



METRO ATLANTA DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS OF AMERICA

LOCAL ELECTORAL GUIDE

*August 11th 2020
Runoff Elections*

GEORGIA ELECTION INFORMATION

EARLY VOTING FOR THE AUGUST 11TH RUNOFF ENDS FRIDAY AUGUST 7TH, 2020. FIND YOUR EARLY VOTING LOCATION AT WWW.MVP.SOS.GA.GOV

AUGUST 11 PRIMARY RUNOFF ELECTION, NONPARTISAN GENERAL RUN OFF FOR LOCAL AND STATE OFFICES (MOVED FROM JULY 21)

OCTOBER 5 LAST DAY FOR VOTER REGISTRATION

OCTOBER 12 FIRST DAY OF ADVANCED IN-PERSON EARLY VOTING

NOVEMBER 3 GENERAL ELECTION

JANUARY 5 GENERAL ELECTION RUNOFF

GA VOTER PROTECTION LINE 888-730-5816

If you experience any challenges voting or registering to vote, please call the Georgia Voter Protection for help.

COUNTY ELECTION OFFICES

CLAYTON COUNTY

770-477-3372

121 S. McDONOUGH ST JONESBORO, GA 30236

COBB COUNTY

770-528-2581

736 WHITLOCK AVE NW, #400 MARIETTA, GA 30064

DEKALB COUNTY

404-298-4020

4380 MEMORIAL DR. #300 DECATUR, GA 30032

FULTON COUNTY

404-612-3816

130 PEACHTREE ST SW #2186 ATLANTA, GA 30303

GWINNETT COUNTY

678-226-7210

455 GRAYSON HWY 200 LAWRENCEVILLE, GA 30046

HENRY COUNTY

770-288-6448

40 ATLANTA STREET, McDONOUGH, GA 30253

NEWTON COUNTY

770-784-2055

1113 USHER ST SUITE 3, COVINGTON, GA 30014

ALWAYS CHECK YOUR REGISTRATION WITH THE GEORGIA SECRETARY OF STATE: WWW.MVP.SOS.GA.GOV

Voter Guide at a Glance

This voter guide by the Metro Atlanta DSA Electoral Commission provides a breakdown of the candidates appearing on the August 11th, Democratic Primary runoff election ballots.

While our goal is to elect socialists to office, they do not typically appear on the ballot on election day. For this reason, this voter guide highlights “Best Choice” and “Least Harm” candidates. Note that, for certain elections, there are no recommendations. MADSA does not endorse any candidates listed in this guide, nor do these recommendations mean that we support a given candidate. Instead, this document hopes to offer guidance for socialist-minded voters who want to vote for the most left-wing candidate, but don’t have time to thoroughly research every option.

“Best Choice” candidates present at least some policy proposals which align with MADSA’s priorities - such as increasing the minimum wage, ending cooperation with ICE, and combating police brutality. *“Least Harm”* candidates do not align with MADSA values, but represent a lesser potential harm. Finally, there are certain races for which there is *“No Recommendation,”* however, we have provided basic information on both candidates and links to their websites.

Click on a candidate to jump to that section.

Federal Elections

[U.S. House of Representatives](#)

[U.S. Congressional District 9 - Devin Pandey](#) - Best Choice

Georgia State Elections

[Georgia House of Representatives](#)

[Georgia House District 35 - Kyle Rinaudo](#) - Least Harm

[Georgia House District 65 - Mandisha Thomas](#) - Best Choice

[Georgia House District 86 - Zulma Lopez](#) - Least Harm

[Georgia State Senate](#)

[Georgia Senate District 9 - Nikki Merritt](#) - Least Harm

[Georgia Senate District 30 - Triana Arnold James](#) - Least Harm

[Metro Atlanta County Elections](#)

[Clayton Co. Board of Ed, Dist 7 - Sabrina Hill](#) - Best Choice

[Cobb Co. Commission, Dist 4](#) - No Recommendation

[Cobb Co. Superior Court Clerk](#) - No Recommendation

[Superior Court Judge, Cobb Circuit - Greg Shenton](#) - Least Harm

[DeKalb Co. Board of Ed, Dist 3 - Deirdre Pierce](#) - Least Harm

[DeKalb Co. Commission, Dist 1 - Cynthia Yaxon](#) - Least Harm

[DeKalb Co. Commission, Dist 6](#) - No Recommendation

[DeKalb Co. Sheriff - Ruth Stringer](#) - Least Harm

[Superior Court Judge, Stone Mountain Circuit - Yolanda](#)

[Parker-Smith](#) - Least Harm

[District Attorney, Atlanta Circuit - Fani Willis](#) - Least Harm

[Fulton Co. School Board, Dist 4 - Franchesca Warren](#) - Best Choice

[Fulton Co. Sheriff - Pat Labat](#) - Least Harm

[Superior Court Judge, Atlanta Circuit - Tamika](#)

[Hrobowski-Houston](#) - Least Harm

[Gwinnett Co. Commission Chair - Nicole L.](#)

[Hendrickson](#) - Least Harm*

[Gwinnett Co. Commission, Dist 3](#) - No Recommendation

[Gwinnett Co. Sheriff - Curtis Clemons](#) - Best Choice

[Gwinnett Co. Tax Commissioner](#) - No Recommendation

[Superior Court Judge, Gwinnett Circuit](#) - No Recommendation

[Henry Co. Board of Ed, Dist 2 - Makenzie McDaniel](#) - Least Harm

[Henry Co. Sheriff](#) - No Recommendation

[Newton Co. Board of Ed, Dist 4](#) - No Recommendation

[Newton Co. Commission, Dist 5 - Dorothy Piedrahita](#) - Least Harm

[Rockdale Co. Board of Ed, Post 5 - Akita Parmer](#) - Least Harm

[Rockdale Co. Superior Court Clerk](#) - No Recommendation

FEDERAL ELECTIONS

Three branches compose the U.S. federal government: legislative, executive, and judicial. For Metro Atlanta voters, the only federal candidates appearing on the August 11th runoff ballots are congressional representatives from the legislative branch.

The legislative branch of the U.S. federal government consists of two chambers: the House of Representatives and the Senate.

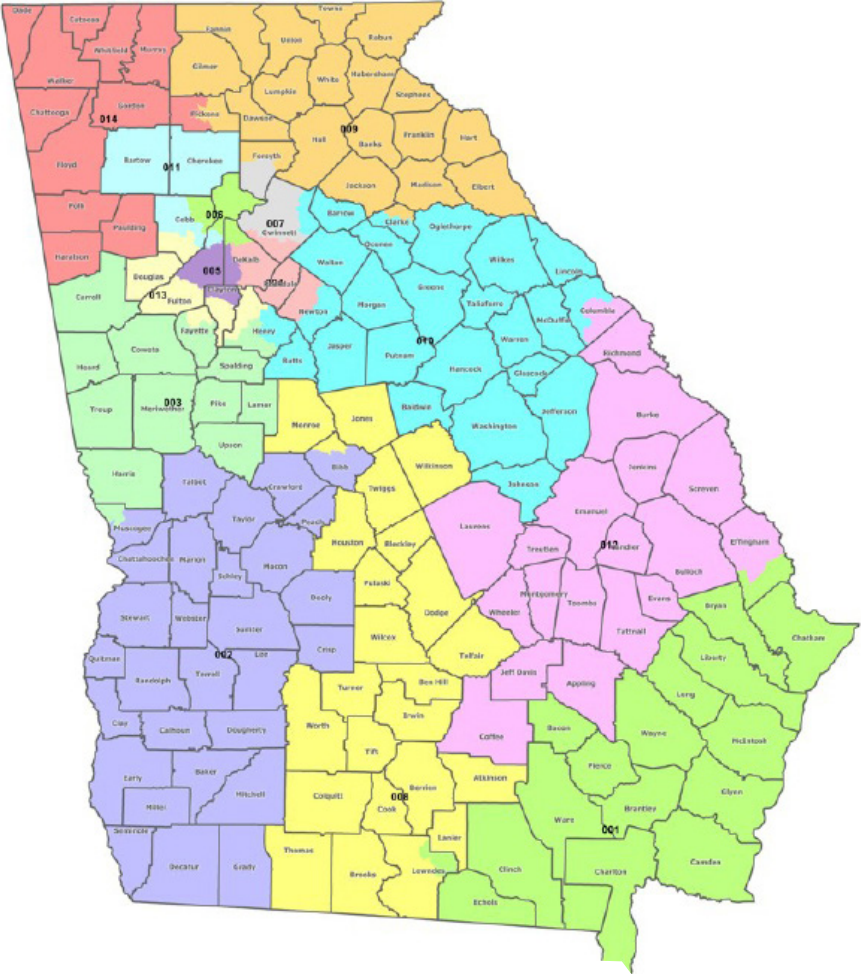
A total of 435 representatives serve in the U.S. House, each serving two-year terms. The count of representatives elected per state depends on population as counted by the U.S. Census that is held every 10 years. ([Fill out your 2020 Census!](#)). This year, Georgia will elect 14 members to the House.

Each state elects two senators who serve six-year terms. Every year, one-third of the Senate is up for election. Typically, a state's two Senate seats are not up for election during the same year. However, this year, the early retirement of Senator Johnny Isakson prompted a special November election to fill the vacancy, alongside the usual race against incumbent David Perdue. Kelly Loeffler ([basically the worst person ever](#)), appointed by Governor Kemp, currently holds Isakson's seat. The November election, in which both Republican and Democratic candidates will run, determines who completes his term. As of the June 9th primary, Perdue's challenger will be Democrat Jon Ossoff.

“Democracy is not just the right to vote; it is the right to live in dignity.”

-NAOMI KLEIN

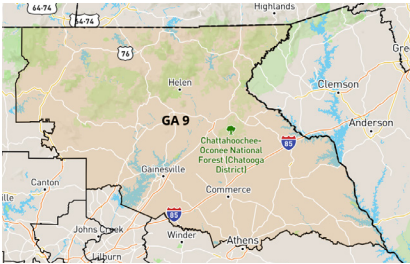
GEORGIA CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS



OUR CURRENT CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

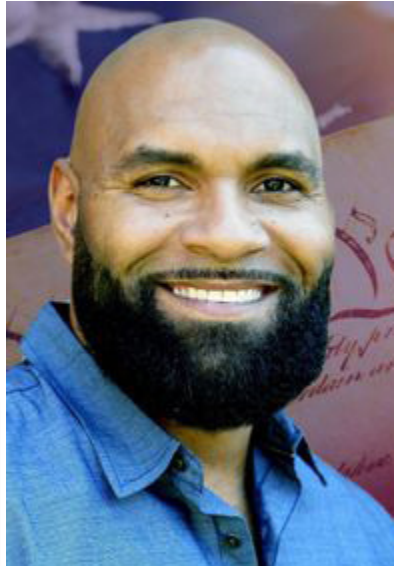
1. Buddy Carter (R)	912-352-0101	8. Austin Scott (R)	478-971-1776
2. Sanford Bishop (D)	229-439-8067	9. Doug Collins (R)	770-297-3388
3. Drew Ferguson (R)	770-683-2033	10. Jody Hice (R)	770-207-1776
4. Hank Johnson (D)	770-987-2291	11. Barry Loudermilk (R)	770-429-1776
5. *Vacant	N/A	12. Rick Allen (R)	706-228-1980
6. Lucy McBath (D)	470-773-6330	13. David Scott (D)	770-432-5405
7. Rob Woodall (R)	770-232-3005	14. Tom Graves (R)	706-226-5320

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 9



Area: Northeast Georgia
Party Control: (R)

Devin Pandy
~Best choice~



Website: <https://devinpandyforcongress.com>

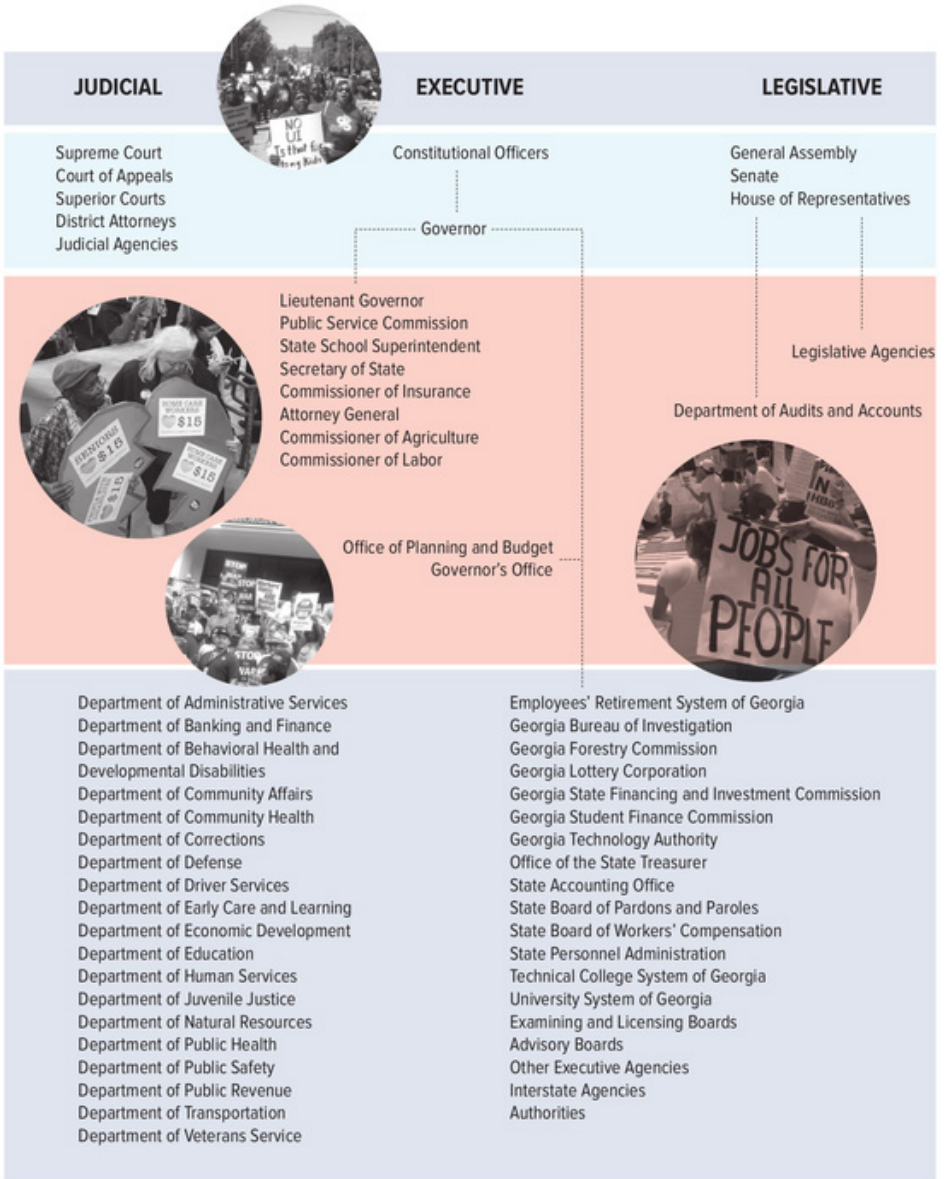
Platform:

- Universal healthcare
- Living wage for all Americans
- Restore Congress's power to declare war
- Protect essential workers during Covid-19 pandemic
- Support veterans, the homeless, the jobless, and those with mental illness
- Pathway to citizenship for DACA recipients
- Stop big oil and mining from destroying our lands
- Protect the right to vote

About This Race: Members of the U.S. House of Representatives are responsible for making policy at the federal level. Representatives are elected for two-year terms in partisan elections.

Opponent: Brooke Siskin

Opponent Website: <https://www.brookeforamerica.com/>

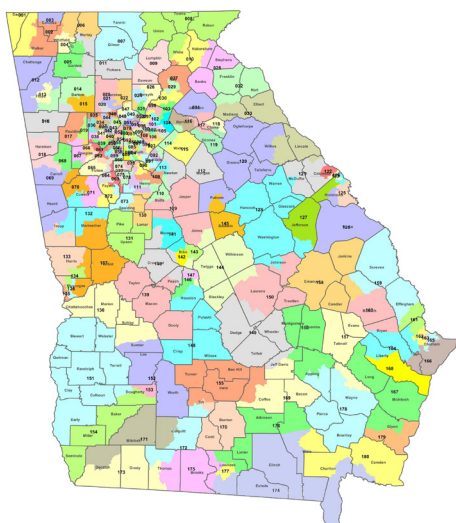


GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

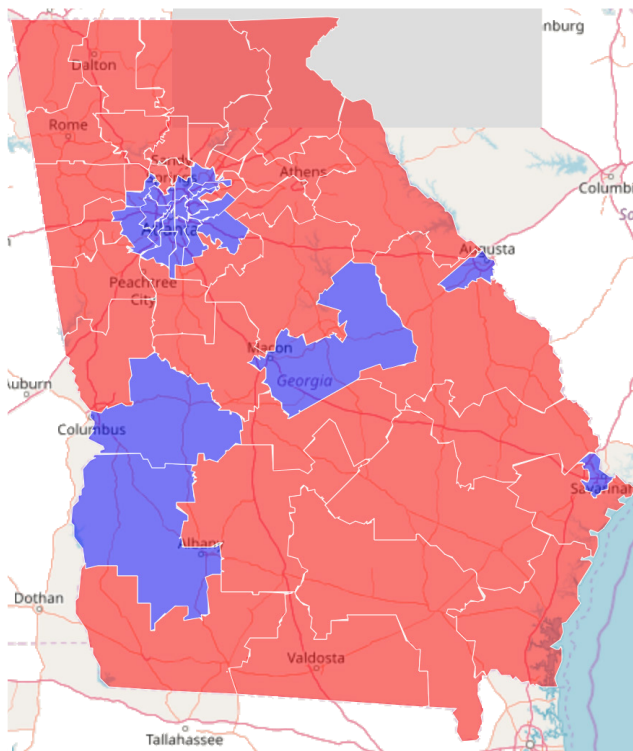
The Georgia General Assembly, or State Legislature, is composed of the State House of Representatives and the State Senate. The Georgia State Legislature is perhaps the central point of political power in Georgia. Almost every awful piece of legislation (the [Heart Beat Bill](#), [Campus Carry](#), and most recently, the [Police Protections Bill](#)) can be traced back to this elected body. However, with each progressive or socialist candidate we elect to the Georgia State Legislature, the closer we become to crafting our own vision of Georgia.

There are currently 180 State House representatives. House districts are relatively smaller (around 56,000 constituents per representative) than State Senate districts. Legislative districts are redrawn every 10 years, according to the United States Census. [The representatives elected to the Georgia General Assembly in 2020 will be responsible for drawing the legislative maps used for the next 10 years](#). State House representatives must be at least 21 years of age, citizens of the United States, and residents of Georgia for at least two years. Candidates must also have lived in the district for at least one year preceding the election.

Find my [Georgia House District](#)

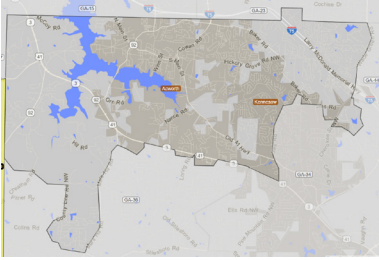


The State Senate is composed of 56 members. Senate districts are relatively larger, with nearly 173,000 constituents per representative. Similar to the House, Georgia State Senators serve two-year terms. Georgia Senators must be at least 25 years of age. Similar to State House Representatives, Senators must also be United States citizens and residents of their districts. Both House Representatives and Senators are elected on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in even-numbered years.



Find my [Georgia Senate District](#)

STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 35



Area: Cobb County
Party Control: (R)



Kyle Rinaudo
~Least Harm~

Website: kylerinaudo.com

Platform:

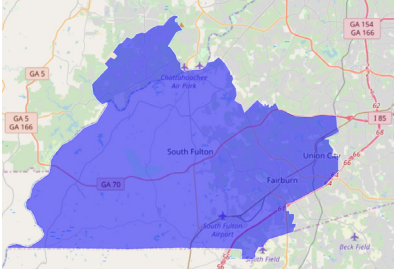
- Expand women's reproductive rights, repeal HB 481
- Expand Medicaid and mental health care options
- Fully fund public education
- Expand HOPE and access to vocational/trade schools
- Reintroduce electric vehicle tax credit
- Invest in public transportation
- Voting rights, automatic voter registration
- Gun safety, repeal campus carry

About This Race: Georgia State House representatives are responsible for creating public policy, tax policy, and approving the state budget. Currently the Georgia Democrats are 16 seats away from taking the State House. If voters can flip House District 35 in November, we come one step closer to stopping Republican gerrymandering in 2021.

Opponent: Lisa Campbell

Opponent Website: lisaforga.com

STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 65



Area: Fulton,
Douglas Counties
Party Control: (D)



Mandisha Thomas
~Best Choice~

Website: mandishathomas.com

Platform/Background:

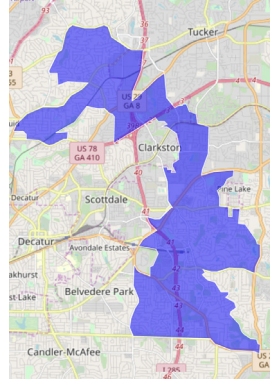
- Environmental justice
- Eradicate food deserts, increase access to nutritional food
- Increase urban green space
- Transit justice
- Quality healthcare
- Vice chair of South Fulton Food Policy Council
- Board member of Keep South Fulton Beautiful

About This Race: Georgia State House representatives are responsible for creating public policy, tax policy, and approving the state budget. The Georgia State House passes legislation ranging from issues of abortion access to hate crimes to campus carry.

Opponent: Sharon Beasley Teague (Incumbent)

Opponent Website: sharonbeasleyteague.wixsite.com/teague

STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 86



Area: DeKalb County
Party Control: (D)

Zulma Lopez
~Least Harm~

Website: zulmaforgeorgia.com

Platform/Background:

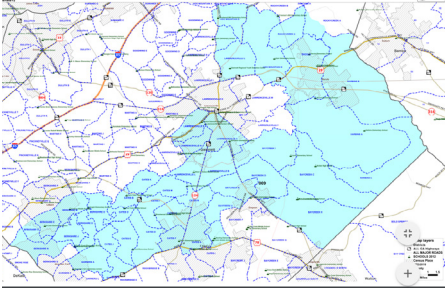
- Combat inequities in funding for public education
- Expand pre-school program
- Expand access to affordable college and technical degree programs
- Support minority- and women-owned small businesses
- Fully expand Medicaid, and access to maternal health care
- Immigration attorney and small business owner

About This Race: Georgia State House representatives are responsible for creating public policy, tax policy, and approving the state budget. The Georgia State House passes legislation ranging from issues of abortion access, to hate crimes, to campus carry.

Opponent: Michele Henson (Incumbent)

Opponent Website: repmichelehenson86.com

GEORGIA SENATE DISTRICT 9



Area: Gwinnett County
Party Control: (R)



Nikki Merritt
~Least Harm~

Website: merritt4georgia.com

Platform:

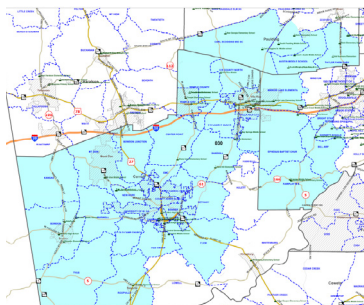
- Fully fund K-12 education, expand access to post-secondary education
- Align HOPE funding with annual tuition increases
- Expand Medicaid and maternal healthcare
- Protect the right to vote, while creating an independent, nonpartisan redistricting commission
- Comprehensive Civil Rights legislation
- Support unions in GA

About This Race: The Georgia State senate is comprised of 56 representatives, with two-year terms. State senators create public policy, tax policy, and approve the state budget. The Georgia State Senate passes legislation on issues ranging from bail bonds to voting rights.

Opponent: Gabe Okoye

Opponent Website: voteforgabe.com

STATE SENATE DISTRICT 30



Area: Carroll, Paulding,
Douglas Counties
Party Control: (R)

Triana Arnold James
~Least Harm~

Website: triana4georgia.com

Platform:

- Health care
- Voting rights
- Abortion access, repeal HB 481
- Abolish ICE
- Access to a living wage, \$15 minimum wage, and salary increases for educators
- Ratifying the ERA

About This Race: The Georgia State senate is comprised of 56 representatives, with two-year terms. State senators create public policy, tax policy, and approve the state budget. The Georgia State Senate passes legislation on issues ranging from bail bonds to voting rights.

Opponent: Monetia Edwards

Opponent Website: montenia4senate.com

COUNTY-LEVEL ELECTED OFFICIALS

LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION set the priorities, vision, and goals of a school district. School Boards also approve school budgets and appointments, including the school district superintendent.

Local Board of Education Elections August 11th, 2020: Clayton, Dekalb, Henry, Newton, and Rockdale Counties

COUNTY BOARDS OF COMMISSIONERS serve as the legislative branch for county government, and are responsible for policy decisions at the county-level. Typically, counties are divided into districts, with one commissioner representing each district, in addition to at least one at-large commissioner, elected by the county as a whole. County commissioners run in partisan elections, and serve four-year terms.

County Commission Elections August 11th, 2020: Cobb, Dekalb, Gwinnett, and Newton Counties

COUNTY TAX COMMISSIONERS are responsible for billing, collecting, processing, and distributing taxes. They oversee property taxes, solid waste fees, public utilities, and ad valorem taxes on motor vehicles. Tax Commissioners serve four-year terms in non-partisan races. In 2019, [the AJC reported](#) that dozens of Georgia County Tax Commissioners were found to have exploited their powers to charge cities for fee collection, in some cases increasing their salaries by over 50%.

County Tax Commissioner Elections August 11th, 2020: Gwinnett County

DISTRICT ATTORNEYS are elected to four-year terms in partisan, district-wide races. The district attorney is responsible for prosecuting of felony violations that occur within the district. This office prosecutes all indictable offenses, including felony and misdemeanor offenses committed by juveniles.

District Attorney Elections August 11th, 2020: Atlanta Circuit (Fulton County)

COUNTY SHERIFF RACES AND 287(G)

Under the 287(g) program, the Department of Homeland Security deputizes local law enforcement to carry out the work of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents. This process essentially absorbs local cops as part of the federal government's immigrant detention and deportation machinery. **In Georgia, sheriffs' departments have the power to invoke the 287(g) program, granting themselves powers that further harm immigrant communities.**

The 287(g) program allows local law enforcement to investigate the immigration status of people detained in jail, access ICE databases, issue ICE detainers, hold individuals after the time they're eligible for release, and place individuals in removal proceedings.

Gwinnett, in particular, is the #1 jurisdiction in the country feeding ICE's detention and deportation pipeline through the 287(g) program. Under this program, it is easier for people arrested on minor traffic charges to be transferred to ICE for deportation. [Electing a Sheriff](#) who is explicitly against ICE cooperation would mean the end of 287(g) for that county.

Each county in Georgia elects a **COUNTY SHERIFF** who serves four-year terms as the chief law enforcement officer in the county. Many counties have both a sheriff and a county police department. Often times the sheriff relinquishes general law enforcement responsibilities to the county police, however, reserves the right to intervene if deemed necessary.

The Sheriff must also serve in some capacity as a bailiff to the Superior Court. These duties include escorting juries, serving court summons, executing all court-ordered levies on property, and transporting mentally ill residents to mental health emergency receiving facilities. Finally, the Sheriff is responsible for the health, safety, and well-being of incarcerated individuals at the county detention center.

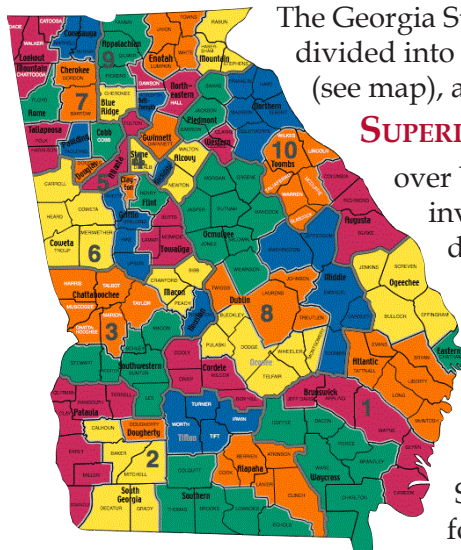
Sheriff Elections August 11th, 2020: Dekalb, Fulton, Gwinnett, and Henry Counties

Read more on the 287(g) program from [Project South](#).

JUDICIAL BRANCH

STATE COURT JUDGES exercise limited jurisdictions within one county. They may issue search and arrest warrants, and exercise jurisdiction over all misdemeanor violations (such as traffic violations) and all civil action except in cases where the Superior Courts have exclusive jurisdiction. State Court Judges are elected in county-wide, nonpartisan elections, and serve four-year terms. Certain vacancies in state court are appointed by the Governor.

State Court Judge Elections August 11th, 2020: Cobb County



The Georgia Superior Court is divided into 10 judicial districts (see map), and 49 judicial circuits.

SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES preside over both civil and criminal cases involving misdemeanors, contract disputes, premises liability, and various other actions. The Superior Court has exclusive jurisdiction over cases of divorce, title to land, and felonies involving jury trials, including death penalty cases. Superior Court Judges serve four-year terms in nonpartisan elections.

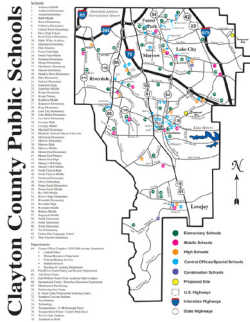
Superior Court Clerk Elections August 11th, 2020: Atlanta, Cobb, Gwinnett, and Stone Mountain Circuits

SUPERIOR COURT CLERKS receive and maintain criminal and civil court filings and serve as custodian of county land and property records. Each of Georgia's 159 Counties has an elected Superior Court Clerk.

Superior Court Clerk Elections August 11th, 2020: Cobb and Rockdale Counties

Find my local [Superior Court](#).

CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 7



Area: Clayton County
Party Control: (D)



Sabrina Hill
~Best Choice~

Website: N/A

Platform/Background:

- Close achievement gaps at Clayton County Schools
- Work with state and local policy-makers to address inequities in funding for public schools, and teacher pay raises
- Believes that students' mental, physical, and nutritional needs must be met in order to achieve quality education
- Substitute teacher and volunteer at Clayton County Schools
- Background working in the local and state government

About This Race: Local Boards of Education set the priorities, vision, and goals of a school district. The Board of Education approves school budgets and appointments.

Opponent: Judy Johnson (Incumbent)

Opponent Website: N/A

COBB COUNTY COMMISSION, DISTRICT 4



Shelia
Edwards



Monique
Sheffield

~No Recommendation*~

Website: electshelia.com

Platform:

- Affordable housing
- Improve public transit in Cobb County
- Expand access to sidewalks
- Expand recycling initiatives
- Offer tax incentives to environmentally friendly businesses
- **Use tech and security cameras to fight crime**

Website: electsheffield.com

Platform:

- Economic development
- Attract businesses and eateries to district
- Affordable housing
- Viable transit options
- Eliminate zoning loopholes

About This Race: The Board of Commissioners is responsible for setting the direction of and developing policy for the county government.

Party Control: (D)

***Note:** While Shelia Edwards has a more robust platform regarding environmental and affordable housing initiatives, she also advocates for increased police salaries and access to technology.

SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE, COBB CIRCUIT



Greg Shenton
~Least Harm~

Website: gregforjudge.com

Platform/Background:

- Fought for childcare services for Graduate students at Emory University
- Did pro bono law for mothers who were owed child support by “delinquent” fathers
- Attorney for 20 years, serving large corporations, small businesses and individuals

About This Race: Superior Court Judges preside over both civil and criminal cases involving misdemeanors, contract disputes, premises liability, and various other actions. These judges serve four-year terms in nonpartisan elections. Opponent Jason Marbutt has been [accused in the past of racial bias](#). While racial bias exists throughout the entirety of the Criminal Justice system, selecting “least harm” candidates such as Shenton is a first step on the long journey towards dismantling racist government system.

Opponent: Jason Marbutt

Opponent Website: marbuttforsuperiorcourt.com

**DEKALB COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION,
DISTRICT 3**



Deirdre Pierce
~Least Harm~

Website: N/A

Platform:

- Financial Literacy Program
- Advocated for a total renovation of a local high school that included a Career and Technology Wing
- Served as a local school PTA treasurer, president, school council representative, and Georgia PTA District Director where she was the support person for 3 counties
- Advocated for the total renovation of her neighborhood high school, which resulted in the school board allocating funds for a Career and Technology wing and an auditorium for all high schools in the district.

About This Race: Local school boards set the priorities, vision, and goals of a school district. The Board of Education approves school budgets and appointments.

Opponent: Willie Mosley

Opponent Website: electmosleyfordistrict3.com

COBB COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CLERK



Connie
Taylor



Nancy
Syrop

~No Recommendation~

Website: electconnietaylor.com Website: nancyforcobb.com

Platform/Background:

- Will be a leader that will work with civic and business professionals and constituents
- Will be visible and accessible to the community
- Former member of Cobb County Board of Tax Assessors

Platform/Background:

- Will quickly and efficiently enter records into the system
- Ensure that information requested is accurate and reliable
- Lawyer in Cobb County for over 30 years

About This Race: Superior Court Clerks are responsible for receiving and maintaining criminal and civil court filings, in addition to serving as custodian of county land and property records. Current party control for this office is Republican.

DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSION, DISTRICT 1



Cynthia Yaxon
~Least Harm~

Website: cynthiayaxondekalbcountycommissioner2020.com

Platform:

- Access to clean water and clean parks
- Address sewage issues
- Sufficient resources for those who work in public safety
- Make sure those in office are accountable

About This Race: The Dekalb County Board of Commissioners (BOC) functions as the county's primary legislative and policy-making body. The BOC is made up of seven members, five elected from individual districts and two elected from super districts that make up about half of the county's population. The current incumbent, Nancy Jester, is the only Republican on the Dekalb BOC.

Party Control: (R)

Opponent: Robert Patrick

Opponent Website: voterobertpatrick.com

DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSION, DISTRICT 6



Ted
Terry



Maryam
Ahmad

~No Recommendation~

Website: tedfordekalb.com

Website: maryamfordekalb.com

Platform:

- Transit Equity
- Affordable Housing
- Green New Deal
- Criminal Justice Reform
- Voting Rights

Platform:

- Public Health
- Affordable Housing
- Community-driven economic development
- Expand public transportation, reduce pollution
- Clean energy

About This Race: The Dekalb County Board of Commissioners (BOC) functions as the county's primary legislative and policy-making body. The BOC is made up of seven members, five elected from individual districts and two elected from super districts that make up about half of the county's population.

Party Control: (D)

***Note:** While opponent Ted Terry has a strong platform, the [Asian American Advocacy Fund released a statement](#) on July 26, 2020 regarding an email exchange between the AAAF and Terry.

DEKALB COUNTY SHERIFF



Ruth Stringer*
~Least Harm~

Website: stringerforsheriff.com

Platform:

- Untangle private interests from the taxpayers' dollars
- Communicate with community members and local leaders
- Proper maintenance of courts and jails
- End solitary confinement
- End cash bail
- Against ICE cooperation
- Against arrests for pot possession

About This Race: As we begin the long road to defunding the police, it is of use to elect candidates against harmful policies such as ICE cooperation and bail bonds, who are more likely to listen to the demands of local activists and the Black Lives Matter movement. ***Note:** 8/11 represents only a special election to fill a vacancy for two months, and that Melody Maddox has been named winner for the two-year term starting in Jan. 2021.

Party Control: (D)

Opponent: Melody Maddox (Incumbent)

Opponent Website: sheriffmelodymaddox.com

SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE, STONE MOUNTAIN CIRCUIT



Yolanda Parker
-Smith
~Least Harm~

Website: electyolandaparkersmith.com

Platform/Background:

- Involved in accountability courts for juveniles and adults
- Established, led and directed the Atlanta Judicial Circuit Office' of the Public Defender's Office Parent Attorney Division

About This Race: Superior Court Judges preside over both civil and criminal cases involving misdemeanors, contract disputes, premises liability, and various other actions. These Judges serve four-year terms in nonpartisan elections.

Opponent: Mindy Pillow

Opponent Website: pillowforjudge.com

DISTRICT ATTORNEY, ATLANTA CIRCUIT



Fani Willis
~Least Harm~

Website: faniwillis.com

Platform:

- Create/expand pre- and post-indictment diversion programs, create youth development programs
- Against pressuring plea deals
- Supports posting conviction demographics
- Will review claims of wrongful conviction
- Against charging juveniles as adults
- **Does not support ending cash bail**

About This Race: District Attorneys are elected to four-year terms in partisan, district-wide races. The District Attorney prosecutes all indictable offenses, and felony and misdemeanor offenses committed by juveniles. While Fani Willis is not the ideal choice, she presents a “least harm” alternative to incumbent Paul Howard, who is currently [under investigation by the GBI](#), and is additionally facing sexual harassment and gender discrimination charges from former employees.

Party Control: (D)

Opponent: Paul Howard (Incumbent)

Opponent Website: re-electpaulhoward.com

FULTON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD, DISTRICT 4



Franchesca Warren
~Best Choice~

Website: electfranchesca.com

Platform:

- Help students achieve equity
- Decrease testing in schools, less emphasis on CCRPI score, more emphasis on school climate
- Partner with existing mentorship programs to curb youth crime
- Wraparound services for students facing mental health issues, homelessness, and food insecurity

About This Race: Local Boards of Education set the priorities, vision, and goals of a school district. While students are over-tested, public education is vastly underfunded, and stark inequities exist in funding between school districts. Elected School Board members must appreciate and understand how issues such as poverty and food insecurity affect learning.

Opponent: Sandra Wright

Opponent Website: electdrwright4fcsb.com

FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF



Pat Labat
~Least Harm~

Website: labatforsheriff.com

Platform:

- Improving jail conditions for inmates
- Mental health and addiction recovery beds and services
- Create and expand re-entry programs
- Prioritize domestic violence warrants
- Against ICE cooperation
- Supports posting policing demographics
- Supports ending cash bail
- Supports trans medical rights

About This Race: As we begin the long road to defunding the police, it is of use to elect candidates against harmful policies such as ICE cooperation and bail bonds, who are more likely to listen to the demands of local activists and the Black Lives Matter movement.

Party Control: (D)

Opponent: Theodore Jackson (Incumbent)

Opponent Website: reelectsheriff tjackson.com

SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE, ATLANTA CIRCUIT



Tamika Hrobowski-
Houston
~Least Harm~

Website: electhrobowskihouston.com

Platform:

- Maintain respect and civility in courtroom, especially when there is risk of harm to a vulnerable litigant/child
- Improving technology in the courts to increase efficiency
- Upgrade/find alternative to the current case management system, helping give information litigants need in court

About This Race: Superior Court Judges preside over both civil and criminal cases involving misdemeanors, contract disputes, premises liability, and various other actions. These Judges serve four-year terms in nonpartisan elections.

Opponent: Melynee Leftridge Harris

Opponent Website: melyneeleftridgéharris.com

GWINNETT COUNTY COMMISSION CHAIR



Nicole Love Hendrickson
*~Least Harm~**

Website: love4gwinnett.com

Platform:

- Funding mass transit options
- Invest in walkability
- Investment in literacy, career, and workforce training

About This Race: While each of the four districts of Gwinnett County elects a district commissioner, the Commission Chair is elected by the county as a whole. The Board of Commissioners is responsible for setting the direction of and developing policy for the county government.

Party Control: (D)

Opponent: Lee Thompson

Opponent Website: leeforgwinnett.com

*Note: Although he is technically on the ballot, opponent Lee Thompson has stepped down to allow Hendrickson to take the chair.

GWINNETT COUNTY COMMISSION, DISTRICT 3



Derrick
Wilson



Jasper
Watkins III

~No Recommendation*~

Website: wilson4gwinnett.com Website: watkins3for3.com

Platform:

- Improve transit
- Early childhood education
- Expand affordable housing, fight homelessness
- Improve police handling of mental illness, plus racial/sexual orientation bias training
- **Increase police salary**

Platform:

- Infrastructure
- Economic development
- Public safety

About This Race: The Board of Commissioners are responsible for setting the direction of and developing policy for the county government.

Party Control: (R)

***Note:** While Derrick Wilson has an overall stronger platform in many areas, his platform also calls for increased police salaries, which stands in contrast to the demands of the movement to defund the police.

GWINNETT COUNTY SHERIFF



Curtis Clemons
~Best Choice~

Website: clemonsforsheriff.com

Platform:

- End the 287g program and ICE cooperation in Gwinnett
- Cash bail reform
- Train deputies on dealing with those with mental health issues
- Give inmates rehabilitation animals to help reduce recidivism
- Community policing
- Supports trans medical rights

About This Race: One part of the fight against police brutality takes place at the ballot box. We must elect sheriffs who will keep their police force in check, and respond to the demands of the Black Lives Matter movement, as a stopgap on the road to defunding the police. Given that this office is currently held by the GOP, the November election is of utmost importance.

Party Control: (R)

Opponent: Keybo Taylor

Opponent Website: keyboforsheriff.com

GWINNETT COUNTY TAX COMMISSIONER



Tiffany
Porter



Regina
Carden

~No Recommendation~

Website:

tiffanyporter.net

Website:

regina4taxcommissioner.com

Platform/Background:

- Transparency
- Community outreach
- Accountability
- Launched two law firms

Background:

- Chief Fiscal Officer and Associate Director of several hospitals for Department of Veteran Affairs

About This Race: County tax commissioners are responsible for billing, collecting, processing and distributing taxes. They oversee property taxes, solid waste fees, public utilities, and ad valorem taxes on motor vehicles.

Party Control: (R)

SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE, GWINNETT



Kathryn
Schrader*



Deborah
Fluker

~No Recommendation~

Website:

judgekathyschrader.com

Website: judgefluker.com

Platform/Background:

- Awareness of substance abuse and mental health crisis in Gwinnett County
- Alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenders
- Experience working with victims of domestic violence and juvenile justice

Platform/Background:

- Improve efficiency in the courts, given the backlog of cases due to Covid-19
- Has issued legal rulings in divorce cases, child custody disputes, child support disputes, parental visitation disputes, and civil law suits

About This Race: Superior Court Judges preside over both civil and criminal cases involving misdemeanors, contract disputes, premises liability, and various other actions. These Judges serve four-year terms in nonpartisan elections.

*Note: Earlier this year, Schrader (Incumbent) was [indicted](#) for allegedly allowing a private investigator improper access to the county's computer network.

HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 2



Makenzie McDaniel
~Least Harm~

Website: vote4mcdaniel2020.com

Platform:

- Emphasis on STEAM, reading and math proficiency
- Equality in education and opportunity
- Increased salaries and investment for teachers
- Increase classroom resource
- Emphasis on classroom size
- Increased cultural awareness, bullying awareness, sex trafficking awareness, and school violence awareness

About This Race: Local Boards of Education set the priorities, vision, and goals of a school district. For this reason, it's important to elect school board candidates who value the labor of teachers, understand the inequities that exist in public education, and who do not push for increased SROs and police officers in schools (such as incumbent, Josh Hinton).

Opponent: Josh Hinton (Incumbent)

Opponent Website: joshhintonforboe.com

HENRY COUNTY SHERIFF



Reginald
Scandrett



Tony
Brown

~No Recommendation~

Website: scandrett4sheriff.com

Website: tonybrownsheriff.com

Platform:

- Against ICE cooperation
- Supports posting policing demographics
- **Does not support ending solitary confinement**
- **Is not against arrests for pot possession**
- Supports ending cash bail
- **Does not support trans medical rights**

Platform/Background:

- 20+ years of law enforcement experience
- EMT certified
- Military background

About This Race: One part of the fight against police brutality and racist policing takes place at the ballot box. We must elect sheriffs who will keep their police force, refuse ICE cooperation, and respond to the demands of the Black Lives Matter Movement. This is just one step on the road towards defunding the police.

Party Control: (R)

NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION



Anderson
Bailey



Jeffrey
Johnson

~No Recommendation~

Website: N/A

Website: jeffreyjohnsonboe4.com

Background:

- Employed with the city of Covington as a meter reader
- Retired from the military with 23 years of service

Platform/Background:

- Schools should provide comfortable environment Chambers of Commerce
- Mentoring program for Porterdale Elementary School and Open Campus for Rockdale County Schools
- Founder of Young Men Building A Dynasty and Young Women Building An Empire (Newton County School System)

About This Race: Local Boards of Education set the priorities, vision, and goals of a school district. The Board of Education approves school budgets and appointments.

Party Control: (D)

NEWTON COUNTY COMMISSION, DISTRICT 5



Dorothy Piedrahita
~Least Harm~

Website: N/A

Background:

- Former [civil rights activist/organizer](#)
- Social Worker
- City Coordinator of Meals on Wheels
- Helped found Georgia Epilepsy Foundation
- Administrative assistant for future governor Don Seige

About This Race: The Newton County Board of Commissioners establishes county policies, approves the county budget, and authorizes expenditures. The board also approves zoning throughout the county. Each of the five county districts elects a county board member, and the entire county elects the Commission Chair. Each board member serves a four year term.

Party Control: (R)

Opponent: Casey Duren

Opponent Website: N/A

ROCKDALE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, Post 5



Akita Parmer
~Least Harm~

Website: akitaparmer.ga/index.html

Platform:

- Education equality for all students
- Support additional remediation classes to help students graduate
- Increase parent and community involvement
- Prepare students for college and careers
- More mental health experts/support and social worker resources
- Financial transparency

About This Race: Local Boards of Education set the priorities, vision, and goals of a school district. The Board of Education approves school budgets and appointments.

Opponent: Lara Parker

Opponent Website: N/A

ROCKDALE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT



Janice
Morris



Sharif
Fulcher

~No Recommendation~

Website:

janicemorrisclerk2020.com

Platform/Background:

- Protect voters' choices
- Balance the budget
- Ensure policies and procedures are properly regulated according to the law
- Encourage citizens to be more involved in local government
- COO of nonprofit, Helping Hands Outreach Clinic

Website:

electfulcher.org

Platform/Background:

- Former marine, police officer, and attorney for Dekalb County State Court

About This Race: Superior Court Clerks are responsible for receiving and maintaining criminal and civil court filings, in addition to serving as custodian of county land and property records.

Party Control: (D)

Democratic Socialists of America



About Us

Metro Atlanta Democratic Socialists of America is one of some 200 local Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) chapters, organizing committees and youth chapters in the U.S. (www.dsaua.org), with a rapidly growing membership. As democratic socialists, we envision a society and a world where resources are democratically controlled to benefit all. In pursuing this goal, we educate the public about socialist values and policies and build progressive coalitions committed to fighting for economic and social justice.

P.O. BOX 3636, Decatur, GA 30031

www.MADSA.ga

Email: electoral@madsa.ga