

Benton County

Official Local Voters' Pamphlet

PRIMARY ELECTION

AUGUST 4, 2026

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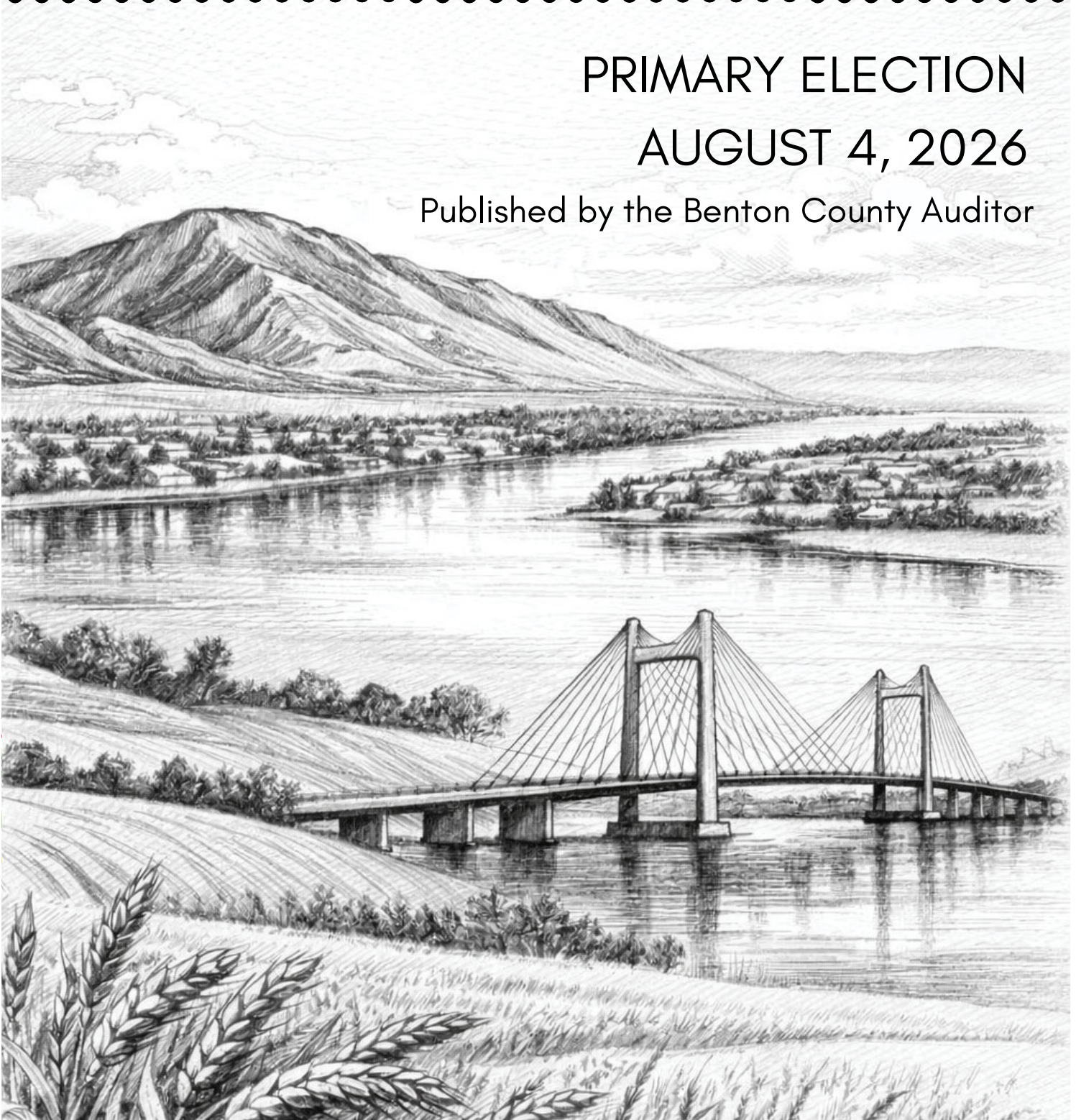


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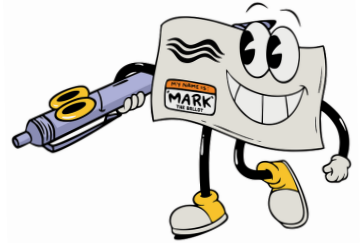
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Want to review the sample ballot?

The sample ballot for this election can be accessed on the Benton County Elections website.
www.bentoncountywa.gov/elections

**Precinct Committee Officer (PCO)****Precinct Committee Officers (PCO):**

This office appears on your Primary ballot if two candidates from the same political party filed in your precinct. The names will appear in lot draw order. If only one person from a party filed in a precinct, that person is deemed elected at the close of filing, and the office will not appear on the ballot. State law does not allow write-in votes.

There are no contested PCO races in 2026.

Your Signature Matters

Your ballot return envelope includes a place for your signature. We compare that signature to the signatures we have on file for you to confirm the envelope was signed by the correct voter. Sometimes signatures change. If that happens and your signature is challenged, don't worry – we will send you a form to update your signature. If we have a phone number on file for you, we will also call to remind you to return your form.

Only **you** may sign your ballot envelope – it is not permitted for a spouse, parent, or anyone else to sign for you.

Need a reminder? Need a reminder of what signature we have on file? Many people register to vote when they apply for or renew their Washington Driver License. Checking the signature on your license may help you understand what we have on file.

To check the status of your ballot, go to www.VoteWA.gov.



Jacek "Jack" Kobiesa

(States No Party Preference)

Elected Experience

No elected experience, that's exactly why I'm running.

Other Professional Experience

Born in communist-era Poland, I came to the United States at age 23 in pursuit of freedom and opportunity. That journey strengthened my unwavering belief in the American Dream, capitalism, individual liberty, and the Constitutional principles that define our nation. For almost three decades, I have worked to support local industry, innovation, and economic growth in our region. I deeply value hard work, personal responsibility, and strong communities. Today, I remain committed to preserving the freedoms and opportunities that make America exceptional for generations to come.

Education

Washington State University, Mechanical Engineering.

Community Service

None.

Statement

I have proudly called the Tri-Cities home for over twenty-eight years. My American journey began in San Francisco, where I witnessed both vibrant opportunities and real urban challenges. Moving to Washington strengthened my appreciation for the ideal balance of innovation, hard work, and tight-knit community that defines our region — values that continue to guide me. The Tri-Cities stands as a remarkable place built on agriculture, energy, science, and the spirit of American ingenuity. From our farms and orchards to the groundbreaking research at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, this community reflects our nation's strength and potential. I earned my mechanical engineering degree from Washington State University. Yet I am concerned that America is losing its global edge in science and innovation. The United States is no longer the undisputed leader in cancer research — China has overtaken us in research output and clinical trials. We are falling behind in critical scientific fields, and too many of our schools are not preparing students for world-class competition. Instead of leading the world upward, we risk racing to the bottom — and right now, we appear to be winning that race. I came to the United States seeking liberty, opportunity, and a better future. I have a belief in capitalism, personal responsibility, individual liberty, and the Constitutional principles that make America exceptional. Today, I remain committed to preserving the freedoms and opportunities that define our nation. I believe the government must serve the people, protect our God-given rights, and empower hardworking families. Our nation thrives when citizens stay engaged and work together. My goal is to deliver practical solutions, robust economic growth, real accountability, and respect for the Constitution — so we can reverse this decline, restore American leadership in science and education, and secure the American Dream for our children and grandchildren.

Contact

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Amanda McKinney

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Yakima County Commissioner, 6 Years. Vice Chair, Rural and Agriculture Affairs Committee, National Association of Counties Washington State Counties Representative, Western Interstate Region Board, NACo. Elected by fellow Commissioners to represent All Counties Nationwide on Wildland Fire Issues

Other Professional Experience

Small Business Owner and Successful Mortgage Banker for over 20 Years in Central Washington

Education

Central Washington University, Dual Degrees; Pre-Law, Emphasis in Criminal Justice and Political Science, Emphasis in Constitutional Law

Community Service

Rotarian, 22 Years and counting! BOD Member Yakima YMCA and United Way, Home Build Chair Habitat for Humanity, Board President CTCs/St Paul Cathedral School, Yakima Greenway

Statement

I am Amanda McKinney, a Wife, Mother, Christian, Daughter of a veteran and law enforcement officer, County Commissioner and the only Trump-Endorsed Candidate.

I bring proven leadership rooted in faith, family, and service to our rural way of life. Central Washington's agriculture is the backbone of our economy and America's food supply. I will champion family farms, orchards, dairies, and ranchers by defending water rights, lowering input costs, advancing ag technology, addressing labor challenges, and securing fair trade for our producers. I have led efforts to make our district a hub for agricultural innovation.

Our district powers the Pacific Northwest through the Columbia and Snake River dams. I will protect these assets that provide affordable energy, irrigation and commerce. To secure energy dominance and win the AI race, we must prioritize advanced nuclear power, expand Hanford's mission, invest in fusion technology, and use LNG to keep energy affordable.

Public safety is non-negotiable. Raised in a law enforcement family, I stand for law and order, secure borders, and constitutional rights, especially the Second Amendment. I will always support our first responders. My record shows results. As Commissioner, I serve in leadership at the Washington State and National Association of Counties, advocating for rural priorities statewide and nationally. I've fought overreach, secured resources, prevented fraud, and strengthened our voice on water, agriculture, and fiscal responsibility.

I am also humbly endorsed by Speaker Mike Johnson, Turning Point Action and over 40+ local elected officials and business leaders who trust my America First Leadership. This is our moment for renewal. With constitutional principles and proven leadership, we will restore prosperity, defend freedoms, and secure the American Dream for our children. I am ready to be your voice in Congress for Central Washington's values and our future.

Contact

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www.mckinneyforwashington.com



John Duresky

(Prefers Democratic Party)

Elected Experience

None.

Other Professional Experience

24 year Air Force career, first Avionics Technician, then Commissioned Cyberspace Operations Officer. Led teams in deployed network, influence, and airborne communications operations working with the NSA, CIA, and Combatant Commands. After military service, managed major federal technology and contractor oversight programs budgeted at more than \$100 million annually at Hanford.

Education

Professional Aeronautics, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (BS), Avionics Systems Technology, Community College of the Air Force (AAS).

Community Service

I have volunteered with community service projects including public lands stewardship and wildlife conservation. I have also coached little league baseball and been involved in scouting activities.

Statement

Practical Solutions for Central Washington: Central Washington deserves a representative focused on results—not culture wars or partisan games. That is why I am running for Congress.

Affordability & Economic Security: As a retired Air Force Major with three combat deployments, I know what war costs. Working families are already struggling with rising gas prices and grocery bills, and we need to focus on lowering these costs at home instead of wasting taxpayer dollars abroad. I want to rebuild trust in labor unions, raise the federal minimum wage, and invest in infrastructure (including roads, bridges, and broadband) that creates jobs and connects communities. **Healthcare Access:** No one should have to drive 100 miles to see a doctor or go bankrupt from a medical emergency. We need to keep rural hospitals open and funded, restore ACA (Affordable Care Act) subsidies, protect Medicare and Apple Health/Medicaid, lower prescription drug costs, and increase transparency so families never face surprise medical bills. Ultimately, moving toward universal healthcare coverage should be our goal.

Agriculture & Our Economy: Central Washington's farmers feed the world, but water insecurity and rising costs threaten that. I'll work to remove harmful tariffs, ensure the Farm Bill works for small operations, protect irrigation rights, and reform the H2A visa program.

Defending Democracy: With 24 years of experience in the military and cybersecurity, I know it takes teamwork to keep our country and our allies safe. I will also support banning congressional stock trading, overturning Citizens United, and imposing real ethics rules on our courts and politicians.

Protecting our Public Lands: Public lands belong to everyone. I'll fight against the ongoing effort to sell our public lands and protect them for future generations. We should not be making it harder for hunters, anglers, hikers, and campers to access the places they love.

Contact

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John C. Hughs

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

My family and my home are in eastern Washington, for many decades, I have seen our friends and neighbors suffer from foolish governance. I have lived and worked in almost every county in the 4th.

Other Professional Experience

In Congress, I will fight for the farmer, rancher, small business owner, tradesperson, and laborer of every walk of life who yearn for a better life for our children.

Education

I know work, the trap of low wages, and a family's everyday struggle against the shrinking dollar.

Community Service

With everything I have, I will fight to restore our American hope and dream for our children and grandchildren.

Statement

By restoring our American foundational principles of life, liberty, and property and our stewardship of clean air, water, and land, that are practical, we can still grow our economic base to secure our future. Armed with a broad background of experience and education, I possess a high capacity to influence the positive change we all hope for and need.

First, I offer years of hands-on farming and ranching experience. We lost our family business due to a state that favored the large corporation over the rancher. Second, I spent years studying and practicing law. I am trained in legal writing, analysis, and the practice of law. We must not allow our judges to be politically seduced; they must follow the law and grant equal justice for all. Third, I have spent years studying and applying Chemical Engineering. I worked at Hanford to contain nuclear waste so it could be vitrified. I also combined my legal and technical backgrounds and became an inventor's attorney. Currently, I serve the Community Health Plan of Washington in helping Medicaid and Medicare patients reduce out-of-pocket expenses.

I know the struggles of the student working to get through school and then face student loan debt. I understand the difficulty of parents trying to pay their bills and to raise a family on a fixed income, confronted with the high cost of housing and vehicles. I have experienced the difficulty in making a small business survive against all odds. Lastly, I know the limited options seniors face when the insurance company will not pay the bill, and the collectors come knocking.

I will contend for family, church and community. I will fight for the balance of power, the reduction of national debt, an effective Vo-Tech program, and stimulation of small businesses using innovation and tax breaks.

Contact

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Favian Valencia

(Prefers Independent Party)

Elected Experience

This will be my first public office.

Other Professional Experience

Civil rights attorney at Sunlight Law. Small business co-owner, Amá Cafe. Host of The Soul-Centered Attorney Podcast.

Education

Davis High Diploma; Bachelor's degree, Gonzaga University; Juris Doctor, University of Dayton School of Law; Master's in public policy, Thunderbird School of Global Management at Arizona State University.

Community Service

Board member, La Casa Hogar; Governor-appointed member, Washington Board of Accountancy; past board member, Yakima County Law Library; member and former board member, Washington State Association for Justice; President of the Latino Bar Association of Washington.

Statement

I am running for Congress because I believe our Constitution and civil rights are being violated by our President, and I could not stand by and just watch anymore.

I was born in Illinois to loving Mexican, Catholic, migrant farmworker parents. We moved with the agricultural seasons before my family settled in Yakima, Washington. I grew up working alongside my family in the orchards, where I learned the value of hard work, honesty, respect, faith, and perseverance. Those early lessons shaped who I am and motivated me to pursue my education and career in public service.

As a civil rights attorney, I have spent my career standing up for ordinary people against powerful institutions. As an attorney, I swore an oath to uphold and defend our constitution and the civil rights that come from it. More than ever we need to stand up for the rights that our constitution represents. Our constitution and our democracy affirms that we are all equal—that includes our President and other government representatives.

Washington's 4th District needs common-sense solutions on water, agriculture, housing, healthcare, education, public safety, and economic opportunity. We do not need more partisan fighting. We need leaders who will listen to farmers, workers, families, veterans, business owners, and young people trying to build a future here. I am an independent candidate because I do not answer to party bosses. I answer to the people of this district. I will work with anyone serious about solving problems in our community. Whether you are a Republican, Democrat, Independent or anything in between, I invite you to stand with me. We are better together.

Contact

(509) 424-5824, info@valenciaforcongress.com,
www.ValenciaForCongress.com



Jerrod Sessler

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Primary election winner with endorsements from Trump, General Flynn, Republicans statewide, and County Republican Parties. Entrepreneur with extensive experience engaging in federal policy discussions since 2004, including dozens of visits to Washington, D.C. Active in local party organization and leadership.

Other Professional Experience

Successful businessman employing hundreds; decorated war veteran; consultant to Subway and other companies; engineer at Intel; former NASCAR driver; founder of Home Task and affiliated companies; IFA Certified Franchise Executive; SBA Champion of the Year.

Education

AAS in Manufacturing Engineering; BS in Mechanical Engineering; UT Certified in Lean Manufacturing.

Community Service

Honored Navy Petty Officer; Hope4Youth Foundation; Christian church volunteer & Bible teacher; Author.

Statement

Incumbent defeating candidate Jerrod Sessler is the fighter we need to rescue Washington. Jerrod Sessler took on the establishment and won. After years of uninspiring representation, he forced incumbent, Dan Newhouse, to retire. Now the same insiders who propped up the failed incumbent are gaslighting voters, rebranding themselves as conservatives, and scrambling to install yet another weak Republican. Jerrod Sessler isn't one of them. He's proven he'll stand up, fight back, and deliver real change. Visit WhySessler.com. Jerrod has worked tirelessly to give Central Washington the principled representation it deserves. He's not in this for a title or resume. He's already built a successful life as a Christian, veteran, rancher, family man, and businessman. He stepped into the arena for one reason: to fight for you!

Despite relentless attacks and unlimited money from the political establishment, the public did not fall for the disingenuous tactics and delivered Jerrod the win in the primary. That hard-fought victory earned the trust of the people and built unstoppable momentum. He has been endorsed by General Flynn, and key House Freedom Caucus leaders including Reps. Scott Perry, Andy Biggs, Ralph Norman, Josh Brecheen, Byron Donalds, Eli Crane, and many more. These relationships mean he will arrive in D.C. ready to deliver results for us.

Jerrod is an unapologetic defender of faith, family, freedom, and the Constitution. He will fight to protect your wallet and stop endless tax-and-spend policies riddled with fraud. He asks tough questions, like: "Why are we paying 'rent' through property taxes on land we purchased with income that was already taxed?" Central Washington needs a proven fighter who shares our values. Jerrod Sessler has already shown he can win. With your vote, he will deliver the bold leadership we deserve. *Vote Jerrod Sessler.*

Contact

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Devin Poore

(Prefers Cascade Party)

Elected Experience

No information submitted

Other Professional Experience

Impact Merchandise - Warehouse & Transportation Logistics Manager - 2016-2019; Spur Reply - Software Engineer - 2020-2023; Capital Group - Software Engineer II - 2023-2026

Education

Curlew High School - 2012 Graduate; University of Washington - 2012-2015 (no degree earned); University of Washington PCE, Software Development Course - 2019

Community Service

In addition to assisting with numerous community service projects as a Boy Scout growing up, I led the effort to revitalize the Curlew Lake State Park Amphitheater area as my Eagle Scout project after graduating from high school.

Statement

We're navigating challenging times nationally. Political polarization has escalated for years. Increasing instability abroad. A ballooning national debt. Impacts of AI. Wealth inequality expanding; everyday costs rising. Not all these challenges stem from corruption in DC, but our pay-to-play political system has allowed these problems to fester for too long. In my lifetime, I've watched my government waste trillions on pointless wars, bail out Wall Street criminals with taxpayer funds, give lavish tax breaks to the wealthiest Americans, and turn a blind eye to endless slaughter in places like Gaza.

These failures demand accountability and a new generation of leadership. Beyond anti-corruption reforms - stock trading ban, term limits, campaign finance reform - my focus would remain fixed on our regional needs. Investments to stabilize struggling farms. Range riding programs to build a skilled workforce for livestock protection and border security. Clean, decentralized energy production. Robust wildfire management programs. Sensible and dignified immigration policy. These are investments in long-term prosperity for Central Washington, not simply donor favors.

CD4 has been represented by a Republican for 44 of the last 46 years. The result: the poorest district in Washington, 1400 farms lost in 15 years, and cuts to healthcare programs residents depend on. But voters east of the mountains remain wary of Democrats, too often ignored by Olympia. In our two-party system, voters must choose between a party that has failed them and one that treats them as an afterthought. I grew up in Ferry County, built a career, and returned to Eastern Washington because this is home. Neither party has truly earned this district's trust; someone has to try something different. That's why I entered this race as an independent before proudly accepting the Cascade Party's nomination. They believe what I believe: CD4 deserves better. We can build it together.

Contact

devin@devin4wa.com, devin4wa.com



Ken Vaz

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

First-time federal candidate.

Other Professional Experience

Engineer and entrepreneur with experience supporting cloud infrastructure, data platforms, and analytics systems in the private sector. Professional experience includes roles across the technology and retail sectors in Washington state at companies including Amazon, Salesforce, and Nordstrom.

Education

B.S. in Human Centered Design & Engineering; University of Washington Seattle

Community Service

My Christian faith has helped shape my values, including personal responsibility, compassion, and service to others. I believe strong communities are built when people actively support and invest in one another. I've spent time mentoring others in their professional development and volunteering through my local church and community.

Statement

I'm an engineer and entrepreneur running for Congress because I believe working Americans deserve leadership centered on results, accountability, and restoring economic opportunity.

I graduated from the University of Washington with a degree in Human Centered Design & Engineering and have worked across the technology industry, including roles supporting infrastructure and data systems at companies such as Amazon, Salesforce, and Nordstrom.

I've seen rising housing costs, inflation, and growing financial pressure across Washington state make it increasingly difficult for Americans to achieve stability and build a better future. Too many people feel like they are working harder while falling further behind.

As an engineer, I've seen firsthand how quickly technology and artificial intelligence are transforming our economy. Washington should continue leading in innovation while protecting workers, supporting domestic investment, and ensuring economic growth benefits American families and communities.

I believe government should prioritize responsible budgeting, public safety, protecting constitutional rights, affordable and reliable energy, and policies that encourage private-sector job growth and long-term economic stability.

Too often, politics has become more focused on division than delivering meaningful results for the people. I want to bring a problem-solving mindset to Congress grounded in practical solutions, transparency, and restoring trust in our institutions. My goal is simple: help strengthen our economy, support American workers and businesses, and ensure future generations have the opportunity to thrive.

Contact

(707) 408-3049, info@kenvazforwa.com, kenvazforwa.com



Zac Rossi

(States No Party Preference)

Elected Experience

None

Other Professional Experience

U.S. Navy Veteran, Submarine Service; Licensed Senior Reactor Operator

Education

M.E.M., Engineering Management, Old Dominion University; B.S., Mechanical Engineering, University of Arizona

Community Service

None

Statement

Our Constitutional Republic is facing an unsustainable fiscal reckoning. With the national debt at 100% of GDP and projected to be greater than 200% within 30 years, interest alone will soon consume the majority of our tax revenue. Economists warn our fiscal trajectory is incompatible with a functioning long-term economy. Every year of delay adds trillions to the cost of reform as four million more baby boomers retire. There is no painless solution, but comprehensive bipartisan reform is necessary to restore fiscal stability. How can we fix it?

Squeeze Health Inefficiencies: Transition Medicare to a premium support system where private insurers compete for retirees. This empowers seniors with choices while potentially lowering federal costs by 8%. Implementing a per-capita cap on Medicaid can help stop the cycle of endless federal subsidies while incentivizing state-level innovation.

Modernize Entitlements: Existing entitlement programs cannot be sustained under today's demographic realities. Raising the age of eligibility and switching to price-indexing for initial benefits can help. The program must focus on protecting the vulnerable with a 125% poverty-line minimum benefit, while asking the top 60% of earners to cover more of their Medicare premiums.

Restrain General Spending: Cap all discretionary spending growth at 3.5% annually. This brings defense and domestic outlays to their lowest share of the economy since the 1930s while ending wasteful farm and student loan subsidies.

Realistic Tax Reform: We must end the fantasy that taxing billionaires solves this—seizing their total wealth would only fund the government for nine months. Raising the top tax bracket to 39.6%, capping deductions at 15%, and implementing a 1% Medicare payroll tax hike could help ensure the system's survival.

Politicians of both parties created this crisis by overpromising. This is a call to make them responsible for fixing it.

Contact

(509) 906-4899, zac@zacrossi.com, zacrossi.com



Elpidia Saavedra

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Current Toppenish Mayor and council member (2018). Candidate for U.S. Congress in Washington's 4th Congressional District. Former candidate for Yakima County Commissioner District 3.

Other Professional Experience

Dental Hygienist and coordinator, farmworker, legislator and public speaker. Education and parental rights advocate. Bi-vocational minister and church leader.

Education

BAS in Dental Hygiene; Master of Business Administration with a concentration in Public Health Admin at EWU; Ordained Christian Minister.

Community Service

Dedicated 28 years of public service, committed to supporting working families, lowering taxes, public safety, economic growth, and government accountability. Strong and effective state and federal advocate for community projects and funding for local opportunities.

Statement

Dear Voters, I humbly ask for your vote and your trust. Unlike many in politics today, I am not focused on chasing high-profile endorsements or relying on massive financial backing. Public service was never meant to belong only to the highest bidder. Yet too often, that is exactly what Americans are witnessing, leaving you and I, frustrated and concerned about the direction of our nation.

Across our communities, families are struggling under the weight of rising costs. Food, fuel, healthcare, education, insurance, and taxes continue to increase with little relief in sight. Homeownership is becoming unattainable for many, while small businesses are pushed aside by large corporations. Parents are increasingly concerned about declining academic performance and the erosion of their role in their children's education. These challenges demand leadership that puts We the People first. You deserve a representative who will speak boldly, act responsibly, and fight for common-sense solutions in Washington, D.C. I will not be silenced or pressured by political establishments. Washington State's 4th Congressional District deserves strong and independent leadership. I am committed to securing funding for local infrastructure, public safety, and community development projects. I support affordable healthcare, housing opportunities, clean water, renewable energy, economic growth, tribal relations, immigration reform, and expanding employment opportunities across all sectors.

My mom Patty, immigrated from Mexico. She taught us to honor God, family, and our nation. She raised her children to work hard as farmworkers first, and then to serve the public. We have US veterans, law enforcement officers, firefighters, medical and dental professionals, educators, small business owners, and entrepreneurs. Unity and common sense guides my decisions, and with your support, we can send a clear message: government should be Powered by the People, Not the Purse. God Bless You and God Bless America! Thank you for your support.

Contact

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Matt Boehnke

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

State Senator, LD-8 since 2022; State Representative, LD-8 from 2018–2022; Kennewick City Councilmember from 2015–2019.

Other Professional Experience

21 years active duty US Army helicopter pilot and paratrooper retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel and an expert in national and cybersecurity. After retiring I worked at USA Corps of Engineers and Energy Northwest as an Information System Project Manager. Currently tenured cybersecurity professor Columbia Basin College.

Education

MAS, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University; BA, Eastern Washington University; Graduated from Kamiakin HS.

Community Service

Sunrise Rotarian, American Legion, National Rifle Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and former Arts Commissioner.

Statement

From flying helicopters in the Army to answering the call at home, I'm a fourth-generation Tri-Citian who married my middle-school sweetheart and raised two sons here. I retired as a Lieutenant Colonel after 21 years on active duty, then came home to start a small business and founded Columbia Basin College's cybersecurity program to train the workforce protecting critical infrastructure from growing digital threats.

In the State Senate, I've been outnumbered but never outworked. I've fought for my constituents every session. As Ranking Member on the Energy, Environment and Technology Committee, I've led the fight to protect our dams and hydropower, advance nuclear energy, and keep electricity affordable for the farmers, food processors, manufacturers, and families our economy depends on.

I've fought against tax increases and regulations that treat agriculture as an obstacle instead of the backbone of Central Washington. Whether in the minority or majority, I say what I mean and work hard to deliver results.

In Congress, I'll represent Central Washington, not D.C. insiders. I'll work to secure our border, stop fentanyl pouring into our communities, support veterans, seniors, and small businesses, and defend the affordable, reliable energy America depends on.

Hard work, faith, and family built this district, and those values deserve a stronger voice in Congress. I'm backed by leaders who know this district best: former WA-04 Congressman Doc Hastings, 16 state legislators, county commissioners, mayors, city councilmembers, and community leaders across all eight counties.

You deserve a Congressman who has spent a lifetime serving our community, with 21 years in uniform and eight years in the legislature. I'm not done serving Central Washington, and I'd be honored to earn your vote.

Contact

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These statements are printed exactly as submitted with no spelling, grammatical or other corrections made.

The candidate or campaign committee is responsible for content.



Who donates to campaigns?

View information on financial contributors for federal candidates:

Federal Election Commission

www.fec.gov

Toll Free 1 (800) 424-9530

View financial contributors for candidates and measures:

Public Disclosure Commission

www.pdc.wa.gov

Toll Free 1 (877) 601-2828



Gabe Galbraith

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Elected to the Kennewick School Board in 2021 and re-elected in 2025. Serving as your Board President since 2023.

Other Professional Experience

Currently a Security Specialist at Hanford and small business owner. Previous experience includes 15+ years in HR, Operations Management, VA disability claims, former substitute teacher, and proud U.S. Marine Veteran.

Education

Two master's degrees, Elementary Education and Business Administration, a bachelor's degree in accounting, and a Kamiakin High School graduate.

Community Service

Served as a local youth sports coach, participated in food and clothing drives, animal adoption events, Toys for Tots, PTO/PTAs, and an active member of my church.

Statement

I've dedicated my life to service as a U.S. Marine, small business owner, and Kennewick School Board Director. My wife and I raised our children here, guided by *Faith, Family, and Service* — the same principles that guide my work protecting children, supporting parents, and strengthening our community. Our families, businesses, and community come first.

Nationally recognized and awarded School Board Director of the Year, I'll bring that same *proven leadership and commitment to results* as your next Senator. You deserve a Senator who has *lived, worked, and served here over 35 years* — not a politician who moved here in February to advance a political career.

Your vote presents a *clear choice*: proven *local conservative leadership* focused on serving the people of the 8th District and rejecting the failed status quo of Olympia, or a political opportunist focused on serving the state establishment. My record demonstrates I will unapologetically *protect constitutional freedoms*, support law enforcement, defend parental rights, strengthen schools, fight for affordable housing, address water and power concerns, and *oppose higher taxes on working families*.

I'm honored to be endorsed by the Benton County Republican Party and many respected local leaders. Thank you for your support. God bless.

Contact

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www.gabeforwa.com



Nikki Torres

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Elected to the Senate, 15th District 2022, Deputy Floor Leader, Assistant Ranking Operating Budget. Elected to Pasco City Council, 2021

Other Professional Experience

Before serving in the state Senate, I worked at Gesa Credit Union as a Small Business Development Officer helping businesses across our region which ignited my passion for economic development reinforcing the importance of responsible financial management.

Education

MBA, UOP

Community Service

Washington State Senator; former President of Tri-Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; Served on WA Childcare Collaborative Task Force, Kennewick Police Department Foundation Board, Tri-Cities Community Health Board, and Visit Tri-Cities. Volunteered with Junior Achievement and as a Girl Scout co-troop leader.

Statement

I am grateful for the opportunity to have served the Tri-Cities in the Washington State Senate during the last four years. During my time in Olympia, I have worked to deliver real results for our communities, including securing more than \$500 million in capital funding for infrastructure, public safety, and community projects across our region.

I am especially proud of my work to support law enforcement and to protect public safety during a time when harmful policies threatened our communities and families.

I will keep fighting for strong public schools, safe communities, affordable housing, mental health services, and responsible state budgets that put working families first. I will continue to oppose wasteful spending, unfair taxes, burdensome regulations, and policies that make it harder for families and small businesses to succeed. I take the stewardship of taxpayer dollars seriously and believe the state should manage its finances the same way families and businesses do, conservatively, responsibly, and with integrity.

I am honored to be endorsed by Representative April Connors, Representative Stephanie Barnard, and outgoing Senator Matt Boehnke. With your support, I will continue working to protect our communities, strengthen local businesses, and defend the values that make the Tri-Cities strong.

Contact

(509) 301-7471, Bethswansonpr@gmail.com,
www.NikkiTorresforWA.com



Stephanie Barnard

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

State Representative since 2022. *Legislative Leadership:* Ranking Member of Technology, Economic Development, Veterans Committee; Capital Budget; Environment/Energy; Rules; Civic Health; Nuclear Energy Caucus & Multi-State Consortium; Public Safety; Women's Caucus; WA Builds Board of Directors; National Committees: Nuclear, Natural Resources, Energy, Labor & Economic Development.

Other Professional Experience

Government Affairs: Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce; Local Government Affairs Committee; Tri-Cities Legislative Council

Education

CBC/WGU

Community Service

Founded ANGELS Network, a nonprofit providing car seats/training for low-income, high-risk parents of newborn babies; Former Board Member- Boy Scouts of America; Former volunteer- B5; Current Board Member- Support, Advocacy, & Resource Center; Current Board Member- Columbia Ability Alliance.

Statement

It has been a profound honor to serve the Tri-Cities as your elected representative. As a single mother, I know how challenging it is to pay the bills and keep food on the table. I am committed to quality education, protecting parental rights, and ensuring affordable access to essentials like gas, food, energy, and housing. I will continue fighting for lower taxes, strengthening public safety, developing a skilled workforce, and driving economic growth. As my leadership responsibilities in Olympia grow, so do the opportunities. Let's work together to build a better and brighter future. Thank you for your continued support!

Contact

(509) 581-2484, Stephanie@StephanieforWA.com, StephanieforWA.com

Top Two Primary: FAQs

What is a Top Two Primary?

The Washington Top Two Primary allows voters to choose among all candidates running for each office. Voters do not have to declare a party affiliation to vote in the primary.

Candidates for partisan office may state a preference for a political party, which is listed on the ballot. The two candidates who receive the most votes in the primary election qualify for the general election. Candidates must also receive at least 1% of the votes cast in that race to advance to the General Election.

Could a race in the general election include two candidates who prefer the same party?

Yes. The candidates in each race who advance to the general election will be the two who receive the most votes in the primary. It is possible that both candidates who advance to the general election prefer the same party.

What does the candidate's "party preference" mean in a top two primary?

Each candidate for partisan office may state a political party that he or she prefers. A candidate's preference does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party, or that the party approves of or associates with that candidate.

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April Connors

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Our current State Representative, April serves as House Republican Floor Leader, Assistant Ranking Member on the Appropriations Committee, and a member of the Housing and Rules committees.

Other Professional Experience

April Connors is a successful real estate professional with a managing broker's license and 25 years of experience helping families find homes in the Tri-Cities.

Education

BA, WSU

Community Service

April believes strong communities are built through service. She has volunteered with the Academy of Children's Theatre, FFA, and PTO, and serves on the boards of Habitat for Humanity and Visit Tri-Cities. In 2010, she helped lead a relief effort to Haiti after the devastating earthquake.

Statement

Serving our community in Olympia has been one of the greatest honors of my life. I'm grateful for the trust you've placed in me and proud to be a strong voice for the Tri-Cities and Eastern Washington. I'm focused on affordability, public safety, expanding housing opportunities, protecting local jobs, and supporting policies that strengthen our communities. I believe in listening first, working hard, and always putting our communities first. Whether fighting for Hanford, lowering costs, or creating more opportunities for families, I will continue working every day to be an effective voice for our district.

Contact

(509) 581-2480, hello@aprilforwashington.com,
aprilforwashington.com

Primary-Only Voters

Persons signed up to register to vote are eligible to vote in state and local primaries and presidential primaries if they are 17 years of age on the day of the primary and will be 18 years of age on or before the day of the associated subsequent November general election.

Primary-only voters are eligible to participate solely in races subject to the primary process for winnowing candidates to a final list of two. Ballots issued to primary-only voters shall contain only the contests they are eligible to vote in.

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Felony Convictions and Voting Rights

If you were convicted of a felony in a Washington State court, your right to vote is restored automatically once you are no longer serving a sentence of total confinement in prison.

If you were convicted of a felony in another state or in federal court, your right to vote is restored automatically as long as you are no longer serving a sentence of total confinement in prison.

You do not lose the right to vote for a misdemeanor conviction or a conviction in juvenile court.

Once your right to vote is restored, you must register to vote even if you were previously registered. You do not need a certificate of discharge to register to vote.

New Statewide Ballot Envelope Design

In order for your ballot to be counted, it must be either postmarked no later than Election Day or deposited at a ballot drop box no later than 8:00 p.m. Election Day.

Don't forget to sign the declaration below.

Voter Declaration:
I do solemnly swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I am: A United States citizen; A Washington state resident; At least 18 years old on election day, or 17 years old at the primary and 18 years old by the day of the November general election; Voting only once in this election and not voting in any other United States jurisdiction; Not serving a sentence of total confinement under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections for a Washington felony conviction or currently incarcerated for a federal or out-of-state felony conviction; Not disqualified from voting due to a court order. Aware it is illegal to forge a signature or cast another person's ballot and attempting to vote when not qualified, attempting to vote more than once, or falsely signing this declaration is a felony punishable by a maximum imprisonment of five years, a maximum fine of \$10,000, or both; and Aware that the signature on this declaration will be compared to the signature(s) in the voter's registration file.

Sign & date

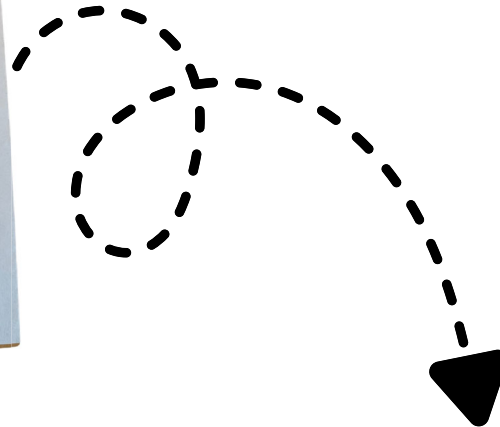
signature of voter _____
date _____ phone number _____

If you are unable to sign or have difficulty, make a mark next to the arrow above and have two witnesses sign below:

witness 1 signature _____ witness 2 signature _____

BENT0226R004 - STC REP P15 E

www.bentoncounty.wa.gov/auditor
(509) 736-3085

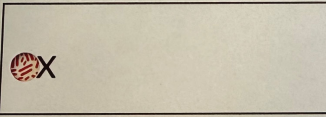


Read, sign, and date below to verify your ballot

I do solemnly swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I am:

- A United States citizen;
- A Washington state resident;
- At least 18 years old on election day, or 17 years old at the primary and 18 years old by the day of the November general election;
- Voting only once in this election and not voting in any other United States jurisdiction;
- Not serving a sentence of total confinement under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections for a Washington felony conviction or currently incarcerated for a federal or out-of-state felony conviction;
- Not disqualified from voting due to a court order;
- Aware it is illegal to forge a signature or cast another person's ballot and attempting to vote when not qualified, attempting to vote more than once, or falsely signing this declaration is a felony punishable by a maximum imprisonment of five years, a maximum fine of \$10,000, or both; and
- Aware that the signature on this declaration will be compared to the signature(s) in the voter's registration file.

Voter, sign and date below
You may not use a power of attorney to sign for someone else.

  today's date _____
(MM / DD / YYYY)

Voter phone number or email (optional, in case there is an issue with your signature)

If you are unable to sign...
Make a mark in the signature box and have two witnesses sign below.

X X
Witness 1 signature _____ Witness 2 signature _____

BENT0226R117 - QBRM Peel n Seal E

Beginning with the Primary Election this year, the State of Washington has enacted a new law requiring all counties to use a uniform ballot envelope. As a result of this statewide requirement, there will be significant changes to the appearance and layout of ballot envelopes used in elections moving forward. While the ballot envelope will look different from prior elections, the voting process and ballot content remain unchanged.



Chelsea Dimas

(Prefers Democratic Party)

Elected Experience

Current Precinct Committee Officer-Democratic Party

Other Professional Experience

With more than a decade in both the public and private sectors—plus fluency in English and Spanish, Chelsea's expertise will help when addressing our community's needs. Her experience includes: Civil Survival, Washington State House of Representatives, Toppenish School District, and Habitat for Humanity.

Education

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Pacific Lutheran University; *Associate of Arts*, Yakima Valley College; *Diploma*, Sunnyside High School

Community Service

Commissioner, WA State Human Rights Commission; Commissioner, WA State Commission on Hispanic Affairs; DEI Committee Member, Sunnyside School District; Volunteer, United Farm Workers; Former Board Director, Central Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Statement

Raised by immigrant farmworkers in the Yakima Valley, Chelsea knows the sacrifices working families make every day. She believes no one should choose between paying rent, buying groceries, or accessing healthcare.

As your State Representative, Chelsea will fight to lower costs for working families, protect workers and small businesses, invest in public education and universal childcare, and keep our neighborhoods safe and healthy. She'll be a strong voice in Olympia who puts *la gente* (the people) first and will *echarle ganas* (work hard) for a future where we can *all* afford to live and dream right here in the 14th.

Contact

(509) 305-6921, info@chelseaforwa.com, chelseaforwa.com



William Chichenoff

(States No Party Preference)

Elected Experience

Father and grandfather. Gang intervention and prevention specialist. Proud tribal member running community sweat lodge and dance ceremonies.

Other Professional Experience

Dedicated churchgoer every Sunday. Regular at the gym, sauna, and Zumba. Wrestling coach. Aztec indigenous dancer. Founder of cultural dance groups at Shelton and Coyote Ridge prisons, make regular proposals at city county meetings

Education

using traditional drums to unite rural gangs toward peace. Bilingual singer. Proud sponsor with ten years of personal recovery from alcoholism

Community Service

Son and grandson of military veterans. I am taking absolutely no campaign donations because of my strong morals and dedication to community healing. Love Jesus Mary Joseph.

Statement

District 14 faces severe crises: skyrocketing utility bills, yearly droughts, contaminated rivers, and rising overdose, domestic violence, and suicide numbers. We must stop throwing public funds at revolving-door jail systems and non-profit grants that fail to deliver results.

My solutions are immediate. I will establish secure, long-term stabilization wards—not police in hospitals—and mandate 72-hour mental health evaluations for domestic violence offenders. I will secure grants for agricultural drip irrigation, cover high-evaporation channels with solar panels, and solarize public buildings. I will advocate to allow EBT for nutritious hot foods, prioritizing public health, infrastructure, and family healing. Constitution law advocate.

Contact

(509) 833-8677; contact@williamchichenoff.com, Williamchichenoff.com



Gloria Mendoza

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Member of Washington State House of Representatives, 2 years. Mayor of the City of Grandview, 5 years. Member Grandview City Council, 3 years.

Other Professional Experience

GMC Companies, LLC. Founder and CEO (25 years). We provide vocational training to individuals, especially agriculture workers, and public and private organizations.

Education

Graduated from Grandview High School and Yakima Valley Community College.

Community Service

As a Rotary Club member, Gloria has helped raise money for student scholarships, senior activities and community days' events. She has been Grandview's economic development liaison to new businesses and housing developers. Church volunteer.

Statement

Gloria is a proven conservative leader who has served as Grandview's Mayor, Council member, and now as the Representative for the 14th District. A former farmworker, business owner and mom, Gloria understands the values and challenges of working families and is committed to supporting our agricultural economy and strengthening our communities. During her first term in Olympia, Gloria fought to protect individual rights, defend family values, oppose new taxes and burdensome regulations, and support small businesses. She remains committed to upholding the Constitution, including the Second Amendment and religious freedom. She will continue to be a strong voice in Olympia.

Contact

(509) 830-4935, gloria@votegloria.com, votegloria.com

August Primary Election Key Dates

June 17 - Service and Overseas Ballots Mailed

July 14 - Ballots Mailed

July 27 - Online/Mail Voter Registration Deadline

August 4 - In Person Voter Registration Deadline

August 4 - Primary Election Day!

August 6 - Random Batch Audit

August 13 - Random Ballot Audit

August 17 - Pre-Certification

August 18 - Certification Day





Deb Manjarrez

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Washington State House of Representatives, 2 years. Yakima County Republican precinct committee officer, 16 years.

Other Professional Experience

Deb is the managing partner at Manjarrez and DeLeon PS, a CPA firm; treasurer of M&M Orchards, Inc; and a registered representative of Farmers Financial Services, LLC.

Education

Deb graduated from Wapato High School and Central Washington University, with a BA in Accounting.

Community Service

Deb was chairman of the Wapato Chamber of Commerce for 10 years, board member and chairman of the Republican Central Committee for 8 years, and founder and chairman of the Wapato Tamale Festival for 8 years.

Statement

Deb Manjarrez cares about her community. She is a certified public accountant, apple orchardist and active community volunteer who has lived all her life near Wapato. She comes from a 4th generation farming family and understands the meaning of hard work.

Deb Manjarrez wants to continue to represent you in Olympia. Her business and accounting background qualifies her to fight runaway government spending and protect local agriculture interests. Deb and her husband, Mark, have been married for 40 years. They have two daughters and four grandchildren.

Contact

(509) 949-4268, deb@yesfordeb.com, yesfordeb.com



Tony G Sandoval

(Prefers Democrat Party)

Elected Experience

No information submitted

Other Professional Experience

I have experience in managing, hiring, supervising, and scheduling service staff I also have skills in working with city staff and state employees to follow regulations.

Education

Yakima Valley College Associates of Art. Washington State University Bachelor Degree

Community Service

City of Yakima All American City Committee Founder Yakima 2015, For A Better Tomorrow Board of Director Yakima, Yakima School District Levy Proposal Committee, Founding Board member Yakima Schools District Foundation, United Way of Yakima County Allocation Panel, Yakima 4th of July Board of Director Yakima and Yakima Capitol Theatre Neighborhood Development.

Statement

Promote policies that would contribute to job growth in 14th Legislation District. Public safety I will tackle to reduce violent crime. Safeguarding agricultural interests help resolve trade disputes, ensuring it continues to be the leading export market for U.S. apples and other agricultural commodities. Dedicated over 30 years to community issues in the 14th Legislation District, the State of Washington, and at national level Work with both Democratic and Republican officials in various sectors. I have lived 14th L.D my entire adult life. Hold Town Halls.

Contact

(509) 930-1345, yakamatony@gmail.com



Ezequiel Morfin

(Prefers Democratic Party)

Elected Experience

Toppenish City Councilman. Toppenish Planning Commissioner, Board Member.

Other Professional Experience

Small Business Owner. Chief Electrical Inspector, Yakama Nation. Electrical Journeyman, Wapato Housing Authority. Electrical Foreman Berg Electric. Union Internship AFL-CIO Teamsters. Can Am Millwork, Supervisor. Western RV Trailers, Leadman Supervisor.

Education

Toppenish High School. Yakima Valley College, Combined Associates Degree with Electrical Technology. Perry Technical Institute, Electrical Certificate.

Community Service

Toppenish Community Safety Network, Board Member. Radio KDNA, Member. Yakima May 1st Coalition, Member. Yakima Immigration Response Network. Latino Civic Alliance Votes, Regional Organizer. Washington State Farmworkers Union Representative, Board Member, Treasurer, Secretary. League of United American Citizens, Vice President.

Statement

These are challenging times for families from Yakima to Pasco and many are facing financial hardships. The cost of gas, groceries, and every day life is out of control. Families in our communities are living in fear of this federal administration and their unconstitutional attacks against our neighbors *That's not the Central Washington we want to believe in.* I'm running for State Representative to fight for truly affordable housing, family-wage jobs, and to take on a system that's failing us. Endorsements: Yakima, Franklin and Benton County Democrats, Labor Unions, and many more. I respectfully ask for your vote. Thank you.

Contact

(509) 833-8838, info@electmorfin.com,
www.electmorfin.com

These statements are printed exactly as submitted with no spelling, grammatical or other corrections made.

The candidate or campaign committee is responsible for content.

Not all candidates and measures in this Voters' Pamphlet will be on your ballot.

Your residential address determines what precinct you reside in and your precinct determines the candidates and measures you are eligible to vote on. The candidates and measures on your ballot only apply to the precinct where you are registered to vote.



Jeremie Dufault

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Washington State House of Representatives. Selah City Council.

Other Professional Experience

Commercial real estate investments. Lieutenant Colonel in U.S. Army Reserve, JAG Corps.

Education

A.C. Davis High School. University of Pennsylvania (BA). Harvard Law School (JD).

Community Service

Yakima County Veterans Board. Yakima Valley Technical School (YV-Tech) Board. Yakima County Economic Development Board. American Legion. Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

Statement

Jeremie is a common-sense conservative who stands for political and economic freedom. He fights for lower taxes and smaller, smarter government. He works to provide opportunities for those who can, and assistance for those who can't. Jeremie comes from a Yakima Valley farming family. He grew up in Yakima and lives in Selah with his daughters, Ellie, Lulu and Addy. He is a military veteran who served in Kuwait and Afghanistan. Jeremie has a proven record of delivering results in Olympia. Let's keep him working for us.

Contact

(509) 902-2344, dufaultcampaign@gmail.com,
www.electjeremie.com

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Chris Corry

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

14th District State Representative, 2019-2024. 15th District State Representative 2025-Current. Appropriations, Consumer Protection & Business Committees. Deputy Leader, House Republican Caucus.

Other Professional Experience

15+ years in the property & casualty insurance industry. Eastern Washington Director, Washington Policy Center

Education

University of Washington, B.A. Political Science

Community Service

Yakima County Crime Stoppers - Board Member; Central Washington State Fair Association - Board Member; Yakima Salvation Army - Advisory Board Member; Yakima Southwest Rotary; Life Choices of Yakima; Foster & Adoptive Parent

Statement

Chris Corry believes in advocating for the families and businesses of Central Washington with common sense legislation that focuses on economic growth and protecting our most vulnerable. A vote for Chris is a vote for limited government that is fiscally responsible, upholding our Constitutional rights, parental rights, reducing tax burdens and regulations on businesses and families, and increasing local control for our schools!

"It has been an honor to serve the people of our district and be a voice for Central Washington. I hope to earn your vote this election and continue representing our shared values in Olympia."-Chris

Contact

(509) 654-3351, chris@chrisorry.com, chrisorry.com



Jack McEntire

(Prefers Democratic Party)

Elected Experience

President Cascade Chainsaw Sculptors Guild, Precinct Committee Officer, Delegate Washington State Democrats Convention, Vice-Chairman Yakima County Democrats.

Other Professional Experience

Fruit picker, Laborer, Sculptor, Owner/operator Cascade Carvings (using salvaged wood) Partner Sculptures in Stone LLC, Smokey Bear Licensee (US Department of Agriculture), Cascade Chainsaw Sculptors Guild Board, Yakima Maker Space Teacher/Board, Yakima Art Commission Board.

Education

Holy Family elementary, Whitney elementary, Wilson Jr. High, Graduate Eisenhower H.S., Bachelor of Science degree Microbiology and Immunology University of Washington.

Community Service

Volunteer University District Food Bank, Donor: Selah Little League, American Cancer Society, Make a Wish Foundation, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Ducks Unlimited, Community Seeds, Yakima Veterans Coalition.

Statement

The future is found in our kids, the present is up to us. For years we've had no choice for our representatives. We've seen the same faces and ideas. They've said: If the rich get richer so will we – this hasn't happened. If we elect the same people things will continue as they have.

We need youth programs that teach skills. We deserve universal health care. Education, college or vocational school, should be based on ability and need, not money. Science and ability to Compromise are required. Investment in our future is the way to transform our home.

Contact

(509) 307-2768, avoteforjack@gmail.com, avoteforjack.com



Reedy Berg

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Yakima City Council, District 7, 2024-Present; serving as Deputy Mayor beginning in 2026

Other Professional Experience

8th Grade U.S. History Teacher, Toppenish Middle School, 2016-Present; 8th Grade PLC Lead, Toppenish Middle School, 2022-Present; Agricultural Produce Broker, Northwest Brokerage Services, 2013-2015

Education

Master of Arts in Teaching, Heritage University; Bachelor of Arts, Sports Management, Gonzaga University

Community Service

Active in the community as a Little League Baseball coach and Habitat for Humanity volunteer.

Statement

I grew up here, farmed here, and taught Valley kids for a decade. That experience shaped everything I stand for. As Deputy Mayor of Yakima, I've stood for fiscal responsibility, public safety, and protecting our agriculture and small businesses. Olympia keeps hurting our farmers, families, and economy. I'll go there and push back. I will cut costs for families, block overreach, and protect the valley's way of life. I am endorsed by the Yakima County Republican Party and Representative Jeremie Dufault. My wife Nicole and I are proudly raising our two children here in the valley. This is our home.

Contact

(509) 255-7116, info@reedyberg.com,
<https://www.reedyberg.com>



Chase Foster

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Current Chair of the Kennewick Housing Authority

Other Professional Experience

Main Street Program Coordinator for Hermiston, Disaster Preparedness Coordinator for Spokane American Red Cross, Substitute Teacher for Post Falls School District

Education

AA, Yakima Valley Community College, BS in Psychology, Washington State University, Masters in Public Administration, Eastern Washington University

Community Service

Current involvement in Scouts, Two completed terms of AmeriCorps Service (3,400 hours), Past involvement with Circle K International (Kiwanis), Yakima Valley Systems of Care, Naches Valley Community Coalition, Youth for Community Growth, and Naches Leo Lions.

Statement

For a decade, Washington legislators have run a reckless cycle of tax increases and deficits. Our schools are not producing results despite massive increases in spending, proving that throwing money at the problem is not the solution. Our local, rural healthcare is constantly pressured with new regulations that threaten to force even more facility closures across the valley.

As your representative, I will work to ensure that our family values and rural needs are heard in Olympia, and work to ensure that Washington is a state we can be proud of for generations to come.

Contact

(509) 654-2059, campaign@votefostert.com,
www.votefostert.com



Liz Hallock

(Prefers No Kings Party)

Elected Experience

2016 County Convention Bernie Sanders delegate, Democratic Party PCO.

Other Professional Experience

Family Lawyer, Public Disclosure and Open Government Attorney, owned one of the first legal marijuana stores in the United States, rock climbing instructor.

Education

M.A. George Washington University, Elliott School of International Affairs, Security Policy Studies. B.A. Princeton University.

Community Service

Youth sports coach (tennis, basketball, soccer, softball), volunteer lawyer, volunteer yoga instructor.

Statement

For the .001%, America is in a Gilded Era. For the rest of us, economic inequality is at its peak. Reproductive rights are being gutted. Christian teachings are being hijacked to justify endless wars and to terrorize immigrants. Gas and grocery prices are sky high. Lawful gun owners are being shot in cold blood for exercising their right to peacefully protest. Our environment and our children's futures are being destroyed. We need someone in Olympia who is going to fight for and protect Yakima residents from the King in the White House. I would be honored to receive your vote.

Contact

(360) 909-6327, ehallock.law@gmail.com





Mark Klicker

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Washington State House Representative (2021 - present); Committees: Local Government (Ranking member), Environment/Energy (Assistant Ranking member), House Transportation, Rules, Joint Committee on Transportation.

Other Professional Experience

Business owner, licensed real estate professional, Timber producer, Farm & Ranch Realtor

Education

Walla Walla Community College, Rockwell Institute School of Real Estate

Community Service

President Walla Walla County Farm Bureau, Mill Creek Watershed Fire Protection Committee, CO-Chair Walla Walla High School Track Project, Jubilee Christian Academy board member, Walla Walla Union-Bulletin Community Advisory Committee, Chairman Walla Walla County Voluntary Stewardship Program, Fort Walla Walla Museum board member, Western Blues Stewardship Admin Group

Statement

My goals are straightforward. 1. Bridging Partisan Divides: No one wins when we have isolated conversations that lead to one-sided legislation. I remain committed to working collaboratively with bipartisan ideas. 2. Meaningful Legislation: Our communities deserve impactful legislation. I will continue championing tax relief, rectifying harmful police reform bills, advocating for more reliable energy sources, including nuclear, hydroelectric and natural gas, and dismantling regulations hindering small businesses and farmers. 3. Open Advocacy: I will continue to be an accessible resource for all 16th District constituents.

I appreciate your support for my re-election.

Contact

(509) 520-7370, klickerForRep@outlook.com



Kyle Palmer

(Prefers Democratic Party)

Elected Experience

None

Other Professional Experience

Small business owner and real estate professional with experience in housing, land use, and regional development.

Education

Undergraduate studies in social sciences at Washington State University and graduate studies in real estate development at Portland State University.

Community Service

Third-generation Mid-Columbia resident and former Chair of the Richland Planning Commission. Former AmeriCorps VISTA member, former Chair of the Tri-Cities Association of REALTORS® Education Committee, and board member of Friends of the Richland Library.

Statement

The Mid-Columbia is helping develop the future of energy, agriculture, science, and technology, but too often government moves too slowly to help deploy real solutions. Families and businesses cannot afford gridlock, endless delays, or politics that prioritize ideological battles over results. We need practical leadership focused on housing, water security, reliable energy, and economic opportunity while streamlining barriers that prevent progress and innovation from moving forward.

I'll work with anyone, regardless of party, to move practical solutions forward and help build a stronger future for communities across the 16th District.

Contact

(509) 539-2061, PalmerWA16@gmail.com



Skyler Rude

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

16th District State Representative (2019–present); Assistant Minority Floor Leader; Chairman, State Committeeman, and Precinct Committee Officer for the Walla Walla County Republican Party

Other Professional Experience

Real Estate Broker and small business owner; Legislative Assistant, Washington State Senate (2017-18) and House of Representatives (2015-16); Insurance Agent (2009-14)

Education

Walla Walla Community College; Western Governors University

Community Service

Past involvement: Care and Share Food Drive; Blue Mountain Action Council Board Member; Washington State Leadership Board Member; Walla Walla Parks, Recreation and Urban Forestry Advisory Board; Columbia Basin College EMS Program Advisory Committee

Statement

Born and raised in Walla Walla, Skyler has spent his life serving the communities of the 16th District. Since joining the Legislature in 2019, he has built a reputation for bipartisan leadership focused on practical solutions and strong local representation. Skyler's priorities include improving educational outcomes, supporting public safety, strengthening the local economy, and protecting services for vulnerable populations. As a leader on education policy and a voice for southeastern Washington, Skyler works to ensure communities from Walla Walla to the Tri-Cities are heard in Olympia. He remains committed to respectful leadership, fiscal responsibility, and putting people before politics.

Contact

(509) 200-9987, skyler@electskylerrude.com, www.electskylerrude.com



Derek Sarley

(Prefers Democratic Party)

Elected Experience

Board of Directors of Walla Walla Public Schools since 2015, where we've raised graduation rates, expanded academic and extracurricular opportunities for students, increased family engagement, and earned recognition as School Board of the Year. I've completed four terms as board president, advocated for our students as legislative representative, and served as president of WSSDA, representing all 295 Washington school districts.

Other Professional Experience

25 years in small business leadership, helping grow a small PR agency into a 100-person firm serving clients nationwide.

Education

Rice University, BA Economics and Political Science

Community Service

A decade coaching with the Blue Mountain Girls Softball Association. Blue Mountain Evening Rotary.

Statement

Washington is in a deep budget hole. Each year brings new taxes combined with cuts to priority areas like childcare and education. We need new, strong voices in Olympia who will fix the budget mess and get Washington back to investing in what matters for the working families, farms, and small businesses that are the backbones of our Eastern Washington communities.

I have the experience of 25 years in business and 10 years in responsive local government. As your representative, I will bring conviction and change to Olympia. If you want something different, it's time to vote for someone different.

Contact

(509) 593-0189, sarleyforwashington@gmail.com, <https://sarleyforwashington.com/>

No Photo
Submitted

Bill Spencer

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

No information submitted

Other Professional Experience

No information submitted

Education

No information submitted

Community Service

No information submitted

Statement

No information submitted

Contact

(509) 440-2562, billspencerappraisal@gmail.com

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These statements are printed exactly as submitted with no spelling, grammatical or other corrections made.

The candidate or campaign committee is responsible for content.



Brenda Chilton

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Benton County Auditor, 2010-present

Other Professional Experience

Chief Deputy Auditor, 2005-2009; Supervisor, Auditor's Office, Benton County, 1998-2005; Paralegal, 1987-1998; Chair, Washington State Association of County Auditors Vehicle Licensing Committee; Member, Election Administration and Certification Board; Member, Voting Systems Review Board

Education

Graduate, Columbia Basin College; Certified Public Official, Washington State Association of Counties; Certified Election Administrator, State of Washington; Certified Elections/Registration Administrator, The Election Center/Auburn University; Certified Licensing Operator, Department of Licensing

Community Service

Past President, Kiwanis Club of Atomic City; current member, Kiwanis Club of Tri-Cities Industry; Past President, Washington State Association of County Auditors; Past President, Tri-Cities Republican Women

Statement

For the past 28 years, it has been my honor to serve the citizens of Benton County, including the last 16 years as your County Auditor. I am proud to lead an exceptional team of dedicated public servants in the Auditor's Office divisions of Elections, Recording, Accounting, and Licensing. Together, we remain committed to providing professional, transparent, efficient, and fiscally responsible service to our community.

Election integrity and security remain among my highest priorities. Benton County voters deserve elections that are secure, accurate, transparent, and accountable. I remain committed to ensuring every lawful vote is counted accurately and securely.

During my term, my team successfully opened the new Benton County Elections Center in collaboration with the Board of County Commissioners. Our office has continued investing in technology and modernization efforts to improve efficiency, security, and public access to services. We are nearing completion of a multi-year effort to digitize and preserve historical county records for future generations.

I continue to serve in statewide leadership roles involving election administration and vehicle licensing. I look forward to continuing to serve the citizens of Benton County.

Endorsed by the Benton County Republican Party.

Contact

(509) 366-3749, bchilton49@aol.com

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Josie Delvin

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

No information submitted

Other Professional Experience

No information submitted

Education

No information submitted

Community Service

No information submitted

Statement

I have lived in Benton County for 40 years. I currently live in Richland with my husband, Jerome.

I am honored to have been the County Clerk for the past 20 years. Prior to becoming the Clerk, I worked in Benton County District Court for 17 years.

Over the past 4 years the clerks office has seen significant changes. We have secured a new office space on the 2nd floor of the Justice Center that allows us to better serve the public and affords privacy to the public when dealing with your cases. We have a larger jury assembly room that allows ease of access to potential jurors. I have upgraded the jury system, allowing electronic response by jurors. Our office now allows electronic filing of documents. We have securely digitized all of the superior court case paper documents and continue to audit for completeness and accuracy. We are currently working to digitize historical documents from microfilm. Our office continues to process hundreds of passport applications each year between our Prosser and Kennewick offices. I am excited to continue to serve in the capacity of County Clerk.

Contact

josie@owt.com

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Michael Alvarez

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Current Benton County Commissioner and Chairman of the Board, former Mayor and City Councilman for Richland Washington. Experienced in managing multi-million-dollar county and city budgets and serving on key boards including Benton County Emergency Services, Benton Franklin Health District Board, Economic Development and more.

Other Professional Experience

U.S. Marine Corps Veteran and 30-year mortgage company owner. Faculty Master Instructor teaching Finance, Business Management, Consumer Protection, and Ethics statewide. Member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and past Vice President for Boy Scouts funding development.

Education

Bachelor of Business Administration, Management NMSU.

Community Service

Community Service Award Recipient and active volunteer supporting youth, veterans, and family-focused programs.

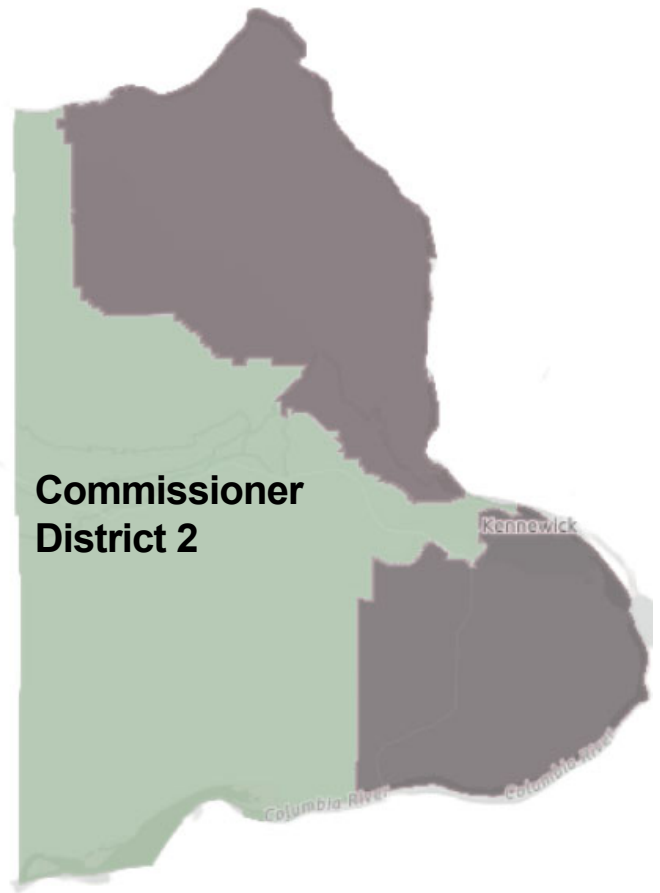
Statement

I will continue using my Skills and Experience to improve the *Quality of Life* for our senior citizens, youth, families, and veterans. A county commissioner must be strong in Finance, Budgeting, Communication, and Personnel Management. I am the only candidate with the education and Extensive Financial and Business background needed to ensure taxpayer dollars are used responsibly and that taxes are NOT raised unnecessarily. I have a proven record of saving taxpayers millions of dollars each year. I strongly support our police officers and firefighters and work to ensure they have the tools and resources needed to provide exceptional public safety. I am honored to have strong support from both law enforcement and endorsed by local fire fighters. I have also built long-standing relationships with the local business community and remain committed to *Smart, Sustainable Economic Development* that benefits all residents. My pledge is to be Present, Accountable, and Transparent to everyone in Benton County. I have been married to my wife, Gina, for 36 years. We have two children, both graduates of Richland High School and Washington State University. Our family has proudly called Benton County home for 34 years. I am endorsed by the Benton County Republican Party.

Contact

(509) 531-1640, mike@votemike.com, votemike.com

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Commissioner District 2

For the Primary Election only voters within Commissioner District 2 will have the race showing on their ballot.

For the General Election all voters in Benton County will see it appear on that ballot. Because this office is a partisan office, it appears on the Primary Election ballot.

To check what Commissioner District you are in go to www.VoteWA.gov and look under the elected officials tab.



William "Bill" Leach

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Current elected Benton County Coroner.

Other Professional Experience

No information submitted

Education

No information submitted

Community Service

No information submitted

Statement

It has been an honor to have served as the Coroner for Benton County for the past two terms; I am excited for the opportunity to remain your Coroner. The population in Benton County has increased during the past eight years. During my time as Coroner, we have seen our calls for service nearly double and expect to see continuing increases. I am fortunate enough to have been able to hire a full-time forensic pathologist to conduct autopsies in house rather than having to travel hours away for an autopsy. As one of only two counties in Eastern Washington to have a staff forensic pathologist, we are able to contract with several counties to do autopsies, which generates revenue to offset Benton County's costs. With the hard work of the staff, we have achieved IACME national accreditation. All staff are now State certified medicolegal death investigators. We will continue to work on modernizing the office and maintaining our professional standards to the highest level possible. Thank you for trusting me, and I look forward to serving you in the future.

Contact

(509) 430-0006, w_leach@ymail.com

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These statements are printed exactly as submitted with no spelling, grammatical or other corrections made.

The candidate or campaign committee is responsible for content.



Julie Long

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

None

Other Professional Experience

I am an experienced trial Prosecutor. For 28 years, I have successfully prosecuted thousands of cases including aggravated first-degree murder, rape, arson, and drug trafficking. I also argued cases before the Court of Appeals and Washington State Supreme Court. I battled the war on drugs and gangs alongside the Tri-City Metro Drug Task Force, Kennewick Criminal Apprehension Team, and the Richland and Pasco Street Crimes Units.

Education

Bachelor of Arts, Law and Justice, Central Washington University, and Juris Doctor, Loyola University School of Law

Community Service

Volunteer at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, St. Joseph's Catholic School, and Tri-Cities Prep Catholic High School

Statement

Benton County citizens deserve a Prosecutor armed with the experience and knowledge to uphold the Constitution and ensure justice is served. I have a proven record of asking for high bail and not plea bargaining with violent criminals. I aggressively prosecute drug trafficking and gang-related crimes to ensure a safe community. I will go to trial against those who falsely claim insanity to avoid responsibility. As the daughter of a Marine, I value our therapeutic and Veteran courts and support appropriate candidates for these programs. I will prioritize the office's backlog of over 500 cases awaiting charging decisions so the victims finally have their day in court.

I'm proud to work alongside our partners in law enforcement. I am trusted and endorsed by representatives of every division of the criminal justice system including retired Judge Carrie Runge; retired KPD Commanders Aaron Clem, BJ Moos, and Craig Littrell; retired RPD Command Staff Darryl Judge and Mike Cobb and Detectives Luke Flohr and Bob Benson; retired WRPD Chief Ben Majetch; BCSO Detectives Jordan Croskrey and Alejandro Betancourth and retired Sheriffs Larry Taylor and Steve Keane.

I respectfully ask for your vote and would be honored to serve as your next Prosecuting Attorney.

Contact

Electjulielong@gmail.com, Longforprosecutor.com



Eric Eisinger

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Benton County Prosecuting Attorney, 2023-Present.

Other Professional Experience

An experienced trial attorney with over 22 years of litigation experience, I have prosecuted thousands of cases, including homicides, drug offenses, and violent crimes. I was a senior partner at the Richland law firm Walker Heye (2010-2022) and a prosecutor for the City of Kennewick (2006-2010). I was president of the Benton Franklin Counties Bar Association (2016-2017). I serve on the board of directors of the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys.

Education

University of Idaho College of Law, (J.D. 2003), Washington State University, (B.A., 1999).

Community Service

Volunteer, New Vintage Church, Richland. Pro Bono Attorney, You Medical, Kennewick.

Statement

Our nation was built on liberty, equality, and justice — and those principles only survive when leaders have the courage to defend them. As your Benton County Prosecuting Attorney, I have held offenders accountable, secured justice for victims, strengthened partnerships with law enforcement, and implemented tougher standards for violent crime to keep our community safe.

Olympia continues to push policies that put criminals ahead of victims, weaken accountability, and tie the hands of law enforcement. We've all seen what happens when public safety is treated as an afterthought: businesses flee, families feel unsafe, and communities decline. That is not who we are, and I will not allow Benton County to become the next failed experiment in soft-on-crime policies.

I will enforce the law according to our values, not Olympia's agenda, by seeking appropriate bail and punishment, standing with victims, supporting law enforcement, and protecting your constitutional rights. I am endorsed by the Benton County Republican Party and Sheriff Mike Clark. I have a great working relationship with law enforcement. I love this county, I believe in its future, and I will continue fighting every day to keep it safe, strong, and free.

I respectfully ask for your vote. www.ericforprosecutor.com

Contact

(509) 551-5800, ericforprosecutor@gmail.com, www.ericforprosecutor.com



Brad Klippert

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

14 years served in the Washington State House of Representatives. First year serving as a member of the Kennewick City Council.

Other Professional Experience

As a teacher I have taught every grade level from 1st grade to currently teaching at the college level.

Education

Bachelors Degree: double major Biblical Studies and Behavioral Science. Masters Degree in Teaching. Graduate Central Washington University's Paramedic Program, Columbia Basin College: Emergency Medical Technician.

Community Service

30+ years uniformed military service: U.S. Army, Reserve and National Guard. Helicopter pilot, 06/COL Commander Washington State Guard. 33+ years law enforcement / Sheriff's Deputy.

Statement

I believe in God, the Constitution, and the responsibility we all share to protect our families and communities. The Sheriff's Office should be built on trust, honesty, and service to the people. As your Sheriff, I will defend the rights of citizens, support our law enforcement officers, and work every day to keep Benton County safe; because Benton County is more than a place to live — it is our home.

I have seen firsthand the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and women who serve this county. They deserve leadership that supports them, equips them, and stands beside them. I also believe citizens deserve transparency, fairness, and a Sheriff who listens to their concerns.

My commitment is simple: protect our communities, uphold the law fairly, and preserve the freedoms that make Benton County a great place to live and raise a family. We will not allow crime, fear, or government overreach to weaken the values that make this county strong. Ready to lead, ready to serve and protect Benton County.

Contact

(509) 378-9100, bradklippert4sheriff@gmail.com,
bradklippert4sheriff.com



Michael (Mike) Clark

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Current Benton County Sheriff, leading 88 deputies and support staff, overseeing, and managing a multi million dollar budget, daily operations, public safety programs, hiring, promotions, long term safety strategies to ensure exceptional public safety here in Benton County.

Other Professional Experience

23 Years with the Benton County Sheriff's Office. I have advanced through almost every rank—Deputy, Corporal, Sergeant, Lieutenant, and your current Sheriff. My experience includes extensive law enforcement training, SWAT Team Leader, Incident Commander and much more.

Education

First Level Supervision, Middle Management, Critical Incident Management, Executive Academy.

Community Service

Kiwanis, Mustang Forces, Benton Franklin Behavioral Health Advisory Committee, Benton County Law & Justice Committee.

Statement

As the current Sheriff of Benton County, protecting your rights and ensuring *Exceptional Public Safety* remains my highest priority! Since taking office, local crime has continued to decline, and I am committed to building on that progress through strong partnerships with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. I will continue listening to the citizens of Benton County, taking a proactive, collaborative approach to reducing crime to ensure a safe, secure future for families in Benton County.

With decades of experience and promotions through the ranks, I am the only candidate with the *Proven Law Enforcement Leadership and Training* needed to run a complex sheriff's office. My wife, Kristen, and I along with our children and grandchildren are lifelong Benton County residents. As your Sheriff, I will continue working diligently to keep Benton County safe while honoring the traditional, family oriented values that define our community.

I am the only candidate endorsed by the following: Benton County Republican Party, Mayors of Kennewick, Richland, West Richland, Prosser, Benton City and Pasco, along with all three Benton County Commissioners, Benton County Prosecutor, several state representatives, and numerous law enforcement professionals! I am respectfully asking for your vote on Election Day. Thank you!

Contact

(509) 542-7785, mike@mikeclark4sheriff.com,
mikeclark4sheriff.com



Kenneth Spencer Jr.

(Prefers Republican Party)

Elected Experience

Benton County Treasurer since 2017, PCO in Benton County since 2012.

Other Professional Experience

College Professor 20 years, Commercial Appraiser 55 years, County Supervisor 4 years. General Manager and CFO of three private business.

Education

BS Agricultural Management Cal Poly SLO, Graduate School WSU, CWU, EWU.

Community Service

Boy Scout leader 35 years, Soccer coach both youth and college. Eagle Scout Award.

Statement

The most important function of the Treasurer's office is safeguarding public funds.

With the help and hard work of my dedicated, professional staff we have and will continue to strive to provide the best service to you, our taxpayers. Another function of the Benton County Treasurer's office is that we are the Bank for the county and other groups that fall under the County umbrella. With the addition of several new software packages within the county the efficiency of these packages will help us to achieve office efficiencies. These programs were developed to make ours a more efficient, and more automated office.

We are working to make the investments of the funds that are entrusted to us earn the best and safest return. I have the desire and resolve to see the Treasurer's office achieve greater efficiencies and enhance the services we provide to the taxpayers as well as the other government offices that we serve. My goal is to build on these recent achievements and continue to strive for Benton County to have one of the most efficient county treasurer operations in the country.

Endorsed by the Benton County Republican Party.

Contact

(509) 845-0481

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Colleen Melody

Legal/Judicial Experience

Supreme Court Justice. Colleen Melody works every day to uphold the rule of law, improve access to justice, and protect the rights of Washingtonians.

Other Professional Experience

Colleen was a career civil rights lawyer and public servant. She taught at the University of Washington and brought pro bono cases on behalf of immigrants and veterans. She worked at a pizza shop in high school and waited tables through college.

Education

UW for college and law school, both with high honors.

Community Service

Colleen worked to improve access to services in her rural community, including better resources for seniors, increased healthcare services, and more affordable childcare.

Statement

Colleen grew up in Spokane, the daughter of a teacher and a healthcare advocate. As a civil rights lawyer, she protected Washingtonians whose rights were violated by multinational corporations, special interests, and the federal government. Colleen returned millions in wages owed to workers and protected employees from pregnancy discrimination and sexual harassment. As the leader of the Attorney General's Civil Rights Division, she beat the Trump Administration when it tried to impose its unconstitutional Muslim Ban and separate families at the border.

Now more than ever, state courts must safeguard our rights with independence and impartiality. Washington's laws provide broad protections in privacy, the workplace, housing, healthcare, and education. State courts must be places where victims of crime and discrimination may seek justice with safety and dignity.

Colleen is a working mom who lives in rural Western Washington with her husband and two public-school daughters. She is endorsed by every sitting Supreme Court Justice, retired Justices Yu and Madsen; Governors Ferguson, Inslee, and Gregoire; Attorney General Brown; hundreds of judges and elected leaders statewide, and the Washington State Labor Council.

Your rights matter. Justice Colleen Melody has worked her entire career to protect them.

Contact

(206) 745-2010, hello@melodyforjustice.com,
<https://melodyforjustice.com/>



Laura Christensen Colberg

Legal/Judicial Experience

I've made thousands of judicial decisions as a Snohomish County Superior Court Commissioner *pro tem* and court-appointed Arbitrator, over the past 18 of my 29 years in family law practice. I have come alongside families in all stages of brokenness, navigating the complexities of litigation with compassion and confidence.

Other Professional Experience

Free Methodist Bible Quizzing: Denominational Director (since 2018), Competition Judge (since 1989); Family Law Lecturer, Rigos Bar Review (1997–2013).

Education

Wenatchee High School, Valedictorian; Seattle Pacific University, BA *summa cum laude*; University of Washington School of Law, JD.

Community Service

Board Member, Shoreline Free Methodist Church (3 years); Elder, LFP Presbyterian Church (6 years).

Statement

I am the *only judicially experienced candidate* for Position 1, having served on the bench more than 20 times as long as all others in this race combined.

Unique among these candidates, I have *zero history of partisan activism*. You can trust me to measure all laws against the Constitution as written, without any political shadows clouding my objectivity. Impartiality is a judge's job, and I am your best hope for it here.

More significantly, your vote for me will put a Justice with *deep family law expertise* onto the Court for the first time since no-fault divorce was legalized in Washington 52 years ago. While the landscape of family law practice has shifted seismically in subsequent decades, our state courts still fall short. Because the Supreme Court—in addition to deciding cases—oversees the procedures and priorities of lower courts, as a Justice I will advocate for “fast-tracking” appeals in family law matters, to bring timely closure to uncertain chapters. Years of legal limbo may be acceptable in other arenas, but for children in crisis you can't undo damage caused by delay.

If you value *experience, impartiality, or family law expertise* on our State Supreme Court, I am your best choice.

Contact

(206) 627-0706, info@laura4position1.com,
laura4position1.com



Scott Edwards

Legal/Judicial Experience

Ballard Spahr/Lane Powell (2010-present) (Practice Chair 2010-2024) (Board 2017-2019, 2023-24); Perkins Coie (1999-2010); Bogle & Gates (1996-1999). Significant experience before Washington courts on constitutional and other complex issues; Ranked as among the top in my field: Super Lawyers, Best Lawyers in America, and Chambers.

Other Professional Experience

Adjunct Professor, University of Washington School of Law (2002-present); Washington State Bar Association; American Bar Association; Council on State Taxation.

Education

University of Washington School of Law (with Honors) 1991; Princeton University (magna cum laude) 1988, Economics - Paul Volcker Award recipient.

Community Service

American Red Cross; St. Cecilia Parish; Scouting America; Bainbridge Island Youth Orchestra; Kids in Concert.

Statement

I am running to bring independence, principled judgment, and respect for the rule of law to the Washington Supreme Court. An independent court protects constitutional rights, ensures equal justice, and serves as a final and balanced check within our system of government. The role of the Supreme Court is to apply the constitution and laws as written, not rewrite them.

For more than 30 years I have represented clients at all levels of Washington's court system, including more than a dozen Washington Supreme Court cases. As a tax and constitutional attorney, I work on complex issues that directly affect Washington families and businesses. I have also taught at the University of Washington School of Law for over 20 years.

I learned the value of hard work, integrity, and public service early, working at my grandparents' restaurant and watching my father serve as Alaska's attorney general. Washington deserves justices who will apply the law predictably, as written, and without favoring any political agenda. My commitment is to protect your constitutional rights and work to make the Washington Supreme Court accountable and worthy of your trust.

Take politics out of the courtroom. Vote Scott Edwards, Position 1.

Contact

(206) 201-1108, info@votescottedwards.com, votescottedwards.com



Nonpartisan Offices

Certain elected offices in Washington State are nonpartisan, meaning candidates for these positions do not run as representatives of a political party. Party affiliation is not listed on the ballot or in the Voters' Pamphlet for these offices. Typically odd year elections only have nonpartisan races.

Examples of nonpartisan offices include:

- Judicial positions (such as judges and justices)
- School board members
- Certain local government positions (such as city council, fire, port, public utility district and hospital district commissioners).



Jaime Michelle Hawk

Legal/Judicial Experience

Judge Jaime Hawk has been a state and national legal leader for over 20 years. As a Superior Court Judge, federal public defender, and ACLU civil rights attorney, she has protected our rights and freedoms.

Other Professional Experience

Adjunct Professor of Law, Supreme Court Minority and Justice Commission. In work before law school, Judge Hawk supported domestic violence survivors and found them safe shelter.

Education

Raised by a single mom, Judge Hawk was the first in her family to attend college, graduating with honors from Gonzaga University Law School.

Community Service

Judge Hawk has advocated on boards for immigrant children, voting rights, veterans, and women's rights.

Statement

Judge Hawk fought in the courtroom for those who could not afford a lawyer. She handled trials and appeals, and defended Washingtonians against the federal government. She is the first attorney with the ACLU of Washington to become a judge. Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal and Governor Bob Ferguson endorse Judge Hawk.

Judge Hawk is a trusted, experienced legal leader. Senators Murray and Cantwell appointed her to their federal judge selection committee. The American Bar Association selected her to observe Guantanamo Bay military hearings, and later chose her to assist families at the border torn apart by Trump-era immigration policies.

Judge Hawk has presided over hundreds of criminal, civil, and family law cases, as well as appeals from lower courts. She has never had a trial overturned for legal error. She follows the law. More than 100 current and retired judges and justices from across Washington endorse Judge Hawk.

Judge Hawk will bring a strong, independent voice. Endorsed by the National Women's Political Caucus, local and county Democratic organizations, and the State Labor Council, she understands the concerns of women and working families and will bring that perspective to the Court. Judge Hawk will protect our rights and the rule of law.

Contact

(206) 486-2959, info@judgehawk.com, www.judgehawk.com



David Stevens

Legal/Judicial Experience

Superior Court Judge; Senior Felony Prosecutor; Federal Public Defender, Chief Public Defender Colville Confederated Tribes; Federal Prosecutor; International Prosecutor in Pristina, Kosovo; Justice Advisor in Bamiyan, Afghanistan.

Other Professional Experience

Federal Civil Rights Investigator; U.S. Navy Veteran; presenter: legal education seminars in Beirut, Lebanon, Kolasin and Budva, Montenegro, and for the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys.

Education

Juris Doctor, University of Washington School of Law; Bachelor of Arts, University of Washington. Department of State Certificate in Islamic Jurisprudence.

Community Service

Deacon, Mount Olive Lutheran Church; VFW Larry Godwin Post 1694 Honor Guard; Skookum Rotary; UW Law School Mentor; YMCA and UW Law school mock trial judge.

Statement

The duty of the Washington State Supreme Court is to uphold our constitution and to protect our rights and freedoms. Public policy is the province of the political branches and not the courts.

In the last two decades, direct appointment of judges by the governor rather than election of judges by the people has become a longstanding tradition. Our State Constitution mandated the election of judges because direct appointment leads to *ideological* and *political* decisions. Appointments were reserved for vacancies. Judge Stevens was elected and not appointed. His election will bring common sense and balance to the Supreme Court.

After High School, Judge Stevens joined the Navy. After his enlistment, he used his veteran's benefits to attend the University of Washington where he met his wife Pam. After graduating, he worked as a Federal Civil Rights Investigator for the Fair Housing Enforcement Center Seattle fighting racial, ethnic, and religious discrimination. He then went to the UW School of Law. Judge Stevens and his wife live in Shelton close to six of their nine grandchildren.

As a lawyer and judge he has tried more than two hundred jury trials. His supporters include tribes, judges, public defenders, prosecutors, attorneys, and law enforcement.

Contact

(360) 789-1405, DavidforJustice@yahoo.com, JudgeStevensforWA.com



Mike Diaz

Legal/Judicial Experience

Judge, Washington Court of Appeals, Division I (2022-Present); Judge, King County Superior Court (2018-2022), including Chief Judge of the Clark Children and Family Justice Center.

Other Professional Experience

Assistant United States Attorney, Western District of Washington (10 years), where he founded its Civil Rights Unit. Previously in private practice. Adjunct Professor, Seattle University School of Law, Constitutional Law.

Education

Juris Doctor, Cornell Law School; Graduate studies in Classical Philosophy, Princeton University; Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, University of Notre Dame.

Community Service

Chairperson, Washington Supreme Court's Interpreter Commission; Member, Judicial Ethics Board; Volunteer, Spanish Legal Clinic at El Centro de la Raza; youth soccer coach.

Statement

At a time when the rule of law is under assault, I am proud that President Obama nominated me to the federal bench in recognition of my long record fighting for civil rights; a nomination Mitch McConnell refused to even bring to a vote.

That same commitment to equal justice under the law has earned me the endorsement of leaders and the largest unions across Washington: three former Governors (Inslee, Gregoire, and Locke); Attorney General Nick Brown; nine Supreme Court Justices; over one hundred judges; the King County Democrats; and the Washington Education Association. Three bar associations rate me *Exceptionally Well Qualified*, including Washington Women Lawyers.

I was born in Peru and raised in South Seattle. As a federal lawyer, I founded the Seattle U.S. Attorney's Civil Rights Unit and led efforts to reform Seattle's Police Department. Governor Inslee twice appointed me to the bench: first to the Superior Court, where I presided over 45 trials, and again to the Court of Appeals, where I have authored over 200 opinions, including those protecting Washington's workers, holding corporations accountable, and keeping the public safe.

The independence and integrity of our courts have rarely mattered more. I respectfully ask for your vote.

Contact

(360) 389-2427, info@diazforjustice.com, diazforjustice.com



**Greg
Miller**

Legal/Judicial Experience

Partner and Appellate Group Co-Founder, Carney Badley Spellman (2008–present). Previously: Private Practice; Judge Pro Tem, Seattle Municipal Court; Judicial Law Clerk, Washington Court of Appeals; Municipal Prosecutor.

Other Professional Experience

Martindale-Hubbell; AV Preeminent peer-review rating for highest level of professional excellence; Top Rated Lawyer in Appellate Law, 2013.

Education

Harvard University, B.A., Northeastern University, J.D.

Community Service

King County Bar Judicial Evaluation Committee, 20+ years (Chair, 1999–2000). Founding member, Washington Appellate Lawyers Association (2001). Co-founder, KCBA Appellate Practice Section (2005). KCBA Trustee. KCBA Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Luncheon Committee. Scouting: Pack 144; Troop 166. Youth soccer: coach and disciplinary committee chair. St. James Cathedral Choir.

Statement

As an attorney with 40 years of experience doing appeals in Washington, I'm running to serve on the Supreme Court to help it do justice in each case: fairly, impartially, according to law.

Appeals safeguard the fundamental fairness of our courts. They are usually the only way to correct a court's error. That's why experience matters on the Supreme Court: it needs to "get it right."

I have worked on 135 appeals in courts across Washington—including the Supreme Court. I've helped courts get decisions right for clients of all backgrounds: students, small business owners, house cleaners, physicians, employees, deputies, families. I've won unpaid wages, defended protection orders, and ensured fairness in family disputes, health care, business deals, and trial procedures. The other candidates have little or no experience on appeals, or cases before the Supreme Court. You need not settle for that.

My experience goes beyond the courtroom. I worked to improve health care in jails across Washington. I served as non-partisan counsel in the State Legislature. I've promoted excellence and ethics in the legal profession. I'm fair, independent, trusted. I ask you to send my experience and belief in justice under the law to the Supreme Court.

Contact

(206) 756-5040, millerforjustice@gmail.com, millerforjustice.org



**Theo
Angelis**

Legal/Judicial Experience

Current Supreme Court Justice appointed by Governor Ferguson following a diverse, award-winning 26-year legal career as a Partner at K&L Gates.

Other Professional Experience

Throughout career, led Appellate and Intellectual Property teams, and pro bono cases representing immigrant children, veterans, refugees, small businesses, and people experiencing homelessness.

Education

BA, Claremont McKenna College; MA, Oxford University; MA, London School of Economics; JD, Yale University

Community Service

Trustee, King County Bar Association; President, Middle Eastern Legal Association of Washington; Member, Attorney General's Youth Internet Safety Task Force; Founders Award, Kids in Need of Defense; ACLU Humanitarian Award; Mentor of the Year, King County Bar Association

Statement

As a Justice and throughout my legal career, I've fought for the rule of law, the rights of all individuals, and to ensure our courts remain fair, independent, and accessible. Before joining the Supreme Court, I frequently volunteered to help people who couldn't afford lawyers. I sued the federal government when they forced children—as young as 4 years old—to appear without lawyers in immigration court. The federal government eventually agreed to pay for lawyers, and the ACLU gave me the Humanitarian Award.

I also represented an Army veteran, a naturalized U.S. citizen, after ICE wrongly detained him for seven months. The Northwest Immigrant Rights Project gave me the Amicus Award for my "groundbreaking work".

I've worked to mentor attorneys to expand diversity in our profession, and with Turkish and Greek ancestry, I am proud to be the first Justice of Middle Eastern descent on our highest court.

I am endorsed by all of my colleagues on the Supreme Court; Governors Ferguson and Gregoire; former U.S. Attorneys Durkan, Gorman, and McKay; over 500 Judges and attorneys statewide; 52 State Legislators; Executive Zehilay; mayors statewide; WA State Labor Council; King County and numerous LD Democrats; and more!

Contact

info@justiceangelis.com, www.justiceangelis.com



Dave Larson

Legal/Judicial Experience

41 years legal experience; trial judge (18 years, Ret.), trial lawyer (23 years). Rated AV Preeminent as a trial lawyer and Exceptionally Well Qualified (Judge and Supreme Court candidate).

Other Professional Experience

Mediator and arbitrator (1990-2008); President, Federal Way School Board

Education

JD, Seattle University School of Law; BA, University of Puget Sound.

Community Service

DMCJA President's Award for Protecting Judicial Independence (2018); Judge William Nevins Award (2014) and Hero of Federal Way Schools (2018, 2022) for Commitment to Civics Education; Best City Leader (2022); Kiwanis (Everyday Hero Award and more); Founder, Aktion Club of Federal Way (service club for adults with developmental disabilities), and more.

Statement

Judge Dave Larson's 41 years of distinguished experience, 18 years as a trial judge, 23 as a trial lawyer, form an unrivaled record making him the most qualified and best prepared candidate for our state's highest court.

Dave will restore trust in our courts by rising above partisan interests, applying the law without fear or favor, and restoring judicial independence. A truly nonpartisan candidate, Dave reaches out to Democrats, Republicans, Labor, Business, and voters across Eastern and Western Washington, because justice that serves only some of us serves none of us. He will protect your individual rights and the judicial independence that is currently under threat.

Dave's innovative criminal justice reforms have been recognized nationwide. He has collaborated with legislative Democrats and Republicans to help our trial courts address crime and addiction with compassion and accountability. However, our Supreme Court's decisions have weakened that response. As a justice, he will help fix current problems and build towards lasting and effective solutions.

Our Supreme Court needs Dave's unique perspective gained from his significant trial judge experience. That experience, integrity, and steady judgment are exactly what's needed to restore trust in, and improve, our courts. Vote Judge Dave Larson for Supreme Court.

Contact

(206) 207-2903, campaign@larsonforjustice.com,
www.larsonforjustice.com



Sharonda Amamilo

Legal/Judicial Experience

Judge Sharonda Amamilo was elected to the Thurston County Superior Court in 2020, where she presides over criminal and civil jury trials, family and juvenile matters, child welfare cases, and administrative and lower court appeals. Her career includes all aspects of public defense and private practice, representing workers, families, small businesses, and youth in foster care. She also served as a grievance committee chair and participated in collective bargaining at Bates Technical College.

Other Professional Experience

Retired Army Intelligence Warrant Officer.

Education

JD - Seattle University; MBA- Saint Martins University; Graduate Certificate - Data Analytics from Cornell University-online

Community Service

Board President, WA Microenterprise Association

Statement

The role of a Justice is to uphold the rule of law with integrity, fairness, and respect for every individual. Throughout my career, I have worked closely with families and individuals facing some of life's most difficult challenges. Those experiences taught me that court decisions can change the course of a person's life and shaped my commitment to applying the law thoughtfully, carefully, and fairly.

I understand the pressures facing working families, small businesses, children, and vulnerable communities. I approach every case with preparation, humility, care, and respect because people deserve to know they were heard and treated fairly in court. I believe the best judicial decisions are grounded in preparation, thoughtful collaboration, and respect for the rule of law. I also understand the Washington Supreme Court plays an important role in helping ensure courts across our state function fairly, consistently, and with public confidence.

Rated Exceptionally Well Qualified by the Washington State Veterans Bar Association, Pierce County Minority Bar Association, Loren Miller Bar Association, QLaw Foundation, and Joint Asian Judicial Evaluations Committee; and Well Qualified by the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington.

Contact

(360) 851-9783, electsharondaamamilo@gmail.com,
Sharondaforjustice.org



David R. Shelvey

Legal/Judicial Experience

Legal: For eleven years I have been practicing administrative, civil litigation, personal injury, collections, family law, estate planning, probate, and taxation. Judicial: None - the same as many lawyers have when they take to the bench.

Other Professional Experience

I have my own practice. Veteran.

Education

MBA, City University of Seattle; JD and LL.M. in Taxation, Thomas M. Cooley Law School; and LL.M. in Global Law and Economics, Antonin Scalia Law School.

Community Service

I volunteer as Tacoma Eagles president and serve meals for Catholic Community Services and a local synagogue. I have provided pro bono legal advice to low-income residents, seniors, teamsters, veterans, and nonprofits.

Statement

Hello—I'm back. I'm thee *family lawyer* from Sumner, Washington, who drew national political attention in 2024 by running for Supreme Court Justice. Thank you to the 59,676 Washington voters who supported me in 2024—I'm grateful.

I'm not promising a tariff stimulus rebate check (I'll watch for a meteorite to hit Mt. Rainier first), but I will promise to stand with American small businesses and workers, and I will protect the rights and freedoms of every citizen—*young or old, rich or poor. I oppose a state income tax and won't be soft on criminals.* I will pursue practical economic solutions to ease the heavy caseloads facing our prosecutors and public defenders.

I live with a mild form of Parkinson's that affects me physically, and I occasionally have symptoms even while medicated (off days). I have learned to judge no one by gender, skin color, language, health condition, or religion. I approach every decision with respect, fairness, and impartiality—guided by sound judgment and common sense.

Above all, I won't let the "exception" become the new "rule." We're in this together. Thank you.

Contact

(253) 250-1675, david@davidshelvey.com,
www.davidshelvey.com



Debra L. Stephens

Legal/Judicial Experience

Current Chief Justice and Justice since 2008. Court of Appeals Judge, Eastern Washington (2007). Appellate Attorney & adjunct professor, Gonzaga University (1993-2007).

Other Professional Experience

Board for Judicial Administration Co-Chair, National Association of Women Judges, Judicial Independence Committee Co-Chair, Chief Justices Conference Executive Committee, National Courts & Sciences Institute Director, National Judicial College Instructor, WA Civic Learning Council, former Spokane Community College instructor.

Education

Gonzaga University, J.D., B.A. West Valley High, Spokane.

Community Service

Former school board chair, Upward Bound mentor, Minority & Justice Commission, YMCA Youth & Government, Sacred Heart Children's Hospital, Habitat for Humanity, Past Rotary President, Washington Center for Performing Arts board member.

Statement

As Washington's Chief Justice, I am dedicated to upholding the rule of law and delivering fair and impartial justice. Courts are a critical branch of government, where every person must be treated fairly and with dignity, and decisions must be based on the law and the facts. In an era of growing attempts to politicize the judiciary, I work every day to maintain the integrity and independence of our courts and safeguard access to justice for every person.

As a former constitutional law professor, I respect legal traditions and constitutional principles. As a parent and former school board chair, I understand how court decisions impact the lives of Washington families. As the first woman from Eastern Washington on the Court, I know that lived experience and diverse perspectives matter in making sound decisions.

I have a proven record of expanding access to justice, improving efficiency and transparency, addressing the evolving challenges facing our legal system, and protecting individual rights. I have always enjoyed broad support and am endorsed by my current and former colleagues, judges statewide, WA State Labor Council, elected officials, and education and community leaders. I ask for your vote to continue serving you on our Supreme Court.

Contact

(206) 382-5552, debra@debrastephenslaw.com,
<https://justicestephens.com>



Karim A. Merchant

Legal/Judicial Experience

As a Public Defender in King County, I spent the first 15 years of my legal career in the trenches of our Justice System, serving as a constitutional check on the Government's power to prosecute and incarcerate. Since 2023, I have continued that mission by operating my own practice.

Other Professional Experience

Member—Washington Defender Association; Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers

Education

Howard University School of Law, J.D. 2007; University of Washington, B.A. 2003; A.A., Bellevue Community College, 2001; Bellevue Public School, 2nd to 12th grade, 1997.

Community Service

Volunteer coach for youth sports; Educating Washingtonians on civics and constitutional law through social media.

Statement

I was born in Cleveland, Ohio to working class immigrants and raised here in Washington since 1987. As a judicial candidate, I bring deep constitutional advocacy, and I understand the struggles facing everyday Washingtonians.

For 18 years, I've represented people from every walk of life: working families, small business owners, parents, veterans, and individuals accused of serious crimes. I have never represented corporations, never represented the government. I've fought for real people when constitutional rights mattered most. My career has focused on protecting the right of the People to be free from unlawful government intrusion. Those protections must apply equally to all, regardless of status, wealth, or background.

I also believe the judiciary must remain independent, impartial, and free from politics. The promise of our Constitution is only meaningful if Judges faithfully interpret and apply the law, ensuring the People receive the government our Constitution guarantees.

You will not find judicial endorsements or a massive war chest here. What you will find is a legal mind grounded in the promise of our Constitution with a commitment to real-world solutions and equal justice for all—I would be honored to earn your vote.

Contact

(206) 347-7632, karim@win4wa.com, win4wa.com



Todd A. Bloom

Legal/Judicial Experience

Over two decades of providing legal and professional services to private and publicly-held companies, executives, business owners and Washington families; served as an Arbitrator for FINRA from 1999 to 2020.

Other Professional Experience

Over a decade as tax attorney and senior manager in major accounting firms. Active-duty Navy officer from 2002 to 2013. Additional professional designations: CPA, CFA and CFP.

Education

LL.M. - University of Washington; J.D., M.B.A. - Tulane University; M.A. - Naval War College; B.A. - Simpson College; College of Naval Command & Staff; Warfare Qualified.

Community Service

WSBA - Board of Governors; Nonprofit Finance Council; Adjunct faculty (UW, Tulane); Gallon+ Blood Donor

Statement

Throughout my career, I've worked to solve complex problems thoughtfully, collaboratively, and fairly. And my background has given me a deep appreciation for hard work, sacrifice, and the experiences of everyday people. To pay for school, I worked farm, grocery and restaurant jobs and later earned my commission from the enlisted ranks.

Following 9/11, I was called from the Naval Reserve to active duty, where I served for more than a decade. I placed my civilian career on hold and left my wife and children to deploy to the Persian Gulf. That experience had a big impact on my understanding of duty, accountability, and leadership under pressure. Since returning to civilian life, I've continued my public service through the WSBA Board of Governors. It was there, I was encouraged to seek election to the Supreme Court.

This year's election is a choice—whether to retain the current justices or to give someone new your vote. I believe I represent meaningful new perspective, experience, and common sense which will bring balance to the court.

If elected, I promise to uphold and apply the law impartially and fairly. I respectfully ask for your vote for Supreme Court Justice, Position #7.

Contact

(360) 876-2588, electtodd bloom@gmail.com



**Kyle
Saltz**

Elected Experience

12 years elected leadership of the Richland Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). 5 years elected commander.

Other Professional Experience

Served 11 years as an active-duty Army Counterintelligence Agent. Still serving in the Army Reserve since 2023-present. Hanford Patrol from 2017-present on the Tactical Response Team.

Education

2 Master's Degrees (Criminal Justice, Liberal Arts with focus in Politics/History). Graduate of the Defense Language Institute.

Community Service

VFW Honor guard for funerals, events, and educational activities. Provides K9 therapy for Kadlec Hospital. Love on a Leash, and VFW which visits Hospitals, Memory Care Centers, assisted living facilities, and retirement homes. Veterans Therapeutic Courts Mentor of Benton County.

Statement

I joined the Army after witnessing the attacks of September 11th as a high school senior. I served for 11 years as a Counterintelligence Agent, including multiple deployments to Afghanistan. That experience taught me discipline, accountability, and servant leadership.

After returning home, I continued serving our community through the VFW, supporting Veterans Court programs that help rehabilitate struggling veterans, and volunteering alongside my therapy dog at Kadlec Hospital for patients, families, and staff.

I am running for Richland City Council because local government should focus on practical solutions, responsible spending, safe neighborhoods, and removing unnecessary bureaucracy. I have already identified outdated municipal codes and inefficiencies that can be improved to better serve taxpayers and residents. We need to not only balance our budget but create a surplus while reducing taxes on an overburdened population.

This is a nonpartisan race, and I believe leadership should focus less on politics and more on people. At the VFW, we check politics at the door and take care of people. That is exactly how I will serve on City Council. I refuse to profit from the city council work which is why I will donate my paychecks to local charities. We can do this!

Contact

(910) 578-6652, Kylesaltzforrichlandcitycouncil@yahoo.com, Kylesaltz.com



**Mary S.
Lipton**

Elected Experience

Elected to the American Association for the Advancement of Science Biology Section Steering committee and the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Public Affairs Advisory Committee, Orchard Hills HOA Secretary

Other Professional Experience

Staff Scientist; PNNL Adjunct Professor; WSU Small Business Owner

Education

Ph.D; Biochemistry South Carolina:

Community Service

Various RSD PTO/Bomber Boosters/Richland Band member; Mid Columbia Ballet volunteer; Various sports teams coach and coordinators; Math is Cool coach; Judge for School and Mid Columbia Science Fairs; Active member of Richland Lutheran Church

Statement

For more than 30 years, Richland has been my home. I have raised my family here, participated in our schools and community organizations, and watched our city grow into the vibrant and thriving community it is today. My professional background in science, education, and small business ownership has given me the ability to evaluate complex issues, communicate clearly, and make thoughtful, evidence-based decisions. Throughout my years of community involvement, I have learned the value of collaboration, transparency, and respectful dialogue.

I believe the City's priorities should include managing growth and infrastructure responsibly, supporting economic stability and workforce development, and protecting public safety, parks, riverfront access, and community resources for future generations. I understand the importance of balancing responsible growth with preserving the character, quality of life, and environmental resources that make Richland unique. I am seeking to serve on the Richland City Council because I care deeply about our community and believe in leadership grounded in integrity, accountability, social responsibility, and fiscal stewardship.

As a Council Member, I will listen carefully, work collaboratively, and remain committed to making decisions that reflect the needs and values of the Richland community today and into the future.

Contact

(509) 539-8385, mary.lipton13@gmail.com



Ragan Faylor

Elected Experience

First time running for elected office other than PCO.

Other Professional Experience

US Army Infantry 84-88. I worked in hotel management after college for 10 years. I understand the importance of tourism to our area. 20 years as a real estate appraiser starting my own business here in Richland. I became an Animal Protection Officer in Spokane County when the real estate market crashed in 2008. I became an Animal Control Officer for Tricities Animal Shelter as my commitment to helping animals and people. I am now currently a full-time real estate appraiser.

Education

EWU Government

Community Service

Humane Society Volunteer, Juvenile Court Diversion Board Volunteer

Statement

I was born and raised in Eastern Washington. I've lived here the vast majority of my life. I was taught to respect and help your neighbors, an Eastern WA value that holds true here in Richland. I'm not beholden to any political party. I want to be a voice for all of the City of Richland on the Richland City Council. No deals that only help the well connected. Richland is a great place to live, raise your kids and retire. I want to help make sure it stays like that. With your help we can make that happen. I ask for your vote. Thank you. Ragan

Contact

(509) 475-8070, raganforrichland@gmail.com



David Tveraas

Elected Experience

No information submitted

Other Professional Experience

Project Director – Occupational Hazard, Video Game Studio (2019-Current); IT Manager – Gen Con, Tabletop Games Convention (2016-Current); Electronic System Security/Operational Intelligence - U.S. Air Force (2003-2010)

Education

Master of Science in Information Systems. (2015); Master of Arts in Organizational Change. (2015); Bachelor of Science in Computer Science. (2012)

Community Service

No information submitted

Statement

Richland's population has been increasing while the price of goods, services, housing, gas & transportation has been skyrocketing. I'm running for City Council because our community deserves better: fair representation, clear communication, and leaders who put residents first when making policy decisions.

I have listened to Richland's community, and I hear concerns about an incoming data center and a fertilizer plant, specifically the noise pollution, water consumption, increased traffic, and other long-term economic consequences.

Projects that affect the entire community should not move forward without full transparency, comprehensive explanations, and reasonable time for input from the citizens. Too often decisions like these are implemented without community involvement. I stand for accessible transparency in the decision-making process. Richland, our home, should improve, prosper, and thrive without hidden harm to our health, safety, finances, or quality of life. As Richlanders, we owe it to ourselves, our families, and our neighbors to have honest conversations about our futures, weighing the risks, and coming to conclusions together.

If elected, I will champion accessible community-driven planning, clean parks, strong accountability, public safety initiatives, and a focus on the people of Richland's wellbeing, prosperity, and freedom.

Contact

dtveraas@gmail.com



Todd Samuel

Elected Experience

No information submitted

Other Professional Experience

23 years of organizational management experience and more than 30 years leading engineering, and technology projects. He currently serves as a Research Group Manager at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, where he leads teams focused on energy efficiency, testing, and applied research.

Education

MBA - Engineering & Technology Management, City University of Seattle (1996), BS - Business Administration, City University of Seattle (1993), AAS - General Studies/Electronics Technology - Columbia Basin College (1990)

Community Service

City of Richland - City Council (2026-Present), City of Richland Planning Commission (2024-2026), City of Richland Code Enforcement (2024-2026), City of Pasco Planning Commission (2008-2016)

Statement

As someone who graduated from Richland High School and has lived and worked in the Tri-Cities for over 40 years, I have a deep appreciation for the unique strengths and potential of our community. My professional background in organizational leadership and project management, has given me firsthand experience in infrastructure, sustainability, and collaborative problem-solving—skills I believe are essential for effective governance. I'm passionate about ensuring that Richland continues to thrive as a safe, inclusive, and forward-thinking city. Serving on the City Council allows me to contribute meaningfully to decisions that shape our future, advocate for responsible development, and ensure that we preserve the quality of life for all residents. I'm committed to listening, learning, and leading with integrity and transparency.

My priorities are infrastructure maintenance & improvement, responsive & efficient government, maintaining Richland's quality of life, and listening to citizens and helping resolve their issues and concerns.

I believe effective government begins with listening and caring. I believe in making decisions based on sound data, community input, and transparent processes. I believe in the value of collaboration, in being open-minded, and in the ability to disagree respectfully.

Contact

(509) 539-2757, Tsamuelrichland@gmail.com,
www.ToddSamuel.com



Ballot Box Locations

Location	Address	City	Drive Up?
Prosser Courthouse	620 Market St.	Prosser	No
Benton City City Hall	1009 Dale Ave.	Benton City	No
Kennewick City Hall	524 S. Auburn St.	Kennewick	Yes
New! Southridge Sports Complex	2901 Southridge Blvd.	Kennewick	Yes
Finley Middle School	37208 S. Finley Rd.	Kennewick	Yes
Benton County Campus	7122 W. Okanogan Pl.	Kennewick	Yes
Benton County Elections Center	7122 W. Okanogan Pl. Bldg. F	Kennewick	No
Badger Mountain Community Park	Keene Rd.	Richland	No
Jefferson Park Drop Box	1400 George Washington Way	Richland	Yes
West Richland Library Drop Box	3803 W. Van Giesen St.	West Richland	Yes
West Richland City Hall Drop Box	3100 Belmont Blvd.	West Richland	Yes
WSU-Tri Cities Drop Box	2770 Crimson Way	Richland	Yes

Local Ballot Measure**PROPOSITION NO. 1****Benton County Fire Protection District# 4
Authorizing the Maintenance of Existing
Property Tax Levies**

The Board of Benton County Fire Protection District No.4 adopted Resolution No. 2026-05 concerning a proposition to maintain and adequately fund District operations.

This proposition would fund fire protection and emergency medical services by restoring the District's existing regular property tax levy in 2026 to an amount not to exceed \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation and authorize setting a limit factor of 106% for each of the following nine years. The maximum allowable levy in the final year shall serve as the base for subsequent levy limitations as provided by Chapter 84.55 RCW.

☐ Approved

☐ Rejected

The Official Ballot Title was written by the the Board of Benton County Fire Protection District No. 4 as required by law. The Benton County Auditor is not responsible for the content of arguments or statements.

Explanatory Statement**PROPOSITION NO. 1 –Authorizing the
Maintenance of Existing Property Tax Levies**

Benton County Fire Protection District No. 4 provides emergency fire protection and medical services to its citizens. If approved by the voters, this proposition will authorize the District to restore its regular real property tax levy rate to \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2026 for collection in 2027. The District last obtained voter approval for the \$1.50 rate in 2020.

The proposition will also allow the District to keep pace with inflation for the following nine years by establishing an annual growth factor of 6% per year. At the end of the ten-year period, absent further voter approval, the District tax levy will be subject to statutory one percent limit.

The District's Board of Commissioners has determined that this proposition is necessary to maintain an effective level of services, fire fighter staffing, equipment and facilities in light of rising costs. The levy is subject to the property tax exemptions provided for qualifying seniors, veterans and others under chapter 84.36 RCW.

Pro Committee & Contact Information

Debra Humphreys
Sarah LeTard

Committee Contact: 509-400-8651
sarahjustme71@gmail.com

Con Committee & Contact Information

After repeated recruitment attempts, no volunteers came forward to write a statement against the ballot measure.

Pro Committee Statement

When you call 911, you expect help to arrive quickly—with the right people and equipment.

Benton County Fire District 4 serves more than 25,000 residents across West Richland and surrounding areas. Last year, firefighters and paramedics responded to 2,350 emergencies, nearly 70% of them medical calls. Demand for service continues to grow.

BCFD4 is funded locally through voter-approved property taxes—not by Benton County. Under state law, those revenues are generally limited to about a 1% increase per year. As new homes and businesses are added, the district is expected to serve more people, but funding cannot grow at the same pace. Meanwhile, the cost of providing emergency services continues to rise sharply. Together, these factors reduce funding per household over time and strain the district's ability to keep up with community needs.

As a result, the fire levy rate has declined from \$1.50 to \$1.31 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Proposition No. 1 would restore the levy to better reflect today's service demands.

If approved, funding would hire six firefighters, replace an aging fire engine, and strengthen water rescue and fire prevention programs—investments that support response times and reliability across the district. For the owner of a \$350,000 home, the proposed \$0.19 per \$1,000 lid lift would cost about \$5.54 per month. This measure helps the district keep pace with growth and maintain the level of service the community expects. *Please vote Yes on Proposition No. 1.*

Con Committee Statement

No Statement Submitted

Pro Committee Rebuttal Statement

No Statement Submitted

Con Committee Rebuttal Statement

No Statement Submitted

Local Ballot Measure**PROPOSITION NO. 1**

Benton County Fire Protection District 6

Emergency Medical Services Property Tax Levy

Will Benton County Fire Protection District No. 6 be authorized to fund emergency medical services for its citizens by reestablishing a regular property tax levy of \$.50 or less per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation for a period of ten consecutive years to be collected beginning in 2027?

☐ Yes

☐ No

The Official Ballot Title was written by the Board of Directors of Benton County Fire Protection District 6 as required by law. The Benton County Auditor is not responsible for the content of arguments or statements.

Explanatory Statement**PROPOSITION NO. 1 – Emergency Medical Services Tax Levy Renewal**

In 1996 Benton County Fire Protection District No. 6 voters approved a ten-year Emergency Medical Service (EMS) property tax levy. If approved by the voters this measure will reestablish the District's (EMS) property tax levy at a rate not to exceed \$.50 per thousand dollars for ten years to be collected beginning in 2027.

The District's Board of Commissioners has determined that this proposition is necessary to maintain an effective level of emergency medical services and to fund EMS personnel, equipment and facilities in light of rising costs. Approval of this measure will allow the District to continue to fund the current level of emergency medical services that it provides to its citizens.

The revenue from this levy will be used by the District exclusively for emergency medical services.

Pro Committee & Contact Information

Yes for EMS Committee

Carol Harris
Judy Lear
Lydia Lyon

Committee Contact: 509-832-8523
billh@bentonrea.com

Con Committee & Contact Information

After repeated recruitment attempts, no volunteers came forward to write a statement against the ballot measure.

Pro Committee Statement

No Statement Submitted

Con Committee Statement

No Statement Submitted

Pro Committee Rebuttal Statement

No Statement Submitted

Con Committee Rebuttal Statement

No Statement Submitted

Benton County Auditor
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