



SUMMIT COUNTY GENERAL ELECTION • NOVEMBER 5, 2024

# 2024 VOTER GUIDE

Published by the League of Women Voters of the Akron Area Education Fund



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Non-partisan voting information submitted by the candidates in their own words.

For a more extensive Voter Guide, visit Vote411.org.



#### A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Summit County Voters,

In collaboration with the League of Women Voters' Akron Area Education Fund, the Leagues of Women Voters of the Akron Area and Hudson are delighted to present the 2024 General Election Voter Guide. Summit County voters will be selecting candidates for various important positions at the national, state, county, and local levels during this election cycle. This guide aims to assist you in making informed decisions.

If the information you need is not included in this printed guide, please visit VOTE411.org, our online voter guide, for updated details on all races, including write-in candidates and issues. The biographical information and responses provided by candidates in this guide are presented in their own words, unedited.

We hope the 2024 Voter Guide aids you in making knowledgeable choices, whether you vote at the polls on November 5, by absentee ballot, or early at the County Board of Elections. Early voting begins on October 8.

Your vote is your power to shape the future for yourself, your family, and our democracy.

Be informed! Vote informed!

#### **Laurie Curfman**

President, LWV Akron Area

#### **Tracey Mackay**

President, LWV Hudson

# LWVAA EDUCATION FUND 2024 VOTER GUIDE

#### SUMMIT COUNTY GENERAL ELECTION – NOVEMBER 5, 2024

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#### **US President**

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

Term: Four years. Limit of two terms. Base Salary: \$400,000 per year.

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

3. The candidate must qualify for the ballot in enough states to win a majority of electoral votes.

#### Kamala Harris

Party: Democratic Campaign Website: https://kamalaharris.com/

**Facebook:** https://www.facebook.com/KamalaHarris/ **Instagram:** https://www.instagram.com/kamalaharris/

**X** (formerly Twitter): KamalaHarris

The candidate did not respond to the questions.

#### **Donald Trump**

Party: Republican Campaign Website: www.donaldjtrump.com/

**Facebook:** www.facebook.com/DonaldTrump/ **Instagram:** www.instagram.com/realdonaldtrump/

**X** (formerly Twitter): TrumpWarRoom *The candidate did not respond to the questions.* 

#### Robert Francis Kennedy Jr. (Suspended Campaign)

Party: Independent

Campaign Website: https://www.mahanow.org/Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/rfkjr

**Instagram:** https://www.instagram.com/robertfkennedyjr/

Twitter: RobertKennedyJr

The candidate did not respond to the questions.



Jill Stein
Party: Green

**Campaign Phone:** 425-691-6631

Campaign Website: www.jillstein2024.com/ Facebook: www.facebook.com/drjillstein Instagram: www.instagram.com/drjillstein/

X (formerly Twitter): DrJillStein

Q: What steps should be taken to address the high cost of living and depressed wages in America, including for families, people with disabilities, and people that are economically disadvantaged? We need an economy that works for working people, not just the wealthy and powerful. To reverse surging inequality and insecurity, we need

an Economic Bill of Rights establishing the rights to a living-wage job, guaranteed livable income, housing, healthcare, childcare, lifelong education, secure retirement, utilities, healthy food and clean water, so that all of us are guaranteed the basic security for a good life that can reach our highest potential.

A Jill Stein administration will pass a \$25 minimum wage, eliminate the sub-minimum wage loophole, pass universal rent control, cancel student and medical debt, end wage discrimination based on race, gender and other factors, and mandate paid sick and family leave as well as parental leave.

Q: What steps will you take to ensure all Americans have access to quality and affordable health care, including reproductive care and prescription drug coverage? Healthcare is a human right. We need a universal healthcare system that is equitable, comprehensive, free at point of service, and accessible to every single person in the US.

A Jill Stein administration will immediately implement National Improved Medicare for All as a precursor to establishing a UK-style National Healthcare Service which will replace private hospital, private medical practice, and private medical insurance with a publicly-owned, democratically controlled healthcare service that will guarantee healthcare as a human right to everyone in the United States. We will take the pharmaceutical industry into public ownership to provide medicines as a public good.

We will also codify Roe v. Wade and advance reproductive rights.

Q: What steps will you take to curb gun violence and build safe and healthy communities for communities disproportionally impacted by gun violence in the United States? We need to end the epidemic of gun violence with common-sense gun safety laws. A Jill Stein administration will ban the sale of assault rifles and establish a buyback program; establish mandatory waiting periods and background checks for firearm purchases; pass red flag laws for individuals who pose a danger to themselves and others; create standardized digital records of gun registrations and sales; close gun show loopholes; require firearm owners to own a high-quality gun safe to store their firearms; require firearm owners to purchase liability insurance of no less than \$1,000,000; and hold adult firearm owners criminally liable for minor children accessing and using firearms in the commission of any crime, accidental injury or death.

Q: What are the most important steps you will take to improve U.S. immigration policies, including creating an accessible path to citizenship? Immigrants' rights are human rights. It's time to completely overhaul the broken and abusive immigration system, as well as the unjust policies driving people to leave their homes. We need a comprehensive immigration policy and properly funded institutions to ensure a timely, ethical, transparent, and dignified path to citizenship for immigrants, asylum seekers, and refugees. Border policy should move away from detention and enforcement response toward humane and effective asylum processing.

A Jill Stein administration will replace ICE with an Office of Citizenship, Refugees, and Immigration Services under the Department of Labor, grant amnesty to every undocumented person, and implement a path to citizenship with expediency.

**Q:** What actions will you take to address the threats facing the United States due to climate change? We all have a human right to a livable planet with a stable climate, healthy food, clean air and water, and living soil. We need a real Green New Deal to transition rapidly from an economic system that is destroying our only home to a sustainable society built around human needs and protecting life on Earth.

Our Green New Deal will invest in renewable energy, a publicly-owned nationwide smart energy grid, clean transportation technology, energy efficiency and conservation

### **Supreme Court of Ohio**

**Q:** List your judicial experience (courts and years).

Q: What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

• Why are you running for this particular court seat?

#### **Find Out More**

Full responses from judicial candidates may be viewed at Judicial Votes Count.

www.JudicialVotesCount.org





to generate millions of good-paying jobs, rapidly phase out fossil fuels and achieve 100% clean renewable energy and zero-to-negative carbon emissions by no later than 2035.

We need to act now so that our children and future generations can not only survive, but thrive.

#### Supreme Court of Ohio - Full Term

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/01/25

To view the complete profile of candidates, visit judicialvotescount.org.



Michael Donnelly

**Party:** Democratic **Volunteer/Community Service:** (Read more at judicialvotescount.org.)

**Training and Experience:** Assistant Cuyahoga County Prosecutor, 1992-1997 Attorney, Civil Litigation, Davis & Young, Cleveland, Ohio,

1997-1999 Attorney, Civil Litigation, Climaco, Lefkowitz, Peca, Wilcox & Garofoli, Cleveland, Ohio 1999--2004 Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court Judge, 2005--2018 Associate Justice, Ohio Supreme Court, 2019 to present

**Facebook:** facebook.com/DonnellyforSupremeCourt **Education:** Graduate, Saint Ignatius High School, 1984 B.A. from John Carroll University, 1988 Juis Doctorate, Cleveland State University College of Law, 1991

Campaign Email: mikedonnelly@me.com X (formerly Twitter): Donnelly4Ohio Website: donnellyforjustice.com

Q: List your judicial experience (courts and years). Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court Judge, 2005-2018; Ohio Supreme Court, 2019 to present. During my career I held the following positions: Member/Chair OSC Commission on Professionalism; Trustee, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association; Member/VP Ohio Common Pleas Judges Association; Member, Ohio Jury Instruction Committee; Member, Ohio State Board of Bar Examiners; Member, OSC Death Penalty Task Force; OSC's liaison to the Task Force on Conviction Integrity and Post-Conviction Review.

I helped establish the nationally acclaimed Lawyer to Lawyer Mentoring Program. I was one of two Ohio judges invited to participate in the National Judicial College's "Innovative Leadership Skills for Leader- Manager Judges Project," which iempowers future leaders to improve the functionality of the judicial system. As a faculty member of the Ohio Judicial College, I teach attorneys and judges at numerous continuing-legal-education seminars on professionalism and issues related to criminal and civil justice reform and procedural fairness.

**Q:** What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge? As an assistant prosecutor and litigator who represented plaintiffs and defendants, I gained extensive experience in the wide variety of cases heard in Common Pleas Court. Trying serious felonies and negotiating plea agreements provided me with critical insight into what did and didn't work in the criminal justice system that proved invaluable when I was elected to the bench.

My work as a civil litigator taught me that "justice delayed is justice denied" is not a cliché, it is a painful truth that harms everyone involved in the civil and criminal judicial system. People iwho have personal injury claims can find themselves on the brink

of financial ruin as they wait years for their case to be tried or settled. Criminal defendants can be incarcerated for long periods pre-trial while victims and their families wait years for justice to be done. And the costs associated with complex business litigation mount exponentially as litigants endure inordinate delays.

With those factors in mind, I resolved to do everything in my power as a judge to expedite cases. I assured litigants I would be available to quickly and efficiently resolve any impasse related to discovery. I provide parties with case management orders that included ruling dates set far enough in advance of the trial date so that neither party would incur potentially unnecessary trial expense while awaiting a ruling from me and I made it a point to provide every litigant with the highest degree of trial date certainty.

Q: Why are you running for this particular court seat? I

first ran for the Supreme Court to rebuild public faith in the judicial system and to serve as an independent, impartial Justice Ohioans could trust to uphold the Constitution and ensure that every person received equal treatment under the law. I am seeking reelection to improve our justice system. The need for a strong, independent voice like mine on a court that has become increasingly politicized is greater than ever.

To combat the belief that the justice system is fundamentally unfair, I'll continue collaborating with judges, prosecutors, attorneys, elected officials, and community leaders to support the adoption of policies that will: Promote the use of data to assure equity in sentencing; Combat wrongful convictions; Close Ohio's justice gap; Eliminate backroom, false, and dark plea agreements; Make Ohio's courts more transparent, equitable, accountable, and efficient

Along with leading the reform movement during my first term, I profoundly influenced the most meaningful cases to come before the court in decades. My independent votes and opinions, including dissents that highlighted issues of law misconstrued or ignored by my colleagues, played a critical role in: Defending democracy; Preserving the right to vote on the Reproductive Freedom Amendment; Ending a multi-million-dollar First Energy surcharge; Strengthening labor rights

My allegiance to the Constitution and the people who expect and deserve nothing less than independence and equal justice under law rather than partisan politics or ideology will continue to guide my work.



Megan Shanahan

**Party:** Republican **Volunteer/Community Service:** *Read more at judicialvotescount.org.* 

**Training and Experience:** Butler County Prosecutor's Office, Assistant Prosecutor, Appellate division, (2000-2001)

Facebook: facebook.com/shanahanforohio Education: Kent State University, Bachelor of Arts (1995) The University of Cincinnati, College of Law, Juris Doctrate (2000) Campaign Email: shanahanforohio@gmail.com

Website: shanahanforohio.com

**Q:** List your judicial experience (courts & years). Hamilton County Municipal Court Judge, 2011-2015; Hamilton County Common Pleas Court Judge, 2015-Present

**Q:** What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge? I have spent more than two decades in the justice system. Prior to becomming a judge, I worked as an assistant county prosecutor for more than a decade handling every type

### **Ohio US Senate**

Q: What are your top priorities and how will you address them?

**Q:** State your position on voting and elections policy.

**Q:** State your position on immigration policy.

**Q:** State your priorities on foreign policy and national security.

**Q:** State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management.

**Q:** State your position on healthcare policy.

**Q:** What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against?



of criminal case from the lowest misdemeanor to death penalty murder cases. I also handled many civil cases in the prosecutor's office and as a city solicitor for Mt. Healthy. This combined experience gives me a rare insight into the justice system and helps my work as a judge immensely. I am the youngest of 8 children from a working class family. I understand the value of hard work. My background and professional experience has helped me become a firm but fair judge who ensures justice is done.

Q: Why are you running for this particular court seat? The most important job of a judge is to ensure justice and protect the community. I intend to continue serving our great state in this manner. As a common pleas court judge, I preside over the most serious criminal cases and most complex civil cases. As a judge, I serve as an impartial referee in the courtroom. I conduct myself with a transparent, no-nonsense, plain-spoken approach to every case. As a common pleas court judge, I have handled virtually every type of case that is heard at the Supreme Court level.

A stable and predictable legal environment is essential to allow Ohio to prosper. I am a firm believer in following what the law says, not promoting a personal or social agenda. I will strictly apply the law as it is written and adhere to the plain language of the constitution. When our Supreme Court follows this approach, a stable, predictable and equitable environment is created for Ohio residents and businesses. My professional and personal history render me highly qualified to serve as your next Ohio Supreme Court Justice.

#### Supreme Court of Ohio - Full Term

**VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1** TERM COMMENCING 01/02/25 To view the complete profile of candidates, visit judicialvotescount.org



Joseph T Deters Party: Republican

Volunteer/Community Service: (Read more at judicialvotescount.org.)

Training and Experience: 1982-1988; Assistant Hamilton County Prosecutor 1988-1992; Hamilton County Clerk of Courts 1992-1998 and 2005-2023; Hamilton County Prosecutor

1999-2004; Treasurer, State of Ohio 2023-present; Justice, Ohio Supreme Court

Campaign Email: joe@joedeters.com

**Website:** joedeters.com **Facebook:** facebook.com/VoteJoeDeters Education: B.A.; University of Cincinnati J.D.; University of Cincinnati College of Law

Q: List your judicial experience (courts & years). Ohio Supreme Court, 2023-present

Q: What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge? I spent more than 25 years as county prosecutor in a major urban county arguing cases of all types. Over that time, my office and I handled tens of thousands of felony and civil cases in local, state, and federal courts.

Q: Why are you running for this particular court seat? I am running for this seat to continue serving the people of Ohio on the Supreme Court for the full term spanning 2025-2030.



Melody J. Stewart Party: Democratic

Volunteer/Community Service: (Read more at judicialvotescount.org.)

**Training and Experience:** Justice – Supreme Court of Ohio, Judge - Ohio Court of Appeals (Eighth District), Assistant Dean for Admissions and

Financial Aid - Cleveland State University College of Law. Read more at judicialvotescount.org.

Campaign Email: stewartforohiosupremecourt@gmail.com **Website:** stewartforohiosupremecourt.com

Facebook: facebook.com/StewartforOhioSupremeCourt

X (formerly Twitter): Stewart4OhioSC

**Education:** B.M. (Bachelor of Music) – University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music. More at judicialvotescount.org.

Q: List your judicial experience (courts & years). Justice on the Supreme Court of Ohio – 2019 to present (5+ years); Judge on the Ohio Court of Appeals – 2006 to 2018 (12 years).

Q: What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge? Prior to being elected and re-elected to the Court of Appeals and then being elected to the Supreme Court – serving 17 years writing law, I had a varied legal career practicing law and teaching law. I practiced law primarily as a civil defense litigator in state and federal courts and worked in several capacities in legal and higher education for a combined 16 years. I served in multiple administrative capacities and taught courses in ethics and professional responsibility; criminal law; criminal procedure; and legal research, writing, and advocacy. In my doctoral studies, I was able to explore the intersection of law and social science – researching and writing in the areas of elder law and caregiving, and juvenile delinquency to name a couple areas of study. This prior non-judicial experience helps me to ask the right questions of lawyers and litigants, colleagues and court staff, and of myself before deciding a case. My non-judicial background has also served me well with recognizing the complexities and nuances of cases that come before us and serves as a reminder to always judge the case, not the parties.

Q: Why are you running for this particular court seat? I am currently the incumbent Justice running for re-election to the seat that I criss-crossed the State of Ohio campaigning for in 2018, that I received bipartisan support for during that campaign, and that the voters of Ohio saw fit to elect me to in 2018. I am an even stronger Justice/Public Servant now as I complete my first sixyear term on the Ohio Supreme Court. So running for re-election to the seat I currently hold is necessary to continue serving the public and our judiciary. I am the most experienced appellate jurist on the Supreme Court of Ohio.

#### Supreme Court of Ohio Unexpired Term

**VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1** UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING 12/31/26

To view the complete profile of candidates, visit judicialvotescount.org.



Lisa Forbes

Party: Democratic Volunteer/Community Service: (Read more at judicialvotescount.org.)

Training and Experience: 12/2020 to present Judge Eighth District Court of Appeals. (Read more at judicialvotescount.org.)

Campaign Email: info@ForbesForJustice.com

**Website:** ForbesForJustice.com **Facebook:** facebook.com/ForbesForJustice **Education:** Cornell University, 1981 to 1985, B.S. (Read more at judicialvotescount.org.)

**Q:** List your judicial experience (courts & years). Eighth District Court of Appeals, December 14, 2020 to present

As a judge on the court of appeals, I hear direct appeals of matters originally decided in a trial court. Three judges who have been randomly assigned sit on each panel. In preparation for oral arguments, I read and analyze the briefs submitted by the parties, along with the legal authority (case law, statutes, ordinances, regulations) governing the matter. I also analyze the evidence that was before the trial court. After oral arguments, I confer with the other panel members to decide the matter. If the parties waive oral argument, we confer on the date the oral argument would have been heard. Then, I set about to prepare an opinion or to review opinions drafted by another panel member. Where we are unable to reach concensus on either the analysis or the outcome, I draft a concurring in judgment only opinion or dissent, as appropriate. In addition, my court regularly reviews requests for en banc consideration, as well as original actions, such as writs of mandamus, procedendo and prohibition.

I had the honor of sitting by assignment on the Ohio Supreme Court when one of the justices needed to recuse from a case.

**Q:** What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge? The depth and breadth of my knowledge of the law, coupled with my understanding of the impact legal decisions have on clients, provides the right mix of experience to interpret and apply the law fairly and justly as a justice on the Ohio Supreme Court.

For 27 years I practiced law in trial and appeals courts all over Ohio, helping clients resolve disputes ranging from complex business litigation to consumer class actions to legal malpractice claims to trust and estate disputes, and more. I have represented clients in legal disputes ranging from a complex business dispute involving a \$40 million indemnification claim to helping a daughter and her stepmother divide the father's assets (and ashes) after he died. Representing individuals and businesses in a wide variety of disputes gave me deep understanding of substantive and procedural law.

I saw first hand the impact legal decisions have on parties. The first appeal I argued resulted in reversal of the trial court and entry of judgment in my client's favor. After years of litigating and a devastating jury verdict, my client was in dire straits because the trial court had not applied the law correctly. The court of appeals fixed the mistake and changed my cleint's life. I saw firsthand the importance of the court of appeals.

While in private practice, I dedicated myself to learning the intricacies of the law and understanding the impact the law has on our communities. I regularly wrote and spoke on developments in the law.

**Q:** Why are you running for this particular court seat? I am running for the Ohio Supreme Court because I want to do my part to ensure that the Ohio Supreme Court is an effective firewall protecting our democracy and the rule of law. I have the expertise in the law, experience in our community, and work ethic to bring the intellectual rigor and common sense to the Court, so that our laws are applied fairly and equitably.

Ohio needs a new justice who will stand up for all Ohioans and stand firm against political pressure. My respect for and knowledge of the intricacies of the law would enhance the work of the court.

When I ran for the Court of Appeals four years ago, I believed the greatest issue courts faced was the erosion of respect for the institution. That concern has only grown in the time I have been on the bench. In particular, partisanship has come to be accepted to explain the outcome of any particular case — not justice, not fair application of the law, not reasoned analysis.

If elected to the Ohio Supreme Court, I will commit myself to the fair and just application of the law without regard to any agenda. That includes how I will assess which cases the Court should take in for consideration, as well as how I will draft substantive opinions.



Daniel R. Hawkins

Party: Republican

**Volunteer/Community Service:** (Read more at judicialvotescount.org.) **Training and Experience:** 2001-2013: Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and Director of the Special Victims Unit for the Franklin County Prosecutor's

Office. 2013-2019: Judge of the Franklin County Municipal Court Environmental Division 2019-present: Judge of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas General Division

Campaign Email: judgedanielhawkins@gmail.com

Website: hawkinsforjustice.com

Facebook: Facebook.com/electjudgehawkins

X (formerly Twitter): Judge/Hawkins

**Education:** Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Bowling Green State University J.D. from The Ohio State University College of Law

**Q:** List your judicial experience (courts & years). Judge of the Franklin County Municipal Court Environmental Division (2013-2019); Judge of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas General Division (2019-present)

**Q:** What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge? I spent over a decade as a prosecutor in the largest county in Ohio, personally conducting over 100 jury trials over the course of my career. As Director of the Special Victims Unit for the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office, I oversaw and managed the prosecution of hundreds of crimes of violence against women and children, including sexual assaults, domestic and sexual homicides, child homicides, human trafficking, and internet child exploitation. My duties included overseeing a staff of seven assistant prosecutors and providing training to law enforcement, medical professionals, and attorneys across the state of Ohio.

**Q:** Why are you running for this particular court seat? I am running because I love this state and I want my children to grow up in an Ohio that is safe and prosperous. I believe in public service, and I would be honored to take my 20-plus years of legal and judicial experience to our state's highest court.

#### Ohio US Senate

#### VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 - TERM COMMENCING 01/03/25

Base Salary: \$174,000 Term: 6 yrs

Responsibilities: Represents the people of Ohio and the U.S. in dealing with matters of national and international importance. The general welfare should be a prime concern.



**Sherrod Brown** 

Party: Democratic

**X** (formerly Twitter): SherrodBrown

Campaign Email: info@sherrodbrown.com

Website: www.sherrodbrown.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sherrod/

Campaign Address: 3867 West Market Street St. 289 Akron, OH 44333

**Training and Experience:** United States Senator, former Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, former Ohio Secretary of State, former Member of the Ohio House of Representatives

**Education:** BA Yale University, 1974; MA Ohio State University, 1979; MPA Ohio State University, 1981

**Q:** What are your top priorities and how will you address them? My top priority is always to fight for Ohioans and the Dignity of Work. That means standing up to special interests and big corporations to level the playing field and ensure every family has a path to the middle class.

I am proud of our recent wins like passing the Butch Lewis Act, which secured the pensions of over 100,000 Ohio workers, the bipartisan PACT Act that delivered the largest expansion of veterans' healthcare in VA history, and the CHIPS Act that is bringing thousands of jobs to Ohio.

Currently, I am committed to passing the FEND Off Fentanyl Act to protect Ohioans from dangerous fentanyl and reinstating the Child Tax Credit to support working families.

**Q: State your position on voting and elections policy.** As Secretary of State, I expanded voter access and information. In the Senate, I am fighting against efforts that disenfranchise voters. I support the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and will always oppose laws that intentionally make it more difficult for people of color, seniors, students, and

low-income people to vote.

I've previously introduced the Election Security Act, which would require backup paper ballots and provide election security grants to states for cyber security, and I introduced a bill to stop states from purging voters solely due to failure to vote or to respond to a state notice. I will continue to urge my colleagues to pass meaningful voting rights legislation.

**Q: State your position on immigration policy.** Presidents of both parties have failed to secure our border. We need to get more resources and personnel to the border to support our border control agents and prevent a humanitarian crisis. I've also introduced legislation to protect our border control agents from illegal drugs and keep dangerous fentanyl out of our communities by cracking down on its illicit supply chains at their source.

**Q: State your priorities on foreign policy and national security.** I am focused on getting aid to Israel, Gaza, and Ukraine. It is time we put the politics aside and get this done. Additionally, as Chairman of the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee, I have pushed to sanction Russia for their unprovoked aggression and remove their Most Favored Nation status.

I've always fought against unfair trade policies that leave Ohio workers behind. I have stood up to presidents of both parties against bad trade deals and will continue fighting to expand manufacturing jobs in Ohio and across the nation. Recently, I successfully urged the Biden Administration to remove the trade pillar from the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework to ensure workers weren't cut out of the deal.

**Q:** State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management. I will always fight to protect our environment and Ohio's natural resources for the next generation.

I championed the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to clean up Ohio's vital water resources, fought for resources to better understand the effects of algal blooms on lakeshore communities, and worked across party lines to ensure the Army Corps of Engineers keeps the Cleveland Harbor and shipping channel clean.

We shouldn't have to choose between good environmental policy and good-paying jobs. That's why I support policies that decrease our dependence on foreign oil, safeguard our environment, and give Ohio manufacturers the tools they need to lead the renewable energy market.

**Q: State your position on healthcare policy.** I take a back seat to no one when it comes to standing up to Big Pharma – because no one should have to choose between staying healthy and paying their medical bills. That's why I am fighting to ensure all Ohioans have access to quality, affordable healthcare.

Through the IRA, we secured a \$35 cap on out-of-pocket insulin costs for all Ohioans on Medicare. President Trump also signed my legislation – the Patient Right to Know Drug Prices Act – to increase transparency on drug prices and lower costs for Ohioans.

Additionally, I refused to accept Congressional health insurance until Congress passed the ACA. I've also championed the protection of the Children's Health Insurance Program to ensure our children have quality access to care.

**Q:** What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against? No one should be denied a fair shot because of their race, who they love, or their gender and I will always oppose discrimination in any form. While working to protect individual rights, I am also focused on equal opportunities for all Ohioans by passing legislation to expand federal civil rights protections and fight LGBTQ discrimination in the housing market and the workplace.

As Chair of the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee, I am standing up to powerful banks and predatory housing investors to ensure no one is discriminated against in the financial services or housing sectors and to make sure every Ohioan can fulfill the American Dream by purchasing and owning their own home.

#### Bernie Moreno

Party: Republican

Candidate did not respond to the questions.

#### **Ohio US House District 13**

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 - TERM COMMENCING 01/03/25
Base Salary: \$174,000. Term: 2 yrs. Responsibilities: To represent the people of Ohio,
their district, and the United States in dealing with matters of national and international
importance. The general welfare should be a prime concern.



Kevin Coughlin
Party: Republican

**Training and Experience:** Business Owner - 2010 - present; State Representative 1997-2001; State Senator 2001-2011; Clerk of the Stow

Municipal Court, 2013-2015.

Campaign Address: P.O. Box 208 Bath, OH 44210

**Campaign Phone:** 330-203-1867

Campaign Email: team@kevincoughlin.com

Website: www.kevincoughlin.com X (formerly Twitter): KevinCoughlin

Facebook: facebook.com/CoughlinforCongress

Education: BA - Bowling Green State University; MPA - Bowling Green State University

**Q:** What are your top priorities and how will you address them? Securing the border, bringing down inflation, and getting the federal government under control. Completing the border wall and requiring asylum seekers to wait for their hearing outside of the US are a good start. Passing proper budgets, rolling back wasteful spending, and tax reform will help get everyday costs under control. Requiring some form of Congressional approval of all rules and regulations by the executive agencies, along with periodic renewal of rules will help bring the bureaucracy to heel. 436 agencies currently make rules that impact us all without any concern about the impact.

**Q: State your position on voting and elections policy.** Elections should be run by the states with evenly applied standards. It should be easy to vote and hard to cheat. I sponsored Ohio's election reform after the 2000 debacle and believe in voter ID. States should not be allowed to stop counting votes on election night. Ballot harvesting should be outlawed. I am not a fan of voting machines and believe paper ballots provide the most security. I support the Electoral College as it an essential feature of our republic, balancing majority rule with state rights and preventing our elections by being ruled by the tyranny of the loud.

**Q: State your position on immigration policy.** We can't have a policy as long as the border is wide open and our border agents are being forced to be customer service representatives for illegals. Return the wait-in-Mexico policy that Biden cancelled requiring asylum seekers to wait for their hearing outside the US. Reward those who have followed the rules and do not provide a path to citizenship or permanent residency for those who came here illegally. Enhance border security with the wall and technology. Allow states and local governments to enforce immigration law. Once we secure the border, we can build a system of legal immigration that works for everyone.

**Q: State your priorities on foreign policy and national security.** The United States must stay engaged in the world and its allies in security should shoulder more of the burden. When the US pulls inward, the world's troublemakers step into the vacuum, both on the ground and in international institutions. I do not support throwing American tax dollars at anything without a clear plan for success, which is lacking under Joe Biden.

**Q: State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management.** I strongly favor protecting our Great Lakes, which are a natural and economic resource for the region. I support good stewardship of the planet and believe the most practical way to do that is through market forces. Government cannot will technological breakthroughs, so I oppose mandates that ignore the realities of the moment in favor of utopian dreams. Car emissions have improved not because of mandates, but because consumers demanded it. As a result, the technology advanced. These same forces are what will define our breakthroughs going forward.

**Q: State your position on healthcare policy.** I believe in physician-led health care and do not believe insurance companies or bureaucrats should decide who lives and who dies. I served seven years as Chairman of the Ohio Senate Health Human Services & Aging

## **Ohio State Senate** and House

Q: What are your top priorities and how will you address them?

Q: What changes do you support or oppose to voting and elections policy?

Q: How should government bring economic and job opportunities to Ohio?

Q: What are your aspirations for K-12 and higher education?

• Under what circumstances should the state support or check local government?

**Q:** State your position on healthcare policy.



Committee and worked to increase access to quality health care throughout Ohio and to keep costs under control by streamlining the relationship between providers and insurers and passing tort reform. I favor allowing people to purchase private insurance with a portion of their public benefits and oppose a universal government-run health system.

**Q:** What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against? The United States Constitution, along with the preamble to the Declaration of Independence make clear that the role of our federal is to ensure the rights we all enjoy as human beings and those in the Bill of Rights. It is really, the primary role of government and I believe our existing founding documents provide such protection.



**Emilia Sykes** 

Party: Democratic

Campaign Address: Akron, OH 44309
Campaign Email: info@emiliasykesforcongress.com
Website: emiliasykesforcongress.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/EmiliaSykes
X (formerly Twitter): twitter.com/EmiliaSykesOH

**Education:** B.A. in Psychology from Kent State University, 2007; JD in Family Law from University of Florida, 2011; MPA from University of Florida, 2011

**Q:** What are your top priorities and how will you address them? My top priorities are to lower costs for everyday individuals, protect access to affordable healthcare, and fight to make sure our communities are safe for families.

**Q: State your position on voting and elections policy.** Every northeast Ohioan deserves to have their voices heard and votes counted. In Congress, Emilia will fight to make it easier for our citizens to vote by supporting H.R. 1 the For the People Act—and she will hold accountable anyone who attacks the right to a free and fair election, particularly those who advocate violently overthrowing the government, like the attack we saw on the Capitol on January 6th of last year.

**Q: State your position on immigration policy.** Our immigration system is broken and we need a bipartisan, comprehensive solution that stops ignoring the problem. In Congress Emilia will fight to ensure our borders are safe and secure, keeping out dangerous drugs and weapons, while also recognizing decency and humanity is required to those who seek the land of opportunity we call home. She'll also be a champion for those who come here legally, pay taxes and play by the rules because they deserve the same rights and protections as everyone else.

**Q:** State your priorities on foreign policy and national security. I'm committed to a national security strategy that secures our nation and advances the cause of democracy at home and around the world. I am focused on working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to combat national security threats and working with our allies around the world to promote democracy and freedom. Leadership from the United States; when people around the world are demanding freedom and democracy over authoritarianism, we have a responsibility to lend our support.

**Q:** State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management. Emilia knows that access to clean water, clean air, and a clean environment is a basic human right—but that we can fight for those rights while also creating good-paying

jobs. In Congress, Emilia will support environmentally friendly policies that support our economy, allow our National parks to thrive, and support native wildlife. By protecting our environment we can maintain a place where our children and families can live a healthy life, enjoy our local natural resources and promote tourism.

**Q: State your position on healthcare policy.** Healthcare is far too expensive and all northeast Ohioans deserve access to quality, affordable healthcare and prescription drugs that won't break the bank. In Congress, Emilia will push to cap the cost of lifesaving medications such as insulin, make sure there are affordable long-term care options for Ohioans, and continue her work on eliminating systemic biases that lead to health inequities.

**Q:** What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against? I supports federal passage of the Equal Rights Act (ERA), equal pay, and the Equality Act to enshrine federal equality protections into law.

#### **Ohio State Senate District 28**

#### VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/01/25

The information on this page reflects Ohio's new State Senate and State House districts that determine elections in 2024 and go into effect in 2025, which may be different from your current districts.

### Jon Leissler Party: Republican Candidate did not respond to the questions.



Casey Weinstein
Party: Democratic

Campaign Email: Casey@CaseyForOhio.com Campaign Address: PO Box 874 Hudson, OH 44236

Campaign Phone: 330-906-9826 Website: caseyforohio.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/RepWeinstein

X (formerly Twitter): RepWeinstein

**Education:** United States Air Force Academy B.S., Management, The Ohio State University Fisher College of Business MBA **Volunteer/Community Service:** Board of Directors Temple Israel Dayton 2012-2013. Vice President, Programs, Dayton-Wright Chapter AFCEA International

Training and Experience: Rep. Weinstein was first elected to Hudson City Council in 2015. In 2018, he was elected to his first term in the Ohio House of Representatives where he is currently serving his 3rd term. Rep. Weinstein has a long history of working across the aisle to deliver for his constituents. In his day job, Rep. Weinstein is a Director for ServiceNow, overseeing sales and business development for the U.S. Air Force, Space Force, and Joint Forces. He maintains a Top Secret Clearance.

Q: What are your top priorities and how will you address them? During my time in the House, I helped pass a budget that continues the Fair School Funding Plan using FY22 data, increases the disadvantaged pupil impact aid phase-in, and increases the minimum transportation state share percentage. I will continue to find bipartisan solutions to protect public schools. In 2023, Ohioans voted to enshrine abortion rights into our Constitution. Even still, we have legislators who state their intent to subvert the

## **Ohio State Senate** and House

Q: State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management?

• What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against?

#### **VOTING BY MAIL**

If you vote by mail, send your application as soon as possible. When you receive your ballot, mail or drop it off at the Summit County Board of Elections. Your ballot must be postmarked no later than November 4.

Summit County Board of Elections 470 Grant St. Akron, OH 44311



will of the people. I will always stand for reproductive freedom. As a legislator, my duty is to represent the interests of the people in my district. I'm proud of the \$13million in capital investments I was able to secure for the district including funds for safety services, healthcare, and schools.

**Q:** What changes do you support or oppose to voting and elections policy? I vehemently oppose any attempts to restrict access to voting. Last year we fought back as the GOP attempted to target direct democracy, aiming to limit ways that voters can pass ballot measures. I proudly stand with the pro-democracy movement to press for legislation to boost voting access.

Q: How should government bring economic and job opportunities to Ohio? Embracing clean energy not only aligns with our economic interests but also proves to be financially viable. Government initiatives aimed at expediting the transition to cleaner energy sources promise to lower future energy expenses while concurrently fostering job creation. Such policies uphold growth in both advanced and developing economies.

**Q:** What are your aspirations for K-12 and higher education? I believe in fostering a strong framework for public education excellence, empowering students to thrive academically and personally, and championing the voices and welfare of our valued education professionals. I advocate for reduced class sizes, increased support services and policy that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion. I am also a strong proponent of universal Pre-K.

**Q:** Under what circumstances should the state support or check local government? As a former City Councilman, I support home rule and am generally opposed to government overreach. However, certain individual liberties should be universally protected by the state.

**Q: State your position on healthcare policy.** I strive to empower healthcare workers, steadfastly championing their rights, advancing professional standards, and advocating for high-quality care for every patient in Ohio, while nurturing a united professional union community.

**Q:** State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management? I am proud to support the H2Ohio program geared at long term, sustainable, science-based, and cost effective protection of Ohio's water resources. In addition, my daughter Nora and son Brady suffer from asthma and poor air quality exacerbates their breathing issues. I am a vocal proponent of clean energy and reducing pollution to make sure the air is clean and safe for my family and for yours.

**Q:** What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against? The government plays a crucial role in ensuring that no person is discriminated against. This role typically involves establishing and enforcing laws and regulations that protect individuals from discrimination based on factors such as race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability, and other protected characteristics.

#### **Ohio State House District 31**

#### VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/01/25

The information on this page reflects Ohio's new State Senate and State House districts that determine elections in 2024 and go into effect in 2025, which may be different from your current districts.

#### Anthony J. Harris

Party: Democratic

Candidate did not respond to the questions.



#### **Bill Roemer**

Party: Republican

**Training and Experience:** Certified Public Accountant, 6 year State Representative and Chair of the Ways and Means Commitee, former Summit County Council at large member, former Vice President of the Summit Educational Service Center,

15 year substitute teacher, retired Director of Sales for AT&T.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/bill.roemer.9/

Campaign Email: info@billroemer.com

**Education:** Case Western Reserve University: Master of Business Administration in Finance, Bachelor of Science in Accounting Summa Cum Laude

**Campaign Phone:** 216-544-3809

**Volunteer/Community Service:** Recognized by the Greater Akron Baseball Hall of Fame with the Glenn "Speed" Award for 27 years contributions to youth baseball, 15 year soccer coach.

**Website:** BillRoemer.com

X (formerly Twitter):: x.com/RoemerBill

Campaign Address: 3616 Southern Rd. Richfield, OH 44286

**Q:** What are your top priorities and how will you address them? I have strived for the last 6 years to make Ohio and the 31st District the best place to live and raise a family in the United States.

To do this I have strongly supported increased funding for both public schools and health care workers. I have co-sponsored reductions in taxes including the largest decrease in personal income taxes in Ohio's history. I have advocated for Northeast Ohio by working to reduce catalytic convertor theft and eliminate the burdensome E-Check.

**Q:** What changes do you support or oppose to voting and elections policy? I believe that it should be easy to vote in Ohio but hard to cheat.

**Q:** How should government bring economic and job opportunities to Ohio? Ohio's tax structure needs to continue to be revised to make it easier for both families and seniors to continue to live and thrive. Through continued investment by Ohio in schools, families with children continue to succeed.

**Q:** What are your aspirations for K-12 and higher education? Having worked as a classroom teacher for 3 1/2 years and also serving on the Summit Educational Service Center, I have been very involved in education for years. I co-sponsored the Fair School Funding bill which allocated an additional \$1,000,000,000 to public schools. At the same time, we have worked to eliminate burdensome regulations.

**Q:** Under what circumstances should the state support or check local government? In Ohio, we have home rule. I strongly support home rule when it does not adversely impact intrastate commerce.

**Q: State your position on healthcare policy.** Having served as the Chair of the Ohio House Finance Sub Committee on Health and Human Services, I have worked to craft health care reform in Ohio. One of my major accomplishments was to implement the PACE program which allows vulnerable seniors to stay in their homes while receiving outstanding health care. This was a win-win-win for the senior citizen, family and Ohio has it saves the state \$30,000,000 per year while offering superior health care benefiting the patient and the patient's family.

**Q:** State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management? I believe that sound environmental policy can work hand in hand with natural resource management. My family has personally protected our ecologically sensitive multigenerational farm for 93 years from development.

**Q:** What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against? Discrimination in any form is reprehensible. It the role of the government to create and maintain a fair and impartial playing field which affords an equal opportunity for success for all individuals.

#### **Ohio State House District 32**

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 - TERM COMMENCING 01/01/25 The information on this page reflects Ohio's new State Senate and State House districts that determine elections in 2024 and go into effect in 2025, which may be different from your current districts.

Jack Daniels
Party: Republican
Candidate did not respond to the questions.



Jim J. Colopy
Party: Democratic
Facebook: www.facebook.com/ColopyForOhio/
Campaign Address: 1393 Beechnut Dr. Akron, OH 44312
Volunteer/Community Service: City of Green Community Volunteer
Program; Summit County Probate Court - Volunteer Guardianship
Program

**Training and Experience:** Served 10 years on Green City Council, including a term as Council President.

**Education:** Graduate of Green High School; Bachelors degree from Kent State University **Campaign Email:** info@colopyforohio.com **Website:** www.colopyforohio.com

**Q:** What are your top priorities and how will you address them? I believe we need representation that is laser-focused on education, job creation and issues that affect everyday workers, seniors, families and young Ohioans - such as education, job creation, raising our quality of life, and protecting the rights of ALL citizens. I will not be distracted by efforts to further divide us with radical cultural issues or extremist agendas.

Now more than ever, Ohio needs leaders who are willing to put egos, petty politics aside in favor of consensus-building and collaboration. My track record as a Green City Council member and Council president demonstrates that I can work with both sides to deliver results. As State Representative, I will put my experience in public service to work for the people every day.

**Q:** What changes do you support or oppose to voting and elections policy? First and foremost, I want to make it easier for people to vote - not harder. I strongly oppose unnecessary purging of voter rolls, additional roadblocks to voting, reductions to early voting opportunities, and a shameful redistricting process that puts voters last and limits competition. I support expanded early voting opportunities and same-day voter registration. These are common sense measures that allow the process of voting to be kept secure while remaining fair and accessible to all citizens.

**Q:** How should government bring economic and job opportunities to Ohio? When I speak to small businesses throughout the 32nd State House District, the number one issue that comes up is access to labor. As a state, we must make the investment into workforce development now in order to meet the needs of the major employers where they are. This includes developing vocational and apprenticeship programs that will give young people access to jobs that allow them to start a family, buy a house and enjoy a reasonable quality of life. I would seek to expand collaboration with labor organizations that offer effective apprenticeship programs that lead to living-wage jobs that are in demand.

**Q:** What are your aspirations for K-12 and higher education? Education is an issue near and dear to me. Both my mother and grandmother served full careers as teachers in Akron public schools. I have seen the impact our hardworking teachers can have on children's lives, as well as the many challenges they face on a daily basis. I believe we need to provide the support and competitive pay our frontline educators deserve. Instead of of steering vital resources to for-profit, private charter schools that are not held to the same standards as public schools, we need to reinvest in top-notch education for all. Lastly, numerous studies show that quality pre-K greatly increases the odds of a child succeeding later in life. Adoption of universal pre-K is something Ohio can and should do now.

**Q:** Under what circumstances should the state support or check local government? As a former Green City Council member for 10 years, I have seen the power and effectiveness of our system of local home-rule government to develop solutions to address local problems first-hand. I am troubled by the trends from recent Ohio General Assemblies to both supersede our time-honored principle of home-rule on arbitrary matters, while also undercutting the ability of local public officials to do their jobs effectively and provide the vital services Ohioans want, need, and expect. The draconian cuts to local government funds, for example, had a negative impact on every jurisdiction in my district and countless others throughout the state.

**Q: State your position on healthcare policy.** Broadly speaking, our healthcare policy should be driven by science, facts, and medical professionals. Healthcare decisions should be made between patients and their doctors – period. Like the vast majority of voters in my district and statewide, I opposed the extremist law to limit a woman's right to choose.

I would work to expand access to quality, affordable healthcare in Ohio – especially when the federal government provides resources for the state to do so. As the son of a local dentist who operated in the Firestone Park neighborhood of Akron, I understand the importance of dental care and know that many could benefit from increased coverage options for dental and vision.

**Q:** State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management? I would love to see Ohio become a national leader in forging state-level solutions to the climate change crisis facing our global community. By investing in businesses and technologies in the renewable energy sector, Ohio could reduce our carbon footprint while spurring new, high-paying "green-collar jobs" at the same time. As a Green City Council member, I was proud to support long term investments in a stellar parks system that increases the quality of life for residents, and for helping secure the protection of the unique and pristine Singer Lake Bog with an innovative solution made possible by local officials working in earnest for the benefit of generations to come.

**Q:** What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against? Sadly, the current Ohio General Assembly has all too often proven to be the very problem when it comes to discrimination in this state – proactively (and needlessly) legislating discrimination rather than protecting the rights of all, especially the most vulnerable among us.

We must collectively demand better from our representatives. When elected officials ignore their oath to uphold the U.S. Constitution, including the equal protection clause in the 14th Amendment, they need to be held accountable at the polls for that unacceptable behavior. Fair and competitive districts would empower voters to make these corrections over time, and I am heartened that voters may have an opportunity to demand fair districts soon.

#### **Ohio State House District 33**

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/01/25

The information on this page reflects Ohio's new State Senate and State House districts that determine elections in 2024 and go into effect in 2025, which may be different from your current districts.

#### **Veronica Sims**

Party: Democratic

Candidate did not respond to the questions.

#### **Ohio State House District 34**

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/01/25

The information on this page reflects Ohio's new State Senate and State House districts that determine elections in 2024 and go into effect in 2025, which may be different from your current districts.



**Adam Bozic** 

Party: Republican

Training and Experience: United States Marine Corps Veteran, Past

Tallmadge Parks & Recreation Assistant Superintendent

Volunteer/Community Service: Past Tallmadge United Methodist Men -

President, Youth Soccer Coach

Education: B.S. - Sport Management / M.S. - Sport Administration

Website: www.bozicforoffice.com Campaign Phone: 330-414-9310

Campaign Email: Press@bozicforoffice.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BozicforOffice?mibextid=Z

- **Q:** What are your top priorities and how will you address them? My top priorities are economic recovery, public safety and tax reform. To boost economic recovery, I will promote policies that support small businesses, invest in infrastructure projects, and create job training programs to equip our workforce for the future. Help relieve the public safety officer shortage by lowering the minimum age requirement for public safety officers. A comprehensive review of our property tax system, focusing on providing relief to low- and middle-income homeowners while maintaining essential services. Collaborating with local governments and community stakeholders, we can improve safety and fiscal responsibility, ensuring a thriving, secure community for all residents.
- **Q:** What changes do you support or oppose to voting and elections policy? As a political conservative, I support measures that enhance the integrity and security of our voting processes. This includes advocating for strict voter ID laws to ensure that only eligible citizens cast ballots, maintaining transparent and accountable voting systems, and opposing efforts that may lead to voter fraud or undermine election integrity. I also believe in streamlining the election process while respecting states' rights to determine their own voting rules, ultimately prioritizing a robust and secure electoral system that reflects the will of the people.
- **Q:** How should government bring economic and job opportunities to Ohio? The government can bring economic and job opportunities to Ohio by fostering a probusiness environment that encourages entrepreneurship and attracts investments. This can be achieved through tax incentives for small businesses, reducing regulatory burdens, and investing in infrastructure improvements. Additionally, enhancing workforce development programs to align skills training with market needs, collaborating with local universities and industries, and promoting innovation in sectors like manufacturing and technology can create sustainable job growth. Furthermore, supporting local agriculture and energy initiatives can diversify the economy and provide a solid foundation for long-term prosperity.

**Q:** What are your aspirations for K-12 and higher education? My aspirations for K-12 and higher education center around ensuring that all students receive a quality education that prepares them for the future while respecting parental rights and local control. I oppose over-testing, as it often detracts from real learning and puts undue pressure on students and teachers. Instead, I advocate for a balanced approach that prioritizes critical thinking, vocational training, and life skills alongside a rigorous academic curriculum. For higher education, I support measures that make college more affordable and accessible, including promoting alternative pathways like trade schools and apprenticeships, which can provide valuable skills without the burdensome debt often associated with traditional degrees.

**Q:** Under what circumstances should the state support or check local government? The state should support local government when it fosters policies that align with the values and needs of the community, particularly in areas of public safety, infrastructure, and education. However, the state must also intervene when local governments enact measures that overstep constitutional boundaries, infringe on individual liberties, or impose excessive regulations that hinder economic growth. Additionally, in instances where local policies lead to significant budgetary mismanagement or fiscal irresponsibility, the state has a responsibility to step in and ensure accountability. The goal should be to strike a balance that promotes local autonomy while safeguarding the principles of good governance and fiscal responsibility.

**Q: State your position on healthcare policy.** Healthcare policy should emphasize the importance of free-market principles, individual choice, and personal responsibility. Healthcare should primarily be managed between patients and providers without excessive government intervention. Promoting competition among insurance providers can lead to more affordable options and improved quality of care. While it's crucial to ensure that vulnerable populations have access to care, I advocate for reforms that focus on reducing costs, improving efficiency, and boosting innovation, rather than expanding government run programs that can lead to increased taxes and bureaucratic inefficiencies. Goal is to create a healthcare system that prioritizes patient autonomy and encourages healthy lifestyles.

Q: State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management? My approach to environmental policy and natural resource management emphasizes the balance between responsible stewardship and economic growth. I believe that we have a duty to protect our natural resources for future generations, promoting conservation efforts that are practical and rooted in sound science. Local and state initiatives can effectively address environmental challenges without imposing heavy-handed regulations that stifle innovation and job creation. Embracing a free-market approach can lead to advances in technology that enhance energy efficiency and promote cleaner energy solutions, like natural gas and nuclear power, while still supporting traditional energy industries such as coal and oil.

**Q:** What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against? I believe that the government has a fundamental role in protecting individuals from discrimination through the enforcement of existing laws that uphold civil rights. It is essential for the government to ensure that everyone is treated equally under the law, regardless of race, gender, or religion.



Derrick Hall

Party: Democratic

**Training and Experience:** Assistant Vice President, Accountable Care & Payment Innovation, Integra Connect; Captain, U.S Army Reserve, JAG officer, System Director, Bundled Care & Episode Based Payment, Summa Health,

Campaign Address: 844 Merriman Rd, Akron, Ohio, 44303

Volunteer/Community Service: Akron Public Schools Board of Education, Boys & Girls Club of Northeast Ohio Board of Advisors, Stan Hywet Board of Directors, Planned Parenthood of Greater Ohio Board of Directors, Scouts BSA Board of Directors

Education: Bachelor of Science, Chemistry, University of Akron; Doctor of Pharmacy, The Ohio State University, Juris Doctor, The Ohio State University, MBA, The Ohio State University, Master's Clinical Service Operations (MCSO), Harvard Medical School

Website: DerrickHallForOhio.com

Campaign Phone: 330-958-8059

## **Ohio State Senate** and House

Q: What are your top priorities and how will you address them?

Q: What changes do you support or oppose to voting and elections policy?

Q: How should government bring economic and job opportunities to Ohio?

• What are your aspirations for K-12 and higher education?

Q: Under what circumstances should the state support or check local government?

**Q:** State your position on healthcare policy.



Campaign Email: Derrick@DerrickHallForOhio.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/DerrickHall2019/

Q: What are your top priorities and how will you address them? Our top priorities include working to protect reproductive freedom, stronger & safer schools, improving healthcare access, environmental sustainability, growing small businesses, and enhancing services for our seniors. If elected our first step would be to establish a District 34 Leadership Council composed of elected officials and engaged residents that would serve as partners in determining the order in which we tackle our districts problems and areas of opportunity.

Q: What changes do you support or oppose to voting and elections policy? Simply put, we must end gerrymandering. It does not just lead to super majorities, it also leads to more extreme politics. We must support initiatives such as Citizens Not Politicians and consider others as they arise to tackle this problem. It is also important that we continue the work to broaden voter participation in elections. State supported voter registration, automatic registration, same day voter registration, expanded days/times for early voting are all changes that should be supported to broaden access to our democracy.

**Q:** How should government bring economic and job opportunities to Ohio? State funding and support for small business and technology incubators are the key to creating homegrown jobs that can stay in Ohio. The jobs of the future will arise from the creation of these fertile, creative, and collaborative environments.

Additionally, the attraction of new employers will require greater alignment and cooperation between our schools, universities, trade schools, and businesses. This alignment is critical to creating a workforce that will support current employers and attract new employers.

Finally, it is important that we also focus on growing our existing small businesses. These small businesses are the lifeblood of our communities. This can be done in part by revisiting our taxation scheme for small businesses.

**Q:** What are your aspirations for K-12 and higher education? K-12 education: our aspirations include ensuring and supporting stronger and safer schools. This can be accomplished in part by continuing and expanding state funded school safety grants. We must also let our teachers teach again. We must reduce the

excessive standardized testing currently required.

It is also critical that we keep working to ensure fair school funding, adequate state support for capital expenditures, and

reforming the state voucher program.

Higher Education: it is critical that the state facilitate greater communication and connection between state funded universities and our business community. Ohio's best jobs should be filled by graduates of Ohio's universities. We must also work to revitalize our trade community.

**Q:** Under what circumstances should the state support or check local government? The Ohio State Constitution is the governing document. The state should check local government if/ when local governments engage in activities that violate the state and/or US Constitution.

**Q: State your position on healthcare policy.** We must continue to protect reproductive freedom. The Issue 1 victory in November

must be upheld. Work is already underway to overturn the Issue 1 win.

We also confuse healthcare coverage and healthcare access. We must improve healthcare access. This can be achieved in part by setting Medicaid reimbursement equal to Medicare reimbursement. This type of payment reform will help our struggling health systems to provide healthcare to our working poor.

We must also work to update the Medicaid Fee Schedule which also serves as a barrier to access.

Q: State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management? Our position can be stated in four parts.

- 1) Protect the integrity of our public lands/parks;
- 2) Ensure clean water from source to tap; 3) Proactively support the expansion of solar/wind power initiatives; 4) The expansion of incentives for homeowners and business owners to invest in environmental sustainability measures.

**Q:** What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against? The government has always had the primary responsibility to ensure no person is discriminated against. The government must continue to protect against and not support the tyranny of the majority.

#### **Ohio State House District 35**

#### VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/01/25

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Mark Curtis
Party: Democratic

**Volunteer/Community Service:** Volunteer coach in Twinsburg's baseball, basketball, and football recreation leagues

**Training and Experience:** 30 years experience in higher education administration and public K-12

education. Served 4 years as a board member for the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center. Served 8 years as an elected Board Member of Twinsburg City Schools. Served as the board's legislative liaison. Served on various committees of the Ohio School Boards Association including Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion as well as the Federal Legislative Advocacy Group Committee. I have lobbied on both the state and federal level.

Campaign Address: 10472 Woodchuck Ct. Twinsburg, Ohio 44087

**Campaign Phone:** 216-701-5861

Campaign Email: curtis4ohio@yahoo.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=6155481994

X (formerly Twitter): Curtis74113

**Education:** Otterbein University-Bachelors, Hiram College-Masters

**Q:** What are your top priorities and how will you address them? My greatest priority is increasing investment in public education and eliminating tax dollars funding private schools. I am also very concerned with attacks on marginalized populations and government involvement in decisions that should be made by individuals and their doctors. The general assembly has continued siphon public dollars to fund private, unaccountable schools when

## 9th District Court of Appeals

**Q:** List your judicial experience (courts and years).

Q: What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

**Q:** Why are you running for this particular court seat?

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90% of students in Ohio attend public schools. I will work to end this unconstitutional practice and instead focus on ensuring our public schools have the resources needed to deliver quality education to the vast majority of our students. I will also work to draft policy that protects our most vulnerable students from discrimination.

Q: What changes do you support or oppose to voting and elections policy? I support expanding access to voting by increasing the number of ballot drop boxes statewide as well as allowing same day voter registration. I oppose the current arbitrary practice of purging voters from the rolls. Ohio has some of the most stringent rules for voting which disenfranchises many and discourages them from voting. Voting is a fundamental constitutional right and laws should make it easier, not more difficult to participate. As a African-American, my ancestors fought and died for the right to vote. It is sad that this continues in the 21st century, however, I intend to continue this fight.

Q: How should government bring economic and job opportunities to Ohio? Government must first ensure that public education is designed to obtain the necessary skills needed to compete in a global society. This requires more focus on instruction and skill building instead of constant standardized tests that do not measure what students know and are able to do. Government can provide economic incentives to companies who work with public schools to create articulation agreements that provide a pathway to internships and apprenticeships upon graduation. Not all students go to college. It is important that they know what skills and competencies companies need that will allow a seamless transition into the workforce.

**Q:** What are your aspirations for K-12 and higher education? I would work to ensure the General Assembly honors their commitment to fully fund the Fair School Funding model that is currently being phased in. This is currently the closest Ohio has ever been in addressing funding disparities in public K-12 education. I hope to increase state aide to public and private institutions of high learning. As tuition costs continue to increase, we must work to lessen reliance on student loans.

Q: Under what circumstances should the state support or check local government? I believe the state has an obligation to honor home rule and allow local control whenever possible. When the rights of it's citizens in infringed upon, I believe government also has a responsibility to act to protect those rights. I believe it was wrong for the government to diminish the role of the State Board of Education and take place control of our Ohio Department of Education under the Governor. This act took away the ability of those who were duly elected to perform their duties. As such, it represents a gross overreach and abuse by the Government.

**Q: State your position on healthcare policy.** I believe decisions involving personal healthcare should be made by the individual and their healthcare provider. I believe the Government has no business dictating what anyone does with their body. Voters resounding defeated Issue 1 in the spring and overwhelming supported the measure in the fall. Our elected officials in the statehouse should respect the will of the people, however this is currently not the case. Overriding the Governors veto of HB 68 is just another example of government taking healthcare decisions out of the hands of parents and into the hands of politicians. This is wrong, plain and simple.

**Q:** State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management? We must do more to become less reliant on fossil fuels and continue to invest more in renewal energy if we are to survive. Global warming is real and we are seeing the effects everyday. Communities must also continue to recycle to further reduce our carbon footprint. I believe government can and should provide economic incentives to companies who work to transition away from practices that harm the environment. Government should do more to provide tax incentives to those who purchase solar panels or buy electric vehicles. These commitments will extend our life expectancy as well as provide a better life for our children.

Q: What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against? Government must ensure all institutions foster an environment of inclusion. Currently, there are policies being drafted to discourage and penalize institutions that embrace the practice of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Government has a responsibility to protect ALL of it's citizens from discrimination. When elected officials fail to uphold this responsibility, they must be removed. Gerrymandering has unfortunately allowed discriminatory laws to be passed with little to no accountability. Voters must act to rectify this problem and restore integrity and protect our most vulnerable marginalized populations.



**Steve Demetriou** 

Party: Republican

**Volunteer/Community Service:** I serve on the Parish Council at my church. I am also a member of VFW Post 6519.

**Training and Experience:** I served for five years as an active duty infantry officer in the Army.

During that time I completed Ranger and Airborne training, and led a reconnaissance platoon in Afghanistan. After the military I started, led, and grew a business from just three employees to over sixty, which I successfully sold. I currently own and run businesses with my family. I am also serving my first term as a State Representative. My wife, Carly, and I are blessed with three boys under the age of 4.

**Campaign Address:** 8472 E. Washington St., Suite 226, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023

**Campaign Phone:** (216) 200-6862

Campaign Email: info@steveforohiohouse.com

Website: steveforohiohouse.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SteveforOhioHouse/

**X** (**formerly Twitter**): steve4ohiohouse

**Education:** B.S., Economics - U.S. Military Academy at West Point

Q: What are your top priorities and how will you address

them? As your state representative, my top priority is providing excellent customer service to my constituents. I've focused on addressing property taxes, supporting small businesses, and enhancing community safety. I sponsored HB 57, which ties the homestead exemption to inflation to help seniors and disabled veterans save on property taxes. I also introduced HB 435 to create a grant program for small manufacturing businesses to modernize and upskill. Additionally, I supported funding for modernizing our 911 platform and providing more training resources for law enforcement. Moving forward, I aim to explore expanding the homestead exemption and owner-occupancy credit for more property tax relief.

**Q:** What changes do you support or oppose to voting and elections policy? I supported initiatives and legislation that ensure only American citizens can vote in Ohio elections and contribute to candidate and ballot initiative committees. I'm committed to advancing common-sense election policies like these. Looking ahead, I'd like to explore ways to increase civic engagement and transparency in our elections process by getting more Ohioans involved in elections administration through our local boards of election.

**Q:** How should government bring economic and job opportunities to Ohio? As a business owner, I'm passionate about making Ohio a prime destination for business growth. We have strong economic development resources like the Ohio Department of Development, JobsOhio, and the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, which are excellent at attracting and supporting businesses. I value connecting local business owners with these resources. However, Ohio needs a friendlier tax environment. To attract and retain businesses, we must reduce or eliminate state income taxes, rising property taxes, municipal income taxes, and the corporate activities tax. Providing tax relief is crucial for incentivizing job creation and economic growth in Ohio.

**Q:** What are your aspirations for K-12 and higher education? I am dedicated to prioritizing students and families in our education system. I backed additional funding for career technical schools, and supported raising the starting salaries for teachers. I also advocated for the expansion of Ohio's school choice programs, including options for special needs students. Recently, the General Assembly, with my support, allocated an additional \$2 billion annually to K-12 schools. Despite progress, more work is needed to fairly distribute funds across districts. Additionally, I am concerned about rising antisemitism on college campuses and will continue to work with Jewish organizations to address this issue.

**Q:** Under what circumstances should the state support or check local government? The main concern I've heard about empowering local government this General Assembly is property zoning. In places like Geauga County, residents value local officials' control over zoning regulations. I agree—local governments should manage their own zoning without state interference. Some local zoning and permitting departments are overwhelmed by increased demand. I'm committed to finding solutions to ease these burdens, potentially by directing more resources to local departments.

**Q: State your position on healthcare policy.** Serving on the Ohio House Public Health Committee has been enlightening, giving me firsthand insight into key healthcare issues facing Ohioans. We've found bipartisan support for increasing healthcare cost transparency and supporting healthcare workers. I co-sponsored HB 49, the Hospital Price Transparency Act, to help prevent surprise medical bills by ensuring upfront cost estimates for procedures. I also voted for HB 452 to protect healthcare workers from rising workplace violence. There is still much work to do in Ohio to ensure healthcare is affordable and efficient for both patients and workers.

**Q:** State your position on environmental policy and natural resource management? I'm excited about Northeast Ohio's future, particularly with our access to a large body of fresh water in Lake Erie. I co-sponsored HCR 14 to urge Congress to continue to provide resources for Lake Erie and HB 308 to classify nuclear energy as green, recognizing its safety and effectiveness. I support protecting Ohio's environment and natural resources, provided it doesn't increase costs or hinder economic growth.

**Q:** What role, if any, should government take to ensure no person is discriminated against? The 14th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States ensures that every American and Ohioan has equal protection under the law. I will continue to support, defend, and uphold the Constitutions of the United States and Ohio on behalf of my constituents.

#### 9th District Court of Appeals Judge

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 02/09/25 To learn more about the judicial candidates, please visit Judicial Votes Count at judicialvotescount.org.



Steve Elliott

Party: Democratic

Campaign Email: steveelliottforjudge@gmail.com

**Education:** BA in Sociology, Bowling Green State University 1992 - 1996, Specialty in Criminology; Juris Doctor University of Akron School of Law 2000 - 2003

Training/Experience: Chief Magistrate Summit County Probate Court - January 2023 to Present; Magistrate Summit County Probate Court July 2021 - January 2023; Magistrate and Court Investigator Summit County Probate Court October 2018 - July 2021; Ohio Adult Parole Authority December 2016 - October 2018; Practicing Trial Attorney in Summit County 2003 - 2018; Central Intelligence Agency Federal Officer November 1998 - August 2000; Ohio Adult Parole Authority February 1997 - November 1998

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SElliottForJudge

**Q:** List your judicial experience (courts and years). January 2023 to Present - Chief Magistrate Summit County Probate Court; October 2018 to January 2023 - Magistrate Summit County Probate Court

**Q:** What non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge? For 15 years as a practicing attorney, I appeared in courts of appeals in Ohio and in criminal and civil matters in trial courts throughout Ohio, California, Missouri, Alabama, and Illinois. As a lawyer I handled commercial and real estate litigation. I also helped families in estate planning and probate law.

In each case, I guided clients through an often-confusing process. An important aspect of legal representation is being able to clearly and concisely communicate orally and in writing. I honed those skills as a practitioner, and my ability to write professional and complete motions, briefs and other documents has prepared me to do the same as a court of appeals judge.

My years of experience as a law enforcement officer led me to analyze and understand people. At the CIA in Langley, Virginia, I oversaw security operations, interviewed people and investigated potential threats to the CIA and the United States, receiving the... See complete response at www.Judicialvotescount.org.

**Q:** Why are you running for this particular court seat? Service to my community informs my entire professional career and personal life. As a judge, I can continue this service. Court of appeals judges have the unique opportunity to ensure that decisions made by trial courts are legally correct so that people are treated equally, and in a fair and consistent manner. The court of appeals sets precedent that must be followed and my experience on the bench has prepared me to make these important decisions. As a Magistrate in Judge Elinore Marsh Stormer's Probate Court I have extensive experience dealing with family and complex legal issues that arise after someone dies. I apply the case law and statutes to make fair, just, impartial, and honest decisions that follow the law. This problem-solving experience has prepared me to take the next step in my judicial career. I still believe that politics has seeped into our Judiciary. I reject that. As a judge, I want to ensure that our judicial... *See complete response at www. Judicialvotescount. org*.



Jennifer Hensal

Party: Republican

Campaign Email: judgejenniferhensal@gmail.com

**Education:** J.D. University of Toledo, College of Law; B.A. University of Akron

**Training/Experience:** Appellate Judge, Ohio Court of Appeals, Ninth Appellate District; Visiting Judge, Ohio Supreme Court; Prosecutor, City

of Wadsworth and City of Medina; Assistant Director of Law, City of Wadsworth, Village of Seville and Village of Lodi; Private practice of law counseling corporate, public, and individual clients in state and federal litigation both in and out of the State of Ohio; Court appointed guardian; lecturer and educator at various locations; Administrative Judge, Ninth District; Presiding Judge, Ninth District.

Website: www.JudgeHensal.com

**Q:** List your judicial experience (courts and years). Ohio Court of Appeals, Ninth District, 2013 to present; Ohio Supreme Court Visiting Judge, various Ohio Court of Appeals, various districts outside the Ninth at various times

**Q:** What non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge? Before becoming a judge on the Ninth District Court of Appeals, I gained valuable experience practicing in various trial courts and courts of appeals. I have a wide ranging legal background. My experiences prior to becoming a judge include prosecuting criminal matters; acting as an advocate for children, the disabled, and the elderly; participating in the creation of law as a municipal lawyer; guiding clients through difficult family matters in the domestic, juvenile, and probate courts; counseling public entities, individuals and businesses in a wide range of business, corporate and real estate matters. I believe that a Judge must not be a specialist, but have a background of knowledge in all areas that may come before the Court. I have taken my skills as a practicing attorney to the bench for the swift and proper administration of justice.

**Q:** Why are you running for this particular court seat? I am running for re-election to the seat I currently hold on the Ohio Court of Appeals in the Ninth Appellate District so that I may continue to lead the court in various capacities, add value to the State of Ohio through my service on the Ohio Supreme Court and my continued participation in the Ohio Judicial College committees and most importantly, continue in the proper administration of the cases that come before the Court of Appeals for the Ninth District.

#### **Summit County Executive**

#### VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCES 01/01/25

The Summit County Executive manages a budget of nearly a half billion dollars and ten departments including: Administrative Services, Administration and Public Information, Community and Economic Development, Finance and Budget, Human Resources, Job and Family Services, Law and Risk Management, Sanitary Sewer Services, Public Safety and the Medical Examiner.



Ilene Shapiro
Party: Democratic

Campaign Email: keepshapiro@gmail.com Campaign Phone: 330-416-6889

Education: Attended University of Akron

Training/Experience: Small business owner, entrepreneur, corporate

executive, County Council member **Current Occupation:** Summit County Executive

Website: www.electshapiro.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/electshapiro

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for the office? Since I first took office in 2016, I have demonstrated strong leadership skills, enhanced community relationships and upheld fiscal responsibility. In addition to ensuring the day-to-day functions of Summit County government are accessible to our constituents, I have also developed creative and innovative projects that benefit all 31 communities in our County. In leading the County through challenges such as the opioid epidemic, COVID-19, and a changing economic landscape, I have proven I can navigate our community through turbulent moments.

**Q:** What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office? My top priorities for my next term are to continue to provide high-quality services to our community, grow and strengthen public safety initiatives, and implement transformational projects made possible by the federal American Rescue Plan Act. We have earned a reputation in Ohio as a leader in service delivery. Our teams excel in assisting residents and connecting them with programming, and we will continue to identify opportunities to better serve our residents. To support public safety, we opened the Summit Emergency Communications Center, a regional, state-of-the-art 9-1-1 dispatch center that now serves over half of all residents. We hope to expand this operation to additional communities. Additionally, we have now invested over \$16 million from our landmark settlement to stem the tide of the opioid epidemic. Our ARPA funds give us a special opportunity to invest in projects we could never have previously supported. I look forward to completing these projects in my next term.

**Q:** What strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities? To accomplish our priorities, my team and I rely on strong relationships with our 31 cities, villages and townships, our state and federal partners, business and nonprofit leaders and the philanthropic community. We leverage the best assets of our community, facilitate dialogue and harness the power of collaboration to achieve significant outcomes for Summit County. We do all this while always keeping fiscal responsibility top of mind.

#### **Summit County Fiscal Officer**

#### VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/01/25

The Summit County Fiscal Office assists county residents with various programs and services and can answer questions about real estate taxes and property values. Their office issues various licenses and maintains the county's tax maps.



Kristen Scalise

Party: Democratic

Campaign Email: kristenscalise@yahoo.com

**Campaign Phone:** 330-671-0754

**Education:** Bachelors of Science in Accounting, University of Akron, 1989: Certified Public Accountant- Conferred 1992: Certified Fraud

Examiner-Conferred 2008

**Training/Experience:** Summit County Fiscal Officer May 2011-Present. Chief Deputy Fiscal Officer January 2000-May 2011. Private Sector Accountant 1990 - 2000

**Current Occupation:** Summit County Fiscal Officer

Website: voteforscalise.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/VoteScalise

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for this office? I am uniquely qualified because I have a Bachelors Degree in Accounting, I am a CPA, as well as a Certified Fraud Examiner. As a Certified Fraud Examiner, not only am I trained to investigate fraud, but more importantly to prevent fraud. The Fiscal Office is the main depository for the entire County, and we process over 1 billion dollars annually. I have put in place policies, procedures and internal controls so that we balance to the penny on a daily basis. I have been with the Fiscal Office for over 24 years and have served as the Summit County Fiscal Officer for over 13 years. I am extremely knowledgeable of the services we provide and the programs we offer.

**Q:** What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office and what strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities? My first priority is to maintain the excellent customer service and consumer protection that we provide in the Auditor, Treasurer, and Recording Divisions of the Fiscal Office.

I will also continue to safeguard and protect over 1 billion dollars of taxpayer's money annually. It is my responsibility to ensure that the taxpayer's money is invested safely.

Lastly, I will collaborate with other offices to create new programs that are efficient and cost effective. I will continue to look for ways to better serve the citizens of Summit County.

**Q:** How do you describe your role as the Chief Assessor of Summit County? It is the statutory responsibility of the County Auditor (Summit County Fiscal Officer) to assess a property's market value. It is also my responsibility to collect and disburse real estate taxes. It is not the Fiscal Officer that establishes taxes owed, it is the Ohio Department of Taxation, through the Tax Commissioner, who establishes the amount of tax. The Fiscal Office offers several programs to assist homeowners in meeting the obligation of paying real estate tax.

#### **Scott Sigel**

Party: Republican

Candidate did not respond to the questions.

## **County Prosecutor**

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for the office?

Q: What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office and what strategies will you use to accomplish these priorities?

Q: What are your ideas for making improvements to the Summit County Jail?

#### **VOTING BY MAIL**

If you vote by mail, send your application as soon as possible. When you receive your ballot, mail or drop it off at the Summit County Board of Elections. Your ballot must be postmarked no later than November 4.



#### **Summit County Prosecutor**

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/06/25

Responsibilities: To investigate and prosecute crimes committed within the county, to defend the county in court, and to give legal advice to county agencies and townships.

#### John Greven

Party: Republican

**Education:** B.S. from SUNY Fredonia M.S.Ed. from Elmira College J.D. from Cleveland State University College of Law **Training/Experience:** 30 years as an attorney. Former Assistant County Prosecutor. Tried over 300 felony jury trials.

**Current Occupation:** Attorney **Website:** Votejohngreven.com

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for the office? I have been a prosecutor and a criminal defense attorney so I have seen the criminal justice system from both sides. I believe this unique experience will help me better evaluate how cases should be handled. I have also handled over 300 jury trials so my experience in the court room is vastly superior to my opponents.

Q: What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office and what strategies will you use to accomplish these priorities? I would work to bring more transparency to the prosecutors office. The reasoning behind why decisions were made should be fully explained to the community. My main goal would be to prioritize violent criminals and repeat offenders while working to provide alternative sentencing to low level offenders and those with drug addictions.

**Q:** What are your ideas for making improvements to the Summit County Jail? I would work with the sheriff, who is the one in complete control of the jail, to provide whatever assistance is needed to improve the jail.



Elliot Kolkovich
Party: Democratic

Campaign Email: Elliot@elliotkolkovich.com Campaign Phone: 330-289-6832 Education: Bachelor's Degree, University of Illinois; Law Degree, St. Louis University Training/Experience: 13 years prosecutorial

experience both in Summit County and as an Assistant U.S. Attorney

Current Occupation: County Prosecutor Website: www.elliotkolkovich.com

**Facebook:** www.facebook.com/elliotkolkovichforprosecutor?mibe xtid=ZbWKwL

Q: Why are you the best candidate for the office? I have been on the front lines of the criminal justice system for more than 13 years as a federal and county prosecutor. In doing so, I have worked my way up in the Summit County Prosecutor's Office from intern to juvenile prosecutor, adult felony prosecutor, and grand jury supervisor before my appointment to the Prosecutor position in February 2024. Through that experience, I have developed a deep understanding of each duty that the Office serves and a passion for effective prosecution that reflects our values.

My experience has shown me that public safety doesn't just exist if the County Prosecutor passively sits behind a desk or a trial table. Rather, public safety can only exist when the County Prosecutor proactively seeks out new ways to hold offenders accountable and to prevent crime.

In short, I am the best candidate because I know the job, the tremendous responsibilities that it entails, and the commitment to innovation that it demands.

Q: What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office and what strategies will you use to accomplish these priorities? As Prosecutor, I have three main priorities. First, we must preserve public safety. To accomplish that, I have directed a historic reorganization of the Criminal Division to reassign the most experienced prosecutors to exclusively handle homicides, sex offenses, and other violent offenses. We have already seen significant results with high-level felony convictions increasing 38% and the trial guilty verdict rate going up 12%.

Second, we must rehabilitate low-level offenders with mental health and substance abuse issues into productive citizens. To that end, I have hired the first-ever Specialty Dockets prosecutor and we've increased diversionary placements for deserving offenders, which reduces recidivism and keeps everyone safer. Third, we must protect everyone's rights from victims of crime to women seeking health care and workers looking for a fair wage. As Prosecutor, I will continue to pursue innovative programs to ensure the protection of those critical rights.

**Q:** What are your ideas for making improvements to the Summit County Jail? Under Ohio law, the Sheriff is charged with operating the Summit County Jail. As legal counsel for the Sheriff's Office, I am committed to working with the Sheriff to assist her continued efforts to provide appropriate jail conditions that satisfy inmates' constitutional rights and comply with all other applicable laws.

In carrying out that responsibility, I will encourage innovative thinking. Too often, we demand the Jail to operate not only as a place of incarceration but also as a mental health treatment facility or a substance abuse rehabilitation center. We should continue to find ways to work with community partners and nonprofit organizations to satisfy those rehabilitative needs. By doing that, the Jail can serve its traditional purpose as the place for detaining dangerous defendants while they await trial and lower-level offenders ordered to serve their incarceration locally.

#### **Summit County Clerk of Courts**

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/06/25

The Clerk of Courts office files, preserves and disseminates court documents and records for the Summit County Courts.



Tavia Galonski
Party: Democratic

**Education:** Graduate of the University of Akron School of Law: J.D. Graduate of Emory University: B.S. in Psychology Graduate of the University of Phoenix: MBA

**Training/Experience:** Licensed to practice law in Ohio since 1995. Managerial and Customer Service experience since 1987. Trained Mediator. Trained as a CASA guardian as litem. Fifteen years of course work through the Ohio Supreme Court Judicial College.

Website: taviagalonski.com

## **Summit County Sheriff**

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for the office?

What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office and what strategies will you use to accomplish these priorities?

• What are your ideas for making improvements to the Summit County Jail?

#### **SEE YOUR BALLOT**

To see your personalized ballot, visit VOTE411.org.





Facebook: taviagalonski@facebook.com X (formerly Twitter): Repgalonski Instagram: TaviaGalonski@instagram.com Previous Public Office: State Representative Campaign Email: taviatheclerk@gmail.com

**Campaign Phone:** 330-310-9565

Q: Why are you the best candidate for the office? I am the best candidate for the office of Clerk of Summit County Courts because I am currently the Clerk and I am doing the work every day. In addition, my years of training and experience as an attorney are invaluable for understanding the work of the Clerk and the needs of our customers. The Summit County Clerk balances the budget while managing four offices and almost 80 employees. I am the candidate with the most experience. The Summit County Clerk is the keeper of the records for the Court of Common Pleas and the Court of Appeals. In my work as an attorney, I have extensive training and experience working in the Courts. Whether as a mediator, magistrate or guardian, I have the training necessary to meet the needs of those using the Clerk's office. I have served the public for well over 25 years and have superior customer service training and experience. I have earned the trust of the public and will continue to do so as the Summit County Clerk of Courts.

Q: What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office? 1) As the Summit County Clerk of Court, I intend to continue and have already started to create a smooth customer service experience for all users of the court. 2) I intend to and have already begun the work of improving response time and efficiency with regard to taking filings.

3) I currently have an excellent working relationship with the Courts, the Executive and the Fiscal Officer. I will maintain these relationships in order to make government work for anyone interfacing with the Clerk's office.

**Q:** What strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities? I believe that training is the best way to improve and develop our employees to be the best that they can in customer service. As such, I will maintain excellent records of the training required and also commit to making sure such training is available to all.

The Clerk serves on several boards where interaction with the Courts, Executive and Fiscal Officer is integral. I will continue to participate on those boards and will offer meaningful guidance and assistance to my peers to make sure the Clerk is serving their needs.

To improve efficiency, I have requested an audit of our office to determine a baseline of our performance. I intend to use the results of the audit to improve our response time and productivity.



Katie Reed
Party: Republican
Education: Kent State University
Training/Experience: Barberton Municipal Clerk
of Court

Website: www.electkatiereed.com Previous Public Office: Barberton Municipal

Clerk of Court

Campaign Email: kmw5488@gmail.com Campaign Phone: 330-701-2223

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for the office? I have spent over 5 years working in and with the Clerk of Courts Office, and 4 in the Barberton Clerk's Office. In that time I have been able to

make a number of improvements in terms of technology, security and making resources easier to use for my staff and the public. We have been able to secure a grant from the Ohio Supreme Court for \$41,700 to further those improvements without raising court costs

**Q:** What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office? My first focus would be on increasing training, knowledge and communication. From there I would want to look at the flow of the office and make sure we are working in the most efficient way possible.

Q: What strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities? There are resources available at little to no cost from different organizations, including the Ohio Supreme Court. I have taken advantage of those as Barberton Clerk of Court and I think it's important to build on those foundations. I would also reallocate money within the budget to invest in training. We need an efficient Clerk of Courts Office that is not only knowledgeable but

#### **Summit County Sheriff**

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/06/25

Responsibilities: To provide services to the courts, to oversee the county jail, and to act as chief law enforcement officer for the county.



Shane Barker
Party: Republican

can effectively communicate with others.

**Campaign Email:** shane@barkerforsheriff.com **Campaign Phone:** 330-608-0156

**Education:** Woodridge High School, Kent State University, American Flyers.

Training/Experience: OPOTA Peace Officers

Training Academy, OPOTA Jail Administrators School, and over 1000 hours of advanced and continuing education Law Enforcement Training.

**Current Occupation:** Retired **Website:** barkerforsheriff.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sbarker4sheriff

Q: Why are you the best candidate for this office? I am the best candidate for the Summit County Sheriff because of my extensive experience, my deep understanding of the community, and my commitment to restoring integrity and safety to our Sheriff's Office. With over 25 years of service in the Sheriff's Office and a strong showing in the 2020 election, I have proven my dedication and capability to lead. Unlike the current administration, which has overseen significant failures and mismanagement, I bring a track record of competence and a clear plan to address the critical issues facing our county. I am endorsed by the Summit County Republican Party and former Sheriff Steve Barry, a Democrat, underscoring my broad appeal and ability to work across party lines for the good of our community.

Q: What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office and what strategies will you use to accomplish these priorities? My top priorities as Sheriff will be to restore public trust in the Sheriff's Office, ensure that law enforcement is both effective and accountable, and address the underlying issues that have led to significant safety concerns in our community. I will focus on:

Rebuilding Trust: I will implement transparency measures, including regular public reporting on law enforcement activities, to ensure accountability and foster trust between the Sheriff's Office and the community. I will also form a Community Advisory Group to gain a comprehensive understanding of ongoing community issues.

Community Engagement: I will actively engage with local residents, businesses, and community leaders to better understand their concerns and work collaboratively on solutions that enhance public safety.

I will also be working on addressing the issues in the jail, which I managed effectively before the current administration took office. I will go into further detail on that issue in the next question.

**Q:** What are your ideas for making improvements to the Summit County Jail? First, I'd focus on passing the jail inspections that are performed by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections and allow increased access to the Summit County Grand Jury. This will necessitate fixing the specific problems that have already been observed, such as cleanliness, maintenance, and overall conditions.

Second, I'd work on hiring additional staff. The staff at the jail has been significantly reduced under the current administration, which has resulted in serious issues, including escapes, an increase in drug use, and a troubling rise in suicides. Proper staffing is essential to maintaining order and safety.

Third, I'd specifically address preventing jail escapes, overdoses, suicides, and occurrences of deputies engaging in inappropriate conduct with inmates. By tightening security protocols, enhancing staff training, and increasing oversight, I will ensure that our jail is not only secure but also a place where inmates are treated humanely and fairly.



Kandy Fatheree
Party: Democratic

Campaign Email: info@sheriffkandyfatheree.org

**Campaign Phone:** 330-524-0629

**Education:** Associates Degree in Criminal Justice; FBI National Academy for Executive Leadership

**Training/Experience:** 32 years in law enforcement, 30 years with the

Sheriff's Office

Current Occupation: Summit County Sheriff
Website: www.kandyfathereeforsheriff.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SheriffKandyFatheree

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for this office? As your current Summit County Sheriff, I've spent my first term enacting a series of reforms aimed at modernizing, diversifying, and professionalizing the Office. I've made internal changes to improve conditions for our deputies and staff, like reforming our promotions process to make it fairer and more transparent, providing more mental healthcare resources, and cutting our deputy shortage in half. I've made external-facing changes such as expanding our community policing, introducing new programs to educate the public, launching a Sheriff's Office mobile app, and expanding our recruitment efforts to reach more women, minorities, and new citizens. And I've made command decisions designed to improve public safety, like expanding our School Resource Officer program, providing new cruisers to local police departments, working with the City of Akron to form a Gun Violence Unit, and increasing the number of annual training hours for our deputies to put us ahead of state standards.

**Q:** What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office and what strategies will you use to accomplish these priorities? Like agencies nationwide, we've faced a recent shortage of deputies. Through innovative recruitment efforts we've now cut that shortage in half. My goal is to get us back to full staffing in my next term, which is within reach if we continue our current approach.

I'll also continue our work to reduce inmate recidivism, especially amongst those with mental health and addiction issues. Providing recovery assistance and helping them find jobs and housing is paramount to preventing their return, and is a significant savings to taxpayers.

And we will continue to focus on reducing violent crime, drug and human trafficking, and gun violence in our communities through our partnerships with local police, and through the numerous task forces that I lead.

Q: What are your ideas for making improvements to the Summit County Jail?

We've made many physical and operational improvements to the Jail, with some still underway, but there are more programs I hope to introduce. Last year we began providing tablets to our inmates, allowing them to pursue training and education, and conduct e-correspondence and video visitation, putting a halt to contraband coming in through physical mail. This year I also fulfilled one of my main goals as we opened a new facility to help former inmates with mental health and substance abuse disorders and who are homeless get the help they need to recover, and find permanent housing. And for those still incarcerated we'll be introducing the IGNITE program, which has produced very positive results in other counties. It allows inmates to take classes for their GED or diploma, enroll in college courses, and earn certifications in different sectors. The goal of these programs is to reduce recidivism, which frees up jail space for more serious offenders, and saves everybody's taxpayer dollars.

#### **Summit County Engineer**

#### VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/06/25

Responsibilities: To oversee the construction, maintenance, and repair of all bridges in the county, and of county roads and other public improvements except buildings in the county.



Alan Brubaker

Party: Democratic Campaign Email: electbrubaker@sbcglobal.net

**Education:** Bachelor of Science, Civil Engineering - University of Akron **Training/Experience:** Licensed Professional Engineer and Surveyor

**Current Occupation:** Summit County Engineer

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for the office? I have 45 years of experience of civil engineering experience specializing in road and bridge design, and construction and highway safety. The vast majority of my professional experience has been in municipal and county government, though I have spent time in the private sector, making my professional views and opinions very well rounded. In the last 15 years in office, I have weathered the worst of the economic recession while increasing the amount of funds available for road and bridge maintenance. I have reduced personnel costs, administrative costs, and made budgetary moves that were beneficial for both our office and the County general fund while providing excellent services to the public. I am committed to increasing the safety of our roads and bridges. We seek and have been awarded millions of dollars in federal and state funds for roads, bridges, safety projects, and stormwater improvements. I will continue to make Summit County's infrastructure better, safer, and stronger.

Q: What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office and what strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities? My administration's main goal will continue into the next four years: I want to make Summit County roads and bridges better, safer, and stronger. Infrastructure in this country is vital to its ability to thrive, but nothing is more important than knowing that the roads and bridges you drive over are the safest they can possibly be. In addition a newer goal is to finish implementing the Summit County Surface Water Management Program. This program, enacted in 2021, will finally address and fund the myriad of flooding and water quality issues facing Summit County. I will also keep looking for additional grants and outside funding to help maintain Summit County infrastructure. Infrastructure costs are rising while revenue is, at best, remaining stagnant. I have been successful in the past bringing in the money the County needs to improve roads and I will continue to fight for that money and ensure that Summit County gets a fair share of all available funds.

Q: Given the Summit County Engineer's mission statement includes protecting the environment, what specifically would you do to accomplish this goal? Protecting the environment is a prominent part of our discussions when designing and constructing road and bridge projects. Construction projects have the potential to be hard on the environment and we carefully design and plan such projects in a way to do the least amount of damage to the natural world. For some examples: if trees need to be cut down for a project, we do it at a certain time of year so as not to disrupt the habitat of

endangered species, we divert water under bridges so no construction debris will get into the waterways, and we use the least damaging methods of asphalt placement. In addition, snow and ice control is carefully managed so rock salt does not end up scattered off the roadway. Each truck is carefully calibrated to ensure extra salt is not getting onto the road. We use brine as a pretreatment before storms to reduce the amount of salt needed. Finally we store our salt responsibly, under cover and on a cement base so salt does not leak into the ground water.

#### **Summit County Council District 1**

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/01/25

The County Council is the eleven-member legislative authority, taxing authority and policy-making body of the Summit County government.



Rita Darrow

Party: Democratic

Campaign Phone: 216-409-4029

Education: Westlake High School; ICM School of Business (Medical

Assistant

**Training/Experience:** Current Summit County Council President (Summit County District 1); Macedonia City Council, 2012-2015

Website: https://www.ritadarrow.com/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/darrowforcouncil

X (formerly Twitter): @Ritajack21

**Instagram:** www.instagram.com/friends\_of\_rita\_darrow/

Previous Public Office: Summit County Council 2023Vice President District 1, 2021

District 1 Summit County Council, Macedonia City Council 2012 to 2015

Campaign Email: ritadarrow619@yahoo.com

Q: Why are you the best candidate for the office? I believe I am the best candidate for office because I have dedicated my life to making a tangible difference in my community, both in public service and through hands-on involvement in local issues. My track record as President of Summit County Council in 2024 and Vice President in 2023 speaks to my leadership and ability to bring understand the complexities of union negotiations, grant funding, and strategic planning, having secured over \$200 million in state and federal funding for critical infrastructure programs. My role on boards like the Summit County Land Bank and the Akron Summit Convention and Visitors Bureau has given me a comprehensive view of the economic and social challenges our community faces, and I am well-positioned to continue driving positive change.

Ultimately, I am running for office because I care deeply about this community. My experience, leadership, and dedication to public service make me the candidate who can continue to deliver results for Summit County.

**Q:** What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office? Stable Housing: Now more than ever, stable housing is crucial to the safety and well-being of Summit County residents.

Economic Development: Summit County needs to encourage regional job growth and business development to increase economic opportunity for all Summit County residents. Public Safety: Summit County can enhance public safety through a number of initiatives including improved collaboration among communities and law enforcement organizations, enhanced community engagement, and technology upgrades with our first responder organizations.

Protecting Green Spaces: Effective land management practices, including regular monitoring and maintenance, can help protect our green spaces, preserving them for generations to come.

**Q:** What strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities? I will advocate for policies that support renters and homeowners, such as tenant protections, and incentivizing the development of affordable housing units. Additionally, I will explore opportunities to rehabilitate vacant properties and invest in community land trusts to ensure long-term housing stability.

I will collaborate with economic development agencies, chambers of commerce, and local businesses to identify and address barriers to growth. I will also advocate for targeted

investments in infrastructure, workforce development programs, and small business support services.

In terms of public safety, I will focus on enhancing collaboration among communities and law enforcement organizations. Furthermore, I will work to secure funding for technology upgrades and training for first responders to ensure they have the resources and tools needed to effectively respond to emergencies and keep our communities safe. I will assure that we promote sustainable development.

#### **Yulia Gray**

Party: Republican

Candidate did not respond to the questions.

#### **County Council District 2**

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/01/25

The County Council is the eleven-member legislative authority, taxing authority and policy-making body of the Summit County government.

#### John Schmidt

Party: Democratic

Candidate did not respond to the questions.

#### **Summit County Council District 3**

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/01/25

The County Council is the eleven-member legislative authority, taxing authority and policy-making body of the Summit County government.



David A. Licate

Party: Democratic

Campaign Email: dlicate@gmail.com Campaign Phone: (330) 2211888

**Education:** Ph.D. in Public Policy - Kent State University, Master of Science in Criminal Justice - University of Cincinnati, Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice - Kent State University, Certificate in Critical

Infrastructure Protection - Texas A&M Engineering Extension

**Training/Experience:** Professor and Chair of the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of Akron, Fellow - Center for Intelligence and Security Studies, Associate Director - Center for Emergency Management and Homeland Security Policy Research **Website:** www.votedavidlicate.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/LicateforSummit/

**Previous Public Office:** Stow City Council At-Large. Stow-Munroe Falls Board of Education.

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for the office? I have a history of working well with others to improve my community. My success as the administrator of an academic department at a university, school board president, at-large city councilperson, and executive management team member of a policing consortium is due to my ability to partner with, listen to, and learn from others. I am focused on practical outcomes that solve problems and raise the quality of life for my constituents including: a better process for dealing with nuisance properties, funding for the trimming of overgrown trees on the tree lawn, more accommodating zoning for people with disabilities, and programming that helps kids in our schools avoid drug addiction. I brought air conditioning and security vestibules to our schools and established a security committee that made systematic improvements to school safety. I have volunteered to conduct dozens of security training courses in every district building, saving the district thousands of dollars.

**Q:** What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office? The services provided by county government directly impact the health, welfare, and safety of residents - that is what attracted me to this office. Programs that support our seniors, the disabled, veterans, and those with mental health challenges are relied upon by many. We must maintain our infrastructure, including our wonderful parks, roads, sewers, and bridges. The courts,

## **Summit County Council**

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for the office?

Q: What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office?

Q: What strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities?

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prosecutor's office, sheriff's office, and other public safety services must be supported and properly resourced. My priority is to work with the local officials in District 3, other members of county council, and the county executive to maintain the effective and efficient delivery of these important services. As a criminal justice researcher, I look forward to continuing my work with public safety and human services officials, and will support evidence-based and data-driven approaches to crime prevention, emergency management, rehabilitation programs, and services for victims of crime.

Q: What strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities?

Good leaders bring people together. Success in public service requires a developed ability to work well with others for the good of a community. Video recordings of Stow City Council (2022/23) are available on the City of Stow web page. Instead of relying on campaign material provided by the candidates, you can directly view our conduct in office. Then ask: Who do I want on my team? Who conducts himself with the temperament and professionalism required for the position? Who treats others with courtesy, dignity, and respect? Who seeks advice and expertise from others? Who respects the perspectives of others, and not just those in his political club? Who listens more than he speaks? Who is there to solve problems and increase the quality of life in the community? My research, organizational, and communication skills have been developed over decades in leadership positions, and have led to a record of accomplishments. I understand how to build partnerships to succeed.

#### Jeremy McIntire

Party: Republican

Candidate did not respond to the questions.

#### **Summit County Council District 4**

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/01/25

The County Council is the eleven-member legislative authority, taxing authority and policy-making body of the Summit County government.



#### **Ieff Wilhite**

Party: Democratic
Campaign Email: jwilhite2055@gmail.com
Education: BA Business Administration
Training/Experience: I have over 40 years of
direct community engagement from the private
and public sectors affording me the experience to

make a difference **Website:** None

**Previous Public Office:** Summit County Council **Campaign Phone:** 330-807-8291

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for the office? I am the best candidate because of my experience in the important area of housing, It is our number one issue covering all areas of the community. Affordable, attainable, warm, safe, and dry housing for all is a quality-of-life issue, a health safety and welfare issue, and an economic development issue.

Q: What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office? Affordable/attainable housing and senior services. With the aging population, Summit County is one of only a few left in Ohio that does not have a senior services funding source.

Allowing seniors to age in place is the best opportunity for them to remain healthy mentally and physically.

**Q:** What strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities? Bring together a combination of lenders, community reinvestment act (CRA) dollars, social service agencies and the private sector to make sure we address housing opportunities for all levels of income.

#### **Summit County Council District 5**

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 T TERM COMMENCING 01/01/25

The County Council is the eleven-member legislative authority, taxing authority and policy-making body of the Summit County government.



**Cynthia Blake Party:** Republican

Campaign Email: cynt1960@yahoo.com Campaign Phone: 330-571-3158 Education: University of Akron, 1981 Training/Experience: Public Policy Analyst\*Community & Economic

Development\*Social Action Leader -Successful work history with top banking institutions that concentrated on increase of minority mortgages and commercial loans. Special interest in criminal sentencing reform, Autism legislation and public policies.

Current Occupation: Public Policy Analyst
Website: www.MakeNoMistakeVoteForBlake.com

Q: Why are you the best candidate for the office? I am uniquely qualified because serving people is my passion. I have dedicated my life to aiding this community through seeking resolution to public schools, neighborhoods, and community concerns. I would work fulltime for my constituents this would not be a part-time job to me or secondary income. I am committed to be accountable to our residents with regular district hours and represent them and promote their best interest. My public policy analyst experience and fiscal planning background position me as qualified to best address many issues and challenges within our beloved county.

Q: What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office? One of the top current issues facing Summit County residents is the of acquisition of Summa Health a new business venture owned by venture capital firm General Catalyst. We want to be assured that Summit County residents health care is preserved and accessibility. We should all be watching and seeking answers for the preservation of health care. Summa Health is one of the largest employers this would have major effect on are local economy. Secondly, from the State of Summit County address October 2023 Ilene Shapiro, County Executive shared older adults growing population expected to grow by 30% by 2030. I would support special programming or service s designated to senior citizens. In addition to supporting youth programs & workforce development. Lastly, I would priorities support to assisting small business owners and entrepreneurs.

**Q:** What strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities? The county can be a safety net for residents if the acquisition affects the closing of local clinics. However, the Summa Health announcement assured Summit County residents that all services and employees would remain intact. Depending on committee assignments with council I will navigate to create partnerships for

## **Summit County Council**

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for the office?

Q: What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office?

Q: What strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities?

#### **VOTING BY MAIL**

If you vote by mail, send your application as soon as possible. When you receive your ballot, mail or drop it off at the Summit County Board of Elections. Your ballot must be postmarked no later than November 4.

Summit County Board of Elections 470 Grant St. Akron, OH 44311



older adults and youth programs. There is currently a program where employers adopted local schools. I would like to advocate for this program to have increased financial support from County to help the youth with high demand career paths such artificial intelligence. I would also request for budget allocations age bracket 5 years to pre-teen for Summit County programming. This budget allocation is now necessary due to the affects of COVID, lack of social skills, social media and isolation that has affected this age group.



**Brandon Ford** 

Party: Democratic

Campaign Email: ford4summit@gmail.com Campaign Phone: 330-520-8632

**Education:** Bachelor of Science Nursing - Case Western Reserve University, Juris Doctor Law - The University of Akron, Master Business

Administration - The University of Akron

**Training/Experience:** Pediatric Nurse, Corporate / Business Lawyer / Small Business owner

**Current Occupation:** Attorney - Corporate

Website: www.ford4summit.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61554843733129

Q: Why are you the best candidate for the office? I am the best candidate because of my deep-rooted connection to our community and my diverse professional experience. My background as an attorney, nurse, global business executive and business owner has given me a broad perspective on the needs of our community. Endorsed by respected leaders, I am committed to connecting our county and its' resources to our community, families, and businesses.

**Q:** What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office? My primary focus will be on: supporting families, small businesses, and working with public health and safety services to ensure resources that flow through the county are connecting to our district. These areas are crucial for the overall well-being and growth of our community and I am committed to addressing them.

**Q:** What strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities? I plan to work collaboratively with Summit County Council members, citizens in District 5 and business leaders. My strategies include securing necessary resources for District 5, advocating for policies that support our district, and fostering community partnerships to create a safer, more prosperous, and healthier environment for all our residents in District 5.

#### **Summit County Council District 6**

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/01/25

The County Council is the eleven-member legislative authority, taxing authority and policy-making body of the Summit County government.



#### Christine Wiedie Higham

Party: Democratic

**Campaign Email:** electhigham@gmail.com **Campaign Phone:** 234-303-0920

**Education:** I am a graduate of Tallmadge High School, received a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Kent State University and master's

degree in business administration from Tiffin University.

**Training/Experience:** Since 2015, I have been with Mustard Seed Market and Café, a locally owned and operated business, as their Director of Human Resources and Administration. Prior to that, I served as Deputy Director of Human Resources for the late County Executive Russ Pry. I began my professional career in Columbus, where I worked for the Ohio House of Representatives. After returning to Summit County, I spent ten years in social services both in client services and administrative roles. I have been a member of Summit County Council since 2022 and served on the following committees Personnel, Chair; Planning and Economic Development, Vice Chair; Finance and Rules.

Current Occupation: Director of Human Resources and Administration, Mustard Seed Market and Cafe
Websites electhichem com

Website: electhigham.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100081493875640

Q: Why are you the best candidate for the office? I am the best candidate because of my diverse and extensive experience. I have worked in social services for 10 years, spent over 10 years working in state, county and local government and currently work for Mustard Seed Market and Café, a locally owned business as their Director of Human Resources. These roles have equipped me with a comprehensive understanding of the issues facing our community from multiple perspectives. As an HR professional, my job is to connect people to the resources they need. As your County Council representative, I am here to guide, assist and answer questions about our Summit County government. My passion for service is evident through my involvement in the Rotary Club, Little League, my church, and numerous other community projects throughout my life. I bring this same dedication and enthusiasm to my role as your County Council representative, where I am committed to serving your needs and advocating for what is best for our community.

Q: What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office? As the current councilwoman for District 6, my top priority is connecting residents with their county government and the resources available to them. I am excited to continue supporting Summit County Council's work on health and safety initiatives, including my role as chair of this year's Let's Move Summit County Annual Bike and Hike event.

As a member of the Finance Committee, safeguarding taxpayer dollars is crucial to me. I am committed to ensuring we use these funds effectively to meet current needs while positioning Summit County for a prosperous future. A great example of this is the allocation of funds from the opioid lawsuits initiated by Summit County. I am enthusiastic about the investment in the Unite Us program, which will create a one-stop shop to connect residents with the services and care they need in real-time.

Q: What strategies will you use to accomplish those

**priorities?** In sports, they say the best ability is availability. As your councilperson, I prioritize being available to the residents of my district by attending ward meetings, participating in community events, and hosting office hours and programming. My strength lies in building strong relationships with elected officials, departments, and service providers throughout our communities. These connections allow me to effectively address residents' questions and concerns while fostering collaboration on initiatives that benefit our district. Together, we can create impactful programs and solutions that enhance the quality of life for everyone in our community.



Nick Rubino
Party: Republican

Campaign Email: rubino.councilman@gmail.com

**Campaign Phone:** 330-338-6353 **Education:** Cuyahoga Falls High school

Training/Experience: Tallmadge At-Large City Council

Current Occupation: Manager of Operations, Tallmadge At-Large City

Council

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for the office? I have extensive community involvement, proven leadership skills and a dedication to addressing pressing local issues. I have a genuine commitment to the well-being of our community and a passion to create positive change. I believe we are public servants and our priorities should be that of the constituents we represent.

**Q:** What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office? The safety of our cities, fiscal responsibility, and infrastructure maintenance and repair. To encourage economical growth for both small and large businesses. To help control the impacts to our community and its citizens from the recent inflation that has hurt both our businesses and citizens.

**Q:** What strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities? Working with local and county administrations and departments to ensure we are focused on constituent priorities. Ensuring money is being spent responsibly and focused on feedback from the community we serve.

#### **Summit County Council District 7**

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 - TERM COMMENCING 01/01/25 The County Council is the eleven-member legislative authority, taxing authority and policy-making body of the Summit County government.



Bethany McKenney Party: Republican

Campaign Email: bethanymckenney@gmail.com

**Campaign Phone:** 330-819-6350

Education: University of Akron, School of Nursing, BSN, summa cum

laude, graduated in 1997. Registered Nurse (RN)

**Training/Experience:** District Nurse Manchester Schools (PSI Affiliates), 13 years (including several yrs at St. Francis De Sales); Akron General Medical Center, RN, 3 years and Nurse Tech 3 yrs; Barberton Citizens Hospital RN (Guardian Angels), 1 year; Barberton Area Community Ministries, Board of Directors and founder/leader of their Senior Food Deliveries; Magics Ready To Learn, Board of Directors, providing kids school supply lists; Church member, volunteer, The Chapel; Many other leadership, training and volunteer experiences.

Current Occupation: Summit County Councilperson, District 7

Website: BethanyMcKenney.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CouncilwomanMcKenney?mibextid=ZbWKwL

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for the office? Serving since 2018, I'm an award-winning councilperson, proven to be committed to our community. I've worked to lower taxes by being the only official from Summit County to give testimony against raising property values to the Ways and Means Committee meeting in Columbus, 2023. I've also led homeowner tax discount clinics to help eligible local residents, seniors, disabled, veterans receive the homestead exemption or 2.5% homeowner occupancy discount, lowering their property taxes.

I've used my 20+ years of nursing experience to lead on health and safety issues, served on the pandemic's frontlines and made decisions that helped us endure and recover. I ensured that federal COVID-19 funds directly helped citizens, local businesses and safety forces. For example, I cosponsored the Summit County COVID-19 Small Business Emergency Relief Grant to help businesses stay afloat. I've remained accessible to residents to help them with their needs and have initiated programs to help our district.

Q: What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office? I'm working to lower

taxes by helping local residents save thousands of dollars in property taxes by leading Tax Discount Clinics and fighting directives that lead to unfair property tax increases. I have helped many seniors and others apply for property tax discounts. One widow said it made the difference in her staying in her home.

I'm working to prevent flooding through funding, as a member of the local Stormwater Task Force and as a cosponsor of the legislation to create a Stormwater Management Committee. I'll continue to be accessible to you, listening and responding. I'll continue holding regular office hours.

I'll continue to fight for you! I received the 2021 Humanitarian of the Year Award from the Ohio Kiwanis with my husband Judge McKenney for significant acts of caring. For example, I lead the Senior Delivery Program at BACM to deliver food to homebound seniors in need.

In short, my top priority has always been you and I look forward to continuing to work hard for you.

**Q:** What strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities? I will continue to identify and assist residents of my district who qualify for property tax discounts. I will continue to host my property tax discount clinics enlisting the help of the fiscal office. I'll monitor upcoming state legislation regarding tax relief and implement practical ways to assist, hands-on, residents to take advantage of the help, as I did with our Summit County COVID-19 Small Business ER Relief Grants. I personally called or visited every business that I could identify in my district to encourage and assist them.

I will continue to meet with you, hear your concerns and resolve issues. I host regular office hours throughout my district in local businesses. I am here to serve you and to keep you informed with honesty and integrity. My phone number is 330.819.6350.

I have strong bipartisan support because I know that we need to work together to get results. It's been my honor to serve you and for all these reasons, I am asking for your vote to continue.



**Ryan Shank** 

Party: Democratic

Campaign Email: shankforcountycouncil@gmail.com

**Campaign Phone:** 330-571-2304

Education: University of Akron, School of Arts & Sciences, Bachelor's

Degree in Political Science, Graduated 2021

Training/Experience: S.A.L.T. BOX Ministries, Worked as Volunteer/
Cook (8 years); Barberton Community Ministries, Worked as Volunteer (1 year); Political
Director for Real Action Inc. (1 year); Membership Director for the Summit County
Young Democrats (2 years); Precinct Captain of Barberton Ward 2-A (1 year); Committee
Member of the Summit County Democrats Next Generation Committee (1 year); A
variety of other collegiate and work-related leadership experience and other volunteer
experience relating to my church and community

**Current Occupation:** Machine Operator

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ryanshankforcountycouncil/

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for the office? I believe I am the best candidate for the position because I bring a fresh and unique vision for Summit County. For years, we have seen the same politicians get elected to the council and, in the meantime, Summit County residents have gotten little in return. Our current leaders are too focused on reelection and only show up to work when election season comes around. The rest of the time, we never hear from them, or see meaningful change. I want to change that. I want to bring passion, dedication, and a blue-collar attitude to our County Council, moving it towards being a proactive and effective government body, focused on the well-being of Summit County residents. We need someone who is going to put people first by working to combat rising crime rates hurting our communities, bolstering our economy by prioritizing our small businesses, ensuring fiscal responsibility and transparency, and working to rebuild our infrastructure, including our inadequate storm drainage system.

**Q:** What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office? Rebuilding our Economy: I will work to rebuild our county economy by building a system that supports and strengthens small businesses, expanding job training programs, stimulating investment by working with local Democrats and Republicans to bring new businesses and opportunities into the county, and cutting taxes for middle-class families and small businesses.

Rebuilding our Infrastructure: I will be a leading voice on the council to invest in better storm drainage systems and improving zoning and building codes to protect our homes and neighborhoods from bouts of extreme weather. Rebuilding our roads, bridges, sidewalks, and replacing lead pipes in our county will also be at the top of my priorities.

Fighting the Crime Crisis: Summit County ranks as having one of the worst crime rates in Northeast Ohio. On the County Council, I will push to open dialogue with law enforcement so we can work to find the best solutions to these problems and ensure the safety of our communities.

**Q:** What strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities? My strategy is simple: focus on the task at hand, do what is expected of me, and listen to the people. I will put people over politics and be a fearless advocate for you on the County Council. My office, phone, email, and any other method of getting a hold of a County Council member will be available to anyone who wants to get in contact with me or my office. I will constantly look to hear from Summit County residents and hear their thoughts on ordinances and what they believe needs to be done to better Summit County.

Anyone who has questions, needs help, or is simply looking to voice their frustrations will be welcome to call, email, or visit my office. The more input from everyday residents, the better. If you have concerns or want to share your thoughts, feel free to contact me at shankforcountycouncil@gmail.com, or call 330-845-0264 anytime on the weekdays after 3:00 PM. We are all in this together, and together, we will make our County Council work for the people.

#### **Summit County Council District 8**

TERM COMMENCING - 01/01/2025

The County Council is the eleven-member legislative authority, taxing authority and policy-making body of the Summit County government.



Joseph A. Kacyon Party: Republican

Campaign Email: joe@joekacyon.com Campaign Phone: 330-922-4491

**Education:** JD from University of Akron School of Law, MBA from University of Akron, BA from Rochester Institute of Technology **Training/Experience:** 15 years of Practice as a Attorney

Current Occupation: Attorney Website: joekacyon.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61561652422124

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for the office? I was appointed to County Council to serve District 8 to fill Anthony DeVitis' seat and have been serving the district ever since. As an active practicing attorney, business owner, and a father of two in the district I have a unique perspective to bring to County Council. My master's in business administration and legal experience allow me to understand the complex legal and financial issues that face the County and its \$670+ million budget. Summit County Council oversees the budget of the County Prosecutor, Sheriff, and County Court system where my law firm and I practice on a daily basis. I get to see how the County money is being put to use. As the current County Council Member for District 8, I have the experience and relationships to continue to serve.

Q: What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office? The County's budget is the first priority. Summit County Council oversees a budget of over \$670 million and other income and spending that combined reaches well over a billion dollars. That kind of budget requires knowledge and a steady hand. It's important to make sure that our crucial county services and funded while also watching for ways to save the taxpayers' money. The County Sheriff, County Jail, County Prosecutor, and Court system all get their funding from the County budget. I will ensure that our community safety is well funded. The County also has an important role to play in ensuring that Summit County is open for business and opportunity. In that regard it's important that we protect the rights of property owners and businesses to put their resources to use without unneeded government interference. Summit County also needs to continue to support its senior citizens. As an estate planning and probate attorney, I'm in a unique position to safeguard their interests.

**Q:** What strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities? On Summit County Council, we're a group of intelligent individuals that focus on getting good results for our people. I have worked with the other members of Council and will continue to do so on behalf of the people of Summit County. I'll use my own experiences as an attorney and business owner to accomplish our goals and solve problems. When faced with new issues, I think it's important to discuss the issue with the people, businesses, and groups that are most affected and most knowledgeable about that issue. Too many politicians think that they have all the answers, and that government should dictate to the people. In a government run by the people, the people should feel free and able to discuss solutions with their elected representatives. That's how I've approached my job on County Council and that's how I'll continue to approach it.



Matt Shaughnessy

Party: Democratic

Campaign Email: mr.matthewshaughnessy@gmail.com

**Campaign Phone:** 330-907-5038

**Education:** Juris Doctorate University of Akron **Current Occupation:** Retired Firefighter/ Attorney

Website: www.mattshaughnessy.com

**Q:** Why are you the best candidate for the office? For Starters, I've got over 25 years of public safety and service that informs my approach to political office. I started out as a Cleveland Police Officer, and shortly thereafter became a Firefighter/Paramedic. This experience forged my belief that leaders should be accessible to their constituents, treat them with compassion, and their problems with a sense of urgency. After I retired from the fire department I attended the University of Akron and became an attorney. Every attorney has a choice where they want to practice, I chose to help victims of violent crime and while it hasn't made me rich, it has filled me with great satisfaction, much like my service on Green City Council (2018-2022). On Green City Council I earned a reputation for being a fiscal watchdog, making sure tax dollars were spent appropriately, and fighting against over development. So, to answer the question: A lifetime of helping people in need and solving problems is what makes me the best candidate

**Q:** What are the top priorities you seek to address once in office? My top priorities in office revolve around safety and fiscal responsibility, community engagement, and supporting our seniors. First, I will closely scrutinize the budget to ensure taxpayer dollars are used efficiently, aiming to reduce unnecessary spending without compromising on essential services. My goal is to find innovative ways to lower the tax burden on those with fixed incomes, making our community more affordable for seniors and those on fixed incomes. I also plan to enhance community engagement by establishing regular communication channels for residents to express their concerns and contribute to decision-making processes. By focusing on these priorities, I aim to create a more inclusive, economically sustainable, and responsive government that serves the needs of all its residents.

**Q:** What strategies will you use to accomplish those priorities? To accomplish my priorities, I will leverage a multi-faceted strategy focused on efficiency, collaboration, and innovation. For fiscal responsibility, I plan to scrutinize current expenditures, to identify areas for cost savings and reallocate funds to high-impact projects, especially those benefiting seniors and individuals on fixed incomes. To foster community engagement, I will implement regular town hall meetings, both in-person and virtual meetings (to ensure broad accessibility). For reducing tax burdens, I will explore innovative funding mechanisms, such as grants and public-private partnerships, to lessen the financial load on our taxpayers. By combining these strategies, I aim to create a more accountable, transparent, and responsive council that directly addresses the needs and concerns of our community.

#### Court of Common Pleas General Division - Full Term

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 - TERM COMMENCING 01/01/25
To learn more about the judicial candidates, please visit Judicial Votes Count at https://www.judicialvotescount.org/find-your-candidates/2024-general/summit.

## **Court of Common Pleas**

**Q:** List your judicial experience (courts and years).

Q: What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

**Q:** Why are you running for this particular court seat?

#### **SEE YOUR BALLOT**

To see your personalized ballot, visit VOTE411.org.





#### Kathryn Michael

Party: Non-partisan

Campaign Email: votejudgemichael@gmail.com Training/Experience: 18 years of judicial experience; and 19 years of trial attorney experience

**Education:** University of Akron, B.A.; University of Akron School of Law, J.D.

**Q:** List your judicial experience (courts and years). Akron Municipal Court Judge, 2006-2018; Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge, 2018 – present. I currently preside over the Summit County Domestic Violence Intervention Court, a certified domestic violence specialized docket. It is one of only two courts in Ohio that have a certified specialized docket for felony domestic violence cases.

I also have served as Administrative Judge for both the Summit County Common Pleas Court ,and the Akron Municipal Court.

**Q:** What non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge? I was a trial attorney for 19 years, as well as a part-time magistrate for over 7 years before I was first elected as judge.

**Q:** Why are you running for this particular court seat? I am running this year for re-election to the judicial seat that I won in 2018.

#### Court of Common Pleas General Division - Full Term

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 01/02/25

To learn more about the judicial candidates, please visit Judicial Votes Count at https://www.judicialvotescount.org/find-your-candidates/2024-general/summit.

#### Joseph James Darwal

Party: Non-partisan

Candidate did not respond to the questions.



#### Jennifer D. Towell

Party: Non-partisan

**Facebook:** www.facebook.com/people/Judge-Jennifer-Towell/100084177657587/?checkpoint\_src=any

Website: towellforjudge.com

Training/Experience: United States Navy,

JAGC Lieutenant Navy Yard Navel Legal Services, Washington, D.C.; Applied Discovery, Division of LexisNexis, Director of E-Discovery Affairs; Brouse McDowell, Attorney; Akron Municipal Court, Magistrate 2019-2022

**Education:** Bachelor of Science from Miami University of Ohio, cum laude; Juris Doctorate from The Ohio State University College of Law where her academic honors included: Law Journal, Moot Court, Public Service Fellow, Judicial Externship as well as studying abroad at The University of Oxford-Ohio State University Comparative Law program.

Campaign Email: jennifertowellforjudge@gmail.com

**Q:** List your judicial experience (courts and years). Summit County Court of Common Pleas, 2022-2024; Akron Municipal Court, Magistrate, 2019-2022

**Q:** What non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge? As a criminal defense attorney in the Navy, I have a unique

perspective that helps insure the rights of all parties are preserved. Working as a civil litigation attorney at Brouse McDowell and as an E-Discovery Director for LexisNexis, I have an extensive background in the complexities involved in civil litigation.

Serving as a Magistrate helped form my judicial temperament and also helped me learn how to manage an extensive docket.

**Q:** Why are you running for this particular court seat? I have served in this seat since December of 2022 and love the work. I have worked hard to train my staff and we strive to provide outstanding service to every individual who appears in our court. I want to continue to make progress on reducing the backload of cases and continue to serve in the position I love. It is an honor to serve the citizens of Summit County as a just and fair Judge.

#### Court of Common Pleas General Division - Full Term

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 1 TERM COMMENCING 05/17/25

To learn more about the judicial candidates, please visit Judicial Votes Count at https://www.judicialvotescount.org/find-your-candidates/2024-general/summit.



**Susan Baker Ross** 

Party: Non-partisan

Facebook: facebook.com/JudgeSusanBakerRoss
Training/Experience: Legal Intern with the
City of Akron Law Department from 19891992; Assistant Prosecutor in the Civil Division
of the Portage County Prosecutor's Office from

1992-1997 and the Summit County Prosecutor's Office from 2001-2010; Judicial Attorney/Magistrate and then Traffic Court Magistrate for the Akron Municipal Court from 2012-2019; Private law practice; Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge May 2019; Presiding Judge Summit County Valor Court Aug 2022; Common Pleas Court Presiding Judge Feb 2023 Education: Bachelor's Degree in Management University of Akron; Juris Doctorate Degree University of Akron School of Law; admitted to the practice of law in the State of Ohio in November, 1991.

Campaign Email: judgesusanbakerross@gmail.com

**Q:** List your judicial experience (courts and years). I have served as Judge for the Summit County Common Pleas Court since May, 2019. I previously served as both a Judicial Attorney/ Magistrate and then Traffic Court Magistrate for the Akron Municipal Court from 2012-2019. In these positions I have presided over thousands of civil, criminal and traffic cases.

In addition to my normal judicial reponsibilities, I was selected to serve as Presiding Judge over the Summit County Valor Court in August, 2022. Valor Court recognizes that many of our veterans return to civilian life with serious trauma, both physical and mental, which may lead to their involvement with the criminal justice system. In Valor court, veterans are given access to programs, treatment and interaction with mentors in a collaborative initiative to enhance chances of success.

Additionally, I serve as Presiding Judge of the Common Pleas Court and have done so since February, 2023. In that role I oversees the Jury and... See complete response at www. Judicialvotescount.org.

**Q:** What non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge? As an Assistant Prosecutor in the Civil Division of the Portage County Prosecutor's Office from 1992-1997 and the

### 2024 Voting Calendar

In-Person Absentee Voting will be held at:

### **Summit County Board of Elections**

500 Grant St. Akron, Ohio 44311

#### **Registration Deadline**

Mon, Oct. 7

### Mail-in Application Deadline

Mon, Oct. 29

### In-Person Absentee Voting (Early Voting) Begins Oct. 8

Tue, Oct. 8 - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Wed, Oct. 9 – 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Thu, Oct. 10 – 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Fri, Oct. 11 – 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon, Oct. 14 – 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tue, Oct. 15 – 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Wed, Oct. 16 – 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Thu, Oct. 17 – 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Fri, Oct. 18 – 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon, Oct. 21 – 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Tue, Oct. 22 - 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Wed, Oct. 23 – 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Thu, Oct. 24 – 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Fri, Oct. 25 – 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sat, Oct. 26 – 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sun, Oct. 27 – 1 - 5 p.m. Mon, Oct. 28 – 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. Tue, Oct. 29 - 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. Wed, Oct. 30 – 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. Thu, Oct. 31 – 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. Fri, Nov 1 – 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. St, Nov. 2 - 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sun, Nov. 3 – 1- 5 p.m.

#### **Election Day**

Tue, Nov. 5

Polling locations open from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.

Summit County Prosecutor's Office from 2001-2010, I handled a large variety of civil legal issues that I now address as a judge.

In my private law practice on and off throughout the years I focused on criminal defense, wills and guardianships, contracts, and domestic relations.

Throughout the years I have developed a good work ethic and strong writing and interpersonal skills. As a result I am able to manage difficult cases and difficult litigants in a respectful manner.

**Q:** Why are you running for this particular court seat? I love my job serving Summit County as a Common Pleas Court Judge. I will continue the work of helping those who have entered the system due to addiction and mental illness while also protecting the rights of the victims in the court system. I give each case thoughtful consideration and seek to help all of the parties to our court cases if possible.

I am very effective in our Veterans Valor Court and wish to continue to help our Veterans find their way out of the court system for good.

I bring honesty, common sense and integrity to the bench. I will also bring my experience, strength and hope to the bench that comes from long term recovery and almost 35 years of sobriety.

I am asking the voters to re-elect me and let me continue to do the job for which they elected me in November, 2018. Thank you for your consideration!

#### Susan K. Steinhauer

Party: Non-partisan

Candidate did not respond to the questions.

#### Ohio Issue 1

Proposed Amendment to Replace the Current Politician-run Redistricting Process

**Summary by League of Women Voters of Ohio:** A "yes" vote supports amending the Ohio Constitution to:

- Create the Ohio Citizens Redistricting Commission, composed of 15 Ohio citizens, to replace the current 7-person redistricting commission, composed of 3 elected statewide officials and 4 state legislators or their representatives;
- Assign the commission responsibility for drawing district lines for the Ohio House of Representatives, the Ohio Senate, and the Ohio seats in the U.S. House of Representatives;
- Provide that the commission is balanced with 5 members who are affiliated with each of the state's two major political parties and 5 members who are independents;
- Provide that the members of the commission be chosen through a bipartisan process that uses the services of 4 retired court of appeals judges and in which applicants determined to be qualified to serve on the commission (by the retired judges) are identified and ultimately selected through a largely random process;
- Require that commission members have shown an ability to conduct the redistricting process with integrity and fairness and do not have any conflicts of interest;

Prohibit service on the commission by the following persons and their immediate family members:---- Persons who are currently serving or have recently served in (or candidates for) federal, state, or local offices;---- Persons who have or are currently serving or recently served as staff members, paid consultants, or contractors for any elected official or candidate for any federal, state, or local office;---- Persons who are currently serving or have served as officers, paid consultants, or contractors to any political party, political action committee, or campaign committee;---- Persons

who are currently or have recently been registered lobbyists or legislative agents in Ohio;

- Provide that each redistricting plan contain single-member districts that are geographically congruent, that comply with federal law, and that preserve communities of interest;
- Define communities of interest as communities of people with broadly shared interests and representational needs, including counties, municipal corporations, townships, and school districts;
- Ban partisan gerrymandering and the adoption of plans that favor or disfavor a political party by requiring that the statewide proportion of districts in a redistricting plan that favors each political party shall correspond closely to statewide partisan preferences of Ohio voters;

Provide that no redistricting plan shall be drawn with consideration of the place of residence of any incumbent elected official or any candidate for state or congressional office;

- Require that the commission operate in a transparent public way, that all its deliberations and actions be in public meetings, and that its actions require an affirmative vote of at least 9 of 15 members:
- Require holding 5 public hearings throughout the state prior to the adoption of draft redistricting plans, 5 public hearings after the adoption of draft redistricting plans, and 2 public hearings after the adoption of final redistricting plans;

Require the General Assembly to appropriate not less than \$7 million in 2025 for expenses of the commission with an additional appropriation for legal expenses;

- Require that redistricting plans adopted by the commission be used for the 2026, 2028, and 2030 elections, and that district lines be re-drawn every 10 years thereafter based on U.S. Census data;
- Replace the redistricting plans adopted for the 2022 and 2024 elections;
- Continue to give the Ohio Supreme Court original and exclusive jurisdiction to resolve disputes concerning compliance of redistricting plans with the proportionality and incumbency protection requirements;
- Provide procedures for removal for cause of commissioners and for the filling of any commissioner vacancy; and
- Create a procedure for resolving any impasse or stalemates in determining which redistricting plans to approve by having members of the commission rank their favored plans and vote preferentially until adoption of a plan by a majority vote.
- A "no" vote opposes amending the Ohio Constitution to create a new redistricting commission. This, then, allows the current procedures for redistricting state and congressional seats to remain in effect.

**Supporters say:** The amendment creates a new independent body, the Ohio Citizens Redistricting Commission, to draw district lines for the General Assembly and the Ohio seats in the U.S. House of Representatives.

- The 15-member commission is balanced with 5 members affiliated with each of the state's major political parties and 5 members who are independents.
- The amendment creates a bipartisan process for selecting commission members.
- The amendment removes politicians and political influence from the redistricting process by prohibiting elected officials, candidates, their staffs, political organizations, lobbyists, and immediate family members of these groups from serving on the commission.
- The amendment prohibits partisan gerrymandering of the General Assembly and the Ohio seats in the U.S. House of Representatives.

- The amendment requires that each redistricting plan contain geographically congruent districts that comply with federal law and preserve communities of interest.
- The amendment defines communities of interest to include counties, municipal corporations, townships, and school districts as well as communities of people with broadly shared interests and representational needs.
- The amendment prevents incumbency protection by barring any redistricting plan from considering the place of residence of any incumbent elected official or any candidate for state or congressional office.
- The amendment creates an open and transparent process by requiring that all commission deliberations and actions be in public meetings, and that actions by the commission require an affirmative vote of at least 9 of 15 members.
- The amendment creates a process to resolve any impasse so that the General Assembly cannot adopt its own redistricting plans.

**Opponents say:** The amendment creates a redistricting commission to replace the constitutional amendments approved by Ohio voters in 2015 and 2018. The amendment removes elected statewide officeholders and state legislators from the process of drawing district lines for the General Assembly and for the Ohio seats in the U.S. House of Representatives.

• The amendment creates a non-elected commission.

The amendment adopts procedures for selecting the members of the commission that are complex. The amendment permits the commission to hire consultants to assist in the drawing of districts.

- The amendment limits the right of Ohio citizens to freely express their views on redistricting to members of the commission and the commission staff.
- The amendment promises to end partisan gerrymandering but requires that the statewide proportion of districts that favor each political party correspond closely to statewide partisan preferences of Ohio voters.
- The amendment does not require districts to be compact.
- The amendment does not sufficiently respect the need to draw district lines that do not split counties, municipal corporations, townships, and school districts.
- The amendment does not permit members of the commission to be removed by the General Assembly.
- The amendment abolishes the historic tradition of having elected officials draw congressional and state legislative districts elected officials who are directly accountable to Ohio voters.
- The amendment seeks to make significant changes in redistricting but ignores the reality that redistricting is inherently political and that one cannot take politics out of politics.

**Yes -** For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 2 Akron 2-G - Local Liquor Option

Shall the sale of wine and mixed beverages, and spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by North Hill Neighborhood Lounge, L.L.C., (dba Lynn's) an applicant for a D-6 liquor permit who is engaged in the business of operating a restaurant/bar at 334 E. Cuyahoga Falls Avenue, Akron, Ohio 44310, in this precinct?

**Yes** - For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 3 Akron 4- B - Local Liquor Option

Shall the sale of wine and mixed beverages & spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by AKR Rest, LLC an applicant for a D6 liquor permit who is engaged in the business of a family oriented, full-service Mexican restaurant at 1666 W. Exchange St., Akron, Ohio 44313, in this precinct?

**Yes -** For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 4 Akron 4-B - Local Liquor Option

Shall the sale of wine and mixed beverages be permitted for sale on Sunday by Aldi, Inc., Ohio, dba Aldi 103 an applicant for a D-6 liquor permit who is engaged in the business of operating a grocery store at 1890 W. Market Street, Suite 200, Akron, Ohio 44313, in this precinct?

**Yes -** For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 5 Akron 7-H - Local Liquor Option

Shall the sale of wine and mixed beverages and spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by F.O.E. Aerie 0555 Akron Ohio DBA Akron Eagles 555 an applicant for a D-6 liquor permit, holder of a D-4 liquor permit who is engaged in the business of a non-profit private fraternal, charitable, and civic organization at 89 E. Waterloo Rd. and Patio, Akron, Ohio 44319, in this precinct?

**Yes** - For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 6 Akron 9-J - Local Liquor Option

Shall the sale of wine and mixed beverages, and spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by Kover Canal Pub, L.L.C. an applicant for a D-6 liquor permit who is engaged in the business of operating a bar at 660 Carnegie Avenue, 1st Floor, Akron, Ohio 44314, in this precinct?

**Yes** - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### Issue 7 Cuyahoga Falls 3-C - Local Liquor Option

Shall the sale of intoxicating liquor, of the same types as may be legally sold in this precinct on other days of the week, be permitted in this Cuyahoga Falls 3-C for consumption on the premises where sold on Sunday?

**Yes** - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### Issue 8 Cuyahoga Falls 3-C - Local Liquor Option

Shall the sale of intoxicating liquor, of the same types as may be legally sold in this precinct on other days of the week, be permitted in this Cuyahoga Falls 3-C for consumption on the premises where sold on Sunday, at licensed premises where the sale of food and other goods and services exceeds fifty percent of the total gross receipts of the permit holder at the premises?

**Yes** - For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 9 Cuyahoga Falls 3-C - Local Liquor Option

Shall the sale of wine and mixed beverages, of the same types as may be legally sold in this precinct on other days of the week, be permitted in this Cuyahoga Falls 3-C for consumption off the premises where sold on Sunday?

**Yes** - For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 10 Fairlawn - Proposed Ordinance Gas Aggregation

Shall the City of Fairlawn have the authority to aggregate the retail natural gas loads located in the City of Fairlawn, and for that purpose, enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the sale and purchase of natural gas, such aggregation to occur automatically except where any person is under contract or elects to opt out?

**Yes -** For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 11 Green 3-C - Local Liquor Option

Shall the sale of beer, wine and mixed beverages, and spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by First Watch Restaurants, Inc. an applicant for a D-6 liquor permit and holder of a D-5l liquor permit who is engaged in the business of a restaurant at 3926 Massillon Road, Green, Ohio 44685, in this precinct?

**Yes** - For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 12 New Franklin 2A- Local Liquor Option

Shall the sale of wine and mixed beverages, and spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by Bell Stores, Inc. dba BellStore 1156 an applicant for a D-6 liquor permit who

is engaged in the business of operating a carryout/grocery store at 5655 Manchester Road, New Franklin, Ohio 44319, in this precinct?

**Yes -** For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 13 New Franklin - Proposed Charter Amendment

Shall Section 5.05 of the Charter of the City of New Franklin be amended to add the alternative of electronic minutes to the requirement of written minutes of all Council Committee proceedings regarding consideration of proposed legislative action?

**Yes -** For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### Issue 14 New Franklin - Proposed Charter Amendment

Proposed Charter Amendment - Shall Section 9.03 of the Charter of the City of New Franklin be amended by changing the date for Primary Elections from the eighth Tuesday prior to the November Municipal election to the first Tuesday following the first Monday in May?

**Yes -** For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### **Issue 15 New Franklin**

Proposed Charter Amendment - Shall Section 10.07 of the Charter of the City of New Franklin be amended to add appointed Board of Commission members to those public officials required to subscribe to an oath or affirmation to faithfully discharge the duties of his or her office before entering upon the duties of that office?

**Yes** - For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### **Issue 16 New Franklin**

Proposed Charter Amendment - Shall Sections 4.06 and 8.02 of the Charter of the City of New Franklin be amended to increase the amount from \$10,000 to \$15,000 for expenditures entered into by the Municipality which require approval of Council?

**Yes -** For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 17 New Franklin

Proposed Charter Amendment - Shall Section 5.15 and 7.07 of the Charter of the City of New Franklin be amended by changing the requirement of posting of resolutions, ordinances, statements, measures, orders, proclamations, reports and Charter Review Commission Recommendations in five public places, to a requirement requiring publication of those items in a newspaper of general circulation or on the City website and social media accounts?

**Yes** - For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 18 Stow 2-E - Local Liquor Option

Shall the sale of beer, wine and mixed beverages, and spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by City of Stow Finance Department DBA City of Stow Fox Den Golf Course Clubhouse 1st Fl & Pavilion & Patios an applicant for a D-6 liquor permit, holder of a D-1, D-2, and D-3 liquor permit who is engaged in the business of operating a golf course and clubhouse at 2770 Call Rd & Golf Course Stow, Ohio 44224, in this precinct?

**Yes** - For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 19 Twinsburg - Proposed Zoning Amendment

Shall Ordinance 68-2024 amending Part Eleven of the City of Twinsburg's Zoning and Development Regulations be approved?

**Yes** - For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 19 Twinsburg - Proposed Zoning Amendment

Shall Ordinance 77-2024 rezoning 12.3 acres of land located at 1816 E. Aurora Road

(and further identified as Parcel No. 64-00589) from Commercial (C-2) to R-5 Single Family Cluster District zoning be approved?

**Yes -** For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### Issue 21 Lakemore Village - Proposed Tax Levy (Replacement)

A replacement of a tax for the benefit of the Village of Lakemore for the purpose of providing and maintaining a fire station and site thereof, fire apparatus, appliances, ambulances and fire equipment; and providing for payment of permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighters and other emergency services that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$214,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 2.5 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$88 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.

**Yes -** For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 22 Lakemore Village - Proposed Tax Levy(Replacement and Increase)

A replacement of 4.75 mills of an existing levy and an increase of 1 mill to constitute a tax for the benefit of the Village of Lakemore for the purpose of providing and maintaining a fire station and site thereof, fire apparatus, appliances, ambulances and fire equipment; and providing for payment of permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighters and other emergency services that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$491,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 5.75 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$201 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.

**Yes -** For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 23 Coventry Township - Proposed Tax Levy (Replacement and Decrease)

A replacement of a portion of an existing levy, being a reduction of 0.5 mill to constitute a tax for the benefit of Coventry Township for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefor, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, or the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm telegraph, or the payment of permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighters, including the payment of the firefighters' employer's contribution required under section 742.34 of the Revised Code, or to purchase ambulance equipment, or to provide ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by the fire department that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$2,409,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 6.25 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$220 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.

**Yes** - For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 24 Northfield Center Twp. - Proposed Tax Levy (Replacement and Decrease)

A replacement of a portion of an existing levy, being a reduction of 1.5 mills to constitute a tax for the benefit of Northfield Center Township for the purpose of the payment of costs incurred by the Township as a result of contracts made with other political subdivisions in order to obtain police protection, and for the payment of other related costs that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$1,328,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 5.5 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$193 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

**Yes -** For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 25 Springfield Township - Proposed Tax Levy (Replacement and Decrease)

A replacement of a portion of an existing levy, being a reduction of 0.25 mill to constitute a tax for the benefit of Springfield Township for the purpose of general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, and repair of streets, roads, and bridges that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$510,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 1.25 mills for each

\$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$44 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

**Yes -** For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 26 Twinsburg Township - Proposed Tax Levy (Additional)

An additional tax for the benefit of Twinsburg Township for the purpose of general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, and repair of streets, roads, and bridges that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$426,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 1.77 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$62 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

**Yes** - For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 27 Akron City School District - Proposed Bond Issue and Tax Levy

Shall the Akron City School District be authorized to do the following:(1) Issue bonds for the purpose of constructing, furnishing, and equipping a new high school to replace the School District's existing North High School, with related site improvements and appurtenances thereto; acquiring, constructing, furnishing, and equipping new facilities for school district purposes, with related site improvements and appurtenances thereto; and acquiring land, and interests in land relating thereto in the principal amount of \$85,000,000, to be repaid annually over a maximum period of 37 years, and levy a property tax outside the ten-mill limitation, estimated by the county fiscal officer to average over the bond repayment period 1.29 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$45 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, to pay the annual debt charges on the bonds, and to pay debt charges on any notes issued in anticipation of those bonds? (2) Levy an additional property tax to pay current operating expenses that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$26,438,000 annually at a rate not exceeding 7.6 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$270 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for a continuing period of time?

**Yes** - For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 28 Aurora City School District - Proposed Bond Issue

Shall bonds be issued by the Aurora City School District for the purpose of constructing, furnishing, equipping, renovating, rehabilitating, remodeling, adding to, and otherwise improving school district buildings and facilities, and acquiring, clearing, equipping, and otherwise improving their sites in the principal amount of \$136,356,400 to be repaid annually over a maximum period of 37 years, and an annual levy of property taxes be made outside of the ten-mill limitation, estimated by the county auditor to average over the repayment period of the bond issue 7.57 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$265 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025, to pay the annual debt charges on the bonds, and to pay debt charges on any notes issued in anticipation of those bonds?

**Yes -** For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 29 Cuyahoga Falls City School District - Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal)

A renewal of a tax for the benefit of the Cuyahoga Falls City School District for the purpose of current expenses that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$5,809,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 7.9 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$151 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.

**Yes -** For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 30 Nordonia Hills City School District – Proposed Tax Levy (Additional)

An additional tax for the benefit of the Nordonia Hills City School District for the

purpose of providing funds for current operating expenses and for general permanent improvements that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$7,352,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 5 mills (apportioned 4 mills to current operating expenses and 1 mill to general permanent improvements) for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$175 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

**Yes -** For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### Issue 31 Stow-Munroe Falls City School District - Proposed Bond Issue

Shall bonds be issued by the Stow-Munroe Falls City School District, Summit and Portage Counties, Ohio for the purpose of constructing, improving, furnishing, and equipping four new PK-5 elementary schools and one new 6-8 middle school, with related site improvements and appurtenances thereto; improving, renovating, furnishing, and equipping existing facilities; constructing, furnishing, and equipping new facilities for school district purposes; and demolition of existing facilities in the principal amount of \$238,005,493, to be repaid annually over a maximum period of 35 years, and an annual levy of property taxes be made outside of the ten-mill limitation, estimated by the county fiscal officer to average over the repayment period of the bond issue 8.89 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$311 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025, to pay the annual debt charges on the bonds, and to pay debt charges on any notes issued in anticipation of those bonds?

**Yes** - For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 32 Tallmadge City School District - Proposed Tax Levy (Replacement)

A replacement of a tax for the benefit of the Tallmadge City School District for the purpose of general permanent improvements that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$807,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 1.25 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$40 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

**Yes -** For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### Issue 33 Twinsburg City School District - Proposed Bond Issue

Shall bonds be issued by the Twinsburg City School District for the purpose of constructing, furnishing, equipping and otherwise improving school district buildings and facilities and clearing, improving and equipping their sites in the principal amount of \$107,000,000, to be repaid annually over a maximum period of 36 years, and an annual levy of property taxes be made outside of the ten-mill limitation, estimated by the county fiscal officer to average over the repayment period of the bond issue 4.27 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$149 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025, to pay the annual debt charges on the bonds, and to pay debt charges on any notes issued in anticipation of those bonds?

**Yes** - For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 34 Coventry Local School District – Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal)

Shall a levy renewing an existing levy be imposed by the Coventry Local School District for the purpose of providing for the emergency requirements of the school district in the sum of \$1,985,000 and a levy of taxes to be made outside of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the county fiscal officer to average 3.91 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$120 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for a period of 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026?

**Yes** - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### Issue 35 Mogadore Local School District - Proposed Tax Levy (Additional)

An additional tax for the benefit of the Mogadore Local School District for the purpose of current expenses that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$743,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 5.9 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$207 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

**Yes** - For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 36 Springfield Local School District – Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal)

Shall a levy renewing an existing levy be imposed by the Springfield Local School District for the purpose of the emergency requirements of the school district in the sum of \$1,600,000 and a levy of taxes to be made outside of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the county fiscal officer to average 2.79 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$85 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value for a period of 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026?

**Yes -** For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 37 Springfield Local School District - Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal)

Shall a levy renewing an existing levy be imposed by the Springfield Local School District for the purpose of the emergency requirements of the school district in the sum of \$930,000 and a levy of taxes to be made outside of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the county fiscal officer to average 1.62 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$50 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value for a period of 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026?

**Yes -** For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 38 Springfield Local School District - Propose Tax Levy (Renewal)

A renewal of a tax for the benefit of the Springfield Local School District for the purpose of current expenses that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$2,340,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 7 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$110 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.

**Yes -** For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 39 North Hills Water District - Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal and Decrease)

A renewal of part of an existing levy, being a reduction of 0.05 mill for each \$1 of taxable value, to constitute a tax for the benefit of the North Hills Water District, Summit County, Ohio for the purpose of providing funds to pay current expenses that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$310,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 0.45 mill for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$16 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for 10 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.

**Yes** - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### Issue 40 Summit County – Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal)

A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Summit County Children Services for the purpose of supporting children services and the care and placement of children pursuant to Chapter 5153 of the Revised Code that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$41,415,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 3.25 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$68 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for 6 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.

**Yes -** For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### Issue 41 Summit County - Proposed Charter Amendment

Shall the Charter of the County of Summit, Employment Eligibility Section be amended to apply only to employment in County Offices governed by the County Charter; include "aunt" and "uncle" among the familial relations ineligible for employment in said Offices; and remove the provision making familial relations of classified employees who earn more than \$80,000 per year ineligible for employment in said Offices?

**Yes -** For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

#### Issue 42 Summit County – Proposed Charter Amendment

Shall the Charter of the County of Summit be amended to require submission of estimated revenues and proposed expenditures by each County office, agency, authority, board and commission on a yearly instead of quarterly basis?

**Yes** - For the Measure

**No** - Against the Measure

### Need more information about the November 2024 election? Visit Vote411.org

Vote411.org is a "one-stop shop" for election-related information. It provides nonpartisan information to the public, with both general and state-specific information on many aspects of the election process, including: • Absentee ballot information • Early voting options • Election dates • Factual data on candidates in various federal, state and local races • ID requirements • Polling place locations • Registration and absentee ballot deadlines • Voter qualifications • Voter registration forms • Voting machines.

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