



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

NONPARTISAN VOTERS' GUIDE



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2018



GENERAL ELECTION

7:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Candidates and Issues – 2018

Page

FEDERAL.....3-5

United States Senate

United States House of Representatives

STATE.....6-15

Governor

Attorney General

Chief Financial Officer

State Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services

State Senate

State House of Representatives

Supreme Court Justice – Merit Retention

District Court of Appeal – Merit Retention

PALM BEACH COUNTY.....16-21

Circuit Court Judge (Run-off)

County Court Judge (Run-off)

Board of County Commissioners

Port of Palm Beach District

Soil and Water Conservation District

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS & PALM BEACH COUNTY SCHOOL REFERENDUM.....22-25



The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

UNDERSTAND YOUR VOTER INFORMATION (VOTER ID) CARD

In order to find the candidates you will vote for, you need to find your voting districts.

YOU CAN FIND YOUR VOTING DISTRICTS THREE WAYS:

1

On your Voter
Information card

2

On your Sample Ballot or
your Vote by Mail Ballot

3

On the Supervisor
of Elections website:
www.pbcelections.org

Click on "Election Information"
Click on "My Precinct"
Fill in your address. Then click on "Locate Precinct"
If several addresses appear, click on yours and click "Continue"
Click on "My Districts" (At this point, you can also learn about your
current Elections, your Sample Ballot and your Polling Place)

YOUR POLLING LOCATION

YOUR PRECINCT

STATE SENATE

STATE HOUSE

US CONGRESS

COUNTY COMMISSION

SCHOOL BOARD

MUNICIPALITY

Susan Bucher Supervisor of Elections
VOTER INFORMATION CARD • PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
TARJETA ELECTORAL, CONDADO DE PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

REGISTRATION NUMBER Numero de Inscripción	REGISTRATION DATE Fecha de Inscripción	PRECINCT Distrito Electoral
122525809	05/20/15	7070 0

DOE, JANE
1234 MAIN ST
WEST PALM BEACH FL 33407

Political Party / Partido Político
NO PARTY 6/15/2016

---FOLD HERE / DOBLE AQUÍ---

YOUR PRECINCT NUMBER Su Número de Precinto **7070**
YOUR POLLING LOCATION Su Centro Electoral
NORTHBORO ELEMENTARY
400 40TH ST
WEST PALM BEACH

YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE FOR A REPRESENTATIVE IN EACH DISTRICT LISTED
USTED PUEDE VOTAR POR UN REPRESENTANTE DE CADA DISTRITO NOMBRADO

US CONGRESS	STATE SENATE	STATE HOUSE
Congreso de los EE.UU. 21	Senado del Estado 30	Cámara de Diputados del Estado 88

COUNTY COMMISSION	SCHOOL BOARD	MUNICIPALITY
Comisión del Condado 7	Junta Escolar 7	Municipalidad WPB

Signature / Firma *Jane Doe* 08/06/1983

UNITED STATES SENATE

The **United States Senate** is a legislative chamber in the bicameral (two houses) legislature of the United States, and together with the House of Representatives makes up the United States Congress. Each state, regardless of population, is represented by two senators, who serve staggered six-year terms. A senator must be at least 30 years old, a U.S. citizen for at least 9 years, and a resident of the state he or she represents. The current salary (2018) for rank-and-file members of the Senate is \$174,000 per year. The Senate has several “advice and consent powers” not granted to the House, including consenting to treaties as a precondition to their ratification; consenting to or confirming appointments of Cabinet secretaries, federal judges, military officers, regulatory officials, ambassadors, and other federal uniformed officers; and conducting trials of federal officials impeached by the House.

QUESTIONS



RICK SCOTT (R)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
Naples
AGE: 65
OCCUPATION:
Governor of Florida
WEBSITE:
rickscottforflorida.com

BILL NELSON (D)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
Orlando
AGE: 76
OCCUPATION:
Incumbent
WEBSITE:
nelsonforsenate.com

1

Do you believe immigration policies, including the DACA program, should be reformed? If so, what reforms would you pursue?

Candidate did not respond.

Yes, we need to reform our nation's immigration system and protect our Dreamers, which is why I am a proud cosponsor of the DREAM Act. And we need to stop this inhumane policy of ripping families apart at the border.

2

Do you favor or oppose a federal policy to ban assault-style semi-automatic weapons and high-capacity magazines for civilian use and to implement universal background checks?

Candidate did not respond.

Yes. I have sponsored legislation to ban assault weapons and high-capacity magazines and require universal background checks for the transfer of any firearm.

3

What is your position on ensuring the protection of Florida's coastlines, water, and other natural resources? What do you believe is the mission of the Environmental Protection Agency, and do you think it is meeting this objective?

Candidate did not respond.

Ever since I was elected, I have fought to protect our state's unique environment and keep oil rigs away from our coasts. Senator Mel Martinez and I wrote the law that currently bans oil drilling off Florida's coast. I've sponsored legislation to restore the Everglades and help prevent the toxic algae blooms plaguing South Florida's waterways.

4

What qualifications do you think make for competent and prepared candidates for the federal judicial bench?

Candidate did not respond.

They need to be fair and apply equal justice under the law for all.

5

What are your plans to support economic development? Specifically, what are your positions on tax cuts, infrastructure investment, and job training?

Candidate did not respond.

Support small businesses, make sure those who work can earn a living wage. And we need to increase funding for science, technology, engineering, and math programs. We also need to keep college affordable so anyone who wants to can pursue higher education.

Information not available at time of printing. Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS 2018 VOTERS' GUIDE

The League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County is proud to bring you the 2018 Voters' Guide. This guide will provide you with much of the information you will need to cast a well-informed vote this November. Information about the candidates, the Florida constitutional amendments, and the Palm Beach County school referendum is included. Additional information may be found on our voter information website, www.Vote411.org. We hope that you will find this information helpful.

Copies of this Voters' Guide will be available at local libraries, government offices, markets, and other locations throughout Palm Beach County.

For information about obtaining additional copies, call **(561) 455-2822**.

The League of Women Voters encourages all citizens to participate in our democratic process and vote on **November 6th!**

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The **United States House of Representatives** is made up of 435 elected members, divided among the 50 states in proportion to their total population. Florida added two seats in the 2012 redistricting and now has 27 Representatives, 4 of whom represent parts of Palm Beach County.

U.S. Representatives are elected every two years (no term limits) to serve the voters of a specific Congressional District.

..... Due to space limitations, some responses have been shortened. Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.

QUESTIONS



*Candidate has a write-in opponent whose name does not appear on the ballot.

HOUSE DISTRICT 18

BRIAN MAST (R)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
Palm City

AGE: 38

OCCUPATION:
Incumbent

WEBSITE:
mastforcongress.com

The crisis at the border is not acceptable, and it is incumbent on Congress to fix this. That's why I've supported three specific bills to reform our broken immigration system. In June of this year, I voted for two bills -- the Border Security and Immigration Reform Act and the Securing America's Future Act -- that taken together would have massively strengthened border security, built the wall, allowed children to stay with their detained parents, stopped chain migration, eliminated the visa lottery program and provided legal certainty to DACA recipients. I also support the ENLIST Act to offer an avenue to legal immigration status for DACA recipients by enlisting in the United States military.

The Second Amendment is unimpeachable. It guarantees the right of citizens to defend themselves. I accept, however, that it does not guarantee that every civilian can bear any and all arms. Therefore, I wrote a bill called the Mass Violence Prevention Reform Act to pause the sale of "gas-operated semiautomatic firearms with a rifled bore." I also support ensuring that every firearm purchaser has a background check and improving the existing background check system.

The rising cost of healthcare under Obamacare has prevented families from getting the care they need. More bureaucracy has led to less choice, and now two of the three counties in the district I represent have only one option on the individual exchange. That's no choice at all. Americans should have the flexibility and the freedom to choose the care that will be best for their unique circumstances. That's why I support repealing and replacing Obamacare with a system that allows for more innovation while still strongly protecting individuals with pre-existing conditions. I have also fought hard to extend the Children's Health Insurance Program, improve healthcare for veterans, and protect Medicare.

Clean water is the most important issue for the community that I represent. Toxic discharges from Lake Okeechobee are destroying our community. I've called for an immediate halt on discharges, and I've also fought for long-term solutions. We've been successful in securing a commitment to authorize the EAA southern storage reservoir, fully funding expedited completion of the Herbert Hoover Dike, passing new funding to combat harmful algal blooms, forcing the Army Corps to re-evaluate their discharge schedule and more. As a Member of the bipartisan Climate Solutions Caucus, I have and will continue working to advance the best economically-viable ideas to address our changing climate and prevent off-shore drilling in Florida.

I support lower taxes and less Uncle Sam. That's why I am incredibly proud of our work to cut tax rates, double the standard deduction and drastically increase the child tax credit--just to name a few. Economic indicators are through the roof as a result of these changes to let the American people keep more of the money they earn. I have and will continue to prioritize making the government more efficient, effective and accountable. That's why I strongly support making these tax cuts permanent, investing in infrastructure improvements and making structural changes to federal programs to incentivize work and job training. Together, we can change the failed status quo in Washington and get the government working for the people again!

HOUSE DISTRICT 18

LAUREN BAER (D)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
Palm Beach Gardens

AGE: 37

OCCUPATION: Attorney,
Foreign Policy Advisor

WEBSITE:
laurenbaerforcongress.com

The United States is a country of immigrants, and our strength lies in our diversity. Comprehensive immigration reform is a necessity, and any comprehensive immigration reform package must include a pathway to citizenship for dreamers, who were brought to the United States as children and often know no other home. But we also need to address the multitude of other issues facing our immigration system, including strengthening border security, attracting and retaining highly-skilled immigrants, maintaining our international commitments to provide a safe haven for asylum seekers and refugees, and creating pathways to legalized status for undocumented individuals who are nonetheless contributing members of our society.

In Congress, I'll make it my top priority to get military-style assault weapons off our streets. I'll also vote to require universal background checks, raise the minimum purchase age to 21, keep guns out of the hands of domestic abusers and the mentally ill, clamp down on straw purchases, and ban bump-stocks. I'll fight to ensure funding for the Center for Disease Control and Prevention to study gun violence and increase funding for mental health treatment. And I'll take on the NRA and their dangerous plan to let out-of-state residents carry concealed weapons into our neighborhoods.

Healthcare is a fundamental human right. In Congress, I'll work to shore up and enforce the ACA, including by introducing new incentives to purchase health care on ACA markets and boost enrollment, and through legislation to establish reinsurance pools that will spread risk among providers. I'll fight to expand access to healthcare beyond the ACA, including through proposals that would expand Medicare and Medicaid to all Americans. Every single person should be able to get high-quality, affordable health care, and no one should be forced to choose between making ends meet and getting the treatment they need. Congress has to come up with ways to lower premiums and deductibles, increase consumer choice, improve quality of care.

For too long we have had politicians pay lip service to the environment but then vote in favor of laws that help big industry and polluters. In Palm Beach County and the Treasure Coast, we value protecting our environment, not just because we care about our beautiful surroundings, but because our beaches and waterways are the economic lifeblood of our community. In Congress, I will push for stronger environmental protections and ensure that our district has the funding it needs to keep our waterways clean and the Everglades healthy. I'll fight for bipartisan climate change solutions and advance policies that move the United States towards clean energy and renewables, like solar. I'm not taking money from big sugar, or any other corporations.

Trickle-down economics doesn't work, and we need to drive growth from the bottom up. That's why I'll work to create jobs, raise wages, and encourage entrepreneurship. I'll fight to make our tax code simpler and fairer; demand investment in our infrastructure; protect the right to collective bargaining; make Florida a hub for new industries, like solar energy, and a place where small businesses can thrive. It is undeniable that tax reform is necessary, but any tax reform legislation must be bipartisan, equitable, and fiscally sustainable. We must also modernize our education system to train for jobs of the future, provide job retraining programs for workers who need to be re-skilled, and establish sensible immigration reforms.

1 Do you believe immigration policies, including the DACA program, should be reformed? If so, what reforms would you pursue?

2 Do you favor or oppose a federal policy to ban assault-style semi-automatic weapons and high-capacity magazines for civilian use and to implement universal background checks?

3 What would you do — over the long term — to provide access to affordable health care for all Floridians?

4 What is your position on ensuring the protection of Florida's coastlines, water, and other natural resources? Specifically, what are your plans to address the issue of climate change in Florida?

5 What are your plans to support economic development? Specifically, what are your positions on tax cuts, infrastructure investment, and job training?

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES		
<p>A Representative must be at least 25 years old, a U.S. citizen for at least 7 years, and a resident of the state he or she represents. Duties include passing laws, serving on committees, electing the leadership of the House of Representatives, and originating all matters of taxation. Representatives maintain offices in their home district and in Washington, D.C., where they provide extensive constituent services. The current salary (2018) for a member of the House is \$174,000 per year.</p> <p>..... Due to space limitations, some responses have been shortened. Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.</p>		
HOUSE DISTRICT 20	HOUSE DISTRICT 22	HOUSE DISTRICT 22
<p>ALCEE L. HASTINGS (D)*</p> <div>  <div> <p>PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Delray Beach</p> <p>AGE: 81</p> <p>OCCUPATION: Incumbent</p> <p>WEBSITE: alceeforcongress.com</p> </div> </div> <p>I support comprehensive immigration reform and believe that it is far past time for Congress to come together and fix our broken immigration system by providing a pathway to citizenship that is fair to all people. DACA recipients are Americans in every way but citizenship. They have lived here and been educated here. They serve in our military and study in our universities. They are talented, passionate, and patriotic, and our country is stronger with them. The about-face from President Trump's Administration is an attack on American values. It is outrageous that the Republican Congress has embraced the President's draconian immigration policies.</p>	<p>NICOLAS KIMAZ (R)</p> <div>  <div> <p>PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Boca Raton</p> <p>AGE: 58</p> <p>OCCUPATION: Entrepreneur, TV and Film Producer</p> <p>WEBSITE: kimazforcongress.com</p> </div> </div> <p>Candidate did not respond.</p>	<p>TED DEUTCH (D)</p> <div>  <div> <p>PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Boca Raton</p> <p>AGE: 52</p> <p>OCCUPATION: Incumbent</p> <p>WEBSITE: tedforcongress.com</p> </div> </div> <p>I support comprehensive immigration reforms that include targeted border security; the preservation of families; humane treatment of asylum-seekers, refugees, and those impacted by tragedy in their home country; and a path to citizenship for Dreamers. We must also ensure that the tragedy of family separation is never repeated and that we do everything in our power to reunite all the children taken from their rightful families.</p>
<p>I am a co-sponsor of over 40 pieces of legislation that would go far in curbing the gun violence epidemic facing our nation. Unfortunately, these bills continue to languish in the House solely due to Republican inaction. After each mass shooting, my colleagues stand on the floor of the House, call for a moment of silence and provide their thoughts and prayers. The time for thoughts and prayers is over. Furthermore, I am an original co-sponsor H.R. 5087, the Assault Weapons Ban of 2018, and believe that we must implement universal background checks.</p>	<p>Candidate did not respond.</p>	<p>The scourge of gun violence hit home this year with the tragic and preventable loss of 17 lives at Stoneman Douglas. We have to come together as a country to address this issue. I'm committed to ensuring that no other community has to feel the pain of gun violence. There is no single solution, so I support a comprehensive, common-sense approach that includes closing the gun show loophole, banning weapons of war including assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, raising the minimum age for all firearm purchases to 21, and improving access to mental health care to identify and prevent dangerous behaviors.</p>
<p>I am an original co-sponsor of H.R. 676, the Expanded and Improved Medicare for All Act, which supports a single-payer system where patients don't have to worry about unaffordable insurance premiums, the cost of copays and deductibles, or high prescription drug prices. I believe that the Medicare for All is the policy solution that our country needs. With the Trump administration's continued attacked on the ACA, it is far past time that Congress work together to achieve a system that provides equal access to guaranteed healthcare for every individual living in the United States, regardless of their ability to pay. Additionally, I am a founding member of the Congressional Medicare for All Caucus.</p>	<p>Candidate did not respond.</p>	<p>We have a moral and economic responsibility to ensure access to affordable health care. Florida should have accepted this responsibility and expanded Medicaid but the Governor has been more focused on sabotaging the ACA in Florida than helping ensure Floridians reap the benefits of the law. We must fully implement and then expand upon this law including expanding the ACA to include a public option that would further reduce premium costs for consumers and reduce the federal deficit by nearly a \$100 billion in the next decade. I support legislation that would allow the government to negotiate cheaper prescription drug prices for seniors, just like the VA and Walmart can.</p>
<p>I believe that the United States must lead the way on how the world should respond to the growing threat posed by climate change. Unfortunately, under the current Trump administration, environmental protections across the board continue to be rolled back. As climate change melts glaciers, we can expect a rise in sea levels. A rise in sea levels of a few feet, possibly by the end of this century, would devastate our coastal communities and the Everglades. I am co-sponsor of H.R. 3314, the 100 by '50 Act, which calls for the United States to aggressively reduce carbon pollution and achieve 100% clean and renewable energy.</p>	<p>Candidate did not respond.</p>	<p>In Congress I have worked to find meaningful consensus reforms to address the threat of climate change and protect Florida's coastlines and environmental treasures. As Floridians, we don't have the luxury of ignoring this issue. I created the first bipartisan group, the Climate Solutions Caucus, so that members from across the country can work together to push for change. We need to continue funding research to give a more accurate picture on how high sea levels will rise and which areas will be most impacted. And we need to continue to make larger policy changes like reduction in carbon emissions that slow climate change as well as local reforms focused on mitigating its impact in our communities.</p>
<p>Our state's population is expected to grow dramatically in the coming years. Such high growth presents many opportunities for business, development, and the continued economic growth of our region. We must invest in our state to ensure there is a pipeline of talent and a business-friendly atmosphere. We also must not ignore the lessons of the past. The financial crisis hit our region hard, and many of the protections put in place to prevent another recession have been chipped away by Republicans in Congress. None of these challenges are insurmountable, but we must act to mitigate them swiftly and comprehensively if our economy is to continue to grow.</p>	<p>Candidate did not respond.</p> <p>Information not available at time of printing. Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.</p>	<p>We need to do more to help middle class families get ahead. That means modernizing our schools, creating jobs in advanced manufacturing, green energy, and other growing fields, and building infrastructure that gives our private sector a competitive advantage globally. We must also address the brewing retirement security crisis in America. Declining home values, the eradication of pension plans, volatility on Wall Street, and stagnant middle class wages have made it impossible for the majority of Americans to save what they need to live securely in retirement.</p>

GOVERNOR

The governor is an elected constitutional officer, the head of the executive branch, and the highest state officer in Florida. The governor must be at least 30 years old and have been a resident and registered voter of Florida for at least seven years. The governor is elected by popular election every four years. A governor who has been elected to two consecutive terms must be out of office for at least one election cycle before being eligible for reelection. The governor's salary (2018) is \$130,273.

Due to space limitations, some responses have been shortened. Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.

QUESTIONS



RON DeSANTIS (R)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
Flagler County

AGE: 39

OCCUPATION: U.S.
House of Representatives

WEBSITE:
rondesantis.com

ANDREW GILLUM (D)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
Tallahassee

AGE: 39

OCCUPATION:
Mayor of Tallahassee

WEBSITE:
andrewgillum.com

OTHER CANDIDATES RUNNING FOR GOVERNOR

These five people are gubernatorial candidates whose names will appear on your ballot.

Please check www.Vote411.org for further information.

RYAN CHRISTOPHER FOLEY (NPA)*

KYLE "KC" GIBSON (NPA)

RAPHAEL HERMAN (NPA)

DARCY G. RICHARDSON (REF)**

BRUCE STANLEY (NPA)

*NPA stands for No Party Affiliation.

**REF stands for Reform Party.

IMPORTANT DATES

GENERAL ELECTION DAY

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6,
2018 (7:00 AM – 7:00 PM)

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE

OCTOBER 9, 2018

The deadline to register to be eligible to participate in an upcoming election is 29 days before the election.

EARLY VOTING PERIOD

MONDAY, OCTOBER
22 THROUGH SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 4, 2018
(7:00 AM – 7:00 PM)

Candidate did not respond.

Affordable health care must be a right for every Floridian, and I'm proud to be the only one who has advocated for Medicare-for-All as well as protections for women's no-cost contraception and people with pre-existing conditions. I'll fight the Legislature and the Trump White House to ensure that we can expand Medicaid and further protect Floridians' access to health care.

Candidate did not respond.

Florida's public schools are woefully underfunded thanks to the for-profit charter school system that has been stealing public funds. As Governor, I'll put an end to our critical taxpayer dollars going to unaccountable, for-profit charter schools, and I've proposed a multi-billion investment in public schools, pay raises for our teachers and staff, and vocational training for our students.

Candidate did not respond.

As Mayor of Tallahassee, I've led the fight against preemption — including beating the NRA in court twice to protect our common sense gun laws. Preemption saps local communities of control of their environment, gun safety laws, and a host of other issues. As Governor, I'll return local control to these governments and stop the Republican-led legislature from destroying Florida's cities and counties.

Candidate did not respond.

Protecting our environment must be a top priority for our next Governor to restore the damage done to it under Rick Scott. I'll fight off-shore drilling, ban fracking, and ensure that our waterways are protected from overdevelopment. It's long past time for a Governor who has a true moral compass on protecting our environment.

Candidate did not respond.

I strongly favor a ban on these weapons of war, because they don't belong on our city streets. We cannot allow our citizens to die in schools, nightclubs, movie theaters, or concerts because we lack the political will to ban these weapons. We need to ban all military-style assault weapons and institute universal background checks so that suspected terrorists and domestic abusers can no longer access firearms so easily.

Information not available at time of printing. Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

The Attorney General is the chief law enforcement officer of the state, responsible for enforcing laws, protecting consumers, protecting civil rights, and defending the state in court actions. The Attorney General, who serves a four-year term, is one of the three elected officials who make up the governor's Cabinet. To qualify for Attorney General, a candidate must be at least 30 years old, have lived in the state for the preceding seven years, and have been a member of The Florida Bar for the preceding five years. The current (2018) salary is \$128,972.

..... Due to space limitations, some responses have been shortened. Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.

QUESTIONS



ASHLEY MOODY (R)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
Tampa
AGE: 43
OCCUPATION: Attorney,
Former Circuit Court judge
WEBSITE:
electashleymoody.com

SEAN SHAW (D)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
Tampa
AGE: 40
OCCUPATION: Florida House
of Representatives, District 61
WEBSITE:
seanshaw.com

JEFFREY MARC SISKIND (NPA)

Jeffrey Marc Siskind is the only
NPA (No Party Affiliation)
candidate running for
Attorney General.
Please check www.Vote411.org
for further information.

1 What are the three
main issues you
would focus on as
Attorney General?

Candidate did not respond.

2 How would you
ensure that voting
rights are enforced
throughout the state
and that the integrity
of our elections
is safeguarded?

Candidate did not respond.

1. Advocating for common sense gun safety laws like universal background check and banning assault weapons. 2. Holding the pharmaceutical industry accountable for their role in the opioid crisis. 3. Keeping Floridians safe by cracking down on scammers and predators seeking to hurt our children and elderly population.

3 Would you be
willing to ferret out
and prosecute the
misconduct of other
elected officials?

Candidate did not respond.

As Attorney General, I will be the state's top law enforcement officer and will defend the rule of law. Participating in the elections process is a constitutional right and should be executed with the utmost security and transparency to ensure fair elections. I will work with state elections officials to ensure our elections are democratic and free from tampering and intimidation.

4 What role, if any,
would you take
in redistricting in
2020?

Candidate did not respond.

I plan to be the most active Attorney General in the country. The oath of office for an elected official is the commitment to represent constituents with integrity. The misconduct of any elected official is a clear dereliction of duty, and will be held accountable. Their actions are in direct violation of their oath to Floridians. From day one, when a Floridian is harmed, they will be able to count on me to act on their behalf.

5 Do you think it
is economically
feasible to keep in jail
nonviolent offenders
who cannot afford to
post bail?

Candidate did not respond.

Any intention by the Florida Legislature to intentionally disenfranchise Floridians from the electoral process jeopardizes the very framework of the democracy of our country. The responsibility of drawing equitable and representative districts will be closely monitored. Should we find that there was a violation of these constitutional rights, I am going to hold this Legislature accountable.

Information not available at time of printing. Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.

No, it is not. Incarcerating nonviolent offenders prior to trial is a grave misuse of taxpayer dollars, and the inability to post-bail punishes lower-income and minority defendants to a greater degree as opposed to more affluent defendants.

DO YOU KNOW?

FLORIDA WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

In Florida, a write-in
candidate must meet certain
ballot access requirements to
qualify but does not have to
pay a filing fee. A space is left
on the ballot to write in the
candidate's name, although
the name does not appear.
You must know and write
in the name of the specific
candidate, which can be
found on the website of the
Supervisor of Elections
(www.pbcelections.org)
under Candidate
Information. No write-in
candidate has ever won an
election in Florida.

TO JOIN
the League of Women Voters,
go to lwvpsc.org.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Florida's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) is one of three elected members of the governor's Cabinet. The CFO is responsible for overseeing the state's finances: paying bills, collecting taxes, monitoring investments, and auditing state agencies. The CFO also serves as the State Fire Marshal and oversees the insurance, banking, and funeral industries. The CFO may be elected for two four-year terms and receives a salary of \$128,972.

Due to space limitations, some responses have been shortened. Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.

QUESTIONS



JIMMY PATRONIS (R)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
Panama City

AGE: 46

OCCUPATION:
Incumbent

WEBSITE:
joinjimmy.com

JEREMY RING (D)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
Parkland

AGE: 48

OCCUPATION:
Former Florida Senator,
Tech Businessman

WEBSITE: jeremyring.com

I spent 10 years representing Broward County in the Florida Senate. As Chair of the Government Oversight Committee, I spent 8 years fighting to protect state workers' retirement, and I successfully led local pension reform efforts. Prior to the Senate, I was an early executive with internet pioneer Yahoo!, which I helped build from a startup to a \$120 billion company. The CFO should be the person most qualified to be a trustee to the state's \$160 billion retirement system and the state's \$85 billion budget—there is not another candidate who can match my background or my qualifications.

The CFO serves as the state's bill payer, and has the ability to audit contracts and claw back funds when those contracts weren't fulfilled appropriately. The problem we face now is that we have no idea if any fraud or cost savings can be had because the current CFO has not—at least publicly—said that he audits any of the state's \$85 billion budget. I intend to change that. Furthermore, the next CFO will be responsible for the build-out and smooth introduction of the new State Financial Management System (PALM).

I have a lot of confidence in the current team at the State Board of Administration of Florida (SBA) and the current level of risk assumed. It's a strong system, and no rating agency in the world has sounded an alarm on it. I would be open to a slight reduction in the assumed rate of return if recommended by the Florida Retirement System (FRS) advisory board, but not do anything that would adversely affect its unfunded liabilities.

I agree that there is currently fraud in AOB (Assignment of Benefits), and that is a problem. I support binding arbitration, with both sides agreeing to the arbiter, and I oppose the consumer entirely assigning the rights.

No.

Information not available at time of printing.
Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.

DO YOU KNOW? FLORIDA CABINET

The Florida Cabinet is comprised of the Governor, the Chief Financial Officer, the Attorney General, and the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The Cabinet was originally created after Reconstruction to hold the Governor in check. In 1998, the voters amended the Florida Constitution and reduced the number of Cabinet members from six to three as of 2003, when the new amendment took effect.

The Governor and Cabinet meet biweekly and oversee the following agencies:

- State Board of Executive Clemency
- State Board of Administration (excluding the Commissioner of Agriculture)
- Division of Bond Finance
- Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
- Department of Revenue
- Administration Commission
- Florida Land and Water Adjudicatory Commission
- Electrical Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Board
- The Board of Trustees Internal Improvement Trust Fund
- Financial Services Commission

Florida members of the League of Women Voters are particularly familiar with the State Board of Executive Clemency, which meets to restore voting rights to felons who have completed the terms of their sentence. If Amendment 4 is supported in this Election, felons' voting rights will be automatically restored upon completion of the terms of their sentence.

1

The CFO plays a key role in regulating the financial and insurance industries, and is also the state's treasurer. What specific skills and experience qualify you for the job?

Candidate did not respond.

2

What role does the CFO play in administering the general Revenue Fund, and how would you ensure no deficits occur?

Candidate did not respond.

3

Outline what you consider to be the appropriate level of risk for the state's investments.

Candidate did not respond.

4

The current CFO has warned that if left unchecked, assignment of benefits will cripple the state of Florida. What is your opinion?

Candidate did not respond.

5

Do you agree with Governor Scott's decision to reject some \$18 billion in federal funds over 10 years to expand the pool of low-income Floridians eligible for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act?

Candidate did not respond.

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

The Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services is one of three members of the governor’s Cabinet. The Commissioner safeguards the public through testing and inspection of food products, regulation of deceptive and unfair business practices, reduction of wildfires, promotion of environmentally safe agricultural practices, and management of public lands. The Commissioner also supervises the issuing of various state vocational licenses and firearms permits. The Commissioner is limited to two consecutive four-year terms but is eligible to run again after one election cycle out of office. The current (2018) salary is \$128,972.

Due to space limitations, some responses have been shortened. Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.

QUESTIONS



MATT CALDWELL (R)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
North Fort Myers

AGE: 37

OCCUPATION:
Florida House of Representatives, District 79

WEBSITE:
votecaldwell.org

Agriculture is the backbone of this state — Florida farmers, and the industries that support them, put food on the table for 20 million Floridians, as well as millions of people across America and the world. Farming is no easy task: floods, diseases, and freezes are just some of the challenges they face. Yet, our farmers face these challenges day in and day out. This attitude of innovation and hard work has allowed Florida to be a world leader in agriculture, and my job is to support these resilient people who make Florida the great state it is today. Whether it is tackling the tough issues on trade, labor, or managing our precious natural resources, I’ve never backed down from standing up for what is right for Florida.

Yes. The agricultural profile in Florida will continue to develop into two distinct groups: large agribusiness competing in global commodities and relatively small, locally relevant producers who meet the demands within 100 mile radius. Both groups deserve the support of research and extension, as well as a Commissioner that will champion their property rights and ability to grow agricultural products in an ever evolving business climate.

Yes. It will be my priority as Commissioner of Agriculture to ensure concealed weapon permits are overseen by a professional who fully understands and upholds our 2nd Amendment rights guaranteed by the Constitution. As a candidate for Florida’s Commissioner of Agriculture, I am the principled conservative in the race and have received the endorsement of the National Rifle Association Political Victory Fund (NRA-PVF) and Unified Sportsmen of Florida. During my time in the Florida Legislature, I helped the State improve the concealed weapon license program by partnering with the Tax Collectors and to expedite applications for active military and veterans. I will continue the legacy of protecting our 2nd Amendment rights.

Water is our most important resource. It ensures the success of our state and it keeps us alive! As we grow from 20 million to 30 million residents, it’s more important than ever before to balance the demands of growing cities with the needs of our farmers and our environment. During my time in the Florida House, water policy was an area where I championed legislation and led the State in pursuing long-term solutions. In 2016, I carried the statewide Water Bill, which laid out policy goals for every region in the State. But that vision cannot be achieved without a true financial commitment. I will lead the State to partner with the districts, counties, and cities to construct and operate regional water supply facilities.

Non-profit oversight, do not call list, gas pump skimmers; the list goes on and on. The Commissioner is responsible for the consumer protections in this state from ensuring the scale at the grocery store is accurate to making sure foreign pest and disease do not ravage our state. I will ensure that willful violators are prosecuted and that the Department is proactive in seeking out fraud and abuse of the public.

NICOLE “NIKKI” FRIED (D)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
Ft. Lauderdale

AGE: 40

OCCUPATION:
Attorney

WEBSITE:
nikkifried.com

For the last decade, Citrus Greening has plagued our citrus farmers. Citrus Greening, with the devastation of Hurricane Irma, we are currently seeing the lowest citrus production since World War II. Another major issue facing our agriculture community is water. It’s not just about the quantity of the water, it’s also about the quality of the water being used on our crops. Those who are in good quality freshwater areas don’t face the same issues that farmers in freshwater constrained areas are facing. But unfortunately, the agriculture community is also seeing an overall declining of the agriculture market.

Absolutely, as I have been traveling the state one of the cornerstones of my campaign is expanding the farm-to-school programs in ALL of our schools. Not only would this be extremely beneficial to all of our farmers, it would also be much healthier for our kids.

I believe we need to start the conversation of looking at whether or not concealed weapons permits should be handled by Florida Department of Law Enforcement instead of Department of Ag. All concealed weapons permit applications are run through the Florida Crime Information Center, which is run by the FDLE. Background checks are run to ensure that CWP’s don’t end up in the hands of the wrong people and to protect society. So, in my opinion it is completely reasonable to have the conversation of moving this responsibility over to the law enforcement professionals.

As I stated in my first answer, water is going to be one of, if not the biggest, issue facing our agriculture community in this century. It has to be the policy of the next Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services to institute a policy of water conservation. Encouraging and incentivizing farmers all over Florida to only use the water that is necessary. Access to quality freshwater, for all farmers and all crops, is not only necessary it is essential to growth of our Ag community and our economy.

The number one consumer complaint in the State of Florida is unsolicited sales calls and scam telemarketing calls. To make it even worse, the overwhelming majority of these high-pressure sales and scam calls are intentionally aimed at our most vulnerable population – our seniors. As the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services, I will oversee the issuance of telemarketing licenses and will demand to know what the telemarketers are selling, who their target customers will be, and if they violate the law I will use EVERY punitive measure at my disposal to weed out the bad actors.

1 What are the key challenges and areas of opportunity for Florida agriculture?

2 Do you believe steps should be taken to expand the markets for locally grown produce and products to support the efforts of Florida’s small farmers?

3 Do you believe that it is appropriate for your department to be the one issuing concealed weapons permits, and if so, why?

4 Since our water supply is under this department, do you have any concerns about our ability to continue to protect our water supply in the long term?

5 What are the key issues of concern for Florida consumers, and what ideas do you have to improve the Division of Consumer Services?

FLORIDA LEGISLATURE – SENATE

Florida has a bicameral (two houses) Legislature with a 40-member Senate and a 120-member House of Representatives. Senators are elected for staggered four-year terms and are limited to two consecutive terms. House members serve two-year terms and are limited to a total of eight consecutive years. The Legislative Session is convened annually on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March and is in session not to exceed 60 days. The primary responsibility of the Legislature is to approve a state budget. Four Senate and nine House seats serve Palm Beach County. The current salary (2018) for members of the Florida Legislature is \$29,697.

Due to space limitations, some responses have been shortened. Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.

QUESTIONS



*Candidate has a write-in opponent whose name does not appear on the ballot.

1

What are your plans to ensure that all Florida students have an excellent education? Specifically, who do you think should make the decisions regarding public and charter schools: the local school district or the state?

2

How would you go about providing affordable and accessible health care for all of Florida's uninsured?

3

Do you favor or oppose a ban on assault-style, semi-automatic weapons and high-capacity magazines for civilian use, and why? What about universal background checks?

4

What is your position on ensuring the protection of Florida's coastlines, water, and other natural resources?

5

How would you ensure that we have adequate funding to meet the needs of Floridians in good times and in bad times? Specifically, do you think our current tax structure is sufficient to meet those needs?

DISTRICT 25

GAYLE B. HARRELL (R)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
Stuart

AGE: 75

OCCUPATION:
Incumbent

WEBSITE:
gayleharrell.com

Candidate did not respond.

Candidate did not respond.

Candidate did not respond.

Candidate did not respond.

Candidate did not respond.

Information not available at time of printing.
Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.

DISTRICT 25

ROBERT LEVY (D)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
Stuart

AGE: 64

OCCUPATION:
Doctor, Businessman

WEBSITE:
electroblevy.com

Our public schools and teachers have been robbed again and again by our legislature and special interests who steal Lottery money and tax dollars, and give it to private and for-profit schools, and I will work to reverse that. Absolutely, the local school district. I am a strong believer in home rule, and that applies to school boards as well as county and city commissions. For that reason, I am also pleased with the decision to remove from the November ballot the constitutional amendment that would take power away from school boards.

In two words: Medicaid expansion, which would bring 800,000 Floridians into our health care system, and mean a net benefit of half a BILLION dollars to the state budget. I also would work to protect the ACA (Obamacare) by opposing future legislative attempts to weaken it; and I would support legislation to strengthen reproductive rights, including a woman's right to choose.

I hope to earn an "F" from the NRA before I am even sworn in as a State Senator, so I say "Yes" to both questions, emphatically. I also believe we should close the gun show loophole, oppose campus carry, and repeal "Stand Your Ground." As to assault weapons, the "why" is that no one needs guns that can kill dozens of people in minutes, and no one except SWAT officers and the military should have them.

First, we must fully fund Florida Forever and Amendment 1. Too little has been done to honor the decisions of the voters in both cases, and I support 100% funding of both policies, as well as the litigation to force the legislature to comply with the intent of Amendment 1. Second, we must appoint people to agencies like the DEP and water management districts, who will be true and faithful stewards of our environment.

To answer the second question first: I believe that our tax structure would be sufficient IF the Legislature respected the will of the people and allocated funds to the departments, agencies, and functions the voters have told them to fund. Prime examples are education, where barrels of money are stolen each year from our public schools and given to private, for-profit, and often religious schools; and the environment, where amendments were approved by the voters, but subsequently ignored by the Legislature.

DISTRICT 30

BOBBY POWELL (D)*



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
West Palm Beach

AGE: 36

OCCUPATION:
Incumbent

WEBSITE:
votebobbypowell.com





Our public schools should be fully funded and supported. The legislature should set the framework for our education system, with input from local districts.

We need to expand Medicaid now. It is an easy and sensible solution.

I favor a ban on civilian use/ownership of assault weapons. We absolutely need universal background checks.

Over 70% of Floridians live in coastal counties. We need to continue to fight offshore drilling and push for policies to protect our beaches and our water quality.

I would encourage the Legislature to look at the current tax loopholes on the books. Some of them were put in place long ago, and their elimination could give us millions more in the state budget.

FLORIDA LEGISLATURE – HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES			
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..... Due to space limitations, some responses have been shortened. Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.			
DISTRICT 82	DISTRICT 82	DISTRICT 85	DISTRICT 85
MARYLYNN MAGAR (R)  PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Tequesta AGE: 55 OCCUPATION: Incumbent, Businesswoman WEBSITE: mlmagar.com	EDWARD O’CONNOR (D)  PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Jupiter AGE: 73 OCCUPATION: Attorney WEBSITE: edscampaign.com	RICK ROTH (R)  PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Loxahatchee AGE: 65 OCCUPATION: Incumbent, Farmer WEBSITE: rickroth.org	ELLEN BAKER (D)  PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Palm Beach Gardens AGE: 60 OCCUPATION: Teacher WEBSITE: electellenbaker.com
Candidate did not respond.	<p>The local school district should make the decisions. This is one of those unfunded mandate issues. Same with requiring schools to hire armed guards. Charter schools get to use public school resources, and don't have to pay for them. This money comes right out of the public school funds, which are inadequate to begin with. We need to divert state funds to increase teachers' salaries, which are an embarrassment. We should be at the top nationally, not the bottom.</p>	Candidate did not respond.	<p>Though some standardized testing is required to comply with federal law and to provide meaningful feedback for administrators to work with, I certainly do not support the current barrage of high stakes tests imposed upon our students. As a legislator, I will introduce bills that study best practices for recruiting and retaining quality educators, in part by paying them a nationally competitive wage.</p>
Candidate did not respond.	<p>First, take the Obamacare dollars. That's our money. The present House and Senate leadership and the Governor are disgraceful. They refused this money for pure political purposes--to thumb their collective noses at Obama. Florida needs to study what other states have done to use Obamacare as a starting point to build comprehensive health insurance.</p>	Candidate did not respond.	<p>Quality healthcare is a right, not a privilege, and Florida's families deserve the peace of mind that a child's hospital visit won't break the bank. That is why I believe in joining most other states – both red and blue – in expanding Medicaid. Florida taxpayers pay into Medicaid, but do not benefit from its expansion because our sadistic state Legislature has refused to accept billions of dollars.</p>
Candidate did not respond.	<p>No one in his right mind can assert that assault weapons should be allowed in civilian hands--and stop calling them assault -style. I grew up in the military and they are ASSAULT weapons. No to high-capacity clips. More importantly, place severe restrictions on bullets. Yes to universal background checks and a national registry for guns AND AMMUNITION. We must get serious about this issue.</p>	Candidate did not respond.	<p>While I applaud much of the Florida Legislature's recent actions to address gun violence in the wake of the tragedy, like most of my fellow educators, I do not want armed non-police faculty endangering themselves and students in our schools. I support closing the gun show loophole, requiring universal background checks, a ban on assault rifles, and a ban on high-capacity magazines.</p>
Candidate did not respond.	<p>Global warming is real and needs to be addressed. My beach is almost gone. This is personal to me. We need to stop agricultural dumping into Lake Okeechobee. We need a comprehensive plan including revisiting the wisdom of the dikes and the forcible redirecting of Okeechobee water east and west instead of north and south. I support the reservoirs, but they are only a small part.</p>	Candidate did not respond.	<p>Climate change is real, it is largely caused by humans, and without state action, it will literally reshape our South Florida communities. To combat climate change, I support a multi-faceted approach that bans fracking, extends a ban on offshore drilling to all state waters, boosts natural disaster preparedness for high-risk neighborhoods, and incentivizes increased use of green energy.</p>
Candidate did not respond.	<p>We may have sufficient funding for now, but I won't know this until I have the opportunity to review the budget proposals--which I will actually do. As a first order of business, we need to see where the money goes now and where we would like it spent. We should look at where we want teachers' salaries to be; what we need to spend on our health infrastructure; how much can we expect to get from the Feds from Obamacare.</p>	Candidate did not respond.	<p>Regressive taxes, such as sales taxes, should generally not be increased and should be decreased when possible. A statewide property tax should be progressive and much higher for properties assessed to be worth millions of dollars. The corporate tax should be higher for large businesses based out of state. Legislators should be barred from raiding specific-purpose funds for pet projects to the detriment of accountability and transparency.</p>
Information not available at time of printing. Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.			

FLORIDA LEGISLATURE – HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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QUESTIONS ?

1 What are your plans to ensure that all Florida students have an excellent education? Specifically, who do you think should make the decisions regarding public and charter schools: the local school district or the state?

2 How would you go about providing affordable and accessible health care for all of Florida's uninsured?

3 Do you favor or oppose a ban on assault-style, semi-automatic weapons and high-capacity magazines for civilian use, and why? What about universal background checks?

4 What is your position on ensuring the protection of Florida's coastlines, water, and other natural resources?

5 How would you ensure that we have adequate funding to meet the needs of Floridians in good times and in bad times? Specifically, do you think our current tax structure is sufficient to meet those needs?

DISTRICT 86

LAUREL S. BENNETT (R)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
Royal Palm Beach

AGE: 62

OCCUPATION:
Businesswoman

WEBSITE:
laurel-bennett.com

Every child should have the opportunity to reach their full potential, whether it's through charter schools, magnet schools, public schools, home schooling, private schools, or vocational schools. I would like to see vouchers given to the parents so that they can have their child go where they could thrive, and this includes disabled children. We need to step away from Common Core and teaching to the FCAT. I'd like to go back to teaching the basics of reading, writing, and arithmetic and failing students if they cannot read at or beyond their grade level. We do not have vocational schools, but I believe we need to offer them. Finally, I believe the local school district should make decisions regarding the schools, then the state if issues are not resolved.

I don't believe in expanding Medicare, which puts the burden back on the taxpayer, nor in the single payer system, like the VA, which fails. In order to make healthcare affordable, I'd like to expand on the healthcare providers we have throughout the country and allow patients to receive care outside of the country at reduced rates. See, the doctors come here to get trained and their education, but then they go back to their country. A shoulder replacement in Ohio costs 95K, but in Singapore, it's a fraction of that cost. A knee replacement here is 33K but in Mexico, it is 13K with insurance. Competition from other countries would drive costs down (for hospitals and patients), yet you would still be getting the US-trained doctor.

I'm just the common-sense conservative, and if you read our Constitution, the Second Amendment (the right to bear arms) was put in place to protect the First Amendment (Freedom of Speech). I do not support any ban on guns. You can go to a gun show where there are hundreds of guns, and none of them have killed a single person. Banning guns does nothing but create soft targets for criminals and mental health patients. It takes a person with courage and a gun to stop a shooter. I do support background checks as well as opening back up the mental hospitals and facilities that we shut down in the 1960s. This way, kids like the Parkland shooter could have been "Baker Act" into a facility, and that disaster could have been avoided.

I do not support offshore drilling, nor do I have any vested interest in companies that do. We all need water to live, drink, play in, bathe in, as well as for agricultural purposes. None of us can survive without water and thus, it must be preserved.

Florida already has a catastrophe fund, and I would ensure that fund is sustainable. Additionally, we have a very low unemployment rate, and our Governor has created thousands of jobs. I would vote against any new taxes, and I believe that if you are not cutting taxes, then you are not creating jobs. With one thousand people a day moving into Florida, our tax revenue is increasing proportionally, and thus new taxes are not needed.

DISTRICT 86

MATT WILLHITE (D)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
Wellington

AGE: 46

OCCUPATION:
Incumbent, Fire Captain

WEBSITE:
mattwillhite.com

Extending a good quality education to every single child in Florida is one of the primary factors why I chose to pursue public service. Should I have the privilege of being re-elected, I will continue my advocacy, as a legislator and a parent with two boys in public schools, so that our students are granted the world-class public education they deserve. We must raise salaries for teachers who earn \$10,000 under the national average, and we must ensure that every classroom has the resources they need to give our kids the best future possible. I believe that local school boards should not be burdened with unfunded mandates and that they should have final say in all charter school decisions.

Our state is ranked 45th in health care coverage, a statistic which alone should be a cause for concern for everyone in our state, regardless of political ideology. We need to work towards reducing the number of uninsured Floridians who go to bed worried that the next medical bill could break the bank. I believe the solution lies in expanding Medicaid and leveraging the power of Tallahassee to make sure that we are protecting folks from rising premiums and deductibles. If our legislation can't get it done, then we should put it to the voters directly so that they have a say in the health care decisions that affect their families.

I am a strong proponent of enacting better background checks and enacting Red Flag laws that prevent those who shouldn't have firearms from acquiring them. If an individual fails a background check, law enforcement should be alerted as a way to make sure that we are keeping our community safe. With the tragic events of Stoneman Douglas High School just an hour from our district, we passed the bipartisan Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act. While I am against the provisions that allow school personnel to be armed, this bill makes our schools safer, raises the minimum age to purchase a weapon to 21, and codifies other protections.

I think that we are blessed to live in a state where we have beaches all around us, water that we can use for our leisure, and an abundance of natural resources. My stance on this has always been that we need better protection of these important aspects that make Florida such an attractive state for visitors all across the globe. I will continue advocating for policies that keep our environment safe for the next generation.

The most important task that we as legislators do every year is set the budget. Generally speaking, our tax structure as it stands is adequate but we certainly need to do more to close loopholes, like the sales tax loophole that was just closed this session. Moreover, we must stop raiding our dedicated funds that are appropriated for a specific purpose when there are budget shortfalls. We must be responsible with the mandates we hand down to municipalities so that we don't leave them with the short end of the stick, such as the homestead exemption ballot measure that would strip them of funding they desperately need.

FLORIDA LEGISLATURE – HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The primary responsibility of the Legislature is to approve a state budget. Four Senate and nine House seats serve Palm Beach County. The current salary (2018) for members of the Florida Legislature is \$29,697.

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DISTRICT 87

DAVID SILVERS (D)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
West Palm Beach

AGE: 39

OCCUPATION:
Incumbent, Businessman

WEBSITE:
votedavidsilvers.com

As the current State Legislator for District 87, I have fought to increase funding for public education. Currently Florida is ranked in the bottom third in the nation in public funding. Increased funding will help make sure students and teachers have the resources they need. Local school districts should have the final say regarding charter schools. I have already successfully worked to improve opportunities for high school students. This past legislative session, I sponsored and passed HB 577, which allows high school students to receive credit for pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs that prepare them for the workforce.

I support the expansion of Medicaid, but it is not a fool-proof method. There will still be people who fall through the cracks. We need to make sure the Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA) prioritizes getting healthcare to the uninsured. As a State Legislator who sits on two healthcare committees (Health and Human Services Committee and Health Quality Subcommittee), I have started working with officials at AHCA to develop strategies on how we can provide insurance to those who need it. In the 2017 Legislative Session, I sponsored and passed HB 1183, which is a piece of legislation that focuses on mental health with minors.

I support an assault rifle ban as well as high-capacity magazine ban for civilian use, because weapons of war should not be on our streets. I support universal background checks. In the 2019 Session, I will be filing a piece of legislation that will ban anyone convicted of a misdemeanor hate crime from being able to purchase a firearm. Currently, there is a loophole that I intend to fix.

I support protecting our coastlines, water, and other natural resources. The red tide and algae bloom have to be addressed at all levels, whether at the local, state, or federal level. I support finding a solution that brings all the required agencies and community partners together to address this issue. I am opposed to fracking and offshore drilling. We need to protect our coastline, Everglades, and water resources.

It's about setting priorities. I believe we have the funding in place with an \$88 billion budget, but I would like to see more funding go towards public education, affordable housing, and mental health. Also, trust funds, like the Sadowski Housing Trust Fund, should not be raided and swept into general revenue and used to make up for budgetary shortfalls. Special funds should be used for their intended purposes, which in this case, is to create affordable housing where needed. In the next legislative session, I intend to file legislation that prevents the Sadowski Housing Trust Fund from being raided so it can be used for its intended purpose.

DISTRICT 87

SAMSON LEBEAU KPADENOU (Green Party)



PLACE OF RESIDENCE:
Lake Worth

AGE: 44

OCCUPATION:
Restaurant Worker

WEBSITE:
samson2018.com

I would reallocate public funding from privately owned (aka "charter") schools into the public school system. No school that does not answer to a democratically elected school board should ever receive public funds.

Declare a statewide housing emergency to allow counties and municipalities to explore solutions preempted by state law, including rent control. Establish a state bank to fund affordable housing and infrastructure redevelopment. Accept the free money that is Medicaid Expansion. Support the Healthy.

Yes and yes. I also support removing these weapons from the hands of police. Florida Program bill introduced last year to provide universal single-payer healthcare.

Ecological degradation, rising waters and climate change are existential threats to Floridians, our way of life and our economy. I support a Green New Deal (preferably backed by a state bank) to train and employ Floridians to restore our Everglades, convert our energy production to renewables and protect our coastal communities from rising waters.

Florida should also establish a public state bank, on the model of the century-old Bank of North Dakota. This would create a new source of revenue beyond the traditional options of raising taxes/fees, cutting services, or selling public assets and revenue streams. By ensuring that the bank supports local businesses (rather than our state revenues being gambled on money-making schemes all over the world by the big banks), we could also increase Florida's tax base and perhaps even standard of living.

MAKE AN EDUCATED CHOICE

VOTE THE ENTIRE BALLOT

HOW TO LEARN ABOUT THE CANDIDATES AND ISSUES



- **Do your research.** Check the candidates' websites, read their mailers and listen to their commercials. You will learn their positions and the tone of their campaigns. Note party affiliations since most candidates support the platform of their party. Follow each candidate's endorsements for a clue as to the candidate's positions on the issues.
- **Attend information sessions.** Candidate forums, political meetings, and presentations by such organizations as the League of Women Voters will give you a chance to learn more about the candidates and where they stand on the issues that are important to you. Consider the views of people who are politically active and whom you respect.
- **Follow the news.** Review many sources (including newspapers; periodicals; the internet; and campaign finance reports, which list contributions and expenditures).

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING A CANDIDATE

- Do they share your views on most issues?
- Do they communicate well?
- Are they prepared for the position?
- Do they understand the issues and the impact of their decisions on the voters?
- Are they honest and honorable?
- Do they have the skills a leader needs?

HOW CANDIDATE MATERIAL WAS OBTAINED

- Candidates were invited (via email) to provide information for the Voters' Guide and www.Vote411.org.
- Candidates provided responses to the nonpartisan questions prepared by the League of Women Voters.
- Candidates' responses were NOT edited.

FLORIDA LEGISLATURE – HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES		
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QUESTIONS	DISTRICT 89	DISTRICT 89
	<p>MIKE CARUSO (R)</p>  <p>PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Delray Beach</p> <p>AGE: 59</p> <p>OCCUPATION: Accountant (CPA)</p> <p>WEBSITE: electmikecaruso.com</p>	<p>JIM BONFIGLIO (D)</p>  <p>PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Ocean Ridge</p> <p>AGE: 64</p> <p>OCCUPATION: Attorney</p> <p>WEBSITE: jimbonfigliofordistrict89.com</p>
1 What are your plans to ensure that all Florida students have an excellent education? Specifically, who do you think should make the decisions regarding public and charter schools: the local school district or the state?	Candidate did not respond.	1) Make sure each child has at least 2 good nutritious meals every day because hungry children can't learn. 2) Return control of charter schools to local school boards. 3) Make the charter schools and public schools compete on an even playing field, make charters comply with all local building and zoning ordinances, equalize qualification for public and charter school teachers, make charter schools return the payments to the public system when a student leaves before the end of his term and return all of the public money when the charter school closes before end of term, and return real property/structure back to the district. 4) Reverse the recent bullying voucher.
2 How would you go about providing affordable and accessible health care for all of Florida's uninsured?	Candidate did not respond.	1) Accept Medicaid expansion. 2) Apply for an exemption so Florida can create a single-payer system of health care, using the Nevada model vetoed last year. This allowed Nevadans to "buy into" Medicaid. 3) End the 2011 "pilot program" that moves the bulk of Medicaid recipients into for-profit managed care -- putting an intervening for-profit managed care company raises ultimate costs leading to less money available for care. It also places an intervening layer of costly bureaucracy that has a goal of reducing costs to improve profits as opposed to providing maximum care to the sick and infirm.
3 Do you favor or oppose a ban on assault-style, semi-automatic weapons and high-capacity magazines for civilian use, and why? What about universal background checks?	Candidate did not respond.	1) All must get a permit to buy or sell a gun, and carry a concealed weapon only after completing a rigorous and strengthened universal background check and to register the weapon once they complete the purchase. 2) Ban the sale of all assault weapons and military-style weapons and expanded magazines and the amount of ammunition one can buy for them. 3) Ban all devices that can be used to convert semi-automatic guns to automatic or close to automatic weapons or increase the number of bullets a weapon can hold. 4) Close the "Boyfriend Loophole".
4 What is your position on ensuring the protection of Florida's coastlines, water, and other natural resources?	Candidate did not respond.	Proper water management is the best way to protect freshwater supplies from pollution, prevent salt water intrusion into the aquifer, restoration of as much of the natural freshwater flows through central and south Florida, limiting discharge into the Intracoastal Lagoon to prevent algae blooms. Florida can improve water management by ending the practice of sweeping dedicated land conservation funds to pay for other budget items, strengthen and restore power to regional planning councils to prevent "mitigation" of threatened Intracoastal mangroves, redesign Tamiami Trail to allow free flow of water.
5 How would you ensure that we have adequate funding to meet the needs of Floridians in good times and in bad times? Specifically, do you think our current tax structure is sufficient to meet those needs?	Candidate did not respond.	Florida is at a point that unless we better manage growth, we will face serious growth issues, from education to infrastructure to environment, that will be extremely costly to address. Therefore, the State needs to move away from a revenue structure reliant on growth to more equitable and reliable revenue streams. I support 1) legalizing and taxing recreational marijuana; 2) legalizing and taxing sports betting (after dealing with Seminole exclusivity); 3) look more to corporations LLCs and businesses to pay their fair share, based on their revenue and degree they draw from our education system and use/overuse our infrastructure and threaten our environment.
	<p>Information not available at time of printing. Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.</p>	

FLORIDA SUPREME COURT

The Supreme Court of Florida is the highest court in the state. It consists of seven members—the Chief Justice and six justices. Five members are chosen from five districts around the state to foster geographic diversity, and two are selected at large.

The justices are appointed by the governor to set terms that do not exceed six years. Immediately after appointment, the initial term is three years or less, because the justices must appear on the ballot in the next General Election that occurs more than one year after their appointment. Afterward, they serve six-year terms and remain in office if retained in the General Election near the end of each term. Citizens vote on whether they want to retain each justice in office, or not.

All Palm Beach County voters are asked to vote “Yes” to retain or “No” not to retain the Supreme Court Justice who is on this ballot. If a justice is not retained in office, the governor appoints a replacement through the Judicial Nominating Commission process.



JUSTICE ALAN LAWSON

Justice Alan Lawson was appointed to the Florida Supreme Court in 2016 by Governor Rick Scott. Prior to Justice Lawson’s appointment to Florida’s Supreme Court, he held the following positions:

Justice, Supreme Court of Florida, 2016 – present; Chief Judge, Fifth District Court of Appeal, 2015 – 2016; Judge, Fifth District Court of Appeal, 2006 – 2016; Judge, Ninth Judicial Circuit, 2002 – 2005; Assistant County Attorney, Orange County, Florida, 1997 – 2001; General Counsel, Verses Wear, Inc., 1996; Associate & Partner, Steel Hector & Davis, Miami & Tallahassee, 1987 – 1995.

Justice Lawson holds a J.D., Florida State University, 1987, with highest honors; B.S., Parks, Recreation & Tourism Management (with emphasis in Natural Resource Management), Clemson University, 1983, with highest honors; A.A., Tallahassee Community College, 1981, with highest honors.

FLORIDA FOURTH DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL

Florida’s District Courts of Appeal (DCA), established in 1957, provide the opportunity for multi-judge panels to review decisions made by lower tribunals. Most trial court decisions that are appealed never reach the Florida Supreme Court. They are settled by the District Courts of Appeal.

DCA judges are appointed by the governor. The judges on the DCA and the justices on the Supreme Court must meet the same eligibility requirements and are subject to the same procedures and conditions for discipline and removal from office. Both the DCA judges and Supreme Court justices serve six-year terms and are eligible for successive terms under merit retention by voters in respective districts.

All Palm Beach County voters are asked to vote “Yes” to retain or “No” not to retain each of the three judges who sit on the Fourth District Court of Appeal and are on the ballot. Judges who are not retained are replaced by the governor when their term ends on the January following the General Election. All DCA judges have been retained since the merit retention system was established in the 1970s.



JUDGE BURTON C. CONNER

Fourth District Court of Appeal, judge, 2011-present. Judge Burton Conner was appointed to the 4th DCA in 2011 by Governor Rick Scott. Judge Connor’s legal offices and positions include Nineteenth Judicial Circuit, circuit judge, 1997-2011. Conner & Hooker, P.A., 1996-1997, partner; practiced in the areas of civil litigation, domestic relations, real estate, business law, probate and guardianship. Burton C. Conner, P.A., owner, 1989-1996. Okeechobee County, judge, 1984-1988. Conley & Conley, P.A., 1979-1984, associate; practiced in the areas of civil litigation, domestic relations, and criminal law. 19th Judicial Circuit, assistant public defender, 1978-1979. He holds a J.D., University of Florida, with honors, 1977; B.A., Duke University, with honors, 1975.



JUDGE JEFFREY T. KUNTZ

Judge Jeffrey Kuntz was appointed to the 4th DCA in 2016 by Governor Rick Scott. Before being appointed to the DCA, Judge Kuntz was with GrayRobinson, P.A., as an Associates/Shareholder from 2006-2011. He is a member of Forum Club of the Palm Beaches, 2016-present. Florida House Young Ambassadors Council, 2015-2016. Junior Achievement of South Florida, Board of Directors, 2008-2016. Leadership Fort Lauderdale, Class 16. He holds a J.D., Suffolk University Law School, 2006; B.A., Boston College, 2003.



JUDGE CAROLE Y. TAYLOR

Fourth District Court of Appeal, judge, 1998-present. Judge Carole Taylor was appointed to the 4th DCA in 1998 by Governor Lawton Chiles. Before being appointed to the DCA, Judge Taylor’s positions included 17th Judicial Circuit, Circuit Court judge, 1995-1998. 17th Judicial Circuit, County Court judge, 1991-1995. Carole Yvonne Taylor, P.A., private practice, 1984-1991. Sams, Ward, Newman, Beckham & Elser, P.A., Miami, private practice, 1983-1984. Assistant U.S. attorney, 1982-1983. Assistant public defender, 1979-82. University of Florida, associate university attorney, 1977-1979. New Hanover Legal Services, staff attorney, 1976-1977. Legal Aid Society of Durham County, staff attorney, 1974-1976. She holds a J.D., University of North Carolina Law School, 1974. B.A., University of North Carolina, 1971.

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE (RUN-OFF)

The Florida Constitution provides that a circuit court shall be established to serve each judicial circuit established by the Legislature, of which there are twenty. Within each circuit, there may be any number of judges, depending upon the population and caseload of the particular area.

To be eligible for the office of Circuit Court Judge, a person must be an elector of the county and must have been a member of The Florida Bar for five years.

Circuit Court Judges are elected by the voters of the circuits in nonpartisan, contested elections against other persons who choose to qualify as candidates for the position. Circuit Court Judges serve for six-year terms, and they are subject to the same disciplinary standards and procedures as Supreme Court Justices and District Court Judges. The salary of a Circuit Court Judge is \$160,688.

QUESTIONS

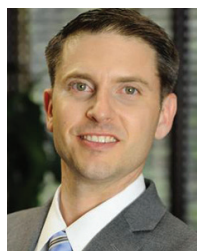


1

Why do you want to be a judge?

GROUP 13

SCOTT RYAN KERNER



OCCUPATION:

Attorney

AGE: 38

WEBSITE:

kernerforjudge.com

I am a Palm Beach County native and am very passionate about this community. I come from a family that espouses public service as part of our family values. Becoming a Judge is the best way I believe I can serve my community, and it has always been a lifelong professional goal of mine.

10 years of litigation/trial experience in a diverse practice, representing both Plaintiffs and Defendants. All of my professional experience is litigation based, meaning I am an attorney appearing before the Judge. My trial and litigation experience distinguish me from my opponents.

Judicial independence is the concept that the judiciary must remain separate from the other branches of government. That is, courts should not be subject to improper influence from the other branches of government, or from private or partisan interests.

As a judicial candidate, per Canon 7 of the Code of Judicial Conduct, I must refrain from commenting on issues that may come before me as judge.

GROUP 13

ALCOLYA J.L. ST. JUSTE



OCCUPATION:

Attorney

AGE: 43

WEBSITE:

votejuste.com

Serving as a judge is a natural progression for me as a trial attorney. Litigating cases lends to my wealth of knowledge about case law, rules of procedure and organic understanding of the role of a judge. I intend to contribute to a well balanced judiciary reflective of the community it serves.

My practice concentrates primarily in the areas of juvenile dependency and family, as well as in immigration and business. Serving as trusted counsel to clients, I am in the courtroom daily. I experience firsthand the needs of the circuit court and those who come before it.

Judicial independence means a judiciary free from outside influences. The judiciary should be neutral, unbiased and rule according to the law, free from the influence of politics and partisanship.

I have been able to help clients facing issues that can lead to incarceration by proactively engaging in services that address underlying issues, such as mental health, parenting and substance abuse. For some youth, a mentor for guidance and reassurance has sometimes proven beneficial.

GROUP 18

MAXINE CHEESMAN



OCCUPATION:

Attorney

AGE: 62

WEBSITE:

cheesmanforjudge.com

I have the qualifications, experience and temperament to be a Circuit Court Judge. In my private practice, I serve the public by providing pro bono legal services to those who need it. I am a public servant. I believe that the apex of public service in the legal profession is to serve as a judge.

I practice in most divisions in the circuit court, representing clients in real estate, foreclosure, fair housing, probate, family, employment, bankruptcy, and contract law. I have experienced all aspects of the courtroom representing plaintiffs or defendants in hearings, jury and bench trials.

A judge is tasked with impartially interpreting and applying the law in individual cases. A judge must act independently and be free from the influence of political or private pressures. This ensures that justice is not only done on an individual basis, but that it is fair and impartial for all.

An unnecessary incarceration means either the law or the way the law was applied is in error. A focus group of retired judges and attorneys may be helpful to review such cases and develop processes to ensure proper applications of the law. Any changes needed in the laws is a matter for the legislature.

2




Describe the nature of your practice and courtroom experience.

3

What does judicial independence mean to you?

4

What can be done to reduce unnecessary incarceration and improve public safety?

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE (RUN-OFF)		
<p>The Florida Constitution provides that a circuit court shall be established to serve each judicial circuit established by the Legislature, of which there are twenty. Within each circuit, there may be any number of judges, depending upon the population and caseload of the particular area.</p> <p>To be eligible for the office of Circuit Court Judge, a person must be an elector of the county and must have been a member of The Florida Bar for five years.</p> <p>Circuit Court Judges are elected by the voters of the circuits in nonpartisan, contested elections against other persons who choose to qualify as candidates for the position. Circuit Court Judges serve for six-year terms, and they are subject to the same disciplinary standards and procedures as Supreme Court Justices and District Court Judges. The salary of a Circuit Court Judge is \$160,688.</p>		
GROUP 18	GROUP 25	GROUP 25
<p>MARYBEL REINOSO COLEMAN</p>  <p>OCCUPATION: Attorney</p> <p>AGE: 51</p> <p>WEBSITE: votemarybel.com</p> <p>I have a passion for the freedoms given to us in our Constitution and a desire to ensure that they are preserved and protected. I want to provide a forum for citizens to be heard, treated with respect and given their day in court. I have a love for justice and a commitment to public service</p> <p>My practice is focused on family and matrimonial law matters. I began my career as an Assistant State Attorney and was in court daily. I have tried over 80 jury trials and 100 bench trials to verdict over my 25 years as an attorney. I have litigated in every division of the Circuit Court.</p> <p>Judicial independence is crucial to our system of government. It is the very back-bone of our Constitution; we have 3 separate branches of government, none to influenced by the powers of the other. A jurist is to act independently of personal bias, public opinion or political influence.</p> <p>I believe education is key; as is providing necessary resources to address issues of mental health, drug addiction, etc., which oftentimes result in unnecessary incarceration. The legislative and executive branch must provide other means and funding in which to handle these issues on a local level.</p>	<p>MICHAEL McaULIFFE</p>  <p>OCCUPATION: Attorney</p> <p>AGE: 55</p> <p>WEBSITE: mcauliffeforjudge.com</p> <p>I want to help preserve the rule of law in our democracy and administer a court in which the strong and weak are heard on equal terms. I wish be a strong example to my three children as someone who serves others, and who uses one's talents to contribute to the community in a lasting, positive way.</p> <p>I have worked for over 29 years as a trial lawyer including trying many dozens of jury trials all across the US. I served as the elected state attorney leading 125 lawyers in court, as a federal prosecutor, as a company general counsel, and taught law school including at Duke (winter session) & GWU.</p> <p>I believe judicial independence is the cornerstone of democracy. A free society must resolve disputes through a respected system that answers to the rule of law. Judges must conduct themselves free of improper influences or bias and be protected from punitive consequences for unpopular decisions.</p> <p>Consistent with Canon 7 (Judicial Ethics), I believe judges should make decisions in criminal cases based on the law, and individual facts. The judge can, and should, consider all alternatives available in sentencing decisions. This process includes careful deliberation to achieve justice with mercy.</p>	<p>SARAH WILLIS</p>  <p>OCCUPATION: Attorney</p> <p>AGE: 38</p> <p>WEBSITE: electsarahwillis.com</p> <p>I am committed to public service in the courtroom where I can put my strengths and experience to use to help others. The courtroom is where I wish to serve my community and where, throughout my career, I have demonstrated my passion for ensuring that those who have little to no voice are heard.</p> <p>Spending the majority of my career in the courtroom, I have done over 85 jury trials as an Assistant State Attorney and Assistant Statewide Prosecutor. As a General Magistrate and Child Support Hearing Officer, I presided over hundreds of bench trials and final hearings involving family issues.</p> <p>The ability of the Judiciary to perform its duty to interpret and apply the law fairly, without influence from outside actors, other branches of government, or the concerns of public opinion.</p> <p>As a judicial candidate, I cannot speak to legislative matters, but I recognize the importance of early education as a preventative tool and through my experience in criminal court, I am aware of alternative sanctions and diversion programs that may provide a just alternative to incarceration.</p>

PALM BEACH COUNTY COURT JUDGE (RUN-OFF)

The Constitution establishes a county court in each of Florida's 67 counties. The number of judges in each county varies with the population and caseload of each county. To be eligible for the office of county judge, a person must be an elector of the county and must have been a member of The Florida Bar for five years. In counties with a population of 40,000 or fewer, a person must only be a member of The Florida Bar. County court judges serve a six-year term and they are subject to the same disciplinary standards, and to the jurisdiction of the Judicial Qualifications Commission, as are all other judicial offices. The salary of a county judge is \$151,822.

QUESTIONS



1

Why do you want to be a judge?

GROUP 4

ALLEGRA FUNG



OCCUPATION:

Attorney

AGE: 43

WEBSITE:

fungforjudge2018.com

As a judge, I can use my legal career to give back to the community. I have substantial trial experience in both the criminal and civil practices of law. This is not a position where anyone should "learn on the job". I can hit the ground running and serve Palm Beach County to make a difference.

GROUP 4

ASHLEY ZUCKERMAN



OCCUPATION:

Attorney

AGE: 34

WEBSITE:

zuckermanforjudge.com

I believe that courtroom experience is crucial in understanding how to best manage cases and protect the rights of all. I have devoted my entire legal career to public service and I have the demeanor, trial experience and knowledge to understand what it takes to run a fair and efficient courtroom.

2

Describe the nature of your practice and courtroom experience.

Extensive trial experience in the criminal and civil practice on the county and circuit court level. I also handle consumer protection cases in federal court. Trials, hearings, motions, you name it, I've done it, I have been the senior trial attorney for the last 6+ yrs handling foreclosure cases.

I have been with the Palm Beach County Public Defender's Office since graduating law school. I am in the courtroom daily and have taken over 70 jury trials to verdict and handled countless motions, hearings and bench trials. I am currently a supervisor where I help train and supervise new attorneys.

3

What does judicial independence mean to you?

The founding fathers knew there must be judicial independence free of politics to ensure each citizen would have access to justice and be deemed equal under the law. The judiciary's role is to follow the law as written without bias or fear of political retribution.

Judges must protect and follow the law, regardless of outside forces or politics. It is an essential element of our government that the branches of government exist independently of each other. The Code of Judicial Conduct makes it clear that judges must respect the independence of the judiciary.

4

What can be done to reduce unnecessary incarceration and improve public safety?

Candidate did not respond.

It is difficult to address a general question on incarceration because judges must evaluate each case as it comes before them. However, Palm Beach County has important initiatives aimed at reducing over-population in the jails while balancing the essential need for public safety.

PALM BEACH COUNTY COMMISSION

Seven county commissioners are elected from single-member districts to represent the entire county. Term limit is two consecutive terms. Board meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays and are open to the public. The salary for the Commissioner is \$99,997.

QUESTIONS



*Candidate has a write-in opponent whose name does not appear on the ballot.

1

How are you uniquely qualified for this office?

2

What do you see as a Palm Beach County problem that needs immediate attention?

3

Do you consider the State government to be a partner or an adversary in allowing our large coastal county to assess and solve its own needs?

4

What solutions, including affordable housing, can you suggest to attract young professionals to serve in county government?

DISTRICT 2

GREGG WEISS (D)*



OCCUPATION:
Retired; Information Technology
AGE: 61
WEBSITE:
votegreggweiss.com

For nearly two decades I have dedicated myself to public and community service in Palm Beach County. I want to continue to give back and bring my experience to the County Commission. My business experience and community advocacy gives me the qualifications needed to serve as County Commissioner.

Sea Level Rise and Water - Water is a fundamental human need. Whether it's used for consumption, leisure or agriculture. We need to develop and implement a 30-year plan that addresses the water supply and quality, storm water, saltwater intrusion, mitigation and resiliency from sea level rise.

The state has become adversarial by preempting local governments in addressing their community priorities, issues and needs. The state continues to mandate local programs without funding which takes funds from local programs and priorities.

Student loan forgiveness program, housing support program, support for the use of newest tools and technologies, personal and professional development programs, support a work environment that rewards innovation and entrepreneurship, upward mobility to retain talented workers.

DISTRICT 4

WILLIAM "BILLY" VALE (R)



OCCUPATION:
Pharmaceutical Representative-Business Management
AGE: 51
WEBSITE:
Billyvale.com

I am unique in that I have not taken donations from developers and their special interests. Therefore, I will decide each issue before me in light of what's best for citizens. I hold an MBA and have lived and worked in PBC for over 24 years. I have been a civic leader for the people for over 10 yrs.

There're so many issues facing the people of Palm Beach County that I can't list them in 300 characters. One of the most important issues is fully funding the county Inspector General. It's critical to have independent oversight to truly have a level playing field and hold government accountable.

Unfortunately, the Florida legislature has not been a good partner. There has been a serious weakening of development regulations that has left us, the taxpayers, to cover the burden of funding the needed infrastructure, roads, schools and services.

I'll support our local not-for-profit organizations that are working to address the issue of affordable housing. We also need to examine our redevelopment rules so that older blighted communities can be remade into quality affordable housing for county workers, school teachers, firefighters etc.

DISTRICT 4

ROBERT S. WEINROTH (D)



OCCUPATION:
Attorney
AGE: 59
WEBSITE:
RobertWeinroth.com

My combination of business and public service experience makes me uniquely qualified for County Commission. My resume demonstrates a solid record of accomplishment in business, most recently owning a durable medical equipment company with my wife, and serving 4 years as a Boca Raton Council Member.

1. An inadequate supply of workforce housing for our teachers, healthcare workers and first responders. 2. We have a mental health crisis which is the root cause of our opioid epidemic, alarmingly high number of suicides & Baker Act interventions, school violence, homelessness.

The State government has attacked the Home Rule authority of the incorporated municipalities and counties making it increasingly difficult for local government to address the local needs of its residents. At this juncture, the state government is more adversary than partner.

Better educational opportunities for the trades. Municipal governments depend on people with the skills to oversee development and to ensure compliance with building codes. This requires experience as a skilled tradesman. Clearly workforce housing is also a critical need to attract new employees.

PORT OF PALM BEACH DISTRICT

Four-year term. Partisan.

The Port of Palm Beach District is an independent special taxing district, a subdivision of the State of Florida. Established under the provisions of the Laws of Florida, Acts of 1915, Chapter 7081, as amended and supplemented, the Port District is located in Palm Beach County, Florida. It covers a land area of 971 square miles or approximately 50% of the county area.

The District has statutory authority to levy ad valorem millage tax but has not done so since Fiscal Year 1975. Operating under Florida Sunshine Laws, all monthly board meetings are open to the public. The Port District is governed by a board of five commissioners elected at large by the voters within the district. The salary is \$9,500. Its administration is through an executive director and professional staff to implement projects needed to bring the port into the 21st century of port technology, facilitating the export/import of goods from the county, region, and state.

The Port District views its mission as a proactive endeavor in the regional international trade community. Port users are encouraged to maximize the total infrastructure capabilities of the Port District.

QUESTIONS



*Candidate has a write-in opponent whose name does not appear on the ballot.

1

Why do you wish to serve as a Port Commissioner?

Continue to advocate for NOT levying taxes, create jobs, utilize local participation and ensure port security. Serve as an ambassador while working with local municipalities to develop Broadway Corridor, maintain positive relationships with local municipalities and advocate for transparency.

2

What are the most important duties of the Port of Palm Beach Commission?

Support creation of jobs without adversely impacting marine ecosystem and protect the quality of life for all residents as businesses of the port expand. Advocate to grow the Port's success in the global market, increase tourism and ensure our county remain the best place for new opportunities.

3

How can the Port further contribute to the economic health of the county?

Advocate & attract distribution centers to augment cargo and job opportunities. Support state of the art infrastructure development, services connectivity to move freight and passengers. Foster partnership with P.B.C. School District by creating a port-based Economic Curriculum for students

GROUP 5

JOSEPH ANDERSON (D)*



OCCUPATION:
City of Palm Beach Gardens
Facilities Operation
Manager

AGE: 47

CANDIDATES ALREADY ELECTED PRIOR TO THE 2018 GENERAL ELECTION

The following individuals either had no opposition or won in the Primary on August 28th and face no opposition candidate in the General Election. Their names will not appear on the November 6th ballot as they have already been elected.

- ✓ **U.S. Representative, District 21** Lois Frankel (Dem)
- ✓ **State Representative District 81** Tina Polsky (Dem)
- ✓ **State Representative, District 88**..... Al Jacquet (Dem)
- ✓ **State Representative, District 90**..... Joseph A. Casello (Dem)
- ✓ **State Representative, District 91**..... Emily Ann Slosberg (Dem)
- ✓ **15th Circuit Court Judge, Group 6**.....Janis Brustares Keyser
- ✓ **15th Circuit Court Judge, Group 11**.....Joseph Marx
- ✓ **15th Circuit Court Judge, Group 19**..... Kathleen J. Kroll
- ✓ **15th Circuit Court Judge, Group 24**..... Cymonie S. Rowe
- ✓ **15th Circuit Court Judge, Group 26**.....James L. Martz
- ✓ **15th Circuit Court Judge, Group 29**.....Daliah H. Weiss
- ✓ **County Commissioner, District 6**..... Melissa J. McKinlay (Dem)
- ✓ **School Board, District 3**.....Karen Brill
- ✓ **School Board, District 4**.....Erica Whitfield
- ✓ **School Board, District 6**.....Marcia Andrews
- ✓ **School Board District 7**.....Debra Lynne Robinson
- ✓ **P.B. Soil and Water Conservation, Group 3**.....Patricia “Pat” Edmonson
- ✓ **Port of Palm Beach Group 4**Blair J. Ciklin (Dem)
- ✓ **County Court Judge Group 1** Sandra Bosso-Pardo
- ✓ **County Court Judge Group 2** Ted Booras
- ✓ **County Court Judge Group 5** Sara Alijewicz
- ✓ **County Court Judge Group 6**Edward A. Garrison
- ✓ **County Court Judge Group 10**.....Leonard Hanser
- ✓ **County Court Judge Group 18**.....Sherri L. Collins
- ✓ **County Court Judge Group 19**.....Frank Castor

PALM BEACH SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Four-year term. Nonpartisan. Under the direction of the Board of Supervisors, the District strives to educate residents, land users and businesses on ways to protect our natural resources; promote best management practices; and conserve, improve, and sustain the environment.

The Palm Beach Soil and Water Conservation District is a Not for Profit 501(C)3. It is a division of the State of Florida; however, it does NOT levy taxes or issue bonds or have the means to enforce land use laws. The District works with agencies and local businesses to provide services at reduced rates. The affairs of the District are directed by a board of five supervisors, who serve without pay and are locally elected.

..... Due to space limitations, some responses have been shortened. Please refer to www.Vote411.org for more information.

QUESTIONS



1 Why do you want to serve on the Soil and Water District?

2 What District program is the most help to the agricultural community? Why?

3 Is the County doing enough to preserve the Ag Reserve? Explain.

QUESTIONS



1 Why do you want to serve on the Soil and Water District?

2 What District program is the most help to the agricultural community? Why?

3 Is the County doing enough to preserve the Ag Reserve? Explain.

GROUP 1

DAVID E. LEGG



OCCUPATION: Retired from USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service
AGE: 68

I have worked with Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Florida since 1989 in the role of a cooperating partner. I am knowledgeable of the district programs. I have both the background and experience to help lead the district in implementing current programs and to look to the future needs.

The most beneficial District program to the Ag Community is the Ag Mobile Irrigation Lab. This program helps to improve water quality and quantity. I have an extensive background in irrigation water management and Best Management Practices implementation for nurseries.

I think, with the money available to the county, it has done a respectable job in preserving agriculture and implementing Best Management Practices on the lands in their control. I think that more can be done in educating the public for the need to preserve more land within the Agriculture Reserve.

MICHELLE SYLVESTER



OCCUPATION: Practice and Laboratory Manager
AGE: 62
WEBSITE: michellesylvester.com

I'm running for PB Soil & Water to energize the Mission of the District – to protect our environment. Our communities are threatened, drinking water is negatively impacted, salt water intrusion is happening, we have increasing risks of flooding, toxic runoff and releases from Lake O. I can help.

The Mobile Irrigation Lab has proven most helpful to the Ag community. This free service to small farms and nurseries has saved growers many thousands of dollars, drastically reduced water demands, reduce pesticide runoff, improved water quality and ensures water conservation into the future.

No. PBC Commission must hold a firmer line against the pressures from special interest developers who continue to chip away at rules for our coastal farm lands. Land swaps, high suburban density approvals don't belong to the Commission. The voters have decided to preserve our unique Ag Reserve.

IAN MATTHEW WELLINGHURST



OCCUPATION: Restaurant/Student
AGE: 26

I grew up in the White Mountain National Forest with a dad who worked for the U.S. Forest Service. I have always loved public land and conservation. I moved down to Florida to be closer to family and the ocean, Lake Okeechobee, and the Everglades, Palm Beach County.

The mobile irrigation system does a lot to help growers and nursery owners from what I understand. The district installs more efficient sprinkler heads which helps growers adopt best practices while reducing water usage.

No. The County needs to honor the bond resolution as it was passed. Land swaps and changing the zoning easements were not what voters agreed to. The Ag Reserve was chosen for its location as it acts as a buffer to Arthur R. Marshal as well as having amazing soil for growing and being south enough.

GROUP 5

MARK BEAUMONT




OCCUPATION: Graphic Artist, Owner Auto Art & Vinyl Graphics Vehicle Wraps-Signs-Airbrush established 2005
AGE: 60

Preservation of the environment and seeking balance with our use and impact on it has always been my concern. I seek to further elevate awareness of the District and its education programs through public relations. Young people and the community at large need to be made more aware of our efforts.

The most help we provide is promoting water conservation through engineered irrigation system plans and water control structures.

The county recently extended the lease of 3 farms in Palm Beach County for another 35 years. This keeps the land free from commercial and residential development and shows its intent to further protect the Ag Reserve. Longer leases would be preferable however.

EVA WEBB



OCCUPATION: Incumbent; Field Representative, Florida Farm Bureau
AGE: 65

I want to continue to work to help protect natural resources of Palm Beach County. Continue to seek new partners to benefit conservation programs in Palm Beach County.

This is a very difficult question to answer as several programs compliment the other. The Agriculture Mobile Irrigation Lab would be right at the top of my the list. Other programs can be introduced at time of evaluation to help with water quality standards and ensure water conservation.

I believe they are trying to do the right thing - but pressure by homeowner groups surrounding the ag reserve in the past encouraged land reuse for development of schools and hospitals, etc. These questions should have been asked 15-20 years ago before all the development happened.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FLORIDA CONSTITUTION

AMENDMENT 1

*Increased Homestead Property Tax Exemption**

QUICK SUMMARY:

Amends the Florida Constitution to increase the homestead exemption by exempting the assessed valuation of homestead property greater than \$100,000 and up to \$125,000, effective January 1, 2019.

A “YES” VOTE WOULD...

- Allow homeowners to deduct up to another \$25,000 from the taxable value of a home worth \$100,000 to \$125,000, starting on Jan. 1, 2019.
- Exclude local school taxes from the new exemption.
- Cost Florida’s cities, counties and other taxing authorities an estimated \$687.5 million annually, starting in 2019, according to the Florida Association of Counties.
- Likely result in cuts to services or higher local rates, or possibly both, to

make up for the revenue losses.

SUPPORTERS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

Florida Legislature

A “NO” VOTE WOULD...

- Retain the current homestead tax exemptions, which total \$50,000.
- Have no effect on the amount of tax revenue collected by city and county governments.

OPPONENTS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

League of Women Voters of Florida; Florida Policy Institute; Florida League of Cities; Progress Florida; Florida Education Association; Florida Association of Counties.

AMENDMENT 2

*Limitations on Property Tax Assessments**

QUICK SUMMARY:

Amends state Constitution to permanently retain provisions currently in effect, which limit property tax assessment increases on specified non-homestead real property to 10% each year, except for school district taxes.

A “YES” VOTE WOULD...

- Make permanent the 10% limit on increases in tax value for non-homestead property, thus reducing tax bills.
- Continue to deny local governments (excluding school districts) tax revenue they would otherwise collect from rising property values.

SUPPORTERS OF THIS AMENDMENT: Florida Association

of Realtors; Florida TaxWatch; Florida Chamber of Commerce; Florida Legislature

A “NO” VOTE WOULD...

- End the practice of limiting tax increases on non-homestead property by limiting property value increases to 10%.
- Possibly lead to higher tax bills for non-homestead property, resulting in additional revenue to local governments of about \$700 million, according to the state Revenue Estimating Conference.

OPPONENTS OF THIS AMENDMENT: League of Women Voters of Florida.

**Amendments 1, 2, and 5 were placed on the ballot by the State of Florida Legislature. **Amendments 3 and 4 were placed on the ballot by the citizens’ initiative process.*

AMENDMENT 3

*Voter Control of Gambling in Florida***

QUICK SUMMARY:

Requires approval of any new casino gambling through a citizen-initiative constitutional amendment, effectively barring the Legislature from making those gambling decisions by passing laws.

A “YES” VOTE WOULD...

- Require that voters approve a constitutional amendment through citizen initiative to authorize any new casino gambling in Florida, essentially stripping that authority from the Legislature.
- Prevent constitutional approval of casinos through other means, including amendments offered by the Legislature or by the Constitution Revision Commission (CRC).
- Continue to allow the Legislature to approve other types of non-casino gambling, such as poker rooms, bingo, lotteries, and fantasy sports.

- Allow the Legislature to oversee, regulate, and tax any casino-type gambling that voters approve through a constitutional amendment.
- Not affect the state’s ability to negotiate casino agreements with Native Americans.

SUPPORTERS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

Disney Worldwide Services; Seminole Tribe of Florida; No Casinos Inc.; Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association; League of Women Voters of Florida; Florida Chamber of Commerce.

A “NO” VOTE WOULD...

- Continue to allow casino gambling either through new laws passed by the Legislature or through various types of constitutional amendments.

OPPONENTS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

None.

AMENDMENT 4

*Restoration of Voting Rights***

QUICK SUMMARY:

Automatically restores voting rights to felons who have completed their entire sentence, probation, and parole, except for those convicted of murder or felony sex offenses.

A “YES” VOTE WOULD...

- Automatically grant felons – excluding those convicted of murder or felony sex crimes – the right to vote after completing all the terms of their sentence. The Governor’s Clemency Board studies have shown that recidivism rates drop about 30% if felons have voting rights restored. Another study shows that with a lower recidivism rate, costs of incarceration go down, employment goes up, and that the positive impact on the Florida economy is \$365 million per year.

SUPPORTERS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

Florida Rights Restoration Coalition; Floridians for a Fair Democracy; American Civil Liberties Union; League of Women Voters of Florida; Progress Florida; Florida Policy Institute; Florida Education Association; Florida National Organization for Women.

A “NO” VOTE WOULD...

- Continue the current requirement that felons who have served their sentence wait a minimum of five years before applying to have their voting rights restored, and then appear before the governor and Cabinet to appeal for those rights.
- Continue allowing the governor and Cabinet sole authority to determine whether a felon is allowed to vote again.

OPPONENTS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

Floridians for a Sensible Voting Rights Policy.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FLORIDA CONSTITUTION

AMENDMENT 5

*Supermajority Vote
Required to Impose,
Authorize, or Raise
State Taxes or Fees**

QUICK SUMMARY:

Requires a supermajority (two-thirds) vote of the Legislature to approve any new or increased taxes or fees, rather than a simple majority.

A “YES” VOTE WOULD...

- Require a two-thirds vote by the state House and Senate to increase existing taxes and fees or impose new ones.
- Require that any new or increased taxes or fees be voted on in stand-alone bills.
- Exclude local governments from any supermajority requirements if they choose to raise taxes or fees.

SUPPORTERS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

Florida TaxWatch; Florida Chamber of Commerce; Florida Legislature.

A “NO” VOTE WOULD...

- Allow the Legislature to continue approving increased or new taxes and fees through a simple majority vote.
- Allow the Legislature to continue bundling tax and fee increases with bills that include other measures.

OPPONENTS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

League of Women Voters of Florida; Florida Policy Institute; Progress Florida; Florida Education Association.

AMENDMENTS 6-13

Amendments 6-13 have been proposed by the Constitution Revision Commission (CRC), which meets every 20 years. The Commission held 15 public hearings around the state and then decided on the wording of 8 proposed amendments to appear on the ballot.

They contain multiple parts that have been bundled into a single vote. Several of these amendments have been contested and may be removed from the ballot.

AMENDMENT 6 (CRC)

*Rights of
Crime Victims;
Judges*

QUICK SUMMARY:

Vastly expands the scope of victims' rights under the state Constitution; increases the mandatory retirement age for judges from 70 to 75; forces courts and judges to interpret laws and rules for themselves rather than rely on interpretations by government agencies.

A “YES” VOTE WOULD...

- Enshrine in the state Constitution an array of victims' rights, many of which are currently in state law.
- Place new time limits on filing appeals.
- Require that victims receive some type of written notification of their rights.
- Eliminate an existing constitutional provision that ensures victims' rights don't infringe on the rights of persons accused of committing a crime.
- Raise the mandatory retirement age for Supreme Court justices and judges from 70 to 75.

- Prohibit courts and judges from deferring to an administrative agency's interpretation of state laws or rules when deciding cases.

SUPPORTERS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

37 Florida sheriffs; Florida Smart Justice.

A “NO” VOTE WOULD...

- Retain existing victims' rights in the Constitution and in state law.
- Keep the mandatory retirement ages for justices and judges at 70.
- Continue allowing courts and judges to rely on state agencies' interpretation of state laws and rules when deciding cases.

OPPONENTS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

Florida Public Defender Association; American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Florida; League of Women Voters of Florida.

AMENDMENT 7 (CRC)

*First Responder
and Military Member
Survivor Benefits;
Public Colleges
and Universities*

QUICK SUMMARY:

Creates a supermajority (two-thirds) requirement for universities to impose new or increase existing student fees; enshrines in the Constitution guidelines for the State College System; mandates that employers or the state pay a death benefit to first responders and members of the military killed in the line of duty.

A “YES” VOTE WOULD...

- Force universities' boards of trustees and the state Board of Governors to get supermajority approval from their members to increase student fees or impose new ones.
- Make the governing framework for state colleges a part of the Constitution.
- Create a constitutional requirement for state and local governments to pay death benefits to first responders.
- Expand the definition of first responders under state law to include paramedics and emergency medical technicians.
- Require the state to provide death benefits to members of the U.S. military who are either residents of Florida or who are stationed in the state.
- Create an undetermined financial burden on local and state government from paying death benefits to a larger group of first responders and mem-

bers of the military. The amendment does not specify a funding source for those payments.

SUPPORTERS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

Association of Florida Colleges.

A “NO” VOTE WOULD...

- Continue allowing universities to increase student fees or impose new ones with a simple majority of votes from governing bodies.
- Exclude from the Constitution a governing framework for state colleges, while keeping it in state law.
- Continue providing death benefits for first responders through state law rather than making it part of the Constitution.
- Maintain the current definition of first responders eligible for death benefits, which excludes paramedics and emergency medical technicians.
- Continue providing death benefits to the families of National Guardsmen who are killed in the line of duty, but not extend those benefits to the families of U.S. service members who live in Florida.

OPPONENTS OF THIS AMENDMENT: League of Women Voters of Florida; Florida Education Association.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FLORIDA CONSTITUTION

AMENDMENT 8 (CRC)

*School Board Term
Limits and Duties;
Public Schools*

**REMOVED
FROM
BALLOT**

QUICK SUMMARY:

Mandates term limits of eight years for all Florida school boards; allows the state to create public schools, something only local school boards currently can do; and requires schools to teach “civic literacy.”

A “YES” VOTE WOULD...

- Create constitutional term limits for all Florida school board members, who could serve no more than two consecutive four-year terms.
- Allow the Legislature to set up a state-run system for establishing and operating public schools, something only local school boards (elected by local communities) currently can do.
- Create a constitutional requirement for civics education in public schools, something state law already requires.

SUPPORTERS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

U.S. Term Limits.

A “NO” VOTE WOULD...

- Reject term limits for school board members and allow voters to return board members to office as long as they get re-elected.
- Keep local school boards as the sole authority for approving, operating, and supervising public schools.
- Reject a constitutional mandate for civics education, which would not affect the current state law that requires schools to teach students about the U.S. Constitution and other governing documents and institutions.

OPPONENTS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

Florida School Boards Association; League of Women Voters of Florida; Progress Florida; Florida Policy Institute; Florida Education Association; Florida National Organization for Women.

AMENDMENT 9 (CRC)

*Prohibits Offshore
Oil and Gas Drilling;
Restricts Vaping in
Enclosed Indoor
Workplaces*

QUICK SUMMARY:

Prohibits oil drilling beneath waters controlled by Florida; restricts the use of e-cigarettes, also known as vaping.

A “YES” VOTE WOULD...

- Amend the Constitution to ban oil and gas drilling beneath Florida state waters.
- Exempt shipments of oil and gas on Florida’s waters.
- Possibly signal to the federal government Floridians’ opposition to offshore drilling.
- Apply constitutional restrictions on drilling only to waters under state control, not to waters under federal control.
- Add new restrictions to the Constitution on the use of electronic vaping devices, largely mirroring current constitutional restrictions on indoor workplace smoking.
- Create exceptions to the vaping restrictions in homes, bars, vaping retailers, and hotel rooms designated for vaping.
- Allow local governments to pass stricter regulations on the use of vaping devices.

SUPPORTERS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

Florida Wildlife Federation; Gulf Restoration Network; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; League of Women Voters of Florida; Florida Policy Institute; Progress Florida.

A “NO” VOTE WOULD...

- Keep a drilling ban out of the state Constitution but would not alter existing state laws that ban drilling.
- Allow Florida legislators to change the current law that bans offshore drilling in state-controlled waters.
- Possibly signal to the federal government Floridians’ openness to offshore drilling.
- Keep restrictions on vaping and the use of vaping devices out of the state Constitution.
- Leave any such vaping restrictions to the discretion of the state Legislature.

OPPONENTS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

Florida Petroleum Council; Associated Industries of Florida; Consumer Advocates for Smoke-Free Alternatives Association; Florida Chamber of Commerce.

AMENDMENT 10 (CRC)

*State and Local
Government
Structure and
Operation*

QUICK SUMMARY:

Requires the Legislature to hold its session in early January on even-numbered years; creates an Office of Domestic Security and Counterterrorism within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement; mandates the existence of a state Department of Veterans’ Affairs; forces all counties to elect a sheriff, tax collector, property appraiser, supervisor of elections, and Clerk of Circuit Court.

A “YES” VOTE WOULD...

- Fix the date for state legislative sessions in even-numbered years as the second Tuesday in January.
- Create an Office of Domestic Security and Counterterrorism within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and establish it as the lead agency in terrorism investigations and responses.
- Force the Legislature to always have a Department of Veterans’ Affairs.
- Force all of Florida’s counties, even those with a charter, to hold elections for all five local constitutional offices found in the state Constitution – sheriff, property appraiser, supervisor of elections, tax

collector, and Clerk of the Circuit Court.

SUPPORTERS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

66 Florida sheriffs.

A “NO” VOTE WOULD...

- Continue allowing the Legislature to set a start date for its lawmaking session in even-numbered years.
- Reject a constitutionally mandated Office of Security and Counterterrorism under the FDLE (Florida Department of Law Enforcement).
- Reject a constitutionally mandated Department of Veterans’ Affairs, allowing the Legislature to determine if Florida should have such a department (which it currently does).
- Allow Florida’s charter counties to continue determining the duties of five county offices identified in the state Constitution, and whether those offices should be elected posts.

OPPONENTS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

League of Women Voters of Florida.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FLORIDA CONSTITUTION

AMENDMENT 11 (CRC)

*Property Rights;
Removal of Obsolete
Provision;
Criminal Statutes*

QUICK SUMMARY:

Repeals the state's ability to prohibit non-citizens from buying, owning and selling property; deletes a provision that forces the state to prosecute criminal suspects under the law they were originally charged under, even if the Legislature changes that law; deletes obsolete language having to do with high-speed rail in Florida.

A YES VOTE WOULD...

- Repeal a nearly century-old provision that allows the Legislature to restrict the property rights of non-citizens.
- Delete language that requires criminal suspects to be prosecuted under the provisions of the law they're accused of breaking, even if that law is changed by the Legislature. Keeps language that requires prosecution if the law is repealed.
- Delete a section of the Constitution – concerning high-speed transportation – that was repealed by voters in 2004. The language, however, was not removed.

SUPPORTERS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

Florida Chamber of Commerce.

A "NO" VOTE WOULD...

- Continue to allow the Legislature to pass laws restricting the property rights of non-citizens.
- Continue to mandate that criminal suspects be prosecuted under the law they're accused of breaking even if the state changes that law.
- Retain a section of the Constitution about high-speed transportation even though voters repealed that section in 2004.

OPPONENTS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

None.

AMENDMENT 12 (CRC)

*Lobbying and Abuse
of Office by Public
Officers*

QUICK SUMMARY:

Expands ethics rules for elected officials and government employees, notably by expanding from two to six years the time that many officials would have to wait before they could lobby state government.

A "YES" VOTE WOULD...

- Extend the ban on state lobbying by legislators and statewide elected officials from two to six years.
- Prohibit legislators and statewide elected officials from lobbying federal and local government agencies while in office.
- Prohibit top state agency employees from any lobbying while working for the state and from lobbying state government for six years after leaving their job.
- Prohibit local elected officials from getting paid to lobby anyone while in office and from lobbying their own governing body for six years

after leaving office.

- Prohibit judges from lobbying any branch of state government for six years after leaving the bench.
- Prohibit any elected official or public employee from using his or her position to gain a "disproportionate benefit," a term to be defined by the state Ethics Commission.

SUPPORTERS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

Integrity Florida; Common Cause; Florida Policy Institute.

A "NO" VOTE WOULD...

- Keep in place the current constitutional restrictions on lobbying by sitting and former government officials.

OPPONENTS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

Florida Chamber of Commerce.

AMENDMENT 13 (CRC)

Dog Racing

QUICK SUMMARY:

Bans wagering on any type of dog racing, notably greyhounds, as of Dec. 31, 2020, while continuing to allow dog tracks to continue offering other types of gambling, including poker rooms.

A "YES" VOTE WOULD...

- Ban all dog racing in Florida by Dec. 31, 2020, while allowing tracks to continue operating card rooms and slot machines.
- Result in a loss of about \$1 million in taxes and fees.

SUPPORTERS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

Grey2K USA; League of Women Voters of Florida.

A "NO" VOTE WOULD...

- Continue to allow wagering on dog racing in Florida.

OPPONENTS OF THIS AMENDMENT:

Florida Greyhound Association; Florida Chamber of Commerce.

PALM BEACH COUNTY SCHOOL REFERENDUM

Shall the School Board of Palm Beach County have authority to levy 1.00 mills of ad valorem millage dedicated for operational needs of non-charter District schools to fund school safety equipment; hire additional school police and mental health professionals; fund arts, music, physical education, career; and improve teacher pay beginning July 1, 2019, and automatically ending June 30, 2023, with oversight by the independent committee of citizens and experts?

This referendum enhances school safety, keeps arts and music education, and improves teacher pay.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT VOTING

..... **THREE WAYS TO VOTE**

BY MAIL:

Contact the Supervisor of Elections for vote by mail ballot by phone (561-656-6200), online at www.pbcelections.org, or in writing up to six days before an election. Your request is valid for two General Election cycles when you designate "All (elections) as permitted."

EARLY VOTING:

Visit any of the fifteen designated early voting sites in Palm Beach County during the fourteen days ending the Sunday before the election. Hours are 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM. Photo ID required.

ELECTION DAY:

November 6, 2018

Polls are open between 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM. You need to vote at the precinct location designated on your Voter Card. Photo ID required.

You may bring this Voters' Guide, a Sample Ballot, or notes with you into the voting booth.

..... **EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22 - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2018
(7:00 AM - 7:00 PM)

- Supervisor of Elections Office (West Palm Beach)
- Acreage Branch Library (The Acreage)
- Belle Glade Branch Library (Belle Glade)
- Boca Raton Downtown Library (Boca Raton)
- Florida Atlantic University (Boca Raton)
- Gardens Branch Library (Palm Beach Gardens)
- Hagen Ranch Road Branch Library (Delray Beach)
- Jupiter Community Center (Jupiter)
- Lantana Branch Library (Lantana)
- Ezell Hester Community Center (Boynton Beach)
- South County Civic Center (Delray Beach)
- Wellington Branch Library (Wellington)
- Wells Recreation and Community Center (Riviera Beach)
- West Boca Branch Library (Boca Raton)

TO CONFIRM THESE LOCATIONS

Go to www.pbcelections.org to find the address and directions for each early voting location.

Remember, Bad Government Officials are elected by Good People who DON'T vote.

HOW TO USE VOTE411.ORG



Enter your address to find your polling place, build your ballot with our online voters' guide and much more!

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