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**Contact:** James Hayes  
Candidate  
james@jameshayesforpa.com

## **James Hayes announces candidacy for Pennsylvania 12 Congressional District against Squad Member Summer Lee.**

**PITTSBURGH, PA** — A business executive with multiple degrees in economics and business announced plans to challenge incumbent Summer Lee in next year's congressional elections.

James Hayes, 63, of the city's Shadyside neighborhood, will seek the Republican nomination for the 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, which encompasses the city and portions of the South Hills and parts of Westmoreland County.

The contest would pit Hayes, a traditional Republican with a doctorate in business and extensive training in economics, against Lee, a member of the Democratic Socialists of America who has become a member of "The Squad," a far-left group of legislators who have attracted attention for remarks sometimes viewed as antisemitic and anti-Israel, as well as advocating to defund the police, throw open the national borders to undocumented immigrants, and hamstring prosecutors in criminal cases.

"All the people of the 12<sup>th</sup> District deserve a voice in Congress," Hayes said. "I will never turn my back on our fellow democracy, Israel, nor will I support the reckless economic and taxation schemes advanced by Rep. Lee and her extremist allies."

Hayes, held top positions with Fortune 500 companies as well as a six-year stint with the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Va.

Hayes holds degrees from Georgetown University, as well as master's degrees in economics, from Princeton University and in finance and accounting from the University of Chicago. He also earned a doctorate in business administration from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland.

A native Pennsylvanian, Hayes is the son of a union steelworker who was among those displaced by the massive deindustrialization of the 1980s. He credits the United Steelworkers of America for providing the scholarship money that first sent him to college.

“I’m painfully familiar with the failures of government to encourage the kind of business growth and economic diversity needed to ensure places like western Pennsylvania don’t suffer the shock and decay that diminished the lives of a generation of citizens in this district,” Hayes said.

He describes himself as a free-market advocate opposed to the radical economic experiments and anti-business activism proposed by Lee and her fellow “squad” members.

“The people of the 12<sup>th</sup> District are hard-working, honest Americans who work hard, play by the rules, and deserve a government more concerned with them as free people than sources of revenue to be squeezed by higher taxes,” Hayes said. “I share their values and those values not to be found in the squad or any of its hangers-on.”

Hayes built a successful professional career, before deciding to enter public service. His decision to run for Congress was driven by a painful episode that left a hole in the hearts of the Hayes family: the unsolved killing of his son, James Michael Hayes.

James Hayes is married to Brenda Diaz, and the couple has four daughters, Brenda Theresa, Angela, and Jocelyn, as well as James Michael’s sister Courtney.

Hayes' impressive resumé and personal story demonstrate his commitment to public service and his ability to represent the people of the 12th District. You can review James Hayes’ resume and more details on his goals for the 12<sup>th</sup> District by visiting his website: <https://jameshayesforpa.com/>

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### **About James Hayes**

James Hayes is a candidate for U.S. Congress in Pennsylvania’s 12th District. A Western Pennsylvania native, Hayes is focused on strengthening communities through economic opportunity, public safety, and responsible leadership. His campaign emphasizes practical solutions, support for first responders, and a commitment to bringing people together to address the challenges facing families across Southwestern Pennsylvania.

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**James Hayes for Congress**  
**P.O. Box 110157**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15232**  
**[jameshayesforpa.com](https://jameshayesforpa.com)**