# NONPARTISAN VOTERS GUIDE

Published by the League of Women Voters Corpus Christi Area

# November 3, 2026, General Election




This 48-page Voters Guide features general voter information as well as submitted responses and photos of candidates seeking election in the Fall 2026 General Election. The Table of Contents on Page 2 shows the races that are featured. This nonpartisan guide is published by the League of Women Voters Corpus Christi Area. League President Alice Upshaw Hawkins can be reached at: lwvcorpuschristi@gmail.com.
This guide will be distributed free of charge throughout Corpus Christi and Nueces County before Early Voting begins.
REMEMBER: Your Voice Is Your Vote. The League believes that voting is a cherished privilege and a cornerstone of democracy...and that every vote counts in every election.

## EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

**October 19-23** 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. | **October 24** 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
**October 25** 12:00-6:00 p.m. courthouse only | **October 26-30** 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

### MAIN EARLY VOTING LOCATION
*UBICACIÓN PRINCIPAL DE VOTACIÓN ANTICIPADA*

**NUECES COUNTY COURTHOUSE**
901 Leopard Street
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401

**October 25th**
**12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

**Special Sunday Hours**
**at this location only**
*Horario especial de domingo solamente en este ubicación*

**ADKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL**
*(New Gymnasium)*
2402 Ennis Joslin Rd. Corpus Christi, TX 78414

**BISHOP MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING**
115 S. Ash Ave. Bishop, TX 78343

**CALALLEN ISD ADMIN BUILDING**
*(Boardroom)*
4205 Wildcat Dr. Corpus Christi, TX 78410

**CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL**
*(Teaching Theater Room D135)*
3202 Saratoga Blvd. Corpus Christi, TX 78415

**CHURCH UNLIMITED**
*(Kids Unlimited Atrium Entrance)*
3402 Rodd Field Rd. Corpus Christi, TX 78414

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

**DEL MAR COLLEGE**
*(Heritage Campus-Heldenfels Admin. Bldg.)*
101 Baldwin Blvd. Corpus Christi, TX 78404

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

**GRANT MIDDLE SCHOOL**
*(New Gymnasium)*
4350 Aaron Dr. Corpus Christi, TX 78413

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

**HAMLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL**
*(Room A142, side door #3)*
3850 S Staples St . Corpus Christi, TX 78411

**HILLTOP COMMUNITY CENTER**
*(South Wing #1-back building)*
11425 Leopard St. Corpus Christi, TX 78410

**ISLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
*(Annex Building)*
14030 Fortuna Bay Dr. Corpus Christi, TX 78418

**JOHNNY CALDERON BUILDING**
*(Auditorium)*
710 E Main Ave. Robstown, TX 78380

**LONDON ISD ADMIN BUILDING**
*(Boardroom)*
1356 FM 43. Corpus Christi, TX 78415

**PORT ARANSAS COMMUNITY CENTER**
408 N Alister St, Port Aransas, TX 78373

**TEXAS A&M - CORPUS CHRISTI**
*(Carlos Truan Natural Resource Center, Rm 1003)*
6300 Ocean Dr. Corpus Christi, TX 78412)

**VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL**
*(Auditorium Entrance)*
3750 Cimarron Blvd. Corpus Christi, TX 78414

**WEST OSO ISD ADMIN BUILDING**
*(Boardroom)*
5350 Bear Lane. Corpus Christi, TX 78405




Curbside voting will be available at all locations. Call (361) 888-0303
*Votación en la acera estará disponible en todas locaciones. LLame a (361) 888-0303*

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# WHAT TO TAKE TO THE POLLS

Voters in Texas may use one of seven (7) forms of photo ID listed below.

- Texas Driver License
- Texas Election Identification Certificate(EIC) issued by the Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas Personal Identification Card issued by the Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas handgun license to carry a handgun issued by the Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- US Military Identification card containing your photograph
- US Citizenship Certificate containing your photograph
- US Passport (book or card)

**Notes**:

- IDs may have expired up to four years.
- Persons 70 years or older may use an expired ID, regardless of expiration date.
- ID address does not have to match the voter registration address.
- The name on the photo ID should match the voter registration card or be "substantially similar." If you name doesn't match exactly, you can still vote but will need to sign a form stating you are the person on the list of registered voters.

**No photo ID?**
**If you are registered <u>but do not have a photo ID</u> and cannot reasonably obtain one**, you may sign a form (described below) and present the original or a copy of one of the following documents with your name and address to vote: Texas voter registration card; certified birth certificate; current utility bill; bank statement; government check, paycheck; or any other government document such as an out-of-state driver license or expired Texas driver's license.
The form to be filled out by registered voters without a photo ID is a "Voter's Declaration of Reasonable Impediment or Difficulty."
***You must mark on the form one of the following reasons f<u>or not providing a photo ID</u>: Lack of transportation, disability or illness, lack of birth certificate or other documents needed to obtain an acceptable form of photo ID; work schedule; family responsibilities; lost or stolen identification; or
acceptable form of photo ID applied for but not received.

# The Handy Online Voters Guide!

VOTE411 is committed to ensuring voters have the information they need to successfully participate in every election. Whether it is local, state or federal, every election is important to ensuring our laws and policies reflect the values and beliefs of our communities.

Readers, you may have noticed that this printed Voters Guide only contains information about candidates in local and Nueces County races. You can find information about all the other Texas candidates seeking election in Texas by accessing www.VOTE411.org, which is brought to you by the League of Women Voters Education Fund.

Launched by the League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF) more than 17 years ago, VOTE411.org is a “one-stop-shop” for election-related information. It provides nonpartisan information to the public, with both general and state-specific information on various aspects of the election process.

The League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi Area has populated the
VOTE411.org site for Nueces County with candidates’ responses to the League’s questions, candidate photos, and other information that will be valuable to voters seeking additional information as they prepare to vote.

The text and printed responses from candidates found in this Voters Guide, in fact, come directly from the VOTE411.org file.

Additional questions posed to candidates and their responses may also be included in VOTE411.org, so be sure to access the online guide to learn more about candidate issues and opinions.

In addition, both general and state-specific information on various aspects of
the election process can be accessed in VOTE411.org, including:

- Early Voting and Ballot-by-Mail
- Important dates to remember during the election cycle
- General information on such topics as how to watch debates and forums with a critical eye
- ID requirements
- Polling place locations and voter registration deadlines, plus voter
- qualifications, voter registration forms, and voting machine details.

## Report Election Day Problems

Voters can report on election problems by calling the following numbers:

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

1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (888-839-8682) SPANISH

1-888-API-VOTE (Asian multilingual assistance) (888-274-8683)
ENGLISH, MANDARIN, CANTONESE, KOREAN, VIETNAMESE, BENGALI, URDU, HINDI, TAGALOG

844-VALLA-US (844-925-5287) ARABIC

301-818-VOTE (301-818-8683)
AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (video call)

888-796-VOTE
Disability Rights Texas

# U.S. Representative, Congressional District 27

Two-year term. One of 38 members of the U.S. House of Representatives from Texas. With the U.S. Senate, the House of Representatives makes laws; raises revenues, appropriates federal funds and manages the federal debt; regulates commerce among states and with other nations; declares war and maintains and regulates the military; establishes the federal court system and defines federal crimes; and directs the census every ten years. The House has the exclusive power to impeach federal officers, including the President. Current annual salary: $174,000.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What education/training and experience qualify you for this position?

**Q2:** What should be Congress's role in protecting all eligible citizens' access to voting while ensuring election integrity?

**Q3:** Are there Congressional actions necessary to ensure America has reliable, affordable energy while protecting the environment?

**Q4:** What should the role of Congress be regarding public lands?

**Q5:** In your opinion, how should Congress maintain the separation of powers between the executive and legislative branches?

**Q6:** What is your position on federal spending priorities and strategies for addressing the national debt?

### Michael Cloud (R)

**No response submitted**

### Tanya Llyod (D)

**Campaign Website:**
tanyafortx27.com



**Q1:** I've taught kindergarten and first grade in rural Texas for 20 years, watching federal policy play out in the daily lives of working families. My husband Scott and I led our local 4-H club. We support FFA, and help fund scholarships for local students. I grew up on, and still live on, the family farm my parents built with my father's VA benefits. I've driven 50,000+ miles across every county of TX-27 listening to voters, and building real campaign infrastructure. Congress needs a kindergarten teacher: someone who listens, tells the truth, and puts people first.

**Q2:** Congress must protect every eligible citizen's right to vote; that is how you protect election integrity. I support restoring the Voting Rights Act, automatic, same-day, and online voter registration, and mail-in voting for all. The real threat to integrity isn't voters, it's partisan gerrymandering that lets politicians pick their voters instead of the reverse. I support banning partisan gerrymandering and creating independent redistricting commissions so district lines are drawn fairly. Democracy works when every legal vote is counted, clearly and without obstruction, under fair rules.

**Q3:** Yes. I support an "All of the Above" energy strategy: high-paying jobs in solar, wind, hydrogen, and geothermal, while keeping our traditional energy sectors the cleanest and most efficient in the world. Texas should lead the nation's energy transition. But reliability and affordability start with protecting the grid: unchecked AI data center growth is driving up rural utility bills and straining water and farmland. I've called for a federal moratorium on new data centers until we ensure they won't harm communities, resources, or ratepayers. Energy policy should serve people here first, not big tech.

**Q4:** Congress's most urgent public-lands job right now is stopping the bulldozers tearing through Big Bend National Park. In June, an amendment was put forward in the House Appropriations Committee that would have barred DHS from bulldozing through Big Bend National Park and State Park, while maintaining sensors and cameras for border security. Some places are too precious to bulldoze for a wall that covers less than 1% of border crossings. I would have voted to protect Big Bend, and I'll fight to stop this destruction in Congress.

**Q5:** Congress has let too much of its own constitutional authority slip away. This is especially true for war powers by refusing to assert Congress's authority over unauthorized war. The Constitution gives Congress, not the executive, power to declare war, and Congress must reclaim that authority. We must apply that same principle across the board to ensure that Congress is not writing blank checks for authoritarian policies that threaten our way of life.

**Q6:** We must ensure billionaires and big corporations pay their fair share instead of shifting the burden onto working families. I'd raise the Social Security tax cap so the ultra-wealthy don't stop contributing at $184,500 of income. On spending, I'd prioritize childcare, rural hospitals, schools, and infrastructure. Instead of spending billions for unauthorized war and tax cuts for billionaires and corporations, I'd focus on the needs here at home in our district.

### Wayne Raasch
Write-in candidate

**No response.**

# U.S. Representative, Congressional District 34

Two-year term. One of 38 members of the U.S. House of Representatives from Texas. With the U.S. Senate, the House of Representatives makes laws; raises revenues, appropriates federal funds and manages the federal debt; regulates commerce among states and with other nations; declares war and maintains and regulates the military; establishes the federal court system and defines federal crimes; and directs the census every ten years. The House has the exclusive power to impeach federal officers, including the President. Current annual salary: $174,000.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Economy:** What policies would you support to reduce income inequality and expand economic opportunity?

**Immigration:** What reforms would you support, if any, regarding the detention of immigrants and asylum seekers?

**Balance of Power:** What specific actions would you take to protect the Constitution's system of checks and balances?

**Energy:** How would you ensure America has reliable, affordable energy while protecting the environment?

**Healthcare:** What specific steps would you take to make healthcare more affordable for American families?



### Chris Royal (L)

**Campaign Website:**
chriscongress.com

**Qualifications:** I'm an attorney, teacher, author, programmer, and a veteran. I grew up in a family business which I helped run. I managed 7-11 stores in college and had managerial experience in the Army and schools.

**Economy:** Econ 101 says that when the money supply is increased without an increase in the amount of goods or services, we will have inflation. Our national debt increases the money supply. So we've seen an increase in our money supply from 3.5 Trillion ('96) to 39.5 Trillion as of today. So until we see a decrease in the US debt, we will not be expanding economic opportunity for the lower working class.

**Immigration:** We have an administration which is currently executing the laws already on the books. As a result, there is practically no one coming across illegally at this time. As for reforms, I don't see a need for any. About 3 million illegals have self-deported, been given money and a place in line to come across again legally. If someone is harmed, the offending officer should be prosecuted and fired.

**Balance of Power:** I won't be voting to eliminate the three branches of government as proposed by the Democratic Socialists. That means I'll be voting against any changes to the Constitution and its Amendments. There are only 27 Amendments to the US Constitution as compared to 547 for the Texas Constitution. Our US Constitution is working extremely well and shouldn't be meddled with except for good cause/reason.

**Energy:** For cars, hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles are the answer, however, they lag far behind battery-powered electric vehicles (BEVs) due to high costs and infrastructure hurdles. Japan is already creating these types of vehicles. As for creative ways to power our homes and businesses, solar panels are a step in the right direction but are somewhat out of reach for the typical American home owner

**Healthcare:** People will pay anything to to get healed if they have to. And that's our problem. And that's why the government is always seen as the solution to the healthcare issue. They have the "big pockets", i.e. the money. Instead, I believe the question should be directed at the doctors and nurses as to how they can deliver healthcare efficiently and at a lower cost. S Korea is a good example of this.



### Eddie Espinoza (G)

**Campaign Website:**
espinoza4tx.com

**Qualifications:** I am an Army combat veteran, a retired elementary school teacher, and a climate and peace activist. I'm proud to be a Green Party candidate – they don't take PAC money, and neither do I.

**Economy:** We need money out of politics. We could have Medicare for All, Free College, and so much more. With politics for people instead of big donors we could have community co-ops for solar energy, support for local food supplies to help local farmers and keep costs down, free childcare, public transit, affordable housing, and water security. It all starts with getting money out of politics.

**Immigration:** Abolish ICE. Abolish DHS. Immigrants and asylum seekers should be handled administratively, like a traffic ticket, and not treated like criminals. As the son and grandson of farm workers, I know personally that most immigrants just want honest work. US foreign policy creates poverty and desperation, which fuels immigration. Let's work towards a US foreign policy based on compassion.

**Balance of Power:** Big donors have taken over our government. Elon Musk alone has pledged to spend $200 million on the November election – influence he uses to hurt our community with explosions and land grabs at SpaceX. We need a Constitutional Amendment to end Citizens United and rein in PACs, dark money, and billionaires. We need a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

**Energy:** Have you noticed our South Texas summers are hotter and longer? The climate crisis is real, and it is here! Climate scientists agree: we must transition to 100% clean renewable energy. Solar panels with battery storage are cheaper than fossil fuels, so we can even save money with the energy transition. The new refinery and the new export LNG terminals at the Port of Brownsville must be canceled.

**Healthcare:** We need Medicare for All! That means improved and expanded Medicare for everyone. No premiums or copays. No annoying paperwork, no phone calls about billing, no denials of coverage. With prescriptions, dental, vision, hearing aids, and mental health included.Other countries have achieved universal healthcare and ended medical debt, we can too. Medicare for All is the best solution for healthcare.

# U.S. Representative, Congressional District 34 Continued

**Eric Flores (R)**

No response.

**Vicente Gonzalez (D)**

No response.

(re) introducing VOTE411

BE INFORMED.
VOTE INFORMED.

VOTE411 is committed to continuing to provide voters with “one-stop-shop" nonpartisan information for both general and state-specific elections.

www.vote411.org

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VOTE 411

# Texas State Representative, District 32

A Texas State Representative is an elected official who serves in the Texas House of Representatives. Their primary responsibilities include proposing, debating, and voting on state laws and policies. They represent the interests of their constituents by addressing local and statewide issues, such as education, healthcare, and infrastructure. State Representatives also work on budget allocations, oversee government agencies, and serve on legislative committees to review bills and policies. Additionally, they assist constituents with navigating state services and advocate for their concerns at the state level.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** Describe your strongest competency and life experience that qualify you to hold this office.

**Q2:** During your campaign, what is the number one concern expressed to you by residents and what is your response to this concern?

**Q3:** Other than the issues previously addressed, what are your top three priorities, and if elected, how would you address them?

### Gabriel "Gabe" Lozano Marroquin (D)

**No response.**

### Todd Hunter (R)



**Campaign Website:**
electtoddhunter.com

**Q1:** I have lived in the Coastal Bend for more than 45 years. My wife, children, grandchildren, and I live in Corpus Christi. Experience matters, and so does understanding the needs of coastal residents. I have long been a strong supporter of the Texas coast and will continue advocating for the people, communities, schools, businesses, and natural resources of the Coastal Bend. I want our beaches to remain open and accessible. I will also continue supporting our veterans and the programs and resources that serve them.

**Q2:** Property taxes, utility costs, and water are among the concerns most frequently raised by residents and businesses. The property tax appraisal system needs meaningful reform so homeowners and business owners can afford to remain in their properties. Many tax laws are outdated and should be modernized. A reliable water supply is critical to the Coastal Bend and the State of Texas. Our region needs adequate state support to maintain and improve its water resources and infrastructure. We also need long-term water planning for both the Coastal Bend and the state as a whole. Utility costs are also rising rapidly. Customers should receive clear, understandable bills that disclose every charge and fee so they know exactly what their payments cover.

**Q3:** I support stronger laws and enforcement to combat human trafficking and domestic violence, along with adequate resources, caseworkers, and counseling for victims.
I will continue working to reimburse coastal school districts for costly windstorm insurance, so more education dollars remain in classrooms.
Health insurance reform is needed to put patients and timely medical care ahead of administrative barriers. I also support Del Mar College, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, and UT Marine Science Institute through funding for education, workforce training, and research, including skilled trades, culinary arts, marine science, and oyster mariculture, with the Coastal Bend becoming a center for mariculture and marine science education.




## Use Curbside Voting If Needed

If you are physically unable to enter the polling place without personal assistance or likelihood of injuring your health, curbside voting is available.
To vote curbside, please call the Nueces County Courthouse at 361-888-0303 when you arrive at your polling place and request that they alert the election judge of your presence.
An election official will come to your vehicle.

# Texas State Representative, District 34

A Texas State Representative is an elected official who serves in the Texas House of Representatives. Their primary responsibilities include proposing, debating, and voting on state laws and policies. They represent the interests of their constituents by addressing local and statewide issues, such as education, healthcare, and infrastructure. State Representatives also work on budget allocations, oversee government agencies, and serve on legislative committees to review bills and policies. Additionally, they assist constituents with navigating state services and advocate for their concerns at the state level.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** Describe your strongest competency and life experience that qualify you to hold this office.

**Q2:** During your campaign, what is the number one concern expressed to you by residents and what is your response to this concern?

**Q3:** Other than the issues previously addressed, what are your top three priorities, and if elected, how would you address them?



### Denise Villalobos (R)

**Campaign Website:**
denisevillalobos.com

**No response.**



### Stephanie Saenz (D)

**Campaign Website:**
stephanie4texas.com

**Q1:** As an educator, I have learned to be patient, adaptable, and persistent while keeping the focus on results. I would bring that same approach to public service: listening to constituents, building relationships across differences, identifying common ground, and following through on commitments. I believe effective leadership begins with listening, is strengthened through collaboration, and is measured by the positive difference we make in people's lives.

**Q2:** The main concern for the residents of House District 34 is the cost of living. We need to raise the minimum wage, make healthcare, and housing affordable, approve summer SNAP benefits for school children, and continue Democratic initiatives like Senator Zaffirini's Freedom to Dream initiative (where students are able to attend Del Mar College tuition free).

**Q3:**My top priority is public education. It is time to fund our public schools adequately. Texas has gone from ranking among the top 10 states in public education to ranking among the bottom 10, and that is unacceptable. We must give our public schools the funding they need to serve every student.
Second, we must root out corruption in government. Redistricting for political gain undermines our democracy, especially when it diminishes the voting power of Black and Brown communities. Voters should choose their representatives, not the other way around.
Finally, we must protect our natural resources. Water is life. The choices we make today must safeguard it for future generations.

# District Judge, 94th Judicial District

District judges hold significant responsibilities within the legal system. They preside over trials, hearings, and motions, ensuring fair proceedings and making rulings based on evidence and the law. They interpret and apply the law, manage courtroom procedures, and deliver judgments in both civil and criminal cases. District judges play a crucial role in upholding justice, ensuring due process, and maintaining the integrity of the legal system within their jurisdiction.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What can be done to improve access to justice for all, including persons or groups who may be underserved?

**Q2:** Why are you running for this position and what motivates you to serve?

**Q3:** What impact does the outcome of the District Judge race have on the community, and why is it important for citizens to be engaged in this election?



### Celina Leon (D)

**Campaign Website:**
celinaforjudge.com

**Q1:** Electing judges who are dedicated to providing ample opportunity for people and cases to be heard is key. As a judicial candidate who is a Corpus Christi native and heavily involved in the community, I understand the needs of the people. I will give individuals the opportunity to be heard and present their case. I will maximize on my abilities to run an efficient docket to provide time for these contested matters, and always treat people with the respect and dignity they deserve. Each person who steps in the courtroom will be treated equally, and I will ensure everyone gets their fair day in court.

**Q2:** As a Corpus Christi native and first generation lawyer, I have a deep appreciation for the law, especially as it applies to our community. I believe justice applies to everyone, regardless of race, class, status, or party affiliation. Fundamental fairness in our judicial system is paramount. Helping others is why I became a lawyer, and why I continue to represent the most vulnerable as a criminal attorney. I have represented hundreds of individuals and have seen firsthand how important it is for judicial decisions to be based on knowledge of the law and unbiased and non-partisan opinions. I look forward to transferring my qualifications, work ethic, integrity, and respect for the law to the bench as your next 94th District Court Judge.

**Q3:** It is important for the community to understand what cases are heard in Nueces County District Courts - Felony Crimes (the majority of cases), Family Law cases, some personal injury and other civil matters - and how having a qualified Judge is paramount. District Judges have an immense impact on the community by the decisions they make, beyond the people physically in the courtroom. The community should focus on the quality of experience candidates have, and research their background. I am a trial lawyer with nearly 17 years experience in the courtroom litigating cases all the way up to the Texas Supreme Court. I also obtained my board certification in criminal law, which is held by less than 1% of lawyers in the State of Texas.



### Chris Dorsey (R)

**Campaign Website:**
electchrisdorsey.com

**No response.**

**The Texas Secretary of State's website has lots of valuable information for voters, including Questions and Answers on a variety of topics. Visit the website at www.sos.state.tx.us**

# District Judge, 105th Judicial District (Unopposed)

District judges hold significant responsibilities within the legal system. They preside over trials, hearings, and motions, ensuring fair proceedings and making rulings based on evidence and the law. They interpret and apply the law, manage courtroom procedures, and deliver judgments in both civil and criminal cases. District judges play a crucial role in upholding justice, ensuring due process, and maintaining the integrity of the legal system within their jurisdiction.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What can be done to improve access to justice for all, including persons or groups who may be underserved?

**Q2:** Why are you running for this position and what motivates you to serve?

**Q3:** What impact does the outcome of the District Judge race have on the community, and why is it important for citizens to be engaged in this election?

**Jack W. Pulcher (R)**

**Unopposed.**

# District Judge, 117th Judicial District (Unopposed)

District judges hold significant responsibilities within the legal system. They preside over trials, hearings, and motions, ensuring fair proceedings and making rulings based on evidence and the law. They interpret and apply the law, manage courtroom procedures, and deliver judgments in both civil and criminal cases. District judges play a crucial role in upholding justice, ensuring due process, and maintaining the integrity of the legal system within their jurisdiction.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What can be done to improve access to justice for all, including persons or groups who may be underserved?

**Q2:** Why are you running for this position and what motivates you to serve?

**Q3:** What impact does the outcome of the District Judge race have on the community, and why is it important for citizens to be engaged in this election?

**Susan Barclay (R)**

**Unopposed.**

## VOTING FOR JUDGES IN TEXAS

Although in some states, judges are appointed, in Texas most judges are elected. Judges make decisions about fundamental issues impacting family life, education, health care, housing, employment, finances, discrimination, civil rights, public safety, and government actions.

The Texas court system is made up of a statewide network of trial courts and courts of appeal. In trial courts, judges and/or juries evaluate the facts and the law and make a decision in a civil or criminal legal dispute. When decisions in most trial courts are appealed, they are sent to a court of appeal where judges consider what happened at the trial court, evaluate legal arguments, and then decide if a mistake was made.

See **txcourts.gov/about-texas-courts** for more information.

# District Judge, 148th Judicial District

District judges hold significant responsibilities within the legal system. They preside over trials, hearings, and motions, ensuring fair proceedings and making rulings based on evidence and the law. They interpret and apply the law, manage courtroom procedures, and deliver judgments in both civil and criminal cases. District judges play a crucial role in upholding justice, ensuring due process, and maintaining the integrity of the legal system within their jurisdiction.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What can be done to improve access to justice for all, including persons or groups who may be underserved?

**Q2:** Why are you running for this position and what motivates you to serve?

**Q3:** What impact does the outcome of the District Judge race have on the community, and why is it important for citizens to be engaged in this election?

### Carlos Valdez (D)

**Q1:** We must do everything we can to make sure that the doors of the courthouse are open to all members of the community. We must send a strong message to the most underserved members of the community that their voices matter and will be heard.

**Q2:** I learned a long time ago that my calling in life was to serve this community that has been so good to me and my family. If I am deemed by others to have some talent, I want to use that talent for the betterment of my community. I want to give something back from all that I have received.

**Q3:** The only civilized manner we have in an organized society to resolve our differences is by resorting to a court of law. Judges provide a much needed method of dispute resolution and help to maintain the law and order that is necessary for a properly functioning democracy.



### David Klein (R)

**Q1:** More and more people are attempting to resolve their legal needs on their own without the assistance of attorneys. Access to forms and information is helpful to this end. Texas courts have been moving to use standardized forms on common issues which helps more people address their issues. The local bar associations/groups can also be helpful in providing guidance on common issues. Additionally, more diverse language translation services are now available through remote means like zoom.

**Q2:** When I ran for this office four years ago, I did so in order to serve the community in a different way. Now, I am seeking re-election because I feel that there is still work to be done and I would like to continue in that mission.

**Q3:** The 148th District Court is a court of general jurisdiction and hears serious criminal matters, family law disputes, and general civil cases, meaning there are several different ways for the court to have an impact on real lives. It could be as a victim or an accused, a concerned parent, or someone suing or being sued. Choosing a judge who knows the law (and is willing to research when he doesn't) and works through the cases is vital to achieving justice in these cases that impact our lives so personally.

**Campaign Website:** electdavidklein.com

# District Judge, 214th Judicial District

District judges hold significant responsibilities within the legal system. They preside over trials, hearings, and motions, ensuring fair proceedings and making rulings based on evidence and the law. They interpret and apply the law, manage courtroom procedures, and deliver judgments in both civil and criminal cases. District judges play a crucial role in upholding justice, ensuring due process, and maintaining the integrity of the legal system within their jurisdiction.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What can be done to improve access to justice for all, including persons or groups who may be underserved?

**Q2:** Why are you running for this position and what motivates you to serve?

**Q3:** What impact does the outcome of the District Judge race have on the community, and why is it important for citizens to be engaged in this election?

### Inna Klein (R)

**Unopposed.**

# District Judge, 319th Judicial District (Unopposed)

District judges hold significant responsibilities within the legal system. They preside over trials, hearings, and motions, ensuring fair proceedings and making rulings based on evidence and the law. They interpret and apply the law, manage courtroom procedures, and deliver judgments in both civil and criminal cases. District judges play a crucial role in upholding justice, ensuring due process, and maintaining the integrity of the legal system within their jurisdiction.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What can be done to improve access to justice for all, including persons or groups who may be underserved?

**Q2:** Why are you running for this position and what motivates you to serve?

**Q3:** What impact does the outcome of the District Judge race have on the community, and why is it important for citizens to be engaged in this election?

**David Stith (R)**

**Unopposed.**

# For Voters With Disabilities

**Can I use an interpreter while voting in person?**
Yes, voters who do not speak English or only use sign language can bring an interpreter to communicate with poll workers, regardless of whether the workers speak that language. The interpreter cannot be your employer, an employer's agent, or a union officer/agent if you belong to a union. If you can't read the ballot languages, the interpreter can also assist
you in voting, following the same procedures as any other assister. If you are deaf and do not have a sign language interpreter, you should contact Nueces County election officials ahead of time to request assistance at the polls.

**What accessibility accommodations are available for in-person voting?**
Every polling place in Texas must have at least one accessible voting system available, like an electronic ballot marking device, with very limited exceptions for small jurisdictions in non-federal elections. This ensures voters with disabilities can cast their ballot privately and independently.

**Can anyone assist me while voting?**
Yes. If you need assistance when voting, let the election official know when you reach the polling location. You don't need to provide proof of a disability. Voters who are blind, disabled, or can't read/write are allowed to get help per the Voting Rights Act. The person assisting has to take an oath that they won't try to influence your vote and will mark the ballot exactly as you direct.

You can be assisted by: any person of your choice who is not an election worker; two election workers on election day; or one election worker during early voting.

You cannot be assisted by your employer or an agent of your employer or a union officer/agent if you belong to a union. It is illegal for the person assisting you to try influencing your vote, mark your ballot differently than you asked, or disclose how you voted.

# Nueces County Commissioner, Precinct 2

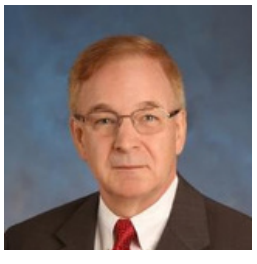
County commissioners are the county's top policymakers, supervising the county's management and administration. Commissioners represent county interests at the state and federal levels, participating in long-range planning, and managing the county budget and finances.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What county services are most important to the constituents in your precinct?

**Q2:** What are your top three priorities and how would you address them?

**Q3:** What is your philosophy on commission appointments?



### Ed Bennett (R)

**Campaign Website:**
edfornueces.com

**Q1:** Reduced property taxes and public safety

**Q2:** zero based line-item budgets
public safety
no deferred maintenance.

**Q3:** must be ethical and knowledgeable



### Isabel Noyola-Martin (D)

**Q1:** Most important services to the constituents in pct 2 are the sheriff's and constable's offices to maintain public safety, law enforcement, emergency responses, and disaster preparedness, to include the county jail, corrections, and courts justice system services.
Infrastructure maintenance of county roads and bridges ensures safe and accessible travel. Water, septic, and environmental infrastructure services protect public health, waterways, and natural resources.
Drainage and flood protection in low-lying areas is a service constituents rely on the county to provide for public safety, health, and environmental needs.
Other services include records, elections, vital statistics, social, and veteran services.

**Q2:** My top 3 priorities for Nueces County Precinct 2 are:
1. Public Safety: Secure funding for competitive prosecutor pay. Establish officer-to-citizen ratios to guarantee adequate policing resources in rural Nueces communities.
2. Healthcare Services: Partner with the Public Health District to expand affordable, preventative care and outreach in rural, underserved communities.
3. Infrastructure Development: Take a proactive approach to flood prevention. Seek grants for a Strategic Comprehensive Drainage Plan and execute major capital projects.
My Approach: I will listen, build consensus, and work with the Commissioners Court to deliver responsible investments.

**Q3:** My philosophy on appointments to boards and commissions is simple: follow Nueces County policies and procedures. Integrity, Accountability, and Transparency must guide all county employees and elected leaders should be held to the highest standard. You can count on me to always put "People Over Politics."
As your next Nueces County Commissioner, I will base my vote strictly on each applicant's unique qualifications and merits. Board applicants must submit a resume, be legal residents, and affirm residency. I also support fully enforcing county conflict-of-interest requirements, including all restrictions involving spouses or significant others employed by the entity, board, or commission.

# Nueces County Commissioner, Precinct 4 (Unopposed)

County commissioners are the county's top policymakers, supervising the county's management and administration. Commissioners represent county interests at the state and federal levels, participating in long-range planning, and managing the county budget and finances.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What county services are most important to the constituents in your precinct?

**Q2:** What are your top three priorities and how would you address them?

**Q3:** What is your philosophy on commission appointments?

| | |
|---|---|
| **Brent Chesney (R)** | **Unopposed** |

# OCTOBER 23RD LAST DAY TO APPLY TO VOTE BY MAIL



**Eligibility Requirements for Voting by Mail**

- 65 years of age or older on Election Day;
- Disabled;
- Expecting to give birth within three weeks before or after Election Day;
- Expected absence from the county (ballot must be mailed outside the county)
- Confined in jail, but otherwise eligible

**Completing and Submitting an Application for Ballot by Mail (ABBM)**

You may send in your application for a ballot by mail to the Early Voting Clerk by:

- In-person delivery (by voter only);
- Regular Mail;
- Common or contract carrier; or
- Email *

*If you submit your application by email, you must mail us the hard copy with an original signature within four (4) business days Emailed applications are simply "place-holders".

- Voters have to provide either their Texas Identification, TXDL, EIC number; OR the last four digits of their Social Security number on both their ballot application and carrier envelope. We strongly recommend putting both numbers.
- Important Note: The Number you provide on the application must match your Voter Registration Record, otherwise your application will be rejected. (That's why we strongly recommend putting both numbers!)
- Pregnant women expected to give birth within three weeks before or after Election Day may now vote by mail.
- Voters may only hand deliver their own ballot application to the County Clerk's Office.

# Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1, Place 3

The Justice of the Peace has original jurisdiction in Class C misdemeanor criminal cases and traffic cases. They also preside over landlord-tenant disputes, including eviction matters, small claims disputes where the amount in dispute is less than $20,000, and debt claims. Justices of the peace serve in the capacity of a committing magistrate, with the authority to issue warrants for the arrest of persons charged with the commission of felony or misdemeanor offenses. They can also hear truancy cases, administrative cases to revoke drivers' licenses and perform marriage ceremonies.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** Describe your strongest competency and life experience that qualify you to hold this office.

**Q2:** What can be done to improve access to justice for all, including persons or groups who may be underserved?

**Q3:** What impact does the outcome of this race have on the community and why is it important for citizens to be engaged in this election?



### Lucy Rubio (D)

**Q1:** 40 years of dedicated public service my experience includes 14 1/2 yrs of PTA, 14 1/2 yrs. CCISD Board Trustee, 4 yrs as a City Council member, and 8 yrs serving as a judge. Each of these roles has prepared me for the responsibilities of serving on the bench. I've had the privilege of serving our community as a judge and applying the law with fairness, professionalism and integrity. My life experience and public service has taught me the importance of listening to people treating each individual with dignity and respect and making decisions based on the law & the facts of each case. I believe this combination of long-standing public service, courtroom experience, commitment to our community qualifies me to continue serving with integrity.

**Q2:** Justice court is often called the "People's Court"and I believe it's important that our court is truly accessible to the people we serve. That's why my court conducts hearings by Zoom unless a party request to appear in person offering virtual hearings makes the court more convenient accessible & efficient while ensuring everyone has the opportunity to be heard, it helps remove barriers for those who may not have reliable, transportation, childcare, or the ability to miss work & lose wages. It also allows individuals with health concerns or limited mobility to participate without necessary hardship. My goal has always been to make the court as accessible as possible, while maintaining fairness, professionalism, and respect for everyone.

**Q3:** The outcome of the race will have a direct and lasting impact on the people of Precinct 1. Beginning January 1, 2027. Precinct 1 will have two Justice of the Peace Judges instead of 3. That means the workload currently handled by three courts will be shared by JP 1-1 & JP 1-3, making experience, efficiency and strong commitment to public service more important than ever. For the past eight years, I have had the privilege of presiding over JP 1-3. During that time, I worked to build a court where people are heard, where both sides are treated fairly, where the law is applied consistently. I am also proud of the staff who serve alongside me who understand that every person who enters our court deserves to be treated with kindness & respect.



### Rogelio "Roy" Reschman, III (R)

**Q1:** My strongest competency is working with youth and their families. I have worked for Nueces County for almost 8 years. Half as a Juvenile Supervision Officer at Robert N. Barnes Regional Juvenile Facility where I worked my way up to a shift supervisor. The other half as the only Juvenile Case Manager in the Justice of the Peace Courts. I worked with 7 of the 9 Judges in the Justice of the Peace Courts. I know all the Court Managers and most of the Court Clerks. This is great for a visiting judge. I have learned what a Justice of the Peace Court can do and familiarized myself with the procedures for the type of cases that can be heard in a Justice of the Peace Court. I am confident in my ability to do the job starting day one.

**Q2:** I noticed most of my truancy caseload consisted of SPED and 504 students. I was concerned and reached out to CCISD soon after they were hit with allegations of discrimination against SPED and 504 students. The claims were substantiated. I saw a need and created a group called the Nueces County Truancy Round Table that consists of truancy officers and administration who oversee attendance. My mission is to educate and form a collaborative effort from the community to combat truancy. I advocate for the youth and families by referring them to resources to assist them with SPED and 504 services provided by the schools. These efforts assisted the elderly, low income, and disabled populations.

**Q3:** The reach of my impact is far. I recently have been named the Co-Chair for Do the Write Thing Coastal Bend a youth violence prevention and writing program. I created a youth diversion program that has helped families visiting from the Hill Country, Dallas, and a military family that relocated to Florida. I'm always seeking community resources to help our youth such as No Limit Run Club, Esperanza de Tejas, Rising Tides Ministries, and The Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse just to name a few. I have volunteered with CCISD, beach cleanups, Wings of Texas/Lions Club. These are all things I'm actively doing now. I have gone above and beyond as a Juvenile Case Manager and will do the same as a Judge.

# Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2, Place 2 (Unopposed)

The Justice of the Peace has original jurisdiction in Class C misdemeanor criminal cases and traffic cases. They also preside over landlord-tenant disputes, including eviction matters, small claims disputes where the amount in dispute is less than $20,000, and debt claims. Justices of the peace serve in the capacity of a committing magistrate, with the authority to issue warrants for the arrest of persons charged with the commission of felony or misdemeanor offenses. They can also hear truancy cases, administrative cases to revoke drivers' licenses and perform marriage ceremonies.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** Describe your strongest competency and life experience that qualify you to hold this office.

**Q2:** What can be done to improve access to justice for all, including persons or groups who may be underserved?

**Q3:** What impact does the outcome of this race have on the community and why is it important for citizens to be engaged in this election?

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| **Thelma Rodriguez (R)** | **Unopposed** |

# Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3 (Unopposed)

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|---|---|
| **Larry Lawrence (R)** | **Unopposed** |

# Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4 (Unopposed)

| | |
|---|---|
| **Duncan Neblett (R)** | **Unopposed** |



“Someone struggled for your right to vote. Use it.
Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906, American Women’s Rights Activist)”

# Justice of the Peace, Precinct 5, Place 2

The Justice of the Peace has original jurisdiction in Class C misdemeanor criminal cases and traffic cases. They also preside over landlord-tenant disputes, including eviction matters, small claims disputes where the amount in dispute is less than $20,000, and debt claims. Justices of the peace serve in the capacity of a committing magistrate, with the authority to issue warrants for the arrest of persons charged with the commission of felony or misdemeanor offenses. They can also hear truancy cases, administrative cases to revoke drivers' licenses and perform marriage ceremonies.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** Describe your strongest competency and life experience that qualify you to hold this office.

**Q2:** What can be done to improve access to justice for all, including persons or groups who may be underserved?

**Q3:** What impact does the outcome of this race have on the community and why is it important for citizens to be engaged in this election?



### Hermilo "Milo" Pena, Jr. (R)

**Q1:** For 28 years, I have had the privilege of serving as a Justice of the Peace\. This experience has given me a thorough understanding of the law, the judicial process, and the people and communities I serve\. My greatest strength is the combination of extensive courtroom experience, practical knowledge of Texas justice courts, and a steadfast commitment to treating every person with fairness, dignity, and respect\.
Serving as a Justice of the Peace for nearly three decades has allowed me to address a broad range of judicial responsibilities and understand firsthand the importance of an accessible, impartial, and accountable judiciary\. Every case involves real people and circumstances that may have significant consequences for individuals.

**Q2:** Access to justice means making sure every person has a fair opportunity to understand the legal process, be heard, and receive equal treatment under the law. After 28 years serving as a Justice of the Peace, I believe one of our most important responsibilities is ensuring that the justice system remains accessible, understandable, and respectful to everyone we serve.
One of the most effective ways to improve access is through clear communication. Legal procedures and terminology can be intimidating, especially for someone who has never been involved in a legal proceeding. Court staff should provide clear information about court dates, required documents, procedures, fees, and available resources. Understanding process is Justice available.

**Q3:** The position demands qualities reflecting the Judiciary. A judge should carry him self respectfully at all times . The outcome of this race will determine the charachter of the office and the direction it takes lead by the office holder . Keeping the office respectful, accountable , and without ever bringing any discredit to the office is key to public's perception of the office holder as he represents the community . We are held by the public under very watchful eyes and our conduct is reflected in the office we hold . It is important for citizens be engaged with this election as the office's integrity, trust, transparency and accountability is at stake. In 28 years every quarterly audit successful and office has remained honorable. "VOTE"



### Jesse Rojas III (D)

**Q1:** My strongest qualifications for the Office of Justice of the Peace, Place 5-2, are grounded in disciplined public service, proven leadership, and a deep commitment to fairness. At the age of nineteen, I became the youngest elected official in the State of Texas in 1998. That early responsibility confirmed my ability to serve with integrity, make sound decisions, and remain accountable to the public from the beginning.
In addition, my record demonstrates effective, outcome-focused governance. I was elected twice to the Nueces County Drainage District. During my tenure, I aggressively addressed wasteful spending and pursued funding for essential infrastructure improvements.

**Q2:** Beyond my public service, Hurricane Harvey profoundly shaped my character and judgment. I lost everything, and through hard work and determination, I recovered alongside neighbors who had experienced the same devastation. I worked directly with residents during the rebuilding process. That experience strengthened my empathy and reinforced my belief that decisions must be grounded in both law and human reality.
As Justice of the Peace, I will bring the same diligence, integrity, and accountability to the bench. I will ensure that every case is handled with professionalism, respect, and consistency—always serving the interests of justice and the people of Place 5-2.

**Q3:** The elected official sets expectations for transparency, professionalism, and responsiveness to community needs—especially during periods of crisis or change. I am Change You can Trust.

# County Judge

The Nueces County Judge is the presiding officer of the Nueces County Commissioners Court and serves as a key leader in county government. The judge works with county commissioners to oversee the county's budget, public services, infrastructure, emergency management, and other matters affecting county residents. The county judge also performs certain judicial and administrative duties as provided under Texas law, including presiding over certain county-level legal proceedings.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What are the most important challenges facing Nueces County and how would you address them?

**Q2:** What is your philosophy on commission appointments?

**Q3:** How would you address the most difficult components of the county budget?



### Aidee Hernandez (D)

**Campaign Website:**
edfornueces.com

**Q1:** Fiscal responsibility, transparency, effective resource management, public safety, infrastructure, economic opportunity, emergency preparedness, and quality of life. These challenges can be addressed by effective public policy aligned with accountability and long-term planning.

**Q2:** Transparency, qualifications, and proper community representation are important factors throughout the process. These appointments are important because they must be based on a commitment to serving the community by the right person, with integrity, experience, and qualifications, and never on political influence or personal relationships.

**Q3:** Through budget accountability. Managing public funds requires rules and regulations to ensure effective and responsible use of government resources. I will make sure accountability and transparency remain in place throughout the budgeting process.

### Connie Scott (R)

No response.

## Need a reminder? Don't miss out on any important dates!



# County Clerk

The Nueces County Clerk serves as the official clerk and records custodian for the Commissioners Court and is responsible for maintaining and preserving important county records. The office manages public records such as property documents, birth and death certificates, marriage licenses, assumed names, and other legal filings. The County Clerk also serves as Nueces County's chief elections officer, overseeing county elections and related election administration.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** How would you rate the security of the Nueces County voting process?

**Q2:** What is the most effective way for the County Clerk to educate voters about recent changes to election law and the voting process?

**Q3:** Do you think that Nueces County's election centers are sufficient to service our voting population? If so, why? If not, why not?



### Kara Sands (R)

**Q1:** I have complete confidence in our voting process, my staff & our highly trained poll workers. Securing our elections is my top priority. After uncovering voter fraud that led to the conviction of mail ballot harvesters, I worked to create & pass legislation that improved the security of our elections statewide. We adhere to strict chain of custody protocols. All equipment & ballots are fitted with tamper-proof security seals and stored under lock & key. Mail ballots are processed on live camera feed by the Ballot Board. ALL ballots are counted securely and publicly at the courthouse. The integrity of our process was proven in the 2024 Corpus Christi City Council Runoff Election hand recount, which was confirmed as 100% accurate.

**Q2:** I am so proud of our staff, who go above and beyond to answer your questions. We constantly work to ensure voters receive accurate information online & in person. Our publications and sample ballots are provided in English and Spanish, with sample ballots available online prior to the start of early voting. We designed and deployed infographics to help vote-by-mail voters locate and complete the identification details required on their ballots, resulting in one of the lowest ballot rejection rates in the state. Through various community partnerships, we give nonpartisan voter ed presentations and host open Q&A sessions to clarify the process. The County Clerk's office works for YOU, and keeping you informed and prepared is always our goal.

**Q3:** As your County Official, my job is to make voting fair, easy, accessible &secure. That is why in 2016, I lead the fight and sought the support of localleaders, the League of Women Voters and both political parties and I gainedState approval for Voting Centers. We carefully mapped locations near RTAroutes and I partnered with RTA to provide free rides to polling places. Today,you don't need to rush home or miss voting, because there are 50+ VotingCenters and you can vote at any one you choose! We are continually seeking new Vote Center locations- new this year isHamlin Middle School. We have made it safer, easier and more convenient for you to cast your vote!



### Leanna Gutierrez Gonzales (D)

**Q1:** I don't believe you can fairly put a number on election security, but I do believe there is room for improvement.
If elected, I plan to conduct a transition review of our election procedures, ensure we are meeting all Texas election requirements, review the safeguards currently in place, and identify areas where security, accuracy, transparency, and accountability can be strengthened.
At the end of the day, my job is to protect every ballot, follow the law, maintain accurate records, and make sure Nueces County voters can have confidence in the integrity of our election process.

**Q2:** I believe voter education starts with clear communication. As County Clerk, I would make it a priority to provide simple, accurate information and meet voters where they are using social media, community outreach, local media, and the County Clerk's website.
Information should be available in English and Spanish, and our staff and election workers should be properly trained so voters receive consistent and accurate information.
We shouldn't wait until voters are confused to explain changes. Nueces County voters should feel informed, prepared, and confident in the voting process.

**Q3:** No, I do not feel our current voting centers are sufficient to serve our community.
Nueces County is the 17th-largest county in Texas and serves more than 215,000 registered voters.
We should evaluate population growth, voter turnout, and accessibility to voting centers to ensure voters in Corpus Christi, Robstown, and our rural communities have convenient and equitable access to the ballot.
As Nueces County grows, our election services should grow with it.

# County Court at Law No. 1

The Nueces County Courts at Law are county-level courts with jurisdiction over criminal misdemeanor cases, probate matters, and civil lawsuits. These courts handle civil cases beyond the jurisdiction of Justice of the Peace courts and may share jurisdiction with District Courts in certain matters. Nueces County has five Courts at Law, each presided over by an elected judge who oversees cases within the court's jurisdiction.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** Describe your strongest competency and life experience that qualify you to hold this office.

**Q2:** During your campaign, what is the number one concern expressed to you by residents and what is your response to this concern?

**Q3:** Other than the issues previously addressed, what are your top three priorities and, if elected, how would you address them?



### Joseph Barrientos (D)

**Campaign Website:**
hilliard-law.com/attorneys/gonzalo-joseph-barrientos/

**Q1:** 39 years of criminal and civil litigation experience including years as a prosecutor in Austin followed by decades of private practice in Nueces County representing injured people, their families and survivors in product liability and negligence cases in courts all over Texas. I have served as President of the Corpus Christi Bar Association, on the board of Coastal Bend Legal Services (now TRLA) and on the State Bar committee hearing grievances against attorneys. I currently serve as vice-chair of the Texas Access to Justice Foundation (TAJF) which funds civil legal services to indigent Texans.
Qualifying life experiences include working my way through college and law school as well as 39 years of marriage and raising three children.

**Q2:** I am often asked why Texas' judges are chosen in partisan elections.
I respond that the Texas constitution and legislature set the laws governing the selection of judges. In 2019 The Texas Commission on Judicial Selection issued a report that included a recommendation that the current system of partisan judicial elections be abandoned, but there was no consensus as to what alternative form of judicial selection should be adopted (non partisan election, judicial selection commission or appointment).
I suggest that voters look at the individual qualifications, experience and demeanor of each candidate and vote based on their assessment of those factors as opposed to relying solely on party affiliation.

**Q3:**
1. Fair, efficient and independent administration of justice.
- Making decisions based on the applicable law and case specific facts, regardless of the identity of the parties.
- Staffing the courts with qualified personnel eager to serve the public and sensitive to the needs of litigants, attorneys and witnesses.
2. Preserving the jury trial system, which is foundational to our democracy.
- Ensuring that all Nueces County residents eligible to serve on juries are included in the pool of persons called to jury duty so that all parties have their cases heard by a jury of their peers.
3. Observation of due process for all parties.
- Take the time to conduct necessary Court proceedings to determine matters such as eligibility for bail.



### Todd Robinson (R)

**Campaign Website:**
facebook.com/share/19WYx1HwRB/?mibextid=wwXIfr

**Q1:** My strongest competency is my experience. Prior to taking office, I had over twenty-four years of experience in law, with courtroom experience in criminal prosecution, civil litigation, real estate and business transactions, criminal defense, mental health proceedings and probate matters. My knowledge and experience are essential to being the Judge of County Court at Law #1. Through 10 years of experience as a Magistrate Judge for the City of Corpus Christi I developed a judicial demeanor that has served me well as Judge of County Court at Law #1. With this experience, I am confident in my role as Judge and proud to know that I make people feel comfortable, respected and at ease in the courtroom.

**Q2:** Access to the courts and the prompt attention and resolution of matters is a regular concern of residents. I agree with this concern, and it is true that often these matters can have a taxing effect on individuals who are not familiar with the courts and courtroom procedures. Therefore, I get these cases into the courtroom and heard as quickly as possible, while providing the litigants adequate time to prepare for their cases. I have and will continue to allow parties to have open access to my court for hearings and trials and do not limit their time, with the understanding that these are the people's cases and they should be allowed the time and opportunity to have their cases heard in the manner they choose.

**Q3:** My top three priorities are: 1) Continuous movement of the Court's criminal docket to ensure older cases are addressed and resolved - I will continue to place older cases on the Court's docket to ensure that these cases are reached, while providing ample time and opportunity for the attorneys to prepare, assert an adequate defense, and provide ample time to state their positions; 2)Provide a respectful and open Court to all - I pride myself on having a professional, yet friendly open-door policy; and 3)Administering justice in a competent and efficient manner while doing so with the appropriate demeanor and courtesy - I will continue to diligently prepare, and provide timely, and well-reasoned rulings consistent with the facts and law.

# County Court at Law No. 2

The Nueces County Courts at Law are county-level courts with jurisdiction over criminal misdemeanor cases, probate matters, and civil lawsuits. These courts handle civil cases beyond the jurisdiction of Justice of the Peace courts and may share jurisdiction with District Courts in certain matters. Nueces County has five Courts at Law, each presided over by an elected judge who oversees cases within the court's jurisdiction.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** Describe your strongest competency and life experience that qualify you to hold this office.

**Q2:** During your campaign, what is the number one concern expressed to you by residents and what is your response to this concern?

**Q3:** Other than the issues previously addressed, what are your top three priorities and, if elected, how would you address them?



### Jerry Batek (R)

**Campaign Website:**
facebook.com/share/1CUEtsxcoP/?mibextid=wwXIfr

**Q1:** I've spent my adult life being involved in the community. I'm currently an elected Calallen school board trustee, board member of the Education Foundation, was a longtime little league board member and a founder of the Calallen youth basketball league. Additionally, I've been a Municipal Court Judge for over 21 years and am currently the Presiding Judge for the City of Portland. I also have been a practicing attorney in Nueces County for 28 years handling the same kind of cases as I would hear as Judge. With my youngest son a high school senior I want to insure I keep involved in the community and helping the youth that would come into the Court to find a path to being productive and successful members of society.

**Q2:** The top concern by citizens of Nueces County is being treated fairly and knowing that the law will be applied fairly and equally. Throughout my years be it as a board member out on the baseball fields or as a Judge for over 21 years I have learned that the first key is listening to people. When someone is allowed to voice their concerns and issues then a trust can be developed which insures a respect and the ability to hopefully arrive at a equitable outcome or at a minimum that the court was deliberate in their ruling.

**Q3:** My top three priorities would be to expedite justice in all matter before the Court, develop a program for young offenders to develop a trade or skill through community supervision to make a better path for not only the individual not to make the community better as a whole and something I live by which is to treat people with respect regardless of who they are. I appreciate the opportunity to answer the questions. Anyone please reach out to me for any information if needed. Thank you.



### Lisa Gonzales (D)

**Campaign Website:**
Judge-Lisa.com

**Q1:** Judge, County Court at Law No. 2 - 23+ years of judicial experience
Since 2003, I have presided over thousands of cases covering civil, criminal, probate, and mental health matters-including more than 600 jury trials. Practiced law in Texas county, district and appellate courts and U.S. federal courts.
*Former Nueces County Justice of the Peace
*Former Assistant Nueces County Attorney and Assistant District Attorney
*Former Assistant General Counsel, Texas Department of Banking
*Former Assistant Texas Attorney General
*J.D., University of Texas School of Law
*B.A., with honors, Economics & Political Science, Yale University
*Mary Carroll H.S.-2-time state finalist in both track & cross-country
*Married for over 40 years, 3 children

**Q2:** Why do judges run under a political party label? This is a question I hear often. In Texas, legislators decide how judges are selected, and while the issue has been debated in past legislative sessions, state judges currently run under party labels—even though politics should have no role in a judge's work. A judge's responsibility is to follow the law. That is the oath that I took and that is how I serve every single day as a judge. I encourage voters to look beyond labels and focus on experience, qualifications, and a demonstrated commitment to fair and impartial justice. Learn more about my candidacy at: Judge-Lisa.com and my Facebook Page Re-elect Judge Lisa Gonzales or contact me at reelectjudgelisagonzales@gmail.com. Thank you.

**Q3:** Ensuring every party is heard and has their day in court by providing a respectful courtroom environment, treating all participants professionally, and listening carefully to all parties;
Being thoroughly prepared for all proceeding by knowing and following the law, reviewing case files and applicable case law in advance and applying the law consistently and impartially; and
Actively managing the court's docket efficiently to minimize delays by setting cases for trial, starting court on time, being prepared for every hearing, keeping proceedings focused, issuing timely rulings, and respecting the schedules of all jurors, attorneys, litigants and witnesses.

# County Court at Law No. 3

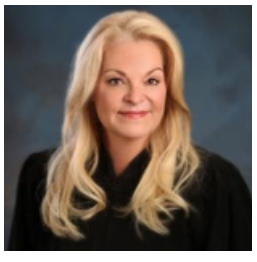
The Nueces County Courts at Law are county-level courts with jurisdiction over criminal misdemeanor cases, probate matters, and civil lawsuits. These courts handle civil cases beyond the jurisdiction of Justice of the Peace courts and may share jurisdiction with District Courts in certain matters. Nueces County has five Courts at Law, each presided over by an elected judge who oversees cases within the court's jurisdiction.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** Describe your strongest competency and life experience that qualify you to hold this office.

**Q2:** During your campaign, what is the number one concern expressed to you by residents and what is your response to this concern?

**Q3:** Other than the issues previously addressed, what are your top three priorities and, if elected, how would you address them?



### Deeanne Galvan (D)

**Campaign Website:**
reelectjudgegalvan.com

**Q1:** Raised in a career Navy family, I was taught the importance of public service from an early age. Before being elected Judge of County Court at Law #3, I also served as a municipal court judge, in addition to my own trial practice. As a trial attorney for over 35 years, I realized the importance of accessibility to the courtroom for the people in our community. I wanted to ensure that all litigants had a right to present their case. I felt that as a Judge I could give that back to our community. It has been a dream come true to serve the community I grew up in and to dispense justice fairly and impartially. I decided to run for County Court at Law #3 to fulfill these goals, and I am proud to be your elected judge for the last 14 years.

**Q2:** 3. While campaigning, I would often hear from people who knew me that I would make a difference, and the people who did not know me asked me to make a difference. Voters often expressed to me their fears that the Judge would not listen to them or that they would not get their day in court. I promised that if re-elected, all people in the court would be treated with the respect and dignity they deserve. It would be the people's court. I promised that I would help create and foster those programs that would help victims of mental illness, sex trafficking, and drug and alcohol abuse. I have proudly kept these promises for the last three terms I have served as your Judge, and will continue to do so.

**Q3:** If re-elected, my top three priorities would be to keep my courtroom the people's court with access to everyone; to work hard to foster the programs I have created to make our community safe; and to create new programs to help those in need. I maintain my commitment that each party before the court should receive a full and fair hearing or trial, with the law applied equally and without bias, while ensuring respect for the parties and the judicial process. I will continually improve the specialty programs I have created, as well as explore other programs that can improve community safety.



### Neely Balko (R)

**Campaign Website:**
neelybalko.com

**Q1:** I have been a practicing attorney in Nueces County since 2012. I have practiced in state court, federal court, and appellate courts. I have practiced in all of the areas of law that this court handles - criminal, civil, and probate.
Elected officials are public servants first, and I believe this to be especially true for judges. A judge's role is to put aside personal agendas, politics, and relationships and to be fair, impartial, and to follow the law. I have spent the last several years involved in various volunteer organizations, from Big Brothers Big Sisters to helping run the Calallen Youth Basketball League, where we serve over 500 youth athletes on a yearly basis.
It would be my great honor to continue my public service as a judge.

**Q2:** The number one concern I hear is that people want fair judges who do not allow their judgment to be clouded by the attorneys involved in the cases, politics, which side of the case a party is on, or any other number of outside factors. People do not want judges who are legislating from the bench and stepping outside their role as judges.
The courtroom belongs to you, the citizens of Nueces County - not lawyers, judges or politicians. As judge, I would strive to ensure that every person that enters my courtroom enters with a clean slate and gets a fair shake.

**Q3:** My top three priorities are to efficiently move the cases in this court, identifying and addressing the positive and negative impacts of technological advances such as Zoom in the courtroom, and to bring fairness and impartiality to the bench.
I would address the first priority by making timely rulings on motions before me and making sure we have multiple daily dockets for scheduling cases in a timely manner.
For priority number two, we need to ensure that we balance the convenience of technology against losing the human interactions that allow for more open and effective communication.
For the third priority, I would make it a point to treat all parties that come before me equally and fairly.

# County Court at Law No. 4 (Unopposed)

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## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** Describe your strongest competency and life experience that qualify you to hold this office.

**Q2:** During your campaign, what is the number one concern expressed to you by residents and what is your response to this concern?

**Q3:** Other than the issues previously addressed, what are your top three priorities and, if elected, how would you address them?

**Mark Woerner (R)** **Unopposed**

# County Court at Law No. 5 (Unopposed)

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## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** Describe your strongest competency and life experience that qualify you to hold this office.

**Q2:** During your campaign, what is the number one concern expressed to you by residents and what is your response to this concern?

**Q3:** Other than the issues previously addressed, what are your top three priorities and, if elected, how would you address them?

**Timothy Jordan McCoy (R)** **Unopposed**

# District Clerk

A District Clerk is an elected county official who serves as the official record keeper and administrator for the county's District Courts. The District Clerk maintains civil and criminal court records, manages court filings and fees, coordinates jury services, and performs other administrative duties required to support the courts. The office helps ensure that court proceedings are properly documented, records are preserved and accessible, and the District Courts can operate efficiently in accordance with Texas law.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** How can public access to court records be improved?

**Q2:** If elected, what will be your top three priorities to maintain and/or improve the services provided by your office?

**Q3:** What, if any, new county budget requests are needed to run the office more efficiently?



### Anne Lorentzen (R)

**Q1:** The Nueces County District Clerk's office has a case management system called Odyssey. Since 2010, it has stored all documents submitted to the District Clerk's Office. Access to these documents is available to the public through an online portal on the County's website. Our Records Department is on the 6th floor of the courthouse where the public can use computers to access records. My staff on the 6th Floor can print out the needed records/documents for the public.

**Q2:** 1. Continue to insure our clerks are well trained in the department's business processes.
2. Begin a preservation project for all wills that are dated 1950 back so as to protect these records from being destroyed by water and fire. The records will also be scanned into our case management system for easy access by the public online.
3. Total digitization and preservation of the Selena trial court records. Again this preservation will protect the records from destructive forces. The public will have easy access to view them in our District Clerk portal.

**Q3:** 1. Adequate budget to cover the office supplies and equipment such as computers, printers and scanners needed to be efficient.
2. Enough monies to allow me and my Chief Deputy to attend the many educational clerk conferences throughout the year to stay up to date on what the Supreme Court, the Office of Court Administration and the Governor's Office and the State legislature expect of the clerks. They are our bosses.



### Maria Carolina (Kina) Ventura (D)

**Q1:** The customers must be able to access these easily as they already do but there is some improvement needed so they can understand the process better.

**Q2:** Top priorities should always be the customer first. Have a better communication with them as far as helping them understand the process as well. Help them step by step if necessary and take the time for them.

**Q3:** Well we definitely need more employees to run a better office. The budget should accommodate the necessary employees needed. It really needs to be looked at from the employees. They are the ones who know what is needed and there input is necessary.

**"The vote is precious. It is almost sacred. It is the most powerful nonviolent tool we have in a democracy. — John Lewis (1940-2020, US Congressman/Civil Rights Advocate)"**

# Corpus Christi Mayor

The Mayor of Corpus Christi serves as the presiding officer of the City Council and represents the city as its elected chief civic leader. The mayor works with the City Council to establish city policies, pass ordinances, adopt the municipal budget, and address issues affecting Corpus Christi residents. Because Corpus Christi operates under a council-manager form of government, the City Manager oversees the city's day-to-day operations while the mayor and council provide policy direction and oversight.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What do you envision as a workable solution for our water issues?

**Q2:** Do you favor an independent redistricting commission to redraw city council districts and why or why not?

**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?



### Chelise Hyatt (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
facebook.com/profile.php?id=61594047208331&sk=about

**Q1:** Corpus Christi needs a diversified water strategy, not dependence on any single source. We should move every viable project forward simultaneously, including groundwater, reclaimed water, conservation, infrastructure improvements and seawater desalination. I support continuing the Inner Harbor desalination project while pursuing the strongest practical environmental protections, including offshore brine disposal (similar to other plants across the world). Our goal should be a resilient water portfolio that can support residents, businesses, and future growth even through prolonged drought.

**Q2:** Yes.I believe redistricting should be as independent and transparent as possible. Council districts should reflect our population and actual communities, not be shaped around the political interests of the people already holding office. An independent commission would add another layer of accountability and help ensure residents choose their representatives, rather than allowing representatives to influence who their voters will be.

**Q3:** The issues most important to me are water security, streets and drainage, public safety, responsible management of the city budget, and government transparency. Corpus Christi must diversify its water supply and invest in infrastructure that supports both current residents and future growth. We also need to refocus city spending on roads, drainage, streetlights, blighted properties, and infrastructure critical to public safety. Taxpayer dollars should be managed carefully, major decisions should be made openly, and residents should be able to clearly see how and where their money is being spent.



### Dave Heasley (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
facebook.com/share/1EzxwQ2G8L/?mibextid=wwXIfr

**Q1:** Long term water supply requires methodical planning and management of currently available natural fresh water reserves. Natural Surface water and storm water run off have long been ignored, but are more than enough to supply our city. Industrial users must finance, build, and maintain their own Desal program in the gulf to supply their massively growing demand. The citizens can no longer afford to supply them. I do not support inner harbor desalination. My 15 years of Desal experience, actual true, full spectrum, data backed feasibility studies, and the 13 PHD local marine scientists that did them tell me it is detrimental to our bays and estuaries. The State of Texas (84th Legislature HB2031) proves this as well

**Q2:** I think it can always be up for review, but the reasons to must be justifiable. I don't have an opinion either way but if one works better for the citizens pocket book, than the other, that's the way I'm going.

**Q3:** The rampant corruption is the first one that needs to be addressed. We know multiple crimes have been committed against tax payers. And who has committed them. Bad management, Waste, fraud, and abuse of tax payer funds is 100% what is killing this city. Neither have had real ethics committees in years. We must bring back auditors who have been fired or quit for bringing up the discrepancies, along with outside, independent auditors to go through the books and contracts. Call for (and for real this time) investigations by the Texas Attorney General, along with the FBI as it was a federal document in question that was forged recently.

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**Q2:** Do you favor an independent redistricting commission to redraw city council districts and why or why not?

**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?



### David Ainsworth Sr. (Non-partisan)

**Q1:** Corpus Christi needs a workable, long-term water solution—not another temporary fix. I believe the answer is diversification. We should never again put our community in a position where one lake, one pipeline, or one project determines our water security.
My approach would include maximizing our existing water sources, strengthening and maintaining the Mary Rhodes Pipeline system, responsibly expanding groundwater and brackish groundwater options, increasing conservation and water reuse, and pursuing a long-term Gulf seawater desalination solution where the environmental impacts can be responsibly addressed. Regional planning has already identified groundwater, brackish groundwater desalination, infrastructure improvements,

**Q2:** Yes. I favor an independent redistricting commission because Corpus Christi residents should have confidence that City Council districts are drawn fairly and transparently—not to benefit any individual elected official or political interest.
Corpus Christi has five single-member City Council districts, making district boundaries important to how neighborhoods are represented at City Hall.
An independent commission should operate through an open, public process using clear criteria, including equal population, compliance with federal and state law, geographic continuity, and keeping communities and neighborhoods together whenever possible.
Redistricting should be about fair representation, not politics.

**Q3:** The issues most important to me are securing a reliable long-term water supply, repairing our streets and aging infrastructure, supporting public safety, and making sure taxpayers know where and how their money is being spent.
I also believe Corpus Christi must focus on responsible economic growth and improving the quality of life in every part of our city. That means supporting local businesses, maintaining our neighborhoods, improving drainage and infrastructure, and making smart investments that benefit residents—not just special interests.
Most importantly, I want to restore accountability and trust at City Hall. Residents deserve a city government that listens, communicates openly, plans for the future.



### Gil Hernandez (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
facebook.com/gilhernandezformayor

**Q1:** We need to continue diversifying our water supply with the current wastewater reuse (16mgd), groundwater (24mgd), brackish water desalination (21mgd) projects. These projects will provide twice as much water as the proposed inner harbor desalination at half the cost ($4.31 vs $8.26 per 1,000 gallons). Seawater desalination is still a viable solution for future water supplies. The Inner Harbor is NOT the best location. A site closer to the Gulf like Barney Davis or Harbor Island is a better option. The inner harbor site is 3 times the cost of our current water, and is environmentally limited to 30mgd which is shortsighted when considering long term growth needs of the coastal bend. There are additional concerns with PFAS/PFOS contamination.

**Q2:** No. The city's only has 5 districts and is non-partisan. Therefore, redistricting is not as complicated as a congressional district. City Council members know their districts and communities and would be best to determine the district maps without spending additional staff time and money.

**Q3:** First, we need to keep making improvements to public infrastructure especially streets but spending within our budget. Second, the Capital Budget needs to be controlled to slow down debt spending. The city's total debt (principal and interest) is now over $3.1B which is the highest it has ever been even accounting for inflation. Third, we need affordable alternative water supplies. The inner harbor desalination costs 3 times as much as our current water sources. The wastewater reuse, groundwater, brackish water desalination projects are half the cost of the inner harbor project and will produce twice as much water. We already have capital expenses that are pushing utility rates higher. We need to keep costs down as much as we possibly can.

### John Calkusic (Non-partisan)

**No response.**

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## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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**Q2:** Do you favor an independent redistricting commission to redraw city council districts and why or why not?

**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?



### Kaylynn Paxson (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
facebook.com/
kaylynn.paxson/

**Q1:** Corpus Christi needs a reliable, affordable, long-term water supply built around multiple solutions rather than dependence on one project. I support pursuing large-scale seawater desalination at Harbor Island, which could provide up to 100 MGD, because this city needs vision, along with water reuse and additional regional supplies. I do not support the Inner Harbor desalination project because of its potential environmental impacts, high cost, limited capacity and lengthy timeline. Our water strategy must protect residents, support economic growth and ensure future generations have the water they need.

**Q2:** I support fair, transparent district maps that treat every resident equally and follow the law. The process should use clear, neutral standards, equal population, contiguity, compactness, and respect for existing neighborhoods and communities of interest, ban partisan data, provide meaningful public input, and include real accountability.

**Q3:** My priorities are securing a reliable and affordable long-term water supply, improving basic infrastructure such as streets, sidewalks, drainage and lighting, strengthening public safety, and making responsible use of taxpayer dollars. I also believe Corpus Christi needs long-term vision. City government should plan ahead instead of simply reacting to problems, support sustainable economic growth, protect quality of life and operate with transparency and accountability while keeping residents at the center of decision-making.



### Paulette M. Guajardo (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
Pauletteguajardo.com

**Q1:** Corpus Christi needs water immediately. To secure our water source, I will right away bring back to council building the Inner Harbor Desalination project. I am the only candidate running for Mayor that has the experience it will take to build a water supply for Corpus Christi's future. We cannot wait, our families, our future, and our economy depend on water. I will continue working on a diversified water portfolio that includes ground water, reclaimed water reuse, conservation, and maintaining the Mary Rhodes pipeline. Rebuilding relationships with key stakeholders, state, and federal partners is also critical to move forward.

**Q2:** Yes, I support an independent, non-partisan redistricting commission. This commission should ensure that we have open meetings, published maps for input, transparency and clear rules. The city must comply with the Voting Rights Act. District lines should reflect population changes and be drawn to reflect transparency. The City Council must restore trust and faith in city government. Residents should always be given an opportunity to have a fair voice. Having an independent commission that allows for citizen input is something that I believe our City Council must guarantee our residents.

**Q3:** The issues most important regarding the city are building a water supply, keeping taxes low, continuing to fund public safety to keep our residents safe, and fixing our residential streets. Corpus Christi needs a reliable water source now and I am the only candidate with the experience that can build that water supply. I have voted twice to lower the property tax rate, and doubled the homestead exemption for all eligible residents, including senior citizens. I have worked to fully fund the police and fire departments so that we can keep our city safe and make response times faster for residents.

# Corpus Christi City Council, At-Large

A Corpus Christi At-Large City Council Member is elected by voters throughout the city rather than by residents of a specific district. At-large council members work with the mayor and other council members to establish city policies, pass ordinances, approve the municipal budget, and address issues affecting residents across Corpus Christi. They also provide citywide representation and participate in overseeing the City Manager and other appointed officials responsible for municipal operations.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What do you envision as a workable solution for our water issues?

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**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?



### Alex Johnston (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
facebook.com/profile.php?id=61594414564216

**Q1:** Corpus Christi needs a diversified water portfolio, not another single-project solution. I would evaluate every option based on four criteria: cost per gallon, time to delivery, implementation risk, and environmental impact. My priorities are expanding wastewater reuse for industry, responsibly developing groundwater, exploring inland brackish desalination, reducing system losses, and helping major users improve efficiency when conservation is cheaper than new supply. I oppose Inner Harbor because I believe other options can provide water sooner, at lower cost and with less risk. Our goal should be simple: reliable water from multiple sources at the best value for our community.

**Q2:** Yes. I believe voters should choose their representatives, rather than representatives choosing their voters. An independent redistricting commission, with clear rules, transparent data, public meetings, and meaningful citizen input, would reduce the potential for political self-interest when district boundaries are drawn. Districts should be based on population, legal requirements, geographic coherence, and keeping communities of interest together, not on protecting incumbents or benefiting particular candidates. An independent process would strengthen public confidence that every Corpus Christi voter is being represented fairly.

**Q3:** Water and infrastructure are immediate challenges, but I am equally focused on the Corpus Christi we leave our children. We need an economy where our young people can build great careers without having to leave home to find them. That means diversifying beyond our traditional industries and building an innovation economy around our existing strengths, universities, entrepreneurs, and emerging technologies. I want Corpus Christi to become a place where talented graduates stay, startups are built, and companies come because they can find the people and resources they need here. Success isn't just attracting the next big project, it's creating an ecosystem that generates opportunities for generations.



### Anthem Powers (Non-partisan)

**Q1:** Likely city owned and privately owned desalination plants with regulations on intake velocity/filtration and a prohibition on discharging brine into the bay.

**Q2:** I don't really have an opinion on it, but I would think that any changes should be voted on directly by the citizens through a referendum.

**Q3:** Wages and jobs - We've been seeing food prices rise, housing prices and rent have gone crazy since covid, we need to bring pay up in the area to get everyone's lives back on track. We need to support new and existing locally owned business, and reach out to new industries as well.
Repair and beautification - We need to incentivize home and commercial property cleanup and repairs, perhapse through yearly tax breaks for repairs done. We need to also fine and tax abandoned, unused, and run down properties.
Church encouragement - I'd like to help our churches drive membership and I insist on members doing volunteer work with them.

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### Dan McQueen (Non-partisan)

**Q1:** Corpus Christi must ensure residents receive the water system they have already paid for. Citizens deserve guaranteed volume and a protected residential rate cap. Overselling our system is unacceptable, and the city is not required to be the regional water provider—nor is it profitable. Any industrial expansion must be built on the industry's dollar, with projects designed so costs, risks, and long-term impacts are not shifted onto the people of Corpus Christi. Public resources must serve the public first.

**Q2:** Yes. An independent redistricting commission is essential because several communities in Corpus Christi are currently under-represented or unevenly grouped. Districts should reflect real community boundaries and demographics, not political bias. A neutral commission ensures fair, equitable representation for all residents.

**Q3:** The most important issues facing our city are economic development, modern infrastructure, and quality of life. We must educate and prepare our workforce for future industries so we can diversify and strengthen the core of the city. At the same time, we need to rebuild and modernize infrastructure to support growth, attract new businesses, and improve daily life for residents. A balanced, forward-focused strategy is essential for Corpus Christi's long-term success.



### Jennifer Gracia (Non-partisan) Write-in candidate

**Q1:** I support a diversified, responsible water strategy, but I do not support the Inner Harbor desalination project. I believe the City should fully pursue the Barney Davis option and work toward an agreement that protects Corpus Christi's long-term interests and keeps our public water supply under public control. We should also continue developing groundwater (and be mindful of our neighbors resources as well. We should reuse, conservation, and other viable sources. Water security should not come at any cost. Every project must be environmentally responsible, financially sustainable, transparent, and fair to residents and businesses.

**Q2:** I believe an independent redistricting commission is an innovative idea worth serious consideration. The details would need to be carefully developed to ensure the commission is truly independent, transparent, and representative of our community. Some of our current districts are stretched across very different parts of Corpus Christi, which can create confusion for residents. I experienced that personally after the 2022 redistricting when I learned I was no longer in District 1 but District 3. That's why I am the write in candidate! Residents should clearly know who represents them, and voters should choose their representatives—not the other way around.

**Q3:** The issues most important to me are improving the quality of life for working-class families and communities that have too often been overlooked; maintaining our city and delivering dependable public services; protecting our environment; and restoring trust, credibility, and respect between City Hall and the people it serves. The people carrying the weight of this city should not continually bear the burden of its decisions. I want a Corpus Christi where every neighborhood matters, basic city services work, public dollars are handled responsibly, and growth does not come at the expense of our people or the one Earth we have.

**Campaign Website:** votejengracia.com



### Joshua Fraedrick (Non-partisan)

**Q1:** Corpus Christi needs a diversified water plan built around conservation, leak reduction, reuse, and responsible new supply. I oppose the Inner Harbor desalination proposal because it is the smallest proposed site yet carries the highest cost per gallon and poses serious environmental concerns. If desalination is necessary, Barney Davis deserves further study because it offers Gulf discharge, room to expand, and nearby infrastructure. Industrial users must also pay the true cost of the water they consume.

**Q2:** I support an independent redistricting commission because I do not support gerrymandering or allowing political interests to choose their voters. At the same time, districts should not be drawn in ways that further divide our city or separate neighbors unnecessarily. Corpus Christi is one community. We may not always agree, but we share many of the same challenges and goals. We need fair representation while remembering that now, more than ever, our city needs to come together.

**Q3:** My priorities are reliable streets and infrastructure, a secure and affordable water supply, responsible budgeting, economic diversification, and restoring trust in city government. We must maintain the streets, utilities, parks, libraries, and public facilities we already have before approving growth we cannot support. We should attract opportunities in technology, medical research, tourism, higher education, and small business without placing even greater demands on our water supply. Residents also deserve open decision-making and accountability for every public dollar spent.

**Campaign Website:** facebook.com/joshatlarge

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**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?



### Julian Jacob Hernandez (Non-partisan)

**Q1:** envision a diversified water portfolio rather than relying on one expensive solution. We should conserve water, repair leaks and reduce water loss while developing multiple reliable sources. High-volume industrial users should use non-potable water whenever practical and pay their fair share of the infrastructure needed to serve them. We should evaluate seawater desalination, (but not inner harbor) and other alternatives based on cost, reliability and environmental impact. Most importantly, our decisions should protect residents from unnecessary financial burdens while providing Corpus Christi with a dependable, affordable water supply for generations to come

**Q2:** I would support an independent redistricting commission if it is truly independent and transparent. The people drawing district lines should not have a personal or political interest in the outcome. The selection process, meetings, proposed maps, and reasoning behind those maps should be open to the public. Every part of Corpus Christi deserves fair representation

**Q3:** Accountability on spending, reliable basic city services, water security, and infrastructure are most important to me. Residents should know where their money is going and see results from what they are paying for. We need to maintain our streets, water and wastewater systems, hold contractors accountable for the work taxpayers fund, and develop responsible long-term water solutions without placing unnecessary costs on working families

**Campaign Website:**
facebook.com/share/1BJW1KZbU8/?mibextid=wwXIfr



### Mark Scott (Non-partisan)

**Q1:** Implement balanced strategy of surface water, groundwater, pipeline upgrades, effluent reuse, and affordable/reliable desalination.

**Q2:** I do not see redistricting as an issue until after the 2030 Census. I would not oppose an independent commission to assist the city when that time comes.

**Q3:**
Water: A balanced strategy of surface water, groundwater, effluent reuse, pipeline upgrades, and affordable/reliable desalination.
Street Maintenance: Long-term funding for street maintenance.
Public Safety: Equip our first responders with the resources needed to protect neighborhoods across the city.

**Campaign Website:** votemarkscott.com



### Merida Nardone Mendoza (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
facebook.com/votemnmendoza

**Q1:** I support moving forward with the Inner Harbor Desalination Plant as permitted and approved. Corpus Christi needs a reliable, drought-resilient water source, and this site has already met required environmental and technical standards through TCEQ, EPA, and TWDB. I recognize environmental concerns, which is why I support real-time monitoring of salinity, dissolved oxygen, and other indicators through partners like the Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program and the Harte Research Institute to ensure safe, transparent operations. I plan to move forward with getting this project approved immediately after I am elected.

**Q2:** No. I do not favor an independent redistricting commission. The City Council is elected by the voters and should remain responsible for decisions that directly affect representation. Council members are accountable to the public, and that accountability is essential when drawing district boundaries. Transparency and fairness are important and I believe redistricting should stay within the existing governing structure rather than shifting authority to an outside independent redistricting commission.

**Q3:**

1. Securing a long-term, drought-resilient water supply by evaluating all viable options, including desalination, with strong environmental safeguards.
2. Improving and maintaining city streets to ensure safe, accessible, and reliable infrastructure for residents.
3. Supporting public safety, by ensuring officers have the staffing, training, equipment, and resources needed to keep neighborhoods safe and strengthen community trust.
4. Strengthening our local economy so businesses of all sizes can operate predictably and thrive, which creates more jobs with higher wages for our community.
5. Development that expands housing options and improves affordability, ensuring residents at all income levels have access to stable, quality housing.

# Corpus Christi City Council, At-Large

A Corpus Christi At-Large City Council Member is elected by voters throughout the city rather than by residents of a specific district. At-large council members work with the mayor and other council members to establish city policies, pass ordinances, approve the municipal budget, and address issues affecting residents across Corpus Christi. They also provide citywide representation and participate in overseeing the City Manager and other appointed officials responsible for municipal operations.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What do you envision as a workable solution for our water issues?

**Q2:** Do you favor an independent redistricting commission to redraw city council districts and why or why not?

**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?



### Michael Miller (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
fwww.miller4corpus.com

**Q1:** Before we address the water issue we must first establish how much water we actually need. In the past few years, we have seen several customers initiate water projects that, upon build, out will reduce our daily demand by up to 37 million gallons per day.
This includes wells drilled by small cities that we supply water to and effluent reuse projects executed by some of our large volume users.
We must sit down with our stake holders and forecast short/mid/long-term demand and select the projects in our diversified water portfolio accordingly.
Seawater desal is the priciest option. If we are to move forward with any proposal, we must first execute long term take or pay contracts to secure a market for this very expensive water source.

**Q2:** The maps were redrawn in 2021 to accommodate for the growth that was being experienced in districts 3 & 5, specifically in the London Area. There was a significant housing boom in 2020-2023 sparked by historically low interest rates.
Due to increases in construction costs, labor shortages, and rising interest rates, the growth has slowed.
City Council district maps are drawn to ensure rough proportionality in population. I do not see an immediate need for redistricting, but we should be consulting with demographers on a regular basis to keep an eye on population trends.

**Q3:** My key issues are centered around infrastructure (water, streets, public utilities), Public Safety, and addressing the ever-growing homeless population that is spreading across the city, but all of this is in the best interest of improving the quality of life in Corpus Christi.
We must create opportunities here locally to import and retain the best and brightest South Texas has to offer. In order to be successful in that pursuit, we must create a safe, modern city that efficiently provides basic services as well as the amenities that young professionals are looking for when establishing roots.



### Nancy Vera (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
facebook.com/nancy.vera

**Q1:** Terminating the Inner Harbor seawater desalination project and associated bond obligations early will likely result in a one-time fiscal cost. The City owes working families and those of us who pay the rates transparency regarding the financial footprint of this decision and an itemized accounting of the funding that will be utilized to absorb it.
Groundwater cannot serve as a long-term regional solution. While it provides short-term drought relief, pumping it depletes resources many depend on to survive. Reports of well contamination near former waste sites highlight urgent public health concerns. We must demand rigorous testing and complete transparency before relying on this approach. Industry must pay its fair share.

**Q2:** I do not favor a commission that makes decisions for voters. City Council members are directly accountable to the voters and can be voted out if the public disapproves of their policy choices. We do not need to take time to amend the city charter when we have issues that demand our immediate focus.

**Q3:** Education. Family. Community.
We need:
A reliable, affordable water supply that protects families and small businesses, not just large users;
Good jobs with living wages, fair treatment for city employees, and training pathways for young people;
An honest, transparent government with accurate information before every vote, open budgets, and real community input.
As labor leader, I will strengthen ties with our schools because strong schools build a strong city, and schools are a reflection of what our community will be in the future.

# Corpus Christi City Council, At-Large

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## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What do you envision as a workable solution for our water issues?

**Q2:** Do you favor an independent redistricting commission to redraw city council districts and why or why not?

**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?



### Richard Shelton (Non-partisan)

**Q1:** Corpus Christi cannot conserve or well-field its way out of a drought-proof supply gap. The workable path is a city-controlled Inner Harbor seawater desalination plant that already has permits, design work, and a path to state and federal help, built to expand as we grow. Pair it with reuse, groundwater, and leak repair so we buy time and stretch every gallon. Industry and homes must share drought rules fairly. I will not outsource our water future to a for-profit operator whose first duty is investors. Water first. Build the supply. Stop kicking the can.

**Q2:** Yes, I favor an independent redistricting commission for city council districts. Sitting members should not draw the maps they run in. A citizen commission, with public hearings and clear rules, is the best way to keep neighborhoods together and keep the process honest. Maps should be compact, respect communities of interest, and meet one-person one-vote. Council would still adopt the final plan under the Charter. Fair lines build trust. Trust is how this city gets anything hard done.

**Q3:** Water comes first. Families, businesses, and new jobs all stop without a reliable supply. After that: public safety for police, fire, and EMS; honest budgets with real transparency; streets, sewers, and basic infrastructure that work; and long-term high-paying jobs so our kids can stay here. I also care about affordable housing because I rebuild homes in this city every week. I am not interested in drama at City Hall. I am interested in results. Show up. Fix what is broken. Measure the work.

**Campaign Website:** electrichardshelton.com



### Sammy Gonzales (Non-partisan)

**Q1:** The best way to go about a reasonable and cost-effective solution in our current water crisis is to push for an initiative for reusable water resources. My proposal to the waster issue is focusing on a system of setting up progress on a filtration system to turn wastewater into clean and healthy water for the public. Many cities use this resource, and we should also tap into the positive potential of this new and refreshing avenue.

**Q2:** Redistricting should show no bias to any particular party as well as making sure all voices are heard to adhere to the principles of democracy.

**Q3:** Productivity in the city's infrastructure in making sure that the city is fixing long forgotten issues with our roads and focusing on fixing far too long neglected pothole issues. I also want a water system that focuses on the health and financial benefit of the people of Corpus Christi. And finally protect the city from Fastly approaching oligarchical companies that show negligence to the matters most prevalent to the people of Corpus Christi.

**Campaign Website:** facebook.com/nancy.vera



### Scott F. Corliss (Non-partisan)

**Q1:** We need to secure a diversified water portfolio that does not have one line of failure. This includes: 1. Inner Harbor Desalination Plant, 2. Water Conservation, 3. Maximize Effluent Water Reuse

**Q2:** I would not support any plan to redraw city council districts that violates the 1986 lawsuits that created our current city council system.

**Q3:** 1. Reliable Water for Residents, 2. Safe Neighborhoods, 3. Fix Residential Streets

**Campaign Website:** corlissforcouncil.com

# Corpus Christi City Council, At-Large

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## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What do you envision as a workable solution for our water issues?

**Q2:** Do you favor an independent redistricting commission to redraw city council districts and why or why not?

**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?

### Willie Morales Jr. (Non-partisan)

**No response.**

### Zoraida Basaldu (Non-partisan)



**Campaign Website:**
empoweredfem.org

**Q1:** The main reason for me running for council is to support the water projects that the city currently has. I am a supporter of a diversified water portfolio for the city. Currently, the Inner Harbor Desalination project is the most critical to be able to meet the growing demand of the city, improve water security, and support our economic growth. As an engineer with over 20 years of experience in the Energy sector, I understand the technical side of the desalination plant. I work with such systems every day.
There is not a water project that I oppose. The other projects like the storm water reuse, the well water, evaporation control, additional streams to the Rhodes pipeline, and a few others are all going to help the overall city wat

**Q2:** I am in favor of city council redistricting areas of the city based on population shifts. There is currently no independent commission. The city council adheres to the city charter taking the redistricting to the public, then reviewing, and finally approval. The new district maps are then available to the community, maintaining and ensuring that all areas are represented as equally as possible.

**Q3:** I am committed to serving as catalyst for transforming challenges into change.
Water Projects – Investing in multiple solutions, including water reuse, groundwater, desalination, and infrastructure improvements are critical to our city versus relying on a single water source. Coordinating local, state, and federal support will be my main focus to secure funding for these projects while protecting our future.
Economic Development – Investing in the long-term economic success of our city by leveraging our location, port, workforce, and established industries to attract new businesses and investments. Expanding the city's tax base while creating a stronger, more diverse economy will be my main focus. Enhancing the quality of life.



## Put 'em away!

Voters are generally allowed to bring their cell phones and electronic devices into voting centers. However, phones should be silenced and put away when you approach the ballot box to cast your vote. Many jurisdictions prohibit photographing, recording, or displaying your ballot or using wireless communication devices within a certain area around the voting station to protect the secrecy of your vote and maintain an orderly voting environment.
Keeping phones on silence and out of the voting booth helps ensure that ballots remain private, prevents accidental disruptions, and aligns with election official instructions. If you want to reference your choices or candidate information while voting, consider bringing a small piece of paper with handwritten notes. Officials can provide guidance at the polling place if you have questions about specific rules in your jurisdiction.

# Corpus Christi City Council, District 1

A Corpus Christi City Council District Member is elected by residents of a specific geographic district to represent their community on the City Council. District members work with the mayor and other council members to pass ordinances, adopt the city budget, establish municipal policies, and address issues affecting their district and the city as a whole. They also provide a direct connection between district residents and city government by bringing local concerns and priorities before the City Council.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What do you envision as a workable solution for our water issues?

**Q2:** Do you favor an independent redistricting commission to redraw city council districts and why or why not?

**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?



### Billy Lerma (Non-partisan)

**Q1:** Corpus Christi needs to expand and diversify its water supply without placing unnecessary financial risk on ratepayers. I support desalination, but I believe any future plant should be located outside the Inner Harbor and preferably be privately owned and operated rather than financed and operated by the City. That approach can help limit taxpayer and ratepayer exposure to construction costs, overruns, and operating expenses. We should also continue developing groundwater, water reuse, conservation, and other dependable sources.

**Q2:** I do not favor creating an independent redistricting commission. Corpus Christi already has an established process in which the City Council reviews district boundaries following the federal census, with public input and established redistricting criteria. I believe we should continue using that process while ensuring it remains open, transparent, and fair to every part of our community.

**Q3:** The most important issues facing our city are securing a reliable and affordable water supply, improving our streets, drainage, and infrastructure, and making responsible use of taxpayer dollars. I also believe residents should come first when the City sets its priorities. That means focusing on essential services, being transparent about how public money is spent, and making decisions that are accountable to the people we serve.

**Campaign Website:** billylerma.com



### John M. Cudd (Non-partisan)

**Q1:** I believe a long-term solution to our water crisis should include a large-scale desalination facility at Harbor Island, with the ability to expand substantially over time. My vision is for Corpus Christi to secure enough water not only for our own residents and businesses, but potentially to sell excess water to other parts of Texas, including San Antonio, Austin, and West Texas. Revenue from those agreements could help offset the cost of the project. I also believe we should aggressively pursue federal and state funding so that securing a dependable water supply does not place an unreasonable burden on local utility customers.

**Q2:** No. I do not currently favor creating an independent redistricting commission. I would need to see a clear demonstrated need and measurable benefit before adding another layer of government and expense to the process. If the current system can meet legal requirements for fair and representative districts, I do not believe taxpayers should be asked to fund an additional commission simply for the sake of creating one.

**Q3:** The most important issues facing Corpus Christi are water security, aging and deteriorating infrastructure, public safety, and responsible management of taxpayer dollars. Water security must be addressed with reliable long-term solutions, while our streets, drainage, utilities, and other basic infrastructure need sustained attention. Public safety is also a major concern, particularly in District 1. I want to make sure our police department has the staffing, resources, and support needed to address crime and protect every neighborhood in our city.

**Campaign Website:** JohnMCudd.com



### John Garcia (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:** votejohngarciacc.com

**Q1:** Corpus Christi needs a reliable, affordable, long-term water plan—not dependence on a single solution. I support an “all-of-the-above” approach that evaluates every viable option based on cost, reliability, environmental impact, and how quickly it can deliver water. That includes conservation, water reuse, groundwater, additional regional supplies, storage, and desalination where it makes financial and environmental sense. We must also repair aging infrastructure and reduce water loss. Most importantly, residents deserve transparency about the true costs before major commitments are made. Our goal should be simple: reliable water, affordable rates, and a sustainable plan for future generations.

**Q2:** I support a fair and independent redistricting process that puts residents ahead of politics. I would favor an independent commission if it includes strong safeguards for transparency, accountability, and meaningful public participation. District lines should reflect population, follow the law, and keep neighborhoods and communities of interest together—not be drawn to benefit individual elected officials. Residents should be able to see how maps are developed, participate in public hearings, and provide input before boundaries are finalized. The goal should always be fair representation and public trust in the process.

**Q3:** The issues most important to me are reliable and affordable water, safer neighborhoods, better streets and infrastructure, responsible economic growth, and stronger support for small businesses. We must also address housing affordability, improve drainage and flooding protection, strengthen our police and fire departments, and ensure taxpayer dollars are spent responsibly. I want Corpus Christi to be a city where families can build a future, businesses can succeed, and our young people have opportunities to stay and prosper. Every neighborhood deserves to be heard, respected, and included in our city's progress.

# Corpus Christi City Council, District 1

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## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What do you envision as a workable solution for our water issues?

**Q2:** Do you favor an independent redistricting commission to redraw city council districts and why or why not?

**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?



## Tracy McCall (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:** votetracymccall.com

**Q1:** I envision a comprehensive, long-term water strategy that prioritizes securing a reliable water supply for our residents while supporting the continued growth of Corpus Christi.
I support moving forward with all viable, fully permitted desalination projects. We cannot afford to remain divided over individual projects when our community needs solutions.
We must work collaboratively with regional partners, industry, and state leadership to diversify our water sources, expand conservation efforts, reduce water loss from aging infrastructure, and pursue available state and federal funding. Ultimately, our residents deserve safe, affordable, and reliable water. We need to stop treating water as a political issue and start delivering solutions.

**Q2:** With the continued growth of areas such as Calallen and Northwest Corpus Christi, it is important that district boundaries reflect population changes while preserving community representation. Any proposed commission should have clearly defined responsibilities, reasonable costs, and meaningful opportunities for public participation.

**Q3:** The issues most important to me are securing a safe, reliable, and affordable water supply, strengthening public safety, improving our streets and infrastructure, promoting responsible economic development, and ensuring fiscal responsibility.
As District 1 continues to grow, particularly in Calallen and Northwest Corpus Christi, we must invest in infrastructure, attract new businesses, streamline development, and create quality jobs that keep our young professionals here.
Finally, I believe taxpayers deserve transparency, responsible spending, and measurable results from city leadership. My focus is on addressing today's challenges while building a stronger Corpus Christi for future generations.



## Vidal “Cowboy” Conde (Non-partisan)

**Q1:** We must maintain a diversified water portfolio. The least favorable is utilizing aquifers for municipal consumption. We should focus on constructing a desalination facility AWAY from the inner-harbor and have the federal government fund it. The refineries use about 70% of our water and have DoD (Department of Defense) contracts with the military, therefore this should have been deemed a "Threat to National Security" Local Experienced Municipal Leadership should've immediately identified that and had the Federal government fund the desalination project either at Harbor Island or Barney M. Davis Power Plant in Flour Bluff.

**Q2:** No! I think redistricting only creates more confusion. We must remain consistent for our citizens.

**Q3:** Water Security, Tourism, Economic Development.
One of my major goals is to create a $1 Billion dollar a year Passenger Cruise Ship Industry in Corpus Christi, Texas. Potential Docking Locations: (Port of Corpus Christi/ North Beach) My parallel goal is to develop a Kemah styled Boardwalk in North Beach.

**Campaign Website:** vidalconde.com

# Corpus Christi City Council, District 2

A Corpus Christi City Council District Member is elected by residents of a specific geographic district to represent their community on the City Council. District members work with the mayor and other council members to pass ordinances, adopt the city budget, establish municipal policies, and address issues affecting their district and the city as a whole. They also provide a direct connection between district residents and city government by bringing local concerns and priorities before the City Council.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What do you envision as a workable solution for our water issues?

**Q2:** Do you favor an independent redistricting commission to redraw city council districts and why or why not?

**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?



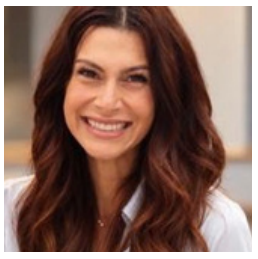
### Dr. Isabel Araiza (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
araizaforcorpuschristi.com

**Q1:** I'm a co-founder of the local group, For the Greater Good. We've been advocating for more people-and-environment-centered water policies for over ten years. Proposition B (the Fair Water Amendment) will help address our water issues. It makes no sense to allow industrial high-volume water users (who use the vast majority of our water) to avoid drought surcharges for a mere, extra 31cents per 1,000 gallons. If they exceed their allotment, the fees we'd collect could be used for maintenance, including addressing leaks and aging infrastructure, which the drought surcharge exemption fee doesn't allow. We should also have a moratorium on recruiting more high-volume water users to our region; heavy industry isn't the job creator it used to be.

**Q2:** I absolutely favor using an independent redistricting commission to redraw city council districts. An independent commission with clear guidelines like 1) taking into consideration changes in the population; 2) ensuring districts have contiguity and compactness; and 3) preserving political subdivisions and communities of interest, can go a long way in rebuilding the trust that has eroded in the electorate. We've all seen news reports where politicians re-drew maps that favored their own (or their party's) re-election. Politicians should not be able to choose their voters. Voters should be choosing their leaders. Trust in our local leadership is waning. An independent commission is one way we can rebuild trust and enhance fairness.

**Q3:** The most important issue is the need for the city to prioritize people and the environment in which they live. I've been following city council meetings closely for more than 10 years. As I see it, the city caters to the wants of mega-corporations and a wealthy few. They have access to Industrial District Agreements, 380-agreements, Sales Tax B reimbursements, TIRZ agreements, and/ or the Drought Exemption Surcharge Fee, which all have one thing in common—they lead to the city having less general revenue for city-wide services, making departments under-resourced and under-staffed, which adversely affects residents' quality of life. Government works very well for corporations and the powerful; it needs to start working for the rest of us.



### Jen Allende (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
votejenallende.com

**Q1:** My approach comes from general construction: before starting a project, I want to know the scope from start to finish what will it produce, what will it cost to build, what will it cost to maintain, who pays, and when will it actually deliver water? I am not against desalination. I am against approving the Inner Harbor project as it currently sits without those questions being clearly answered. Our solution should not rely on one project. We need a coordinated water portfolio that includes reuse, repairing water loss, conservation, groundwater and other regional sources while continuing to evaluate desalination. We must also collaborate with industry while ensuring residential and small-business needs are represented. I want a water plan.

**Q2:** Yes, I favor an independent redistricting commission, provided it is truly independent, transparent and accountable to the public. Elected officials should not have unnecessary influence over drawing the boundaries of the districts they represent. However, simply calling a commission "independent" does not make it so. I would want clear rules governing who appoints its members, strong conflict-of-interest protections, open meetings, geographic representation and meaningful public participation. District boundaries should follow the law, reflect population changes and preserve communities of interest and neighborhoods whenever possible. The goal should never be protecting a political seat—it should be making sure residents in mind

**Q3:** The issues most important to me are the ones residents see and live with every day: water, public safety, streets, sidewalks, lighting, drainage, abandoned properties and responsible spending. Coming from general construction, I believe a project should have a clear beginning, budget, timeline and completion and residents should be able to see all four.
One of my priorities is improving our city's existing reporting system into a true accountability tool. When a resident reports a pothole, broken light or sidewalk, they should be able to see when it was reported, inspected, funded, scheduled and completed. I also want that same transparency for bond projects and major capital improvements: what was promised, what was budgeted who received

# Corpus Christi City Council, District 2

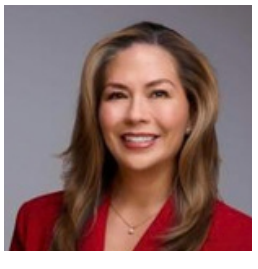
A Corpus Christi City Council District Member is elected by residents of a specific geographic district to represent their community on the City Council. District members work with the mayor and other council members to pass ordinances, adopt the city budget, establish municipal policies, and address issues affecting their district and the city as a whole. They also provide a direct connection between district residents and city government by bringing local concerns and priorities before the City Council.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What do you envision as a workable solution for our water issues?

**Q2:** Do you favor an independent redistricting commission to redraw city council districts and why or why not?

**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?



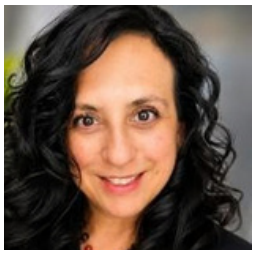
### Laura Flores Commons (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
laurafordistrict2.com

**Q1:** We need to add desalination to our water portfolio as quickly as possible, but responsibly—environmentally and financially. Groundwater should be used only when needed so we don't put added pressure on surrounding communities that rely on it. We can no longer rely primarily on surface water, and I believe our future will include more than one desalination plant. We must pursue every available state and federal grant dollar to keep the burden on ratepayers as low as possible. Drought is becoming a national issue, and we need to act before communities nationwide are competing for the same limited funding.

**Q2:** Our City Council district boundaries were recently redrawn following the 2020 Census, so I don't see an immediate need to change the process. Before supporting an independent commission, I would want to understand what problem we are trying to solve, how members would be selected, and whether it would actually improve transparency and fairness. I'm open to improving government, but changes should have a clear purpose and benefit to our citizens.

**Q3:** Water must come first. Without a reliable, drought-resistant water supply, we cannot protect our quality of life or support future growth. Public safety and infrastructure are also priorities. We need more police and firefighters, adequate substations as we grow south, and funding for streets and drainage. We also need to take a hard look at our budget and how we operate at City Hall, including needed Charter changes and restoring professional, civil and measured Council meetings. There is a lot of serious work ahead, and we need Council members who understand the responsibility of this position and are prepared to do the work it requires.



### Selena Guerra (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
VoteSelena.com

**Q1:** I envision a diversified, long-term water strategy rather than relying on one expensive solution. We should pursue groundwater and brackish groundwater, water reuse, conservation, reducing water loss, and desalination where it is financially and environmentally responsible. I also support exploring public-private partnerships that bring private investment and reduce taxpayer risk. Every option should be evaluated by reliable water yield, total cost, timeline, environmental impact, permitting risk, and impact on residents' water bills. Corpus Christi should be an innovator in water while protecting our residents, our bay, and our economic future. I am ultimately pro-best solution for Corpus Christi.

**Q2:** I am not currently for or against an independent redistricting commission. Corpus Christi's City Council districts have already been redrawn through the most recent redistricting process. My priority is ensuring that any future redistricting is conducted fairly, transparently, and in accordance with the law, with meaningful public input. When the next redistricting process occurs, I would review the available options and determine which process best provides residents with fair representation while maintaining transparency and accountability.

**Q3:** The three issues most important to me are Affordable and Reliable Water, Responsible Spending, and Safer Neighborhoods with Stronger Infrastructure. We need a diversified, long-term water strategy that protects residents from unaffordable rates. We must prioritize needs over wants, reduce unnecessary spending, address debt, and ensure taxpayer dollars are used responsibly. Finally, we need to invest in our neighborhoods by improving residential streets, drainage, sidewalks, street lighting, and public safety. My focus is on making responsible decisions today that strengthen our community and leave future generations with greater opportunity—not greater debt.

# Corpus Christi City Council, District 3

A Corpus Christi City Council District Member is elected by residents of a specific geographic district to represent their community on the City Council. District members work with the mayor and other council members to pass ordinances, adopt the city budget, establish municipal policies, and address issues affecting their district and the city as a whole. They also provide a direct connection between district residents and city government by bringing local concerns and priorities before the City Council.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What do you envision as a workable solution for our water issues?

**Q2:** Do you favor an independent redistricting commission to redraw city council districts and why or why not?

**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?



### Eric Cantu (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
electericcantu.com

**Q1:** I believe the workable solution is a diversified water plan. We cannot put all our eggs in one basket or depend on one billion-dollar-plus project. We should pursue groundwater, water reuse, conservation and desalination where it makes sense. I am not against desalination; I am against the wrong project, at the wrong location, at the wrong price. The majority of our water demand comes from refineries and large industrial users, not our residents. Working families and seniors should not be asked to pay higher water bills so billion-dollar industries can get more water and make bigger profits. If industry needs more water, industry should pay its fair share not profit on the backs of the people.
**Q2:** Yes. I've always believed the people should pick their elected officials, not elected officials pick their voters. Taking the politics out of drawing these districts just makes sense to me. It should be fair, open to the public and based on the people and communities we represent not what helps somebody keep their seat. I don't care if you're the Mayor, a Council Member or anybody else, none of us should be drawing lines to benefit ourselves. Give the people a voice in the process and keep it fair.
**Q3:** The issues that matter most to me are the ones that hit people at home water, public safety, streets, affordability and animal care. I think about the senior on a fixed income, the single mother trying to make ends meet, and the family working hard just to keep up. They deserve a city that works for them too. I want safe neighborhoods, better streets, affordable water, strong police and fire departments, and a city that stops killing healthy animals simply because we run out of space. I didn't run for office to be somebody. I ran because I know what it's like to struggle, and I wanted everyday people to have somebody at City Hall who will listen, speak up and fight for them.

### Jessica Vilarreal (Non-partisan)

**No response.**



### Robert Rocha (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
robert.rocha.com

**Q1:** I will vote to approve the City's Inner Harbor Desalination Plant. A workable solution involves continued water conservation practices, continued utilization of reservoirs, pipelines and more desalination plant options. Our main goal should be to secure a solution for both residential and commercial water needs now and for the future.
I will serve our community with integrity and experience, ensuring public safety, building trust among neighbors, and delivering sustainable solutions to the challenges our community faces. Working together, we will create a city that is prepared, resilient, and thriving for generations to come.

**Q2:** Because of the odd shape of the city limits of Corpus Christi and the growth of the London, Southside, and Calallen neighborhoods, I would be in favor of an independent redistricting commission to review the current boundary lines and if they are fairly divided, then leave the boundaries as they are. If the commission finds that due to growth in certain parts of the city the boundaries need adjustment, then let's review the proposed boundaries.
The desired outcome would be for the five-city council districts be divided fairly and non-discriminatory.

**Q3:** Water is the number one issue for our community. I believe the solution lies with our ability to take advantage of Gulf resources and utilize desalination plants to provide water.
Secondly - Public Safety is important to the quality of life for our community. I believe that our Police Department needs to be staffed to increase presence - especially during high peak times for crime. The Fire Department needs to follow national staffing standards such as NFPA 1710 - four person staffing on all apparatus.
Third - Streets and Roads need to be repaired. Funding is an issue, with no 2026 Bond package, the city will be forced to use general fund money to fund road repairs. I predict times will be tough on our city budget.

# Corpus Christi City Council, District 4

A Corpus Christi City Council District Member is elected by residents of a specific geographic district to represent their community on the City Council. District members work with the mayor and other council members to pass ordinances, adopt the city budget, establish municipal policies, and address issues affecting their district and the city as a whole. They also provide a direct connection between district residents and city government by bringing local concerns and priorities before the City Council.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What do you envision as a workable solution for our water issues?

**Q2:** Do you favor an independent redistricting commission to redraw city council districts and why or why not?

**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?



### Dan Herrington (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
dan4d4.com

**Q1:** To secure a long-term water supply while keeping costs reasonable, the City must prioritize a multi-pronged approach that balances water conservation, optimization of existing reservoirs and expansion of treated wastewater reuse for industrial needs.
We must also secure a drought-proof backup, which is why I fully support the Inner Harbor desalination project. Based on the work and planning done by multiple prior councils, as well as the environmental studies and permitting already completed, I fully support the Inner Harbor desalination project and believe it can be done in a safe and fiscally responsible manner.
We must also restore our relationships with Federal & State partners to make sure cost to the end user is as low as possible.

**Q2:** Any redistricting should be based on careful mathematical balancing and satisfy equal voter representation. At the same time, we must preserve community of interest so that all residents feel they have access to a representative that understands their community. Redistricting should not be done often and would require an independent commission to ensure fairness. I do not favor redistricting at this time without strong data to indicate an imbalance in the current district structure.

**Q3:** Our city's top priority must be solving our water crisis; we cannot build a thriving economy or attract new business without stable infrastructure. Accordingly, I support the Inner Harbor project to secure a drought-proof future.
To achieve this, we must restore trust in city leadership by electing councilmembers who collaborate constructively despite differing opinions.
We must also restore vital relationships with our local, state, and federal partners. As Corpus Christi grows, we cannot lose sight of the essentials. I remain fully committed to consistently funding our city street improvements and robustly supporting public safety to ensure our neighborhoods remain safe and accessible for all.



### Dr. Joshua Anderson (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
dranderson78418.org

**Q1:** A workable solution requires layering multiple strategies rather than betting everything on a single source.
The immediate priority is advancing the Inner Harbor Desalination Plant without further delay. It is permitted, approved, and ready — there is no excuse for continued inaction. Alongside that, we must resume work on the La Quinta Channel second plant and evaluate the Barney Davis site as an additional source of long-term capacity.
In the medium term, aggressive expansion of water reuse infrastructure is essential. Treated wastewater is an underutilized resource we are currently discarding. Partnering with industry to shift high-volume users to reclaimed water frees up potable supply for residents.

**Q2:** I support independent redistricting only if the process is genuinely fair and equitable — free from political manipulation and designed to reflect the actual makeup and interests of our community.
My core concern is proportionality. One district should not bear a disproportionate tax burden while others receive the majority of city investment and services. District 4 and the Island are a clear example — residents here contribute significantly to the city's tax base yet have historically been underserved in bond packages and capital investment.
Any redistricting effort must address that imbalance, not entrench it. An independent commission is only as good as its mandate.

**Q3:**Three issues drive my campaign: water security, fiscal accountability, and public safety.
Water security is existential. The Inner Harbor Desalination Plant must move forward immediately, alongside the second plant at La Quinta Channel and expanded water reuse.
Fiscal accountability means demanding transparency on every dollar spent. Misallocated bond funds and exorbitant salaries must end.
Public safety requires coordinating law enforcement with treatment resources to address drugs and homelessness effectively.
Underlying all three is this: this council must make decisions. Paralysis is not governance.

### Dr. Kristina Nelson (Non-partisan)

**No response.**

# Corpus Christi City Council, District 4

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## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What do you envision as a workable solution for our water issues?

**Q2:** Do you favor an independent redistricting commission to redraw city council districts and why or why not?

**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?



### Stacie Gerrecht (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
dan4d4.com

**Q1:** Water should belong to the people, not corporations. I support the Fair Water Amendment on the November ballot because industry uses most of our supply, and large users should pay their fair share instead of buying their way out of drought surcharges. I also support an elected water board run by qualified water experts, accountable to voters. I opposed the Inner Harbor desalination plant; it is too costly, unproven, and in a neighborhood. Instead, we should fix leaks, expand wastewater reuse through purple pipe systems, and grow rainwater harvesting, greywater reuse, and xeriscaping with incentives for residents. As a leader, I will ensure water decisions are made publicly and based on real data.

**Q2:** Yes. Voters should choose their representatives, not the other way around. An independent commission of residents, not sitting council members, keeps district lines from being drawn to protect incumbents. Transparency and accountability are the foundation of my campaign, and they start with fair maps. The process should include public hearings, clear criteria like keeping communities such as Flour Bluff and Padre Island whole, and posting all maps and data online, as they should be. As a first-time candidate, I know how much fair lines matter to regular people. As a leader, I will make sure our district lines are drawn by independent, qualified residents, not politicians.

**Q3:** Water comes first: public management through an elected water board of water experts and fair costs for residents. Second is responsible economic development, meaning small business support and expanded job training through Del Mar College, TAMU-CC, and our local unions, instead of tax breaks with no accountability. Third is quality of life: fixing roads and sidewalks, investing in libraries and green spaces, fully building out the Island Mobility Plan, and making sure Flour Bluff gets the same attention and investment. All of it rests on transparency and accountability. As a mother, small business owner, and 20-year resident, I will make sure District 4 has a real voice at City Hall.

# Corpus Christi City Council, District 5



### David Pena (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
davidpena5.com

**Q1:** Our water supply is too important to take chances with, and we need a long term plan that is both reliable and financially responsible. I believe we need to continue investing in our existing water infrastructure, reduce waste and leaks, expand conservation efforts, and diversify our water sources so we are not overly dependent on any one solution. We should also continue evaluating desalination and other new water technologies, including the potential of the Inner Harbor project, but every major project needs to be carefully evaluated based on its cost, reliability, environmental impact and benefit to Corpus Christi residents. We cannot wait until we are in another water crisis to act. We need to plan ahead and make smart investments.

**Q2:** I am comfortable with the current city council districts and do not believe we need to make any changes simply for the sake of changing them. However, if redistricting does come up in the future due to population changes or other circumstances, I would be open to considering an independent process or other options that ensure the districts are drawn fairly, transparently, and in compliance with the law.

**Q3:** My priorities are the issues that directly affect the quality of life and financial security of Corpus Christi families. That includes water security, public safety, roads and infrastructure, economic development, and keeping our city affordable. I also believe we need to maintain a strong relationship with the businesses and industries that provide jobs and contribute to our local economy while making sure taxpayers are treated fairly and our community receives value from those partnerships. Most importantly, I want city government to focus on the basics and be accountable to the people who pay the bills. We need to take care of the infrastructure we already have and plan responsibly for future growth.

# Corpus Christi City Council, District 5

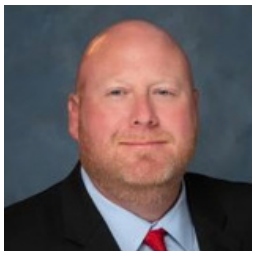
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## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What do you envision as a workable solution for our water issues?

**Q2:** Do you favor an independent redistricting commission to redraw city council districts and why or why not?

**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?



### John Hanzalik (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
john4district5.com

**Q1:** I would move forward with the Inner Harbor Seawater Desalination Project first. It has already received all of its environmental permits, and significant financing has been secured. Rather than stopping there, I believe we should immediately begin evaluating at least two additional seawater desalination opportunities. Our goal should be to make the Coastal Bend a true water hub for Texas—developing reliable, drought-resistant water supplies that serve our residents, support continued economic growth and strengthen the region's long-term water security.

**Q2:** I am in favor of an independent redistricting commission. I believe it would eliminate any conflicts of interest from council members and increase public trust and transparency.

**Q3:** Water security is number one. Corpus Christi needs a long-term, drought-proof water supply. Once that foundation is secured, I will focus on ensuring our Police and Fire Departments are staffed at appropriate levels. Our Police Department needs a minimum of 100 additional officers, and our Fire Department needs at least 90 more personnel as soon as possible. Streets remain a major concern, and I would support greater investment in concrete streets because they hold up significantly better over time. I believe we can make significant progress in all of these areas quickly.

### Joseph Borkouski (Non-partisan)

No response.



# Corpus Christi City Council, District 5

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## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What do you envision as a workable solution for our water issues?

**Q2:** Do you favor an independent redistricting commission to redraw city council districts and why or why not?

**Q3:** Which city issues are most important to you?



### Kusumakar Sooda (Non-partisan)

**Q1:** I support a diversified approach to securing our long term water supply, including seawater desalination at Harbor Island or Barney Davis because of their locations and potential for future expansion. I believe it offers a scalable solution that can grow with our city's needs. We should also continue pursuing groundwater, water reuse, conservation, and other reliable sources while keeping affordability and environmental protection in mind.

**Q2:** I would be open to an independent redistricting commission if it is structured to promote fairness, transparency, and equal representation. Redistricting should be based on clear standards, accurate population data, community input, and the needs of our neighborhoods. The process should give residents confidence that district boundaries are being drawn fairly and in the best interest of the community.

**Q3:** My top priorities are water security, public safety, and infrastructure. We need a reliable and affordable long term water supply, strong support for our first responders, and continued investment in streets, drainage, and aging infrastructure. I also want Corpus Christi to remain a beautiful place to live by protecting our natural environment, expanding our tree canopy, and improving the appearance and quality of our neighborhoods.

**Campaign Website:** electdrsooda.com



### Merida Gonzalez Forrest (Non-partisan)

**Q1:** A diversified, fiscally responsible water strategy that prioritizes conservation, responsible desalination, sustainable groundwater, industrial effluent reuse, and Aquifer Storage & Recovery. Desalination with offshore intake & discharge, such as Barney Davis and Harbor Island, rather than Inner Harbor to protect our bays and marine ecosystems, it must be cost-effective and not unfairly burden residents. Groundwater should be for emergencies, not a long-term solution, we need to protect private wells and rural communities from excessive pumping. We should invest in Aquifer Storage & Recovery to store treated water underground during wet periods and recover it during droughts, improving drought resilience while reducing evaporation losses.

**Q2:** Yes. I favor an independent redistricting commission to create a fair, transparent process for redrawing City Council districts. Residents should have a meaningful voice, and district lines should reflect population changes and community interests, not political or special interests. An independent redistricting commission would strengthen public trust and reduce conflicts of interest when elected officials have a role in drawing their own districts. Corpus Christi residents deserve a meaningful voice in how their neighborhoods are represented.

**Q3:** Diverse, Affordable Water - protect residents from unfair long-term debt, support responsible desalination- offshore intake and discharge to protect our bays, and ensure industry pays its fair share. Smart Growth - expand small businesses and attract diverse employers that offer high-quality jobs beyond heavy industry. Support strong funding for public safety and expansion of crime prevention programs. Ensure developers pay their fair share of infrastructure, reliable utilities, public spaces and green spaces, without shifting costs to residents. Affordable housing to transition houseless people, single parents and veterans from the streets into stable housing by partnering with organizations. Strengthen ethics and anti-corruption measures.

**Campaign Website:** eridaforccd5.com

# Corpus Christi Independent School District 1

A Corpus Christi Independent School District (CCISD) Board of Trustees member is an elected official responsible for representing the interests of students, families, educators, and taxpayers within the school district. Trustees work collectively to establish district policies, approve the budget, oversee the superintendent, and make decisions concerning curriculum, facilities, personnel, and the overall operation of CCISD. They also provide community oversight of the district and help ensure that CCISD fulfills its educational responsibilities and serves the needs of its students and community.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What is your philosophy on public education?

**Q2:** What will be your top 3 priorities, if elected?

**Q3:** How do you plan to maintain open communications with families, educators, and taxpayers?



### Eric Villarreal (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
ericvforccisd.com

**Q1:** My philosophy on public education is that every student deserves access to a high-quality education that prepares them for success after graduation regardless of their background or circumstances.

**Q2:** School safety, teacher support, student success

**Q3:** I plan to maintain open communication by being accessible and willing to listen. As a current trustee, I engage with families, educators, and taxpayers through campus visits, community meetings, district events, and individual conversations with people our in public. My vision of open communication is being proactive rather than reactive. I plan to continue to communicate clearly about our decisions, budget, and student academic performance. I believe transparency is key to keeping open communication between the school board and the public.



### John Daniel Eguia (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
facebook.com/profile.php?id=61593793685156

**Q1:** It centers on the belief that public schools serve as the cornerstone of community equity, democratic opportunity, and social mobility. Education must focus on serving students dropping out or living in poverty and ensure achievement gaps are bridged. Schools are neighborhood hubs that emphasize strong family-school-community partnerships and integrate wrap-around services—such as healthcare, nutritional support, and civic resources. Educators must have input in curriculum decisions, classroom management policy, and instructional design, free from top-down mandates or unvetted corporate curricula. Voucher programs, excessive privatization, and school closures that displace working-class families are unacceptable and unconscionable.

**Q2:** Equitable Resources for At-Risk and Special Education Students;
Protecting Neighborhood Schools Against Consolidation/Closure;
Teacher Retention, Compensation, and Working Conditions; plus,
Defending Public Education Funding Against Vouchers;
Curricular Integrity and Academic Freedom;
Fiscal Transparency and District Accountability.

**Q3:** Regular, rotating listening sessions in District 1, campus visits to hear directly from classroom teachers, paraprofessionals, and support staff without central office intermediaries, strengthening district-wide employee advisory committees representing teachers and all employees to review working conditions, safety, and instructional challenges before policy votes take place, and ensuring clear, secure communication channels where campus personnel can report safety, resource, or compliance issues without fear of workplace reprisal. I will listen.

# Corpus Christi Independent School District 3

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## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What is your philosophy on public education?

**Q2:** What will be your top 3 priorities, if elected?

**Q3:** How do you plan to maintain open communications with families, educators, and taxpayers?



### Duke Canchola (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
facebook.com/
dukeccisd3

**Q1:** I believe public education should give every child a strong foundation and a hopeful future through accurate, age-appropriate instruction, high expectations, and support that meets individual needs. Students deserve opportunities to prepare for college, a career, or a skilled trade. Teachers need resources and leadership that listens, and families should feel welcome as partners. As a board member, I would support clear learning goals and responsible use of resources, always asking whether our decisions help students learn and educators teach well.

**Q2:** My priorities are Opportunity, Safety, and Accountability. Opportunity means strong academics, learning that meets students' needs, and community partnerships that connect education to college and careers. Safety includes physical security, mental health support, and schools where students feel respected and comfortable asking for help. Accountability means clear goals, responsible spending, and regular review of student progress and district performance. I would focus on board governance, respect staff's role in daily operations, and expect meaningful follow-through when improvement is needed.

**Q3:** I would stay accessible through open board meetings, email, phone calls when appropriate, and conversations at school and community events. I would listen respectfully, welcome differing views, and follow up on concerns. Families deserve clear information about their children's learning, educators need opportunities to share ideas, and taxpayers should understand district priorities and spending. I would explain the board's role, connect people with appropriate staff, and respect student and employee privacy. Trust grows when people feel heard and see thoughtful action.



### Stuart M. "Marty" Bell (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
facebook.com/
electmartybell/

**Q1:** I believe that all of our students should be given the opportunity to become the best version of themselves. That starts by them showing up, with their supplies and ready to work. Corpus Christi ISD will meet that energy to provide the opportunity to learn and grow from Pre-K to 12 so the students can be productive members of our community and lifelong learners.
As a trustee, we are tasked with making sure our students and teachers have a safe, inviting environment where they can dive into a high-quality curriculum. As a trustee, we are tasked with making sure our students and teachers have the tools that set them up for a successful college, career or military journey.
We must also constantly advocate for public education.

**Q2:** My top three priorities are reflected in Corpus Christi ISD district goals.
1. We are focused on student attendance. Before we can engage our students in the classroom, we must focus on getting them to school. We must try to meet the students where they are and let them understand what we have to offer and how it will benefit them in the future.
2. We must be constantly mindful of our taxpayer contribution to Corpus Christi ISD. That means we must stay focused on the budget and how and when we spend our money. We must be good stewards of the purse.
3. In order for education to have its greatest impact, we must have a high-quality teacher in the classroom. As a trustee, it is important that we create an environment that attracts the best.

**Q3:** As the team of eight, I have constantly advocated for open communication with myself, the administrative team, the campus team and with teachers since 2016. My cell number and e-mail have always been posted on CCISD.us. As a trustee, I have visited campuses, PTA meetings, UIL contest and volunteered for district and campus level events in my first two terms. Not only do I enjoy the events, but it also gives me the opportunity to visit with students, teachers, parents and campus administrators for a better understanding of their lives.
As a trustee, I have also made sure the district provided opportunities for the district and parents to stay connected. This includes a realtime attendance/grade website and meaningful campus websites.

# Corpus Christi Independent School District 4

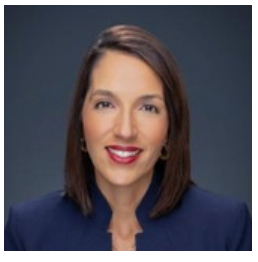
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## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**Q1:** What is your philosophy on public education?

**Q2:** What will be your top 3 priorities, if elected?

**Q3:** How do you plan to maintain open communications with families, educators, and taxpayers?



### Dolly Gonzales Trolley (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
dolly4ccisd.com

**Q1:** I believe public education should provide every student with the opportunity to succeed and prepare them for the future. That means focusing on strong academics, exceptional teachers, diverse student programs, and safe, supportive schools. I believe parents should be active partners in their child's education and that decisions are best made locally, with community input. Above all, we must keep students at the center of our decisions while being responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars.

**Q2:** My top three priorities are improving student outcomes, protecting taxpayer dollars, and recruiting and retaining high-quality educators. I'm proud CCISD has earned a "B" rating and 118 academic distinctions, but we must continue raising the bar. We have worked through a $26 million budget deficit by making difficult decisions, and fiscal discipline must remain a priority. We must also recruit strong educators, especially in high-need areas, while building a culture that supports and retains great teachers.

**Q3:** I will continue to be visible, accessible, and engaged by attending district and community events where I can hear directly from families, educators, and taxpayers. I will maintain open lines of communication and make every effort to respond to questions and concerns. I will also share important district information through multiple channels and work with our communications team to strengthen transparency, encourage constructive dialogue, and ensure responsive customer service remains a priority across CCISD.



### Samuel Aundra Fryer (Non-partisan)

**Campaign Website:**
CitizensForFryer.info

**Q1:** Parental responsibility includes all aspects of a child's well-being. As such, public education is the parent's choice and neither federal nor state governments have the right to usurp that unalienable right. Competition with home, charter or private schools will improve education overall. Nevertheless, constitutionally, states are ultimately responsible for standardizing public education for parents who choose public education. This does not mean that schools have the authority to expose children to ideologies and concepts that are contrary to parental wishes. When topics or policies conflict with parental decisions on healthcare or religious standards, schools must honor those decisions that align with the nation's founding principles.

**Q2:** My top three priorities are Families First, Financial Trust, and Informed Citizens. We must protect God-given parental rights to raise their children and honor their educational choices, while enforcing discipline in classrooms. Fiduciary responsibility requires ensuring that the public trusts financial decisions by efficiently managing public funds with transparency and accountability to educate our future generations. And, it is essential that schools graduate informed Citizens as lifelong learners who seek Truth, love our nation's founding values, and are proud to share in American liberty. Graduates must master English reading and writing, mathematics, history, and science, and be well-versed in civics—ensuring national strength.

**Q3:** Transparency with School Board decisions, void of conflicts of interests, is essential to open communication and public interactions must be frequent. First, the elected Board of Trustees members must respectfully listen to each parent and Citizen without interruption for the allotted time during public comments at official school board meetings. Maintaining civil order and discipline must be in accordance with related laws and policy. Second, families, educators, and taxpayers must have full access to the Board of Trustees by ensuring that each member's contact information is readily available to the public. Third, Trustees must be responsive, without prejudice, to public inquiries, concerns, information requests for public records.

# Proposition A
# Continuation of Corpus Christi Crime Control and Prevention District

Whether the Corpus Christi Crime Control and Prevention District should be continued for ten years and the crime control and prevention district sales tax should
be continued for ten years.

# Proposition B
# City of Corpus Christi Charter Amendment Regarding Industrial Water Drought Surcharge and Curtailment

Shall Article IX for the City Charter be amended to terminate and prohibit programs that exempt large industrial water users from drought surcharges or curtailment requirements during declared drought stages, and require large industrial water users to pay drought surcharges at rates set by the City Council in the March 2025 Drought Contingency Plan?

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

## ELECTION PROTECTION HOTLINES

English: 866-687-8683

Spanish: 888-839-8682

Arabic: 844-925-5287

Asian Languages: 888-274-8683

Disability Rights: 888-796-8683

866 OUR VOTE

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF TEXAS

The League of Women Voters of Texas Election Protection Hotlines are a vital resource for voters who have questions or encounter problems before or on Election Day. These hotlines connect voters with trained volunteers and legal experts who can provide real-time assistance with issues such as polling place access, voter registration questions, language assistance, disability accommodations, or concerns about voting procedures.

Election Protection efforts are designed to help ensure that every eligible voter can cast a ballot that counts. The service is strictly nonpartisan and focused on voter rights, not political outcomes. By offering guidance, troubleshooting barriers, and documenting systemic issues, the hotlines strengthen transparency, accessibility, and public confidence in the electoral process. They play an important role in safeguarding fair elections by supporting voters directly and helping election officials identify and resolve problems efficiently.

## 2026 General Election Key Dates

| | |
|---|---|
| 5 OCT | Last day to register to vote or update your registration |
| 19 OCT | First day to vote early in person |
| 23 OCT | Last day for Vote by Mail ballot application to be received |
| 30 OCT | Last day to vote early in person |
| 3 NOV | Election Day and last day for Vote by Mail ballot to be received |

VOTE 411

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF TEXAS

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
## CORPUS CHRISTI AREA




**Empowering voters. Defending democracy.**
**The League of Women Voters of Texas is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, grassroots civic organization that encourages informed and active participation in government.**

## Join the League of Women Voters  Corpus Christi Area

The League of Women Voters Corpus Christi Area is a nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering voters and strengthening democracy in our community. Every election cycle, our volunteers research and produce comprehensive Voters Guides to help Nueces County residents make informed decisions on candidates, issues, and ballot measures. These guides are trusted, unbiased resources designed to present clear information without political endorsement.
Beyond elections, we host community-centered events such as our annual Women's Equality Day Banquet and Auction, which brings together local leaders, advocates, and supporters to celebrate progress, recognize changemakers, and raise funds for voter education and outreach.

You can support this important work by becoming a member or making a donation. To join our chapter, get involved, or contribute, visit: lwv-cctx.clubexpress.com. Your participation helps ensure that voters in our region have access to reliable information, civic engagement opportunities, and a stronger voice in our democracy.

**@LWVCCA**

**@League of Women Voters Corpus Christi Area**

**lwv-cctx.clubexpress.com**