



2026 PRIMARY VOTER GUIDE

A non-partisan guide to knowing
your candidates before you vote

Designed for Voters in Madison County, IN
Primary Election: Tuesday, May 5, 2026

2026 PRIMARY VOTER GUIDE

CONTENTS

- [Prepare to Vote in Your Primary](#), page 3
- [Q & A with Federal Candidates](#), pages 4-12
- [Snapshot of Federal Candidates](#), pages 13-14
- [Q & A with State Candidates](#), pages 15-25
- [Snapshot of State Candidates](#), pages 26-29
- [Q & A with Madison County Sheriff Candidates](#), pages 30-33
- [Snapshot of Local Candidates](#), pages 34-53
 - [Madison County Sheriff Candidates](#), page 34
 - [Circuit Court Judge & County Prosecuting Attorney Candidates](#), page 35
 - [Madison County Circuit Court Clerk, County Recorder, & County Treasurer Candidates](#), page 36
 - [Madison County Assessor & County Commissioner Candidates](#), page 37
 - [Madison County Council Candidates](#), pages 37-38
 - [Township Trustee Candidates](#), pages 39-40
 - [Township Board Candidates](#), pages 41-43
 - [Town Council Candidates](#), pages 44-45
 - [Madison County Convention Delegates](#), pages 46-49
 - [Madison County Precinct Committeeman Candidates](#)
(Democrats only this year), pages 50-53
- [Voting in Your Primary](#), page 54
- [Where to Vote](#), page 55
- [Glossary](#), pages 56-58
- [How the Guide Was Created](#), page 59

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THIS GUIDE](#)

Note:

- This guide lists all offices and candidates for Madison County voters. The Q and A is for County Sheriff, State Representative for District 36, State Senator for District 25, and United States Representative for District 5.
- Community Lens of Anderson (CLA) alternates which party for candidates is listed first. In 2024 we listed Democrats before Republicans and this year we will list Republicans before Democrats.
- Names placed in alphabetical order, by party. Information obtained through candidate campaign materials, social media, candidate websites, and directly from candidates.

Non-partisan Voter Guide developed
in collaboration with:



PREPARE TO VOTE IN YOUR PRIMARY

KNOW YOUR CANDIDATES WHEN YOU VOTE

What you need to know about primary voting:

- **Primary Election Day:** Tuesday, May 5, 2026, 6am-6pm. Choose ANY convenient site.
- **Absentee info:** [in.gov/sos/elections/voter-information/ways-to-vote/absentee-voting/](https://www.madisoncounty.in.gov/sos/elections/voter-information/ways-to-vote/absentee-voting/)
- **Early voting begins April 7, 2026.** For early voting polling places and hours visit [indianavoters.in.gov](https://www.madisoncounty.in.gov/polling-locations)
- **Satellite early-voting centers and primary day voting sites:** <https://www.madisoncounty.in.gov/polling-locations>

Helpful Resources

- Election Office: 765-641-9459
- Voter Registration Office: 765-641-9657
- Commissioner's Office: 765-641-9474
- Madison County General Site: www.madisoncounty.in.gov/
- Madison County Election Office: www.madisoncounty.in.gov/departments/election-office
- Check your Voter Registration status and your ballot: [indianavoters.in.gov/](https://www.madisoncounty.in.gov/polling-locations)
- Learn about Indiana government: www.inbarfoundation.org/indianagovernmentbook/

For position/role definitions, click the position in the snapshot sections to be taken to the glossary in the back of our guide.

FOR VOTING INFORMATION GO TO [HTTPS://INDIANAVOTERS.IN.GOV/](https://indianavoters.in.gov/)

Q&A

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATES

All United States Representative District 5 candidates were asked the same questions by the creators of this guide. The answers that follow are in their own words.

Questions asked:

1. What strengths and experiences do you bring to this office?
2. What are the three key messages of your campaign?
3. Many residents believe their vote doesn't count; what roots do you already have in your community, and how will you ensure their voices are heard?

We recognize that response lengths vary among candidates. To ensure we fully honor their perspectives, we are sharing each answer in its entirety. You can find their contact information in the "Snapshot" sections.

Note: Names listed in alphabetical order and by party.

Q&A

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATES

Scott King (R)

- This candidate was contacted with the questions multiple ways and did not respond.

Victoria Spartz (R)

- This candidate was contacted with the questions multiple ways and did not respond.

Steve Avitabile (D)

- **Q1: What strengths and experiences do you bring to this office?**
 - I bring over 20 years of real-world experience as a healthcare provider and small business owner. As a chiropractor, I've worked directly with patients every day, listening, solving problems, and helping people get back on their feet. I understand how rising costs affect families because I hear it firsthand. I've also worked in sales and consulting, helping businesses operate more efficiently and better serve their communities. I'm not a career politician – I bring practical experience, clear communication, and a focus on results. I'll approach this role the same way I've approached my career: listen, solve problems, and deliver for the people I serve.
- **Q2: What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - First, affordability – lowering the cost of healthcare, housing, and everyday essentials so working families can get ahead. Second, fairness – ending special tax breaks and loopholes that favor billionaires and large corporations, and making sure the system works for everyone, not just those at the top. Third, results over politics – less fighting, less noise, and more focus on real solutions that people can actually feel in their daily lives.

Q&A

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATES

Steve Avitabile (Continued)

- **Q3: Many residents believe their vote doesn't count; what roots do you already have in your community, and how will you ensure their voices are heard?**
 - I've lived and worked in this community for years, raising my family here and serving patients every day. As a healthcare provider and small business owner, I've spent my career listening to people and helping solve real problems. I understand why people feel like their vote doesn't count – too often, they're not being heard. That has to change. I'll stay visible and accessible, hold regular community meetings, and listen before I act. This campaign – and this office – is about giving people a real voice and delivering results they can actually feel.

Q&A

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATES

J.D. Ford (D)

- **Q1: What strengths and experiences do you bring to this office?**
 - My strength IS my experience. I'm the only candidate in this primary race that has:
 - Unseated a Republican
 - Won elections in a red district
 - Served as a legislator
 - Successfully stood up to the President's executive overreach at the Statehouse.
 - Worked on bipartisan legislation
 - Held energy companies accountable
 - Protected healthcare for Hoosiers
 - Supported public schools
 - Worked with high school students on mental health initiatives
 - Supported public safety measures
 - This race is more than just a pipe dream for me. I've spent the last 8 years in the State Senate listening to Hoosiers, addressing their issues and actually showing up for people. That's exactly what I'll do in Washington D.C.
- **Q2: What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - **Accountability:** Washington is making unchecked decisions that affect us without any oversight. We need a strong Congressional oversight to hold leaders accountable to the American people. **Affordability:** Protecting your wallet from corporate overreach. As a watchdog who warned about the BlackRock/AES merger, I fought to end "corporate socialism," lower energy costs, and move back to a healthcare system centered on your health. **YOU:** I'll bring Hoosier voices back to the Capitol. I've been one of the most accessible legislators in Indiana, and that will continue in DC. In this campaign, I've heard about marijuana legalization, social security worries, ICE overreach, and much more.

Q & A

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATES

J.D. Ford (Continued)

- **Q3: Many residents believe their vote doesn't count; what roots do you already have in your community, and how will you ensure their voices are heard?**
 - For 8 years, I served this community as a legislator, and for a decade before that, I lived, worked, and played in Central Indiana... specifically Hamilton County. Together, we've experienced the rapid growth of our community while still maintaining our small-town vibe. We've shared the highs, like cheering on our local Olympic swimmers, and the lows of unspeakable tragedies that put us in the national spotlight. Because we've lived these moments together, I'm not a face on a TV screen. I'm a neighbor you see at the grocery store. I don't just want your vote; I want your partnership in Washington.

Jackson Franklin (D)

- **Q1: What strengths and experiences do you bring to this office?**
 - I know what it means to be a working class Hoosier because I am one, and once elected I will continue to fight for the working class and not the donor class. As a paramedic who's worked on the ambulance, I've seen the worst this healthcare system has to offer and will fight to expand healthcare to all as it is a human right not a privilege. As someone who deployed overseas for the Army, I know what it means to serve a cause larger than myself. While deployed, I saw first hand the lasting impact that genocide has on a people, and pledge to stand up against it anywhere in the world, including but not limited to Palestine. I will unapologetically fight for the working class.

Q&A

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATES

Jackson Franklin (Continued)

- **Q2: What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - I would say that the three key messages of this campaign are to fight for a system that represents all people not just the top 1% by getting money out of politics, fight to expand healthcare to all as a human right, and to fight other the human rights that have been denied to our people for far too long, such as women's rights, veteran rights, LGBTQ rights, immigrant rights and others. In the wealthiest nation in the history of the planet, there is no reason that we cannot take care of our people the way most every other developed nation has already achieved decades ago. We must fight for a system that place "People Over Profits!"
- **Q3: Many residents believe their vote doesn't count; what roots do you already have in your community, and how will you ensure their voices are heard?**
 - Many people believe that either their vote doesn't count, doesn't matter, or it doesn't matter who wins because both candidates are beholden to corporate lobby interest and are not going to represent the people. This campaign is fighting to give a voice to working people, and expand that voice by the policies we are championing. Being a grassroots campaign with no corporate donors, I'm only interested in hearing the voices of the working people in our community. At this point, I am the only candidate in this race that has had a town hall in all six counties of this district, nearly two times each, and that kind of transparency and accountability will not go away once elected.

Q&A

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATES

Phil Goss (D)

- **Q1: What strengths and experiences do you bring to this office?**
 - I bring 30 years of international relations experience. From my time in the State Department in Eastern Europe, to my work in public education, to my current role in business. I bring an ability to understand all facets of the role of Congress that we need at this time. We need a person in this seat that understands we must be good stewards of our society, and that Congress works for the American people, not the other way around.
- **Q2: What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - We have one key message on this campaign - no spin. I am not going to mislead anyone in an attempt to better this campaign. The facts are the facts and I will not "spin" anything to pander for votes. My policy positions speak for themselves. I will make sure we have a government that focuses on the great work Congress can do, not what AIPAC or shadow donors want me to do. I will not accept any PAC money or dark money on this campaign. I will NOT be bought and I will be giving the power to shape this election to our voters and our voters only.
- **Q3: Many residents believe their vote doesn't count; what roots do you already have in your community, and how will you ensure their voices are heard?**
 - I am a Noblesville resident, and I have been in this community for years. Every resident does in fact have the power to change our government and for too long we have had candidates who want to focus too much on the bare math of vote totals. If you do not vote, yes your voice will not be heard. We are facing a tyrannical administration that wants to suppress the voice of the American people. It takes all of us to stand up and speak truth to power, I will be doing so and ask every person reading this to join me in speaking up!

Q&A

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATES

Dylan McKenna (D)

- This candidate was contacted with the questions multiple ways and did not respond.

Tara Nelson (D)

- **Q1: What strengths and experiences do you bring to this office?**
 - I am a business transformation and technology leader with more than twenty years of experience leading complex initiatives across the finance, pharmaceutical, healthcare, and government sectors. I specialize in global system implementations and AI-driven solutions that deliver results. I led Indiana's Tax Amnesty 2015 program, a statewide initiative that generated \$200 million in revenue. I hold an Executive MBA from Purdue University, with study abroad experience in Malaysia and Singapore, and maintain Project Management Professional, and other credentials. My leadership focuses on accountability, improving performance, strengthening operations, and delivering practical solutions that benefit organizations and the communities they serve.
- **Q2: What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - I'm running for Congress to protect the Constitution, restore accountability in government, and bring experienced leadership that delivers results. With more than twenty years leading complex technology and business transformation initiatives across finance, healthcare, pharmaceutical, and government sectors, I've built a career solving difficult problems and improving performance. As a lifelong Hoosier who grew up in Lafayette and now lives in Carmel, I believe in hard work, community, and responsible leadership. My campaign is about protecting our constitutional freedoms, strengthening our communities, and ensuring government works for the people it serves.

Q&A

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATES

Tara Nelson (Continued)

- **Q3: Many residents believe their vote doesn't count; what roots do you already have in your community, and how will you ensure their voices are heard?**
 - Every vote counts, and every voice deserves to be heard. I'm a lifelong Hoosier, raised in rural Lafayette and now living in the Carmel suburbs, so I understand firsthand how policies impact both small towns and suburban communities. I'm committed to representing the best interest of all residents of our district, listening carefully to your concerns, and making decisions that reflect your priorities. I will actively seek your feedback through community outreach, town halls, and direct conversations. I will maintain an open-door policy so that your voices guide every policy decision and ensure our government works for the people it serves.

Deborah Pickett (D)

- **This candidate was contacted with the questions multiple ways and did not respond.**

FEDERAL RACE SNAPSHOT

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATES

For position/role definitions, click the position in the snapshot sections to be taken to the glossary in the back of our guide.

Scott King (R)

- Website: https://ballotpedia.org/Scott_King_%28Indiana%29
- Instagram: [scottanthony_317](#)

Victoria Spartz (R) - incumbent*

- Website: <https://spartz.house.gov/>
- Facebook: [Representative Victoria Spartz](#)

Steve Avitabile (D)

- Website: <https://steveavit.com/>
- Facebook: [Steve Avit for Congress](#)

J.D. Ford (D)

- Website: <https://www.electjdford.com/>
- Facebook: [J.D. Ford for Congress](#)
- Instagram: [jdfordforcongress](#)

Jackson Franklin (D)

- Website: <https://jacksonfranklinforcongress.com/>
- Facebook: [Jackson Franklin for Congress](#)
- Instagram: [jacksonfranklinforcongress](#)

***Incumbent:** This is the person who currently holds an office.

FEDERAL RACE SNAPSHOT

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATES

Phil Goss (D)

- Website: <https://www.philgoss.com/>
- Facebook: [Phil Goss for Congress](#)

Dylan McKenna (D)

- Website: <https://www.mckenna4congress.com/>
- Facebook: [McKenna for Congress](#)
- Instagram: [mckenna_4_congress](#)

Tara Nelson (D)

- Website: <https://taranelsoncongress.com/>

Deborah Pickett (D)

- Website: <https://pickettforcongress.com/>
- Facebook: [Pickett for Congress](#)
- Instagram: [pickettforcongress](#)

Q&A

INDIANA STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 25 CANDIDATES

All state senator candidates were asked the same questions by the creators of this guide. The answers that follow are in their own words.

Questions asked:

1. What strengths and experiences do you bring to this office?
2. What are the three key messages of your campaign?
3. Many residents believe their vote doesn't count; what roots do you already have in your community, and how will you ensure their voices are heard?

We recognize that response lengths vary among candidates. To ensure we fully honor their perspectives, we are sharing each answer in its entirety. You can find their contact information in the "Snapshot" sections.

Note: Names listed in alphabetical order and by party.

Q&A

INDIANA STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 25 CANDIDATES

Katherine Callahan (R)

- **Q1: What strengths and experiences do you bring to this office?**
 - As a Doctorate prepared Nurse Practitioner, I bring real-world healthcare experience and deep local roots to the State Senate. I'm not a career politician, I'm independent, accountable, and focused on results. I understand budgets, regulatory systems, and frontline challenges because I've worked inside them. I prioritize fiscal responsibility, election transparency, and standing up for constituents, even when it's uncomfortable. I show up, engage directly, and defend my positions publicly. My campaign is about transparency, reform, integrity, and putting Constituents of District 25 first, not party pressure or insider politics.
- **Q2: What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - My campaign for District 25 is built on three key principles. First, reform and accountability. I am running to challenge insider politics and ensure government decisions are transparent and responsive to the people, not controlled by party structures. Second, fiscal responsibility. Every taxpayer dollar matters. I believe government must operate with discipline, eliminate waste, and prioritize responsible budgeting. Third, courageous, independent leadership. I will show up, engage directly with constituents, and stand firm, even under pressure. District 25 deserves a senator who is visible, accessible, and committed to putting the community first.

Q&A

INDIANA STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 25 CANDIDATES

Katherine Callahan (Continued)

- **Q3: Many residents believe their vote doesn't count; what roots do you already have in your community, and how will you ensure their voices are heard?**
 - Many residents feel unheard because they don't see their elected officials present or accessible. That's where my roots and experience matter. I have spent over 30 years standing beside individuals and families, ensuring their voices are heard within complex systems. Advocacy is the foundation of my career. Anyone is welcome to walk in and share their thoughts and beliefs at my practice. I regularly attend local meetings, and I sit in the seats with constituents. As your senator, I will continue showing up, holding open forums, maintaining direct communication, and providing transparent updates. Representation means being present, accessible, and accountable to the people.

Mike Gaskill (R)

- **This candidate was contacted with the questions multiple ways and did not respond.**

Q & A

INDIANA STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 25 CANDIDATES

Tamie Dixon-Tatum (D)

- **Q1: What strengths and experiences do you bring to this office?**
 - Legal Oversight- I construct and monitor policies to ensure compliance with federal, state and local laws regarding employment, education, fair housing, disability; Conflict Resolution- I review investigated complaints, negotiate conciliation agreements and mediate disputes; Operational Compliance- I monitor contract compliance and institute procedures for fair competition in the bidding process; Education & Training- I organize training and developing communication programs to inform the public of their rights; Employee Relations- I implement strategies to enhance employee motivation, performance, and workplace dispute reduction. I possess a Master's in Government, a Master's in Legal Studies, a Bachelor's in Telecommunications.
- **Q2: What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - I am an Advocate for and Protector of Civil/Human Rights. I am a Listening Voice - meaning I'm going to listen and learn from all of my constituents, and then carry your voices to the General Assembly. I am Ready to Serve/Ready to Lead as we search for and create a win/win/win Socially, Economically and for the Environment.
- **Q3: Many residents believe their vote doesn't count; what roots do you already have in your community, and how will you ensure their voices are heard?**
 - Anderson/Madison County is my community and my roots as I was born, raised, and still live in my community. To ensure All voices are heard in White River Township/Northern Jackson Township in Hamilton County, and in Anderson/Madison County, I plan to make myself and my staff available for town halls, virtual town halls, simple phone calls and emails, plus finding other ways to be more accessible/responsive to my constituents. I will advocate for and protect Voting Rights in District #25 and abroad via civil education and by helping to remove barriers to voting and civic participation/active citizenship!

Q & A

INDIANA STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 25 CANDIDATES

Todd Shelton (D)

- **Q1: What strengths and experiences do you bring to this office?**
 - I've been a resident of Madison County all my life, except for the time I was in the military. I have spent much of my life in cities in Madison County, including those in the northern part of Hamilton County. I was a UAW union official in Anderson, Indiana, when it was thriving, and I know what happens when big Corporations leave a community. I'm a disabled veteran who knows what it means to have access to affordable and accessible health care. I'm also an educator, and I have seen firsthand what happens when state leaders don't respect educators' voices, and I know how to fix these issues.
- **Q2: What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - Affordability, education, and Healthcare. These three areas are very important to me because I see what is happening to our working-class families in our community. I see the struggles they are going through when they should be enjoying life. Having access to affordable healthcare should be a priority, and this includes Mental Health. Education is a right and not a privilege. We need to make sure that our youth are given the proper education they need and let educators teach the curriculum that supports that, instead of hindering them with policies.
- **Q3: Many residents believe their vote doesn't count; what roots do you already have in your community, and how will you ensure their voices are heard?**
 - I was born and have lived in this District my entire life, and my roots are very strong here. I know what we need, and I do listen to people; that is one reason I am running for office to make sure we have a working-class voice back in the Statehouse. I will visit every city in our community and make sure their voices are heard. I will put people in this District first.

Q&A

INDIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 36 CANDIDATES

All state representative candidates were asked the same questions by the creators of this guide. The answers that follow are in their own words.

Questions asked:

1. What strengths and experiences do you bring to this office?
2. What are the three key messages of your campaign?
3. Many residents believe their vote doesn't count; what roots do you already have in your community, and how will you ensure their voices are heard?

We recognize that response lengths vary among candidates. To ensure we fully honor their perspectives, we are sharing each answer in its entirety. You can find their contact information in the "Snapshot" sections.

Note: Names listed in alphabetical order and by party.

Q&A

INDIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 36 CANDIDATES

Kyle Pierce (R)

- **Q1: What strengths and experiences do you bring to this office?**
 - During my two terms as state representative; I've been presented with a STAR award by the Indiana Parkinson's Disease community for promoting awareness of the disease; named a "20 under 40" Awardee by the Madison County Chamber of Commerce and awarded the "Outstanding Hoosier Legislator" award by the Indiana Credit Union League. I have passed five bipartisan pieces of legislation; from genetic testing protections to investment protections for Hoosier workers and retirees. Outside of office, my experience includes serving as finance director for a child welfare association, formerly Director of Development for the Ball State University College of Health, and Deputy Executive Director at the Indiana Medical Device Manufacturers Council.
- **Q2: What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - I have and will continue to: Fight to protect Hoosier taxpayers. I've helped deliver more than \$1.2 billion in taxpayer savings for Hoosiers in the last four years. Promote policies that make it easier to live, work and raise a family in Indiana. From targeting social media companies targeting our kids to demanding transparency in healthcare. Streamline state government to make it more efficient in serving you. In 2023, I co-authored HEA 1623 to find ways to streamline outdated regulations. In 2026; I co-authored HEA 1003, that merged state boards and commissions to ensure more efficient services for Hoosiers.

Q & A

INDIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 36 CANDIDATES

Kyle Pierce (Continued)

- **Q3: Many residents believe their vote doesn't count; what roots do you already have in your community, and how will you ensure their voices are heard?**
 - First; in 2022 & 2023; we had primary elections decided by less than three votes in our county. Your vote matters. Beyond that, your voice matters more. That's why I've taken part in more than 15 town halls in my two terms as well as gone on local radio 60+ times (4 times per month while in session on WHBU) answering questions & discussing policies. I've answered 1,000+ constituent emails and talked with countless folks over the phone. Lastly, I always want to hear your thoughts or questions, just call or text my cell phone at 317-443-1791. If I can ever be helpful working out a problem you're having with a state agency, just call/text as well. If I do not answer, please leave a voicemail.

Nouhad Melki II (D)

- **Q1: What strengths and experiences do you bring to this office?**
 - After living in Anderson for nine years, I have witnessed and experienced the struggles facing many hurting people in our community. My background in after-school tutoring, for instance, exposed me to the heartbreak of so many under-supported kids being raised by single moms and widowed grandmothers. Despite my own affordability struggles, I was fortunate to study at Anderson University – where I majored in political science, national security, and minored in history. In 2018, I interned in Washington, where I worked on SNAP policy and the passage of the 2018 Farm Bill. Also in DC, I completed my scholarship of presidential leadership at the Reagan Institute – where I pursued courses in government, economics, journalism, and ethics.

Q&A

INDIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 36 CANDIDATES

Nouhad Melki II (Continued)

- **Q2: What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - Compassion. Competence. Courage. Compassion to comprehend how people in our communities are struggling; competence to devise solutions that relieve those struggles; and courage to make those solutions a reality. For instance, the Statehouse reduced Medicaid/Medicare in order to afford contracting private immigration detention facilities and other irrelevant projects. We require compassion to restore hope for Hoosiers' healthcare access; courage to stand up to the injustice of excessive immigration enforcement; and competence to reallocate misused funds for restoring Medicaid/Medicare. After all, healthcare affordability is vital to help Hoosiers struggling to afford the care they need.
- **Q3: Many residents believe their vote doesn't count; what roots do you already have in your community, and how will you ensure their voices are heard?**
 - While at Anderson University – where I followed AU's mission “to prepare for a life of service in the church and society” – I began tutoring for church-based after-school programs. I have since volunteered as a church camp counselor and youth ministry leader. In my work with kids, I met many struggling families. And seeing firsthand how our kids are being left behind by a broken education system, I am determined to lift up our communities and be their voice at the Statehouse. Doing so will require immense devotion, in earning the support of every neighbor across Madison County. It is a challenge I am up for, with the help of all who believe in a more hopeful Indiana future.

Q&A

INDIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 36 CANDIDATES

Kim Townsend (D)

- **Q1: What strengths and experiences do you bring to this office?**
 - Anderson native with more than 30 years of public service in Anderson and Madison County. Extensive experience in local government, federal housing programs and initiatives, community development, community organizing, nonprofit leadership, board service, and grant administration. Currently serving as Chief Executive Officer of the Anderson Housing Authority, with a focus on strengthening housing programs and expanding opportunities for residents. Known for building strong working relationships with community stakeholders, elected officials, and organizational leaders across sectors, and for improving programs and initiatives to move them from non-compliance to successful, effective outcomes.
- **Q2: What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - Housing & Neighborhood Revitalization: Support access to safe, affordable & attainable housing. Work cooperatively with government and non-profits to strengthen neighborhoods and find tangible solutions & funding for the unhoused. Economic & Workforce Development: Encourage, support and seek funding for job & workforce training, partnerships among employers, schools, and community organizations to expand economic opportunity and county-wide growth. Community Collaboration & Growth Development: Promote collaboration among state agencies, local governments, and nonprofits to improve access to grants, services and community programs with funding to support the movement

Q&A

INDIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 36 CANDIDATES

Kim Townsend (Continued)

- **Q3: Many residents believe their vote doesn't count; what roots do you already have in your community, and how will you ensure their voices are heard?**
 - My greatest strength has always been people. Throughout my life, I have been a voice for those who feel unheard and an advocate for citizens, clients, businesses, and community stakeholders. Politics may be the vehicle to serve, but the real work is built on truth, honesty, and showing up. Every vote matters in building a stronger Madison County today and for future generations. It is important that people see and hear from their elected officials and know their concerns are taken seriously. I am someone the community can depend on because this is home for me and it will always be my top priority.

STATE RACE SNAPSHOT

INDIANA STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 25 CANDIDATES

For position/role definitions, click the position in the snapshot sections to be taken to the glossary in the back of our guide.

Katherine Callahan (R)

- Website: <https://www.electkatherinecallahan.com/>
- Facebook: [Elect Katherine Callahan for IN Senate District 25](#)

Mike Gaskill (R) - incumbent*

- Website: <https://electmikegaskill.com/>
- Facebook: [Elect Mike Gaskill](#)

Tamie Dixon-Tatum (D)

- Website: <https://www.ctetamiedixontatum.com/>
- Facebook: [TDT for Indiana](#)
- Instagram: [tdt.forindiana](#)

Todd Shelton (D)

- Website: <https://www.toddsheltonforin.com/>
- Facebook: [Todd Shelton for Indiana](#)

***Incumbent:** This is the person who currently holds an office.

STATE RACE SNAPSHOT

INDIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 31 CANDIDATES

Lori Gross-Reaves (R) - incumbent*

- Facebook: [Lori Goss-Reaves for State Representative](#)

Katie Robins (D)

- Website: <https://www.katierobinsforindiana.com/>
- Facebook: [Katie Robins for Indiana](#)
- Instagram: [katierobins4indiana](#)

INDIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 35 CANDIDATES

Elizabeth Rowray (R) - incumbent*

- Website:
<https://www.indianahouserpublicans.com/members/general/elizabeth-rowray/>
- Facebook: [Elizabeth Rowray](#)

Phil Gift (D)

- Website: <https://www.phil4house35.com/>
- Facebook: [Phil Gift for Indiana House of Representatives](#)

STATE RACE

SNAPSHOT

INDIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 36 CANDIDATES

Kyle Pierce (R) - incumbent*

- Website: <https://www.pierceforindiana.com/>
- Facebook: [Kyle Pierce, Indiana State Representative](#)
- Instagram: [pierceforindiana](#)

Nouhad Melki, II (D)

- Website: <https://www.votemelki.com/>
- Facebook: [Melki for Indiana](#)
- Instagram: [votemelki](#)

Kim Townsend (D)

- Website: <https://votefortownsend.com/>
- Facebook: [Kim Townsend for IN State Representative HD-36](#)

INDIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 53 CANDIDATES

Ethan Lawson (R) - incumbent*

- Website: <https://www.lawsonforindiana.com/>
- Facebook: [Ethan Lawson for Indiana State Representative](#)
- Instagram: [lawsonforin](#)

Reece Axel-Adams (D)

- Website: <https://www.reece453.org/>
- Facebook: [Reece 4 Indiana](#)

STATE RACE SNAPSHOT

INDIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 88 CANDIDATES

Chris Jeter (R) - incumbent*

- Website: <https://chrisjeter.com/>
- Facebook: [Chris Jeter for Indiana](#)

Stephanie Jo Yocum (D)

- Website: <https://www.stephaniejoyocum.com/>
- Facebook: [Stephanie Jo Yocum for Indiana](#)

Q & A

MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF CANDIDATES

All county sheriff candidates were asked the same questions by the creators of this guide. The answers that follow are in their own words.

Questions asked:

1. What strengths and experiences could you bring to this office?
2. What are the three key messages of your campaign?
3. How would you describe the relationship between your community and law enforcement?

We recognize that response lengths vary among candidates. To ensure we fully honor their perspectives, we are sharing each answer in its entirety. You can find their contact information in the “Snapshot” sections.

Note: Names listed in alphabetical order and by party.

Q & A MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF CANDIDATES

John Beeman (R)

- **Q1: What strengths and experiences could you bring to this office?**
 - I bring the experience of being the sheriff for the last three years. Prior to being elected sheriff I was in command of all the US Marshals Fugitive Task Forces in the State of Indiana. My team and I have for the last three years have been immersed in the planning of the new jail here in Madison County. At the same time, we have increased the pay for the civilian jailers and advocated for a pay raise for the merit officers and improved the morale and workplace environment that has resulted in all available positions being filled. That was not the case at the beginning of my term. We have numerous initiatives to increase public safety.
- **Q2: What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - If the people grant me the privilege of re-electing me as their sheriff, we will have to complete the new jail and complete the transfer of the inmates and initiate the new programming at the jail such as mental health and addiction counseling. We hope this new approach will help curb the high recidivism rate we have in the county. I will continue to seek out new innovative technology and methods and fight to maintain our current staffing of merit deputies to patrol Madison County to keep our record levels of low crime and rapid response to citizens in need.
- **Q3: How would you describe the relationship between your community and law enforcement?**
 - I would describe the relationship between the county citizens and the sheriff's department as very good. I am responsive to citizens' concerns personally. I receive calls, emails, appointments and interactions out in the community and they are by and large positive. Clearly not everyone is completely satisfied but I always listen to their concerns and issues and provide an answer based upon the law, ordinance or policy of the department. I will still operate as I have my first term, open door, both for the staff and the public. I have a lifetime of service from my time in the military, the Marshals Service and as the Madison County Sheriff.

Q & A

MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF CANDIDATES

Brian Bell (R)

- **Q1: What strengths and experiences could you bring to this office?**
 - I am the only candidate with 33 years of service at the Madison County Sheriff's Department, serving in every division, including the jail. I earned each merit-based promotion, holding the ranks of Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, and Chief Deputy (2006–2019). I have owned a local landscaping business since 1990 and manage multiple residential and commercial properties. I am one of only two county officers to graduate from the FBI National Academy (Class #215). I hold an Associate of Science in Criminal Justice and graduated from the Madison County Leadership Academy.
- **Q2: What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - The three key points of my campaign are proven leadership, being a working Sheriff, and experience. I believe a Sheriff should be active in the community he or she serves and show strong support for the men and women of the department. I will be visible, accessible, and engaged—building relationships that strengthen public safety and better serve the citizens of Madison County. With 33 years of experience, I am prepared to lead on day one.
- **Q3: How would you describe the relationship between your community and law enforcement?**
 - I believe the relationship between the Madison County Sheriff's Department and the community it serves has been greatly diminished over the past three years. As I've said before, I will rebuild those relationships and leverage them fully to better serve the citizens of Madison County. I was heavily involved in the community during my tenure as Chief Deputy, and I will continue that commitment as your next Sheriff—restoring trust, strengthening partnerships, and leading with integrity.

Johathan Culp (R)

- **This candidate was contacted with the questions multiple ways did not respond.**

Q & A

MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF CANDIDATES

Kimberly Stigall (R)

- This candidate was contacted with the questions multiple ways and did not respond.

Norman Rayford (D)

- **Q1: What strengths and experiences could you bring to this office?**
 - I am an Indiana Law Enforcement Academy graduated and a 27 year veteran with the Anderson Police Department where I currently serve as Asst. Chief over Operations. I attended Calhoun Community College in Athens, AL where I majored in Criminal Justice. I've served as a Patrol Officer, Community Policing Officer, Court Security, Major Crimes Detective, Uniform Sergeant. I have received numerous Department and Community Awards including Madison County Officer of the Year (2017). I bring experience in policy development, Community affairs, Incident Command, Budgets, and staff management.
- **Q2: What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - I am focused on bringing the Madison County Sheriff's Office to the forefront of Community affairs in regards to being more vigilant in all Communities that we in Law Enforcement serve. I am focused on improving jail conditions for staff and inmates. I am also focused on continuing to modernize Policing through the jail and throughout the Department as far as equipment as a whole.
- **Q3: How would you describe the relationship between your community and law enforcement?**
 - I am a devoted man of Faith, I'm a father and grand father to children within the Madison County Community. I have coached wrestling on all levels within Madison County. I'm involved in leadership roles in several non-for profit organizations.

Dennis Watson (D)

- This candidate was contacted with the questions multiple ways and did not respond.

LOCAL RACE

SNAPSHOT

COUNTY SHERIFF CANDIDATES

For position/role definitions, click the position in the snapshot sections to be taken to the glossary in the back of our guide.

John Beeman (R) - incumbent*

- Website: <https://beemanforsheriff.com/>
- Facebook: [John Beeman for Madison County Sheriff](#)
- Email: johnbeemanforsheriff@gmail.com

Brian Bell (R)

- Website: www.brianbellforsheriff2026.com
- Facebook: [Elect Brian Bell for Madison County Sheriff IN](#)
- Email: briankbell12@gmail.com

Jonathan Culp (R)

- Facebook: [Jonathan Culp for Sheriff](#)
- Email: jonathana.culp@gmail.com

Kimberly Stigall (R)

- Facebook: [Elect Kimberly Stigall Madison County Sheriff](#)
- Email: kimstigallsheriff@gmail.com

Norman Rayford, Jr (D)

- Facebook: [Norman Rayford Jr](#)
- Email: nrayford297@gmail.com

Dennis Watson (D)

- Facebook: [Watson for Madison County Sheriff](#)
- Email: dlwatson6009@gmail.com

***Incumbent:** This is the person who currently holds an office.

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

Incumbent: This is the person who currently holds an office.

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE CANDIDATES

DIVISION 1

Angela Warner Sims (R) - incumbent*

- None found

DIVISION 2

Stephen Koester (R) - incumbent*

- None found

DIVISION 4

David Happe (R) - incumbent*

- Facebook: [Re-Elect Judge David Happe](#)

DIVISION 5

Scott A. Norrick (R) - incumbent*

- Facebook: [Judge Norrick](#)

Emilee Hammond (D)

- Website: <https://emileehammond.com/>
- Facebook: [Hammond for Madison County Judge](#)

COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY CANDIDATES

Andrew Hanna (R) - incumbent*

- Website: <https://www.andrewhannaforprosecutor.com/>
- Facebook: [Andrew Hanna for Madison County Prosecutor](#)
- Email: andrewhannaforprosecutor@gmail.com

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CLERK CANDIDATES

Linda Smith (R) - incumbent*

- Facebook: [Linda Smith for Madison County Clerk](#)
- Email: lsuesmith1963@gmail.com

Lisa Summers (R)

- Email: lrsummers1974@gmail.com

Stephany Mae Stennis (D)

- Website: <https://www.stephanymaestennis.com>
- Facebook: [Elect StephanyMae Stennis](#)
- Email: electstephanymae@gmail.com

COUNTY RECORDER CANDIDATES

Angela (Angie) Abel (R) - incumbent*

- Facebook: [Angie Abel for Recorder](#)
- Email: angie.abel@yahoo.com

Amy Terry (D)

- Email: adhough1@aol.com

COUNTY TREASURER CANDIDATES

Rick Gardner (R)

- Email: rg2119@gmail.com

No Democratic candidate filed

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

COUNTY ASSESSOR CANDIDATES

Larry Davis (R) - incumbent*

- Email: ldavis@madisoncounty.in.gov

No Democratic candidate filed

COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1 CANDIDATES

Danny (Dan) Girt (R)

- Email: dpgirt@att.net

No Democratic candidate filed

COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT 1 CANDIDATES

Cory Bohlander (R)

- Email: cobo_82@yahoo.com

Patrick Green (R)

- None found

James (Jim) Jackson (D)

- None found

Helen Wean (D)

- Email: helenwean07@gmail.com

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2 CANDIDATES

Nicole (Schuyler) Kapuscinski (R)

- Website: <https://www.nicole46016.com/>
- Email: nicole46016@gmail.com

Mikeal Vaughn (R)

- Facebook: [Mikeal Vaughn for County Council](#)
- Email: mikealvaughn765@gmail.com

Caroline (Carrie) Bale (D)

- Facebook: [Carrie Bale for Madison County Council - District 2](#)
- Email: bbale99@hotmail.com

COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3 CANDIDATES

Mike Reed (R)

- Website: <https://www.mikereedforcouncil.com/>
- Email: mreedin157@gmail.com

Fred Reese (D)

- Email: freese2@yahoo.com

COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT 4 CANDIDATES

Rob Steele (R) - incumbent

- Email: rsteale@madisoncounty.in.gov

No Democratic candidate filed

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE CANDIDATES

ADAMS TOWNSHIP

- **No Republican candidate filed**
- **Kimberly Bell (D)**

ANDERSON TOWNSHIP

- **Michael (Mike) Shively (R) - incumbent*** - michael.shively@att.net
- **Obadiah Smith, Jr (D)** - obadiahsmithjr@gmail.com

BOONE TOWNSHIP

- **Lisa Schwinn (R) - incumbent*** - rlschwinn4@yahoo.com
- **No Democratic candidate filed**

DUCK CREEK TOWNSHIP

- **No candidate filed (Republican + Democratic)**

FALL CREEK TOWNSHIP

- **No Republican candidate filed**
- **Fred Keith Gaskill (D) - incumbent*** - f.gaskill@comcast.net

GREEN TOWNSHIP

- **Greg Valentine (R) - incumbent*** - greg.valentine1945@yahoo.com
- **No Democratic candidate filed**

LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP

- **Jeremy Chubb (R)** - chubbforlaftownshiptrustee@gmail.com
- **Korey Hughes (R) - incumbent***
- **No Democratic candidate filed**

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE CANDIDATES

MONROE TOWNSHIP

- **George (Chip) McFerran (R) - incumbent*** - cmcferran2@comcast.net
- **No Democratic candidate filed**

PIPE CREEK TOWNSHIP

- **Patrick Hoose (R)**
- **Marian Dunnichay (D) - incumbent*** - mldunnichay@gmail.com
- **Lisa Hobbs (D) -** hobbs8827@yahoo.com

RICHLAND TOWNSHIP

- **Douglas Stein (R) - incumbent*** - doug.c.stein@gmail.com
- **No Democratic candidate filed**

STONY CREEK TOWNSHIP

- **Alan Bays (R) -** akbays82@gmail.com
- **No Democratic candidate filed**

UNION TOWNSHIP

- **Timothy (Tim) Dunham (R) - incumbent*** - timdunham808@gmail.com
- **No Democratic candidate filed**

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP

- **Dee Amos (R) - incumbent*** - d.amos@sbcglobal.net
- **No Democratic candidate filed**

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBER CANDIDATES

Vote for three (3) only per township

ADAMS TOWNSHIP

- **Nancy Lowe (R) - incumbent*** - thelowes28@yahoo.com
- **No Democratic candidate filed**

ANDERSON TOWNSHIP

- **Peter Heuer (R)** - pnheuer@comcast.net
- **Danny McGhee (R)** - myhom3@aol.com
- **Dan Murrell (R)**
- **Kevin Sulc (R) - incumbent*** - kevinasulc@gmail.com
- **Meredith (CoCo) Armstrong (D)**
- **Leandre (Andre) Smith (D)** - leandre.smith@gmail.com
- **Domanic Wills (D)** - domanicw@yahoo.com

BOONE TOWNSHIP

- **Ryan Pattison (R) - incumbent***
- **No Democratic candidate filed**

DUCK CREEK TOWNSHIP

- **Andrew Williams (R) - incumbent*** awilliams@madisoncounty.in.gov
- **No Democratic candidate filed**

FALL CREEK TOWNSHIP

- **No Republican or Democratic candidate filed**

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBER CANDIDATES Vote for three (3) only per township

GREEN TOWNSHIP

- **Jerry Manges (R) - incumbent*** - jerry.manges@gmail.com
- **Sharon Robinson (R) - incumbent***
- **Farrell Jason Smith (R) - incumbent***
- **No Democratic candidate filed**

JACKSON TOWNSHIP

- **No Republican or Democratic candidate filed**

LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP

- **Dennis Adams (R) -** da321_2006@yahoo.com
- **Bryan Frank (R) -** fi978@yahoo.com
- **David (Dave) Wise (R) - incumbent*** - wisedavid40@yahoo.com
- **Patricia (Patty) Mauck (D) - incumbent*** - pattymauck89@gmail.com

MONROE TOWNSHIP

- **Sarah Collis (R) - incumbent*** - simplysarahs2021@gmail.com
- **Valerie Jerrils (R) - incumbent*** - vjerrils@att.net
- **Jennifer Ward (R) - incumbent*** - ruggdwad@yahoo.com
- **No Democratic candidate filed**

PIPE CREEK TOWNSHIP

- **Joseph Miller (R) - incumbent*** - joejanejess@hotmail.com
- **Tonita (Toni) Perkins (R) -** toniperkins49@gmail.com
- **Richard Shepherd (R) -** richard@shepherdauktioners.com
- **Shelia McPhearson (D) - incumbent*** - srmcphearson@ymail.com

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBER CANDIDATES Vote for three (3) only per township

RICHLAND TOWNSHIP

- Dale Russell Cook (R) - incumbent*
- Michelle Davis (R) - incumbent*
- Horace (Bill) England (R) - incumbent* - beboiler@yahoo.com
- No Democratic candidate filed

STONY CREEK TOWNSHIP

- Jeffrey Thomas Purdue (R) - jeffpurdue1@gmail.com
- Diane Lawther (D)
- Connie Sears (D) - b.ll_sears76@hotmail.com

UNION TOWNSHIP

- Lloyd Brown (R) - incumbent* - lloyd.brown_anderson@outlook.com
- Jack Odle (R) - incumbent* - jrodle@sbcglobal.net
- Russ Willis (R)
- No Democratic candidate filed

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP

- Ralph Gordon (R) - incumbent* - screenmanw1@yahoo.com
- Stephen Andrew Waller (D) - incumbent* - steve-waller@sbcglobal.net

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

INGALLS TOWN COUNCIL CANDIDATES

At Large, Vote for two (2) only

Crystal Everhart (R) -incumbent*

- Email: ceverhart531@gmail.com

Cody Head (R)

- Facebook: [Cody Head for Ingalls Town Council](#)
- Email: codyheadforingalls@gmail.com

Georgia Parker (D) -incumbent*

- Email: gcpark121146@gmail.com

LAPEL TOWN COUNCIL CANDIDATES

At Large, Vote for two (2) only

Roger Fouse (R) -incumbent*

- Email: rfouse3109@gmail.com

Lindsay Washmuth (R) -incumbent*

- Email: lindsay.washmuth@ascension.org

No Democratic candidate filed

PENDLETON TOWN COUNCIL CANDIDATES

At Large, District 4 Vote for one (1) only

Marissa Skaggs (R) -incumbent*

- Email: marissa.e.skaggs@gmail.com

No Democratic candidate filed

PENDLETON TOWN COUNCIL CANDIDATES

District 3 Vote for one (1) only

Bryan Williams (R) -incumbent*

- Email: bwilliamslaw@comcast.net

No Democratic candidate filed

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

SUMMITVILLE TOWN COUNCIL CANDIDATES

At Large, Vote for two (2) only

Steve Conrad (R) - incumbent*

- None available

No Democratic candidate filed

SUMMITVILLE TOWN COUNCIL CANDIDATES

District 1 Vote for one (1) only

No Republican candidate filed

Dedira Ann Pierce (D) -incumbent*

- Facebook: [Dedira Pierce](#)
- Email: dpierce2333@icloud.com

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION DELEGATE CANDIDATES

At Large, Vote for two (2) only

- **Joshua Gaskill** - Frankton, IN; jmgaskill87@gmail.com
- **Heather Prophet** - Anderson, IN; hcprophet@gmail.com

District 1, Vote for eight (8) only

- **Jerry Alexander** - Anderson, IN; jerrold_alexander@hotmail.com
- **Jane (Birdie) Betteridge** - Alexandria, IN
- **Leland Franklin** - Anderson, IN; lelandfranklinjr@yahoo.com
- **Nickolas Freeman** - Anderson, IN; nickfreeman92@gmail.com
- **Kily Ann Gaskill** - Frankton, IN; kilyanngaskill@gmail.com
- **Linda Smith** - Alexandria, IN; lsuesmith1963@gmail.com
- **Timothy Smith** - Alexandria, IN; timleesmith4@gmail.com
- **Denise Spooner** - Alexandria, IN; tanddrealty@gmail.com
- **Kira Wilkinson** - Elwood, IN; kirawilkinson@icloud.com
- **Russ Willis** - Anderson, IN; russdena73@aol.com

District 2, Vote for eight (8) only

- **Chloe Anagnos** - Anderson, IN; chloeanagnos@gmail.com
- **Lloyd Brown** - Anderson, IN; lloyd.brown_anderson@outlook.com
- **Jennifer Culp** - Anderson, IN; culpfamily5@icloud.com
- **Todd Culp** - Anderson, IN; roberttodd308@gmail.com
- **Joni Harvey** - Anderson, IN; joni.harvey@yahoo.com
- **Nicole (Schuyler) Kapuscinski** - Anderson, IN; nicole46016@gmail.com
- **Ken Kocinski** - Anderson, IN; kocinskik@yahoo.com
- **Kyle Pierce** - Anderson, IN; kylepierce2012@gmail.com
- **Celeste Lenora Savage** - Anderson, IN; celestesavage16@gmail.com
- **Larry Lee Savage** - Anderson, IN; warrior57111@yahoo.com
- **Kevin Sulc** - Anderson, IN; kevinasulc@gmail.com

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION DELEGATE CANDIDATES

District 3, Vote for eight (8) only

- **Connie Gardner** - Anderson, IN; cgardner2119@gmail.com
- **Rick Gardner** - Anderson, IN; rg2119@gmail.com
- **Kristi Grabowski** - Anderson, IN; grabfam@comcast.net
- **Kelli Heuer** - Anderson, IN; heuerkelli@gmail.com
- **Peter Heuer** - Anderson, IN; pnheuer@comcast.net

District 4, Vote for eight (8) only

- **Beth Carey** - Pendleton, IN; bethcarey99@gmail.com
- **James Conley** - Anderson, IN; jaconley815@gmail.com
- **Joel Dannelley** - Anderson, IN; joeldannelley@yahoo.com
- **Marcy DeShong** - Pendleton, IN; marcyd@midwest-remodeling.com
- **Lana Farling** - Pendleton, IN; lanarfarling@gmail.com
- **Thomas Farling** - Pendleton, IN; tomfarling@gmail.com
- **Mike Gaskill** - Pendleton, IN; mikegaskill@comcast.net
- **Timothy Lehr** - Anderson, IN; talehr2@gmail.com
- **Karen Shreves** - Markleville, IN; karens@midwest-remodeling.com
- **Rob Steele** - Lapel, IN
- **Chase Wilcoxon** - Pendleton, IN; chawilcoxon@gmail.com

To find out what District you are in and your candidates for that district, contact the Voter Registration office at 765-641-9657 or review “Who and what is on my ballot” through checking your voter status at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/> which will only list the delegates for your district and will identify your district number.

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION DELEGATE CANDIDATES

At Large, Vote for thirty-nine (39) only

- **Maria Alexander** - Anderson, IN; mariaegnatzalexander@gmail.com
- **Amy Alt** - Anderson, IN; altamy524@gmail.com
- **Tyler Joseph Ambrose** - Anderson, IN; tjbrose@gmail.com
- **Meredith (CoCo) Armstrong** - Anderson, IN; bellarmstrong12@yahoo.com
- **Michael Austin** - Anderson, IN; michaeldaustin0303@gmail.com
- **Reese Axel-Adams** - Anderson, IN; reece4indiana@gmail.com
- **Robyn Axel-Adams** - Anderson, IN; raxeladams@gmail.com
- **Mary Baker-Boudissa** - Anderson, IN
- **Margaret (Maggie) Barr** - Frankton, IN; Maggiebarr89@gmail.com
- **James Bell** - Anderson, IN; bell567@gmail.com
- **Kevin Cline** - Alexandria, IN; mrcline1@gmail.com
- **Ollie Dixon** - Anderson, IN; olliehdixon@aol.com
- **Tamla (Tamie) Dixon-Tatum** - Anderson, IN; tamie.tatum@yahoo.com
- **Danielle Dunnichay-Noone** - Elwood, IN; danielledunnichaynoone@gmail.com
- **Amber Eckert-Jones** - Anderson, IN; aeckertjones@gmail.com
- **Tess Etchison** - Anderson, IN
- **Sheila (Shay) Fakhreddine** - Anderson, IN; sheilafakhredine@gmail.com
- **Christine Fisher** - Anderson, IN
- **Michael Fisher** - Anderson, IN; mf902@aol.com
- **Le Veda Kay Glazebrooks** - Anderson, IN; gleveda@gmail.com
- **Patricia Hanlon** - Anderson, IN; pleeh1@gmail.com
- **Angela Harrison** - Anderson, IN
- **G Randall Harrison** - Anderson, IN; ogrharrison@gmail.com
- **Michael Helterbrand** - Lapel, IN
- **Lisa Hobbs** - Elwood, IN; hobbs8827@yahoo.com
- **Tracy Howey** - Anderson, IN; tracyhowey67@yahoo.com
- **Lisa Isaacs** - Frankton, IN
- **Robert M Jones** - Anderson, IN; rmjones@acsc.net
- **Judy Forkan Kapoun** - Alexandria, IN; forkan1@yahoo.com
- **Jane Lordan Kelly** - Summitville, IN; jJordan.kelly@gmail.com
- **Tamara Kennedy** - Anderson, IN; tamarakennedy6786@gmail.com
- **Christopher Lanane** - Anderson, IN; ctlanane@aol.com

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION DELEGATE CANDIDATES

At Large, Vote for thirty-nine (39) only

- **Cynthia Lanane** - Anderson, IN; cglanane@comcast.net
- **Timothy Lanane** - Anderson, IN; tslanane@sbcglobal.net
- **David Lipartito** - Anderson, IN; lipartitolaw@outlook.com
- **Patricia (Patty) Mauck** - Anderson, IN; pattymauck89@gmail.com
- **Joseph May** - Anderson, IN; j.may9601@gmail.com
- **Sheila McPhearson** - Elwood, IN; srmcphearson@ymail.com
- **Morgan Mullins** - Alexandria, IN; mcelestemullins@gmail.com
- **Sheryl Jane Myers** - Anderson, IN
- **Charles (Ben) Orcutt** - Anderson, IN; benorcutt@gmail.com
- **Devin Powers** - Alexandria, IN; devinpowers5284
- **Fred Reese** - Anderson, IN; freese2@yahoo.com
- **Charles Rushing** - Alexandria, IN; charles.e.rushing12@gmail.com
- **Devin Scroggins** - Anderson, IN
- **Debra Seres** - Elwood, IN; dseres52@yahoo.com
- **Marc Slayton** - Elwood, IN; district1marc@gmail.com
- **Sally Sloan** - Pendleton, IN
- **Jasmine Smith** - Anderson, IN; jdsmith161889@gmail.com
- **Leandre (Andre) Smith** - Anderson, IN; leandre.smith@gmail.com
- **Patsy Spencer** - Anderson, IN; patsyspencer1942@gmail.com
- **Stephany Mae Stennis** - Anderson, IN; electstephanymae@gmail.com
- **Angie Strickler** - Anderson, IN; agstrick23@gmail.com
- **Lisa Tornincasa** - Anderson, IN; lkfiketornincasa@yahoo.com
- **Kimberly (Kim) Townsend** - Anderson, IN; ktownsend1404@gmail.com
- **Robin Wagner** - Anderson, IN; robinwagner74@yahoo.com
- **Ray Walker** - Anderson, IN; ptc604@yahoo.com
- **Ludy Watkins** - Anderson, IN; ludywatkins@gmail.com
- **Rebecca (Becky) Watkins** - Anderson, IN; becky.watkins@gmail.com
- **Helen Wean** - Anderson, IN
- **Maurice Wheeler** - Anderson, IN; all4mo1712@gmail.com
- **Robert Williams, Jr** - Pendleton, IN; afd822@gmail.com
- **Carnita Wilson** - Anderson, IN; cwilson.assoc@gmail.com

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

DEMOCRATIC PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN CANDIDATES

In Madison County: This year is the Democrat's precinct race in Madison County and therefore, there are Democratic delegates across three districts.

There are 112 precincts across Madison County. That is A LOT of precincts! Rest assured, you will only vote for your precinct. Just ONE precinct's candidates will be on your ballot. To find out what precinct you are in, go to <https://indianavoters.in.gov/>. Select, "Check Voting Status", put your information in. It'll take you to your voter page where it will list your precinct under where it says "Welcome _____(your name)!"

Note: All of these candidates are Democratic and only for voters voting with a Democratic ticket. You will only vote for your precinct and only choose one person per precinct.

- The precincts are in wards or townships. The wards are numbered 1 through 6 and within each are precincts. For example, 2-5 means ward 2 precinct 5. The other listings are townships and within each township is a certain number of precincts. All of the numbered wards happen to be in Anderson and then there is also Anderson Township (And Twp) made up of three precincts. The townships span across Madison County.

1-1 No candidate filed

1-2

- **Amber Eckert-Jones** - Anderson IN
 - aeckertjones@gmail.com
- **Tim Funk** - Anderson, IN
- **Maurice Wheeler** - Anderson, IN
 - all4mo1712@gmail.com

1-3

- **Le Veda Kay Glazebrooks** - Anderson, IN
 - gleveda@gmail.com
- **Mechelle Erica Monroe** - Anderson, IN
 - ehistory81@gmail.com

1-4

- **Meredith (CoCo) Armstrong** - Anderson, IN
 - bellarmstrong12@yahoo.com

1-5

- **James Bell** - Anderson, IN
 - bell567@gmail.com
- **Tamara Kennedy** - Anderson, IN
 - tamarakennedy6786@gmail.com
- **Sa'Ra Skipper** - Anderson, IN
 - skippersara1@gmail.com

1-6 No candidate filed

1-7

- **Joseph May** - Anderson, IN
 - j.may9601@gmail.com

2-1 No candidate filed

2-2

- **Cherilyn Horning** - Anderson, IN
 - cherilynlhorning@gmail.com

2-3 & 2-4 No candidate filed

2-5

- **K'Mia Clarett** - Anderson, IN
 - kclarett@gmail.com

2-6 No candidate filed

2-7

- **Willie Watson, II** - Anderson, IN
 - thepittt22@gmail.com

2-8

- **Patricia (Patty) Davis** - Anderson, IN
- **Sheila (Shay) Fakhreddine** - Anderson, IN
 - sheilafakhredine@gmail.com
- **Norman Rayford, Jr** - Anderson, IN
 - nrayford297@gmail.com

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

DEMOCRATIC PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN CANDIDATES

**Reminder: You only vote in your precinct. Vote for one (1) only per
precinct**

3-1 No candidate filed

3-2

- **Sylvia Bogle** - Anderson, IN
 - sylviabogle01@gmail.com
- **Lisa Jones** - Anderson, IN
 - lismichelle05@yahoo.com

3-3 & 3-4 No candidate filed

3-5

- **Dennis Watson** - Anderson, IN
 - dlwatson6009@gmail.com

3-6

- **Mary E Baker-Boudissa** - Anderson, IN
- **Amber Lewis-Lilly** - Anderson, IN
 - alewis-lilly@gmail.com

3-7 No candidate filed

3-8

- **Lisa Tornincasa** - Anderson, IN
 - lkfiketornincasa@yahoo.com

3-9 No candidate filed

4-1

- **Fred Reese** - Anderson, IN
 - freese2@yahoo.com
- **Carnita Wilson** - Anderson, IN
 - cwilson.assoc@gmail.com

4-2

- **Ollie Dixon** - Anderson, IN
 - olliehdixon@aol.com

4-3

- **Wilma Easley** - Anderson, IN

4-4

- **Lida Redding** - Anderson, IN
 - lisaredding1130@gmail.com
- **Wayne Redding** - Anderson, IN
 - wayneredding82@gmail.com

4-5

- **Darren Clay** - Anderson, IN
 - claydarren0@gmail.com

4-6

- **Bonnie Collier** - Anderson, IN
 - bonniee.collier77@yahoo.com
- **Marilyn Goree** - Anderson, IN

4-7

- **James Welch** - Anderson, IN
 - jameswelchsr@gmail.com

5-1 & 5-2 No candidate filed

5-3

- **Maria Alexander** - Anderson, IN
 - mariaegnatzalexander@gmail.com
- **David Eicks** - Anderson, IN
 - davideicks@cityofanderson.com

5-4 No candidate filed

5-5

- **Kimberly (Kim) Townsend** - Anderson, IN
 - ktownsend1404@gmail.com

5-6

- **John Etchison** - Anderson, IN
 - etch99@comcast.net
- **Stephany Mae Stennis** - Anderson, IN
 - electstephanymae@gmail.com

6-1

- **Charles (Chuck) Graybiel** - Anderson, IN
 - cgraybiel@acsc.net
- **Jessica Hensley** - Anderson, IN
 - lilyyellowdifferent@gmail.com

6-2 No candidate filed

6-3

- **Tess Etchison** - Anderson, IN

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

DEMOCRATIC PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN CANDIDATES

**Reminder: You only vote in your precinct. Vote for one (1) only per
precinct**

6-4

- **Joe Newman** - Anderson, IN
- **Ray Walker** - Anderson, IN
 - ptc604@yahoo.com

6-5

- **Charles (Ben) Orcutt** - Anderson, IN
 - benorcutt@gmail.com

6-6 & 6-7 No candidate filed

Adams 1 No candidate filed

Adams 2

- **Barbara Joy** - Markleville, IN
 - bjhouseofjoy@aol.com

Adams 3 No candidate filed

Adams 4

- **Kimberly Bell** - Markleville, IN

Anderson Township 1

- **Sharon McNabney** - Anderson, IN
 - sharonm@mcnabneylaw.com

Anderson Township 2

- **Rebecca (Becky) Watkins** - Anderson, IN
 - becky.watkins@gmail.com

Anderson Township 3

- **Jasmine Smith** - Anderson, IN

Boone 1

- **Jane Lordan Kelly** - Summitville, IN
 - j.lordan.kelly@gmail.com

Duck Creek 1 & 2 No candidate filed

Fall Creek 1 No candidate filed

Fall Creek 2

- **Reece Axel-Adams** - Anderson, IN
 - reece4indiana@gmail.com

Fall Creek 3 No candidate filed

Fall Creek 4

- **Craig Campbell** - Pendleton, IN
 - mswclc@gmail.com
- **Sally Sloan** - Pendleton, IN

Fall Creek 5

- **Robert Williams, Jr** - Pendleton, IN
 - afd822@gmail.com

Fall Creek 6 & 7 No candidate filed

Fall Creek 8

- **Jennifer True** - Pendleton, IN
 - jennifermarietrue@gmail.com

Fall Creek 9 & 10 No candidate filed

Green 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5 No candidate filed

Jackson 1 No candidate filed

Lafayette 1

- **Lisa Isaacs** - Frankton, IN
 - lisaisaacs@yahoo.com

Lafayette 2

- **Sheryl Jane Myers** - Anderson, IN
 - sjmyers1213@gmail.com

Lafayette 3 No candidate filed

Lafayette 4

- **Robin Wagner** - Anderson, IN
 - robinwagner74@yahoo.com

Monroe 1 No candidate filed

Monroe 2

- **Diane Close** - Alexandria, IN
 - dmcclose18@gmail.com

Monroe 3

- **Julie Barton** - Alexandria, IN
 - barton_julie@hotmail.com
- **Devin Powers** - Alexandria, IN
 - devinpowers5284@gmail.com

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

DEMOCRATIC PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN CANDIDATES

**Reminder: You only vote in your precinct. Vote for one (1) only per
precinct**

Monroe 4 & 5 No candidate filed

Monroe 6

- **Amy Terry** - Orestes, IN
 - adhough1@aol.com

Monroe 7

- **Judy Forkan Kapoun** - Alexandria, IN
 - forkan1@yahoo.com
- **Charles Rushing** - Alexandria, IN
 - charles.e.rushing12@gmail.com

Monroe 8 No candidate filed

Pipe Creek 1

- **Morgan Jones** - Elwood, IN

Pipe Creek 2

- **Chelsey Shuler** - Elwood, IN

Pipe Creek 3

- **Lacie Jones** - Elwood, IN

Pipe Creek 4

- **Debra Seres** - Elwood, IN
 - dseres52@yahoo.com

Pipe Creek 5 No candidate filed

Pipe Creek 6

- **William Savage** - Elwood, IN
 - savagewd@hotmail.com

Pipe Creek 7 No candidate filed

Pipe Creek 8

- **Sheila McPhearson** - Elwood, IN
 - srmcphearson@ymail.com

Pipe Creek 9 No candidate filed

Pipe Creek 10

- **Danielle Dunnichay-Noone** - Elwood, IN
 - danielledunnichaynoone@gmail.com

Pipe Creek 11

- **Lisa Hobbs** - Elwood, IN
 - hobbs8827@yahoo.com

Pipe Creek 12

- **Jerry Ehman** - Frankton, IN
 - jehman7787@msn.com

Richland 1

- **Morgan Mullins** - Alexandria, IN
 - mcelestemullins@gmail.com

Richland 2

- **Altonya (Tonya) Nunn** - Alexandria, IN
 - tnunn5662@aol.com

Richland 3

- **Devin Scroggins** - Anderson, IN

Richland 4

- **Lindsay Brown** - Anderson, IN
- **Shawn Dietzen** - Anderson, IN

Richland 5 & 6 No candidate filed

Stony Creek 1 & 2 No candidate filed

Stony Creek 3

- **Ludy Watkins** - Anderson, IN
 - ludywatkins@gmail.com

Union 1 & 2 No candidate filed

Union 3

- **Edward Leonard** - Chesterfield, IN
 - eleonard1@sbcglobal.net

Union 4

- **Jackie Taylor** - Chesterfield, IN

Union 5, 6, & 7 No candidate filed

Union 8

- **Angie Strickler** - Anderson, IN
 - agstrick23@gmail.com

Van Buren 1

- **Kaitie Rector** - Summitville, IN
 - kaitie812@gmail.com

PREPARE TO VOTE IN YOUR PRIMARY

HOW PRIMARY VOTING WORKS WITH POLITICAL PARTIES (DEMOCRAT AND REPUBLICAN):

- In Indiana "in order to participate in a party's primary, a voter must have either voted for a majority of that party's nominees in the last general election or must intend to vote for a majority of the party's nominees in the upcoming general election. According to FairVote, which classifies Indiana as an open primary state, this provision of the law is unenforceable due to the nature of secret balloting."
(Indiana Code, "Section 3-10-1-6," accessed on Ballotpedia, April 2023)
- **The upcoming election on May 5, 2026, with early voting starting April 7, is a primary, meaning each voter will be asked to vote for a candidate to advance to the general election from one of the parties on the ballot they choose.**
- **Each voter will have to identify the party they want to select from when they arrive at the polls, but the voter doesn't have to declare that party before arriving. There is no enforceable rule that requires voting for the chosen party in a previous or upcoming election.**
- **Each voter will then only see their identified party's candidates when voting in the primary.**

KEEP IN MIND WHEN PLANNING TO VOTE

- **Do your research on the candidates** using this guide and also looking into candidate websites, social media pages and even emailing or calling them with questions, concerns and comments you have as a concerned citizen.
- **Choose 1-3 elected offices to research and vote for** if you feel overwhelmed about researching all of the candidates. There is no rule that you have to research and vote for every single office.
- **Take your candidate list of who you plan to vote for to the ballot box.** This could be written down on a piece of paper or noted on your phone. Websites like ballotready.org allow you to create your list and print it off.

FOR VOTING INFORMATION GO TO [HTTPS://INDIANAVOTERS.IN.GOV/](https://indianavoters.in.gov/)

WHERE TO VOTE

EARLY VOTING AT THE COURTHOUSE

- 16 E 9th Street, Room 211, Anderson, IN 46016
- April 7th - May 1st
- Weekdays 8am - 4pm
- 2 Saturdays (April 25th & May 2nd) 9am - 4pm
- Monday, May 4th 8am - noon

EARLY VOTING AT SATELLITE CENTER LOCATIONS

Open April 27th - May 1st, Mon - Fri from 10am - 6pm, Sat May 2nd 9am - 4pm

- **Alexandria Emery Lee Building**, 400 E 4th Street, Alexandria, IN 46001
- **Anderson Zion Baptist Church**, 2008 Rev J.T. Menifee Street, Anderson, IN 46016
- **Cross Roads Global Methodist Church**, 2000 N Scatterfield Road, Anderson, IN 46012 (also open April 25th and May 2nd 9am-4pm)
- **UAW Local 1963**, 2840 S Madison Avenue, Anderson, IN 46016
- **Elwood City Hall**, 1505 S "B" Street, Elwood, IN 46036
- **Markleville Community Park Building**, 2649 E State Rte 38, Markleville, IN 46056
- **Pendleton Library**, 595 E Water Street, Pendleton, IN 46064

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY VOTE CENTER LOCATIONS

Open May 5th 2026 from 6am - 6pm

Anderson Locations

- **ACS Administration Building**, 1600 Hillcrest Avenue, Anderson, IN 46011
- **Aletheia Fellowship Church**, 2505 Faith Drive, Anderson, IN 46013
- **Anderson Zion Baptist Church**, 2008 Rev J.T. Menifee Street, Anderson, IN 46016
- **Cross Roads Global Methodist Church**, 2000 N Scatterfield Road, Anderson, IN 46012
- **Edgewood Baptist Church**, 3743 Nichol Avenue, Anderson, IN 46011
- **Florida Station Church of God**, 1045 W 375 N, Anderson, IN 46011
- **Lone Oak Wesleyan Church**, 486 N 500 W, Anderson, IN 46011
- **Highland Middle School**, 2108 E 200 N, Anderson, IN 46012
- **Main Street Church of God**, 4211 Main Street, Anderson, IN 46013
- **National Guard Armory**, 125 S Scatterfield Road, Anderson, IN 46012
- **Impact Center**, 630 Nichol Ave, Anderson, IN 46016
- **Parkview Nazarene Church**, 911 S Rangeline Road, Anderson, IN 46012
- **UAW Local 1963**, 2840 S Madison Avenue, Anderson, IN 46016
- **Wesley Free Methodist Church**, 3017 W 8th Street, Anderson, IN 46011
- **Whetstone Christian Church**, 5940 S Madison Avenue, Anderson, IN 46013

FOR MORE LOCATIONS GO TO

[HTTPS://WWW.MADISONCOUNTY.IN.GOV/ELECTION-OFFICE-RESOURCES](https://www.madisoncounty.in.gov/election-office-resources)

GLOSSARY

Circuit Court Judge: “The Circuit Court Judge is a constitutional officer of the judicial circuit elected for a six year term. The Circuit Court Judge may be reelected without limit.” (IN.gov) “Circuit Courts hear cases that are outside the jurisdiction of other courts,” such as cases involving felony charges, domestic relations, juvenile matters, mental health, and probate. (indianacourtrecords.us).

County Assessor: “responsible for determining the value of properties for tax purposes. This official organizes regular evaluations of properties throughout the county used to calculate property tax obligations for residents and businesses. County assessors also maintain property records, deeds, and other documents related to county properties.” (Ballotpedia).

County Circuit Court Clerk: Responsible for maintaining court records, authenticating court orders and judgements, and administering oaths to witnesses and jurors. Also responsible for running the elections.

County Commissioner: “In Indiana, counties have three commissioners, one from each district. The Board of Commissioners serve as the executive body and are custodians of the home rule powers of the county. Within the scope of home rule, commissioners may adopt and vest themselves with additional regulatory powers. They have the authority to pass ordinances in broad areas including, but not limited to, the following:

- Controlling, maintaining, and supervising county property including courthouses, jails, and public offices
- Supervising construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, and to provide for traffic control
- Auditing and authorizing payments on behalf of the county
- Incorporating new towns and altering township boundary lines, on petition
- Receiving bids and authorizing contracts
- Exercising appointive powers including both the selection of members to fill positions on boards, commissions, and committees, and appointments of certain department heads” (Commissioner’s Office).

County Council: “The financial powers of a county are placed in the county council, which serves as a check on the board of commissioners and board of finance.” Their duties include but aren’t limited to: “adopting the annual budget, incurring county debt within constitutional limits, appropriating additional funds that arise, re-appropriating surplus funds,” and “fixing salaries of officers, deputies, assistants, and employees whose salaries are payable from any county fund.” “For election purposes, each county is divided into four districts, with one council member elected from each district. In addition, three council members are elected from the county at large, thus making a total of seven council members” (Here is Your Indiana Government, 2024-2025, p.44). This election, you will be voting on district county council candidates.

GLOSSARY

County Prosecuting Attorney: “The Prosecuting Attorney is a Constitutional Office tasked with representing the State of Indiana in certain criminal and civil matters.” (Madison County Prosecutor’s Office).

County Recorder: Responsible for maintaining, indexing, and preserving legal documents related to real property, such as deeds, mortgages, liens, and surveys. The County Recorder is elected every 4 years. (Madison County).

County Sheriff: Chief law enforcement official of the county and is responsible for ensuring that all local, state, and federal laws are followed.

County Treasurer: The general tax collector, custodian, and investor for Madison County. Assists with making payments, determining balances due, obtaining mobile home transfer permits and answering any questions about past taxes. (Madison County Treasurer’s Office).

Delegates: “Each of the major parties (Republican and Democrat) is required to hold a state nominating convention within 60 days after the biennial May primary. At the convention, each county has one delegate, elected by voters, for every 400 votes...The voters in every precinct are assured of being permitted to vote to help elect at least one delegate.”

Here are the core roles of the delegates:

- “One of the major functions of a state nominating convention (where delegates participate) is to adopt the platform of the party.”
- “The state convention selects candidates for the following offices filled by statewide election: Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer of State, Comptroller, Attorney General” (Here is Your Indiana Government Book, 2024-2025, pp. 117-118).

Precinct : “In each precinct (a district/division of a city or town), a committee person is elected. Immediately after the election, the committee person appoints a vice committee person of the opposite gender. All the precinct committeemen and vice committeemen in a county constitute the county committee of the party. If no candidate runs for a precinct committee person office or it becomes vacant, the county chairperson appoints a replacement.”

- “The committee person and vice committee person must attend the county convention to help set up the county organization. These are the only legal duties of the precinct committee person....The committee person is the party’s contact person in the precinct, seeking always to make friends and recruit party supporters.”
- “The precinct committeemen and vice committeemen within a county elect the county chairperson and vice chairperson.”
- “The committee person is responsible for seeing that the voters favorable to his or her party are registered and thus eligible to vote”, and that “on Election Day, the voters show up at the polls. In many counties, a committee person’s duties also entail recruiting and monitoring the party’s precinct election poll site officials” (Here is Your Indiana Government Book, 2024-2025, p. 119).

GLOSSARY

The Indiana House of Representatives: The lower chamber of the Indiana General Assembly. Alongside the Indiana State Senate, it forms the legislative branch of the Indiana state government and works alongside the governor of Indiana to create laws and establish a state budget. Legislative authority and responsibilities of the Indiana House of Representatives include passing bills on public policy matters, setting levels for state spending, raising and lowering taxes, and voting to uphold or override gubernatorial vetoes.” There are 100 Statehouse representative seats. (Ballotpedia).

The Indiana State Senate: “The Indiana State Senate is the upper chamber of the Indiana General Assembly. Alongside the Indiana House of Representatives, it forms the legislative branch of the Indiana state government and works alongside the governor of Indiana to create laws and establish a state budget. Legislative authority and responsibilities of the Indiana State Senate include passing bills on public policy matters, setting levels for state spending, raising and lowering taxes, and voting to uphold or override gubernatorial vetoes.” There are 50 State Senate seats (Ballotpedia).

The US House of Representatives: Often referred to as the “House”, is one of the two chambers of the United States Congress and part of the legislative branch of federal government where bills are written and laws pass or fail. “Each state receives representation in the House in proportion to the size of its population but is entitled to at least one representative. There are currently 435 representatives, a number fixed by law since 1911.” Indiana has 9 representatives in the US House (Ballotpedia).

Town Council:” The legislative body of the town. May pass a resolution between January 1 and August 8 before the town’s election to establish a town election board to conduct that election. In the case where the county election board conducts the town’s election, the town council can enter into an agreement with the county election board to reimburse the county at a certain amount to cover conducting the election and makes appropriations to the county to cover those costs. Additionally, the town council can adopt an ordinance not later than January 1, 2023, to have Democratic and Republican candidates for town office nominated at a primary election conducted by the county election board.” (IN.gov).

Township Board:”At the time of electing township trustees, the voters of the several townships shall elect a township board consisting of three residents and qualified voters of the township. The term of office shall be for four years, or until their successors are elected and qualified, and shall begin on the first day of January succeeding their election.” (indy.gov)

Township Trustee:”Township Trustees can assist those in needs by distributing relief and connecting residents to helpful resources when necessary. The Trustee is responsible for submitting an annual budget, paying and recording all financial guidelines according to Indiana Code, and presenting an annual report.” (indy.gov).

HOW THE GUIDE WAS CREATED

COLLABORATION

- Thank you to Community Lens of Anderson (CLA) and their team for collaborating on this guide through training, resources and editing supports.
- Thank you to Heart of Indiana United Way staff members who managed and supported the project.
- Special acknowledgement of Ball State University, BSW practicum student, Abigail DeSimone, for her work on this guide through completing the research and her leadership on the visual creation and finished product for the guide.

UTILIZED TRUSTED SOURCES

- Madison County Election Office
- Websites: indianavoters.in.gov; ballotready.org; ballotpedia.org
- “Here is Your Indiana Government” publication from the Indiana Bar Foundation and Indiana Chamber of Commerce
- Local community members
- Special thank you to the candidates running for each office and also the candidates who we sent questions to and responded with answers.

SELECTED CANDIDATES TO SEND OUR Q&A

- We chose candidates from the Federal, State, and Local levels to send questions to for our Q&A sections of the guide. We relayed the answers they provided verbatim.

CHECKS & BALANCES

- There are times when candidates are removed from lists because they have pulled out of the race or they don't meet requirements for candidacy. We do our best to keep track of these changes. We recognize mistakes can be made in this process as it is ongoing through election season. There are several checks and balances we use within CLA, Heart of Indiana United Way, and also with the above resources to make this guide as accurate as possible.

FEEDBACK

- **We want your feedback!** Fill out our Google Form at <https://forms.gle/FWxXqYFNBYtNzXoe6> so that we can learn how to improve this guide!
- We recognize we are not perfect and this guide isn't perfect. If you have reason to believe there is missing, incorrect, or inaccurate information in this guide, please contact us:
 - Annie Wood Bell, Heart of Indiana United Way:
awoodbell@heartofindiana.org