# Virginia 7th Congressional District Democratic Candidates

Primary is June 18, 2024 and Early voting begins May 3, 2024



## **Andrea Bailey**

Andrea Bailey was elected as part of the historic wave in Prince William County becoming one of the first African American women to serve on the Prince William County Board of Supervisors. She is a dedicated public servant with a track record of delivering results for her constituents. Since being elected in 2019, Supervisor Bailey has been a fierce advocate for housing accessibility, public health, transportation, and economic investment in Prince William County. Her accomplishments include historic efforts to prioritize affordable and accessible housing, passing the county's first Collective Bargaining Ordinance, securing \$90 million for transportation projects, and securing \$11.9 million to build the county's first Crisis Receiving Center for mental health. Andrea is a proud mother and military spouse to her husband Cozy, whom she has been married to for almost 50 years.



# **Carl Bedell**

Carl Bedell is a proud Army veteran, lawyer, and small businessman. He believes our nation deserves better representation overall, with leaders who can bridge divides, find solutions to daily issues, and promote the common good. Carl is passionate about social issues, environmental concerns, and economic growth, and he deeply understands the geopolitics threatening our nation's security. He upholds principles of integrity, honesty, and selfless service, prioritizing people over politics. With a background as a U.S. Army Officer, and Counterintelligence Special Agent, Carl has dedicated himself to service from an early age. As an attorney, he represents veterans in disability benefit cases and practices general small-business law. Additionally, Carl is the founder of a consulting company that assists federal agencies to improve financial management operations, transparency, and accountability. Carl resides in Virginia's 7th District near Shenandoah National Park, where he tends to bees, chickens, and a garden, all while keeping his dog Frisco away from the mountain stream in their backyard.



### **Margaret Franklin**

Margaret Franklin is an experienced public servant who served as both a local elected official and senior staffer on Capitol Hill. She has served as Prince William County Supervisor for the Woodbridge District since 2019.

As a supervisor, she has led efforts to build more affordable housing in Prince William County, establish a sustainability commission, create an award-winning Child Advocacy Center to help victims of child abuse, and rename the Jefferson Davis Highway.

Margaret spent almost a decade as a legislative staffer on Capitol Hill, where she worked to pass laws boosting small business, protecting voting rights, and supporting working families.



#### Elizabeth Guzmàn

Elizabeth Guzmàn came to this country as a single mother with \$300 in her pocket. Working 3 jobs to afford a small apartment for herself and her daughter, she still found time to attend NOVA and Capella University. Earning multiple masters' degrees, she built a successful career as a social worker - fighting to protect children from abuse and helping those struggling with their mental health and substance abuse. When Trump was elected, she stepped up to run for office, defeating a 16-year Republican incumbent in the House of Delegates. She led Democrats in their efforts to pass Obamacare Medicaid expansions, giving over 400,000 Virginians access to healthcare. In 2018, Speaker Pelosi selected her to give the Spanish SOTU Rebuttal. In Richmond, Elizabeth introduced bills to implement paid-sick leave, hire more school counselors, improve the lives of military families and veterans, and lift Virginia's ban on public sector collective bargaining -drawing praise for ensuring rural communities were never left behind. Elizabeth, her husband Carlos, and her mother Gregoria live in Prince William County where they have raised four children together.

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#### **Clifford Heinzer**

Cliff Heinzer wants to see Congress focus more on legislating to address the concerns of constituents and less on generating sound bites or the demands of well-funded special interests. Cliff grew up in a working-class neighborhood at a time when a full day's work earned a living wage. After graduating from Cornell University, he entered the Army, serving as an officer in the Infantry and Special Forces. In his second career as a diplomat, he dealt with U.S. policy in the Middle East, defense cooperation, narcotics control, addiction treatment, law enforcement, border security, immigration, and violent extremism. A member of the VFW and the Special Forces Association, he has been a member of organized labor for 25 years. Cliff served as the Political Action Chair of the NAACP's Stafford Branch, and Chair of the Stafford Democratic Committee. He resides in Stafford with his spouse, Tuanta, a federal retiree and naturalized U.S. citizen.



### **Briana Sewell**

Briana Sewell is the daughter of high school sweethearts from Selma, Alabama, who moved to Virginia as part of their service in the United States Air Force. Born and raised in Prince William County, Briana entered public service after college as District Director for Congressman Gerry Connolly. She went on to help establish the Virginia Campaign for a Family Friendly Economy, bringing people together to support bipartisan policies like paid family and medical leave, lower-cost child-care, affordable college and job training programs, and more affordable elder care options. In 2021, Briana was elected to the House of Delegates, winning a competitive district and quickly becoming one of the most productive first term members. She focused on passing legislation rooted in the stories she heard from around her district: laws increasing support for military families and veterans, adding more teachers to the classroom, and expanding protections for child victims of sexual assault. Each bill passed with bipartisan support and Briana was recently named as one of the Council of State Government's 20 Under 40 Leaders for her impressive accomplishments.



## **Eugene Vindman**

Eugene Vindman is an immigrant, a husband, a father of two, a human rights lawyer, and a former Colonel in the U.S. Army. He and his twin brother Alex were born in the Soviet Ukraine. When they were just four years old, they came to America as refugees along with their older brother, grandmother, and recently widowed father. As a family, they had \$759 to their name, but through perseverance and faith in the American dream, they were able to build a new life for themselves. In 2019, after serving 22 years in the Army, Eugene was on the National Security Council as the senior ethics attorney when he blew the whistle on the infamous phone call in which President Trump attempted to extort President Zelensky of Ukraine, threatening to withhold critical aid if Ukraine didn't investigate President Biden's family. Trump retaliated and Trump's vengeance cost Eugene his career. Now, Colonel Vindman is running for Congress to preserve democracy, protect our freedoms, and be an advocate for our communities on Capitol Hill. Eugene lives in Prince William County with his wife Cindy, their son Max who is a graduate of Prince William County Public Schools and is currently studying at William & Mary, and their daughter Madi, who is in the 8th grade.