



VOTER GUIDE TO CANDIDATES FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY ON MARCH 5, 2024

This document provides voters with a biography of participating candidates that are on the Democratic Primary ballots in Cameron County.

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Candidates for State Representative for House District #37



Alex Dominguez - I am a Cameron County native raised in La Feria. I am the sixth of ten children from a migrant farmworker family. I am married to Jill and have one son, Tobias.

I represented you in HD37 before Redistricting in 2021 changed the map drastically. I was the Vice-Chairman of two committees and General Counsel for the House Democratic Caucus. If elected, I would retain my Seniority when returning to the House and be Ready on Day 1.

I served as Cameron County Commissioner from 2014-2018 and was a Board Member of CASA of Cameron & Willacy Counties for six years. As president of Los Diez Education Foundation, we gave scholarships for 25 years to first generation college students.

I have passed bills to improve public education funding, create jobs, and during the 87th Legislature, the most pro-veteran bills. I passed the law creating the Cameron County Flood Control District and helped fund the Texas A&M RGV Advanced Manufacturing Hub. I have passed bills to help the disabled, retired teachers, and first responders and to lower taxes.

I graduated from La Feria High School, Rice University, and the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law. I was a teacher for three years teaching English, ESL, and Texas History.

I am an attorney and former assistant District Attorney. Keeping our community safe and prosperous is very important to me. I am from here and I will continue to work hard for the people of South Texas.



Jonathan Gracia - Jonathan Gracia, a Brownsville attorney, is running for Texas House District 37. He brings two decades of public service, advocating for improved public education and lower utility costs, to bolster infrastructure and job growth.

As a lifelong Rio Grande Valley local, Gracia's career has spanned roles as a prosecutor and Economic Development Corporation Director for Port Isabel. His passion for public service was ignited early in his career in the Laguna Madre area, which he holds dear, and marked the beginning of his commitment to public service.

In 2012, Gracia established The Gracia Law Firm, capitalizing on his extensive 15-year legal career. His professional journey reflects a commitment to client advocacy and employee mentorship. Having served two terms as a justice of the peace, Gracia's dedication to justice and community well-being is evident.

He is married to Lesli Robinson, a middle school counselor, and is father to a three-year-old. Family man and father, Gracia's aspirations include being a positive role model and diligent public servant in the community he serves.

His philosophy prioritizes community engagement over political maneuvering and is demonstrated by personal visits to thousands of homes in District 37. These efforts underline his mission to directly understand and address the needs of his constituents.

Gracia is determined to forge a legacy marked by compassion, integrity, and progress, focusing on the betterment of future generations. He humbly asks for your vote as the next Representative for Texas House District 37.

To learn more about Mr. Gracia, visit <https://jonathangracia.com/>.



Candidates for State Representative for House District #37



Carol Lynn Sanchez - Carol Lynn Sanchez was born and raised in San Benito, Texas to Cusberto and Carmen Sanchez. As migrant workers they pushed her to pursue an education which led her to be the first in her family to graduate from high school and college.

She graduated from San Benito High School in 2005, from St. Mary's University in 2008 with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and International Relations, and from Thurgood Marshal School of Law in 2012 with a Juris Doctor and Medication Certificate.

She has practiced Criminal, Family, Immigration, and Civil Law. She has focused the majority of her career servicing non-profit organizations such as ProBAR and Disability Rights Texas working to help those that can't help themselves.

Her passion for non-profits, specifically those that focus on children, has led her to serve on or volunteer with numerous boards like Boys and Girls Club, or as a Girl Scout Troop Leader. She is also the current Democratic Precinct 40 Chair.

Carol was elected as Commissioner Plc 4 for the City of San Benito in 2017 and was appointed as Mayor Pro-Tem, becoming the first female and youngest official to ever hold the position.

Her greatest accomplishment is being the mother of three beautiful children. They are the reason she has dedicated her life to service to ensure she does everything to give them and every other child in the community the best opportunities. She hopes to continue this progress if elected for HD 37 and asks for your VOTE.



Candidates for District Judge, 445th Judicial District



Gloria M. Rincones - Serving Cameron County gives Judge Gloria M. Rincones immense purpose in her life. She is a mother to four beautiful children, two of whom are attending the University of Texas at Austin.

Judge Rincones was born and raised in Brownsville, Texas to Jorge Reynaldo and Blanca Gloria Rincones and is one of 13 siblings. After attending Texas Southmost College, she graduated from Sam Houston State University and started in the workforce as a federal agent.

Once she graduated from South Texas College of Law, she worked as an A.D.A. in Fort Bend County. In 2002, she started her private practice in family law, immigration, and personal injury.

Over the last 20 years, she practiced law in Texas and California and passed her Board Certification in Family Law.

Since being elected to the 445th District Court in 2017, she has disposed of over 4700 criminal cases and over 8000 civil and family cases. She streamlined the process for Zoom court cases during the pandemic.

She oversees Drug Divert Court which works to rehabilitate Cameron County residents who have substance abuse cases. During her first six years, she was Judge Liaison to the Magistrate Court and worked closely together with the different departments to ensure a smooth transition of the cases coming through that court.

She is the Judge Liaison to the Bail Bonds Court. She spearheaded the Robert Patrick Rodriguez Courts In Schools to provide students with the ability to understand the judicial system.

For more information, please visit www.JudgeGloria.com.



John Shergold - John Shergold is married to his wife Jessica and has two beautiful daughters, Kathryn and Carolyn, ages six and four years old. John and his family reside in Rancho Viejo, Texas. John was born and raised in the Catholic church and his beloved parents and brother preceded him to heaven.

John moved to Brownville, Texas in 1996 after he worked in the State of Texas Legislature for the Dean of the Democratic Party, Doyle Willis. John sought employment with Cameron County District Attorney Luis Saenz after refusing to change political parties, from Democrat to Republican, to gain employment in his hometown of Fort Worth.

John came to Brownville on a bus and walked to the courthouse and was hired as an Assistant District Attorney. Now 25 years later, John has a successful law practice in Civil Rights in defending workers when discriminated or taken advantage of because of their age, race, gender, or disability and being terminated for reporting corruption and wrongdoing at the workplace.

John has served as an Assistant District Attorney, in Cameron, Guadalupe, and Star Counties. Also, John has served as the Assistant City Attorney and Chief Prosecutor for the City of Brownsville, not to mention a hearing officer for the Brownsville Independent School District.

Lastly, John is the current Democratic Liaison Officer for the Cameron County Democratic Party. John is seeking the 445th State District Court Judgeship to return it to the people of Cameron County.



Candidates for County Sheriff



Eric Garza - Entering my fourth year as your Cameron County Sheriff, my unwavering commitment to community engagement and notable accomplishments within the Sheriff's Office stems from my deep connection to Cameron County.

Born in Brownsville and a proud '92 graduate of Homer Hanna High School, my journey in public service commenced in '91 as a Deputy County Clerk, evolving by 2010 into law enforcement through the UTB/TSC Police Academy.

Beyond my professional path, my ties to Brownsville extend as a devoted family man. Rooted in this community, my family and I actively engage in local events and community organizations. This shared commitment not only strengthens my personal bond with Cameron County but also underscores my dedication to fostering unity.

Within the Sheriff's Office, my focus centers on substantial achievements. Securing over \$5.3 million in grants, I've enhanced law enforcement capabilities with cutting-edge equipment and vehicles. Prioritizing school safety, initiatives like K9 interdiction, police presence, and comprehensive teacher training have been implemented, ensuring a secure environment for students and educators.

Your vote isn't just for me; it's an endorsement of a Sheriff deeply connected to Cameron County, both professionally and personally. Together, as a community and a family, we can build upon these achievements, creating a safer, stronger, and more closely-knit Cameron County.



Jesus Rosas, Jr. - Jesus Rosas Jr., was born in Brownsville, Tx and raised in the outskirts of Southmost Rd. His compelling journey is rooted in family and community commitment. Raised by his grandparents since the age of three, he has been married for 22 years to his wife, an assistant principal at a local school, and together they've proudly raised three sons.

Drawing on his extensive 20+ years of service with the Cameron County Sheriff's Office, Rosas began as a detention officer, gaining crucial insights into the criminal justice system. Motivated by empathy and justice, he transitioned to Deputy Sheriff, actively addressing community concerns.

As a Criminal Investigator, he spent two years solving complex cases, later earning a promotion to Sergeant under former Sheriff Omar Lucio. Currently serving as Sergeant of the Criminal Investigations Division, Rosas embodies exceptional leadership and unwavering dedication.

In his bid for Sheriff, Rosas pledges proactivity in providing family security, reducing crime rates, and integrating modern technology for efficient community assistance. With a steadfast commitment to protecting and serving, he boasts over two decades of law enforcement experience. Beyond community-oriented policing, Rosas advocates for ongoing officer training, recognizing the importance of staying abreast of evolving laws and technology.

Rosas concludes his message with a call for a united, safer community, emphasizing the non-negotiable nature of safety. His commitment to creating a secure environment, blended with leadership, experience, and dedication to family and community, positions him as a trustworthy candidate. "Together, let's ensure a community where safety knows no compromise."



Candidates for County Sheriff



Ronnie Saenz - My name is Ronnie Saenz, and I am a candidate for Sheriff of Cameron County.

I started my career in law enforcement in 1980 and joined the Cameron County Sheriff's Office in 1982 as a patrol deputy. As a patrol deputy, I helped establish the first "Cameron County Sheriff's Deputy Association." After climbing the ranks, I was assigned to the criminal investigation division, where I investigated various crimes ranging from theft, burglaries, robberies, and homicide, as well as narcotics. I served as a sergeant, lieutenant, and captain, overseeing essential responsibilities such as hiring, training, policy and procedures, budget and planning, and supervising different divisions of the Sheriff's Office.

I was hired by the Cameron County Human Resources Department to serve as the Law Enforcement Safety Risk Officer, investigating accidents involving county law enforcement and jailers. I was also involved in planning for Civil Service for our deputies and jailers.

I was employed by a federal contractor as a lead supervisor, overseeing the protection and security of federal buildings in the San Antonio area, in support of the Department of Homeland Security.

Furthermore, I served as a law enforcement instructor at the University of Texas - Brownville/Texas Southmost College Police Academy. I trained numerous police cadets from multiple police agencies across the Rio Grande Valley.

I currently own and operate a successful business for twenty-two years.

With 44 years of law enforcement experience, I am the most qualified candidate for Sheriff who understands the private sector of business and county government.



Manuel "Manny" Treviño — As a Brownsville native, my diverse experience and service to our community, as Chief of Police for the City of Primera, Texas from 2010 to now, has prepared me to serve in this position.

As a Criminal Investigator for the Cameron County District Attorney's Office from 2007 to 2010, I served as an undercover criminal investigator assigned to the Special Investigation Unit conducting operations and preparing cases for federal and state prosecution.

From 2006 to 2007, I served as a Criminal/Narcotics Investigator for the Cameron County Constable Precinct 2. From 1999 to 2005, I had the privilege of serving as Lieutenant in the Cameron County Sheriff's Office. Finally, I worked in the Patrol Division and as Narcotic Investigator for the Los Fresnos Police Department from 1991 through 1998.

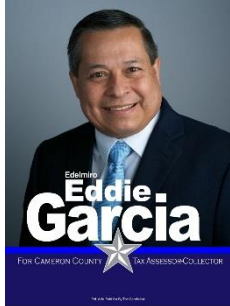
I received numerous awards from the Department of Justice, FBI, and Department of the Treasury.

My priorities are simple: 1. Ensuring that employees know they are the foundation of the office, 2. Reducing crime in the county, 3. Working with School Districts to plan for emergency responses, 4. Keeping an open line of communication with other law enforcement agencies, 5. Re-establishing the housing of federal inmates to reduce the burden on taxpayers, and 6. Efficiently managing the office resources by working with the County Commissioners' Court to manage and balance an annual budget.

My education and background in law enforcement of more than 30 years qualifies me to serve as the best choice for your next Sheriff. I humbly ask for your vote.



Candidates for County Tax Assessor/Collector



Eddie Garcia - Eddie Garcia was born in Brownsville and has been a public servant all his life. He retired from the Brownsville Police Department with 32 years of experience. He served many roles that included patrol, detective/investigator, custodian of evidence, background investigator, Public Information Officer, assistant emergency management coordinator, purchasing, community affairs and color guard.

He was a D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Officer who reached thousands of elementary, middle school and high school students from BISD by going into the classroom and teaching skills needed to avoid drugs, gangs and violence. Eddie proudly served in the U.S. Air Force Security Forces and was Honorably Discharged with the rank of Staff Sergeant.

His community service includes serving as Vice-President of the Brownsville City Employees Federal Credit Union after being elected by membership. At Brownsville Community Health Center, he's been a board member for 16 years with 14 of those as Board President.

He's certified in Health Center Governance by the National Health Association of Community Health Centers. Eddie Garcia was selected by the U.S. Secretary of Health to serve on The National Advisory Council on Migrant Health, 4-year term and one as Acting Vice-Chair. He's been on the BISD Board for 4 years with 2 as President.

Eddie Garcia wants to provide a level of integrity and service to the community that exceeds expectations because Cameron County deserves Excellence. Cameron County is a great place to live, and he wants to help make it even better.

For more information, please visit eddiegarcia4tac.com



Antonio "Tony" Yzaguirre - Mr. Yzaguirre was born and raised in Brownsville, Texas. He graduated from Brownsville High School in 1971 and later received his Associate's Degree in Tax Office Administration from Texas Southmost College. He also attended Pan American University in 1977 where he studied Agriculture Land Use.

Additionally, he attended the University of Texas Institute on Property Taxation Program from 1986 to 1988, Texas A & M University Tax Assessor-Collector Education Program, and graduated from the University of Texas at Brownsville in 2006 Law Enforcement Academy. Mr. Yzaguirre has earned his designations as a Registered Tax Assessor-Collector, Registered Professional Appraiser, Certified Tax Administrator, Professional County Collector, and Certified School Tax Administrator.

Various associations have recognized the innovative work done under Mr. Yzaguirre's leadership.

As the incumbent of the Tax Assessor-Collector's Office, Mr. Yzaguirre understands the importance of transparent, effective, and knowledgeable leadership. He has led the creation of programs to better assist you. Mr. Yzaguirre is the only democratic candidate that is certified for this office and holds significant experience in the Tax Assessing and Collecting field.

He has shown integrity and accountability in every district he represents and collects for. Most recently, Mr. Yzaguirre led the establishment of the Southmost Branch Office in Brownsville.

Mr. Yzaguirre has worked tirelessly to provide the citizens of Cameron County accessible options throughout the county. Mr. Yzaguirre is the only qualified candidate running for this office. With your support, he will continue to improve this office for the citizens of Cameron County.



Candidates for County Commissioner Pct. 1



Erika Perez-Murillo - As a devoted resident of Cameron County, I am eager to share my dedication to serving our community. With a decade of experience as the Secretary of the Commissioners' Court and a profound insight into our people's needs, I am fully prepared to tirelessly advocate for our families.

Your valuable support in my campaign for Cameron County Commissioner, Pct 1 will empower me to bring about a positive transformation in our community.

Together, let's pave the way for a brighter future for everyone.

I hold a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and have honed my skills while working alongside attorneys. My history within the County, including roles as the Commissioners' Court Secretary and County Clerk supervisor, has equipped me with the necessary expertise.

My husband and I share a strong commitment to our family, church, and community. We have instilled in our children the importance of not only self-responsibility but also caring for our neighbors and environment. Central to our beliefs is advocating for a safe, prosperous, and healthy community.

I am Erika Perez-Murillo, and I humbly urge you to cast your vote for me as your next Cameron County Commissioner, Pct. 1.



Candidates for County Justice of the Peace Pct. 2, Place 1



Joe Elizardi - Joe was raised in Brownsville and attended BISS where he graduated in the top 10 percent of his class. He married his high school sweetheart, Belinda Leal-Elizardi, and had three children: Virginia, Joey, and Jennifer. He has nine grandchildren ranging from 3 to 21 years of age.

In 1985, Joe began his law enforcement career with the Cameron County Sheriff's Office. He ascended the ladder, eventually reaching the position of Chief Deputy Sheriff under then Sheriff Alex F. Perez. Joe continued his career with the CCSO and worked under several Sheriffs. In 2021, after 37 years of service to Cameron County, Joe retired as Chief Jail Administrator.

Having a servant heart Joe decided to run for the position of Justice of the Peace Pct. 2 Pl. 1. He brings experience, professionalism, the highest morals, and ethics to the position he seeks.

Joe has a simple three step approach to his candidacy. First, Transparency; every public servant should be open and transparent about what's being done in their position. The public servant should be willing and able to answer any questions without hesitation. Second, Service; a public servant should serve the people without using the office elected to for personal gain or serving certain public interest groups. Third, Integrity; as a public servant you should always do the right thing even when no one is watching.

Honesty and Integrity are the foundation of Joe's belief.

Join Joe Elizardi in restoring the Integrity and Professionalism to the Office of JP Pct. 2 Pl. 1.



Linda Salazar - I was born and raised in Brownsville, Texas in Cameron County. I am the widow to my late husband Juan Hector Salazar. I am blessed to be the mother of Ruben Cortez Jr., Linda Aguilar, and Mark Cortez, and grandmother to ten beautiful grandchildren.

I was first elected as Justice of the Peace for Camero County, Pct. 2 Pl. 1 in March 2004. I took office as the first female Justice of the Peace in Brownville, Texas on January 1, 2005 and have served as a judge continuously for 20 years since that time.

Before taking the bench, I worked for 17 years as Court Coordinator in the 103rd District Court before the Retired Honorable Judge Menton Murray Jr. I also had the privilege of serving as BISS

School Board Trustee.

On May 1997, I earned a Bachelor's of Science in Criminal Justice Degree from the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

I am proud to serve and represent the citizens of Brownsville as Justice of the Peace Pct. 2 Pl 1. I have been dedicated to ensuring a smooth and efficient legal process for our community.

Being a Judge is deeply personal to me, driven by heartfelt commitment to fairness and integrity, which is part of my core beliefs. I ask that you allow me to continue to serve the community and people of Pct. 2 Pl 1 as your most humble servant.



Candidates for County Constable Pct. 1



Daniel Holland - I'm a lifelong resident of Port Isabel and the son of Michael and Suzanna Holland. I'm a husband to my beautiful wife and a father to three amazing children.

I am a Port Isabel High School graduate, attended UTB/TSC, and completed the police academy at Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council in Harlingen.

I began my career with the Cameron County Park Rangers rising in rank to patrol Sergeant until 2019 and then served the City of Port Isabel as a Patrol Officer. While in Port Isabel, I received certifications in Mental Health, Motorcycle Patrol and became a Marine Safety Officer. I also served as a SWAT operator for the LEERRT Regional Response team as a team leader.

I serve as a seasonal Police Officer to the City of South Padre Island during peak times.

In 2022, I was offered a position with a federal contractor where I'm currently employed, transporting detainees for ICE, Border Patrol, and the US Marshals. In addition, I'm employed with the City of Laguna Vista as a full time Police Officer, giving me experience in the Laguna Madre area and first-hand knowledge of the needs that require attention.

My main focus is ensuring the safety of our community as well as the security and protection of our Justice of the Peace Precinct 1. If elected, I will be a working constable addressing the needs of the communities while working tirelessly on improving the precinct and providing the highest safety for our children.

Let your voices be heard and VOTE Daniel Holland for Cameron County Constable Precinct 1. I humbly ask for your support and vote.



Ronnie Moore - As a lifelong resident of Port Isabel, I've dedicated 27 years to serving our community and ensuring public safety. I obtained my peace officer license from TX Southmost College in 1996, since then I've held various roles within law enforcement, demonstrating my commitment to excellence and leadership.

Now, with my youngest son ready to head off to college and the other two well into their careers, I believe the time is perfect to run for constable. I can fully focus on bringing change to the precinct.

If elected as your Constable, I'll prioritize enhancing communication between law enforcement and the community. I'll collaborate closely with residents ensuring transparency and accountability in every aspect of my role.

Family and community safety are paramount. I'll focus on innovative approaches to law enforcement and community-driven policing strategies, working with federal, state, and local agencies to prevent and solve crimes in Precinct 1.

With the backing of my family and friends, I am poised to enact positive change. Your vote for me as Constable signals your commitment to change and improve our community.

To stay updated on future announcement visit voteronniemoore.com

#VoteRonnieMoore



Candidates for County Constable Pct. 2



Felipe de Jesus Coria - Born on May 28, 1976, in Brownsville, TX, I am Felipe De Jesus Coria, the eldest among five siblings.

My educational journey led me through Garden Park Elementary, Egly Elementary, Gonzalez Elementary, Perkins Middle School, and Simon Rivera High School.

My commitment to service ignited during my youth, prompted me to enlist in the U.S Army upon high school graduation in 1994. Ten years of dedicated service, encompassing both active duty and National Guard, laid the foundation for my enduring passion for serving others. Transitioning to a career in law enforcement in 2001 further fueled my dedication to

public service.

Now, equipped with a Master Peace Officer License and over two decades of law enforcement experience in Texas, I proudly serve as Deputy Constable for Cameron County Pct. 1. Prior to this role, I spent 15 years at the Cameron County Constable's Office in Precinct 2, rising to the rank of Lieutenant until 2023.

Throughout my career, I have collaborated with various law enforcement agencies, recognizing the paramount importance of collective efforts in safeguarding our communities. Ensuring the safety of our children and properties transcends beyond mere weekday duties; it demands unwavering commitment round the clock.

As a father of four, I deeply understand the significance of protecting our loved ones and reducing crime across all Pct. 2 areas. Your vote and support in the upcoming 2024 election will ensure that the Cameron County Constable's Office Precinct 2 delivers the exemplary public service you deserve. Thank you.



Abelardo "Abel" Gomez - Abelardo "ABEL" Gomez, a dedicated law enforcement professional with a passion for serving his community, proudly holds the position of Pct. 2 Constable.

Born and raised in Cameron County, Abelardo's journey in law enforcement began in 1998 when he graduated from the UTB Police Academy. Since then, he's exemplified unwavering commitment and leadership in various roles within the field.

With over 24 years of experience, 15 years as Pct. 2 Constable, Abelardo has amassed a wealth of knowledge and expertise in maintaining public order, enforcing laws, and ensuring community safety. He leads a team of 15 deputies with professionalism and dedication, fostering a culture of excellence within the department.

Abelardo's career highlights include his tenure in the Cameron County District Attorney's office, where he specialized in investigating white-collar crimes, money laundering, and drug enforcement. He's also a licensed Master Peace officer and a state-licensed firearms instructor, reflecting his commitment to continuous learning and professional development.

In addition to his law enforcement duties, Abelardo has played a pivotal role in establishing a regional training center, providing essential training to law enforcement agencies within Cameron County and beyond. His efforts have strengthened partnerships between local, state, and federal agencies, enhancing overall public safety.

As Constable, Abelardo remains accessible to the community, maintaining an open-door policy and ensuring that his personal phone number is readily available for any questions or concerns. With his unparalleled dedication, extensive experience, and proven leadership, Abelardo Gomez continues to serve as a steadfast guardian of the public trust.



Candidates for County Constable Pct. 2



Carlos Martinez - As a Brownsville native and as a caring citizen of Precinct 2, I know how important it is to never forget your beginnings because it defines your future. My name is Carlos Martinez, and I am here to represent you as your future Cameron County Constable for Precinct 2.

I strongly believe in unifying all people to work together to create a safer brighter future for our youth. I was once a proud student of Brownsville ISD. I graduated with a degree in Corrections at the University of Texas at Brownsville, now known as UTRGV. I then acquired a master's degree in criminal justice from Lamar University.

I've also been involved with various local community services such as Brownsville Border Lions and Down by the Border just to name a couple.

In my experience, as a criminal justice teacher and head of the CTE department at Rivera E.C.H.S. for Brownsville ISD, I know how difficult it can be to bridge the disconnect between youth and law enforcement. In my experience as a deputy for the Cameron County Sheriff's Department, I believe that we, as a community, need to work together to find new avenues that will not only benefit the present but the futures of our youths.

If elected, I will make it my civic duty to not only enforce the law but help bridge that gap between education and law enforcement to create the unity needed for A Better Tomorrow.

I humbly ask for your vote.
