Q&A DELAWARE 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? How will this impact your decisions if you are elected?

We gave a character count limit for each response from candidates to keep them within similar lengths. However, there is variation. To ensure we fully honor their responses, we are sharing each answer as it was submitted.
You can find candidate contact information in the “Snapshot” sections.
Note: Names listed in alphabetical order and by party.

Q&A DELAWARE COUNTY SHERIFF CANDIDATES

Jeff Stanley (R)

- **Q1: What strengths and experiences do you bring to this office?**
  - I bring more than 30 years of public safety experience and a strong understanding of every level of the Sheriff's Office. I earned my degree in Criminal Justice and Criminology from Ball State University and have served in patrol, investigations, the Drug Task Force, SWAT, Bomb Squad, and other specialized units. For the past seven years, I have served as Chief Deputy, overseeing the daily operations of the Sheriff's Office and working closely with county government, community leaders, and other public safety agencies. I understand the responsibilities of Sheriff because I am already doing much of that work every day. I bring proven leadership, experience, fiscal responsibility, and a commitment to keeping Delaware County safe.
- **Q2: What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
  - My campaign is focused on three key priorities. First, proven leadership and experience. With more than 30 years in public safety and seven years as Chief Deputy, I am prepared to lead on day one. Second, keeping Delaware County safe through proactive law enforcement, strong partnerships, technology, and a focus on violent crime and illegal drugs. Third, responsible leadership and community involvement. I will be a Sheriff who is accessible, works closely with our communities, supports programs that reduce repeat offenses, and remains accountable for how taxpayer dollars are spent. My goal is simple: protect our families and secure the values that make Delaware County home.

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Jeff Stanley (Continued)

- **Q3: How would you describe the relationship between your community and law enforcement? How will this impact your decisions if you are elected?**
  - I believe Delaware County has a strong relationship between law enforcement and the community, but that relationship should never be taken for granted. Trust is built through communication, transparency, accountability, and simply being present. As Sheriff, I will continue to make community involvement a priority, from our schools and neighborhoods to local organizations and businesses. I will listen to the people we serve and make decisions based on what is best for the safety of our entire county. Law enforcement works best when the community sees us as partners, not just as the people they call during an emergency.

David (Dave) Williams (D)

- **Q1: What strengths and experiences do you bring to this office?**
  - I am 29 year veteran of the Delaware County Sheriff Office. Half my career has been in supervision, I'm currently the day shift commander. Special units include the following 12 years on swat team, 17 years K-9 unit and currently the commander, drug unit supervisor, ILEA Graduate, Correctional Officer Certification, instructor in several areas. 18 years as a Muncie Community Schools Resourse Officer.
- **Q2: What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
  - My vision is to increase more Sheriff Patrols and zeroing in on drug dealers and drug traffickers

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David (Dave) Williams (Continued)

- **Q3: How would you describe the relationship between your community and law enforcement? How will this impact your decisions if you are elected?**
    - With today's society I feel like the interaction with law enforcement needs more positive feedback. Unfortunately sometimes police may to be stern and firm, but does not need to escalate. This is why de-escalation training is important to implement in the departments yearly training courses. I want to see more Deputies involved in more community events

LOCAL RACE SNAPSHOT

COUNTY SHERIFF CANDIDATES

Jeff Stanley (R) - Incumbent*

- **Website:** https://jeffstanleyforsheriff.com/
- **Facebook:** Jeff Stanley for Sheriff
- **Email:** stanleyforsheriff2026@gmail.com

David (Dave) Williams (D)

- **Facebook:** Dave Williams for Delaware County Sheriff 2026
- **Email:** davewilliamsforsheriff245@gmail.com

County Sheriff's Role: The County Sheriff enforces laws in their county, hires county police officers, preserves order in county courts, and manages the county jail and the prisoners within (Indiana Code).

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