

# **Voter**Information Guide

**General Election** 

**November 8, 2022** 

#### Published by the League of Women Voters of the Lima Area

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This nonpartisan publication has been published by the League of Women Voters of the Lima Area to provide a forum for political candidates.

The materials contained in this publication were assembled in the following manner:

- ➤ Questions were selected by the League of Women Voters of the Lima Area and addressed to the local candidates.
- ➤ Questions were selected by the League of Women Voters of Ohio and submitted to statewide candidates.
- ➤ Judicial Candidates responded to questions from Judicial Votes Count.
- > Candidates submitted their information electronically.
- ➤ Candidates were informed that their responses would be printed in their own words, which has in fact been done, and that each would be solely responsible for the contents of the replies.

The League of Women Voters in publishing this material neither endorses nor rejects the view of any candidate quoted and does not and cannot assume responsibility for the contents of any candidate's reply.

Material in this Voter Bulletin may not be reproduced or altered without the written consent of the League of Women Voters. THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE LIMA AREA ARE:

- ➤ Women and men of all ages from Allen County interested in the issues affecting our community.
- ➤ Providers of voter education guides at every election to educate and inform on Local and National issues.
- ➤ Host to local meetings with speakers and programs on current issues.
- Distributors of educational materials for high school and middle school students to increase awareness of government functions.
- ➤ Facilitators who engage political candidates in public forums and debates to increase voter awareness.
- ➤ Advocates for voter registration and greater citizen participation in the governmental process.
- ➤ Members of the State and National League of Women Voters.

The Lima Area League of Women Voters encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Go to www.lwvlima.org to see how you can become involved

Nonpartisan

Citizen Education

VOTE • Tuesday, November 8, 2022 • Polls Open 6:30 A.M. to 7:30 P.M.



#### U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 4

**Vote for no more than 1 - Term Commences 1/03/2023** 

**Responsibilities:** To represent the people of Ohio, their district, and the United States in dealing with matters of national and international importance. The general welfare should be of prime concern. **Term:** 2 years

**Salary:** \$174,000.



#### Jim Jordan (R)

Education: BS Economics (Wisconsin), MA Education (OSU), JD (Capital) Training & Experience: State Representative (1995-2000), State Senator (2001-06), US House (2007-present)

1. What is the most pressing policy issue facing the federal government? What solutions will you promote? After two years of Democrat control we now face an open border, increased crime, record inflation, and high gas prices. I will stand up for border security, a balanced budget and funding the police.

2. What policies will you promote to protect our water, air, and land? We are blessed to live in a great agricultural area with farmers who want to protect our environment. We do not need to grant additional power to the federal EPA for us to have clean air and water.



#### Tammie Wilson (D)

Education: Otterbein University

Training & Experience: Executive Committee of Delaware Democratic Party Volunteer

1. What is the most pressing policy issue facing the federal government? What solutions will you promote?

Democracy The foundation on which our country was built, what makes us great, our freedoms, is at risk. We must protect our freedoms. We must eliminate mis/disinformation on the internet and media.

2. What policies will you promote to protect our water, air, and land? I worked in the environmental field. I understand the value of recycling and other measures needed to protect us and our earth. We need regulations to protect all of us, especially low income neighbor

#### UNITED STATES SENATOR

Vote for no more than 1 - Term Commences 01/03/2023

**Responsibilities:** To represent the people of Ohio and the U.S. in dealing with matters of national and international importance. The general welfare should be a prime concern. **Term:** 6 years

**Salary:** \$174,000.



#### Tim Ryan (D)

NO REPLY RECEIVED



J.D. Vance (R)

NO REPLY RECEIVED

#### GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Vote for no more than 1 - Term Commences 01/09/2023

**Responsibilities:** The governor serves as the chief executive officer of Ohio and ensures that all laws are executed, reports the condition of the state, and presents a proposed budget to the legislature. The governor works closely with the lieutenant governor to effectively run the state.

**Salary:** \$161,121.



#### Mike Dewine (R) and Lieutenant Governor - John Husted

NO REPLY RECEIVED



#### Nan Whaley (D) Lieutenant Governor - Cheryl L. Stephens

Education: BA, University of Dayton. MPA, Wright State University Training and Experience: Former Mayor of Dayton, Former President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors

#### 1. How will you address challenges in the healthcare system?

My opponent made huge cuts to Medicaid even as Ohio was facing the COVID-19 pandemic. I will always stand up for health care access and protect Medicaid expansion in Ohio. We also must do more to get health care costs down especially when it comes to prescription drugs - because no one should have to choose between keeping food on the table and paying for their medicine. I'll fight for legislation that will impose fines on pharmaceutical companies that unfairly raise the cost of prescription drugs and I'll work to cap the out-of-pocket monthly cost of insulin at \$30. Many states, including Kentucky, have taken this step, and there is no reason Ohio cannot join them.

2. How would you assure free, fair and secure elections, and that every eligible voter has full access to the ballot? Ohio voters overwhelmingly passed reforms to end partisan gerrymandering to make sure that voters are picking their politicians, not the other way around. Unfortunately Gov. Mike DeWine has put politics ahead of people and bluntly ignored the will of Ohio voters, breaking his promise to support a bipartisan redistricting process. He and his extremist allies have repeatedly passed unconstitutional, unfair maps that have been struck down by the Ohio Supreme Court. He should be ashamed of himself. Ohio deserves better. As Governor, I will work with Democrats and Republicans to draw fair, constitutional Congressional and Legislative districts. I'll always stand up for safe and secure elections and protect the bedrock principle of the right to vote.

3. State the role of the governor in protecting the rights of women. The fact is, Gov. DeWine and his extremist allies have stripped away a woman's rights to control her own body and imposed a government mandate that bans abortion. Within hours of Roe v. Wade being overturned, DeWine helped implement a six week abortion ban, which would outlaw nearly all abortions in Ohio. Unfortunately, it is only going to get worse if he is reelected: DeWine has promised to go as far as possible to ban abortion in Ohio. This is an economic issue as well: are young women going to want to stay in Ohio when pregnancy complications could lead to their death? Will businesses want to move here if they can't attract top talent? It is time that we take back our freedom in Ohio. As governor, I will lead a statewide ballot initiative to put the basic protections of Roe v. Wade into the Ohio constitution so that women and doctors are not criminalized for making their own private health care decisions.

4. State your position on efforts to protect our water, air, land, and climate. After FirstEnergy, a huge utility company, bankrolled his campaign, Gov. DeWine gave them everything they wanted, including a billion dollar bailout for their failing energy plants paid for by new fees on every Ohioan's electricity bill each month. The law also gutted Ohio's renewable energy industry. Not only has the law been called the worst environmental policy of the 21st Century, but it is at the heart of the largest corruption scheme in Ohio history. As governor I'll clean up this corruption and fully repeal this awful bill. It's time our state finally prioritizes protecting our environment and supporting clean energy. Ohio has always been a leader in new technology and my energy and environmental plan will ensure that Ohio once again leads the nation in building the future by investing in the renewable energy industry.

#### **OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL**

Vote for no more than 1 - Term Commences 01/09/2023

Responsibilities: Represents the state in all legal cases in which the state is a party or has a significant interest.

Term: 4 years Salary: \$124,196.



#### Jeff Crossman (D)

Education: JD from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law; MA from the University

Training and Experience: Two Term State Representative and Two Term Parma City Councilman

1. What are the most important functions of the state attorney general and why? The Attorney General is the chief legal officer for the state of Ohio. The AG's office is vast. It represents state agencies, is looked upon as the "chief law

enforcement officer" of the state and is supposed to look out for the interests of all Ohioans. I view the role of Attorney General as being the "people's lawyer" who works to ensure Ohioans' rights under

2. What divisions (e.g. consumer protection, environment, civil rights, immigration) will you prioritize and why? As Ohio's next Attorney General, my priorities will be defending the rights and freedoms of all Ohioans, helping our economy grow, protecting workers and ensuring people can retire with safety and security. My office will defend women's reproductive freedom and focus on protecting Ohioans' civil rights-truly guaranteeing Equal Protection under the law. We also intend to institute a section designated with the responsibility of rooting out the corruption that has plagued our state government and holding wrongdoers accountable, something that has not been done by our current AG who let the owners of ECOT and First Energy fleece Ohio taxpayers without holding anyone accountable.

people's work on issues such as consumer protection, public corruption, civil rights, etc.

3. State your position on women's reproductive healthcare, pay equity, the ERA, and other rights. Personal reproductive decisions should not be made by the government. Women deserve the freedom to determine what happens with their own bodies without the intrusion of the state, so I do not support Ohio's extreme bans on abortion which limit access to needed healthcare and attacks everyone's right to privacy. Women cannot be equal members of society if the ability to make decisions about their own bodies are dictated to by the government. The government should protect everyone's civil rights, which means supporting equality. Men and women deserve equal pay for equal work. It is incomprehensible that women in Ohio earn 21% less on average than their male counterparts and this disparity is worse for women of color. Supporting the ERA would provide additional guarantees that civil rights for women are protected by the Constitution. I support Congress passing a resolution to codify this amendment and I favor initiating litigation to adopt it as an amendment to the U.S. Constitution.



Dave Yost (R)

NO REPLY RECEIVED

#### **AUDITOR OF STATE**

Vote for no more than 1 - Term Commences 01/09/2023

Responsibilities: Audits all financial records of public offices in Ohio. Maintains deed records of

Term: 4 years

Salary: \$124,196.



#### Keith Faber (R)

NO REPLY RECEIVED



#### **Taylor Sappington (D)**

Education: Bachelor's from Ohio University.

#### 1. What are the most important functions of the state auditor?

The State Auditor is the best defense for Ohioans and their dollars. As City Auditor for my Appalachian town of Nelsonville, I stood tall against corruption, busting up a large theft scheme just two months on the job. After the IRS and State levied over \$420,000 in penalties and fines against the City due to this scheme, I took

these large agencies on and earned a near 100% forgiveness of the debts. Next up, the census, which was riddled with flawed leadership and confusing guidelines from the top, Next up, the census, which was fludied with have leadership and solutions attempted to downgrade Nelsonville from a city to a village. This change would have cost us funding page 3

sources and our union collective bargaining agreements. I led a community-wide effort that brought all walks of life together to recount the city door-to-door and successfully stave off village status.

We deserve new, dedicated, young leadership in Ohio that is unafraid to take on the crooks and safeguard our money. That's exactly what I've done and exactly what I'll do.

#### 2. What are the essential criteria to consider when drawing legislative district lines?

Voters should choose their politicians and not the other way around. Current Auditor Keith Faber and the GOP on the Redistricting Commission have time again passed anti-voter maps that only serve to benefit their own special interests and buddies. Ohio voted for fair, honest maps that do not slice and dice our power and neighborhoods. The amendment to our constitution was not confusing or complicated. These folks instead passed autocratic maps that only served to entrench their power for another generation, will of the voters be damned. After being struck down multiple times by the High Court, Mr. Faber went so far as to vote against "slightly" fairer maps because he didn't believe it helped Republicans maintain power enough. As a redistricting commission member, I will only support maps that maintain county and neighborhood integrity. I will only vote for fair and honest maps that allow the voters a say in their elections and futures.

#### 3. What will you do to ensure that public funds are not misused?

Far too often, candidates for higher office talk about what they will do with no intention of following through. In many ways, we have seen this play out with our current leadership. Corruption scandal after scandal has come down the pipeline, exposing a deep swamp in Columbus and State Government leadership. But who has been caught and sent to jail? What has been done at all to examine our utility rates, the bribery scandals, or state contracting process? The answer is nothing.

While nothing was being done on these issues, I worked hard at the local level to expose a deep culture of corruption and theft at City Hall. Next, we took on some of the strongest agencies in the world and won. I was unafraid then and now.

Our Auditor must be active, aggressive, and know the difference between right and wrong. On day one, I'll begin reorganizations and examinations to ensure that Ohio is no longer a safe haven for crooked leadership.

#### **OHIO SECRETARY OF STATE**

Vote for no more than 1 - Term Commences 01/09/2023

Responsibilities: Oversees the election process in each of Ohio's 88 counties. Maintains records of corporations.

Term: 4 years **Salary:** \$124,196.



#### Chelsea Clark (D)

NO REPLY RECEIVED



Frank LaRose (R)

NO REPLY RECEIVED



Terpsehore Maras (I)

NO REPLY RECEIVED

#### **OHIO TREASURER**

**Vote for no more than 1 - Term Commences 01/09/2023** 

Responsibilities: Collects and safeguards most state taxes and fees, and manages Ohio's investment portfolio.

Term: 4 years Salary: \$124,196.



#### Scott Schertzer (D)

Education: Bachelor of Secondary Education and Social Studies, University of

Training and Experience: Mayor of Marion since 2008, Marion City Council, 2000-2007.

1. What are your goals for improving the function of the treasurer's office? True accountability! The pension funds and investment funds, as well as the day to day functions of the office need a complete audit to ensure that taxpayer money

is being protected and being used in the best way to help every Ohio citizen. I pledge to pinch every (Scott Schertzer's response continued on page 4)

(Scott Schertzer's response continued from page3)

penny and be a true watchdog of the people's tax dollars!

2. How can the treasurer's office influence state fiscal policy? The Treasurer, through the various Link Deposit programs, as well as the decisions on how to invest the taxpayer's money, can have significant influence on the state's fiscal policies. Helping farmers and small businesses and minority businesses with access to low interest loans spurs growth and development throughout every corner of Ohio.

- **3.** How will you ensure transparency and accountability in state finances? I will order an outside, independent audit of every investment fund, as well as the day to day functions of Treasurer's office itself. I will also call for independent audits of each of the state's five pension funds and make the results of all of these audits available to the public! I will also, while Treasurer, travel across the state to hear from everyday Ohioans on how state government can better help them succeed! As Treasurer, I will call for an independent inspector general to be created to monitor all investments of taxpayer money to ensure true accountability and transparency!
- **4.** How will you use your position to improve fiscal literacy among Ohioans? I will work with school districts across the state to help set up voluntary programs within high schools to teach students what they will need to know about finances and everyday fiscal policy before they have to experience it after graduation. I will also encourage and work with the State Board of Education to require curriculum that prepares students in the basics of financial decisions they will need to know as adults! My office will be available to answer questions of all taxpayers in order for them to make the best financial decisions for improvements in their daily lives.



Dave Yost (R)

NO REPLY RECEIVED

# 78th DISTRICT Uncontested Race

Term Commences 01/01/2023

**Responsibilities:** To represent the people of the district and the State of Ohio in dealing with matters not allocated to the federal government.

Term: 2 years

Salary: \$68,673. (base salary)



#### Susan Manchester (R)

**Education:** The Ohio State University: B.A. Psychology, B.A. Political Science; The George Washington University: M.P.S. Political Management **Training & Experience:** Elected State Representative: 2018-Present

# CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

Vote for no more than one - Term Commences 01/01/2023

**Responsibilities:** Hears all cases involving questions arising under the Ohio Constitution or statutes; hears appeals from Courts of Appeals decisions. The Supreme Court's decisions are final except in cases involving the U.S. Constitution, statutes or treaties.

**Term:** 6 years **Salary:** \$193,251.



#### Jennifer Brunner (D)

**Education:** Miami University 1975-1978 B.S. Sociology-Gerontology, Cum Laude; Capital University Law School 1979-1982; J.D. Law (1983), Order of Curia

**List your judicial experience (courts and years):** Justice, Ohio Supreme Court, since January 2, 2021, elected November 3, 2020 Judge, Tenth District Court of Appeals, November 30, 2014 – January 1, 2021, elected 2014, reelected 2016, resigned 2021 to take seat on Ohio Supreme Court; Judge, Franklin County Common Pleas Court, December 1, 2000 – August 31, 2005; elected 2000,

reelected 2002, resigned 2005 to run successfully for Ohio Secretary of State.

- 1. What non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge? I have 17 years private law practice experience representing clients in state trial and appellate courts throughout Ohio, the Ohio Supreme Court, federal courts in Ohio, state and federal agencies outside of Ohio and Ohio state and local administrative agencies. I have represented clients in and out of litigation regarding their business concerns, their public participation in matters such as initiative and referendum, nonprofit and campaign work and private individuals on personal matters. The practice of law is a calling and I value it for the service lawyers can provide to the public in furthering the effectiveness of the rule of law for all.
- **2.** Why are you running for this particular court seat? I'm running for Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court because justice matters for every Ohioan. Steady and principled leadership of the state's highest court is essential to helping Ohioans realize justice in their everyday lives. Ohio is a very diverse state with deep rural roots, storied urban communities and countless small and middle-

sized towns and cities. I take seriously my responsibility as one of seven people elected to do justice for all the people of Ohio. I am grateful for what I've learned from Ohioans in my many years of service to them, working at three levels of the state's courts and as Ohio's first female secretary of state. Administrative and policy leadership of the court is not about an ideology of who should win and who should lose. It is about a belief and understanding that courts are only as effective as people believe them to be. Good judges and fair courts can lift the confidence Ohioans have in their judiciary. I know that courts can do good things for people; protect their health, safety and welfare with fairness, equality and respect. I am committed to doing this every day now and as Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court. I am further committed to using the power of the court to help lift the vision of all judges to why we serve and the power we have to do good for all Ohioans.



#### Sharon L. Kennedy (R)

Education: Juris Doctorate, University of Cincinnati, College of Law, (1991) List your judicial experience (courts and years): Ohio Supreme Court Associate Justice 2012–Present; Common Pleas Court, Domestic Relations Division Administrative Judge/Judge 1999–2012; Butler County Area Courts, Magistrate & Warrant Officer, 1995–1998

1. What non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge? Attorney at Law – General Practice, 1991–1998; Effectively and successfully handled criminal, civil, juvenile, probate and domestic relations litigation and appellate matters.

Butler County Juvenile Court: Warrant & Compliance Officer, 1996–1997. Special Counsel to Ohio Attorney General, Betty D. Montgomery 1995–1998. Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 38: Disciplinary Counsel, 1991–1998.

Butler County Court of Common Pleas: Director, Victim/Witness Division, 1989–1991.

Law Clerk for the Honorable Matthew J. Crehan, Judge

Hamilton Police Department: Police Officer, Civil Assistant, 1985-1989

2. Why are you running for this particular court seat? I am running for the Chief The role of the Chief Justice is unique. The Chief manages the daily operations of the Supreme Court of Ohio while addressing the needs of Ohio's courts and setting the vision for the future. I am uniquely qualified to serve as Ohio's next Chief Justice. I have served Ohioans and their communities in the justice system for 37 years - from police officer, to attorney, to trial court judge, and now a Justice on the Ohio Supreme Court. During the last eight years of my service in the trial court I served as the administrative judge of the division performing the same executive tasks that a Chief Justice performs. Ensuring the timely resolution of cases, overseeing and managing the daily operation of the division and effectively resolving issues by working from the premise, "Would the people be better served?"

While serving the legal needs of families and the less fortunate in private practice I partnered with the Butler County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division to teach life-skills to juveniles to break the cycle of recidivism. As a trial court judge I collaborated with Butler County Jobs and Family Services and implemented a jobs program to help breakdown the barriers and obstacles to those in need of gainful employment. I also facilitated the Abuse Neglect Improvement Project with the Butler County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division. And during tough economic times I formed and facilitated the Budget Workgroup and the Advisory Committee to the Budget Workgroup which developed sound fiscal policies for Butler County.

As an Associate Justice I have initiated "Lean Forward: Advancing the Treatment of Veterans Across Ohio" and annual statewide summit. Through that work I have educated sheriffs, judges, magistrates, and probation and parole officers about the treatment resources available for justice-involved veterans. And I have maintained an active speaking schedule talking to civic organizations and students about our tripartite system of government, the Ohio judicial system and how it affects our daily lives, gives audiences a look behind the scenes at the Ohio Supreme Court and discusses the common misperceptions of the Right of Free Speech. I also encourage young people to chase their American Dream by sharing her journey from police officer to Justice of the Supreme Court of Ohio.

As Ohio's next Chief Justice I will continue my "Lean Forward" initiative and will collaborate with local judges, community leaders and the people who access the courts to address the needs of the people Ohio courts serve from the premise "would the people be better served". Foremost, is the need to timely resolve cases in the aftermath of COVID-19, strengthen and grow specialty courts, address criminal justice reforms while still protecting the safety of victims and communities, and help the people learn more about the judges who serve their communities.

# JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

Vote for no more than one - Term Commences 01/01/2023

**Responsibilities:** Hears all cases involving questions arising under the Ohio Constitution or statutes; hears appeals from Courts of Appeals decisions. The Supreme Court's decisions are final except in cases involving the U.S. Constitution, statutes or treaties.

**Term:** 6 years **Salary:** \$181,400.



#### Patrick F. Fischer (R)

Education: J.D. Harvard Law School, 1983; cum laude; A.B. Harvard College, 1980; cum laude

List your judicial experience (courts and years):

Before becoming a private practitioner, he served as a law clerk to the Honorable William O. Bertelsman, U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky from 1983 to 1984. In 1987, Justice Fischer began working for the law firm of Keating Muething & Klekamp in Cincinnati, Ohio, in the trial department; four years later, he became a partner.

On December 24, 2010, Justice Fischer was sworn in as a judge on Ohio's First District Court of Appeals in Hamilton County. During his years on the appellate bench, Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor appointed then-Judge Fischer to hear cases on the Supreme Court of Ohio on two occasions. He also sat as a visiting judge in Ohio's Second, Fourth, Seventh, Eighth, and Twelfth appellate district courts. On December 30, 2016, Justice Fischer was sworn in and became Ohio's 157th Supreme Court Justice and began his term on January 1, 2017.

(Patrick F. Fischer's response continued on page 5)

(Patrick F. Fischer's response continued from page 4)

#### 1. What non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

First, I have been a licensed attorney since 1984, and licensed as an Ohio attorney since 1988. I have won decisions from so many differing state and federal trial courts throughput this nation I cannot count all of them. I have been victorious in many state appellate district courts in Ohio, as well as the Sixth, Second, and Tenth federal appeals courts. I even won a case in the US Supreme Court.

I have a vast experience that few attorneys develop. I have represented both plaintiffs and defendants for decades. I had cases in Ohio, plus Kentucky, Illinois, Texas, California, Colorado, Alabama, and other states. My clients consistently re-hired me to handle their legal problems.

I believe lawyers respect me too. I have been elected president of the Ohio State Bar Association by a vote of its lawyers. I served as president of the Cincinnati Bar Association too. In those and in related endeavors I have chaired ethics, professionalism, and numerous other committees, because lawyers trust my judgment.

I understand all parts of the American justice system. And I want to continue to improve them. When I am re-elected, I will continue my efforts to make the courts of Ohio even more efficient (I have had some success cutting time off our cases already), all while maintaining its high quality and its integrity.

#### 2. Why are you running for this particular court seat?

I am running for this position because I want to make the Ohio courts the best state court system in this nation, a goal I have been heading towards for the last 12 years. See all of the above.



#### Terri Jamison (D)

**Education:** Franklin University, Bachelor of Science, Business Administration, cum laude; Capital University Law School, Juris Doctor; Franklin University, Doctorate, Community Leadership

**List your judicial experience (courts and years):** I was elected in 2012 to serve on the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, Division of Domestic Relations - Juvenile Branch. I began service on January 5, 2013, was re-elected in 2018, and resigned from that position on June 30, 2021. In total, I served on this court 8 1/2 years. I was elected to the Ohio Court of Appeals in 2020 and began service

on July 1, 2021. I am currently one of eight judges on the court. I've been on the court for one year.

1. What non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge? I owned and managed a multiline insurance agency for 16 years. In that capacity, I hired, trained, and developed staff, managed and reconciled receipts, negotiated contracts for office space, phone systems, computer equipment, and grew a book of business while maintaining quality. I have great people skills that translate into treating litigants with empathy, dignity and respect. I have active listening skills that developed from listening to potential clients to be sure that I was meeting their policy needs.

I was an extern with the Civil Rights Section of the Attorney General's Office. In that capacity, I learned how to review a case file, prepare it for court, and prepare the discovery documents to illicit information. I have developed a critical eye and can do analysis of the law and facts. I was a hearing officer intern for the Bureau of State Hearings and an intermittent hearing officer for Unemployment Compensation Review Commission. I heard administrative appeals and issued a decision within the 30 day timeline. I learned how to rule on objections, admit evidence, give the oath to take testimony, make findings of fact and conclusions of law, and judge credibility of witnesses.

2. Why are you running for this particular court seat? I am seeking election to the Ohio Supreme Court for two fundamental reasons:

First, to preserve and strengthen the Court's Constitutionally granted status as an independent and coequal branch of state government, and Second, to use my seat on the Supreme Court to ensure that the promise of "Equal Justice Under Law" becomes a reality for all Ohioans.

The importance of an independent Court has been demonstrated as a 4-3 majority defends democracy and upholds the express will of the people by deflecting attempts to unfairly gerrymander the state's General Assembly and Congressional districts. With the retirement of the Chief Justice, it is imperative that a fourth justice that believes strongly in democracy is elected to the court. The court is the keeper of the scales, the check and balance on other branches of government.

To convert "Equal Justice Under Law" from concept to reality, I will work hard every day to restore public trust in our legal system, to abide by and to hold others to the highest possible ethical standards, to dispense justice fairly and equitably, to strive to ensure that all persons have access to the courts and competent legal counsel, to set an example for jurists at every level of our court system, to take affirmative steps to eliminate burdensome costs, and unnecessary delays, and to ensure that every litigant is provided with a fair hearing and the opportunity to be heard.

# JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

**Term Commences 01/02/2023** 

**Responsibilities:** Hears all cases involving questions arising under the Ohio Constitution or statutes; hears appeals from Courts of Appeals decisions. The Supreme Court's decisions are final except in cases involving the U.S. Constitution, statutes or treaties.

**Salary:** \$181,400.



#### Pat DeWine (R)

Education: Miami University, B.A., B.S., Summa Cum Laude University of Michigan Law School J.D., Order of Coif (top 10% of class) List your judicial experience (court and years):

June 1995-June 1996: Law clerk, The Honorable David A. Nelson, United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, Cincinnati Ohio

Nov. 1994-June 1995; June 1996-Jan. 2008: Attorney, KMK Law Dec. 1999-Jan. 2005: Councilmember, City of Cincinnati, Cincinnati Ohio

Jan. 2005-Jan. 2009: Member, Hamilton County Board of Commissioners, Cincinnati Ohio Jan. 2009-Mar. 2013: Judge, Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas, Cincinnati Ohio

Mar. 2013-January 1, 2017: Judge, First District Court of Appeals, Cincinnati Ohio

Sept. 2014-Present: Adjunct Professor, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati Ohio

January 2, 2017-Present: Justice, Ohio Supreme Court

#### 1. What non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

I bring a unique perspective to the Ohio Supreme Court because of my service in other branches of government and every level of Ohio courts. As a Cincinnati City Councilmember, I dealt with some very difficult issues involving our legal system and the community. I served as Chair of the Law Committee immediately following the riots in Cincinnati and was deeply involved in a collaborative process that made significant and sustained improvements in police-community relations. My service on City Council and the County Commission has given me a keen understanding of the role of the other branches of government and the impact of our judicial system on these branches.

I have also served as a judge at all three levels of Ohio's courts, something very few judges can say. This has helped me understand how the supreme court can work with and improve judicial functions across every court in Ohio.

#### 2. Why are you running for this particular court seat?

I care deeply about this state and its legal system. If we are going to prosper as a state, we need communities where people feel safe. Without safe communities, people will not want to live, invest or create jobs in our state. As Justice, I can plan an important role in making sure that the rule of law is protected in Ohio.

I also believe strongly that a stable and predictable legal environment is critical to our economy. Judges should strictly apply the law as it is written. We may not impose our own personal viewpoints but must adhere strictly to the law and the constitution. When we act in the manner we ensure fairness and equal treatment because the same rules apply to everyone. We also create a stable and predictable legal environment that encourages people to want to live and create jobs in this state.

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#### Marilyn Zayas (D)

**Education:** University of Cincinnati College of Law, 1997, J.D.; CUNY, The City College of New York, 1987, B.S. in Computer Science; FBI Citizen's Academy, Class of 2011

**List your judicial experience (courts and years):** Judge at Ohio's First District Court of Appeals, 2016 – Present

Judge by special assignment at Ohio's Second, Sixth, Tenth, and Eighth District Courts of Appeals,

Judge by special assignment at Ohio's Supreme Court. Ohio Supreme Court Board

on Character & Fitness, Commissioner, December 2018-February 2022.

I have served our community as a judge at Ohio's First District Court of Appeals since 2016, when I was first elected, winning against an incumbent appointed by the governor. I am the first Latina elected to any Ohio appellate court. In 2018, I was re-elected by an overwhelming majority of over 60% of the voters. I have decided over 1,200 appeals throughout Ohio. Additionally, I have served by appointed of Ohio's Chief Justice on the Second, Sixth, Eighth, and Tenth District Courts of Appeals and on a case at the Ohio Supreme Court. Never could I have dreamed as a girl growing up in tough New York City neighborhoods that I would have this opportunity. I moved to Ohio, my utopia, 34 years ago to work in technology with Procter & Gamble. With hard work, dedication, and mentorship, much can be achieved

1. What non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge? My background allows me to take an independent approach to each case, with a focus on maintaining integrity and impartiality. I advocated for clients for 20 years from all over the world and from all walks of life. Some were millionaires, some were impoverished. Most spoke English, some did not. Several were persons of color. I treated all of them with the utmost dignity and respect.

I litigated in both state and federal courts. I earned a reputation as an attorney who provides honest and zealous representation while navigating complex and extremely intricate cases.

My legal career began as an intellectual property and labor and employment attorney. Later, I worked for the Hamilton County Public Defender's Office representing adults and juveniles who could not afford to hire an attorney.

I founded my own legal practice which focused on immigration law. I was known as the go-to attorney for complex immigration cases. I handled cases involving foreign investors who were bringing new businesses to America, in addition to family visas and asylum, and a variety of immigration appeals in federal courts.

I am very proud of the work I have done as an appellate judge. I clearly and concisely explain my decisions with the goal that those impacted are confident that their case was fully and fairly resolved. My decisions are detailed, well-analyzed, and rooted in the Constitution and the law.

#### 2. Why are you running for this particular court seat?

I am running for the Ohio Supreme Court because you deserve a justice who will apply the law equally to all, regardless of circumstances or politics, and who has the courage to take on the challenging issues we are facing in Ohio, understands that a vibrant economy requires people who can realize their potential, and respects the civil liberties we expect, enjoy and are responsible for.

My vast and varied experience enables me to fully understand the complex legal issues we are currently facing. This comes from my experience as an appellate judge, 20 years of experience advocating for clients, career at Procter & Gamble as an IT Manager, and overcoming a tough childhood in New York City. In 2021, I was recognized by Good Morning America for my community contributions, including my work with students.

The issues my campaign is centered on are:

Access and Accountability: I support a statewide publicly accessible sentencing database where anyone can review sentences across counties for similar offenses with similar circumstances. Additionally, I seek to expand specialty dockets that provide proven tools for success including mental health, drug, and veterans' courts.

Advance resources that reduce the risk of wrongful convictions: This includes implementing the 2002 Ohio Supreme Court's Racial Fairness and Implementation Taskforce recommendation that all criminal defense attorneys receive formal training in the basics of criminal defense. Enlarge Student Programs: To foster understanding of our courts and inspire students to dream big regardless of the obstacles they face.

#### THIRD DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS

**Term Commences 02/09/2023** 

**Responsibilities:** The Court of Appeals is essentially a Court of Review. It hears appeals from the Common Pleas, County and Municipal Courts. Decisions are final except in cases involving Constitutional questions, cases of felony, cases in which it has original jurisdiction, and cases of public or great general interest.

**Term:** 6 years **Salary:** \$169,075.



William R. Zimmerman (R)

**Uncontested Race** 

#### THIRD DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS

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Juergen A. Waldick (R)

**Uncontested Race** 

#### COMMON PLEAS JUDGE DOMESTIC DIVISION

**Term Commences 01/01/2023** 

Responsibilities: To handle cases of divorce, dissolution of marriage, annulment, separation, and child custody matters.

**Term:** 6 years **Salary:** \$158,206.

Matt C. Staley

NO REPLY RECEIVED

#### COMMON PLEAS JUDGE GENERAL DIVISION

**Term Commences 02/09/2023** 

**Responsibilities:** To preside at trials of both civil and criminal cases; to supervise the jury commission, grand jury, and other departments of the court.

**Term:** 6 years **Salary:** \$158,206.



#### Jeffrey L. Reed (R)

Current Job: Judge, Common Pleas Court of Allen County General Division Education: BA The Ohio State University 1980; JD Ohio Northern University 1983

**Training & Experience:** 1983-85 Law Clerk for Third District Court of Appeals; 1985-88 Court Administrator/Referee Allen County Probate Court; Referee Allen County Juvenile Court; 1988-98 Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Allen County, Ohio; 1989-99 Private Practice with Siferd & Reed, Lima, Ohio, 1999 -present

Judge Allen County Common Pleas Court, General Division

(1) List your judicial experience (courts and years). Judge, Allen County Common Pleas Court, General Division Elected to Allen County Common Pleas Court in November, 1998 First Six Year Term began Feb. 9, 1999 Second Six Year Term began Feb. 9, 2005 Third Six Year Term began Feb. 9, 2011 Fourth Six Year Term began Feb. 9, 2017

Member of Ohio Jury Instructions Committee Past Member Ohio Judicial Conference Executive Committee Past President -Ohio Common Pleas Judges Assoc. Faculty Member-Ohio Death Penalty Seminar for Judges Past Member-supreme Court Specialized Docket Committee

- (2) What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge? Extensive experience in court administration, criminal and civil litigation 1983-85 Law Clerk for Third District Court of Appeals 1985-88 Court Administrator/Referee Allen County Probate Court Referee Allen County Juvenile Court 1988-98 Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Allen County, Ohio 1989-99 Private Practice with Siferd & Reed, Lima, Ohio,
- (3) Why are you running for this particular court seat? My goal is to continue providing fair, impartial and equitable justice for all of the citizens of Allen County.

#### **ALLEN COUNTY COMMISSIONER**

**Term Commences 01/01/2023** 

**Responsibilities:** To exercise financial control of County expenditures; to authorize public works; to purchase land and buildings; to let contracts; to plan and administer welfare. The Board of County Commissioners also appoints other officials to operate various departments.

**Term:** 4 yrs. **Salary:** \$84,022.



#### **Brian Winegardner (R)**

NO REPLY RECEIVED

#### **ALLEN COUNTY AUDITOR**

**Term Commences 03/13/2023** 

Responsibilities: The duties of the Auditor include, but are not limited to serving as the Chief Fiscal Officer thereby auditing every expenditure, processing payroll for all county employees, producing financial reports and economic forecasts, appraisal of all real estate, disbursement of funds to all taxing districts, managing all real estate tax credits and assessments, sale and recording of vendor licenses, dog tags, tobacco licenses and specialized goods, testing for accuracy of all weighing and measuring devices used in the purchase and sale of commodities such as fuel and produce, and is responsible for the County's Data Processing department.

**Term:** 4 years **Salary:** \$98,279.



#### Rachel Gilroy (R)

NO REPLY RECEIVED

#### **ALLEN COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS**

Unexpired term ending 08/31/2025

**Responsibilities:** To enter judgements and collect court costs for appellate and common pleas courts, and also to issue and transfer automobile and water craft certificates of title.

Education: Associates Degree of Applied Business

**Training & Experience:** 25 years at Allen County Clerk of Courts **Salary:** \$78,424.



#### Jennifer McBride (R)

How can the services provided by the Allen County Clerk of Court's Office be maintained or improved?

The Clerk of Court's Office will maintain the high quality of service that has been provided to the public, the courts, and other county offices. That means fast access to records such as court filings and the fast processing of motor vehicle titles.

All of this is made possible thanks to the dedicated and hardworking staff which is a mix of veterans and new, energetic public servants eager to learn. Despite differ-

ent years of experience, we all share one common objective: to provide the best customer service to the citizens of Allen County, for whom we work.

Additionally, we always are looking toward the future with the objective of better serving the public. For example, we are planning to improve the electronic filing of documents in the Legal Department and Title Department for all for parties.

Another high priority in the office is continuing education for all staff. Laws and requirements change all the time and we will be prepared.

#### **ALLEN COUNTY TREASURER**

#### Unexpired term ending 8/31/2025

**Responsibilities:** To collect taxes in the county and its subdivisions, disburse expenditures, and invest the county's funds.

**Education:** Graduate of Allen East High School and the University of Northwestern Ohio with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration.

**Training & Experience:** 4+years with the Allen County Treasurer's office: Chief Deputy of Finance and Treasurer



#### Krista Bohn (R)

How can the services provided by the Allen County Treasurer's Office by maintained or improved?

The Allen County Treasurer's office provides taxpayers with the most efficient and professional service according to the Ohio Revised Code. We have a very knowledgeable staff with many years of experience. The main responsibilities of the Treasurer's office include the collection of real estate taxes, mobile home taxes, sewer

payments, along with acting as the bank for all county departments, and management of county investments. With my prior experience as Chief Deputy of Finance in the Treasurer's office I have the unique knowledge and experience needed to maintain our current high standards of service for day to day functions to monthly and collection balancing. I look forward to continually working to streamline processes, offering more payment options, and providing efficient and effective service for county residents.

#### Issue 1

### Proposed Constitutional Amendment TO REQUIRE COURTS TO CONSIDER FACTORS LIKE

PUBLIC SAFETY WHEN SETTING THE AMOUNT OF BAIL
Proposed by Joint Resolution of the General Assembly

To amend Section 9 of Article 1 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio.

A majority yes vote is necessary for the amendment to pass.

The proposed amendment would:

- Require Ohio courts, when setting the amount of bail, to consider public safety, including the seriousness of the offense, as well as a person's criminal record, the likelihood a person will return to court, and any other factor the Ohio General Assembly may prescribe.
- Remove the requirement that procedures for establishing the amount and conditions of bail be determined by the Supreme Court of Ohio.

#### **PROS**

- Bail is about appearing for the person's court date according to the guidelines and the Supreme Court. This amendment ensures that courts, when setting bail, consider factors such as public safety, an individual's criminal record, and the severity of the offense committed.
- Courts can consider public safety, among other factors, when setting the financial conditions of bail rather than the longer process of denying bail completely.
- Puts cash bail and its conditions directly in the Ohio Constitution.
- Gives individual courts more discretion in determining cash bail.

#### CONS

- This amendment would no longer require the Ohio Supreme Court to establish consistent rules of bail, placing cash bail and its conditions directly in the Ohio Constitution.
- There is no substantial evidence that bail ensures public safety. But rather, it can worsen or create inequities.
- Bail allows some accused persons with enough money to be freed pretrial, while others without enough money remain incarcerated for the same or lesser crime.
- Cash bail may lead the accused in jail during pretrial to plead guilty in exchange for their freedom while awaiting trial.

#### Issue 2

#### Proposed Constitutional Amendment TO PROHIBIT LOCAL GOVERNMENT FROM ALLOWING NON-ELECTORS TO VOTE

Proposed by Joint Resolution of the General Assembly
To amend Section 1 of Article V, Section 3 of Article X, and Section 3 of Article XVIII of the

Constitution of the State of Ohio.

A majority yes vote is necessary for the amendment to pass.

The proposed amendment would:

- Require that only a citizen of the United States, who is at least 18 years of age and who has been a legal resident and registered voter for at least 30 days, can vote at any state or local election held in this state.
- Prohibit local governments from allowing a person to vote in local elections if they are not legally qualified to vote in state elections.

If passed, the amendment will be effective immediately.

A "yes" vote <u>supports</u> the proposed amendment.

A "no" vote opposes the proposed amendment.

[Note: Federal law does not allow noncitizens to vote in federal elections but it does not prohibit them from voting in local elections]

#### **PROS**

- This amendment would prevent the confusion for non-citizen legal residents voting in local elections.
- This amendment would protect non-citizens from adverse legal action in regard to voting.
- This amendment would prevent an increased administrative burden by creating a new system of voter registration for non-citizen legal residents in areas where this is enacted.
- Passing this initiative clarifies the intent of the Ohio Constitution in regard to citizenship and voting.

  CONS
- This amendment prevents non-citizen legal residents from voting locally, which weakens community involvement and input in cities that allow it.

• Non-citizen legal residents are taxpaying members of our communities. This amendment prevents these residents from the right to vote provided to other taxpayers.

This amendment weakens the ability of municipalities to govern themselves.

• This amendment eliminates the rights of 17-year old citizens (who will be 18 by election day) to vote in a primary election, as well as permanently makes the voter registration deadline 30 days prior to election day.

## A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage of the following renewals and issues.

#### **DELPHOS PUBLIC LIBRARY RENEWAL**

(Delphos City School District, Overlaps: Allen and Van Wert County)

A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Delphos Public Library for the purpose of current expenses at a rate not exceeding 0.6 mill for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to \$0.06 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for 5 years, commencing in 2023, first due in calendar year 2024

#### SHAWNEE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT RENEWAL (Overlaps: Allen, and Auglaize County)

A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Shawnee Local School District for the purpose of constructing, remodeling, repairing, and equipping of existing school buildings, constructing and equipping of new fireproof school buildings or facilities for future expansion, the construction of school administration facilities, acquisition of site or sites, improvement of present and future sites, and purchase of school buses at a rate not exceeding 2.45 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to \$0.245 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for 5 years, commencing in 2023, first due in calendar year 2024.

#### PANDORA-GILBOA LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (Overlaps: PUTNAM AND ALLEN COUNTIES)

Shall an annual income tax of 0.75% on the school district income of individuals and of estates be imposed by Pandora-Gilboa Local School District to renew an income tax expiring at the end of 2023, for 10 years, beginning January 1, 2024, for the purpose of current expenses?

#### PANDORA-GILBOA LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ADDITIONAL TAX (Overlaps: Putnam And Allen Counties)

An additional tax for the benefit of Pandora-Gilboa Local School District for the purpose of permanent improvements at a rate not exceeding 3.15 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to \$0.315 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for 5 years, commencing in 2022, first due in calendar year 2023.

#### APOLLO JOINT VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (Overlaps: Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Putnam and Van Wert Counties)

A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Apollo Career Center Joint Vocational School District for the purpose of enlarging, improving and rebuilding buildings, including maintenance of classroom facilities at a rate not exceeding 0.19 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to \$0.019 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for 10 years, commencing in 2023, first due in calendar year 2024.

#### VANTAGE CAREER CENTER (Overlaps: Allen, Auglaize, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam Counties and Van Wert)

A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Vantage Career Center Joint Vocational School District for the purpose of current expenses at a rate not exceeding 0.8 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to \$0.08 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for 5 years, commencing in 2023, first due in calendar year 2024.

#### UNINCORPORATED TOWNSHIP

Shall the County of Allen have the authority to aggregate the retail natural gas loads located in the unincorporated areas of the County of Allen, and for that purpose, enter into services agreements to facilitate for those customers the sale and purchase of natural gas, conversion to the aggregation program will occur automatically unless the customers choose to opt out of the program?

#### LIMA 3B

Shall the sale of wine and mixed beverages and spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by Reddy Enterprises LLC dba Duke's Liquor Store an applicant for a D-6 liquor permit and the operator of a state liquor agency store who is engaged in the business of operating a neighborhood beverage store at 630 N Main Street Lima, OH 45801 in this precinct?



# The League of Women Voters of the Lima Area gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and organizations whose generous contributions make it possible for us to provide copies of this Voter Guide and other LWV educational efforts.

David Adams

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Libby Hostetler

Millie Hughes

Linda Morrow

Shannon Quinn

Mary Ramsayer

John Schneider

Beth Seibert

The Delphos Herald

\*There were additional donors who wish to remain anonymous

You may go to VOTE411.org or JudicialVotesCount.org to find information on candidates who responded after our publication date as well as expanded answers from candidates.

The League of Women Voters was established in 1920 to provide nonpartisan voter information.

Any citizen, male or female, can become a member of the League.

To learn more about membership visit our website at <a href="www.lwvlima.org">www.lwvlima.org</a>.

In order to continue providing this non-partisan Voter Guide to the area, the League of Women Voters of the Lima Area is seeking individual and corporate underwriting for future Voter Guides.

Your contribution can be made payable to:

Mailed to: LWV Treasurer 3415 Greens Road Lima, OH 45805