

# ELECTION 2022 ARKANSAS VOTER GUIDE

Primary election day is May 24. Get the details on who is running, where to vote, what to bring and more from the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette.



# ELECTION 2022 ARKANSAS VOTER GUIDE

Arkansas Democrat  Gazette

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## READY, SET, VOTE

Dear reader,

Welcome to the 2022 Voter Guide, produced by the staff of the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette.

In it, you will find information on candidates for statewide, congressional, legislative and judicial offices.

Our reporters asked candidates a series of questions to help you, the voter, better understand who is running for a particular office.

Our staff has also compiled important information about the election, ranging from how you can vote by mail in Arkansas to explaining what exactly a primary election is.

The May 24 preferential primary and judicial general elections

are important to the state of Arkansas. In many cases, the winners of these races will be the ones to take office in January. In other races, you'll decide nominees to face other candidates in the November general election.

You have an opportunity to help determine who will be in the Legislature and who will represent you in Congress.

Voting is one of the most important things you, as a citizen, can do. Our staff created this guide to help you be a well-informed voter.

Time to cast those ballots!

**Alyson Hoge**  
Managing Editor  
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

## HOW WE APPROACHED THIS PROJECT

A team of reporters from the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette compiled this series of candidate bios over the last three months. Candidates in most races were reached by email and completed questionnaires. Others who couldn't be reached by email provided information over the phone. Some candidates declined to participate or didn't respond to phone and email messages left by the Democrat-Gazette.

This guide provides information about all of the candidates who are running in contested primary races for Congress, statewide executive offices and contested nonpartisan judicial races for the Arkansas Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. Due to time and space constraints, a selection of state legislative primary races of interest is included. Responses have been edited slightly for style and space.

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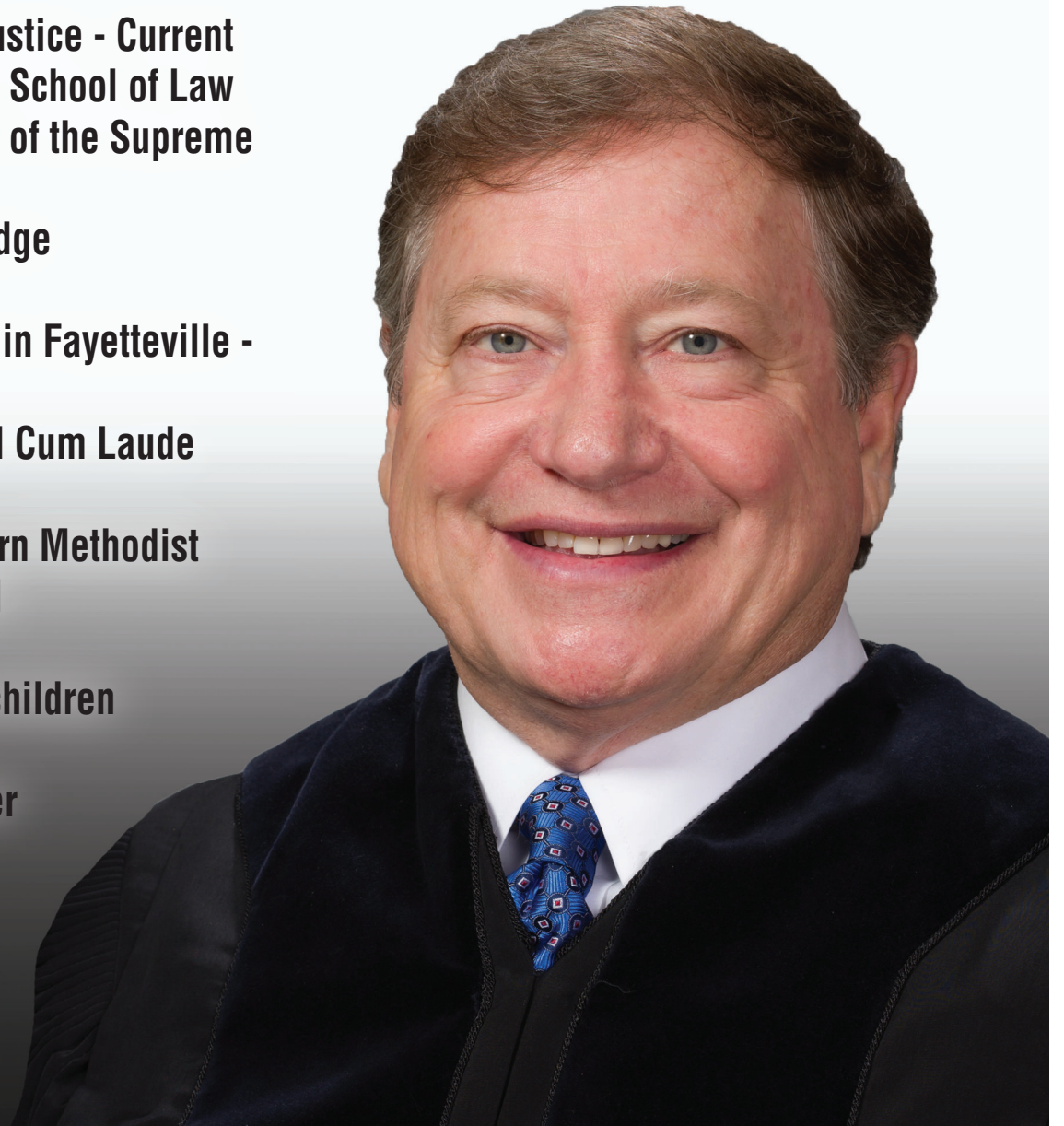
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RE-ELECT

# JUSTICE ROBIN WYNNE

# SUPREME COURT

- Arkansas Supreme Court Associate Justice - Current
- Adjunct Professor at the UALR Bowen School of Law
- Arkansas Bar Association and the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States- Member
- Former Arkansas Court of Appeals Judge
- Former Dallas County District Judge
- University of Arkansas School of Law in Fayetteville - Juris Doctorate
- Harvard College - B.A. in History and Cum Laude Graduate in General Studies
- Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas - Attended
- Margo Sanders - Wife 42 years
- 4 Sons, 3 Daughters-in-law, 8 Grandchildren
- Pulaski Heights UMC - Member
- United Methodist Church- Lay Minister



[WYNNE4ARKANSAS.COM](http://WYNNE4ARKANSAS.COM)

Paid for by Robin Wynne for Supreme Court, Treasurer Linda Napper





# What is a primary election?

RYAN TARINELLI

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

Primary elections are how political parties in Arkansas select their nominees for the general election in November.

A candidate must win 50% of the tally plus one vote to win outright a primary race in their party, said Chris Powell, a spokesman for Arkansas Secretary of State John Thurston.

If no candidate reaches that threshold, the two candidates with the highest number of votes move on to a runoff election, he said. In a runoff, voters choose between the top two candidates to decide who will represent the party in the general election.

## DO VOTERS NEED TO REGISTER WITH A PARTY TO VOTE IN A PRIMARY?

Arkansas has what's called an open primary, which means voters do not have to register with a party affiliation to vote in a primary election.

However, in primary elections, voters must state which party primary they want to vote in. For example, a Republican can vote in a Democratic primary and vice-versa.

However, if a voter doesn't want to cast a party ballot, they can still choose to cast



**Antoinette Henderson** casts her ballot on the last day of early voting at the at the Pulaski County Regional Building in Little Rock on Sept. 13, 2021. (Arkansas Democrat-Gazette/Staton Breidenthal)

ballots in any nonpartisan races, which include judicial and prosecuting attorney races, as well as other local issues such as tax increases.

In a primary, voters are allowed to vote only one party's ballot or the nonpartisan ballot. However, a voter cannot vote in both the Democratic and Republican primaries.

The election official will record which party's ballot is selected by a voter. If a runoff election occurs, voters must cast their ballot with the same political party in which they voted in the primary, Powell said.

## WHEN WILL THE 2022 PRIMARY TAKE PLACE?

Arkansas' primary election will take place on Tuesday, May 24, and the polls will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Early voting in the primary will start May 9.

Every county seat will have an early voting location open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. from May 9 through May 13, and from May 16 through May 20. The early voting locations will also be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on two Saturdays – May 14 and May 21. Early voting will end at 5 p.m. on May 23 – the day before the primary election.

While there will be an early voting polling location in every county seat, county election commissioners are allowed to open additional early voting locations at their discretion, said Daniel Shults, director of the State Board of Election Commissioners.

Voters can also request an absentee ballot. The primary runoff election, if it is needed, is scheduled for June 21.

# How can Arkansas residents register to vote?

NYSSA KRUSE

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

Election season is here in Arkansas, and state residents who wish to cast a ballot must first register to vote. Here are the basics on getting registered.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

A person must meet three basic criteria to be eligible to vote in Arkansas:

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be an Arkansas resident
- Be 18 or turn 18 on or before the next election.

There are two criteria that can disqualify residents, though. Josh Bridges, an elections systems analyst within the Arkansas secretary of state's office, said people who are presently judged by a court as mentally incompetent are ineligible to register to vote.

Convicted felons are also not eligible to register to vote unless their sentence has been pardoned or completed. Sarah Everett, staff attorney with the ACLU of Arkansas, said felons who have completed their sentences can restore their right to vote by taking documentation to their local county clerk showing that all time has been served

and all fines, court costs and restitution have been paid.

## WHAT DOCUMENTS ARE NEEDED TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

Prospective voters need to fill out an application. The form can be downloaded to be printed here: [arkansasonline.com/voterapplication/](http://arkansasonline.com/voterapplication/). Or applications can be sent to voters via mail by filling out a form here: [arkansasonline.com/418applyvote/](http://arkansasonline.com/418applyvote/).

Applications are also available at county clerk's offices, as well as most public libraries and revenue offices, among other places.

No matter how a voter gets their application, it must be mailed or hand-delivered to their county clerk's office or mailed to the secretary of state's office to complete their registration.

No other documents are needed at the time of registration, though applicants will have to provide either a social security number, driver's license number, state ID number or swear they do not have any of those numbers.

Voters can choose to register with a party or remain unaffiliated. Registering with a party does not affect which primary a voter

can cast a ballot in.

## WHAT IS THE DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

Voters can register any time of year, but to be eligible to vote in a given election, an individual must be registered 30 days before election day.

For the 2022 primary in Arkansas, the deadline to register is April 25. Applications sent via mail that are postmarked April 25 will be considered on-time and the resident will be eligible to vote in the primary.

Bridges said he urges voters to mail their applications as soon as possible because the postal system can experience delays.

## HOW CAN SOMEONE CHECK THEIR REGISTRATION STATUS?

New applicants will receive notice from their local county clerk that they have successfully registered, Bridges said. If someone is concerned about their application or registration status, they can contact their county clerk.

Additionally, the state has a website, [voterview.ar-nova.org/voterview](http://voterview.ar-nova.org/voterview), which will show whether an individual is registered.

## IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES

- ✓ **MAY 9**  
Early primary voting begins; it runs 8 a.m.-6 p.m. on weekdays and 10 a.m. -4 p.m. on Saturday.
- ✓ **MAY 23**  
Early Primary voting ends at 5 p.m.
- ✓ **MAY 24**  
Preferential Primary and nonpartisan general election
- ✓ **JUNE 21**  
Preferential primary runoff election, if necessary
- ✓ **OCT. 10**  
Deadline to apply to register to vote in general election
- ✓ **OCT. 24**  
Early voting for general election begins; it runs 8 a.m.-6 p.m. on weekdays and 10 a.m. -4 p.m. on Saturday
- ✓ **NOV. 7**  
Early voting for general election ends at 5 p.m.
- ✓ **NOV. 8**  
General election
- ✓ **DEC. 6**  
General election runoff, if needed



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deputy press secretary.



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## WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING TO VOTE?

RACHEL HERZOG  
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

Under Act 633 of 2017, a voter in Arkansas is required to verify their voter registration at their polling place by presenting a federal or state-issued document or identification card that includes their name and a photograph.

### ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF ID

- ✓ A driver's license
- ✓ U.S. passport
- ✓ A military ID
- ✓ An employee badge or ID document from an accredited college or university
- ✓ A concealed handgun carry license
- ✓ A public assistance ID card

### WHAT IF I FORGET MY ID OR DON'T HAVE ONE?

Arkansans who don't have any of those forms of ID can request a voter verification card from their county clerk's office by providing the necessary documentation to prove their identity and address, Arkansas secretary of state's office spokesman Kevin Niehaus said.

Residents of long-term care or residential care facilities aren't required to present ID cards, but they must provide documentation from the facility's administrator attesting that they live there.

If a voter is unable to verify their voter registration at the polling site, they can cast a provisional ballot, meaning they'll have to return to the county clerk's office or board of election commissioners by noon on the Monday following the election and present the required ID or documentation.

In 2021, Arkansas legislators removed a provision in state law that allows voters without IDs to complete a sworn statement affirming that they are registered to vote in the state.

The legislation, Act 249, is the subject of an ongoing lawsuit arguing that it and three other laws create an undue burden for voters. A Pulaski County judge issued a ruling blocking the laws, but the Arkansas Supreme Court later issued a stay of that ruling while it's appealed. That means the laws are in effect for now.

### First-time voter



Grace Wixson of Rogers shows off her sticker Nov. 2, 2021, after voting for the first time at the Rogers Convention Center.  
(NWA Democrat-Gazette/J.T. Wampler)

## How to find your polling place

STEPHEN SIMPSON

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

A voter's precinct is determined by where they live, and the polling site is assigned by county election commissions.

Kevin Niehaus, spokesman for the Arkansas secretary of state's office, said the easiest way to find local polling places is to use the voterview website that is run by the secretary of state's office: [voterview.ar-nova.org/voterview](https://voterview.ar-nova.org/voterview).

The website allows users to look up if they are registered to vote and where their local polling place is located. It also allows someone to search their polling place by inputting their address.

Most local newspapers also publish a list of polling sites within a few days of an election, and those without internet access can contact their county clerk's office for polling place information. If you received a Voter ID card from your county clerk, it may also show your precinct.

### EARLY VOTING

Early voting begins for the primary election on May 9. During a primary or general election, early voting is available between 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Voters can cast a ballot in either the Democratic or Republican primary but not both. A voter can also select a nonpartisan ballot.

In most counties, early voting is conducted at the county clerk's office, but off-site early voting locations will usually be published in local newspapers. Early voting locations are also available by searching a voter's address at: [voterview.ar-nova.org/voterview](https://voterview.ar-nova.org/voterview).

Early voting sites are often different from Election Day polling places, so voters should be sure to verify where to vote, whether early or on Election Day.

If someone has moved or changed their name, they may be asked to update their information at the early voting site.



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**ELECTION DAY: MAY 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2022**

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# How to vote absentee

LISA HAMMERSLY  
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

Most Arkansas voters will head to the polls May 24 to choose candidates in the state's 2022 party primaries, including high-profile races for governor and U.S. Senate. But what if you can't be at the polls in person that day? Consider voting absentee. Here's what you need to know.

## WHAT IS ABSENTEE VOTING?

Absentee voting allows you to vote away from your polling place and before the designated election day, while complying with the state's rules and deadlines. You will need to apply for an absentee ballot, fill out the ballot and return it to your county clerk's office.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ABSENTEE?

Registered voters are eligible to vote absentee. These are the excuses they may check on Arkansas' absentee ballot request form:

- "Unavoidably absent" from your polling site on election day. This reason can include worries about covid-19 transmission, according to Resolution No. 4 of 2020, by the State Board of Election Commissioners.
- Physically unable to appear due to illness or physical disability (also can be cited to include covid-19 worries).
- Resident of a licensed long-term care or residential facility.
- A member of the uniformed services or merchant marines or a spouse or dependent family member away from your assigned polling location due to the member's active service.
- An Arkansas resident and U.S. citizen temporarily living outside U.S. territorial limits.

## HOW DO I REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT?

Requests are required — county clerks are no longer permitted to send unsolicited absentee ballot applications, even to voters who have cast absentee ballots for years.

To request your absentee ballot, call your county clerk in the county where you are registered to vote, or go here to download the application: [arkansasonline.com/absenteeapplication/](https://arkansasonline.com/absenteeapplication/). Print and complete it. Return it to your county clerk's office.

## WHAT'S THE APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR AN ABSENTEE BALLOT?

If delivered by mail, your application must be received by your county clerk's office seven days before the vote, or May 17 for the party primaries.

To return the application in person, or

through another person you choose (designated bearer), the deadline is close of business the Friday before the election, or May 20. This deadline may be too late if you also plan to deliver the completed absentee ballot in person. Deadlines for both are close-of-business May 20. Check with your county clerk's office.

Delivery through authorized agent — available only to patients of hospitals, long-term care or residential care facilities licensed by the state — carries a deadline of 1:30 p.m. on primary day, May 24.

Ballot requests from military and overseas voters must be postmarked by May 17.

## HOW DO I FILL OUT THE ABSENTEE BALLOT?

The ballot is part of a package that also includes a voter statement, two envelopes and a requirement for voters to provide a copy of a photo ID.

When finished filling out the ballot, the voter should place it in the smaller envelope and seal it. Place that sealed envelope in the larger "return" or "outer" envelope.

Voters are required to fill out the voter statement, which may be on colorful paper. Fill out all required sections, which include printed name, address on file for the voter's registration and date of birth. Also required is the voter's signature, which poll workers check. A photocopy of a photo ID must be included.

The sealed smaller envelope containing the ballot, the voter statement and the photo ID all fit in the larger outer envelope. In Pulaski County, it takes three first-class stamps to mail all the materials back to the county clerk's office.

## WHAT'S THE DEADLINE TO RETURN THE COMPLETED ABSENTEE BALLOT?

By mail, it must be received in the clerk's office by 7:30 p.m. on election day.

In person or through another person you choose, deadline is close of business the Friday before the election, or May 20.

By authorized agent (hospitals, long-term care residents only) — 7:30 p.m. on election day.

Military and overseas voters are granted more time: ballots must be completed and postmarked by election day and received by the county clerk by 5 p.m., 10 days after the election.

## MORE QUESTIONS?

All absentee voting questions should go to your county clerk's office or the Arkansas secretary of state's office at [voterservices@sos.arkansas.gov](mailto:voterservices@sos.arkansas.gov).

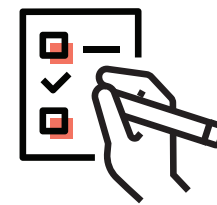
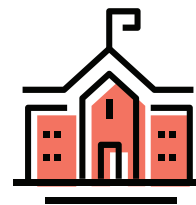


## Learn more about the 2022 primary election

The Arkansas Democrat-Gazette has created a page to help you find your voting districts. Arkansas redrew districts for local, state and federal races in 2022.

Not sure of your district?

Go online to [arkansasonline.com/voterguide](https://arkansasonline.com/voterguide) to find your voting districts ahead of the May 24 primary election.



## Get the latest election stories and results

Leading up to the election, you'll find the latest stories at [arkansasonline.com/elections](https://arkansasonline.com/elections). Check back on election night for real-time results.

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# ★ NEW VOTING LAWS

Arkansas enacted more than 20 new laws on elections and voting during the 2021 legislative session, including measures on absentee voting, county election commissions and election complaints. Unless otherwise stated in the law itself, bills passed in the 2021 legislative session took effect in July. The full laws can be found at [arkleg.state.ar.us](http://arkleg.state.ar.us). Several of these laws have been challenged in court, but all remain in effect for the May 24 election.

| Law                                     | What does it do?  | Previous law   |
|---|---|--|
| <b>✓ Absentee ballot restrictions</b>   |   |  |
| Act 736                                 | <p>Requires signatures on absentee ballots to be verified by checking the voter's registration application</p> <p>Requires that voter statements be uniform and created and approved by the state Board of Election Commissioners</p> <p>Voters must provide both mailing address and residential voting address</p> <p>Prohibits designated election officials from distributing unsolicited absentee ballots to voters</p> <p>Makes the possession by a person of more than four absentee ballots a rebuttable presumption of intent to defraud</p>   | <p>Signatures can be verified by checking the voter's registration records</p> <p>Just requires voter statements, no specifications or approval</p> <p>Voters must provide address</p> <p>Election officials not prohibited from distributing unsolicited absentee ballots under current state law</p> <p>The possession by a person of more than 10 absentee ballots creates a rebuttable presumption of intent to defraud</p>  |
| Act 973                                 | <p>Applications for absentee ballots that are submitted in person must be turned in to the county clerk's office no later than the Friday before Election Day</p>   | <p>Absentee ballots submitted in person can be turned in the day before Election Day</p>   |
| Act 727                                 | <p>Exempts ballots from records that can be disclosed to the public under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act</p>   | <p>Ballots are not exempt under the state open records law</p>   |
| <b>✓ Election issues and complaints</b> |   |  |
| Act 756                                 | <p>Gives the state Board of Election Commissioners the authority to institute corrective actions in response to complaints</p> <p>The state Board of Election Commissioners may hear complaints about alleged violations of "the laws regarding elections"</p> <p>A subpoena from the state Board of Election Commissioners may direct any county law enforcement officer of the county concerned or the Director of the Division of Arkansas State Police to seize any public record that is withheld</p> <p>The state Board of Election Commissioners may make expenditures and order payment of the costs of the investigation and hearing</p>   | <p>The state Board of Election Commissioners has the power to investigate alleged violations, render findings and impose sanctions</p> <p>The state Board of Election Commissioners may hear complaints about alleged violations of voter registration laws</p> <p>The state Board of Election Commissioners has subpoena power, but power to direct law enforcement agencies not specified</p> <p>The state Board of Election Commissioners may order the payment of the costs of the investigation and hearing</p>   |
| Act 974                                 | <p>Bars a person convicted of a misdemeanor offense related to violating election law from serving as an election official in future elections</p> <p>The Legislature's Joint Performance Review Committee may refer election law violations to the state Board of Election Commissioners</p> <p>The state Board of Election Commissioners may decertify an election official if it finds a violation of laws under its jurisdiction</p> <p>Public notices of elections shall include information about the availability of the Attorney General's election law violation hotline, in addition to general information about fraud and misrepresentation</p> <p>The Legislature's Joint Performance Review Committee may investigate allegations of election law referred by the Attorney General's office</p> | <p>People charged with misdemeanors related to violating election law are ineligible for state office or employment, but not barred from working as an election official</p> <p>There's not currently an avenue for a legislative committee to refer election law violations</p> <p>The state board has the power to issue public warning, impose fines, report information to law enforcement, order payment of costs of the investigation and hearing, or combine any of the sanctions</p> <p>Public notices of elections shall include general information on federal and state laws regarding prohibitions on acts of fraud and misrepresentation</p> <p>The committee's responsibilities currently include performance reviews of governmental programs and agencies and investigating problems in state government</p> |
| Act 416                                 | <p>Creates a misdemeanor offense for false statements by candidates</p>   | <p>This isn't currently prohibited under state law</p>   |
| Act 952                                 | <p>Election complaints shall be sent to the state Board of Election Commissioners for evaluation</p>  | <p>Election complaints are sent to the appropriate county clerk and prosecuting attorney</p>   |

# ★ NEW VOTING LAWS

| Law                                  | What does it do?  | Previous law   |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>✓ County election commissions</b> |   |  |
| Act 950                              | Gives county election boards the power to supervise all election officials and states that county employees detailed as election officials must comply with the county board's directives in election matters | Election commissions have the statutory power to run elections   |
| Act 1051                             | Specifies how county election commissioners shall take the oath of office   | This isn't currently specified under state law   |
| Act 1022                             | Requires county election boards to prepare a report on provisional and absentee ballots   | This isn't currently required under state law  |
| Act 729                              | Gives county election commissions final authority on where voting centers are located   | Current state law is inconsistent; in some places in code election commissions have that authority, in others both commissions and clerks do |
| Act 961                              | Prohibits county boards of election commissioners from taking funding from non-government sources   | These transactions aren't currently prohibited under Arkansas law  |
| <b>✓ Voting</b>                      |   |  |
| Act 249                              | Voters must present ID card or appropriate documentation to vote  | Voters could bypass the ID requirement by signing a sworn statement  |
| Act 728                              | Bars people from entering or remaining in an area within 100 feet of the entrance to a voting site while voting is taking place, except a person entering or leaving the building for "lawful purposes"       | Electioneering within 100 feet of a polling place is a misdemeanor   |
| Act 610                              | Special elections shall be scheduled once a quarter   | Special elections can be scheduled any month of the year   |
| <b>✓ Campaign finance</b>            |   |  |
| Act 1029                             | Requires the Secretary of State's office to create electronic campaign finance report forms and make them searchable  | This isn't currently required under state law  |
| Act 734                              | Allows candidates to use campaign funds to pay for campaign-related childcare expenses  | Candidates are prohibited from taking campaign funds as income for dependent children; this law creates an exception                         |
| <b>✓ Ballot initiatives</b>          |   |  |
| Act 951                              | Canvassers collecting signatures for ballot initiatives must be Arkansas residents and United States citizens   | There is currently no residency or citizenship requirement for canvassers  |
|                                      | Prohibits paying canvassers on a per-signature basis  | Payment for canvassers on a per-signature basis isn't currently prohibited under state law   |
| Will be referred to voters in 2022   | Raises the threshold needed to pass ballot measures to 60% of the popular vote  | A simple majority of the popular vote is required to pass a ballot measure   |
| <b>✓ Miscellaneous</b>               |   |  |
| Act 421                              | Legislative committees shall conduct a study on election technology   |  |
| Act 128                              | Requires counties to post copies of sample ballots on the Secretary of State's website  | This isn't currently required under state law  |
| Act 273                              | Increases the number of signatures for candidates for president or vice president to appear on the ballot to 5,000  | 1,000 signatures are required to appear on the ballot as a candidate for president or vice president   |
| Act 448                              | Cleans up language in various provisions of state election law  |  |



## R Jake Bequette



**Age:** 33    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Candidate for United States Senate

**Education:** University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

**Public service:** Army veteran who graduated from U.S. Army Ranger School and deployed to Iraq with the 101st Airborne Division

**Website:** [www.jakebequette.com](http://www.jakebequette.com)

## R John Boozman\*



**Age:** 71    **City:** Rogers

**Occupation:** Former Optometrist and Small Business Owner

**Education:** University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (1972); Southern College of Optometry, Memphis (1977)

**Public service:** School Board Member, Rogers School District (1994-2001); Member of Congress, AR-3 (2001-2010); U.S. Senator (2011-present)

**Website:** [www.boozmanforarkansas.com](http://www.boozmanforarkansas.com)

### Why should people vote for you?

Washington is failing America, and career politicians in both parties are to blame. Part of the problem are the radical socialists in the Democrat Party, but also part of the problem are the do-nothing career politicians in the Republican Party who refuse to stand up and fight back. That's what's led us to where we're at right now, and it has to change. Unlike the invisible career politician who currently holds this seat, I'm a conservative warrior who will fearlessly stand up for the values that Arkansans and millions of Americans truly care about. I believe that America's best days are ahead of her, but it's going to take new leaders rising up in the conservative movement to fight for that future. That's why I'm running.

I have kept my promises to the people of Arkansas by standing up for our shared conservative values in Washington. From defending our individual freedoms and protecting our border, to supporting our farmers and ranchers, law enforcement officers, and our veterans, I always come down on the right side of the issues Arkansans care about. My record has garnered support from Republican leaders like President Trump, Senator Cotton, and Sarah Huckabee Sanders, and conservative grassroots groups like the National Rifle Association and Arkansas Right to Life. As long as I have the privilege of serving our state and its people, I will continue to keep my promises and be the conservative voice they rely on in the Senate.

### What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

The biggest issue facing America right now is the all-out assault on our conservative values and way of life. We have kids being indoctrinated to hate their country, generals more concerned with wokeness than defending the homeland, inflation skyrocketing due to trillions in spending on a socialist agenda, and biological males claiming they're actually women. We're losing our country, and we can only fix it by recognizing the problem and fighting back with everything we've got. Unlike my career politician opponent, I'm not going to just sit back, cash a check, and hope that I can just keep getting re-elected. I'm actually going to push back against the radical left and defend the conservative values that have made this the greatest country on earth.

Inflation and record-high gas prices are creating real hardships for Arkansas families. Joe Biden's tax-and-spend agenda has poured gasoline on this fire, regulated us out of business, and signaled that Green New Deal policies supersede the needs of everyday Americans. We've got to stop the reckless spending and revive the energy independence we enjoyed under the Trump administration. We can begin by removing overreaching regulations, finishing the Keystone XL Pipeline, enabling more oil and gas leases on public lands and waters, and leaning into an all-the-above approach that meets our needs and ensures access to reliable, affordable energy. I am already working with my colleagues to advance solutions like these so that hardworking Arkansans do not suffer any further harm due to the inept leadership at the White House.

### What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

The most important thing that I can do once elected is defend the very principles that the left is trying to destroy. That includes, among others, standing up for conservative values, defending our territorial sovereignty at the southern border, stopping the out-of-control spending that is driving inflation, and fighting for parental choice in education. The bottom line is that we have to have leaders in the Republican Party who are willing to fight for our future. Think about how off the rails our country has gone in the last 20 years — all while invisible career politicians like John Boozman continue to accept the status quo. That's what failed political leadership looks like, and it has to change if we want to take our country back. What our country needs most right now are conservative warriors who will be fearless in their convictions, and that's exactly what I'll do as a U.S. Senator.

There are many issues that I'm eager to address once Republicans retake the Senate, and I'm well positioned to get those done. As mentioned, domestic energy production will be a top priority, as is fighting all the harm Biden's inflation has done to our economy. The next Farm Bill will be written in 2023, and I will serve as Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee. Agriculture is Arkansas's #1 industry and absolutely vital to our rural communities. Sadly, Democrats have already announced their plans to use the farm bill to advance more radical "environmental justice" policies. As Chairman, I can promise Arkansans that I will put our farmers and rural communities in the best position to succeed and fight back against Biden's misplaced and detrimental policies. I will also continue fighting to secure our southern border, control spending, and defend the Constitution against the constant liberal overreach of Washington Democrats.

## R Heath Loftis



**Age:** 38    **City:** Stuttgart

**Occupation:** Pastor

**Education:** B.S. Ag Business, Arkansas State University; Master of Divinity, Central Arkansas Baptist Bible Institute; Doctor of Divinity, Slidell Baptist Seminary

**Public service:** None

**Website:** [www.pastorheathloftis.com](http://www.pastorheathloftis.com)

## R Jan Morgan



**Age:** 59    **City:** Hot Springs

**Occupation:** National conservative commentator, NRA, USCCA and Arkansas State Police Certified Firearms instructor

**Education:** N/A

**Public service:** Citizens for Trump, National Spokesperson seven years; Executive Board Arkansas State Baptist

Convention

**Website:** [www.janforsenate.com](http://www.janforsenate.com)

### Why should people vote for you?

I'm just a common man advocating for Biblical principles in government.

For 27 years of my life, I was an award winning Television Investigative Journalist with a specialty in exposing WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE in government. Exposing and defeating political thugs in suits is my specialty. Unlike my opponents, I am a proven fighter for the people. I am notorious for refusing to take special interest money. I CAN'T BE BOUGHT. It is time for the people to take control of our out of control government. This is not the time for young, inexperienced representation in D.C., nor is it the time for go along to get along career politicians who have lost touch with the people. My opponent has been in DC 21 years. I signed a Term Limits pledge. I am the ONLY candidate in this race with PROVEN record of successfully outmaneuvering the Biden administration to help get laws passed in Arkansas to protect Arkansans from federal unconstitutional overreach.

### What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

We must abolish abortion. If we cannot secure the most basic and fundamental right to life, it really doesn't matter what we build. Because "if the foundation be destroyed, what can the righteous do?"

The border is the most pressing issue facing our country. It must be closed immediately and the wall completed.

### What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

Ideally, I'd like to tackle the abolition of abortion nationwide (working with individual states), but sealing the southern border and getting us to a balanced budget are more within reach than many of the other issues.

Close the border, fire Fauci and fight to have him arrested, charged, tried and convicted for crimes against humanity, and stop America's farmland from being sold to foreign nationals.

**D Jack E. Foster**

**Age:** N/A    **City:** N/A

**Occupation:** N/A

**Education:** N/A

**Public service:** N/A

**Website:** N/A

**D Natalie James**

**Age:** 37    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Realtor

**Education:** Attended University of Arkansas at Little Rock

**Public service:** Appointed Land Bank Commissioner in 2020 until 2024

**Website:** [www.jamesforarkansas.com](http://www.jamesforarkansas.com)
 **Why should people vote for you?**

Candidate did not answer.

I'm the only candidate in our primary endorsed and mentee seasoned by current elected officials nationwide. As your next U.S. senator, I too share the life experiences of the working class and fully understand what is needed to address these issues with grit and resilience needed to open and expand opportunities for Arkansas. I am ready to add key values of being a servant leader.

 **What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?**

Candidate did not answer.

A living wage the will help them thrive and not simply survive. Health care worries mixed with a 21st-century education and broadband access for our future. I would support legislation to increase our living wages to start federally at \$15-an-hour along with those already at the minimum receiving raises to compensate for the current value.

 **What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?**

Candidate did not answer.

Vote to pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, Freedom to Vote Act, Women's Health Protection Act along with pushing to codify Roe vs Wade.



# ★ U.S. SENATE

## D Dan Whitfield



**Age:** 35    **City:** Bella Vista

**Occupation:** Quality Engineering Intern at JB Hunt, Small Business Owner, Student

**Education:** Currently working on a bachelor's in Information Systems specializing in Blockchain Engineering at the University of Arkansas

**Public service:** None

**Website:** [www.danforarkansas.com](http://www.danforarkansas.com)

# ★ U.S. HOUSE DISTRICT 1

## R Rick Crawford\*



**Age:** 56    **City:** Jonesboro

**Occupation:** Congressman

**Education:** B.S. Agriculture Business and Economics, Arkansas State University

**Public service:** U.S. Congress 12 years

**Website:** [www.meetrickcrawford.com](http://www.meetrickcrawford.com)

## ✓ Why should people vote for you?

I am a working-class Arkansan. I have gone through the daily struggles that the majority of families experience every day. I understand the needs of the working class and it's time that the working class finally has a voice at the legislative table. I will always put my constituents first and am not pursuing a career in politics, I am serving my country and then will return to being a working-class member of our society. People shouldn't be in elected positions if they are doing it for the means of financial gain, it should be a position held with integrity and honor in which they work for us, we the people. My policies will always put my constituents first and will finally help to alleviate the daily struggles so many face. It's time to give Arkansans a candidate they can get excited about and be proud of!

I place Arkansas and America first with my votes in Washington, which is the primary role of a US Congressman. As vice-ranking member of the Agriculture Committee, I am able to advocate for our state's largest sector - Agriculture. I'm also the second most senior member of the Transportation Committee, which positions me to work on vital funding and regulatory issues that benefit our state's roads, drainage, ports, airports and energy infrastructure. On the national level, our country is headed in the wrong direction. Too many in Washington have ignored the warnings that irresponsible fiscal policy destabilizes our economy. As a senior member of the Intelligence Committee, I am constantly reminded of the dire consequences that occur when a nation loses focus and does not prioritize economic stability. The knowledge I have acquired over the past 12 years equips me to make a stronger case for halting DC's out-of-control spending.

## ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

Healthcare. Medical debt is the number one cause of bankruptcy in America. Seventy percent of those that file bankruptcy for medical debt have medical insurance. It's long overdue for America to join the other 37 modernized nations that have a single-payer system and finally put people before profits. The only reason we don't have Healthcare for All is because we have political cowards in office. Cowards that put their own financial interests ahead of what's best for our society. They take money from the health industry and big pharma then vote on legislation that benefits their donors while hurting our families. How do we pay for it? Four percent of your income after \$29,000/year. The average Arkansan household in 2021 made \$48,000, so subtract \$29,000 = \$19,000 x 4% = \$760/YEAR to cover their entire household with no premiums, deductibles, or co-pays. Healthcare for All includes a \$200/year prescription drug cap.

Without question, inflation. Once inflation takes hold, it is extremely difficult to extinguish without triggering a recession. No one is spared when prices rise rapidly. Whether you're buying groceries, filling up your vehicle, heating or cooling your home, or operating farm equipment or buying inputs, high inflation is a hefty tax on household income and hits those on tight budgets the hardest. Excessive money supply and government spending are the two largest contributors to inflation. The Federal Reserve, which is independent, controls money supply. Congress and the president determine spending levels. Soon after Democrats gained total control of the legislative and executive branches 16 months ago, they kicked off a liberal spending spree that has contributed significantly to the inflation we now experience. When we retake control of Congress next year, I will introduce and push for a balanced budget amendment that will reduce inflation and stabilize our economy.

## ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

The first bill I submit that will be signed into law after I am sworn in next year will be federal Renter's Rights. Arkansas is the only state that does not have renter's rights. In Arkansas a person can rent a dwelling that doesn't have clean or hot water, heating, or air conditioning, has mold, rats, roaches, and would normally be deemed uninhabitable. It's also a criminal offense to refuse to pay rent when inhabiting one of these uninhabitable dwellings. Realtor Association lobbyists have lobbied to keep it this way and the time has come for Arkansans to finally have the right to live in habitable homes. Arkansas is the only state that doesn't ensure these rights, so I am confident that my bill will pass with bipartisan support. Arkansans deserve someone to represent them that will fight for our families, not sell us out as our current "representatives" have.

My first vote will be to remove Nancy Pelosi as Speaker of the House of Representatives. Under her rule, the Democratic Party has become virtually unrecognizable. She and the Far Left are determined to do away with Second Amendment protected gun rights. They oppose securing the border exposing us to national security threats and increased narcotics and human trafficking, and they have unleashed the highest inflation in over 40 years due to irresponsible deficit spending. President Biden and Speaker Pelosi have also waged a war on domestic energy production, forcing the US to rely on foreign nations for oil and fuel. This was a strategic mistake that weakens our national security posture. I am eager to remove Speaker Pelosi and have the House of Representatives safeguard the country from the Biden Administration's radical agenda.

# ★ U.S. HOUSE DISTRICT 1

## R Jody Shackelford



**Age:** 36    **City:** Cherokee Village

**Occupation:** Community Attorney

**Education:** Bachelor's in Public Relations, Arkansas Tech University; Juris Doctorate, William H. Bowen School of Law, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

**Public service:** First-time candidate

**Website:** [www.electjody.com](http://www.electjody.com)

## R Brandt Smith



**Age:** 63    **City:** Jonesboro

**Occupation:** State Representative District 58; Associate Professor in the School of Business at Liberty University Online programs

**Education:** B.A.; Master of Arts in Religion & Education; Ph.D. in Organization & Management with a specialization in Leadership

**Public service:** Four terms in the Arkansas House of Representatives

**Website:** [www.brandtsmithforcongress.com](http://www.brandtsmithforcongress.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

The house is on fire in this country, and we need change. Grandpa raised me to seize the day and punch a bully in the nose. With me, voters get more through passion and fresh ideas framed by traditional conservative values. I feel connected to voters in my district from the bottom to the top. Before my grandpa rescued me, my early life was one of poverty and abuse. I never knew if I would have enough to eat or a bed to sleep in. This real-world experience brings a unique perspective to the office. Grandpa taught me self-reliance and hard work; to believe in myself. He was proud to see me get an education, become a job creator, an attorney and a constitutional conservative. After surviving a plane crash in March, I am even more determined to fight for America and the State of Arkansas through action and not words.

People want to know their representative in Congress. I am accessible and approachable. I am engaged and involved with the people of the 1st Congressional District. Many people have not seen the incumbent in years. The incumbent has a dismal voting record scoring D's and F's by most organizations watching how Congressman Crawford votes. Arkansas is the most pro-life state in America and that should be reflected in our congressional representative. On the other hand, I have a nearly 100% conservative voting record as a four term state representative. I recently was presented with an award by CPAC for my conservative voting record. People expect this type of voting record from me.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

The economy is the most pressing issue with inflation eating away at our paychecks. For many, making ends meet is a struggle. The vision: 1. Temporarily suspend the federal fuel tax to ease the burden on families at the pump. 2. Offer tax incentives to US companies to immediately increase hiring so more earned-income flows into the pockets of the people, instead of big government. 3. Encourage domestic energy production and shift federal oil dollars to states like Texas, instead of Iran and communist-friendly Venezuela. 4. Make Small Business Administration loans easier to access, and at lower rates, particularly for U.S. manufacturing to combat the reliance on China. 5. Make it easier for regular people to earn income by fulfilling government contracts. The current process is too difficult. If the government needs 1000 wooden doorstops, it should be easier for Mike on Main Street street to bid on that job.

The most pressing issue facing constituents in the 1st Congressional District is inflation. The cost of vehicle fuel, groceries and utilities are a concern. On our districts farms, fuel costs, fertilizers and other chemicals are skyrocketing. These inflated prices are crippling our state's economy.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

America deserves a surplus, not a deficit. A surplus can be built with a 28th Amendment requiring the government to work with a balanced budget. The current \$23 TRILLION dollar doomsday deficit is sinking America faster than a pair of concrete boots. It's drowning us. The "it will never happen" attitude must change. This 28th Amendment would hold liberals and conservatives accountable for policy and spending decisions under that North Star. National borrowing should only be authorized if it generates wealth to pay debt and ultimately build a surplus. No more borrowing from China to sink tax dollars into studies on the sexual habits of quail on cocaine. Borrow money only to make money and stop blowing it. Capitalism works and it will work within our national economic policy. The government loves to pass laws restricting citizens, we need to restrict the government from pouring more concrete in our boots.

There are several things I would like to accomplish once elected. These include the following: 1) Fight for voter integrity. 2) Close the southern border and support finishing the border wall. 3) Push back on the current White House's socialist agenda and cancel culture. 4) Protect Arkansas farmers. 5) Back the pro-life agenda by ending support to Planned Parenthood. 6) Join the Freedom Caucus.

# ★ U.S. HOUSE DISTRICT 2

## R French Hill\*



**Age:** 65    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** U.S. Representative - Second District of Arkansas

**Education:** B.S. Economics, Vanderbilt University

**Public service:** Service in the House of Representatives since 2015; former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Treasury and Senior White House Aide to President George H.W. Bush

**Website:** [www.electfrench.com](http://www.electfrench.com)

## R Conrad Reynolds



**Age:** 61    **City:** Conway

**Occupation:** Business Owner/Self Employed

**Education:** M.B.A., Touro University; B.S., University of Central Arkansas

**Public service:** 29 years in the U.S. Army; Founder and past director of the Arkansas Military Veterans' Hall of Fame

**Website:** [www.electconrad.com](http://www.electconrad.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

Prior to public service, I spent the better part of four decades in private business. During this time I started my own business, growing it into a community banking company that served Arkansas and clients in over 30 states. These decades of building our business helped me understand and witness the success of start-up entrepreneurs and family businesses, and see their growth and the opportunities for their many customers and team members. It also provided me with first-hand knowledge of the regulatory and tax pressures businesses face daily. I learned about their needs and the challenges they face, and the impact these challenges have on their bottom line. Likewise, working with customers from all walks of life, I learned how the government can help or hinder their opportunities for financial security. This has influenced my work in Congress, where I work daily to enact policies that promote economic development, create careers, and enhance the financial security the hard working fellow citizens of the 2nd District of Arkansas deserve.

I am more conservative than French Hill. I am the only America First candidate in this race. I am a RINO Remover. I support a balanced budget amendment, term limits and a limited government. I never would have voted with Pelosi for a Jan. 6 commission, nor for a national vaccine database (H.R. 550)\*\* like French Hill did. Unlike French Hill, I believe the election was stolen and will work tirelessly on election integrity. I will finally hold people in Washington, D.C. accountable for misdeeds. I will point out all RINOs who stand in the way of the America First agenda. I will work to cut spending and reduce the national debt, unlike French Hill who has been a part of increasing the debt which has gone up \$13 Trillion since he's been in office.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

**Inflation.** Over the last year, inflation has risen to an annual rate of 7.9% — the largest increase in over 40 years. Inflation has seeped into every aspect of our lives as the goods we use daily are now far more costly than a year ago. Prices for the power to heat and cool our homes and the gas for our cars have skyrocketed, in addition to groceries, housing, and transportation — and there is no sign that it will slow anytime soon. In fact, President Biden's proposed budget will lead to an annual deficit of \$1 trillion every year for the next ten years. The pain Arkansas families are experiencing today is a direct result of the Democrats' reckless spending policy. Immediately upon coming to office, the Biden Administration began pushing more money into the economy than any previous president. If we are to tame the inflation we are experiencing today, we need to stop runaway government spending and return to common sense, pre-pandemic economic policies.

**Inflation** — I will work hard to put a stop to the rampant government spending that is causing massive inflation and insurmountable debt. The Federal Reserve and Congress, under French Hill's (lack of) leadership, have been pumping too much money into our system and we are now paying a huge price, literally. Also, the move away from energy independence adds to the inflation woes, so I will work to regain our status as an energy independent nation, as we were under President Trump.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

Our country is faced with a number of issues. However, we will not be in a position to address them properly unless we rein in inflation and get people back to work. We need an economy that is strong — strong enough to fully spur new careers and opportunities, maintain our competitive edge, and keep our nation safe and secure. In order to accomplish this, it is imperative that we curb government spending and work to reinstate pre-pandemic economic policies that promote job creation, provide a regulatory and tax framework that helps existing businesses grow, invest in new ideas that lead to start-ups, and educate a skilled workforce that is able to take advantage of 21st Century opportunities.

As the first member of the Freedom Caucus from Arkansas, I'd immediately secure the southern border from the record-breaking surge of illegal immigrants, drugs, weapons, and human trafficking victims that are pouring across daily.

**\*\*EDITOR'S NOTE:** H.R. 550 would not create a national vaccine database. It would provide funding to improve decades-old vaccine data maintenance at the state and local level. The bill would allow grant funding to improve the sharing of immunization data between local and federal entities, a practice that is already in place. Strict confidentiality and privacy requirements are in place, and Arkansans can decline to have their immunization data recorded.



# ★ U.S. HOUSE DISTRICT 3

## R Neil Robinson Kumar



**Age:** 26    **City:** Bentonville

**Occupation:** Law Student, University of Arkansas School of Law

**Education:** A.B., University of Chicago

**Public service:** N/A

**Website:** [www.neilforarkansas.com](http://www.neilforarkansas.com)

## R Steve Womack\*



**Age:** 65    **City:** Rogers

**Occupation:** Congressman

**Education:** Bachelor's degree from Arkansas Tech University

**Public service:** Mayor of Rogers from 1999-2010; Congress since 2011

**Website:** [www.womackforcongress.com](http://www.womackforcongress.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

We are a stateless people with no representation whatsoever. It is long past time for us to have a representative who truly represents the people of the Ozarks, rather than corporations like Walmart. My opponent no longer represents us — he voted to certify the 2020 election, voted for Nancy Pelosi's January 6th commission, blamed President Trump for January 6th, asked the Biden administration to eliminate Trump's Chinese tariffs, and voted for gun control, including red flag laws and a large expansion of ATF's power. I am a grassroots candidate funded entirely by regular Arkansawyers, while my opponent is funded entirely by Walmart and the Walton family, defense contractors like Raytheon, Big Pharma companies like Pfizer, and even foreign lobbyists like AIPAC. I am running against the entire Arkansas Establishment which has failed us for decades. It's time to put Arkansas first.

I have a proven record of service — built on a combination of public, private, and military experience — that uniquely qualifies me to serve another term in the U.S. House. My record includes a strong conservative voting record, outstanding constituent service, and a complete understanding of the issues most impacting citizens of the Third District. I am the Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government (FSGG) and Chairman of the Board of Visitors of the United States Military Academy at West Point. I am asking voters for another term as their representative in Congress.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

The most pressing issue facing my constituents is also the most pressing issue facing America: the Great Replacement. Millions of illegal aliens are pouring across our wide-open Southern Border, with hundreds of thousands of new arrivals every month. Our Southern Border isn't just wide open, it's gone. It's been erased. Last year, more people than the entire population of Dallas and almost equal to San Diego illegally entered America. If they were all held in one place, they would constitute the 9th largest city in America. If we don't stop this endless flood of immigration now, our nation will be lost. My plan includes a 20-year total immigration moratorium ending both legal and illegal immigration, as well as mass deportations of all illegals, building a wall, ending birthright citizenship, taxing remittances, and denying public services to illegals. A nation without borders is no nation at all.

The most pressing issue facing this country is inflation. The escalating cost of living is forcing a number of lifestyle changes with many I represent. Policies of the current administration — Green New Deal climate agenda, huge government subsidies under the guise of COVID relief, anti-police rhetoric, open borders, bigger government, higher taxes, and more — are major contributors to the difficulties facing everyday Americans. We must get back to limited government, responsible spending, regulatory relief, and lower taxes. We simply cannot afford the policies of the Biden-Pelosi agenda.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

Aside from addressing the Great Replacement, the most important thing that a Republican-majority Congress can do is block the Biden Administration at every turn, including impeaching Joe Biden. I will work to secure our elections. I will defend the Second Amendment and our God-given right to self-defense by introducing national constitutional carry. I will defend the unborn by introducing legislation to totally criminalize infanticide and prosecute abortionists for murder. I will fight anti-white discrimination and anti-white critical race theory, along with LGBT perversion in our classrooms. I will introduce legislation to criminalize LGBT propaganda targeted at minors, and also to criminalize transgender pharmaceuticals and surgical procedures. I will always put America first. I will never vote to send our blood or treasure to foreign countries unless in direct defense of the homeland. The US Army only belongs in one place: the Southern Border.

Assuming a new majority in the House, I will work with our leadership to bring legislation to the floor that reverses the Biden Administration's policies on American energy. I will fight to secure our border and stop the flow of illegal immigrants, drugs, and human trafficking. I will protect our rights as gun owners. I will defend the unborn and ensure taxpayer dollars are not used for abortion services. I will champion policies that improve the government's budget and appropriations process to eliminate continuing resolutions, omnibus packages, and threats of a government shutdown. I will uphold a strong and secure national defense strategy with the appropriate funding to give America peace through strength. Above all, I will honor my oath to the Constitution.



## R Sarah Huckabee Sanders



**Age:** 39    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Consultant, author

**Education:** Ouachita Baptist University (B.A.)

**Public service:** White House Press Secretary (2017-2019), U.S. Department of Education (2004-2006), Fulbright Board (2019-present)

**Website:** [www.sarahforgovernor.com](http://www.sarahforgovernor.com)

## R Francis “Doc” Washburn



**Age:** 66    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Podcaster/broadcaster

**Education:** Attended University of North Carolina at Charlotte

**Public service:** Involved with Arkansas Right to Life and Pregnancy Resource Centers

**Website:** [www.electdocwashburn.com](http://www.electdocwashburn.com)

### Why should people vote for you?

I love our state and care about our people, and I want to unleash our full potential. I want every kid growing up in Arkansas to love this state the way I do and have every opportunity to succeed. As governor, I will begin to responsibly phase out the state income tax, focus on getting government out of the way, and foster an environment for Arkansas' businesses to thrive so they can create thousands of new, high-paying jobs, champion good schools while empowering our parents, support our brave men and women in law enforcement, and protect our God-given rights from the radical left. I truly believe this agenda will create more opportunity for all Arkansans and make our state one of the best places in the nation to live, work, and raise a family.

I'll dramatically reduce the size and scope of state government in order to get them off your back. I'll repeal the personal income tax, taxes on small businesses, and taxes on used goods (including used cars), and pay for it by cutting the size of government instead of increasing other taxes. I'll sign a bill outlawing all mask and vaccine mandates. Real school choice! The money must follow the students, not the schools! I'll order child welfare workers to stop taking children away from parents who love them. They'll have to wear bodycams, give parents Miranda warnings, and stop forcing their way into people's homes without a warrant. I'll stop abuses in nursing homes. I'll make sure our veterans receive the federal benefits they are due. There's no excuse for them being homeless or hungry. I'll sign a law abolishing abortion. I'll uphold our Second Amendment rights!

### What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

Education is one of the biggest areas where we can affect change here in Arkansas. I believe every child growing up in Arkansas should have access to a quality education, putting them on a path to prosperity instead of a lifetime of government dependency. Education lays the foundation for our state's success. Instead of allowing kids to check boxes and push them through a broken system, we must teach them a skill set and prepare them to become contributing members of society. We must truly educate our kids, not indoctrinate them. Among third graders across Arkansas, only 31% can read at grade level. That is unacceptable. As governor, I will unleash bold reforms to improve childhood literacy, empower parents, close the achievement gap, and prepare students for the workforce.

Biden caused inflation. Biden and his cronies stole the election and their fiscal and energy policies are designed to punish hard-working Americans, whom they see as beneath them. The inflation they caused is intentional. Arkansans feel the pain at the gas pump, at the grocery store and when they pay their utility bills. The governor and Legislature must lower the gas tax and do away with the tax on groceries (and personal income tax) to try to ease the pain on people who cannot afford what Biden and his handlers are putting us through. Last but not least, we have the second-highest tax on cell phones in the country: 20.21%!!! It's higher than New York or California! That's not Biden's fault! It's Republican and Democrat legislators' fault for passing Act 660 and Governor Hutchinson's fault for signing it. The cell phone tax must be drastically cut!!!

### What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

On day one, I will hit the ground running to empower Arkansans and unlock our state's full potential. As I travel the state, one thing I hear over and over from businesses large and small is the need for more qualified workers. I intend to make this — along with improving our state's education — my first big areas of focus. I will align the state's resources to ensure that there is a pathway to opportunity for all students, and that there is a culture of pride and respect for the industries who desperately need it. Now more than ever, we need a leader who will defend our freedom and lead with heart to do what's right, not what's politically convenient.

Outlaw abortion in Arkansas.

# ★ GOVERNOR

## D Anthony “Tony” Bland



**Age:** 43    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Educator, small business owner, martial arts instructor

**Education:** Bachelor’s degree in business administration, master of business administration, doctor of business administration and master of theological studies

**Public service:** 2018 Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor, member of Big Brother/Big Sister

**Website:** [www.anthonymblandforar.com](http://www.anthonymblandforar.com)

## D Chris Jones



**Age:** 45    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** None

**Education:** Bachelor of Science in physics and math from Morehouse College; Master’s degree in nuclear engineering, and technology & policy from MIT; Ph.D. in urban planning from MIT

**Public service:** Executive Director of the Arkansas Regional Innovation Hub; Executive Director of Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative; Mayor of Pine Bluff Youth Council

**Website:** [www.chrisforgovernor.com](http://www.chrisforgovernor.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

For too long our leaders have been putting politics over people and have been putting dollars over democracy. I am running for the Democrat nomination for Governor because I believe, as a Democrat, our communities need a voice that will represent unity, equality, and justice. What we need are policies that make sure that everybody is treated fair, and we need to create jobs right here in Arkansas from the Ozarks to the Delta. We need to create opportunities in our state that will keep families here. We need real investment in education. We need real investment in infrastructure. We need to make sure that healthcare is not just accessible but affordable.

In this moment, Arkansas needs a compassionate and empathetic leader who has the humility to understand that this moment is bigger than any one of us, the grace to know how to bring a broad range of people together to address the very real challenges we face, and the real-life experience to manage a massive organization. We also need someone with the vision to see and seize opportunities that lie out of sight and around the corner, the determination to amplify and value all voices, especially the most marginalized, and the ancestral grit of an unapologetic Arkansan. If you take a look at the life’s journey that God has blessed me to travel, I believe you’ll find that, through many twists and by facing and overcoming many challenges, I am that person. If that’s what you find, I humbly ask for your vote.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

Transparency and accountability is the most pressing issue facing my constituents. In order to address this, I will begin with transparency, by voicing, supporting and pushing for my constituents to see and understand that they must operate in honesty. To achieve transparency, we must provide information about governance to stakeholders that is accurate, complete and made available in a timely way. Transparency enables accountability. Accountability exists in a relationship between two parties where one has expectations of the other, and the other is obliged to provide information about how they have met these expectations or face the consequences of failing to do so.

The most pressing issue facing Arkansans: Opportunity. We will spread opportunity all over the state to help improve the lives of every Arkansan and fulfill the Promise of Arkansas. The Promise of Arkansas begins by spreading PB&J across the state — expanding preschool to all families, affordable broadband for every home, and economic development focused on creating high wage jobs. Education, infrastructure and economic development will lift up all Arkansans. A focus on building opportunities in Arkansas starts with PB&J and also means a promise for good governance, quality healthcare, and more. Our vision is that Arkansas can realize its potential and reach its promise through Faith, Hope & Hard Work – the Faith that together we can address our challenges, the Hope that unified we make space for all Arkansans to live out our unique potential, and the Hard Work of change in our souls and in our lives.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

Create an educational system and plan that will prepare all students for their future. It does not matter what path they choose, either academics or a trade.

If I am blessed to serve as Governor, my administration and I will immediately bring people together and listen. Just as we visited all 75 counties of the state to identify what matters most to Arkansans, we are committed to changing what it means to govern in Arkansas – by listening and learning, by leading inclusively in a way that doesn’t prioritize whether you have “D,” “R” or “I” next to your name, and sharing our vision for Arkansas to reach its potential and promise. We will set out to prove that politics and governance do not have to be divisive and destructive, and that we can debate ideas and hold one another accountable while still uniting as Arkansans. Throughout my tenure as Governor, we will address challenges and solve problems by bringing people together to find what works and to move us all forward.

# ★ GOVERNOR

## D Jay Martin



**Age:** 52    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Attorney, pastor

**Education:** University of Arkansas at Little Rock Bowen School of Law; Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

**Public service:** State Representative, North Little Rock and Sherwood; Majority Leader, 85th General Assembly

**Website:** [www.jaymartinforarkansas.org](http://www.jaymartinforarkansas.org)

## D James “Rus” Russell III



**Age:** 49    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Co-owner/operator of New Dawn Counseling

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in general studies

**Public service:** No traditional public service experience; heavy involvement in community outreach

**Website:** [www.vote4rus.com](http://www.vote4rus.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

I am the only candidate in this race who has ever held elected office. I have a track record of bringing Democrats and Republicans together to find common sense solutions to the problems we face. I will be the people's governor, and I will not try to manipulate them by making them afraid, but will bring them together around our D.I.A.M.O.N.D. Plan, to move Arkansas into the competitive state it should be in the 21st Century — “second to none” future!

Because I'm not so far removed from the days when \$50 meant the difference between making it through the month or not. I'm not a member of the moneyed elite. I'm a regular Arkansan who wants to remain in touch with and improve life for everyone.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

People no longer trust that the government is working for them. The people of Arkansas — we, the people, are the government. My administration will make state government accountable to the boss — the people. We will do this by instituting a recall process where citizens can recall state elected officials; we will create an anonymous hotline where state employees or citizens can report on those running departments of state government who are not responsive to the people or who are doing things that are in violation of the Constitution and Bill of Rights; we will audit state government for violations of the Constitution and Bill of Rights; we will make all laws passed by the Legislature to apply to elected officials the same as on citizens; and we will strengthen the Freedom of Information laws so that citizens and the press can continue to gain government records.

Disparity and inequality. Sounds like two issues, but they derive from the same core. Poverty, wage gap, education, healthcare, opportunities for enrichment ... the most pressing issue is ensuring that ALL citizens have equal rights and protections under the law.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

We want to bring the new federal Space Force's offices to the State of Arkansas, and would begin the process of bidding for those offices, in our plan to decentralize the offices of the Federal Government, as we work with our Federal delegation and the President. In this manner, we can attempt to correct the fact that Arkansas is last among southern states in public sector jobs — these positions can be filled immediately by Arkansans, both with the expanded military and also hopefully Department of Agriculture jobs. We will also try to build on the gains made by former Gov. Mike Beebe and Governor Hutchinson to attract excellent private sector jobs to the State. Having a plan to immediately impact the economy can fuel the D.I.A.M.O.N.D. Plan.

Establish protocols that ensure funds from the Infrastructure Bill and other federal sources are properly allocated. Plus ensure that those funds remain in Arkansas and go to everyday working-class people to help drive our economy for decades to come rather than allow those funds to sit unused.

# ★ GOVERNOR

## D Supha Xayprasith-Mays



**Age:** 51    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Entrepreneur, small-business owner, Inclusion Media CEO

**Education:** Northside High School, Fort Smith

**Public service:** I have never run for elective office but have served the People of Arkansas through multiple philanthropic and volunteer activities for 25+ years.

**Website:** [www.suphaforgovernor.com](http://www.suphaforgovernor.com)

# ★ LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

## R Chris Bequette



**Age:** 57    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Wealth management

**Education:** University of Arkansas undergraduate and law school

**Public service:** Deputy prosecuting attorney Little Rock

**Website:** [www.bequetteforarkansas.com](http://www.bequetteforarkansas.com)

## ✓ Why should people vote for you?

The People of Arkansas want and deserve leadership that comes FROM and is ABOUT only the best interests of its ordinary citizens and not the professional political classes and its big money donors. My campaign has focused on meeting the People of Arkansas face to face in every corner of the state and what I see in each encounter and town hall meeting is an opportunity and deep desire among our citizens to escape the limitations that the political class, that has failed us from both parties, has left as a legacy for our children. This failed political class has ensured that Arkansas consistently remains at the bottom of national rankings for health care, education and public safety. As Governor I will work with the People to return power to its citizens to unleash our full potential as The Natural State.

First, I'm the only Lt. Governor candidate who's not a RINO. Second, I'm not a lifetime career politician desperate to stay relevant and hang on to power. Third, even though Republicans have run state government for a decade, they've governed like Democrats and have left firmly in place the Democrat Party version of state government. I will change that by holding elected Republicans accountable so we finally implement the Republican version of state government; a state government that's truly small and limited, abolishes the state income tax, cracks down on crime, enacts statewide K-12 school choice, gets control of our out-of-control, Marxist-run public higher education system, rids Arkansas of illegal aliens and ends the terrible ARHOME program. Finally, I'm the only Lt. Governor who promised to take no salary, have no staff or office budget.

## ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

The single most pressing issue facing our government is our growing educational crisis. While some of my fellow candidates from both parties are using education as a racial issue to further divide us, the children of our State must live with an educational system that is consistently among the bottom five in that nation. Our teachers need second jobs to live middle class lives. Our schools both city and rural lack the technology and broadband access that will sustain growth in Arkansas and prepare our precious children to compete in the 21st century global economy. As a mother of four children I can think of no greater priority for our state government to focus on.

The most pressing issue facing Arkansans is to get rid of the horrible, failed Democrat Party version of state government that Republicans have been content to leave in place the past 10 years.

## ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

My first act as Governor will be to establish a special commission to establish private/public partnerships between our corporations and our school system. A state that is capable of creating the world's most successful corporation, Walmart, is most certainly capable of using its citizens and corporate resources to build a world class school system that is the model for the nation. I will have no greater priority as Governor.

Get rid of the horrible, failed Democrat Party version of state government that Republicans have left in place the last 10 years.



# ★ LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

## R Greg Bledsoe



**Age:** 48    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Emergency medicine physician, surgeon general of Arkansas

**Education:** BS, Bob Jones University, 1995; MD, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences; master of business administration, Sloan School of Management at Massachusetts Institute of Technology

**Public service:** Surgeon general of Arkansas since 2015

**Website:** [www.bledsoeforarkansas.org](http://www.bledsoeforarkansas.org)

## R Jason Rapert



**Age:** 50    **City:** Bigelow

**Occupation:** President, Provident Financial Group; founder/president, National Association of Christian Lawmakers; and founder/president, Holy Ghost Ministries

**Education:** B.A. political science and government/sociology, University of Central Arkansas (1994)

**Public service:** Arkansas state senator, 2011-present

**Website:** [www.jasonrapert.com](http://www.jasonrapert.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

I'm a physician, not a politician. I've spent the past 20 years taking care of people all over the world. I know how difficult things are for families as politicians continue to raise taxes and push the middle class to the brink with woke politics and increased regulations. I've run a medical education company for 15 years and I am an enthusiastic supporter of entrepreneurs and small business, and advocated for them against lockdowns and mandates during the pandemic. In the end, we need more people with private sector experience in government. Politics has become too important to leave to the politicians.

I believe in putting Arkansas first and fighting for traditional American values. I am the only candidate for Lt. Governor with current experience in government to ensure that state leaders continue to push back against the Biden-Harris administration's mandates on masks and vaccines, its failed fiscal and domestic energy policies, and attacks on religious freedom and unborn children. I have either sponsored, cosponsored, or voted for legislation that has made Arkansas the leading pro-life state in the country while simultaneously doing the same to cut over \$1 billion in combined income, corporate, and sales taxes resulting in more money in the pockets of Arkansas families. I'm the only candidate with a proven record of fighting for Arkansas values whether it is against governors from either party or being the only legislator in the entire country being sued in federal court by the American Atheists. Arkansas voters can depend on me.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

We need to give the middle class more flexibility and margin. In order to accomplish this, we need to continue lowering our income tax rate with the goal of eventually reducing it to zero. We need to pass comprehensive education reform allowing parents true school choice so students can attend the schools that best fit them, and we need to stop harassing industry employees when they have views that aren't the majority opinion. Families need support, not further pressure.

First, high energy prices and gasoline prices are hurting Arkansas families. I would propose suspending or repealing taxes on gasoline and diesel fuel to help provide relief now and I would encourage that all restrictions on the American energy industry be removed – we should be using American energy to power America. Second, for the first time in state history, Arkansas will handoff from one Republican administration to another and it is important that our next administration be as conservative as Arkansans expect and we continue to fight against failed Democrat policies. This requires a Lt. Governor with current experience in our Republican-majority Legislature so he can effectively preside over the Senate and be ready on day one to become Governor should the need arise. Our next Lt. Governor needs to be a strong right arm to our next governor — I am the most qualified candidate to fill that role.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

My first day as Lieutenant Governor I would reach out to entrepreneurs around the state of Arkansas and begin building bridges between our various state regions and working to accelerate our state's efforts to become a world leader in entrepreneurship. There is so much more we could be doing to encourage entrepreneurship in Arkansas. I'd then begin reaching out to innovation hubs around the world in order to better connect what we're doing in Arkansas with the growth of other global centers. We've got a great product here in Arkansas. We just need to commit to promoting what we're doing in an attractive way.

As Lt. Governor, I want to ensure the Arkansas Senate remains a place where the people's business can be done efficiently and fairly on behalf of our constituents. As a member of the Arkansas Senate myself since 2011, I will guarantee that senators' voices are heard and their opinions are respected while the Senate conducts the business of our state. I will also ensure that the office of Lt. Governor is open to all Arkansans for assistance with matters of importance to the people of our state. As Lt. Governor I will also do my best to support our next Arkansas governor in the leadership of our state.

# ★ LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

## R Leslie Rutledge



**Age:** 45    **City:** Maumelle

**Occupation:** Attorney general

**Education:** J.D. UALR Bowen School of Law; BA, University of Arkansas

**Public service:** 2001-2004, Arkansas Court of Appeals; 2005-2005 Office of Gov. Mike Huckabee; 2005-2006 deputy prosecuting attorney Lonoke County; 2006-2008 Department of Human Services; 2015-current Arkansas Attorney General

**Website:** [www.leslierutledge.com](http://www.leslierutledge.com)

## R Doyle Webb



**Age:** 66    **City:** Benton

**Occupation:** Lawyer

**Education:** Juris doctorate, UALR Bowen School of Law

**Public service:** Former state senator, chief of staff to Lt. Gov. Win Rockefeller

**Website:** [www.webbforarkansas.com](http://www.webbforarkansas.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

As the attorney general for over seven years, I have made decisions every day on the behalf of all three million Arkansans. I have fought to keep Arkansas the most pro-life state in the country, protected our Second Amendment rights, preserved our religious liberties conservative family values, and I will continue to do so as lieutenant governor. I am the only candidate for lieutenant governor who is prepared to assume the role of governor if ever called upon to do so. In short, I'm a Christian, pro-life, gun-carrying, conservative momma with a strong record of accomplishments who is ready to continue to serve our great state!

I believe Republican primary voters are looking for someone who has a record of successfully fighting to make Arkansas a better place to live, work and raise a family. As chairman of the Republican Party of Arkansas during the Republican Revolution, I know better than most what it takes to persevere and accomplish worthy goals. I am the only candidate who has pledged to work full-time in the lieutenant governor's office, working side-by-side with our new governor and legislative chambers who will see tremendous turnover this year. When I was elected chairman of the Republican Party of Arkansas, we were financially and spiritually bankrupt and held almost no seats. When I left 12 years later, we had elected super majorities in both legislative chambers, all constitutional offices, and all federal offices. We did with this balanced budgets, and I left the state party with a surplus. I have a record of service-above-self.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

We must enhance Arkansas' economy by reducing the tax burden on families and expanding educational opportunities to include more focus on trade school in addition to college. With inflation at a 40-year high and a federal government threatening our constitutional rights, we must have strong, experienced leaders at the state level. As attorney general, I have defeated unlawful mandates of the Biden administration and I proactively drafted laws, such as the GIRLS Act, to ward off the onslaught of attacks on our conservative culture by the Liberal, woke Left extremists.

The most pressing issue facing the state of Arkansas right now is twofold: reducing our tax burden and education. Naysayers believe those two are connected, but we continue to increase spending in education to little or no progress for students. I believe we must shake off the chains that have bound us to accept the school systems forced upon us, and we must make children a priority — not teacher's unions. Secondly, we must compete with our surrounding states to make sure when children do graduate from high school or an Arkansas institution of higher education they have a state in which they can live, work and raise a family. That's where our income tax holds us back. As lieutenant governor, I will work with our governor and Legislature to continue the work that has been started in expanding school choice opportunities and lowering our state's income tax.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

As Arkansas' first female lieutenant governor, I will work closely with my longtime friend Sarah Sanders as our governor to promote conservative legislation and transformational change such as eliminating the individual income tax. As a seventh generation Arkansan who grew up on a cattle farm and now married to a row crop farmer, I will fight for Arkansas agriculture.

The first thing I hope to accomplish once sworn into office is establishing a better relationship between the legislative and executive branches of state government. The lieutenant governor is in a unique position, quite literally sitting in one branch of government and being elected to another. The people of Arkansas have overwhelmingly elected Republican lawmakers and executives to lead our state, and I am uniquely qualified to help bridge that gap that sometimes develops from miscommunication. I am the only candidate who has served in both the legislative and executive branches of government, having worked in the lieutenant governor's office for over 1,500 days. I believe my tenure as chairman of the Republican Party for 12 years underscores my ability to build relationships. I will also push for expanded school choice and eliminating our state income tax, but these cannot be done by someone who does not have the track record of accomplishing big goals.

# ★ LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

# ★ ATTORNEY GENERAL

## R Joseph Wood



**Age:** 57    **City:** Fayetteville

**Occupation:** Washington County judge

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in business administration, Iowa State University; Master of Christian leadership, Ecclesia College

**Public service:** Deputy secretary of state; county judge; school board; board of elections; Alternative Energy Commission; U.S. Civil Rights Commission, Arkansas

**Website:** [www.josephwoodforarkansas.com](http://www.josephwoodforarkansas.com)

## R Tim Griffin



**Age:** 53    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Lieutenant governor, U.S. Army Reserve, small business owner

**Education:** Bachelor's Degree from Hendrix College; J.D. from Tulane Law School; Master's Degree from U.S. Army War College

**Public service:** Congressman from 2011 to 2015 and Lieutenant governor

**Website:** [www.timgriffinforag.com](http://www.timgriffinforag.com)

## ✓ Why should people vote for you?

I have a vision and heart for Arkansas. I am uniquely qualified with executive experiences in both the private and public sectors. As the chief executive officer/governor of one of the largest counties in Arkansas and one of the fastest growing, I have a track record of success and delivering results. As deputy secretary of state, I reduced red tape for businesses to grow, cut government waste and improved election integrity. As county judge, I cut \$1.75 million from my budget in my first two years in office, increased veteran outreach services, and continue to drive development and infrastructure in the county. I am fighting for what's possible in Washington County and will bring the same commitment to economic growth across the state while decreasing the tax burden for all Arkansans as your next lieutenant governor.

I'm the most experienced candidate seeking the position of Attorney General. As a former U.S. Attorney, Congressman, and Lieutenant Governor, I understand the issues relevant to this office. I won't need training wheels if I'm elected; I will hit the ground running on Day One. I'll leverage all of my experience and work hard each and every day for the people of Arkansas. I'm also the only conservative running. I have a proven track record of voting for and advocating for the conservative values that the voters of Arkansas expect from their elected officials. I fought the Obama-Biden agenda as a member of Congress, and I'll push back against the Biden administration when they overstep their constitutional boundaries.

## ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

Education is the issue, which can directly impact economic development. We have some incredibly good teachers who work to create life-long learners. Parents should be engaged in what is being taught to their children and work with these good teachers. I would bring parents, nonprofits and business communities together to better understand and address goals with educators. The future of education must include coding, AI, automation, and S.T.E.A.M. Having diverse options to educate our children with reading, writing, and arithmetic remaining the cornerstone. My mother and grandmother were educators. I also taught and worked as an administrator at the college level. Additionally, I served years as a local school board member. Students prepared for life, armed with tools to compete, leads to our ready workforce. Critical rational thinkers and problem solvers are needed from our students. Arkansas success is rooted in her educational choices as its foundation.

We must fix our broken criminal justice system because if our citizens have to live in constant fear of violent crime, we are not truly free. We have a serious problem with our lack of prison capacity. Our state prisons are bursting at the seams, and it is spilling over into our county jails, which are also at capacity in most instances. Our sentencing is deceptive and dangerous because many violent criminals only serve a small fraction of their sentence before they are paroled. Many who are paroled go right back out and commit more violent acts. Of our 25,000 parolees, approximately 5,000 have completely absconded. Arkansas is currently seeing the highest levels of violent crime in the past 30 years. I will organize a legislative package to address these problems, and I will work hand-in-hand with members of the Legislature to see that they are addressed.

## ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

First, I would like to visit with the Governor to understand their vision and mission for Arkansas. I have my own vision to be an exemplary state in leadership and opportunity in the country. Focusing on economic development, education, foster care and veterans will be my priorities. I would then visit with legislators, business owners and parents regarding education and local economic development. This is to better understand what can be done to broaden education opportunities and how we can further reduce regulations on small business so we can grow and thrive together.

I will propose legislation to reform our criminal justice system, and I will work with the new governor and the Legislature to get it passed into law. I will gather expert input from across our criminal justice system, including sheriffs, chiefs of police, parole officers and many others. It is inexcusable that violent criminals routinely serve 20-30% of their sentences and that we have to release prisoners by the hundreds because our prisons are simply out of space. This directly fuels the rise in violent crime we are seeing across the state.



# ★ ATTORNEY GENERAL

# ★ SECRETARY OF STATE

## R Leon Jones Jr.



**Age:** 50    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Attorney

**Education:** BA English from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff; law degree from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville

**Public service:** Regulatory Policy Advisor (Huckabee Administration); Director of the state Department of Labor (2015-2019); Executive Director of Arkansas Fair Housing Commission (2019-2021)

**Website:** [www.leonjonesjr4ag.com](http://www.leonjonesjr4ag.com)

## R John Thurston\*



**Age:** 49    **City:** East End

**Occupation:** Arkansas Secretary of State

**Education:** Sheridan High School; currently attending the University of Arkansas at Little Rock where I am 12 hours away from a degree in economics.

**Public service:** Eight years as the Arkansas Commissioner of State Lands; four years as the Arkansas Secretary of State

**Website:** [www.votejohnthurston.com](http://www.votejohnthurston.com)

## ✓ Why should people vote for you?

I am a public Servant; I have been serving on boards and commissions for the last 20 years and I want to continue to serve the state that has given me so much. I am a proven leader; I am the only candidate with relevant experience to lead the office of attorney general which has over 170 employees and over a \$12 million dollar budget. Leading both the Department of Labor and the AR Fair Housing Commission, I am the only candidate who has had as many as 95 employees and the only candidate to have managed a budget as much as \$7 million dollars. I am a principled conservative; I carry a worn-out pocket Constitution with me everywhere because I am keenly aware that if we don't know our rights, we will lose our God-given rights. I have voted in every Republican primary in the last 20 years.

I have served as Arkansas Commissioner of State Lands and currently serve as Arkansas Secretary of State. My experience in working with and serving the people of Arkansas in both of these roles has proven my ability to serve our state's citizens. The 2020 election brought many challenges. We secured \$1,00,000 in personnel protection equipment that we distributed to all 75 counties. The 2020 general election saw the highest voter turnout in state history, despite the pandemic. My administration finalized the purchasing of new election equipment for all 75 counties. The 2020 general election was the first election in Arkansas history where all 75 counties used the same integrated voting system. We opened a Business and Commercial Services office in Fayetteville. We assisted over 20,000 companies acquiring Paycheck Protection Program loans by waiving fees on corporate records and late fees on franchise taxes to help companies that were struggling during the pandemic.

## ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

Trafficking and Cybersecurity. Human and drug Trafficking is on the rise and as the next attorney general, I will work with local, state and federal law enforcement to put a stop to it by putting more resources into those divisions within the office of attorney general. As the father of two daughters, I will do all I can to protect them and putting a stop to human and drug trafficking and putting an end to online predators seeking to take advantage of our most vulnerable citizens is a deep concern of citizens all over the Natural State and I will make it a top priority in my administration.

Election integrity. The security and integrity of our elections is of utmost importance to my office. I want to make it easier for Arkansans to vote, but harder to cheat. There were inconsistencies and issues across the country in the 2020 election, however, as a result of the hard work of my staff, we did not have these issues in Arkansas. The Heritage Foundation and America First Policy Institute recently ranked Arkansas as one of the top states in the nation in terms of election integrity. I plan to work with the Legislature, in the 2023 session, on legislation to increase those rankings. The Biden administration has been pushing elections legislation that will forever change our elections. This attempt to federalize our elections and strip away states' rights would make cheating easier than ever. I sent a letter opposing this legislation to Senator Schumer and Senator McConnell. The passage of this type of legislation would undo the great things Arkansas has done to ensure secure elections.

## ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

Creating five, 15-county districts to work within local communities to solve local problems. We can't continue to have a one-size-fits-all solution coming out of Little Rock, we need boots on the ground working with local communities to see that local corruption is investigated, that bad actors are taken out of our communities and our communities are safe so that Arkansas is the best place to live, work and raise a family.

We have seen many accomplishments during the first four years of my administration. My plan is to continue the focus on election security, preservation and security of the Capitol, and to continue to provide great customer service to those wishing to do business within the state of Arkansas.



# ★ SECRETARY OF STATE

## R Eddie Joe Williams



**Age:** 67    **City:** Cabot

**Occupation:** Retired regional transportation director

**Education:** Sheridan High School and Arkansas Baptist College

**Public service:** 3 1/2 years serving on the Southern States Energy Board during President Donald Trump's administration; three-term Arkansas state senator; fours years as mayor of Cabot; three years on the Cabot City Council

**Website:** [www.goeddiejoe.com](http://www.goeddiejoe.com)

## D Anna Beth Gorman



**Age:** 40    **City:** North Little Rock

**Occupation:** Executive Director, Women's Foundation of Arkansas

**Education:** BA in Political Science, Hollins University; master's of public administration and graduate certification in nonprofit management from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock

**Public service:** State Computer Science and Cybersecurity Task Force; Past President, Arkansas Women's Hall of Fame; Board chair, North Little Rock Chamber of Commerce

**Website:** [www.abforar.com](http://www.abforar.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

My fellow Arkansans want elected officials to speak on their behalf and work for them while in office at the State Capitol. My 35 years in the private sector managing thousands of employees as Regional Transportation Director with the railroad provided me valuable experience when it comes to budgets, hiring and training staff, workflows, and saving valuable dollars and resources. Being appointed by President Donald J. Trump to the Southern States Energy Board when gas averaged less than \$2 a gallon in Arkansas and our country experienced energy independence was an honor, and it positively impacted Arkansans' pocketbooks and cost of living. My fellow Arkansans want real change in a forward direction for their families and children they can see and feel.

I believe in creating access to opportunities that benefit everyone and I will prioritize measures that serve to ensure greater equity for all. The secretary of state should be considered the top opportunity advocate within state government and it's critical that our next secretary of state is someone who understands barriers to success and how to overcome them. I want our state to be a place where people want to do business and I will use the full force of this office to elevate and protect the small businesses that breathe life into our economy. I want voters to feel confident that their votes will matter and know that I will not tolerate any activities designed to diminish their right to participate in free and fair elections.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

Arkansans are struggling with record inflation and soaring energy prices, paying more for bread, milk, eggs, and other essentials. If the everyday Arkansan has to cut back, tighten their belt, and pinch pennies, then one of the largest staffed and highest budgeted constitutional offices in Arkansas — like the secretary of state — should do the same and lead by example. At the same time, my greatest obligation as secretary of state is to prepare for the unexpected, whether that is preparing for Capitol protests, ensuring integrity during elections, or having groups and teams ready to uphold Arkansas voting laws.

The full force of the Arkansas secretary of state's office is currently not being utilized to provide Arkansans with information or resources on how to engage in the democratic process or conducting business within the state. To me, this deficiency is an opportunity to demonstrate how state government can be made more effective and responsive to the needs of all Arkansans. On day one I would immediately begin to address these inefficiencies and update the office's antiquated communication's strategies. I want this office to live up to its full potential and I will utilize my years of experience as a nonprofit executive to make this happen.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

As Arkansas' next Republican secretary of state, we must look at the expansion of the SOS office to 154 employees and a salary budget of over \$8,000,000 these last few years. What has it provided to benefit our state or its citizens? We have a vital role to play in ensuring businesses and nonprofits can register online easily and with live assistance if needed. We must ensure each person running for office has a smooth and easy way to disclose their financial documents for Arkansans to view. We need groups of people positioned, trained, and ready from the SOS office to guide, adhere, and enforce our state's voting laws. And we must ensure our Capitol monuments do not fall into disarray, and outside groups such as veterans, are not forced to raise private money and jump through hoops to keep them vibrant for all to enjoy.

The Arkansas secretary of state's website needs a complete overhaul. Other state agencies have effectively created online resources that better meet the needs of Arkansans and this office needs to catch up with them. In order to meet people where they are, you must prioritize accessibility. There is nothing convenient about the current AR secretary of state's website in regards to understanding elections or business filings. I will address this issue immediately and also evaluate the resources that are needed to maintain a robust web presence that places customer service at a premium.

# ★ SECRETARY OF STATE

## D Josh Price



**Age:** 42    **City:** Maumelle

**Occupation:** Small business consultant

**Education:** University of Central Arkansas - Bachelor of Science in Sociology

**Public service:** Pulaski County election commissioner (two terms); former U.S. Small Business Administration public information officer for Arkansas; founding president of the Asian American Pacific Islander Democratic Caucus of Arkansas

**Website:** [www.joshforarkansas.com](http://www.joshforarkansas.com)

# ★ STATE TREASURER

## R Mark Lowery



**Age:** 65    **City:** Maumelle

**Occupation:** Adjunct college instructor

**Education:** MA and BA (Communication), University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

**Public service:** Arkansas House of Representatives (2013-present); serves currently on Southern Regional Education Board (SREB)

**Website:** [www.voteonthemark.com](http://www.voteonthemark.com)

## ✓ Why should people vote for you?

The primary role of the secretary of state is to oversee elections and I'm the only candidate in this race with experience running elections and fighting Republican politicians' attempts to make it harder to vote. I served as a Pulaski County election commissioner helping oversee elections in Arkansas' largest county. I know what it takes to run large elections smoothly and fairly, in fact last year I even won a national award for my efforts to protect voting rights. My election experience means I'll be ready on day one to conduct elections and protect our voting rights. Voting is not a Democrat or Republican issue — it's a sacred American right. I'm the only candidate with the experience of fighting for this sacred right for all Arkansans.

Arkansans should vote for me because my record in public service has consistently exemplified the highest ideals of fiscal conservatism. I have earned awards from the American Conservative Union and Arkansas' Conduit for Commerce and Americans for Prosperity for my conservative voting record. Additionally, I have championed fiscal restraint on issues like setting a cap on the amount of net fund balances school districts can maintain from year to year and led the governor's initiative to reform higher education funding. On social issues, I have been on the forefront for pro-life and pro-family initiatives, receiving recognition from the Arkansas Family Council. Arkansans have been able to trust that I am looking out for their interests when it comes to lowering taxes and expecting that state government should be reduced in scope and not imposing undue regulations and mandates.

## ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

Republican politicians are making it harder for people to vote and are rigging election systems to protect their power. We've seen their efforts to restrict voting rights across the country and here in Arkansas, such as closing rural voting precincts or attempting to shorten early voting days. I've fought their schemes to make it tougher to vote both at the state Legislature and at the Pulaski County Election Commission. We need a secretary of state who will fight Republicans' attempts to restrict our voting rights. I'm the only candidate with the experience of running elections and fighting for our voting rights. I'm running for secretary of state to protect the voting rights of all Arkansans, and fight these attempts to take away our rights. As secretary of state I'll use my experience of running elections to ensure all elections are run fairly and smoothly, and that Arkansas finally has statewide election procedures.

Arkansans are facing significant issues related to 8% inflation, 50% higher fuel costs and more difficulty making ends meet. Now is no time for state leaders to be bragging about record surpluses and ever growing reserves over \$1 billion. I would use my office, if elected, as a bully pulpit to advocate for more immediate taxpayer relief.

## ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

Arkansas is dead last in voter registration. Our state deserves better. The first major thing I plan to accomplish is to significantly increase voter registration among eligible Arkansans. Let's get every eligible Arkansan registered to vote, especially in historically underserved groups such as communities of color, minorities, women and rural Arkansans, particularly in the Delta. The secretary of state's office can work with nonprofit organizations to hold voter registration drives, advocate for online voter registration, and use mobile voter registration units (Voter Vans) to meet Arkansans where they are and get them registered to vote.

First thing I would like to accomplish once in office is to continue the excellent work of Treasurer Dennis Milligan in promoting the 529 education savings program and to continue advocacy of investment strategies at all levels of government that disinvest from "woke" investments including through BlackRock Investments.

## R Mathew W. Pitsch



**Age:** 58    **City:** Fort Smith

**Occupation:** Engineer, small business owner

**Education:** M.S. in Electrical Engineering Management

**Public service:** 2015-2018 Arkansas State Representative;  
2019-2022 Arkansas State Senator

**Website:** [www.pitsch4arkansas.com](http://www.pitsch4arkansas.com)

## N Chris Carnahan



**Age:** 50    **City:** Conway

**Occupation:** Ninth State District Court Judge, Division One

**Education:** Juris Doctor, University of Arkansas at Little Rock  
Bowen School of Law; University of Central Arkansas, MA  
History; UALR BA Mathematics, BA History

**Public service:** Arkansas Policy Foundation and Murphy  
Commission; Executive Director, Republican Party of Arkansas; Faulkner  
County Election Commission

**Website:** [www.carnahanforark.com](http://www.carnahanforark.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

Throughout my political career, people have voted for me primarily for my common-sense approach to public service, business acumen, and leadership abilities. Public service is a calling and elected public servants need to commit to doing everything in their power to help their constituents build a better community, region, and state. In my tenure of public service in Fort Smith and Sebastian County, we have seen dramatic growth due to our regional team approach to development. I believe voters interested in statewide constitutional offices want a candidate with a track record of regional economic development (job creation), integrity, leadership, and effectiveness.

It is important that the people have a justice that has experience on the bench as a judge, both to understand what goes on in a courtroom and to avoid unnecessary litigation. My judicial philosophy is simple and time tested: laws passed by the people and the Legislature should be respected and interpreted with their original meaning in context. Innocent human life must be protected by judges and the guilty should be humanely punished. Finally, farmers, business, and citizens need a Supreme Court that allows them to make rational decisions about their economic interests and will protect private property rights.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

The absolute most pressing issue for the position of Arkansas State Treasurer is the future economy, current and future inflation, and the time value of money. For four of the last five years, the national economy has been in a dynamic growth surge. When an economy is performing like this, a State Treasurer should be aggressive (playing offense) in their decision making. When an economy is suspect or unknown (i.e. full of indicators that something might be getting ready to go bad) a State Treasurer should be cautious (playing defense) in their decision making.

I believe the Court has strayed from its lane a number of times both in civil and criminal matters in the last several years both in constitutional and statutory interpretation. I believe we must have justices that do not legislate from the bench, acting as super-legislators. I am a Constitutionalist and a Textualist, my opinion on whether a law or case is "good" or "bad" is irrelevant to most legal issues presented to the court. I will stay in my own lane.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

As a leader, whether in business, politics, or my church, I have been known to build high performance, cross-trained teams focusing on continuous improvement. In building a State Treasurer's team, and developing the skills required for success, the group will all need to agree on the strategies being implemented to protect the State Treasury and continue the process of making Arkansas one of the most fiscally sound states in the country. On day one, my first priority will be building this team approach.

I will immediately begin performing the work as an Associate Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court. Beyond that, I would like to see the expansion and availability of specialty courts to each judicial district in the state, like I currently preside over in my Faulkner and Van Buren County Sobriety Courts.



# ★ STATE SUPREME COURT ASSOCIATE JUSTICE POSITION 2

## N David Sterling



**Age:** 53    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Attorney

**Education:** J.D. University of Arkansas at Little Rock Bowen School of Law 1997; M.A. Public Administration UALR 1994; B.A. UALR 1992

**Public service:** Chief counsel, Arkansas Department of Human Services 2015-present; Twice appointed as Special Justice to the Arkansas Supreme Court

**Website:** [www.votedavidsterling.com](http://www.votedavidsterling.com)

## N Robin Wynne\*



**Age:** 69    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Supreme Court Judge

**Education:** Harvard University undergraduate degree in history; University of Arkansas, Fayetteville law school

**Public service:** Arkansas Supreme Court associate justice since 2015; Adjunct teacher at Bowen School of Law since 2012; Arkansas Access to Justice Commission

**Website:** [www.wynne4arkansas.com](http://www.wynne4arkansas.com)

## ✓ Why should people vote for you?

I am running for the Supreme Court because Arkansans are looking for a justice who believes in the Constitution and whose faith informs their daily decisions. That is who I am. I am an Originalist who will interpret the Constitution according to the original intent of the Founding Fathers. I believe in separation of powers and the concept of judicial restraint and that judges should not legislate from the bench. If a judge doesn't like a law, they shouldn't change it, since that is the job of the Legislature. I'm a member of Christian Legal Society, the Federalist Society, and the NRA and strongly support the 2nd Amendment. My wife Deeni and I have been married for 30 years and have been active members of Fellowship Bible Church since 1994. Governor Hutchinson twice appointed me as a special justice on the Supreme Court.

I would hope people would vote for me based on my record. I have authored over 250 opinions on the Supreme Court. I have authored over 220 opinions on the Arkansas Court of Appeals. Over 10 years of experience in the appellate court system and people can look at my opinions and see what kind of Supreme Court justice I have been. I believe I have done what the oath of the office has required me to do to apply the rule of law to each case.

## ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing the court and how would you address it?

The Rule of Law is under assault, and judicial activism is the most pressing issue facing the courts. Judges should not be policymakers. That is the role of the Legislature. I am a Judicial Conservative and believe in judicial restraint. I will not legislate from the bench. Instead, I will defer to legislators to make the laws they were elected by the citizens to enact, and I will defer to the executive branch to carry out and enforce those laws. As a Justice on the Arkansas Supreme Court, my job will be to apply the law to the facts and circumstances of each case in a fair and impartial way. Judges should only strike down laws when they violate the Constitution.

The most pressing issue facing our court system is the pandemic. For the last two years, the Supreme Court of Arkansas has overseen the court system in Arkansas, meaning we have to decide if we have in-person trials and hearings and whether we meet in person. So I want to say in March of 2020, we like everyone else closed down in-person meetings, and so our Supreme Court has been doing all our work by zoom for the last two years. That has been the most difficult thing for all of this, making sure defendants get speedy trials and people with domestic matters get before a judge.

## ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

I would like to instill a sense of trust, integrity, and confidence in the Arkansas Supreme Court. Judges should serve with the highest ethics and utmost integrity. In my private practice, I consistently earned an AV Martindale Hubbell rating from my peers for my outstanding legal abilities and highest ethical standards. I am a proud Christian and rely on His Word and counsel in my daily life and decisions. I believe in judicial restraint, and my legal decisions will be based on the law as written — not on my personal views. I am now asking voters to allow me to serve as your next Supreme Court Justice.

I want to continue to do what I've done the past eight years, and that is to apply the rule of law and continue to be fair, impartial and to treat each litigant as if it was the most important matter in their life.

# ★ STATE SUPREME COURT ASSOCIATE JUSTICE POSITION 6

## N Karen Baker\*



**Age:** 58    **City:** Sherwood

**Occupation:** State Supreme Court Associate Justice Position 6

**Education:** Baker earned her undergraduate degree from Arkansas Tech University in 1983, and her J.D. from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock Law School in 1987.

**Public service:** Arkansas Judicial Council; Arkansas Bar Association; American Bar Association; Van Buren/Searcy County Bar Association- Past President and Member; Faulkner County Bar Association

**Website:** N/A

## N Gunner DeLay



**Age:** 58    **City:** Fort Smith

**Occupation:** Circuit Judge for Sebastian County

**Education:** BSBA University of Arkansas, 1985; Juris Doctorate University of Arkansas at Little Rock Law School 1988

**Public service:** State representative, 1995-1999; state senator, 1999-2003; Sebastian County prosecuting attorney, 2007-2008; district judge, 2018-2019; circuit judge, 2019-present

**Website:** [www.gunnerdelay.com](http://www.gunnerdelay.com)

## ✓ Why should people vote for you?

Candidate did not answer.

Because I represent the type of judge that the majority of Arkansans want on the Supreme Court. I am a constitutional conservative in the mold of Justices Clarence Thomas and Anthony Scalia. My judicial philosophy is simple — I am an originalist who believes the constitution should be interpreted with the original intent of the drafters in mind, and I am a textualist who believes words should be given their plain and ordinary meaning when considering the effect of statutory language.

## ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing the court and how would you address it?

Candidate did not answer.

I think the most pressing issue for the court is to have justices that truly understand the importance of having separation of powers between the three branches of government. We don't need judges who want to legislate from the bench. I believe my experience in serving in all three branches of government will be a constant reminder that all the branches of government are equally important under our constitution.

## ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

Candidate did not answer.

My highest priority if elected is to use the platform of the office to travel the State of Arkansas speaking to schools, universities, and civic clubs reminding our citizens of the true meaning of the Bill of Rights and what makes our country special. If we are to remain free, it is imperative that we know and understand what free speech is, what was meant by the right to bear arms, what equal protection under the law means, and what rights we are guaranteed by the due process clause. I hope to inspire a new generation of freedom loving Arkansans.

# ★ COURT OF APPEALS ASSOCIATE JUDGE DISTRICT 6, POSITION 2

## N Stephanie Casady



**Age:** 46    **City:** Benton

**Occupation:** District Court Judge

**Education:** Political science and English degrees from University of Central Arkansas and law degree from University of Arkansas at Little Rock law school

**Public service:** Worked for the state as a foster care worker; deputy prosecutor; and attorney ad litem

**Website:** [www.judgecasadyforcourtofappeals.com/meet\\_stephanie](http://www.judgecasadyforcourtofappeals.com/meet_stephanie)

## N Wendy Wood



**Age:** 52    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Attorney at the Arkansas Court of Appeals for Judge Larry Vaught

**Education:** William H. Bowen School of Law, University of Arkansas at Little Rock J.D., 1996; Vanderbilt University, B.A., Economics, 1991

**Public service:** Lawyer, Arkansas Court of Appeals, 2006–present; Arkansas Supreme Court Continuing Legal Education Board, 2004-2010

**Website:** [www.votewood.com](http://www.votewood.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

If you look at the makeup of the appellate court right now like the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals, what you are going to find is people who served as lower court judges before they were elected to the appellate court. It's my personal belief, and the people who have gotten behind me and are supporting me in order to be an appellate judge, you should bring judicial experience.

I am unquestionably the most experienced candidate for this unique judicial position. A Court of Appeals judge is not a typical judgeship; it requires specialized knowledge of and experience in appellate law. Twenty-five years ago, I began working as a trial lawyer at the Barber Law Firm. There, I represented people in civil cases before judges and juries. I also appeared before the Appeals Courts. But for the past fifteen years, I devoted myself to public service as an attorney at the Arkansas Court of Appeals, working each day directly with retiring Judge Larry Vaught. Today, I am now running for his seat, and I bring to the table expertise in having handled over 1,500 appeals and written over 500 draft opinions for him. I am uniquely qualified to bring about swift justice and will be ready to serve you on day one.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing the court and how would you address it?

You know from my perspective I don't know if there is a pressing issue because we are talking about the court of appeals here, but having said that as a member of the judiciary already, I think just in general we are in a time where people need a restored confidence in the judiciary. I would say that I would continue to do what I do now which is make sure that everything I do is fair and impartial which is what a judge is supposed to be and be mindful of any conduct is a reflection on the judiciary as a whole.

Trust is the most pressing and important issue facing our judiciary. Consequently, we must elect not only experienced attorneys but those who have a proven record of devoting themselves to maintaining the highest integrity and ethical standards in their own lives. You deserve a person who lives her life in such an honest way that nobody questions her impartiality. For my part, I have committed my entire life to fair play and just causes. In my early years, I learned virtues on the basketball court: faith, loyalty, fortitude, and integrity. I put myself through college on a basketball scholarship and later earned my living playing professional sports. The lessons I learned on the basketball court have served me well in the court of law. I will bring those same values and hard work to the Arkansas Court of Appeals.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

I would want to accomplish being efficient and again just continuing what I am doing now which is consider each case as it comes and apply the facts and law and make the appropriate decision.

Because I am uniquely qualified to hit the ground running on day one, the first thing I am going to do is: get to work protecting those vulnerable people who rely on our justice system to give them prompt answers. I promise to give easy-to-follow decisions on important topics such as domestic law, where children and families await life-changing decisions. Criminal appeals deserve the same decisive treatment so that victims of violent crime will understand that our justice system continues to be the best in the world. There is truth to the saying — justice delayed is justice denied.



# ★ STATE SENATE DISTRICT 3

## R Charles Beckham



**Age:** 38    **City:** McNeil

**Occupation:** Owner of Budget Propane

**Education:** Attended Mississippi State University

**Public service:** State senator since 2021

**Website:** [www.charlesbeckham.com](http://www.charlesbeckham.com)

## R Steve Crowell



**Age:** 49    **City:** Magnolia

**Occupation:** Owner and manager of SICrowell Properties

**Education:** Attended Mankota State University

**Public service:** Magnolia alderman since 2014

**Website:** [www.crowellforarkansas.com](http://www.crowellforarkansas.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

I am a proven Christian conservative senator that has kept the promises made when running for office.

Our district deserves a senator who will listen to what's going on in our communities and who will work to solve the real issues in front of us. It's time for our elected leaders to stop talking about political hot button issues and focus on the real challenges facing our state. Education, adequate road and infrastructure funding, addressing mental health issues, bringing better paying jobs to all parts of our state. I'm committed to doing that, but I know I can't do it without taking input from folks throughout the district. I will be open and transparent, and most importantly, available and ready to take your phone call.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

The most pressing issue in my district is the lack of businesses investing/economic growth in the district, which is causing a rapid decline in population. Working with the Department of Commerce alongside a new governor, with local chambers and business leaders, I will continually highlight the impact of projects in the cities and counties that they benefit. The Senate district has been often overlooked for state investment dollars because projects have not created the large number of jobs that other projects would bring to other areas although the impact on a per capita basis would be significant.

The rising cost of basic necessities is hurting families right now. The policies of Joe Biden and his Democrat Party are not working. As a state, we have to push back and lead by example. Continuing to get people back to work, lowering taxes so they can keep more of their money and ensuring government isn't placing unnecessary burdens on job creation. Those are things I will work on as state senator.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

The first thing I plan to start on after the primary election is pushing for solutions to the stagnant economic growth in the district. Meetings with local leaders to see how I can help with their visions are imperative to ensue that efforts at the state level are complimentary to those at the local level.

I want the people of our district to know they matter, that their voice is heard and someone is fighting for them. I will fight for protecting life and gun rights. I will work to give parents more control of their children's education. I will explore ways to keep our elections secure and fair. But the most important thing I want to accomplish is making sure the people of our district know they have access to their state senator and I will work with them to address their concerns.

# ★ STATE SENATE DISTRICT 17

## R Spencer Hawks



**Age:** 38    **City:** Conway

**Occupation:** Real estate broker

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in business administration, Central Baptist College

**Public service:** Faulker County Quorum Court, Arkansas House of Representatives

**Website:** [www.spencerhawks.com](http://www.spencerhawks.com)

## R Mark Johnson



**Age:** 67    **City:** Ferndale

**Occupation:** Retired business consultant

**Education:** Hendrix College

**Public service:** State senator

**Website:** [www.markjohnsonforarkansas.com](http://www.markjohnsonforarkansas.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

“Work hard. Love others” is my life motto. As I’ve served this community publicly, through business and philanthropically, I’ve exemplified and lived out my motto. People are tired of politics. I just want to care for the people of District 17 and work hard.

I make myself available to my constituents. Regardless of the issue, I am willing to listen and respond to the concerns of each and every person in need of assistance. I make myself accessible and try to respond quickly to every constituent phone call and email. My years of experience working with state and local governments has given me the knowledge to cut through red tape and solve problems. I have made it a goal since day one as a state senator to respond quickly to every constituent phone call and email I receive.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

We have to focus on our local economy. We need to be bringing in high-paying jobs and continuing to prepare our students for the workforce by creating a solid school-to-work pipeline with our schools and universities.

World and national events are impacting the lives of Arkansans every day. It is alarming to see the recent effects on Arkansas families and small businesses due to the rapid inflation and increase of fuel prices. Every possible option should be explored at the state level, and wherever possible we should act to provide financial relief to Arkansans. This includes continuing to cut taxes and unnecessary spending.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

While I would love to keep Arkansas’ economy on the forefront, we must bring the Senate back to working order. I’ve consistently built bridges and relationships in the House and I look forward to continuing this in the Senate as we move Arkansas forward.

Access to public records is vital to a free society. Transparency is key to accountability, ensuring those who serve in state and local government are held to the highest levels of legal and ethical behavior. There seems to be a constant attack on Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and other transparency laws. I will make protecting and expanding FOIA, and enhancing penalties for those who willfully violate out transparency laws, as one of my first priorities.

# ★ STATE SENATE DISTRICT 22

## R Ethan J. Barnes



**Age:** 26    **City:** Hardy

**Occupation:** Small business owner, former assistant vice president and loan officer at Centennial Bank

**Education:** Arkansas State University, bachelor's degree in business administration

**Public service:** Ozarka College Foundation, board member; American Veterans Memorial, board member; Spring River Area Chamber of Commerce, two-term president

**Website:** [www.barnesforarkansas.com](http://www.barnesforarkansas.com)

## R John Payton



**Age:** 55    **City:** Wilburn

**Occupation:** Auctioneer/businessman

**Education:** Trade school

**Public service:** State representative since 2013; Wilburn volunteer fire department board

**Website:** [www.facebook.com/johnpaytonforstatesenate](http://www.facebook.com/johnpaytonforstatesenate)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

Citizens of District 22 deserve a senator who will be present and active in the community's needs. Someone who will return phone calls. Someone who will be honest, someone who will hold his seat and stand behind the way he votes. The [district] does not have a state senator it can confidently rely upon. I will be accessible. I will be thoughtful. I will be responsive and effective. We will all work together for the common good of Arkansas. I am energetic, passionate, and open to learning from constituents what the real needs are for our communities. I will work for you. My job will be help to advance and promote the livelihood for our schools, businesses, neighborhoods, elderly community members and farmers. We need change, and I am that change. I strongly believe that God has called me to be a public servant through Him for District 22. We can make a change right here in rural Arkansas.

Because they can count on me to stand firm on the Constitution and Conservative Arkansas values and principles.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

After observing various needs across District 22, I was shocked to see the smaller rural communities grasping for air to survive. Many of our local communities have or are attempting to propose new taxes to attempt to sustain local government, develop economic stimulation, and keep jobs on the payroll. I would like to see more help from the state Legislature for our smaller communities that are beginning to face trouble. I am afraid that our small towns across Arkansas will really start to suffer if we don't start properly managing funds... Instead of creating new taxes, let's budget better what we already have in reserves, or appropriate current spending to the local levels more efficiently without new taxes. Local schools are struggling to grow their districts... We know with better schools, we can attract better investors in the state of Arkansas; we must work closely with local leaders to maintain what we have, and plan for future growth.

I'll read proposed legislation and point out its long- and short-term effects on liberty. I'll work to make sure whatever passes recognizes and protects our constitutional rights. Just like Act 486 of 2017 that required the Concealed carry handgun licensing rules to recognize and protect a licensees' constitutional carry rights.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

Our children are our future for Arkansas. We need to preserve education, teach applicable programs in grades K-12, and implement new programs in the public education system. Students are not learning the valuable skills that the household is failing to implement today. I often hear of school administrators, teachers or counselors having to interject into a matter at home that should not fall upon the public school employee's plate. We need to develop life skill programs for students that will enhance their abilities into a better contributing member of society. Some schools across the state are already taking the lead with this, while others need a push from the Legislature. Getting into a student's mind early on can change or save a life — I know it did mine. If elected, I will work to help better teach our youth. We want to build a better state, and teaching students valuable skills will keep them at home in Arkansas.

Shrink government, especially Arkansas' dependence on the federal government.



# ★ STATE SENATE DISTRICT 22

## R James Sturch



**Age:** 31    **City:** Batesville

**Occupation:** High school social studies teacher

**Education:** Master's of public administration, bachelor's degree in political science/secondary education from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock

**Public service:** State senator since 2019; state representative from 2015-2019

**Website:** [www.sturchforarkansas.com](http://www.sturchforarkansas.com)

# ★ STATE SENATE DISTRICT 25

## R Breanne Davis



**Age:** 39    **City:** Russellville

**Occupation:** Owner, Deelyte Farms

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in speech communications, Arkansas Tech University

**Public service:** Russellville School Board 2009-2018, Arkansas Senate since 2018

**Website:** [www.breanneforsenate.com](http://www.breanneforsenate.com)

## ✓ Why should people vote for you?

My experience and record show I stayed true to my word and have remained a common-sense conservative. I have protected the traditional values of our region, stood up for our local schools and promoted economic growth of our communities. I have fought to lower taxes, voting for the two largest income tax reductions in state history. I have helped expand workforce training and scholarship opportunities for all students. I have worked to ensure we get our fair share of road money. If re-elected, I will continue listening to and working for you.

People should vote for me because of my record, results and relationships. I have a record of voting for every pro-life, pro-gun, pro-law enforcement and pro-freedom bill since elected in 2018. I've sponsored bills to increase broadband access and to stop discrimination against people with disabilities who need life-saving medical procedures. I promised I'd fight for equitable funding for ATU and we won that fight. I stood up to big government when they tried to shut down our schools and businesses. Lastly, you have to have relationships to get things accomplished. I'm honored to be the only primary candidate endorsed by our future governor, Sarah Huckabee Sanders, along with an endorsement from U.S. Senator Tom Cotton. Just as important, I'm fortunate to have great relationships with many mayors, law enforcement officials, superintendents, and businesses in my district that allow me to work with and for the people I represent.

## ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

The most pressing issue facing us right now is inflation. With continued rising cost of necessities like food, gasoline, and electricity, families are feeling it in their pocketbooks. The policies of President Biden and his liberal friends are not working. As a state Legislature, we need to continue reforming our tax code so we can further lower the tax burden on working families. Further, we can put pressure on the federal government to stop shutting down businessmen, stop discouraging people from working and start taking actions needed to get our economy back where it needs to be.

When talking with constituents, I keep hearing the same concerns. Those concerns are shortages in law enforcement due to underfunding, having a voice in their children's education and the way taxes weigh on wallets. While I supported the recent law enforcement bonus, it was a band-aid on a bigger problem. We have to make city and county law enforcement pay and retention a priority. I proudly stood for schools and businesses during the pandemic to make their own decisions regarding masks, testing and vaccines. I will continue to support families having a voice in the curriculum and campus they choose for their kids. While I voted for tax breaks on income and used cars, I am fully committed to seeing Arkansas find solutions to phase out the state income tax.

## ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

I look forward to pushing more education reforms during the next legislative session. Too many children can't read or do math at grade level. We must improve this, and that starts by putting the emphasis back on kids rather than test scores. I believe we can accomplish this goal by giving more control of what's taught in our schools back to parents and local school boards. Once that's decided, we need to let teachers guide us on how to best get the job done. Education is the key to our state's future. We must be prepared to meet the challenges in front, and that starts with ensuring students are getting what they need and deserve.

I want to continue eliminating unnecessary regulations, just as I did in 2019 and 2021. These regulations are standing in the way of providing easier access to high speed broadband for households in my district. I will also continue being a voice for other local issues, like helping secure \$3.6 [million] to ATU's base funding. My fight doesn't stop there though. In the future, I want to address the nursing and law enforcement shortage in Arkansas. I will continue fighting for our farmers. It should be easier, not harder, to get locally grown and raised food on our plates. Lastly, as a pro-life advocate, I want to see some type of incentives for adoptive and foster care families. I believe pro-lifers too often stop their fight at birth instead of working for better outcomes for people from conception to natural death. We can do better and I'm ready to continue working.

# ★ STATE SENATE DISTRICT 25

## R Rick Harrell



**Age:** 65

**City:** Russellville

**Occupation:** Sales rep for Jostens

**Education:** Attended University of Central Arkansas, political science major

**Public service:** Russellville City Council

**Website:** [www.rickforarkansas.com](http://www.rickforarkansas.com)

# ★ STATE SENATE DISTRICT 28

## R Bob Ballinger\*



**Age:** 48

**City:** Ozark

**Occupation:** Attorney and realtor

**Education:** BA in Social Studies Education and JD in Law

**Public service:** State Representative, 2013-2018; state Senator 2019-present

**Website:** [www.bobballinger.com](http://www.bobballinger.com)

## ✓ Why should people vote for you?

I have owned and operated a business for 40 years with payroll, employees and budget. I have provided customer service to thousands of senior graduates and their parents. My wife and I have raised three children and now are blessed with 6 grandchildren. This journey has given me life experiences that enable me to make sound decisions using common sense. I have a great sense of loyalty to this district since my career has been dependent on the school districts throughout Pope County, Conway County and Dardanelle. My relationships enable me to have conversations with people throughout the area and not just Russellville or Morrilton. My goal is to represent the people who live here in this district. They deserve and should expect local representation.

I am a committed conservative who loves my constituents and enjoys serving them in their state Capital. Many people claim to be “conservatives,” but few have the record that demonstrates that they will show up, work hard, and get things done for their people. I don’t skip hard votes and I carry legislation that my constituents care about.

## ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

In Pope County it is the casino issue. 70% of the residents voted against having one. I will continue to do all I can to place this on the November ballot and ask the people of Arkansas to remove Pope County from having a casino. I will also bring LOCAL representation to the district. In Conway County I hear most often protecting UACCM and its mission. I strongly support this institution and have always considered this as the best value in the valley. I would hope to increase funding for UACCM to increase their vocational options to area students.

Two issues squeezing my constituents most right now is the attack on their pocketbooks through extraordinary inflation caused by big government spending and restrictions, and the attack on our Arkansas values and way of life.

## ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

Take time with each school administrator and mayor and county judge in the district to hear what they need to improve what they are doing for the citizens. This, along with lowering taxes, shrinking government and protecting the state from federal government over reach. My major goal would be to allow schools to be more autonomous and be able to decide the best form of education for their local population. Increase teacher salary across the board. Also, I would protect our schools from any and all attempts to introduce CRT into any curriculum. I offer full support to our law enforcement community.

Work towards developing a plan to eliminate our state income tax over the next few years. A plan with achievable benchmarks so the average Arkansans know relief is coming. And, develop a package of bills that protects students in our schools and state employees from being subjected to forced indoctrination in failed leftists ideologies like socialism, critical race theory and gender fluidity.

# ★ STATE SENATE DISTRICT 28

## R Robert “Bob” Largent



**Age:** 75    **City:** Harrison

**Occupation:** President/CEO, Harrison Regional Chamber of Commerce

**Education:** University of Arkansas, Bachelor of Science, Business Administration; University of Oklahoma, Master of Public Administration; Air War College, National Security Strategy

**Public service:** Houston County (GA) Planning & Zoning Commission; Air Force Association (national president, chairman of the board)

**Website:** [www.largentforsenate.com](http://www.largentforsenate.com)

## R Bryan B. King



**Age:** 53    **City:** Green Forest

**Occupation:** Cattle/poultry farmer

**Education:** University of Arkansas

**Public service:** Arkansas House of Representatives, Arkansas Senate

**Website:** [www.electbryanking.com](http://www.electbryanking.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

First, I'm a conservative, life-long Republican ... but NOT a politician. I'm pro-life, pro-2nd amendment, pro-parental control in education, support stronger borders and more funding for law enforcement, and want to cut wasteful spending while at the same time, ensuring that North Central Arkansas receives its fact-based fair share of tax dollars. The collaborative, servant leadership ... enhanced and demonstrated in over 24 years in the US Air Force and 20-plus years in business, 15 as a small business owner ... has given me the experience and shaped my approach to solving complex problems. I'm tested and proved many times over.

I am an independent, conservative Republican . I call out all sides when it comes to corruption and hypocrisy. In these uncertain times we need elected representatives that don't play politics and are straight with the people on issues . As a farmer, small business owner, and my experience in government, I know the role of all three. People should be able to trust their elected representatives even when they disagree with them. We need to stop the political propaganda and stop those who use the taxpayers to fund them.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

Unfortunately, there's not just one, but rather a combination of issues that arise from a lack of focused attention on the District's six counties and their 86,000-plus constituents: good-paying jobs now and for the future, up-skilling the workforce for those jobs, and transportation and broadband infrastructure that supports agriculture, tourism, education, healthcare and business. I'll work with the new governor and the legislature, alongside duly elected county and municipal leaders, to ensure collaborative, common-sense and fair solutions are offered for each of these issues, and others as identified in the months and years ahead. Residents of Boone, Carroll, Franklin, Johnson, Madison, and Newton County ... their needs come first!

Stop corruption and expose political self-dealing. Perfect example is the failure of the Medicaid disclosure bills while there are breaking newspaper stories on legislators hidden financial ties... Responsible budgeting and stopping all-time record spending. Properly manage Medicaid dollars to make sure they serve the needs of Arkansas and not big money special interest. End secret money; this is killing our democracy... Election integrity — Arkansas has a horrible history of voter fraud (see Hudson Hallum). Way too many past elections in Arkansas were plagued by voter fraud.\*\* Arkansas needs to be an example to the nation on how to run elections. Accountability and Transparency; FOIA must be protected so that the citizens know what is going on in their Government. Stop taxpayer abuse by legislators, failure to pay taxes while cashing per diem checks and taking trips. Eliminate the income tax with smart and responsible budgeting.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

I'd like to immediately find a way to cut taxes on families and businesses and eliminate waste within our state budget. Government must live within its means and be focused on serving the people. Not the other way around.

First thing I would do is file a rule that if you owe back taxes you cannot accept per diem or taxpayer funded trips until those obligations are met. And require honest disclosure of business agreements of legislators.

*\*\*EDITOR'S NOTE: Republican Secretary of State John Thurston has said Arkansas had a "clean and accurate" 2020 election. Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank, ranks Arkansas' election process 4th best in the U.S.*



# ★ STATE SENATE DISTRICT 28

## R Keith Slape



**Age:** 56

**City:** Compton

**Occupation:** State representative and cattle rancher

**Education:** North Arkansas College

**Public service:** Newton County sheriff, state representative District 83

**Website:** [www.slape4senate.com](http://www.slape4senate.com)

## R Theodore (Ted) Walker



**Age:** 56

**City:** Forum

**Occupation:** Retired

**Education:** Master's degree in education

**Public service:** I have 38 years in the military with no elected positions.

**Website:** [www.tedwalker68.wixsite.com/theodore-a-walker4](http://www.tedwalker68.wixsite.com/theodore-a-walker4)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

I began my public service career in 2001. Working as a law enforcement officer, I dealt in situations that were difficult. Meeting people who are having the worse days of their lives and working with them to make things better. Politics have some of the same attributes of those situations. As a local and state official I'm the only candidate that has the experience and leadership to deal with local government and state government.

I have a history of public service with 38 years in the military. I have dedicated my life to preserving our way of life so that generations to come can enjoy the same freedoms that we do. I am not politically tied to any group or to anybody simply because I am dedicated to the people that I have been serving for the last 38 years.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

Currently inflation is the most pressing. Data shows that it will cost an additional \$5,200 this year for a family than last year. This is hurting the people and especially in rural Arkansas. Keeping a tight line on state spending will help keep inflation and taxes down.

There are many topics that are pressing the constituents. CRT, Abortion, education for our children, transgender and sports, and Inflation. I think right now, it is Inflation. Create more jobs here in Arkansas and do business with other states within the United States. Pull away from foreign trade as much as possible. Open up the Keystone pipeline, look at current permits to determine the value of them.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

I would like to help getting our criminal Justice system reformed. We spend a lot of money on the revolving door of our correctional system. We must prioritize the violent crimes and set a number on how many times someone is sent to prison before they get a harsher sentence. If I'm elected, this will be my priority.

Set a new standard of communicating with the constituents often to keep them abreast of new interests and upcoming concerns. Show the constituents what it is to have someone working with and for them verses working for their own interest. Be the example of what "right" looks like for the other senators within the state.

# ★ STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 54

## R Mary Bentley



**Age:** 60    **City:** Perryville

**Occupation:** Owner of Bentley Plastics

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in nursing, Harding University

**Public service:** State representative since 2015

**Website:** [www.marybentleyforarkansas.com](http://www.marybentleyforarkansas.com)

## R Rose Roland



**Age:** 58    **City:** Conway

**Occupation:** Self-Employed/small business owner: car washes, pizza restaurants and commercial/residential rentals

**Education:** University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

**Public service:** Justice of the Peace (2 terms), Court Appointed Special Advocate for the 20th Judicial District for neglected and abused children

**Website:** [www.roseroland.com](http://www.roseroland.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

I am a small business owner. I have had eight years of experience at the Capitol fighting for my constituents. I have filed more bills than any of my colleagues. I'm just a proven hard worker for my constituents. I'm very accessible.

Geographically, District 54 is a very large district with urban and rural areas. I am well connected to the largest two areas of the district, Faulkner and Perry County, and look forward to becoming connected to northern Saline and eastern Yell counties. I currently represent almost 10,000 residents in Faulkner County as JP. I am a proven Christian conservative leader trusted by many to stay connected and work for the people. As a resident of the main business area of the district, I am very pro-business for both small and large businesses and I would like to see our state become more business friendly. I will take a strong stance for all of our constitutional rights. I am a problem solver that will not become so polarizing that I become ineffective at the job of helping District 54 and the state of Arkansas move forward.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

Number one right now, the gas prices are horrific, employers need employees to work. I will continue to cut taxes for small businesses, work on education, fight for quality education, address the nursing shortage, make sure we have jobs available.

I believe one of the most pressing issues facing people of District 54 is good paying jobs in order to thrive and live the American Dream. We need good paying jobs close to home so our children do not have to move away to find those jobs. We have good jobs here in the district, but we need more. Economic growth involves a lot of different aspects. These include improving our schools, helping develop rural high speed internet, supporting public safety and having a good infrastructure that is business-friendly to make those jobs become a reality close to home. I believe District 54 wants a leader that is approachable, involved with each of the communities and one that will stand for their freedoms and constitutional rights without being confrontational.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

I'm working on a bill to make sure when someone moves to Arkansas, if they have a valid social work license, [to] get that license transferred. We need trained people here in our state and to make sure the transition is smooth. I also want to continue to encourage students to be healthy and strong.

I intend on hitting the ground running when elected and take office in 2023. I want to work with our new governor and fellow members of the legislature to lessen the burdensome rules and regulations on the people of Arkansas. I want to cut governmental waste and the size of government by attrition and continue the process of doing away with personal income tax for Arkansans.

# ★ STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 55

## R Matt Brown



**Age:** 40    **City:** Conway

**Occupation:** Attorney

**Education:** Hendrix College; UALR Bowen School of Law

**Public service:** Faulkner County Justice of the Peace; Former member Conway Planning Commission (Vice Chairman)

**Website:** [www.facebook.com/mattbrownar](http://www.facebook.com/mattbrownar)

## R Chris P. Corbitt



**Age:** 51    **City:** Conway

**Occupation:** Patent attorney and professional engineer

**Education:** Masters in civil engineering, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville; Juris doctor, UALR Bowen School of Law

**Public service:** School board, eSTEM Charter School

**Website:** [www.corbittforarkansas.com](http://www.corbittforarkansas.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

I am the only candidate in District 55 with a proven conservative track record and governmental experience. I served the City of Conway on the Conway Planning Commission for five years, where I was the only consistent, pro-business voice on the commission, and currently serve on the Faulkner County Quorum Court as an elected Justice of the Peace. My proudest votes on the Quorum Court have been those which made it the official policy of Faulkner County to support the pro-life movement and to support the Bill of Rights in its entirety, including the Second Amendment. My pro-life commitment is limited not to abortion; in addition to supporting the effort to grant all county employees 80 hours of paid maternity leave for the birth or adoption of a child (in addition to any other applicable leave), I spearheaded the successful effort to provide this same amount of leave as paternity leave to new fathers as well.

I will vote based on 3-C's: What Constituents want, what Colleagues think and what my Conscious believes. My priorities will be: Eliminating the state income tax and smaller government by limiting the power of the government. I think government should be completely transparent and accountable to the public. I believe in crime control not defunding the police. I believe in keeping violent criminals in jail. I am a veteran and I think veterans should get all the federal benefits they are entitled too. I believe in no government mask or vaccine mandates and I am fighting that in court. I'm pro 2nd Amendment and am fighting against government over-reach in the courts. All schools should have their materials online so the parents can know what is being taught to their children to eliminate critical race theory taught in K-12 schools. I am pro-life that believes life begins at conception.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

I believe that the most pressing issue facing the people in District 55 is the rampant inflation we are now all experiencing caused both by the staggering amount of money borrowed by the federal government and injected into the economy in response to COVID-19 and by the current crisis in Ukraine. I would address the issue by advocating for the lowering of those taxes which most directly impact constituents' pocketbooks in a fiscally responsible manner in order to try to help constituents stretch their dollars as far as they can.

The Economy, gas prices and inflation with regards to taxes are too high, cost of gas, government overreach. Moms and Dads are upset about Critical Race Theory and transgenderism and being taught in schools at young ages. Parents should have control over what is taught in schools not the government. How will I address it? I will lower taxes, I want to revamp the DMV, get rid of the used car taxes, make tags a one and done inconvenience. I will fight to keep control of public education in the Parent's hands. School choice is for parents not the government. I will fight for a voucher system and allows parents to move their kids out of failing schools. I will eliminate the state income tax. I will eliminate the used car tax. I will eliminate business licenses based on the size of your company. Eliminate the business inventory tax. See above more above about why people should vote for me.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

Once elected, I would like to see serious thought given to reducing, if not eliminating, the state income tax provided it can be done in a fiscally responsible manner and does not result in an increase in property taxes. I would also advocate and do everything in my power to make Arkansas as attractive as possible to out-of-state businesses. With the current political turmoil in other states, I believe that Arkansas could have a golden opportunity to attract more businesses from around the country to our state, and we should take every advantage of that opportunity as more businesses mean more good paying jobs for Arkansans.

Cut the used car tax and expose the fake republicans that don't vote for it. Cut the income tax and expose the Republican legislators that aren't voting and supporting the Republican platform. Keep schools a place of education not a place of indoctrination. Eliminate business license fees.



# ★ STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 55

## D Lakesia Mosley



Age: N/A City: N/A

Occupation: N/A

Education: N/A

Public service: N/A

Website: [www.lakesliamosley4arkansas.com](http://www.lakesliamosley4arkansas.com)

## D Dee Sanders



Age: N/A City: N/A

Occupation: N/A

Education: N/A

Public service: N/A

Website: N/A

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

Candidate did not answer.

Candidate did not answer.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

Candidate did not answer.

Candidate did not answer.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

Candidate did not answer.

Candidate did not answer.

# ★ STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 62

## R Mark D. McElroy



**Age:** 66    **City:** Tillar

**Occupation:** Retired farmer, auctioneer

**Education:** High school

**Public service:** Spent 20 years as Desha County Judge, six years on the Desha County Quorum, served four terms in the Arkansas House of Representatives

**Website:** N/A

## R David Tollett



**Age:** 43    **City:** Marvell

**Occupation:** Teacher

**Education:** Master's degree in education from Henderston State University

**Public service:** State representative, board of the Helena Regional Medical Center, board member the Phillips County Chamber of Commerce, member of the Phillips County Opioid Task Force

**Website:** [www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100078328061180](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100078328061180)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

Well experience and you know [I served] four terms in the house, so I know how it operates. There's certain ways you have to get things done. I served this time on the Revenue and Tax [Committee] and that's really important especially for attracting industries and things. We can do tax incentives. This time we passed one of the biggest tax cuts in Arkansas history where we're lowering the sales tax. And I always say experience counts. If you don't think so, if you need your wisdom tooth pulled you don't want to go to a guy who's never done it.

Because I'm a voice for the Arkansas Delta. We have [many] challenges in the Delta that require people who understand those challenges to create solutions for them. And then the second thing is to be a defender of public education in the state of Arkansas.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

Right now it's the economy. Any time you can go in these grocery stores or big box stores and you see big gaping holes, you know empty shelves. And the price of gas right now. I see people — I campaign on a bicycle — and I'm out with the public eight hours a day and I'm watching — I see people pull up and put five dollars worth of gas in their car — that tells me that's all they got in [their] pocket. That's almost a gallon and a half, maybe a gallon and a quarter; that won't get them to the next station hardly. So the economy has got to be first on everybody's agenda. And the way I would deal with it would be through the Revenue and Tax [Committee] and the creation of better jobs.

The most pressing issue is economics. There's a lack of job opportunity in our area and the solution to address it is basically — number one — we have to be able to create economic packages for industry to come in as well as finish out the Helena Harbor. And then two, hopefully revamp or replace the Helena Bridge to increase traffic flow through the region.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

Well, I'd like to go to work on the economy and to see if there is some way we can get some relief for our people. You know, dealing with the economy, if there is something that we can do to try to get the people some help — especially in the Delta. And of course education is really important in the Delta whether it be a trade school or a professional license of some sort. Another thing in the Delta I'd like to work on and I think should be on our agenda is roads. We can work with the [Transportation] Department to try to make better roads for our people in the Delta. Road improvement is always top of the list in the Delta.

The first thing is to make teachers the highest paid in the region. And then the second thing is to help eliminate state income tax.

# ★ STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 71

## R Brandon Achor



**Age:** 33    **City:** Maumelle

**Occupation:** Pharmacist and owner of Achor Family Pharmacy

**Education:** Pre-pharmacy Studies, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville 2011; Doctor of Pharmacy, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences 2015

**Public service:** N/A

**Website:** [www.achorforarkansas.com](http://www.achorforarkansas.com)

## R Wes Booker



**Age:** 50    **City:** Maumelle

**Occupation:** Insurance agent (Small Business Owner); college football official

**Education:** University of Central Arkansas, Bachelor's in Business Administration

**Public service:** NAIFA Board of Trustees

**Website:** <https://booker4ar.com>

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

Being a life-long conservative resident of this District for over 30 years, a local small-business owner and health care provider, I have a unique and deep appreciation for the needs of my neighbors in District 71. At a time when the public served often feels disconnected from the public servant, me and my family work tirelessly to guarantee accessibility and accountability in our community.

I have always had a passion for helping and serving others. As a lifelong Arkansan, small business owner, and strong conservative, I know I can help the individuals of District 71 let their voices be heard. I am tired of Arkansas being at the bottom of every list, and I am ready to change that.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

The city of Maumelle and surrounding areas value preserving and growing their traditional family foundation. This includes protecting the right to life, empowering parents in their child's education and building a safer community through supporting our police officers.

Inflation is hitting the constituents of District 71 hard, and I think it's important now more than ever that we elect a problem solver to this seat. We need a strong fiscal conservative in Little Rock making sure our state budget is in order and spending is under control.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

I will prioritize smaller government control through protecting the parent's right to school choice and reforming Arkansas's income tax burden to incentivize growth and investment here in the Natural State. In addition, I will work to protect resources for the safety and support of Arkansas law enforcement.

When elected, my first area of focus will be to eliminate the state income tax and to postpone taxes on essential goods, like clothing and food for two years. We must help combat the staggering inflation brought on by the Biden administration and liberal left. Measures like this will help families in Arkansas to make ends meet and allow the single parent to care for their children in the best way possible.



# ★ STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 73

## R Robert Steinbuch



**Age:** 54    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Law professor and public advocate

**Education:** BA, University of Pennsylvania; MA, University of Pennsylvania; JD, Columbia Law School

**Public service:** Auxiliary police officer; U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee counsel; U.S. Department of Justice counsel; Arkansas Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights chair; Arkansas Freedom of Information Act Task Force

**Website:** [www.steinbuchforarkansas.com](http://www.steinbuchforarkansas.com)

## R Jon Wickliffe



**Age:** 54    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Business development at Vantage Health

**Education:** University of Arkansas at Little Rock Criminal Justice Degree

**Public service:** Little Rock Port Authority 19 years, Arkansas Economic Development Commission three years

**Website:** <https://howcanjonhelp.com>

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

For three reasons: I'm not beholden to big business, political cronies, nor big money of any kind. I will serve only the people of Arkansas. I cannot be bought; I will always do right; and I will be an incorruptible steward of the public's money. In contrast, my primary opponent is leadership of a state entity that funnels hundreds of thousands of dollars to a private lobbying group for big business. Two, I take the law seriously. I understand how to write it and how to get it passed. My primary opponent has neither the knowledge nor the experience necessary in this arena to get results for the citizens of the greater Little Rock area and Arkansas in general. Three, I'm a law abiding citizen who understands that before you write laws, you must obey them. And I do.

My interests are in the people of my district and how I can be helpful. I am at my best when I am helping others and I understand the issues that matter including public safety, schools and job development. I want to advocate for the district and assist in continuing to make Little Rock a great place to live.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

Their safety and security. We need to focus government on its core function of protecting our citizens. I will redirect state police into neighborhoods currently not sufficiently patrolled due to woke city governments that underfund, undercut, and undermine their own law enforcement. I will direct state funding to joint task forces with local law enforcement to ensure that community police are both better funded and not stymied by anti-police political forces. And I will ensure that citizens' God-given rights to self defense are guaranteed and protected.

The crime issue that plagues us here in Central Arkansas is the most pressing issue today. I want to be sure that we are continuing to be strong advocates of our police force in getting criminals off the street. I also want to ensure that there are laws in place that provide prosecutors and judges the support needed to keep violent criminals in jail and ensure that there are expeditious trials set up in these violent situations.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

The above. It's my top priority.

The first thing I plan to accomplish is to work across the aisle to ensure that there is dialog that allows for open communication. We have lost so much of the ability to work together, and I plan to be the bridge that reminds us of what we can really accomplish together as Arkansans.

# ★ STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 77

## D Fred Allen



**Age:** 68    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Contractor

**Education:** Business degree from Middle Tennessee State University

**Public service:** Six terms in the General Assembly

**Website:** N/A

## D Grant Smith



**Age:** 28    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Car hop at Sonic Drive-In

**Education:** Sheridan High School

**Public service:** Going to different rallies, helping to organize events, helping with two previous political campaigns

**Website:** [www.grantforarkansas.com](http://www.grantforarkansas.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

[I am an] effective listener and legislator who brings a bold and well-respected voice to the issues facing the community; experienced, trustworthy and transformational political leader with a proven record of working with both Republicans and Democrats at getting successful legislation passed; proactive, visionary and ready to continue to making a difference. [I] lead by example and am always ready to actively listen and respond. Demonstrated record of making and keeping promises and producing legislation to improve health, education, economics and the welfare of Arkansans. Dedicated, disciplined decision-maker able to stand up for issues that represent the expectations, aspirations and needs of Arkansas. Proactive, well informed and humbled by the opportunity to serve. Known as a servant leader who values family honesty, integrity, community service and most of all the power of prayer. Only candidate in the race who has served as a speaker pro tempore, or successfully passed legislation.

I have a genuine interest and strong desire to serve the people of district 77. There are a host of issues facing the people of this district and I feel the current incumbent is not connecting with the people he represents. I want to ensure that, as much as possible, the people of my district have regular, meaningful, productive contact with their government.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

Housing, affordable health care, education, jobs, protecting voting rights, food insecurity, food deserts and gun violence.

Renter's rights. Arkansas is the only state in the country that doesn't require a landlord to demonstrate or certify that the rental property they are presenting is suitable for habitation. As in other states, enforcement of a Renter's Rights law would fall to the state Real Estate Commission, rolled into its current duties of supervising the licensure and conduct policies of real estate agents. They would have the ability to receive complaints, hear cases, and impose penalties on violators. I would address it by introducing legislation to protect renters.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

Voting Rights: I will speak out against any bills that restrict or makes voting more difficult. Health care: I would create legislation that would help families suffering from cancer and other diseases better navigate the health care system. Education: I would help ensure that children have greater access to high quality teachers and schools by helping to ensure that teachers and students have the professional resources they need. Housing: I will continuously seek ways to ensure better housing opportunities through legislation. Access to Healthy Food: I will work with businesses to investigate and help find ways of creating new food retail outlets in areas considered as food deserts. Jobs: I will work collaboratively with my legislative colleagues to create and investigate the deployment of even more comprehensive economic-development strategies and legislation that designed to help attract more businesses to my community.

Pass renter's rights.

# ★ STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 79

## D Teresa A. Coney



**Age:** 62    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Family service worker specialist

**Education:** Public Administrator M.A.

**Public service:** Pulaski County Quorum Court

**Website:** [www.voteteresaconey.com](http://www.voteteresaconey.com)

## D Tara Shephard



**Age:** 46    **City:** Little Rock

**Occupation:** Compliance and accreditation manager/  
correctional auditor

**Education:** Bachelor's from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff; masters from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock

**Public service:** Former Little Rock School Board member

**Website:** [www.taraforarkansas.com](http://www.taraforarkansas.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

I have over 44 years of public services experience. I have served as an elected official for twelve years. As justice of the peace, I worked diligently to ensure that our community and youth services programs were adequately funded. Additionally, I was instrumental in sponsoring initiatives to improve jail, wages and work conditions for county employees.

I am the most well-rounded candidate in the race for District 79 and have the most experience being out amongst the people in the community. I have a proven track record of not only helping individuals in the city of Little Rock, but elsewhere throughout the state.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

The lack of economic development in my district appears to be the most pressing issue. Legislatively, I would focus on tax incentives for corporations. Additionally, I would work toward increasing minimum wage. I would work closely with all parties to ensure bi-partisan support.

This depends on the constituent being asked. The new House District 79 includes southwest, Mabelvale and parts of Alexander. What may be the most pressing issue facing a constituent on Geyer Springs, may not be the same for Alexander Road, Stagecoach, Wakefield, Otter Creek, so forth and so on. What I do know is that everyday families in District 79 are having kitchen table talk about gas, inflation, crime, education, healthcare, etc. Those everyday issues affecting everyday Arkansans.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

To be an effective leader, I would like to first focus on strengthening my relationship with members of the House of Representative/Senate, city and county officials as well as our community stakeholders. It is my desire to work between bi-partisan lines to address the critical and pressing needs of my constituents.

Once elected, the first thing I'd like to accomplish is aiding in the revitalization of neighborhoods in southwest Little Rock. As State Representative for District 79, in partnership with local neighborhood and home owner associations such as Windamere, Cloverdale, Allendale, Legion Hut, Oxford Valley, West Baseline, Deer Meadow, Chicot, Otter Creek, Bentley Court, Wimbleton Loop, Chateaus, Westfield and Wedgewood to name a few, I'm willing to work hard to ensure we have equal access to state and federal funding in order to address disparities, economic growth and area beautification. All of which can be accomplished through sustainable and smart regrowth initiatives.



# ★ STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 81

## R Walter Burgess



**Age:** 48    **City:** Bryant

**Occupation:** Owner/operator of the laser manufacturer Power Technology, Inc.

**Education:** University of Central Arkansas and the University of Arkansas at Little Rock

**Public service:** Vice-Chairman of Arkansas Science & Technology Board; Vice-Chairman of Bryant Planning Commission; Arkansas Manufacturing Solutions Board

**Website:** <https://burgessforarkansas.com>

## R RJ Hawk



**Age:** 36    **City:** Bryant

**Occupation:** Morning show personality at 103.7 The Buzz; Realtor at Clark & Co Realty

**Education:** Bachelor's degree, University of Central Arkansas

**Public service:** Bryant City Council

**Website:** [www.hawkforstaterep.com](http://www.hawkforstaterep.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

I am not a politician. As an experienced business owner who manufactures lasers, I analyze complex problems every day that have real life consequences. I will bring that skill to the House. I work internationally and domestically with Fortune 1000 companies. My experience isn't limited to a single city's government. I am accustomed to collaborating with diverse team members that are more than 10 miles away. As vice-chairman of the Science & Technology Board (within Arkansas Economic Development Commission), I have statewide experience across many state departments. As a business owner and citizen, I have seen how invasive the federal government has been these last two years. The state Legislature may be our last line of defense against a tyrannical federal government. I am the most conservative person in the race for District 81. I am strongly pro-life, an unapologetically a supporter of gun owner's right, and I fight for shrinking the government.

Prior to serving on the Bryant City Council, I've been very involved in our community. I've raised money for local charities like the Bryant Boys and Girls Club, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and Make A Wish. Since being elected, I've not only continued that but I've worked to give our police and fire departments a raise, I've worked to help cut red tape for local businesses and have helped lead the charge to bring new business to Saline County. I'm the only candidate in this race that has a track of service for our community.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

Residents need to feel secure to pursue "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness". Not everyone in our district feels safe. We need to support our police departments, not tear them down. Once a community feels safe, it is more likely that businesses will locate in the community and bring valuable jobs with them. I have a specific plan to improve police protection, get them the support they need, and reduce crime in our most vulnerable parts of the district. Once that plan is underway, I will apply my background in economic development to work to attract businesses to our community.

In both Shannon Hills and Bryant, there is a major need to help find relief for our water system rates. There is money through block grants at the state level to help offset these infrastructure costs on the cities. Outside of that, we have to continue to grow, we need to cut red tape at the state level to bring businesses to not just certain parts of Arkansas, but to Bryant. We are the geographical center of Arkansas.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

As the Chairman of the Arkansas STEM Coalition (a statewide education non-profit) I saw first hand how education positively impacts communities. Likewise, I have seen the decline of education due to covid. The first thing I would like to do is make sure 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th graders are reading at grade level or above. If they are not, I want to get them extra help quickly. Students who can't read at grade level now, have 8-12 years of education ahead of them. Practically speaking, they will struggle for the next 8-12 years if we don't fight for our children right now. Additionally School Districts will be forced to have extra remediation for the next 8-12 years and the associated cost for remediation will be diverted from normal education activities. In other words, school districts will be playing catch up for 8-12 years instead of promoting excellence in schools.

I would love to see the used car sales tax be cut even more than what it already has been. There is no reason to keep taxing a vehicle, especially when many middle income people are the ones that have to bear the brunt of that.

# ★ STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 92

## R Julie Mayberry



**Age:** 50    **City:** Hensley

**Occupation:** Communications/journalism

**Education:** BS from Emerson College in Boston

**Public service:** State representative; former President of the Little Rock South Lions Club; director and founder of two nonprofits: I Can! of Arkansas and The Crossing at Angel Court

**Website:** [www.juliemayberry.com](http://www.juliemayberry.com)

## R David Workman



**Age:** 53    **City:** Sheridan

**Occupation:** CEO at RoofConnect/Pave Connect

**Education:** University of Arkansas at Little Rock

**Public service:** Board member of the national roofing contractors association and have served on several committees for them over the years

**Website:** [www.workmanforrep.com](http://www.workmanforrep.com)

### ✓ Why should people vote for you?

Experience separates me. Coming in as a freshman. You are so overwhelmed with all that you need to know and where do you even begin. I am already working on things that I hope to bring forth in 2023 that I have been working with other legislators and other organizations in my district on ideas.

I am pro-business, being a business guy. I have started and created jobs in Arkansas as the owner of multiple companies. I have experience in job creation.

### ✓ What is the most pressing issue facing your constituents and how would you address it?

I get three to four phone calls a week from people who are still having difficulties seeing loved ones and it breaks my heart. And I know we were the first state to pass a law that provided this right patients. This law is now an example that other states are using to pass laws in their state. We made the framework. We have the first draft. And there might be another state who have a few words that might improve on that draft.

The most pressing issue is workforce training and development. I would address the need for career technical education programs that are measured and meaningful. This includes working with high schools, colleges and private industries.

### ✓ What is the first thing you would like to accomplish if elected?

Mayberry said she is choosing to run again because she has many ideas that she still wants to see accomplished. She said one of those things is adding more details to Act 311 of 202, also known as "The No Patient Left Alone" bill, that was written by Mayberry in response to the closure of medical and long-term facilities to visitors during the covid-19 pandemic.

Identify what our key issues are including getting people back to work and workforce training.