrants who have resided in the United States for ten years without legal issues be granted full-fledged citizenship and decrease the number of years to five or six years

**FIREARMS:** Support President Biden's major gun safety bill in decades which required individuals to ascertain now need a state license to purchase a gun. And, that the bill includes safety legislation for schools, and a state crisis intervention program.

## Robert K. Houton

**Campaign Twitter:** @rob\_houton

**Campaign Email:** rob@voterobhouton.com

**Campaign Website:** www.voterobhouton.com

**Campaign Instagram:** [https://www.instagram.com/robert\\_k\\_houton/](https://www.instagram.com/robert_k_houton/)

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I initiated, and championed the fight in the 118th U.S. Congress to prevent fentanyl poisoning and deaths of teens, youth, and students. My bold leadership safeguarding Maryland families and children, particularly, has resulted in three legislative--bipartisan--bills in the U.S. Congress which President Biden and his Administration also support. S.2569, the Fentanyl Safe Testing and Overdose Prevention Act is now going forward due in no small part to my advocacy.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** The U.S. should remain steadfast in ensuring the existing rules and laws protecting voting rights are adhered to, complied with, and effectively communicated to safeguard all eligible voters' rights.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Climate change is real. We must continue to explore pathways for public-private partnerships, including fostering innovation and supporting tax incentives for proven methodologies and practices which protect the environment for our children.

**IMMIGRATION:** With 6,400 migrants with criminal histories apprehended so far this fiscal year, we MUST stop migrants with criminal histories from coming through the border. We must SECURE THE BORDER.

**FIREARMS:** Studies have shown time and again that those who struggle with acute mental health problems are more prone to gun violence. We need to invest in mental health supports. I fully support background checks and the banning of "ghost guns."

## Joseph Perez

**Campaign Website:** perezforussenate@gmail.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** No response received by deadline.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** No response received by deadline.

**ENVIRONMENT:** No response received by deadline.

**IMMIGRATION:** No response received by deadline.

**FIREARMS:** No response received by deadline.

## Steven Henry Seufferer

**Campaign Twitter:** twitter.com/SteveSForCongress

**Campaign Facebook:** facebook.com/SteveSForCongress

**Campaign Email:** stevesforcongress@gmail.com

**Campaign Phone:** (619)630-9299

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

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My entire life, I have been a solver of problems and I have been fascinated by technology, which has ultimately led me to work in Information Technology for a living. We, as a country, are on the precipice of a future where those skills are going to be vitally important for our leadership to possess if we want to stay on the forefront, and I plan to be there to help guide us in the right direction

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** Implement automatic voter registration when someone turns 18 and/or obtains an ID or driver's license. Poll workers should be vetted as carefully as those with security clearances to ensure they are not compromised. End gerrymandering by requiring bipartisan approval on all redistricting maps

**ENVIRONMENT:** We need to eliminate corporate money from politics so big polluters can't just buy a senator, and we need to make unpopular decisions to safeguard our future for those who will come after us, as well as those who are here now.

**IMMIGRATION:** To begin with, I would say that we should probably change some things so that unaccompanied minors do not represent themselves in court proceedings. Also do something to stop governors from sending refugees to another city to try to raise a political issue.

**FIREARMS:** Local and state laws are all well and good, but we won't be able to make any positive or tangible changes to gun safety unless it's done at the federal level. A multi-angle approach is needed, including mental health screenings and common-sense gun laws written by people who understand firearms.

## David J. Trone

**Campaign Twitter:** [facebook.com/davidjtrone](https://www.facebook.com/davidjtrone)

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

**Campaign Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/davidjtrone](https://www.facebook.com/davidjtrone)

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

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

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Following a successful career in business, I've served three terms representing Maryland's 6th Congressional District, where I have advocated for systemic change on the most pressing issues facing Marylanders and people across the country. I have never taken a penny from PACs or lobbyists and have continuously worked across the aisle to fight for progressive values. I have a proven track record of delivering results in Washington, passing 26 bills into law last Congress alone.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** I'm committed to restoring faith and trust in our government by putting an end to voter suppression laws that harm our democracy. We can start by passing the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and the For the People Act. I recently released my People Over Politics Reform Plan, which will work to take on the power of special interests, institute term limits, ensure we have free and fair elections, end extreme partisan gerrymandering, and hold elected officials accountable.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Climate change is an existential threat to our future and the most important issue of our time. I am proud to have voted to support the Build Back Better Act and the Inflation Reduction Act. In the Senate, I will hold big oil accountable, expand efforts to reduce carbon emissions, invest in renewable energy, and address environmental health impacts in underserved communities to ensure a safe and healthy future for our children — both in the U.S. as well as in developing nations around the world.

**IMMIGRATION:** Immigrants are the foundation of this country, and passing comprehensive immigration reform is critical. In Congress, I voted in favor of the Dream Act to grant millions of undocumented immigrants legal status and provide a pathway to citizenship. As Senator, I will work to finally pass comprehensive immigration reform that addresses economic, humanitarian, and security concerns, as well as expanding work visa programs and protecting immigrants from wage theft and worker misclassification.

**FIREARMS:** I am proud to have an F rating from the NRA. Gun violence is out of control in this country, and it is up to our elected representatives to pass swift, comprehensive gun reform. It has long been clear that common sense gun regulations save countless lives. We must reinstate a nationwide assault weapons ban, pass expanded background check requirements, enact red flag laws, and keep guns out of the hands of domestic abusers.



## **Andrew Jaye Wildman**

**Campaign Twitter:** @CS2News

**Campaign Facebook:** www.commonsense2nd.com

**Campaign Email:** AJWildman@WildmanforUSSenate.com

**Campaign Website:** WildmanforUSSenate.com

**Campaign Phone:** 4104439608

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a patriot. Not a politician or a lawyer. A professional business problem solver. Author 2008, 718-page non-fiction political book The Second Coming of Common Sense. I have 40 plus publicly acceptable solutions for problems large and small. See the CS2News podcast. An aggressive problem solver for MD, 49 other states, and DC. I worked in DC for 30 years solving corporate and federal agency problems. So now we must remove cell phones from public school classrooms and close the borders!

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** Means Protecting the Life, Liberty, and Pursuit of Happiness of our Citizens before all any others. Securing and protecting our Constitution from all adversaries both foreign AND domestic. We must close our borders to migrants for 2 years at least. Stop the flood! Implement an American Citizen ID system like every other nation has and register all legal and illegal occupants. Most of us don't realize it but more illegals typically enter via Intl airports than the land borders.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Things cannot stay same for progress to happen. For starters, suspend all passenger airline flights on Wednesday. That means worldwide and all nations. This change is to be considered permanent. Public and industry oversight of flight volume the other 6 days. We must consider the improved nuclear power option. National recycling must become a national priority and industry. We must acknowledge globally that 8 Billion people is far more than governments can support. Fewer is better!

**IMMIGRATION:** Real Human numbers. US population growth by race US Census 2000 vs 2020. White only 1.3 million; Black 7.9 million; Asian 9.4 million; Hispanic 23.8 million; over 20 years. The US/Mexico will be closed immediately, with 2 weeks' notice. To be closed until at least the end of 2025. No migrants will enter the U.S. Amnesty, asylum, etc., will no longer be granted. Biden and the Democrats must close the door and take public credit for it! Remove immigration from the Republican talking points.

**FIREARMS:** On average there are 44 murders in America DAILY or 16,000 annually. Shooters don't fear the Death Penalty. The Parkland High school shooter killed 17. After 2 million plus dollars and 4 years the sentence was 17 consecutive life sentences, NOT the death penalty. Victim families and taxpayers have had too enough. My Justice System Reform proposal. The Sandy Hook Obviously Guilty 90-Day Death Penalty Reform. One and done. This is not eye-for-an-eye. This is death-for-a-death.

## **Republican Candidates**

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

### **Moe H. Barakat**

**Campaign Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/MBarakatDc>

**Campaign Facebook:** <facebook.com/MBarakatDC>

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

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

**Campaign Phone:** 227-777-7007

**Campaign Instagram:** @mbarakatdc

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am running for Senate to provide a refreshing alternative from the career politician mold, bringing a unique blend of honesty, leadership, and an exceptional ability to navigate the complex political spectrum to deliver results. As the Managing Director and Treasurer of a well-known US International Business Council, I've been instrumental in advancing investment in American states and cities, demonstrating my capability to forge cross-border partnerships that benefit the US economy.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** The United States MUST have free and fair elections. The integrity of these elections is of the utmost importance, and we must reform our election laws to secure voter ID

requirements, prevent fraud, ban drop boxes, and stop ballot harvesting.

**ENVIRONMENT:** In order to address environmental issues, we must prioritize innovation and market-driven solutions rather than implementing overreaching government regulations. Conservatives can conserve our environment without sacrificing economic growth or imposing burdensome regulations.

**IMMIGRATION:** First and foremost, we must secure our Southern border and prevent the flow of illegal immigrants into our communities. We must implement strong enforcement measures against illegal immigration. As the child of immigrants who came to this country the right way, I know the American Dream well and will fight for it every day.

**FIREARMS:** As a pro-Second Amendment candidate, I believe in protecting public safety while upholding our constitutional rights. Restrictions on gun ownership should only target criminals and the mentally unstable, not law-abiding citizens. Strengthening background checks and cracking down on illegal gun trafficking are crucial to ensuring our safety and freedoms.

## Chris Chaffee

**Campaign Facebook:** [www.chaffeeforussenate.com](http://www.chaffeeforussenate.com)

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

**Campaign Website:** [chrischaffeeforussenate@gmail.com](http://chrischaffeeforussenate@gmail.com)

**Campaign Phone:** 410-474-5629

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a husband, father, grandfather, Catholic, Patriot, I believe in the Constitution of the United States. I feel our country is going in the wrong direction. I feel my insight as an outsider is exactly what we need.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** We need an ID for everything we do in life. You should need a photo ID to cast your ballot. A special exception for the elderly who may no longer have a license.

**ENVIRONMENT:** I would start having all countries do their part in cleaning up the planet. All countries who manufacture need to be as mindful of the health of our planet as we and other countries are. We can all do better and do our part.

**IMMIGRATION:** First I would start by closing the border. I would enforce the immigration laws on the books. I would hold Mexico and other countries financially responsible for their citizens by boycotting trade until they control their own borders.

**FIREARMS:** I am a defender of the second amendment. I believe if a home has children under 18 years old a trigger lock or a safe must be used for their safety.

## Robin Ficker

**Campaign Twitter:** [facebook.com/RobinForUSSenate](https://facebook.com/RobinForUSSenate)

**Campaign Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61550672608320](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61550672608320)

**Campaign Website:** [robinficker@msn.com](mailto:robinficker@msn.com)

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a lifelong Marylander, Army Veteran, former Attorney who completed 40,000 cases, MD Real Estate Broker and farmer. I was elected to the MD House of Delegates, fighting to restrain the State budget and against lobbyists. I've placed 25 charter amendments on the ballot, passing term limits and limiting property tax increases. My life has been dedicated to the service of America and Maryland and my track record of success has uniquely prepared me to serve Maryland in the United States Senate.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** First, the Supreme Court should immediately end all efforts to keep Donald Trump off the ballot, and ensure a free and fair election for President. Second, the Federal Government should create a system to track voters who move to a new state, alerting both States of the move. The Federal Government has little constitutional power otherwise, but should facilitate States implementing ID requirements for every vote, bipartisan vote counting and recounting, and security at polling locations.

**ENVIRONMENT:** I will champion the expansion of Calvert Cliffs clean energy plant, which currently provides 38% of Maryland's electricity. I will push for expanding America's overall nuclear energy production, despite 'environmental' 'activists' efforts to thwart clean energy. I will also vote against treaties that allow China and India to dramatically increase pollution. Finally, I will promote clean-energy sources of electricity, such as natural gas, and decrease our reliance on electricity sources like coal.

**IMMIGRATION:** Annually, a million people enter the U.S. legally, far more than any other country on

earth. In 2023, there were 3.2 million illegal migrant encounters. This year 28,000 lbs of fentanyl have been sized at the border. More than 2,500 Marylanders under 25 have died from it. We need to hire and place 2,000 immigration judges at the border to speed up processing. We also need to restore "Remain in Mexico" and "First Neutral Nation" policies, so that our asylum system is not taken advantage of.

**FIREARMS:** As an Army veteran, I understand the awesome power of guns, and responsibilities that come with firearms ownership. "Gun safety" is not banning firearms. I will promote actual "gun safety" by voting for legislation that increases access to firearms safety training and promotes groups that teach the same. I will also fight for criminal justice reform that ensure that violent offenders, especially those who use guns, are kept in jail and not let loose on our street. I support the Second Amendment.

## Lorie R. Friend

**Campaign Twitter:** @LorieFriendGOP

**Campaign Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100080348477407](http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100080348477407)

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

**Campaign Website:** [friendinthesenate.com](http://friendinthesenate.com)

**Campaign Phone:** 2403213477

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a registered nurse of 27 years. As a nurse, one must listen closely to what someone says and read between the lines to understand what they are communicating. I have had to effectively advocate for my patients as the liaison between doctor and patient. I have had to adapt to changing situations, policies, staff and negotiate effectively in complex situations in an institutional setting. During the Covid pandemic, I held my post every shift. I will effectively advocate for Marylanders!

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** Voting integrity is paramount for democracy. If people lose faith in our elections, then there is no incentive to vote. Elections must be fair/honest. I believe we should make voting a 1 day federal holiday with in-person voting and proper identification. Mail in ballots only for our military, oversees personal and the disabled. Ballots must be paper, not electronic, and counted with results reported on the same day.

**ENVIRONMENT:** As I understand it, the main goal of climate change policy is keeping our environment safe, and many believe we can achieve this with clean renewable energy, However, we need compromise on both sides. While effective green policy may help in aiding the reduction of climate change, we still need resources such as fossil fuels as they are still the lifeblood of our economy and can be used anywhere regardless of location, time, or weather.

**IMMIGRATION:** Immigration policy change is a difficult subject as so many have already illegally crossed onto American soil. As per our existing laws and policies, one must be detained, vetted, and apply for asylum, not immediately released. The current no border policy is not fair to the hundreds of thousands of immigrants who came to our country legally and is dangerous. I believe one should abide by our laws in order to receive citizenship, social benefits, and rights just as every other American.

**FIREARMS:** There are already ample gun safety legislation in effect. It is not about passing more gun safety laws, criminals will continue to find ways to obtain firearms illegally to commit crimes. While I have no issues with continued screenings and vetting purchasers, and red flagging potential owners with medical/mental instability, I do stand by Americans who legally own and purchase firearms for their protection. It is their 2nd Amendment Right!

## Larry Hogan

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

**Campaign Facebook:** [Facebook.com/GovernorLarryHogan](https://www.facebook.com/GovernorLarryHogan)

**Campaign Email:** [ricci@larryhogan.com](mailto:ricci@larryhogan.com)

**Campaign Website:** [info@larryhogan.com](mailto:info@larryhogan.com)

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

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Governor Hogan has a long record of solving hard problems and overcoming broken politics—including working with the state's Democratic legislature to cut taxes, lower health care costs, and make generational investments in universal broadband and workforce development;



leading the nation's governors through the worst global pandemic in more than a century; and, as co-chair of No Labels, partnering with the Problem Solvers Caucus to advance a historic federal infrastructure bill.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** Free and fair elections are the foundation of American democracy and the most basic promise that those in power can pledge to citizens. Governor Hogan supports state and local efforts to ensure safe and secure elections by combating election interference and intimidation. He also looks forward to continuing to work with the League of Women Voters and other leading civic-minded organizations on initiatives to end partisan gerrymandering and restore fairness in the electoral system.

**ENVIRONMENT:** While Washington was failing to address climate change, Maryland was leading under Governor Hogan—enacting cleaner air standards stronger than 48 other states and far stronger than the Paris Agreement. In addition to supporting strong environmental stewardship and sustainability, he believes it is especially critical to bring both state and federal resources to bear in holding upstream polluters accountable and protecting regional Chesapeake Bay cleanup goals.

**IMMIGRATION:** The humanitarian and security crisis at our southern border underscores the need to fix our broken and badly outdated immigration system. One party alone didn't cause these problems, and one party alone cannot solve them. Governor Hogan will work with any leader willing to set politics aside and work on real solutions—starting with securing the border and addressing the flow of migrants.

**FIREARMS:** Governor Hogan believes it is possible to respect the rights of law-abiding gun owners while making it harder for criminals and the mentally ill to obtain firearms. In addition to red flag legislation, the governor has long called for federal action to institute a federal universal background check system. He also strongly supports providing law enforcement with more tools and resources to protect our communities—including increasing penalties for those who commit a crime with a gun.

## John A. Myrick

**Campaign Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/JohnMyrickforMD/>

**Campaign Facebook:** <facebook.com/john.myrick.for.senate/>

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

**Campaign Website:** [johnamyrickforsenate@gmail.com](mailto:johnamyrickforsenate@gmail.com)

**Campaign Phone:** 301-715-5651

**Campaign Instagram:** <https://instagram.com/JohnMyrickforSenate/>

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I'm not a Politician; I'm a Public Servant. Raised here in Maryland, I have spent my life defending our Nation. I was a Harford County Deputy Sheriff. I served 23 years in the U.S. Air Force Reserve; retiring as a highly decorated combat veteran. I was a Senior Civilian Intelligence Officer for the Government; considered a Subject Matter Experts in Asymmetric Threats. I've lectured on National Security issues at major universities and testified before Congress nearly 100 times.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** I believe that every eligible Citizen should be offered the chance to cast their ballot. There needs to be a way to update voter rolls in a more timely and automated manner. I am in favor of requiring an ID to vote to ensure that the person casting a ballot is who they say they are. I would end mail-in ballot "harvesting" and require that all mail-in ballots be sent by U.S. mail. People need to believe in the integrity of the voting process again.

**ENVIRONMENT:** I will introduce legislation to restore American energy independence and also will introduce legislation to incentivize development of clean energy alternatives and hold polluters financially and criminally accountable for their actions. I will encourage the Administration to engage with other nations to reach consensus on ways that they, too, can reduce both carbon emissions and other pollutants. This is a global issue and required a global response. The U.S. cannot do this alone.

**IMMIGRATION:** All nations are defined by their borders. I would work to end the practice of allowing undocumented migrants to surge across our borders and enforce our current entry laws. I would push to have military and other government attorneys detailed as Administrative Law Judges to hear asylum petitions at the border. I will introduce legislation to update our broken legal immigration statutes, with provisions to allow qualified U.S. Citizens to sponsor close family members outside current restrictions.

**FIREARMS:** Marylanders understand that criminals, by definition, do not follow laws. The solution is not more laws, but strict enforcement of existing laws. I will amend current Federal criminal codes to

remove judicial discretion in sentencing of crimes involving firearms; adding a 5-year mandatory consecutive term for these crimes that cannot be suspended. I will work to have registered gun owners maintain records of private sales, as one would do with the sale of a vehicle.

### **Laban Y. Seyoum**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** No response received by deadline.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** No response received by deadline.

**ENVIRONMENT:** No response received by deadline.

**IMMIGRATION:** No response received by deadline.

**FIREARMS:** No response received by deadline.

## **U.S. Representative**

### **Representative in Congress District 4**

**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. No term limit.

**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:** [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)

### **Questions**

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

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** What actions should the United States government take to protect voting rights and ensure the security of elections?

**ENVIRONMENT:** How would you address problems such as climate change and pollution?

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

**FIREARMS:** Please provide your position on national gun safety legislation.

### **Democratic Candidates**

Democrats may vote for no more than 1.

## Joseph Gomes

**Campaign Website:** josephgomesforcongress@gmail.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** No response received by deadline.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** No response received by deadline.

**ENVIRONMENT:** No response received by deadline.

**IMMIGRATION:** No response received by deadline.

**FIREARMS:** No response received by deadline.

## Glenn F. Ivey

**Campaign Twitter:** facebook.com/glenniveymd

**Campaign Facebook:** www.iveyforcongress.com

**Campaign Email:** info@iveyforcongress.com

**Campaign Website:** iveyforcongress.com

**Campaign Instagram:** glenniveymd

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have extensive experience working on Capitol Hill in various high level capacities. Prior to running for Congress I was twice elected as State's Attorney for Prince George's County where I worked with the Obama Administration to cut crime. In the 218th Congress, I've used this experience to deliver on day one, quickly becoming a leading voice on the House Judiciary and the Homeland Security Committee's. As a member of Congress, I have prioritized constituent services and will continue to.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** Congress has the responsibility to protect the voting rights of all Americans. As a cosponsor of the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act (H.R.14) and the Freedom to Vote Act (H.R.11) in the 118th Congress, I believe that there are several pieces of legislation that Congress should advance to the President's desk to make our democracy stronger ahead of the upcoming election.

**ENVIRONMENT:** In the 118th Congress there are several bills that I have been proud to cosponsor that seek to address concerns around climate change and its effect on the environment. The Donald McEachin Environmental Justice For All Act (H.R. 1729) is a key piece of legislation that establishes environmental justice requirements and programs to address the disproportionate negative human health and environmental effects of federal law in communities of color, low-income communities and tribal & indigenous com

**IMMIGRATION:** Our country's current immigration system poses significant challenges to our security as a nation and to maintaining the dignity and humanity of those individuals seeking to migrate to the United States. Congress should establish humane standards for holding detained immigrants by passing the Dignity for Detained Immigrants Act (H.R. 2760).

**FIREARMS:** The first bill that I introduced as a Member of Congress was the Raise the Age Act (H.R.2870) which establishes new restrictions on the sale of semi automatic firearms to individuals under the age of 21- common sense legislation that makes federal laws consistent across weapon types. In addition, I am a cosponsor of the Assault Weapons Ban which criminalizes the importation, sale, manufacturing, or possession of a semiautomatic assault weapon. Lastly, I am proud to support Ethan's Law (H.R.660)

## Emmett Johnson

**Campaign Website:** emmett@mymidatlantic.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** No response received by deadline.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** No response received by deadline.

**ENVIRONMENT:** No response received by deadline.

**IMMIGRATION:** No response received by deadline.

**FIREARMS:** No response received by deadline.

## Gabriel Njinimbot

**Campaign Email:** info@gabrielforcongress.com

**Campaign Facebook:** www.Gabrielforcongress.com

**Campaign Website:** gabrielforcongress.com/

**Campaign Phone:** 2406025229

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My experience as an Entrepreneur with a Law degree, an immigrant who came to the country a little over two decades ago with \$100, a dad, a husband, an Information Technology Specialist /Engineer, an employee in city government in Baltimore city, Prince George's County and other fortune 500 companies and now a Candidate for US House of Representatives has armed me to be a great Representative from day one.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** We need to ensure that any and everyone eligible to vote in this country should be allowed to vote regardless of what background or orientation is. No one in this nation should be deprived of their constitutional right to vote. We should also allow Green Card holders to vote while they wait for the citizenship, because while they wait, they are integral part of our country. They work, pay taxes, send their children to school and the list goes on.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Everything needs to be done to prevent any climate or environmental catastrophe. Prevention is better than cure. We have seen the melting of the ice, wild fires, hurricanes, increase in global temperature and this needs to be take and treated with utmost urgency to this and the next generation.

**IMMIGRATION:** This nation is a nation of immigrants. With the resources this country has, we can reform immigration and clear the backlogs in the system and create a good pathway to citizenship and also make sure that we keep national security in our rather. The longer immigrants who flee war, tyranny and hunger to come to America sit for five to ten years waiting for a work permit, it diminishes the economic and even the military strength of our nation.

**FIREARMS:** There are several ways to uphold the 2nd amendment in this nation and also prevent fire arms, AR-15s to fall in the hands of criminals and the mentally ill. All we need to do is tighten up the gun loop holes which will reduce the number of illegal guns on our streets.

## Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

## George McDermott

**Campaign Twitter:** In process of setting up new website

**Campaign Facebook:** www.georgemcdermott.com

**Campaign Email:** Georgemcdermott2018@gmail.com

**Campaign Website:** georgemcdermott2018@gmail.com

**Campaign Phone:** 3019969577

**Campaign Instagram:** In process and setting up new account to be set up for 2024 election cycle

**QUALIFICATIONS:** In my 70+ years of experience as a businessman, entrepreneur, family man, Christian, and unfortunately as a victim of our once trusted legal, judicial, and judicial and legislative branches of our government. Returned this candidate and as a forced victims /rights advocate who has fought for the rights and liberties of his fellow citizens for the last 28 years plus whose record cannot be viewed, but the postings of over 1600 videos@secretjustice.com we cannot allow judicial terrorism succeed.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** The answer to this question is related to the above answer this candidate believes we have all been deliberately lied, to by our corporate government and its corporate agents acting under color of law and authority promoting insurrectionist and treasonous acts by sworn agents of the federal and state corporations who have hijacked our Constitution and rule of law. Abolished our organic Constitution. And replaced it with corporate documents drafted up by lying thieving lawyers, judges + insiders

**ENVIRONMENT:** Climate change will never be allowed to succeed because corporate lobbyist who

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2024 Primary Election LWV Prince George's County Voters' Guide.

Visit the online Interactive Voters' Guide at [www.vote411.org](http://www.vote411.org). League of Women Voters of Prince George's County. The League of Women Voters takes no responsibility for any errors, omissions, edits or typographical mistakes contained herein.

fund the campaigns of state and federal elective offices hold a higher degree of loyalty to special interest, corporate interest, and corporate lobbyist whose dark money influences candidate that corporate America wants elected who hold a higher degree of loyalty to their donors than they do to the environment, their oath of office, and their legislative duties to uphold and defend all citizens of the United States.

**IMMIGRATION:** Again the candidate search and incorporates by reference the answers in the 3 paragraphs above policy is set aside the welfare of the nation set aside by partisan politicians who use their boat as a weapon against the opposing party and was recently seen by the U.S. Congress killing legislation passed by the Senate which would have led to the most meaningful immigration policy in the last 40 years. Again our Congress has been hijacked by politicians holding their allegiance to party over duty

**FIREARMS:** I firmly believe in the Second Amendment as passed by our organic legislature to assured the right to own and bear arms. However again our nation has been influenced by dark money from the NRA and its membership acting irresponsibly to put checks and balances into the laws and statutes. After mass shooting across the nation. Leaving the citizens the burden of pain, loss of life, and loss of family members, also the ABA and its members can defend these wrongdoers as the judges and Ct, get rich.

## Representative in Congress District 5

**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. No term limit.

**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:** [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)

### Questions

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

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** What actions should the United States government take to protect voting rights and ensure the security of elections?

**ENVIRONMENT:** How would you address problems such as climate change and pollution?

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

**FIREARMS:** Please provide your position on national gun safety legislation.

### Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for no more than 1.

### Quincy Bareebe

**Campaign Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/QuincyBareebeMD>  
**Campaign Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61553729987259](http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61553729987259)  
**Campaign Email:** [info@quincyforcongress.com](mailto:info@quincyforcongress.com)  
**Campaign Website:** [www.quincyforcongress.com/](http://www.quincyforcongress.com/)  
**Campaign Phone:** 3013003085  
**Campaign Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/quincy.bareebe>

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am an accountant with 15 years of financial management experience. As the founder and CEO of a local healthcare company specializing in at-home care for seniors and persons with disabilities, I understand how to balance a budget while still providing the best quality of care possible. As a board member of the Anne Arundel Economic Development Corporation, I have supported and passed policies that directly support local business, improving the local tax base.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** I will be a strong advocate for the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, automatic voter registration for all eligible citizens, and the overturning of Citizens United. I will fight against partisan gerrymandering, polling location closures, and voter intimidation happening across the country.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Climate change is one of the most pressing issues facing our society today, with a particular impact on young people. In addition to supporting a rapid expansion of renewable and nuclear energy sources, we will hold polluters accountable for their actions through fines and non-renewal of licenses. Mass transit must also be a key element of our climate response by providing financial incentives to take trains and busses rather than driving.

**IMMIGRATION:** As someone who has been through the legal immigration system, I understand it has serious flaws. We need to provide an easier path for qualified immigrants and their families to become full and equal citizens. Furthermore, I believe that undocumented immigrants who hold jobs, pay taxes, and are not convicted of any felony crimes, should be given a mechanism to achieve legal status.

**FIREARMS:** Americans have no where they can go without being threatened by gun violence. Their schools, businesses, places of worship, and public spaces are all under threat. Firearm companies have a responsibility to keep weapons out of the hands of people who pose a threat to public safety, and I support legislation allowing lawsuits against companies whose products are used to commit acts of violence.

## Andrea L. Crooms

**Campaign Twitter:** [https://www.tiktok.com/@andrea\\_crooms](https://www.tiktok.com/@andrea_crooms)  
**Campaign Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/croomsforcongress/](http://www.facebook.com/croomsforcongress/)  
**Campaign Email:** [info@croomsforcongress.com](mailto:info@croomsforcongress.com)  
**Campaign Website:** [www.croomsforcongress.com](http://www.croomsforcongress.com)  
**Campaign Phone:** (240)729-1910  
**Campaign Instagram:** [https://www.instagram.com/andreacrooms\\_md5/](https://www.instagram.com/andreacrooms_md5/)

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am an attorney, an economist and an energy/environmental expert. I have been a public servant in the US Department of Energy, a Public Defender, and Director of the Department of Environment in Prince George's County. I understand how government works, and how to make it work for people. I have experience writing and passing laws. I have the know-how to build the government working people need- instead of one that just serves the rich and powerful.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** Enfranchisement of all Americans and protection of voting rights is critical to our democracy. We must pass the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Act and the Freedom to Vote Act to increase voting accessibility and address voter intimidation, partisan gerrymandering and voting misinformation. We must also continue to employ the most advanced cybersecurity controls to protect the integrity of elections.

**ENVIRONMENT:** As an environmental scientist, I understand that Climate Change and Environmental degradation are concurrent emergencies we must solve to protect ourselves and our future. I support a Green New Deal, that mitigates Climate Change and protects the environment while centering the needs of working people, economic opportunity and technology. I will work with local leaders to make our community a hub for green jobs and industry - by supporting real community investment, not endless suburban sprawl.



**IMMIGRATION:** Create an effective work visa program that provides an opportunity to perform the work for which we need foreign workers, while effectively tracking individuals to ensure they do not overstay the visas. Hold business owners accountable for illegal labor practices. Expand legal pathways to citizenship for working people and those in danger in their home county, allowing all people who are willing to contribute to our communities to be a part of the American Dream.

**FIREARMS:** I am a hunter and believe Americans have the right to own guns. I support limitations including: banning the sale of military-style assault weapons and high-capacity magazines that can hold more than 10 bullets at a time, and requiring gun buyers to pass a criminal background check, no matter how they purchase the weapon. I support expansion of the availability and funding of mental health and substance abuse treatment so all individuals who are in need of help have access to these services.

## Steny Hoyer

**Campaign Twitter:** [www.facebook.com/hoyerforcongress](http://www.facebook.com/hoyerforcongress)

**Campaign Facebook:** [www.hoyerforcongress.com](http://www.hoyerforcongress.com)

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

**Campaign Website:** [info@hoyerforcongress.com](mailto:info@hoyerforcongress.com)

**Campaign Phone:** (301)464-5710

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Having served Marylanders in the State Senate and U.S. House, I have a deep understanding of how to deliver results for Maryland families. Whether it's securing the new FBI Headquarters in Maryland or repairing critical infrastructure - I've seen how government can work for people. As Majority Leader I helped enact laws including the Inflation Reduction Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law - which lower costs, create jobs, and expand affordable health care for Marylanders.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** As the co-author of the Help America Vote Act - I have been a longtime leader on the issues of securing our elections and ensuring communities have the tools they need to run secure and efficient elections. As Majority Leader, I passed the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act - a critical bill that will restore the full protections of the Voting Rights Act - through the House of Representatives. I will continue working to pass voter protection laws and ensure Americans' voices are heard.

**ENVIRONMENT:** I strongly support environmental standards that keep our land, air, and water clean. I have proudly supported every major environmental bill since I was elected to Congress and have consistently secured federal dollars to clean up the Chesapeake Bay and local waterways. As Chair of the Regional Leadership Council, I work closely with the Biden-Harris Administration to implement the Investing in America Agenda including Inflation Reduction Act—the largest climate investment in history.

**IMMIGRATION:** The United States is a nation of immigrants, and I am grateful for their contributions. I strongly believe that everyone should have the opportunity to pursue legal immigration while maintaining a strong and secure border that protects those who have come to America legally. Our current immigration system is broken and I am a strong proponent of Comprehensive Immigration Reform that strengthens border security, protects DREAMers, and provides a legal pathway to citizenship.

**FIREARMS:** I feel passionately that we must address the gun violence epidemic in our communities. As an early and strong supporter of the 1994 Assault Weapons Ban, I have been a leader in calling for its reinstatement. As Majority Leader during the last Congress, I brought the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act to the House Floor, the most comprehensive gun legislation in decades, and worked to ensure its passage. Congress has a duty to put an end to the leading cause of death for children in America.

## McKayla Wilkes

**Campaign Twitter:** <http://www.facebook.com/meetmckayla>

**Campaign Facebook:** [www.McKaylaWilkes.com](http://www.McKaylaWilkes.com)

**Campaign Website:** info@mckaylawilkes.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** No response received by deadline.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** No response received by deadline.

**ENVIRONMENT: No response received by deadline.**

**IMMIGRATION:** No response received by deadline.

**FIREARMS:** No response received by deadline.

## **Republican Candidates**

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

### **Michelle Talkington**

**Campaign Email:** votemichelletalkington@gmail.com

**Campaign Facebook:** facebook.com/votemichelletalkington

**Campaign Website:** talkington4congress.com

**Campaign Phone:** (240)903-4606

**Campaign Instagram:** @votemichelletalk

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My small business and non-profit background have given me a unique perspective on working middle class family issues of and budget. As a mother of six children, I understand the need to provide for my large family in a time when inflation and the price of goods is higher than it has been in my lifetime. It is vital that we have men and women in office who truly understand the troubles facing the average citizen who works paycheck to paycheck.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** Securing our elections demands ensuring that every single voter is first legally allowed to vote under the constitution and our laws, and secondly that their right to vote is protected and valued. We should address the difficulty that many face in obtaining identification, so that all Americans have a simple way to show they are eligible to vote. Enforcing the existing laws and ensuring those checks and balances currently in place are adhered to is the best place to start.

**ENVIRONMENT:** We are a global example and leader in clean energy policy, so we must return to energy independence, thereby reducing our reliance on other governments around the globe who do not adhere to climate safeguards and cause more damage to the environment as they create a product that we consume. Reinforcing American industrial capacity is crucial to decoupling from adversarial forces in the future. I would support industrial efforts that focus on green technologies in addition to energy independence.

**IMMIGRATION:** We should expand the workforce, including those in the legal system, who process and screen those who wish to become citizens. The "Remain in Mexico" policy should be reinstated while we establish a more robust method to verify the identities of those entering our country and reasons for seeking asylum or a better life. We must have secure borders and ensure that criminals and those who intend harm are kept out and receive severe consequences for entering illegally or under false pretenses.

**FIREARMS:** I believe in the 2nd Amendment and would not put policies in place that negatively affect law abiding citizens. Stiffening current enforcement for offenders is paramount in addressing this issue. We have states attorneys and district attorneys who have let violent offenders contributing to a large part of the crime in the U.S. and Maryland. We should do more to flag, report, and prevent those with mental health illness from obtaining weapons. We should be a nation that punishes the criminals.



# Representative in Congress District 8

**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. No term limit.

**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:** [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)

## Questions

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

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** What actions should the United States government take to protect voting rights and ensure the security of elections?

**ENVIRONMENT:** How would you address problems such as climate change and pollution?

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

**FIREARMS:** Please provide your position on national gun safety legislation.

## Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for no more than 1.

### **Eric Felber**

**Campaign Email:** [efelber1@gmail.com](mailto:efelber1@gmail.com)

**Campaign Phone:** 3016520111

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a physician who cares for my community for the past 15 years. I have vast experience helping people and caring for their needs.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** No response received by deadline.

**ENVIRONMENT:** No response received by deadline.

**IMMIGRATION:** No response received by deadline.

**FIREARMS:** No response received by deadline.

### **Jamie Raskin**

**Campaign Twitter:** [twitter.com/jamie\\_raskin](https://twitter.com/jamie_raskin)

**Campaign Facebook:** [facebook.com/raskin.jamie](https://facebook.com/raskin.jamie)

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

**Campaign Website:** [jamieraskin.com](http://jamieraskin.com)

**Campaign Phone:** 2408474937

**Campaign Instagram:** [instagram.com/raskinforcongress](https://instagram.com/raskinforcongress)

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My motto for my House office is that no job is too big or too small for us. Whether it is leading the impeachment of a dangerously corrupt president, finding a lost Social Security check for a retiree in Bethesda, increasing the NIH budget by billions or obtaining VA benefits for a veteran in Rockville, we act nimbly to get results for our people. I also use my constitutional knowledge and coalition-building experience every day to see America through the complex challenges of our time.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** Democracy is not just a static collection of practices and institutions, although it is partly that. Democracy is the dynamic and never-ending process of uniting the people

with the power in a “more perfect Union.” We must keep American democracy growing to survive. This means we need to add a right-to-vote Amendment to the Constitution and pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, and we need statehood for millions of disenfranchised citizens living in Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Our overarching challenge is to confront the nightmarish effects of climate change, but we can’t do that when democracy itself is impaired by special interest control over the levers of political power. To counter climate change, break from the carbon barons and unleash renewable energy technologies like solar and wind, we must redeem majority rule by ending gerrymandering, protecting voting rights and dismantling state-based voter suppression tactics that form a matrix of democracy-repression.

**IMMIGRATION:** America is not a great country in spite of immigrants—we are a great country because of immigrants. Immigrants are as essential to our present and our future as they have been to our history, and I am committed to standing against hatred, mistreatment, and scapegoating of immigrants, while forging a bipartisan path forward to rebuild our broken system and provide meaningful pathways to lawful immigration.

**FIREARMS:** It is far past time to end the terrifying epidemic of gun violence in America. I support a universal background check; a ban on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines; and barring violently dangerous people from possessing or purchasing firearms. In Congress, I voted to pass several bills addressing the current lax gun laws and I will not rest until we hold the gun industry properly accountable in tort law for its role in deadly firearm-involved violence.

## **Republican Candidates**

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

### **Cheryl Riley**

**Campaign Twitter:** cheryl4moco

**Campaign Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/cherylriley4moco](http://www.facebook.com/cherylriley4moco)

**Campaign Email:** [cherylrileypr@comcast.net](mailto:cherylrileypr@comcast.net)

**Campaign Website:** [cheryl4Maryland.com](http://cheryl4Maryland.com)

**Campaign Phone:** 2024037971

**Campaign Instagram:** cheryl4moco

**QUALIFICATIONS:** ? I was born in DC and raised in Montgomery County Maryland and love this Country. I am a public relations professional who has worked with numerous organizations in various industries and have successfully helped develop and execute viable solutions, growth, market share, prioritize issues, offer strategic plans under budget, know and treat each audience for optimum outreach, created concise crisis communications plans and consistently developed pro-active solutions resulting in ROI excellence.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** I believe in voter ID laws, same day voting and same day results. The voting system has lost credibility due to poor chain of command, whereby there needs to be a viable, one vote per person, Citizen voters only process. Mail in voting for those who have no choice must be verifiable via ID as well.

**ENVIRONMENT:** As I am priority focused, our country/state/county is facing numerous urgent crisis situations that should be resolved first and foremost, such as the rise in crime, the economy and the drug crisis. The climate change narrative being pushed as a top priority is not an immediate threat. The USA has some of the strictest laws to combat pollution in the world, such as automobile emissions testing, recycling. I am witnessing “climate change” regulations being imposed on daily necessities including e

**IMMIGRATION:** We are in the midst of an open border crisis that is totally unacceptable, and threatens the citizens, our economy and the very fabric of what our Country was founded on. Closing the border to regain control of who is walking in unvetted is the top priority that needs to be addressed. Watching American Citizens being considered after illegals from all over the globe must end and is unconstitutional. One American life that has ended due to someone who was allowed to simply walk in is ONE TOO MANY

**FIREARMS:** . I fully support legal, responsible gun ownership. Given the out of control crime and the protecting of criminals over innocent people by politicians, I believe everyone has the right to defend

their lives, property and others. The criminals know they are protected via the anti-police electeds who have left Americans defenseless. There are numerous laws surrounding legal gun ownership that work. It is the criminals who don't follow the laws and the false narrative rhetoric pushing politicians w

**Michael Yadeta**

**Campaign Twitter:** facebook.com/Michael\_Yadeta

**Campaign Facebook:** www.vote4ymichael.com

**Campaign Email:** Vote4Ymichael@gmail.com

**Campaign Website:** vote4ymichael@gmail.com

**Campaign Phone:** 2407034226

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Successful experience in Community leadership in Maryland, Was Judge for historical election of 2016. Volunteered Presidential Inauguration of President Donald J. Trump. Michael Yadeta also worked for former republican Governor Larry Hogan Campaigning in organizing young Marylanders led the second historic win later joined Great Again.

**PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** Vote Michael Yadeta I will make sure I be a voice for my district ...God first, Family first, America first, good jobs, Good education

**ENVIRONMENT:** Climate change is the second issues to me. I care about American primary needs morethan anything then advice finance the EPA's to make enough awareness about the environmental threat to our world.

**IMMIGRATION:** I will welcome legal immigrants, speed up naturalization process , Green cards, and I will creat good paying jobs, make them good American but close the border to illgal immigrants .

**FIREARMS:** Gun has to be monitered the duty is for the police officers and all American citizens, but I am pro second Amendment

## Judicial Offices

### Prince George's County Judge of the Circuit Court - Circuit 7

**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. The Sixth Circuit Court serves Montgomery County.

**HOW ELECTED:** Elected countywide. The state is divided into eight Judicial Circuits. When there is a vacancy, a nominating commission reviews the qualifications of applicants for the judgeship and recommends several names to the Governor, who appoints a person from that list to fill the office. Each newly appointed judge must run for office at the first election that occurs at least one year after the vacancy occurred. 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.

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

**SALARY:** \$194,433 per year

**WEBSITE:** [www.courts.state.md.us/circuit](http://www.courts.state.md.us/circuit)

### The Issues

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

**JUVENILE JUSTICE:** How would you address the problem of large numbers of minority youth being imprisoned?

**DIVERSION PROGRAMS:** What are your views on diversion programs for behavioral problems and substance abuse?

**CHALLENGES:** What are the greatest challenges facing Maryland's Circuit Courts and how should they be addressed?

## **Candidates**

Vote for no more than 4.

### **Darren Sebastian Johnson**

**Campaign Email:** darren\_dsj@yahoo.com

**Campaign Instagram:** judgejohnson4pg

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have been a practicing attorney for more than 20 years and of those years, the last six have been spent as either a magistrate or judge on the Circuit Court for Prince George's County. As a lifelong resident of Prince George's County, I understand the community for which I serve. I have built a reputation for compassion and fairness having served over 13,000 citizens as a family magistrate in matters ranging from divorce, custody, and truancy.

**JUVENILE JUSTICE:** Our communities are facing unprecedented challenges and the need for experienced, impartial, compassionate leadership in our judicial system has never been more crucial.

**DIVERSION PROGRAMS:** I think resources that provide solutions to the issues facing our community are an absolute asset. Mental health is a paramount issue facing our community. Raising awareness of the issue requires effort from all leadership sources in our community.

**CHALLENGES:** The public perception and faith in the court system. I feel the public needs to be educated on the important role they play in the judicial process.

### **Stenise LaNez Rolle**

**Campaign Email:** judgerolle@gmail.com

**Campaign Instagram:** judgerolle4pgc

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have over 20 years legal experience that includes litigation, judicial education, being a magistrate, and now a sitting judge. Daily, I preside over civil, criminal, and family law cases; making it a priority to treat people fairly and with respect and compassion. My experience also includes the training and education of ALL judges and magistrates in the state. These combined experiences give me the requisite skills and knowledge about Maryland courts, its administrative policies, and the law.

**JUVENILE JUSTICE:** Addressing this problem would require a multifaceted approach, that tackles the systemic issues contributing to this disparity. Ensuring fair and unbiased sentencing practices, along with empowering minority communities with support and resources such as community engagement initiatives aimed at addressing underlying social and economic factors, expanded mental health services, and comprehensive education and job training opportunities, would be crucial steps in combating this problem.

**DIVERSION PROGRAMS:** These programs offer alternatives to incarceration, focusing on rehabilitation and addressing underlying issues. They provide access to counseling, therapy, and support services tailored to individual needs. By addressing the root causes of criminal behavior, such programs can reduce recidivism rates, promote community reintegration, and save costs associated with incarceration. The appropriateness of offering diversion program is fact driven and should be determined on a case-by-case basis.

**CHALLENGES:** Backlogs of cases and limited access to attorneys, are a challenge. Backlogs require streamlined case management, increased judicial resources, and the use of alternative dispute resolution. Enhancing access to attorneys require expanding legal aid services, promoting pro bono work, and allocating additional resources to guide individuals without legal representation. These strategies alleviate strain on courts, ensure timely justice delivery, and promote equitable access to

the courts for all.

## Michael Sheehan

**Campaign Email:** sheehanforjudge@gmail.com

**Campaign Phone:** (443)784-8060

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As a Marine Corps veteran and public servant, I believe there is no higher professional calling than public service. My time in the military instilled in me the discipline necessary to confront tough issues and the decisiveness needed to resolve them. I currently practice tax law, which touches numerous other areas of the law, so I will bring a unique perspective to the bench and am prepared to handle the diverse array of matters that come before the circuit court.

**JUVENILE JUSTICE:** I would apply the law fairly, impartially, and prudently; and in every instance when a child appears in my courtroom, I would give careful consideration to the background and circumstances that might have led them there. I would be ever mindful that youthful indiscretion is not born in a vacuum, but rather is often a symptom of problems beyond a child's control. Where appropriate and when the law allows, I would be open to finding remedies that avoid carceral disruption to a child's flourishing.

**DIVERSION PROGRAMS:** Diversion programs are a proven, effective alternative to incarceration. Often, behavioral problems and drug abuse are cries for help, and judges—aided by defense attorneys, prosecutors, and other partners—in many cases should answer those cries by connecting justice-involved persons with the resources they need to thrive. Our Prince George's community has demonstrated that we are capable of lifting up our young people and leading them on a path toward accountability.

**CHALLENGES:** Transparency and trust. As a respected sitting judge stated last year in her testimony to the state legislature, judges accepting political campaign donations from lawyers and law firms that practice before them creates the appearance of impropriety. Many Prince George's community members agree with this commonsense sentiment. I have pledged not to accept any campaign contributions from lawyers and law firms that might appear in my courtroom.

## Cheri Nicole Simpkins

**Campaign Website:** keepyourjudgespgc.com

**Campaign Instagram:** judgesimpkins4pgc

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As a former prosecutor and District Court judge with over 20 years of experience, I have gained vast legal knowledge and courtroom experience. While as a judge, I improved my legal analysis and impartial decision-making abilities. My experience handling a variety of cases has made me adaptable to different legal issues. Having served on both District and Circuit Courts, I understand the importance of judicial independence and the need to protect the rights of all parties involved.

**JUVENILE JUSTICE:** The overrepresentation of minority youth in the prison system is an issue that requires a comprehensive approach. To achieve fairness, equity, and rehabilitation within the criminal justice system, judges must recognize systemic factors like socioeconomic disparities, racial bias, and limited access to education and employment opportunities. By promoting alternatives to incarceration for nonviolent offenses, like diversion programs and restorative justice.

**DIVERSION PROGRAMS:** Diversion programs provide alternatives to traditional incarceration for those with behavioral problems and substance abuse. These programs prioritize rehabilitation, address underlying issues, and offer comprehensive, evidence-based interventions, including counseling, therapy, and support services. By redirecting nonviolent offenders, they save taxpayer dollars, promote positive outcomes, and enhance public safety.

**CHALLENGES:** To improve upon some of the challenges of Maryland's Circuit Courts we can use technology, alternative dispute resolution, adequate funding and resources, and diversity and inclusion initiatives. These strategic reforms can make court operations more efficient, reduce backlog and litigation costs, eliminate systemic biases, and deliver timely, fair, and accessible justice.

## Donnell Wilfred Turner

**Campaign Email:** Judgedonnellwtturner@gmail.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My legal experience spans over thirty years and is very broad and pertinent to my duties. For over twenty years I worked as a Federal and State prosecutor, trying over a hundred jury trials, and an administrator, including serving as Prince George's County Principal Deputy State's Attorney, and Director of the Office of Integrity, Compliance, and Police Accountability.

**JUVENILE JUSTICE:** The Court must balance the need to hold juveniles accountable, particularly for violent offenses, with the goal of rehabilitation and making it possible for juveniles to ultimately become productive members of society. When adjudicating juvenile cases, the Court should consider dispositions that limit or avoid juvenile detention, while also ensuring the protection and safety of the community.

**DIVERSION PROGRAMS:** The Circuit Court has several significant diversion programs to address individuals who suffer from substance misuse, mental health disorders, and other behavioral problems. In appropriate cases, the Court should utilize these programs to reach just and fair outcomes when individuals meet established criteria and the circumstances warrant it.

**CHALLENGES:** One challenge includes access to the courts for everyone, including indigent litigants and individuals who need language interpreters to assist them. Currently, I sit on the Judicial Council's Access to Courts Committee, which meets regularly to address these issues. Another challenge is security for judges. Currently, this issue is being addressed by the Maryland Judiciary and the Legislature.

# Nonpartisan Offices

## Prince George's County Board of Education District 1

**DUTIES:** The BOE shares its responsibilities with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to establish and oversee educational policies; to make decisions on educational, facility, and financial matters; and to appraise the educational and administrative management of the public school system. The CEO implements public school policies and programs. The BOE may not contradict management and oversight of fiscal affairs except by a 2/3 vote of the BOE. The purpose of the Board is two-fold: to raise the academic achievement of students and the level of engagement of parents, students, and community. The BOE consists of 9 elected members, 3 members appointed by the County Executive, 1 member by the County Council, and 1 student member.

**SALARY:** \$18,000 + \$7,000 reimbursement

**TERM:** 4 years; no term limits



**HOW ELECTED:** By popular vote within one of nine districts. Districts 1, 4, 5, 7, and 8 are elected during Presidential elections; Districts 2, 3, 6, and 9, during Gubernatorial elections. BOE races are non-partisan, and all registered voters may vote in both Primary and General elections. The top two vote getters in each race advance to the General election; uncontested races (only one or two candidates) do not appear on the primary election ballot.

## Questions

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

**PARENTAL INPUT:** How would you address concerns about specific books or instructional materials in the schools?

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** What programs or policies, if any, do you propose or support to help our schools address the ongoing concerns around student mental health?

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** How would you ensure that all students have equitable access to resources, challenging courses, and effective teachers and administrators?

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** What strategies would you support to attract and retain effective teachers and administrators?

## Candidates

Voters may vote for no more than 1.

### **Tiffini L. Andorful**

**Campaign Email:** tiffini.andorful@gmail.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My experience as a PGCPs alum, teacher in DC Public Schools, community organizer, nonprofit senior leader, and five-year tenure on a local school board equips me with comprehensive knowledge of education. Additionally, my extensive academic background further prepares me for the responsibilities of this office.

**PARENTAL INPUT:** I recognize the importance of community engagement in addressing concerns about specific books or instructional materials in schools. My approach would prioritize listening to parents to understand concerns and root causes. I would commit to increasing transparency, collaboratively identifying solutions, and prioritizing knowledge of the current state.

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** I strongly advocate for comprehensive mental health support in every school, especially in light of the increased challenges students face post-pandemic. I fully support the Maryland School Mental Health Response Program (MHRP) and am committed to exploring additional programs and partnerships to ensure our students receive the support they need.

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** To ensure equitable access, I'd assess resources, courses, and staffing to identify barriers and priorities. Collaborating with the community and seeking funding and partnerships, especially in underserved schools, I'd ensure access to quality, benchmark-aligned, critical thinking-focused curriculum. Additionally, I'd emphasize increased access to quality training and staff accountability.

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** To attract effective teachers and administrators, I'd support targeted recruitment and competitive compensation. To both attract and retain talent, I'd prioritize strategies for increased support, professional development, innovative collaboration, and flexibility in the school day to decrease staff workload, increase effectiveness, and explore career growth opportunities.

### **Donna S. Barriteau**

**QUALIFICATIONS:** No response received by deadline.

**PARENTAL INPUT:** No response received by deadline.

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** No response received by deadline.

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** No response received by deadline.

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** No response received by deadline.

## **Maria R. Gonzales-Jackson**

**Campaign Twitter:** @maria4pgcpsboe1

**Campaign Facebook:** facebook.com/mariagonzales-jacksonforpgcpsboedistrict1

**Campaign Email:** maria.pgcps.boe@protonmail.com

**Campaign Website:** www.mariagonzalesjackson.com

**Campaign Phone:** 301-233-2867

**Campaign Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/maria4pgcpsboard/>

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My diverse experience as a parent leader, community advocate, and chair of the City of Laurel Education Advisory Committee uniquely qualifies me for the duties of the PGPCS Board of Education. Through these roles, I've gained valuable insights into the needs and concerns of students, parents, educators, and the broader community, developing a deep understanding of the complexities within the education system.

**PARENTAL INPUT:** Addressing concerns about specific books or instructional materials in schools requires a balanced approach that respects diverse perspectives while upholding educational standards and principles of academic freedom. As a member of the school board, I would implement a transparent and inclusive process to address such concerns effectively. Transparency is paramount throughout this process.

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** Addressing student mental health requires a multifaceted approach that involves collaboration between schools, communities, and mental health professionals. By implementing programs and policies that focus on early intervention, education, support, and creating supportive environments, schools can play a significant role in promoting the mental well-being of their students. More specifically, peer support programs and early screening are vital interventions to address needs of our students.

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** Ensuring equitable access to resources, challenging courses, and effective educators for all students necessitates a multi-faceted approach. Firstly, implementing comprehensive assessments to identify disparities in resource allocation and educational opportunities is crucial. Establishing policies that prioritize equity, such as targeted funding for underserved communities and schools, can help bridge gaps.

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** To attract and retain effective teachers and administrators, a multifaceted approach is necessary, including competitive salaries commensurate with their skills and responsibilities, comprehensive professional development opportunities tailored to their needs and career aspirations, supportive work environments fostering collaboration and innovation, clear pathways for career advancement and leadership roles, recognition of their contributions through awards and incentives, and ongoing feedback.

## **David H. Murray**

**Campaign Twitter:** @davidhmurray

**Campaign Facebook:** facebook.com/davidhmurray

**Campaign Website:** www.davidhmurray.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** No response received by deadline.

**PARENTAL INPUT:** No response received by deadline.

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** No response received by deadline.

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** No response received by deadline.

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** No response received by deadline.



# Prince George's County Board of Education District 4

**DUTIES:** The BOE shares its responsibilities with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to establish and oversee educational policies; to make decisions on educational, facility, and financial matters; and to appraise the educational and administrative management of the public school system. The CEO implements public school policies and programs. The BOE may not contradict management and oversight of fiscal affairs except by a 2/3 vote of the BOE. The purpose of the Board is two-fold: to raise the academic achievement of students and the level of engagement of parents, students, and community. The BOE consists of 9 elected members, 3 members appointed by the County Executive, 1 member by the County Council, and 1 student member.

**SALARY:** \$18,000 + \$7,000 reimbursement

**TERM:** 4 years; no term limits

**HOW ELECTED:** By popular vote within one of nine districts. Districts 1, 4, 5, 7, and 8 are elected during Presidential elections; Districts 2, 3, 6, and 9, during Gubernatorial elections. BOE races are non-partisan, and all registered voters may vote in both Primary and General elections. The top two vote getters in each race advance to the General election; uncontested races (only one or two candidates) do not appear on the primary election ballot.

## Questions

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

**PARENTAL INPUT:** How would you address concerns about specific books or instructional materials in the schools?

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** What programs or policies, if any, do you propose or support to help our schools address the ongoing concerns around student mental health?

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** How would you ensure that all students have equitable access to resources, challenging courses, and effective teachers and administrators?

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** What strategies would you support to attract and retain effective teachers and administrators?

## Candidates

Voters may vote for no more than 1.

### **Shayla D. Adams-Stafford**

**Campaign Email:** shayla.stafford1@gmail.com

**Campaign Facebook:** facebook.com/shaylaadams-staffordforboardofeducation

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Shayla Adams- Stafford is the CEO/ Founder of AdaptiveX, a professional development and software company that focuses on culturally responsive teaching and learning through the lens of racial equity. Before becoming an entrepreneur, Shayla served as a National Board Certified Teacher and coach for over 10 years and has been recognized by the White House for her achievements in Project Based Learning. Shayla is also the CEO and Founder of RemixEducation, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

**PARENTAL INPUT:** I would emphasize that our school system allows parents to opt out of certain materials based on their beliefs. I also support our school system having inclusive curricular materials that are reflective of our diverse community.

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** I just recently helped to pass a Mental Health training budget amendment and I also have led the charge on revitalizing our school based health clinics. Both initiatives will support in providing students and their families mental health resources when they need it most.

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** Led initiative for Equity Learning Hubs. I collaborated with the administration to design a program which supported some of the district's most vulnerable students at the height of the pandemic with in-person instructional support. The program passed unanimously and has supported over 1,300 students. In it's first year, 57% of participants having gains in Mathematics & 53% having gains in ELA . The program will now be expanded county-wide as a Saturday school in an effort to close gaps.

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** I have supported teacher retention initiatives and budget amendments that expand the school system's capacity for hiring qualified teachers. For example, an initiative to provide conditional teachers with more support. I have put forward budget amendments to lessen the administrative load on specifically our Special Education teachers so they can spend more time focusing on students. I also support the expansion of innovative instructional models such as PBL to provide teachers with autonomy.

## Prince George's County Board of Education District 5

**DUTIES:** The BOE shares its responsibilities with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to establish and oversee educational policies; to make decisions on educational, facility, and financial matters; and to appraise the educational and administrative management of the public school system. The CEO implements public school policies and programs. The BOE may not contradict management and oversight of fiscal affairs except by a 2/3 vote of the BOE. The purpose of the Board is two-fold: to raise the academic achievement of students and the level of engagement of parents, students, and community. The BOE consists of 9 elected members, 3 members appointed by the County Executive, 1 member by the County Council, and 1 student member.

**SALARY:** \$18,000 + \$7,000 reimbursement

**TERM:** 4 years; no term limits

**HOW ELECTED:** By popular vote within one of nine districts. Districts 1, 4, 5, 7, and 8 are elected during Presidential elections; Districts 2, 3, 6, and 9, during Gubernatorial elections. BOE races are non-partisan, and all registered voters may vote in both Primary and General elections. The top two vote getters in each race advance to the General election; uncontested races (only one or two candidates) do not appear on the primary election ballot.

### Questions

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

**PARENTAL INPUT:** How would you address concerns about specific books or instructional materials in the schools?

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** What programs or policies, if any, do you propose or support to help our schools address the ongoing concerns around student mental health?

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** How would you ensure that all students have equitable access to resources, challenging courses, and effective teachers and administrators?

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** What strategies would you support to attract and retain effective teachers and administrators?

## Candidates

Voters may vote for no more than 1.

### **Robin Brown**

**Campaign Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/people/Robin-Brown-For-PGCPS/61556575408260/?mibextid=ZbWKwL](https://www.facebook.com/people/Robin-Brown-For-PGCPS/61556575408260/?mibextid=ZbWKwL)

**Campaign Email:** [robinbrown4pgcps@gmail.com](mailto:robinbrown4pgcps@gmail.com)

**Campaign Website:** [www.robinbrown4pgcps.com](http://www.robinbrown4pgcps.com)

**Campaign Instagram:** [robinbrown4pgcps](https://www.instagram.com/robinbrown4pgcps)

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My extensive background in policy positions fit well for this role. Since 2018, I've diligently worked to improve local, state, and national policies. As the Program and Policy Analyst at FEMA, my responsibilities include managing, identifying, overseeing, coordinating, and monitoring policy and program initiatives. My expertise will undoubtedly contribute significantly to District 5's success.

**PARENTAL INPUT:** I believe that every parent wants the best for their children, and I commend those who are advocating for their household. As a school board member, I would establish transparent guidelines that define academic freedom and its boundaries. I would also educate the community on policies that align with community expectations and values.

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** As a mother of two scholars in PGCPs, I know firsthand the importance in having ample support to help our schools address the ongoing concern around student mental health. I am advocating for students to have coping skills training groups and provide mindfulness-based training programs for students and teachers.

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** To ensure equitable access for all students, I would advocate for equitable resource management. I would assess the needs, reallocate existing resources, and align strategies with the school's mission. Additionally, promoting equitable access to effective teachers involves analyzing gaps, setting goals, and developing strategies to address inequities. A focus on inclusive policies and supportive environments can create a level playing field for every student in District 5.

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** My strategy to attract and retain effective educators is to focus on appreciation, professional development, competitive compensation, local pathways, and positive school culture. I also believe we should recognize their efforts, invest in growth, ensure fair pay, create accessible career paths, and foster a supportive environment.

### **Kim Carter**

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

**Campaign Phone:** (240)624-4244

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My experience brings an understanding of educational needs, insight into parental concerns, advocacy for quality education, communication and collaboration skills, and my experience in homeschooling is valuable when considering policies that affect non-traditional education programs in the county. Overall, my diverse background in education & parenting brings a valuable perspective to the PGC School Board, helping to ensure that the needs of students, parents and educators are met effectively.

**PARENTAL INPUT:** As a PGCPs Board Member I would address these concerns through a thoughtful and thorough process that takes into account the concerns of all stakeholders in a fair, transparent, and inclusive manner, ultimately ensuring that the educational needs of all students are met.

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** Addressing student mental health is crucial for ensuring the overall well-being and academic success of students. Here are some policies and programs that I would support: increased access to mental health professionals, mental health education, peer support programs, staff training, partnerships with mental health providers, school-based mental health

services, parent and community involvement, and crisis, intervention plans.

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** Here are some strategies to help achieve ensuring equitable access to resources, challenging courses, and effective teachers and administrators. Resource allocation, equitable funding, recruitment and retention, professional development, support for underrepresented groups, data collection & monitoring, and community engagement, ensuring that parents, families and community members voices are heard.

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** Here are some of the strategies I would support to achieve this goal. Offer competitive salaries and benefits, professional development opportunities, mentorship & support programs, recognition & rewards, clear pathways for advancement, leadership development, ensure a safe and supportive work environment, and collaborative decision-making, just to name a few.

## Iyamide House

**Campaign Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100095361349602](http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100095361349602)

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

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

**Campaign Phone:** 301262-8560

**Campaign Instagram:** Houseforfamilies

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Received both an MS and BA from Johns Hopkins. Licensed mental health therapist, former school counselor and supervisor of school-based wrap-around services, and parent of 3 PGCPs students. 10 years of clinical mental health experience and over 2 decades of professional leadership experience. Developed, implemented, and managed, six to seven-figure programs inclusive of grant-funded programs. Experience running responsive and inclusive school mental health programs.

**PARENTAL INPUT:** I strongly believe that books or any other materials that represent children in our community should not be banned. If there are any concerns regarding the content, I encourage parents to have an open discussion with teachers and administrators to gain a better understanding of the content. Parents are an invaluable resource and our schools' greatest partners. Therefore, I aim to increase their participation and support in our school system.

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** Mental health is a crucial part of my platform. I fully support the State's Blueprint and it's successful implementation. I will make it my top priority to fully fund mental health resources in schools. Funding would hire more school counselors, psychologists, and social workers, as well as increase funding for wrap-around and other behavioral services for all schools. Additionally, I will initiate and support collaboration with community resources to meet our students' needs.

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** I believe it is crucial to utilize both qualitative and quantitative data while crafting solutions for each school environment and the children they cater to. This requires adequate funding and regular communication with schools and parents to ensure that families are well-informed about their rights and resources.

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** First, I would make sure that the existing programs are dependable and being used effectively. Furthermore, I would recommend allocating more funds towards initiatives like the "Grow Your Own" and Teacher Residency programs. I would also suggest extending teacher certification reciprocity. Additionally, I would collaborate with local authorities to enhance community incentives for teachers.

## Zipporah Miller

**Campaign Email:** [zipporah4boe@zipporahmiller.com](mailto:zipporah4boe@zipporahmiller.com)

**Campaign Phone:** (443)873-3338

**QUALIFICATIONS:** With over 30 years of expertise in STEM education and School System leadership, I am uniquely qualified to continue to serve as a school board member. From teaching to district-wide leadership, I've led initiatives to boost student achievement, teacher retention, and

school safety. My advocacy for equitable education and community involvement highlights my dedication to fostering a supportive learning environment for all students.

**PARENTAL INPUT:** Parental engagement is crucial in shaping policy and making decisions. When addressing concerns about books or materials, I prioritize listening. Forums will be convened for open dialogue. As a leader, I value every voice. It's standard practice for me to involve parents in material selection, ensuring they are an equal partner in the selection process.

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** To bolster student mental health, I continue to champion funding for counselors and partnerships with licensed clinicians. Virtual access to clinicians is crucial and available, thus awareness around this resource is necessary. I've successfully advocated for calming rooms and expanding restorative practices. It's imperative to equip school staff with strategies and resources to support students facing mental health challenges.

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** As the current chair of the academic achievement committee on the school board, I ensure equitable access by reviewing data and school practices. We meet with practitioners to understand challenges and ensure all students have access to resources, challenging courses, and effective teachers. I continue to champion professional development for teachers and school administrators around equity and access.

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** To attract and retain effective teachers and administrators, I advocate for competitive salaries and compensation packages that include comprehensive benefits. I prioritize supportive working conditions, professional development, and collaboration with the teachers' union. Additionally, I support compensating teaching interns during their internships to value their contributions and invest in their professional growth.

## Prince George's County Board of Education District 7

**DUTIES:** The BOE shares its responsibilities with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to establish and oversee educational policies; to make decisions on educational, facility, and financial matters; and to appraise the educational and administrative management of the public school system. The CEO implements public school policies and programs. The BOE may not contradict management and oversight of fiscal affairs except by a 2/3 vote of the BOE. The purpose of the Board is two-fold: to raise the academic achievement of students and the level of engagement of parents, students, and community. The BOE consists of 9 elected members, 3 members appointed by the County Executive, 1 member by the County Council, and 1 student member.

**SALARY:** \$18,000 + \$7,000 reimbursement

**TERM:** 4 years; no term limits

**HOW ELECTED:** By popular vote within one of nine districts. Districts 1, 4, 5, 7, and 8 are elected during Presidential elections; Districts 2, 3, 6, and 9, during Gubernatorial elections. BOE races are non-partisan, and all registered voters may vote in both Primary and General elections. The top two vote getters in each race advance to the General election; uncontested races (only one or two candidates) do not appear on the primary election ballot.

## Questions

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

**PARENTAL INPUT:** How would you address concerns about specific books or instructional materials in the schools?

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** What programs or policies, if any, do you propose or support to help our schools address the ongoing concerns around student mental health?

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** How would you ensure that all students have equitable access to resources, challenging courses, and effective teachers and administrators?

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** What strategies would you support to attract and retain effective teachers and administrators?

## Candidates

Voters may vote for no more than 1.

### **Kenneth F. Harris, II**

**Campaign Twitter:** kennyfharris

**Campaign Email:** kennyharris2@gmail.com

**Campaign Website:** www.kennethfharris.com

**Campaign Phone:** 2403027437

**Campaign Instagram:** kennyfharris

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As the current District 7 representative I am proud of the work we have completed to increase teacher pay, bolster school security, build 8 cutting edge new buildings, and increase mental health resources for both students and educators across the county. Serving in leadership on the Operations, Budget, and Fiscal Affairs (OBFA) Committee each year I've led my colleagues and the administration through decisions prudent to the proper fiscal allocation and operation of the entire school system.

**PARENTAL INPUT:** By approaching the situation with both empathy and understanding, I would first seek to hear the concern & respect their perspective. This helps to lay the groundwork & effectively build a bridge to the PGCPs administration. By actively listening to concerns, providing alternative options, offering information about the content area, encouraging dialogue, & ultimately respecting the parents' decisions, schools & educators can work collaboratively to meet the educational needs of all students.

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** Advocacy for increased train the trainer models across the county is imperative to addressing the concerns around student mental health. I cosponsored Budget Amendment 2.6 Mental Health Awareness (RESOLUTION #02152024-03) targeting additional system wide training. This model builds on the existing Sources of Strength programs offered in 30 of our schools, in a 5 year \$3 million initiative. Support and expansion of AP 5113, granting students one mental health day per semester, is also vital

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** Advocating for the proper funding based on needs in curriculum, activities, and services. Through increased parent and community partnership we have also increased the knowledge base for funding structures around Title I and Community Schools status. Which contributes to the School Based Budget, impacting areas such as our English Language Learners (ELL) and Special Education (SPED) scholars. Increased use and enhancements to the Equity Dashboard will also ensure areas of need are identified.

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** Continuously prioritizing competitive compensation packages that reflect the value of our teachers' contributions. Ensuring our decisions must reflect the importance of granting teachers the autonomy to teach without unnecessary burdens & providing them the resources needed, like adequate (and respected) planning time. My commitment to educators extends beyond financial incentives. I am dedicated to cultivating a supportive and inclusive environment where educators feel valued, safe & empowered



## Henrietta Maria Holiday

**Campaign Email:** hh4pgc@gmail.com

**Campaign Website:** www.hh4pg.org

**Campaign Phone:** 2404556868

**QUALIFICATIONS:** As the proud daughter of a mother and father who were enlisted in the Marines, who served as educators, and volunteer ministers in our community, I know first-hand what a life of public service looked like at home and abroad. I also joined the military after the disruptive event of 9/11. I felt the necessity to be a part of the solution to keep our country safe. This sense of ambition transfers into my desire to guide our next generation. Being a change agent for PGPCS D- 7, expect excellence.

**PARENTAL INPUT:** I would engage parents or guardians in the counseling and reviewing of books, in order to make an informed and age-appropriate decision on materials. We do not need to overwhelm impressionable minds with materials that do not match the student's maturity level.

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** Using the "It-Takes-a-Village" concept is key here. Embedding entrusted youth counselors in schools and by partnering with certified or licensed mental health professionals, of whom are from the same or similar community of the students, will aid in addressing ongoing concerns of students' mental health.

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** Connecting the dots for diverse and inclusive teams has been a strength of mine. When others say it's impossible, I always find a way to possible. Prince George's District 7 students have equitable access to resources. It's a matter of how we incorporate them into our daily planning. Establishing strategic partnerships with parents and businesses will help our students learn how to connect those dots to make community advancements.

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** We need to employ the same methods headhunters use when looking for top-notch candidates with the will and the zeal to help propel our young people to a higher educational level. School leaders and parents must know that Prince George's District 7 community expects and demands nothing but the best for our students in Prince George's County Public Schools.

## Phelton C. Moss

**Campaign Twitter:** @pcmoss

**Campaign Facebook:** facebook.com/pheltonmoss

**Campaign Website:** www.votepheltonmoss.com

**Campaign Phone:** 3012562752

**QUALIFICATIONS:** With over a decade of experience as a classroom teacher, principal, and senior leader in education policy, including roles as a congressional adviser and now professor of Education Policy, I possess a comprehensive understanding of education challenges. My track record of driving positive change, coupled with a commitment to equity and excellence, uniquely prepares me to tackle the duties of this office with innovative solutions and visionary leadership.

**PARENTAL INPUT:** Drawing on my expertise in education policy and leadership, I would establish a transparent review process involving stakeholders to address concerns about specific books or instructional materials in schools. Emphasizing diversity, equity, and inclusion, I'd ensure decisions align with educational standards and community values while promoting critical thinking and open dialogue.

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** Utilizing my background in education policy and leadership, I advocate for comprehensive mental health programs in schools. This includes increased access to counselors, training for educators in recognizing mental health issues, and implementing evidence-based interventions. Additionally, fostering supportive school environments and partnerships with mental health professionals are crucial steps in addressing the ongoing concerns surrounding student mental health.

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** I propose targeted interventions such as equitable funding distribution, recruitment of diverse educators, and implementation of rigorous coursework. Additionally, I advocate for community partnerships, professional development for educators, and data-driven strategies to

address systemic barriers, ensuring all students have equitable access to resources and opportunities for academic success.

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** To attract and retain effective teachers and administrators, I advocate for comprehensive strategies. These include competitive compensation packages, professional development opportunities, supportive work environments, and leadership pathways. Additionally, fostering a culture of collaboration, recognizing achievements, and providing mentorship programs are essential for retaining talent and sustaining school improvement efforts.

## Prince George's County Board of Education District 8

**DUTIES:** The BOE shares its responsibilities with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to establish and oversee educational policies; to make decisions on educational, facility, and financial matters; and to appraise the educational and administrative management of the public school system. The CEO implements public school policies and programs. The BOE may not contradict management and oversight of fiscal affairs except by a 2/3 vote of the BOE. The purpose of the Board is two-fold: to raise the academic achievement of students and the level of engagement of parents, students, and community. The BOE consists of 9 elected members, 3 members appointed by the County Executive, 1 member by the County Council, and 1 student member.

**SALARY:** \$18,000 + \$7,000 reimbursement

**TERM:** 4 years; no term limits

**HOW ELECTED:** By popular vote within one of nine districts. Districts 1, 4, 5, 7, and 8 are elected during Presidential elections; Districts 2, 3, 6, and 9, during Gubernatorial elections. BOE races are non-partisan, and all registered voters may vote in both Primary and General elections. The top two vote getters in each race advance to the General election; uncontested races (only one or two candidates) do not appear on the primary election ballot.

### Questions

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

**PARENTAL INPUT:** How would you address concerns about specific books or instructional materials in the schools.

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** What programs or policies, if any, do you propose or support to help our schools address the ongoing concerns around student mental health?

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** How would you ensure that all students have equitable access to resources, challenging courses, and effective teachers and administrators?

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** What strategies would you support to attract and retain effective teachers and administrators?

### Candidates

Voters may vote for no more than 1.

#### **Madeline L. Frazier**

**Campaign Facebook:** Facebook.com/FrazierforEducation

**Campaign Email:** FriendsOfMadelineFrazier@gmail.com



**QUALIFICATIONS:** 25 years of professional experience in the fields of Social Work and K-12 education go beyond my formal education of a Master's Degree in Clinical Social Work, Educational Leadership Certification, and Educational Specialist Degree. Being an educator and social worker helps me to consider educational and mental health aspects and leads me to comprehensive decision-making for students. Experiences in policy development and management align with school board best practices.

**PARENTAL INPUT:** Listen Intently for understanding. Provide parents the time and space to feel heard. Refer to school policies related to curriculum, instructional materials, and the process for handling concerns and ensure that actions align with guidelines. Advocate for the importance of a well-rounded and inclusive education. Emphasize the need for diverse perspectives in the curriculum while maintaining academic rigor.

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** Mental health care is not a one-solution-fits-all approach, multiple strategies are needed. One approach is to add curriculum that teaches students about emotional well-being, stress management, and coping strategies. Hiring more culturally responsive counselors. Anti-bullying programs and initiatives that create a positive and inclusive environment, substance abuse identification and sensory rooms where students can access mental health resources, seek support, or take a break when needed.

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** Data examination is key, conducting regular data dives to identify and address disparities in resource allocation, course enrollment, and teacher distribution. This includes examining demographic data, achievement gaps, and access patterns in the district. I'm also an advocate of developing support programs for underrepresented groups that include mentoring, tutoring, and field trip exposure.

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** Staff must be paid competitive salaries and benefits that are a par with neighboring jurisdictions, We need to create pathways for leadership within the district and support teachers and administrators to pursue those roles and continue professional growth. Adopt a cooperative and caring school culture where teachers and administrators feel valued, respected, and part of a positive community. Establishing mentoring and wellness programs that support physical and mental health.

## Zakya Goins-McCants

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**Campaign Facebook:** facebook.com/zakyaforpgcps

**Campaign Website:** zakyaforpgcps.com

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I've spent over a decade in education from the classroom to national advocacy. I've taught, led school culture improvement efforts, coached teachers, principals & district leaders, worked to pass state and local education legislation, and worked on national education policy. I've experienced District 8 schools as a student and teacher leader. I'd like to bring my educational expertise together with the genius of PGcps staff and the broader community to make our schools a model for the nation.

**PARENTAL INPUT:** I respect parents' responsibility to protect and guide their children. I do not support using that responsibility to obscure facts or make the job of educating students to be citizens more difficult. I am in support of pathways to address curricular issues with educational experts and best practices, and systems for parents to opt out of specific books or instructional materials if the learning objective can be met without that material and doing so won't impede the learning of other students.

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** The mental health crisis is a community issue that schools can't solve alone. In addition to community partnerships, I support 1) Systems in all schools to get students to dedicated mental health professionals, either on-site or through referrals 2) Training all staff in basic mental health and crisis prevention such as Restorative Practices and Mental Health First Aid 3) Embedding wellness and SEL into the curriculum 4) Analyzing our policies for ways to model well-being best practices

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** ALL students can achieve at high levels and our resource allocation MUST reflect our commitment to getting them there! I support 1) Using data to drive decisions around

resource allocation 2)Increasing incentives to attract our most effective staff to support our greatest needs 3)Interventions that meet students where they are to build the skills to succeed in challenging coursework to be offered at all schools 4)Ongoing training for staff to meet the unique needs of our most vulnerable students

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** This is a national crisis, so we have to get the basics down and then get creative. We must provide safe and positive work environments, pay people for their expertise, and provide support to reach the high professional standards we expect. Safe, well-paid expert staff create joyful, impactful learning environments for students and attract more talent. I will work with all stakeholders to optimize the strategies already in place and push for new strategies such as the Opportunity Culture Model.

## Angela R. Jones

**Campaign Email:** hcsaw1220@gmail.com

**Campaign Facebook:** facebook.com/angelar.jones\_community

**Campaign Phone:** 202-222-2835

**Campaign Instagram:** arenej323

**QUALIFICATIONS:** I have experience as a lawyer, Legislative Director, Deputy Town Administrator, Director of Community Engagement and Constituent Services, Law Enforcement Officer, Social Worker, Director for Summer Playgrounds, and Substitute Teacher. I believe in building strong partnerships with stakeholders, including local agencies, to provide additional resources and services to students and their families. I will continue to work towards building successful partnerships within the community.

**PARENTAL INPUT:** I believe parents should have the option to opt out of curriculum materials that conflicts with their beliefs, but schools must have inclusive, and diverse curriculums that supports the entire spectrum of our student population. School Board members don't create the curriculum, but the Superintendent does. Thus, I support PGCPs's efforts to create inclusive curriculums that represent the student population's diversity.

**TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** Schools need a Mental Health Crisis Team for students' safety and well-being. The team should include a nurse, social worker, counselor, resource officers, and a mental health professional. Intervention by one or more of these entities is pivotal for successful management. A bi-lingual representative might also be necessary.

**OPPORTUNITY GAP:** As a Legislative Director, I support the "Maryland Education Shortage Act." We need to retain our educators by advocating for competitive compensation, professional development, and growth opportunities. Our students deserve a safe learning environment, and the budget must align with our priorities. I will ensure that our community's voices are heard so that our students receive the education they deserve.

**SCHOOL LEADERS:** To attract and retain the best educators and administrators, as a potential school board member, I propose offering competitive salaries and benefits, providing ample professional development opportunities, creating a positive culture that celebrates excellence in teaching, and prioritizing communication with our teachers. This will ensure that PGCPs remains an attractive place for highly qualified educators to work and develop, ultimately leading to a better education for our students.

## Join the League!

We invite you to be a part of making our communities FAIR, VIBRANT, and STRONG! Join the League and be directly involved in shaping the important issues in our state. Membership in the League is open to men and women of all ages. With more than 100 years of experience, local Leagues in 16 of Maryland's counties and in all 50 states, the League is one of America's most trusted grassroots organizations.

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**

**P.O. Box 3033**

**Laurel, MD 20709**

**<https://www.lwvpgcmd.org/support>**

**301.541.3113**

*Special thanks to Dr. Gail Clark, Vice President of the League of Women Voters Prince George's County, for the composition of the League of Women Voters Prince George's County 2024 Primary Election Voters' Guide.*

