



South Lyon Area Democrats: Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire  
*Application for recommendation by the SLAD to voters in support of your campaign.*  
*City of South Lyon, Lyon Township, and Green Oak Township.*  
Please email to SLAD candidate endorsement committee: [slademocrats@gmail.com](mailto:slademocrats@gmail.com)

**Contact Information**

*Candidate:*

- ◇ Candidate Name (as it will appear on the ballot): Jim Williams
- ◇ Candidate email address: lakeviewblvd@comcast.net
- ◇ Candidate phone number: 248-887-4472
- ◇ Campaign mailing address (if applicable): 3147 Lakeview Blvd, Highland, MI 48356
- Campaign website: www.ElectJimWilliams.com

*Campaign:*

- ◇ Campaign social media (identify platform, i.e. Facebook, Twitter, etc.):  
Jim Williams for County Commissioner 13
- ◇ Campaign contact name and title (manager / assistant): James Williams
- ◇ Campaign contact phone number: 248-887-4472
- ◇ Campaign contact email address: lakeviewblvd7@gmail.com

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Please answer the following to the best of your ability. Use as much space as necessary to provide your responses.

Office/Position running for (*including district number of applicable*):  
Oakland County Commissioner, District 13

Share a brief biography and personal background, inclusion of what motivated you to run for office is appreciated:



I am a native Detroit and a 50 year Highland resident in the Oak Heights Community on Upper Pettibone Lake. Following the completion of my B.A. degree at Wayne State and also a year at Detroit College of Law, I worked 24 years for the State of Michigan as a youth services caseworker in Delinquency and Foster Care. My advocacy during that time was oil painting landscapes. Since my retirement from the State of Michigan I have focused my attention on painting the historical landmarks of Detroit, Chicago, Mackinac Island and the Great Lakes Region. I also have substitute taught for Pontiac and Waterford schools over an 18-year period. For the past 26 years I have been a certified transporter of youth for Oakland County Department of Human Services. It has been my privilege to provide youth art programs in Detroit including All Saints Center and Grandale Neighborhood Salvation Army.

There are many reasons why I have decided to run for District 13 Commission seat. Oakland County and the wider area face many issues: climate change, jobs, revenue needs, food needs, lake and water issues, broadband for school services, infrastructure needs and so much more will be among the challenges ahead. Mainly, I believe uncertain times require that Oakland County move forward with a creative and progressive vision. A sustainable environment should be our focus for the futures of our children and grandchildren and the world they will inherit. With this in mind, we should work to protect the precious irreplaceable environment.

On a personal note, I was raised in a home with many uncertainties. Yet at an early age I was aware that I was blessed to be living at a time in America with many possibilities. My work as a caseworker allowed me to engage with people who had hard core needs. Much of my personal time is in the study of history, religion, and philosophy. I also try to stay current with the findings of science as it changes over the years. While not church affiliated, I see my life challenges with a spiritual perspective. I strive to live by the golden rule, the call of service, and a belief in transformation. My spirituality helps motivate and direct me and my spiritual perspective guides me as a husband, father, grandfather and friend. Seeking balance and living in balance is a perspective I try to uphold while maintaining fiscal responsibility. Charitable commitments include World Vision, Unicef, Forgotten Harvest, Amnesty International, Sierra Club, Lighthouse SOS, Clean Water Action, Meals on Wheels, and environmental causes. Past volunteering include Big Brothers, Salvation Army, and Youth Mentoring. Also, I am currently the Democrat Precinct Delegate for district 4 in Highland.

Personal activities that I continue to enjoy are biking, hiking (mainly Highland Recreation Park), downhill and cross-country skiing, wind surfing, swimming, travel, golf, and many various family activities. My current business interest connects me to many art associations and affiliations across the state and beyond. Representations of my art are also electronically available through my web site [JimWilliamsArtist.com](http://JimWilliamsArtist.com).

What would you consider the principal duties of the office for which you are running?

A county Commissioner should engage regularly with District 13 constituents. I will strive to make informed votes and decisions regarding the county budget that will best reflect our values.

Top priorities once elected/re-elected (as applicable):

- Local/State: To make decisions and votes with an environmental benefit perspective as often as possible. To make Oakland County usage carbon free and set a standard. This includes matters that affect the health of the Huron River. To also ensure that District 13 receives its share of available funds.
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- To vote with LEED and EGLE standards in mind. Address the teacher shortage at the county level.
- Federal: I will pursue available federal benefits that address climate issues.

How will you manage the disparate political community in the South Lyon/Lyon Township area to ensure all voices are represented.

I will regularly review constituents requests and concerns on the commissioners message board.

I will welcome open communication with the township officials.

As a small community in the corner of Oakland County, South Lyon/Lyon Township are often overlooked. How will you ensure you include this area in your community engagement?

By visiting and communicating with township officials, constituents, and clubs including the Democrats.

How will you work to ensure all citizens are able to vote without restrictions?

By posting information to remind voters of schedules and locations, drop box locations, and to respond to any issues brought to my attention. I will encourage voters to support the Promote the Vote Initiative in November.

What can we (you) do at the Local/State/Federal level to keep guns out of schools? (as applicable to your level of office)

I will advocate and support any restrictions on gun purchases and usage at the county level.

What power will you have to influence Climate Change legislation? How will you use the power you have to legislate meaningful changes to mitigate the effects of Climate Change?

I would advocate and vote for any EV requirement for fleet operations. I support the efforts of Jim Nash, Water Resource Commissioner, to make Oakland County carbon free. Everything is on the table.

What is your stance on Single payer/Universal Healthcare/Medicare for all? If elected/re-elected, will you support legislation related to the same?

Yes. I support any legislation that makes health care affordable for all.

As the Supreme Court whittles away at our personal freedoms, will you support Policies, Reforms, Amendments, etc., which will protect women's health, LGBTQ+ rights, and the civil rights of POC? Absolutely. Privacy and personal liberty are at the heart of the Constitution.

Please disclose all corporate PAC money received thus far, and what was promised in return for those donations?

I have received a \$250 donation from Sheet Metal workers. No requests or promises were made.



**Optional:**

Which planks of the Michigan Democratic Party do you feel would benefit most from your support and involvement?

1. Education: Improving Public Education for Children and Adults
2. Economy: Using Aggressive & Comprehensive Economic Development Policies
3. Job Training: Improving the Skills of our Workforce
4. Trade: Using an Approach Based on a Level Playing Field
5. Economic Development: Improving Depressed Communities
6. Agriculture: Protecting our Farms and Rural Communities
7. Transportation: Providing Access to Opportunities
8. Information Technology: Expanding Access to Information
9. Small Business: Nurturing Entrepreneurship and Self-employment
10. Income: Rewarding Work
11. Taxes: Providing a Sufficient, Stable and Fair Tax System
12. Health Care: Providing Health Security for Families and Individuals
13. Children and Families: Providing Help for Working Parents with Children
14. Coping With Misfortune: Bankruptcy, Foreclosure and Homelessness
15. The Environment: Protecting Our Land, Water, Air and Open Space
16. Social Justice: Achieving Equal and Humane Treatment Under the Law
17. Women: Protecting the Rights of Women
18. Veterans: Respect and Help for Those Who Serve Our Country
19. Youth: Building Citizens Who Will Brighten our Future
20. Seniors: Providing Retirement Security and Needed Services
21. Voting: Nurturing Democracy and Promoting Civic Participation
22. Faith: Connecting Our Party with People of Faith
23. Public Safety: Creating Safer Communities for All
24. Energy: Providing Power to the People
25. Judicial System: Serving the People, not Special Interests
26. Government: Freeing Politics from Money Influence and Special Interests
27. Corporations: Insisting on Corporate Accountability
28. Consumer Protection: Protecting People in the Marketplace
29. Financial Services: Protecting People in Credit and Banking Transactions
30. Providing Proper Oversight of Our Financial System
31. Local Government: Defending Our Democracy

All are relevant but Environment Protection stands out to me as the area I plan to vote forward. My other focus would then be protecting the Rights of Women, Voting, Education, Health (mental health especially) and the Economy.

**Thank you for submitting your candidate info to SLAD. By submitting this information, you agree that all information submitted, except for the \*\*starred items (candidate preferred email address, phone number, and street address), can be made public and shared on SLAD online platforms and physical documents.**

8/14/22