

2026 Texas Primary Voter Guide

Currently the guide contains information on the US Senate, congressional, and local races with significant Muslim constituents in the Houston/Greater Houston, Dallas-Fort Worth, and Austin area.

DISCLAIMER:

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Methodology

This voter guide was developed through a review of publicly available information to help provide a clearer picture of where candidates stand on issues affecting Muslim communities and Texans for the US Senate and races representing Harris, Fort Bend, Collin, Dallas, and Travis County. **For sitting elected officials, we reviewed legislative voting records, bill sponsorships, and public statements to identify how past actions may connect to current policy positions. For all candidates, we reviewed campaign websites (when available), Ballotpedia profiles, responses to community and issue-based questionnaires, and interviews or Q&A features published by local, city- and county-specific news outlets.**

Because campaign information varies by candidate and over time, some positions or statements may not be captured here. To support transparency and independent decision-making, we have included candidates’ websites where available and encourage voters to conduct their own research. This guide is intended to offer a broader context on key issues that matter to our community and to Texans across the state.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why should I vote in the primaries?

Primary elections play a major role in shaping who appears on the general election ballot. Many decisions that impact our communities, including policies affecting foreign affairs, civil rights, religious freedom, education (to name a few), are influenced by who wins primaries. Voting in the primaries is one of the earliest and most effective ways to make your voice heard and help shape the choices voters will have in November.

2. How does voting in the Texas primaries work?

Texas has an open primary system. You do not have to register with a political party in advance. When you vote in the primary, you will choose which party's primary you want to vote in for that election only.

You may vote in only one party's primary in a given election cycle. The ballot you receive will include only that party's candidates and any propositions on their primary ballot.

3. If I want to do my own research on a candidate, where can I go?

- Vote411 (League of Women Voters): <https://www.vote411.org>
- Texas Secretary of State: <https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections>
- Texas Ethics Commission (campaign finance information): <https://www.ethics.state.tx.us>
- Candidates' official campaign websites and public statements

How to use

1. Look up your ballot by entering your address here - <https://turbovote.org/>
2. Review candidates and propositions using the guide
 - a. Not every race will be listed on this guide!
3. Make your choices ahead of time – you can bring your notes to the polls!

Office & Role Descriptions

U.S. Senate

U.S. Senators represent their entire state and serve **six-year terms**. They vote on **federal laws**, confirm **judicial and cabinet appointments**, approve **treaties**, and influence national policy on issues such as civil rights, immigration, healthcare, and foreign affairs.

U.S. House of Representatives

Members of the U.S. House represent congressional districts and serve **two-year terms**. They introduce and vote on **federal legislation**, approve the federal budget, and conduct oversight of federal agencies. Their decisions affect national policy on healthcare, education funding, civil liberties, and public safety.

Texas House of Representatives

Texas House members represent state legislative districts and serve **two-year terms**. They vote on **state laws and the state budget**, including policies related to **public education, higher education, healthcare (including Medicaid), voting rights, protest rights, and civil-rights protections**.

County Judges

County Judges serve as the **chief executive officers of the county** and preside over the Commissioners Court. They oversee **county operations, budgets, emergency management, and intergovernmental coordination**, and play a major role in disaster response and local policy implementation.

County Attorney

County Attorneys represent the county in **civil legal matters** and may prosecute certain criminal cases, depending on the county. They provide legal advice to county officials and play a role in enforcing laws, contracts, and regulations.

County Commissioners

Commissioners are members of the **Commissioners Court** and are responsible for **county budgets, infrastructure (such as roads and flood control), public health funding, and local services**. They represent specific precincts within the county.

Key Issues considered for Congressional Candidates (U.S Senate & House of Representatives)

Foreign Affairs

This section summarizes candidates' publicly stated views on U.S. foreign policy and international human rights. This includes positions on Israel and Palestine, Iran, and Sudan, as reflected in campaign policy positions, public statements where accessible, or actions taken while in office.

Immigration

This section outlines candidates' positions on immigration policy, including border enforcement, pathways to legal status, detention practices, and federal immigration agencies. It also includes public responses to recent immigration enforcement actions, such as ICE operations and related protests in Minnesota, and broader views on oversight, accountability, and the rule of law in immigration enforcement, as reflected in campaign policy positions, public statements where accessible, or actions taken while in office.

Religious Freedom

This section covers candidates' views on religious liberty and equal protection under the law. It includes whether candidates have addressed discrimination or hostility toward religious communities, including anti-Muslim bigotry, as reflected in campaign policy positions, public statements where accessible, or actions taken while in office.

Civil Rights

This section summarizes candidates' positions on constitutional rights and civil liberties, including due process, voting rights, freedom of expression, and the right to peacefully assemble and protest including the Pro-Palestine, Anti-Genocide protests as reflected in

campaign policy positions, public statements where accessible, or actions taken while in office.

Education

This section reviews candidates' positions on access to education and public education funding, as well as views on school choice and faith-based educational institutions. Where applicable, it includes information on religious schools, including Islamic schools, and broader questions of equity and nondiscrimination in education as reflected in campaign policy positions, public statements where accessible, or actions taken while in office.

Healthcare

This section summarizes candidates' views, as reflected in campaign policy positions, public statements where accessible, or actions taken while in office, on healthcare access and affordability, including positions on the Affordable Care Act, public insurance programs, universal healthcare proposals, and efforts to reduce healthcare costs.

US Senate

Republican Primary



John Cornyn - *Incumbent*

Bio: Cornyn has served in the U.S. Senate since 2002 and previously served as Texas Attorney General, a Texas Supreme Court justice, and a district judge.

Campaign Website: <https://www.johncornyn.com/>

Official Website: <https://www.cornyn.senate.gov/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Cornyn is a staunch supporter of Israel. He [cosponsored a Senate resolution](#) condemning Hamas’s attacks and affirming Israel’s right to defend itself. He has blamed Iran for backing Hamas and [supports sanctions](#) to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons. On Sudan, in 2023, Cornyn joined a bipartisan call to appoint a U.S. special envoy to help end Sudan’s civil conflict, citing the “widespread atrocities” and humanitarian crisis there.
- **Immigration:** Cornyn [favors strict border security and enforcement](#). He helped author border security bills and has opposed “open border” policies. Cornyn supports ICE funding as part of broader homeland security budgets and has [not positioned himself](#) as critical of ICE actions in Minnesota, in fact blaming the Minnesota Governor and Minneapolis Mayor for the death of Renee Good.
- **Religious Freedom:** Senator Cornyn advocates broad protections for religious expression, often highlighting America’s Judeo-Christian heritage. However, Cornyn does not have a record of speaking out against anti-Muslim bigotry. In fact, during the primary campaign he released an ad calling “[Radical Islam a bloodthirsty ideology](#)” and [touted efforts](#) to revoke the Muslim civil rights group CAIR’s tax-exempt status.
- **Civil Rights:** He condemns the pro-Palestine protests. For example, he [cosponsored a resolution denouncing the protests](#). However, the campaign materials reviewed here do not include detailed policy positions on protecting free speech.
- **Education:** Cornyn [supports school choice and funding for religious schools](#) in general, but there is no specific record of him addressing Islamic schools. No public statements were found on improving access to Islamic or other specific religious schools.
- **Healthcare:** Cornyn [opposes a government-run universal healthcare system](#). He voted to repeal the Affordable Care Act and calls Obamacare “a disaster.” He favors market-based solutions like expanding health savings accounts and allowing insurance sales across state lines. Cornyn supported measures to lower drug costs.



Ken Paxton

Bio: Texas Attorney General (in office since 2015) and previously served in the Texas House and Texas Senate.

Campaign Website: <https://www.kenpaxton.com/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Paxton’s campaign focuses on an “America First” approach. He has not outlined detailed positions on Palestine or Sudan. He generally supports Israel; as Texas AG he joined coalitions condemning Hamas and [supports anti-Boycott, Divestment, and Sanction laws](#). Paxton is [a vocal Iran hawk](#); he praised the U.S. withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal and often links Iran to terrorism. Sudan has not been mentioned in his platform or public statements, indicating no specific public stance found on Sudan.
- **Immigration:** Paxton has [expressed hardline immigration stances](#). As attorney general, he sued to end DACA, force continuation of “Remain in Mexico,” and expand border enforcement, while backing sanctuary city bans, wall construction, and use of state forces at the border. He frames immigration as a security threat, rejects pathways to citizenship, and calls for maximum enforcement rather than oversight of ICE.
- **Religious Freedom:** Paxton frames his agenda as defending religious liberty, particularly for Christian institutions. However, he has targeted Muslim organizations, [doubling down on efforts to ban CAIR](#), and using campaign rhetoric that conflates Islam with extremism, while not condemning anti-Muslim bigotry or defending Muslim Americans’ religious rights.
- **Civil Rights:** Paxton describes himself as a defender of constitutional rights, and his record reflects a focus on certain rights and issues over others. As attorney general, he has [opposed expanded voting access](#), sued voting rights organizations like [Jolt](#), supported harsh penalties against racial justice protesters, [backed Trump’s Muslim travel ban](#), and embraced anti-Muslim rhetoric. However, the campaign materials reviewed here do not include detailed policy positions on protecting free speech.
- **Education:** Paxton strongly [supports school choice](#) and vouchers, [backs restrictions](#) on how race and history are taught, and has used the attorney general’s office to weigh in on school policies aligned with conservative values, [including public prayer](#). Recently, he [investigated school districts](#) over potential involvement with the [Islamic Games at school district owned facilities](#). His office has [issued an opinion](#) that could affect voucher eligibility for some private schools, including those with Muslim affiliations.
- **Healthcare:** Paxton opposes government-led healthcare expansion and has focused his efforts on [repealing the Affordable Care Act](#). He [emphasizes](#) market-based healthcare, religious exemptions from coverage requirements, and enforcement actions against healthcare fraud, rather than expanding public coverage programs.



Wesley Hunt

Bio: U.S. Representative serving Texas' 38th Congressional District (currently in his second term)

Campaign Website - <https://wesleyfortexas.com/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Hunt is a West Point graduate and Army veteran who strongly supports Israel. He condemned Hamas' terrorism and has [advocated for Israel's defense](#). Hunt released an attack ad ("Sharia John") accusing Sen. Cornyn of being soft on "Sharia law," [signaling Hunt's hardline stance](#). He frames Middle East issues through a security lens: for example, he said Iran's "malign influence" must be countered to protect American and Israeli interests. Sudan has not been featured in Hunt's platform.
- **Immigration:** Hunt prioritizes border security "in perpetuity." He [vows](#) to "keep it secure and prevent illegal crossings from overwhelming our communities." In Congress he opposed any ICE budget cuts and supports strict enforcement. He has not proposed specific ICE oversight reforms; instead, he wants ICE and Border Patrol fully empowered. Hunt often links immigration to national security, suggesting potential terrorists could enter if borders aren't sealed. He [did not support](#) his Republican colleagues' calls for Trump to pull ICE out of Minnesota, framing it as "a display of Republican WEAKNESS."
- **Religious Freedom:** Hunt frames his agenda as defending religious liberty, particularly for Christian institutions. However, Hunt has not spoken up against anti-Muslim prejudice. In fact, his campaign rhetoric [taps into anti-Islam sentiment](#). His "Sharia John" ad used Cornyn's Ramadan greeting to Muslims as a line of attack. Hunt stated that Sharia law is "fundamentally incompatible" with American values. These statements indicate Hunt is leveraging fears of Islam in politics, rather than opposing such bigotry.
- **Civil Rights:** Hunt has criticized social media "censorship" of the right. However, he has little record on protecting the first amendment in his campaign. As a sitting congressman, he has [pledged](#) to stand with law enforcement and criticizes movements critical of law enforcement. Hunt's [public commentary around pro-Palestine campus protests](#) has largely centered on condemning antisemitism and criticizing the protests.

- **Education:** Hunt [supports](#) school choice and expanding charter schools. He has not addressed Islamic schools specifically. In general, he argues for parents’ rights in education and against “woke” curriculum, aligning with Christian conservative education priorities.
- **Healthcare:** Hunt [opposes](#) expanding public healthcare programs or moving toward single-payer; he advocates private insurance solutions and targeted fixes for costs, framing healthcare as an area where Biden’s policies should be rolled back in favor of Trump-era approaches.



Anna Bender

Bio: IT analyst

Campaign Website - <https://www.annabenderforsenate.com/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Bender’s campaign focuses on an “America First” approach to foreign policy. She opposes “[forced charity](#)” in the form of foreign aid spending without taxpayers’ consent, arguing that tax dollars should be spent domestically before being sent abroad. She has not issued specific statements on Palestine, Iran ,or Sudan in her public campaign materials.
- **Immigration:** Bender has not prominently detailed her immigration platform in available sources. While her rhetoric centers on defending “[Life, Liberty, and Happiness](#)” for Americans, she has not provided specific proposals regarding ICE, border enforcement, or pathways to legal status. No public comments were found from Bender regarding recent ICE actions or protests in Minnesota.
- **Religious Freedom:** Bender’s campaign is [a Christian faith perspective](#), frequently invoking God and America’s “Judeo-Christian” founding values. However, she has not directly addressed anti-Muslim bigotry or the inclusion of Muslim Americans in her statements on religious liberty. Her emphasis is on protecting God-given rights and opposing government infringement on religious practice broadly. There is no record of her specifically mentioning Muslim communities or anti-Muslim discrimination.
- **Civil Rights:** Bender pledges to defend constitutional rights, though her focus has been largely on the right to life and broad liberties rather than specific civil liberties issues. She has criticized “[government entitlements](#)” as leading to tyranny and

vowed to protect individual freedoms under the Constitution. The materials reviewed here do not include detailed policy positions on protecting free speech.

- **Education:** Bender’s campaign materials do not lay out a detailed education policy. There is no specific position found on public education vs. school choice.
- **Healthcare:** Bender has not made healthcare a prominent issue in her campaign literature. She generally criticizes expansive government programs and warns that reliance on government “[entitlements](#)” can cost people their rights. She has not explicitly mentioned the Affordable Care Act or proposals for universal healthcare.



Virgil Bierschwale

Bio: A software developer

Campaign Website - <https://vbsenate.com/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Bierschwale urges that America avoid “[endless foreign wars](#)” and prioritize spending at home. He is critical of U.S. resources going overseas while American needs (like jobs) are unmet. He has not issued statements on Palestine, Iran, or Sudan
- **Immigration:** A centerpiece of Bierschwale’s campaign is [strict immigration enforcement](#) . He advocates completing the border wall, ending “catch-and-release” policies, and immediately deporting those in the country illegally who commit crimes. No public comments were found from him regarding recent ICE actions or protests in Minnesota.
- **Religious Freedom:** Bierschwale explicitly states that “[The U.S. Constitution is the supreme law of the land – not Sharia law](#)”. While he says all religions are protected, he insists that U.S. governance must remain rooted in “Judeo-Christian heritage” and constitutional principles. he warns against any foreign or religious legal system overriding American law. His emphasis is on keeping government and courts aligned with the Constitution, which he sees as compatible with religious liberty so long as it doesn’t conflict with U.S. law. He has not addressed anti-Muslim bigotry directly
- **Civil Rights:** Bierschwale presents himself as a [defender of constitutional rights and due process](#). On gun rights, he opposes “red flag” laws that allow firearm confiscation because he believes they violate due process protections. He is also

concerned about free speech, particularly for conservatives online, vowing to fight “Big Tech censorship” and protect freedom of expression on social media platforms. He hasn’t spoken about protest rights explicitly, but inclination is to defend Americans’ First Amendment rights.

- **Education:** Bierschwale strongly supports [school choice and local control of education](#). He calls for eliminating the U.S. Department of Education and believes parents – not “government bureaucrats” – should control their children’s schooling. His platform includes backing for charter schools, private schools, and homeschooling by advocating “education freedom”. He also wants to ban what he considers progressive curricula, pledging to stop “Critical Race Theory and transgender ideology in schools”. By promoting school choice, Bierschwale implicitly supports allowing public education funds to follow students to private and religious schools although he doesn’t mention any faith in particular. The focus is on reinforcing traditional academics and “honest” teaching of American history.
- **Healthcare:** Bierschwale favors [free-market healthcare reforms and opposes government-run healthcare](#). He supports repealing Obamacare mandates. He is against taxpayer funding of abortion (as part of his pro-life stance) and wants to protect conscience rights for healthcare providers. Bierschwale emphasizes improving care for veterans and rural communities.

John O. Adefope

Bio: Consultant

Campaign Website – N/A

Key Issues

There is not enough public information on the issues to report.



Sara Canady

Bio: Wilson County Justice of the Peace (Precinct 2) and former educator

Campaign Website - <https://www.saraforsenate.org/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** A retired judge, she argues that free trade practices have harmed the U.S., calling unrestricted free trade “unjust” and supporting *reciprocal tariffs* to protect American industry. Her campaign launch stressed [bringing American manufacturing back home](#). However, she has not spoken specifically about Israel, Palestine, Iran, or Sudan. Canady’s focus is on the idea that a strong domestic economy yields a strong military and global standing.
- **Immigration:** Canady pledged to [fight for secure borders](#). She has not made any public comments on the specific ICE shooting and protests in Minnesota. There is no mention of expanding pathways to citizenship or legal status in her platform; the emphasis is on stopping unlawful entry and restoring order.
- **Religious Freedom:** Canady frames her candidacy as guided by “[small-town Texas values and a big vision...forged through a Christian worldview](#)”. She openly discusses faith as a core component of her values. While she clearly aligns with Christian conservative principles, she has not explicitly addressed anti-Muslim bigotry or outreach to Muslim Texans. Her statements on religious liberty focus on upholding traditional faith values in public life.
- **Civil Rights:** Canady’s campaign rhetoric centers on [constitutional principles and on law and order](#). She has not singled out issues like due process in policing or free speech in demonstrations in her platform. She has spoken about the importance of domestic tranquility and common defense. However, she has not commented on protecting free speech.
- **Education:** Education has not been a prominent theme in Canady’s campaign messaging available to the public.
- **Healthcare:** Canady’s has not taken a clear public stance on the ACA or universal healthcare.



Gulrez “Gus” Khan

Bio: Business owner

Campaign Website - <https://www.gkhanforsenate.com/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Khan calls to “[strengthen our military and foreign policy](#)” as part of his campaign mission. Khan advocates reciprocal tariffs and fair trade practices to

ensure American economic independence. While his foreign policy centers on economic strength and military readiness, he has not issued specific statements on the genocides in Palestine, Sudan, or Iran.

- **Immigration:** Khan emphasizes securing the border as a top priority. His campaign platform lists “[Secure our borders, protect Texas](#)” as a core plank, indicating strong support for border enforcement measures. As an immigrant from India who achieved the American Dream, Khan often highlights legal pathways: he praises immigrants who come lawfully and contribute. Regarding the ICE operations and protests in Minnesota, Khan has not publicly commented on that.
- **Religious Freedom:** He emphasizes faith and family values frequently. His campaign biography notes he was “[forged through grit, faith, and service](#),” and he always says he will “Put God and Country First”. Khan has not specifically addressed anti-Muslim bigotry in his platform.
- **Civil Rights:** Khan pledges to [defend constitutional rights broadly](#). He is a strong proponent of the Second Amendment. He also supports election integrity measures and term limits to bolster democratic accountability. In terms of free speech and the right to protest, Khan hasn’t made specific pronouncements.
- **Education:** Khan calls for “[education reform](#)” and champions family values in schooling. His platform includes “Family Values & Parental Rights” and “Education Reform” as key points. Though detailed proposals are sparse, he has signaled support for parents having more say in curricula and school choice options. Khan has criticized the state of public education in conversations, echoing concerns about academic standards and political indoctrination.
- **Healthcare:** Healthcare is a significant part of Khan’s professional background and platform. As a healthcare entrepreneur, he campaigns on [improving healthcare access while reducing bureaucracy](#). Khan has detailed goals like capping insurance overhead, increasing transparency from HMOs, and cutting red tape that burdens providers. He wants to “put patients before profits” and hold insurance companies accountable, reflecting a desire to make healthcare more affordable without moving to a single-payer system. Regarding the ACA, Khan hasn’t explicitly said whether he’d repeal or replace it. He focuses on accessibility and innovation like, funding rural clinics and leveraging technology.

Democratic Primary



Jasmine Crockett

Bio: U.S. Representative for Texas' 30th Congressional District (first elected in 2022), previously served in the Texas House (HD 100), and a civil rights attorney.

Campaign Website - <https://www.jasmineforum.com>

Official Website - <https://crockett.house.gov/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Crockett has [emphasized humanitarian relief and U.S. engagement toward a lasting peace](#) on her campaign website and as shown through her [signatures on various congressional letters](#); in a public statement on a ceasefire/hostage deal, she framed “permanent, lasting peace” as the way forward. She supports a two-state solution, has traveled to Israel and Palestine to meet with Israeli and Palestinian leaders, has said she does not support the Netanyahu government, opposes illegal settlements, and affirms both Israel’s right to exist and Palestinians’ right to self-determination and reconstruction. She has also voted for Israel-related supplemental funding; she voted Yea on the Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024 (H.R. 8034) and Yea on the Financial Services and General Government and National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2026 (H.R. 7006) which sends \$3.3 billion military aid to Israel and places a complete ban on funding to UNRWA, the U.N Agency central for sending aid to Palestinians. She has described Sudan as facing the world’s worst humanitarian crisis, supporting sanctions against leaders responsible for war crimes, restricting weapons sales fueling the conflict, and establishing a U.S. Special Envoy to advance diplomacy and humanitarian access. Regarding Iran, she has framed her position through a human-rights lens, stating she opposes violence against peaceful protesters, censorship, and suppression of democratic voices, and supports multilateral efforts aimed at isolating Iran while promoting regional stability.
- **Immigration:** Crockett [supports comprehensive immigration reform](#) with a path to citizenship and has criticized enforcement-only approaches. She has advocated for border technology to address real security threats while improving asylum processing and work authorization. Crockett has [opposed Texas’s SB4 law and](#)

[signed letters](#) urging the DOJ to block state laws that empower local police to act as immigration agents. In the context of the recent ICE presence in Minnesota, Crockett [condemned the murder of Renee Good by ICE agents](#).

- **Religious Freedom:** Crockett frames religious freedom as an equal-protection issue and has consistently opposed religious discrimination. Crockett supports strong enforcement of hate-crime laws and protections for religious minorities in schools and workplaces. With the rise in anti-Muslim bigotry from Texas elected officials, Crockett has not issued a public statement regarding this.
- **Civil Rights:** As a civil rights attorney, Crockett publicly supports the right to protest and has opposed laws that criminalize peaceful demonstrations. She expressed that students were “[exercising their constitutional right\[s\]](#)” when referencing the pro-Palestine protests on college campuses.
- **Education:** Crockett emphasizes [strengthening and adequately funding public schools](#), particularly for students in underserved and low-income communities. On her campaign site and in public forums, she has criticized proposals that divert public dollars into voucher systems, arguing that vouchers can reduce resources for many students who attend public schools and lack accountability measures. Crockett frames equitable education funding as essential to Texas’s economic competitiveness, noting that improving teacher pay and investing in early childhood programs will help close opportunity gaps. While she acknowledges that voucher programs could include religious schools if enacted, she has not promoted vouchers as a priority and instead calls for public schools to be fully resourced and held to high instructional standards.
- **Healthcare:** Crockett has outlined a healthcare agenda focused on [expanded coverage, affordability, and lowering prescription drug costs](#). She has publicly endorsed Medicare for All as the long-term vision for universal healthcare, describing access to health services as a civil and human right and emphasizing that no Texan should lose care because of cost or preexisting conditions. Crockett supports strengthening and building on the Affordable Care Act.



James Talarico

Bio: A member of the Texas House of Representatives, first elected in 2018, and is a former public school teacher

Campaign Website - <https://jamestalarico.com/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Talarico has taken a critical stance on U.S. involvement in Gaza, arguing the U.S. must “[lead with moral clarity](#)” by stopping offensive weapons sales to the Netanyahu government while protecting civilians. He supports using U.S. diplomatic and financial leverage to pursue a two-state solution, halt Israeli settlement expansion, and establish a democratic Palestinian state. Talarico has described Gaza as a “moral and spiritual emergency” and said Americans are “complicit” if they remain indifferent. He has also pledged not to accept AIPAC PAC money and says U.S. aid should never be used to harm civilians. He has referenced Sudan explicitly, stating U.S. foreign policy must address human rights abuses “like those being suffered by the people of Sudan,” but has not outlined a specific policy toward Iran.
- **Immigration:** Talarico supports comprehensive immigration reform that combines border security with legalization pathways. He has said the border should have “[a welcome mat out front and a lock on the door.](#)” He has said immigration enforcement should prioritize traffickers and violent offenders, “not moms and babies,” and supports ICE accountability and oversight. Talarico backs expanding legal work visas, modernizing ports of entry, and creating a secure pathway to legal status for long-term undocumented immigrants.
- **Religious Freedom:** There is no explicit section on his campaign website where he lists a “Religious Freedom” policy or specific civil-rights protections tied to religion. However, Talarico has stressed that [government must not use its power to impose religious doctrine in public institutions](#). In the Texas Legislature, he opposed legislation requiring Ten Commandments displays in public school classrooms, calling the proposal unconstitutional and contrary to religious liberty and the separation of church and state. He signed onto [Representative Salman Bhojani’s letter](#) condemning the Governor’s foreign terrorist designation of CAIR and attack on Muslim communities.
- **Civil Rights:** On the campaign platform as currently published, there is no explicit civil-rights policy plan. Talarico has [publicly cautioned](#) that narrowing the space for free expression, including protests and other forms of public speech, can have long-term implications for civil liberties. However, James Talarico’s civil-rights record includes a “[Yea](#)” vote on [Texas Senate Bill 2972](#), a law that places new restrictions on expressive activities and demonstrations at public university campuses in the wake of the pro-Palestine protests, and a “[Yea](#)” vote on [Texas Senate Bill 326](#), a law requiring K-12 schools to use the IHRA definition of antisemitism, which says [certain criticism](#) of the Israeli government is antisemitic.

- **Education:** A former public school teacher, Talarico [prioritizes strong public education funding and opposes voucher programs](#) that divert public funds to private schools. He has spoken about ensuring nondiscrimination if public funds are ever used for private or religious schools and has emphasized equitable access for all students regardless of faith background. He also supports increased teacher pay and early childhood investment.
- **Healthcare:** Talarico [supports expanding public healthcare options and lowering costs through a public insurance option](#). As a Type 1 diabetic, he frequently cites his personal experience with insulin affordability and helped pass a Texas law capping insulin copays at \$25 per month. On the campaign trail, he has supported allowing Americans to buy into Medicare and strengthening the Affordable Care Act.



Ahmad Hassan

Bio: Owns a mortgage/real-estate business and has run for office multiple times, including prior bids for Congress and U.S. Senate.

Campaign Website - <https://hassanfortexas.com/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** In available campaign materials, he has not outlined detailed positions on Palestine, Iran, or Sudan. His campaign messaging generally emphasizes [peace, diplomacy, and international human rights](#) without specific policy commitments. There is no record of Hassan using the term “genocide” regarding Palestine and Sudan.
- **Immigration:** His platform calls for “[no deportation without due process](#)” and an emphasis on keeping families together. He supports granting work permits to undocumented immigrants who are contributing to the economy.
- **Religious Freedom:** Hassan has not published a detailed religious freedom platform. No statements on Islamophobia or attacks targeting Muslim communities.
- **Civil Rights:** In public materials reviewed, Hassan emphasizes “[social justice](#)” as a campaign theme. The materials reviewed here do not include detailed policy positions on protecting free speech.

- **Education:** Hassan lists “[education reforms](#)” as an issue he’s passionate about, but he has not published detailed education policy proposals in the sources reviewed.
- **Healthcare:** Hassan says his top priorities include [lowering the cost of health care and prescription drugs and expanding access to quality care](#).

US House of Representatives

Congressional District 3

Republican Primary



Keith Self (*incumbent*)

Bio: Currently serving as the U.S. representative for Texas's 3rd congressional district and army veteran

Campaign Website - <https://keithself.com/>

Official Website - <https://keithself.house.gov/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Self works closely with the Trump administration's foreign policy agenda, with a strong focus on limiting foreign aid and enforcing strict national security measures. As a current member of the US House Foreign Affairs Committee, Self has emphasized absolute support for Israel and sanctions on Iran. He introduced the "Tehran Incitement to Violence Act" and the "Return to PEACE Act" to designate specific Iranian clerics as terrorists and restrict aid to Palestinian entities. There is no public record of Self on Sudan.
- **Immigration:** Self is a staunch advocate for strict border security, prioritizing the immediate sealing of the U.S.-Mexico border, ending the housing of undocumented individuals at airports, and supporting strong interior enforcement by ICE. Self has expressed support for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents enforcing federal law in Minnesota, including in Minneapolis.

- **Religious Freedom:** Self advocates for a strong, Judeo-Christian foundation for American religious freedom while positioning himself as a leading opponent to the influence of “Sharia law”. He co-founded the Sharia Free America Caucus. Self has been accused of [weaponizing islamophobia](#) to advance his career.
- **Civil Rights:** Self’s record emphasizes "God-given rights" and self-defense while opposing what he characterizes as "woke" federal mandates or parallel legal systems characterizes. He characterizes anti-Genocide, pro-Palestine protests not as protected speech, but as [criminal activity and "anarchy"](#).
- **Education:** He focuses his education policy on returning authority to parents and local administrators, while removing what he describes as "radical" or "ideological" federal influence. His stance is characterized by strong support for school choice and a rejection of federal mandates on curriculum and student debt. He has publicly denounced instances where Muslim students were permitted to present at public schools on Islam, specifically citing a case at Wylie East High School, calling it "[purposeful infiltration](#)".
- **Healthcare:** Self frames healthcare as a matter of personal freedom and market competition, consistently opposing federal mandates like the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which he has labeled an "abject failure" and a "socialist scheme".



Mark Newgent

Bio: A retired U.S. Army captain

Campaign Website - <https://markforus.com/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Newgent advocates for an "America First" foreign policy, arguing that U.S. tax dollars and weapons should not be sent to foreign countries while domestic needs go unmet. He explicitly calls for an end to "endless foreign wars" and wants to reallocate that funding to support American veterans and infrastructure. His public platform does not currently list specific policy positions regarding Palestine, Iran, or Sudan.
- **Immigration:** He calls for a strict "Texas First" approach to border security and supports completing physical barriers. His perspective is influenced by his wife’s

experience as a legal immigrant; he argues the current system is "broken and frustrating" for those who follow the law and wants to prioritize enforcement against illegal entry.

- **Religious Freedom:** Newgent emphasizes "Faith, Freedom, and Constitutional Rights" as a core passion. His rhetoric focuses on protecting traditional American "Western culture" and religious liberties from government overreach. He also states that he is [committed to meeting with religious leaders across all denominations](#), explicitly including Muslim community representatives and rejects anti-Muslim rhetoric from his opponent.
- **Civil Rights:** His civil rights platform is centered on "Service Before Self" and government accountability. He focuses on protecting the Second Amendment and ensuring that the "way of life in Texas" is not infringed upon by federal special interests or "reckless decision-making" in Washington. His public platform does not list anything specific to protecting free speech.
- **Education:** He believes federal spending on education should be more localized and efficient. Newgent argues that by cutting "wasteful" overseas spending, the government can better support Texas schools and ensure that students are prioritized over political agendas.
- **Healthcare:** Newgent identifies healthcare as becoming "unaffordable" for families and veterans. He proposes market-based common-sense reforms to lower costs and specifically advocates for better, more accessible healthcare services for veterans returning from service.

Democratic Primary



Evan Hunt

Bio: Retired US Airforce Colonel and Businessman

Campaign Website - <https://www.electevanhunt.com/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** He emphasizes that economic security is national security and opposes using emergency powers to unilaterally levy tariffs that could damage American trade relationships. While he emphasizes "International Relations and Conflict Resolution" as his focus, his public platform does not currently list specific policy positions regarding Palestine, Iran, or Sudan.
- **Immigration:** He supports "secure borders with humane policies" and has criticized the use of executive power to deport individuals or revoke visas without due process. He frames immigration through a constitutional lens, insisting that the rule of law must include administrative accountability rather than just mass enforcement.
- **Religious Freedom:** Hunt's platform emphasizes the 1st Amendment and protecting "freedom of thought and expression" for all residents regardless of their background. In a post, he stated that Islamophobia is "[not who we are](#)".
- **Civil Rights:** He centers his civil rights platform on "Defending the Constitution," specifically fighting against what he calls "extremist agendas" that threaten fair elections and an independent judiciary. He also strongly supports reproductive freedom as a fundamental right for Texas women. The materials reviewed here do not include detailed policy positions on protecting free speech.
- **Education:** Hunt advocates for increasing federal investment in public education and has voiced opposition to cutting university funding based on political bias. As a McKinney parent, he focuses on ensuring local schools have the resources needed to prepare students for the modern economy.
- **Healthcare:** He views healthcare as a central economic issue, advocating for the protection of the Affordable Care Act and lowering costs to protect family finances. His plan focuses on empowering local providers over corporate HMOs and eliminating "bureaucratic red tape" like burdensome pre-authorization requirements.

Congressional District 7

Democratic Primary



Lizzie Fletcher (*incumbent*)

Bio: Currently serving as the U.S. representative for Texas's 7th congressional district and attorney

Campaign Website - <https://www.lizziefletcher.com/meet-lizzie-fletcher/>

Official Website - <https://fletcher.house.gov/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Fletcher has a [consistent record](#) of supporting Israel, voting for security aid, Iron Dome funding, and resolutions supporting its defense against Hamas. She has also supported bills sending humanitarian aid to Palestine. She has advocated for diplomatic solutions related to Iran. She has supported measures to address the violence and has previously worked to extend Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Sudanese nationals.
- **Immigration:** Fletcher advocates for comprehensive immigration reform that addresses the backlogs in the immigration system, including efforts to hire more qualified immigration judges to reduce pending cases and ensure due process. She has co-sponsored and voted for protections for DACA and TPS recipients and supported the NO BAN Act, which prohibits discrimination based on religion and other characteristics in immigration entry decisions. Her official site states she opposes building a border wall with Mexico and emphasizes humane reform rather than exclusionary walls.
- **Religious Freedom:** Fletcher supports protections against discrimination on the basis of religion. Her immigration work includes backing legislation that bars religion-based immigration bans, and broader civil rights messaging from her campaign emphasizes rejecting hate, bigotry, and discrimination, including on religious grounds. There is not a separate detailed policy solely labeled “religious freedom,” but her civil rights language and sponsored measures indicate support for safeguarding religious liberty within broader anti-discrimination principles. In the past, Fletcher has [publicly condemned](#) Islamophobia and anti-Muslim violence, stating that hatred directed at Muslims “runs counter to our fundamental values” and affirming that no one in the United States should face fear or violence because of how they pray or what they believe.

- **Civil Rights:** Fletcher’s campaign emphasizes protecting equality, liberty, justice, freedom, and civil rights for all Americans, and rejects hate, bigotry, racism, and discrimination. The materials reviewed here do not include detailed policy positions on protecting free speech.
- **Education:** Fletcher advocates for investing in public education and ensuring its success, stating that all children deserve opportunities to reach their full potential and that teachers should be supported in their work. She opposes school voucher programs, emphasizing strengthening public education rather than diverting funds to private options.
- **Healthcare:** Fletcher supports strengthening the Affordable Care Act rather than repealing it, and backing measures to allow Medicare to negotiate drug prices. She has introduced and sponsored healthcare-related legislation, including acts focused on reproductive health, maternal and infant health, and lowering prescription drug costs, and opposes cutting or privatizing Social Security and Medicare.

Republican Primary



Tina Blum Cohen

Bio: Blum Cohen is a Beaumont native and Houston small business owner (Blum’s Furniture), with a B.S. in broadcast communications from Boston University.

Campaign Website - <https://www.tinablumcohen.com/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** She believes the U.S. should be “a leader in the world” and “strong and capable” in that role, but her campaign site does not present specific policy positions on Palestine, Iran, or Sudan.
- **Immigration:** She calls for securing U.S. borders and describes illegal immigration as bypassing “proper immigration channels,” stating she would work to secure the border using tools including “physical barriers” and “tactical technologies.”
- **Religious Freedom:** No specific religious-freedom policy platform was found on campaign website and public materials. No public statements found on Islamophobia or attacks targeting Muslim communities.

- **Civil Rights:** Blum Cohen centers the “parental rights” framing that emphasizes parents’ authority over children’s education and medical decisions. The materials reviewed here do not include detailed policy positions on protecting free speech.
- **Education:** She emphasizes parental involvement/authority in schools and calls for adequate resources for schools, STEM emphasis, and also proposes creating a “publicly funded option for higher learning and/or continuing education.”
- **Healthcare:** She does not present a dedicated healthcare platform; it references medical/mental health in the context of parental decision-making and mentions “efficient public programs” in general terms.



Alexander Hale

Bio: Hale is a Houston-area candidate with education at Baylor University and professional experience including consulting (Alvarez & Marsal) and prior roles including a U.S. Senate internship; his campaign site describes him as a “devout Christian” and “constitutional conservative.”

Campaign Website - <https://www.halefortexas.com/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** No detailed foreign policy platform (including Palestine, Iran, or Sudan) was found on his campaign website.
- **Immigration:** Hale calls for “border security” and states that illegal immigration being “left unchecked” harms Houston communities.
- **Religious Freedom:** Hale’s website identifies him as a devout Christian and emphasizes constitutional principles, but no other details regarding policies are presented. No public statements found on Islamophobia or attacks targeting Muslim communities.
- **Civil Rights:** Hale’s campaign messaging emphasizes public safety, fiscal restraint, and school choice. The materials reviewed here do not include detailed policy positions on protecting free speech and “constitutional” framing.
- **Education:** Hale supports “educational excellence” and explicitly promotes school choice and “innovative approaches” to improve outcomes
- **Healthcare:** No specific healthcare platform was found on his campaign website in the reviewed materials.



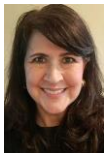
Alexander Kalai

Bio: Kalai is a CFO/EVP at Amerapex and notes degrees from Rice University and Columbia (JD/MBA)

Campaign Website- <https://kalaifortexas.com/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Kalai’s “issues” page emphasizes expanding U.S. trade and services abroad as part of job creation. No detailed foreign policy platform was found on his campaign website.
- **Immigration:** He states that he will “secure the border.”
- **Religious Freedom:** No specific religious freedom policy platform was found on his campaign website or public materials. No public statements found on Islamophobia or attacks targeting Muslim communities.
- **Civil Rights:** Kalai’s campaign frames “civil rights” primarily around access to sex-segregated spaces. The materials reviewed here do not include detailed policy positions on protecting free speech.
- **Education:** Kalai supports school choice, stating federal education dollars should “follow the child,” including public, private, religious, or homeschool options, and says he would push to mandate education choice nationwide.
- **Healthcare:** He discusses expanding veterans’ access to healthcare by allowing more opportunity to receive care from doctors of their choice rather than relying solely on VA facilities; additionally, [a candidate Q&A response](#) proposes requiring pharmaceutical companies to sell drugs in the U.S. at the lower prices they charge in other countries.



Erin Montgomery

Bio: Montgomery has a professional background in funeral services and degrees in communications/public relations and funeral service.

Campaign Website- <https://erinmontgomeryforcongress.com/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Montgomery lists “Mideast relations” among policy areas she is personally passionate about, but her campaign website does not provide a detailed foreign policy platform or specific positions on Palestine, Iran, or Sudan in the materials accessible from the site.
- **Immigration:** Montgomery links crime, trafficking, and cartels to public safety and identifies border security as a priority area.
- **Religious Freedom:** No specific religious freedom policy platform nor stance on anti-Muslim bigotry was found in her campaign website nor public materials reviewed.
- **Civil Rights:** The materials reviewed here do not include detailed policy positions on protecting free speech.
- **Education:** Montgomery says she would support legislation that supports schools and teachers and includes trade-skills training for students “[of any age.](#)”
- **Healthcare:** Montgomery highlights restructuring/streamlining federal health and benefits programs (specifically referencing VA/Medicare/Medicaid) and also supports [medical research funding](#).

Congressional District 18

Democratic Primary



Al Green

Bio: Longtime U.S. Representative (TX-9) and veteran civil-rights advocate; previously served as a Harris County Justice of the Peace and led the Houston NAACP

Campaign Website - <https://www.algreen.org/>

Official Website - <https://algreen.house.gov/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Although his campaign platform does not outline his foreign affair priorities, Green has explicitly used “genocide” language about Gaza in official

remarks; his office posted that he delivered House floor remarks calling out “genocide, ethnic cleansing, and collective punishment of Palestinians in Gaza” (July 22, 2025). He also voted Nay on the Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024 (H.R. 8034) (House roll call).

- **Immigration:** Green appeared at a Houston-area press conference supporting legal action alleging [ICE “racial profiling,” warrantless arrests, and unconstitutional tactics](#), and calling for accountability and investigations. Green has been actively addressing a fatal January 7, 2026, shooting of Renee Nicole Good by an ICE agent in Minneapolis, MN. As a member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, Green hosted a [candlelight vigil](#) and held [press conferences](#) to call for accountability regarding Good’s murder.
- **Religious Freedom:** Green [co-sponsored efforts](#) tied to recognition of Islam and explicitly referenced Islamophobia; his office promoted the filing of a resolution marking the Islamic New Year and noted concerns about Islamophobia.
- **Civil Rights:** Green frequently [emphasizes protecting voting rights](#), pointing Texas’ history of discriminatory practices like poll taxes and literacy tests, and he has introduced [resolutions](#) tied to Black History Month and Slavery Remembrance Day. Green has also engaged in civil rights–related direct action and oversight, including being [arrested](#) during a 2013 immigration reform protest and supporting a lawsuit seeking an injunction to halt alleged ICE racial profiling in the Houston area. In response to the pro-Palestine campus protests, Green said that he supports all nonviolent forms of protest.
- **Education:** Green is an advocate for advocate for equitable, accessible education, focusing on funding for minority-serving institutions, student safety, and [STEM opportunities](#). He opposes [funding cuts](#) to HBCUs, [supports affirmative action](#), and promotes initiatives against school-based punishment. Green has supported legislation for educational funding, including the [Education Jobs and Medicaid Assistance Act](#).
- **Healthcare:** Green is an advocate for expanding and protecting public healthcare and [opposing cuts](#) to Medicaid, Medicare, and the Affordable Care Act (ACA). He emphasizes keeping the Veteran Affairs system public, [supports subsidized healthcare](#), and fights for increased access for vulnerable communities, including children, the disabled, and immigrants.



Christian Menefee (incumbent)

Bio: Harris County Attorney who recently won a runoff to complete the late Sylvester Turner’s term

Campaign Website - <https://christianmenefee.com/issues/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Menefee has not published a foreign affairs platform addressing Palestine, Iran, or Sudan on his 2026 primary campaign materials.
- **Immigration:** Menefee’s campaign platform calls for fixing the immigration system and frames his approach as [pro-reform](#). Menefee joined public efforts supporting litigation alleging [ICE racial profiling and unlawful detention tactics](#) and calling those practices unconstitutional.
- **Religious Freedom:** Menefee [criticized](#) Texas Gov. Greg Abbott regarding his decision to label Muslim organizations like CAIR as foreign terrorist and using strong language about targeting Muslim communities.
- **Civil Rights:** Menefee’s campaign includes a “[democracy](#)” platform emphasizing protection of democratic institutions. As Harris County Attorney, he [focused](#) on protecting historically marginalized communities, addressing over policing, and defending against attacks on democratic norms. The materials reviewed here do not include detailed policy positions on protecting free speech.
- **Education:** Menefee has [said](#) that he will fight to fully fund schools, raise teacher pay to six figures, and make college or career training affordable for everyone.
- **Healthcare:** Menefee’s healthcare platform explicitly references Medicare for All as a framework for guaranteeing access to healthcare. His platform centers on strengthening the healthcare system.



Gretchen Brown

Bio: Contractor for Department of Defense

Campaign Website - <https://www.gretchenbrownforcongress.com/?>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Brown’s public biography describes a long career supporting federal defense and national security agencies and producing reports/briefings

submitted to Congress. No clear public issue platform was located specifying her positions on Israel/Palestine, Iran, or Sudan.

- There is not enough information on other issues.

Republican Primary



Elizabeth Vences

Bio: Former teacher and longtime community volunteer

Campaign Website - <https://elizabethvencesforcongress.com/>

Key Issues

- **Immigration:** Local coverage described Vences as supporting [mass deportations](#), while also expressing support for legal status for undocumented immigrants brought to the U.S. as children (DREAMers).
- **Healthcare:** Elizabeth Vences [frames healthcare](#) as a basic service that should be affordable, accessible, and centered on people rather than profit, arguing that the current U.S. system is overly complex and expensive for many families. She proposes modeling broader health coverage principles on Medicaid's focus on care over profit to reduce costs and ensure essential care isn't denied to anyone, without eliminating choice or employer coverage.
- There is not enough information on other issues.

Ronald Whitfield

Bio: NA

Campaign Website: NA

Key Issues

- There is not enough information on the issues to report.

Congressional District 33

Democratic Primary



Julie Johnson

Bio: Incumbent U.S. Representative and former Texas state legislator

Campaign Website - <https://juliejohnson.com/issues/>

Official Website - <https://juliejohnson.house.gov/>

- **Foreign Affairs:** Her current platform does not discuss foreign affairs. However, in reviewing her record as a sitting congressmember, Johnson publicly welcomed the [Israel-Hamas ceasefire deal](#), saying it could “save innocent lives” and help ensure “humanitarian aid gets to the Palestinian people,” while also emphasizing hostage release and implementation. She issued a separate statement in 2025 regarding [U.S. strikes on Iran’s nuclear facilities](#). She is also a cosponsor of [H.Res. 982](#), which condemns the continued violence in Sudan.
- **Immigration:** Johnson’s campaign materials describe [opposing “mass detention and deportation policies”](#) and prioritizing due process and ICE accountability, including support for legislation to require clear identification by immigration officers and to expand access to counsel and alternatives to detention. In a Feb. 2, 2026 press release, she framed her Qualified Immunity Accountability Act as a response to [ICE misconduct and civil-rights violations in Minnesota and across the country](#).
- **Religious Freedom:** No specific public statement or voting record found in reviewed sources addressing anti-Muslim bigotry, church-state separation, or protections for religious minorities.
- **Civil Rights:** Johnson argues ICE agents have operated “with impunity” and proposes limiting qualified immunity for federal law enforcement (including ICE) when civil rights are violated, emphasizing constitutional accountability. Her campaign messaging also emphasizes defending “free and fair elections” and the rule of law. The materials reviewed here do not include detailed policy positions on protecting free speech.
- **Education:** In reviewed campaign materials, Johnson highlights workforce/CTE-adjacent education priorities such as supporting career pathways and anti-bullying/safe-school initiatives, though no dedicated education platform for public school funding vs. school choice was identified in the sources reviewed for this guide.

- **Healthcare:** Johnson’s campaign policy page describes health care as a “right,” supports cost controls (e.g., prescription drug provisions), defends the ACA, and explicitly notes she has cosponsored Medicare for All while pursuing additional ACA expansion measures.



Colin Allred

Bio: Former U.S. Representative and civil-rights attorney; previously played in the NFL

Campaign Website - <https://colinallred.com/>

- **Foreign Affairs:** His current platform does not discuss his plans for Foreign Affairs. However, in reviewing his record, as a former US Representative, Allred served on the House Foreign Affairs Committee. He advocated for a diplomacy-first foreign policy, strengthening democracy abroad, supporting Israel's defense, and promoting humanitarian aid in Gaza. His current platform does not discuss his plans for Foreign Affairs as it relates to Palestine, Iran, and Sudan.
- **Immigration:** Allred’s campaign site highlights criticism of family separation and detention, including statements that “ICE is separating families” and references to children detained in Texas facilities. No specific public statement found in reviewed sources responding to Jan. 2026 Minnesota ICE operations/protests.
- **Religious Freedom:** No specific public statement or voting record found in reviewed sources addressing anti-Muslim bigotry, church-state issues, or protections for religious minorities.
- **Civil Rights:** Allred’s campaign biography emphasizes work “to protect voting rights...to combat voter suppression,” and campaign messaging highlights opposition to policies framed as restricting voting access (e.g., the SAVE Act referenced on the site). The materials reviewed here do not include detailed policy positions on protecting free speech.
- **Education:** Allred emphasizes being “a proud product of Dallas ISD schools” and being raised by a public-school teacher, but no detailed education platform (public school funding, school choice, or nondiscrimination for religious schools) was found in reviewed sources.
- **Healthcare:** Allred’s site cites delivering federal dollars for “health care” and expanding VA infrastructure, but no specific public statement in reviewed sources

taking a position on the ACA, Medicaid expansion, a public option, or Medicare-for-All.



Zeeshan Hafeez

Bio: Attorney and tech executive

Campaign Website - <https://www.zeeshanfortexas.com/Policy-Priorities>

Key Issues:

- **Foreign Affairs:** On his campaign website, Hafeez states “that our foreign policy should reflect the values of the American people: a commitment to peace, a defense of human rights, and a government that puts our citizens before special interests and foreign lobbies.” He opposes sending funding abroad for “endless wars” or “regimes committing human rights abuses,” explicitly referencing “the genocide in Palestine” and criticizing AIPAC’s influence. He also vows “[to oppose any war with Iran or reckless military escalation.](#)”
- **Immigration:** Hafeez argues Congress should use oversight to “police agencies like ICE,” focusing on preventing civil-rights violations and targeting of immigrants and activists in response to ICE’s response in Minnesota.
- **Religious Freedom:** While his policy platform does not include a standalone section on religious liberty, Hafeez criticizes the policies like mass surveillance and PATRIOT Act which were used “to spy on Americans, silence dissent, and violate basic civil liberties — especially in Muslim, Black, immigrant, and activist communities.”
- **Civil Rights:** Hafeez calls for congressional investigations into voter suppression, discriminatory policing, ICE abuses, and mass surveillance, emphasizing accountability and constitutional protections. His platform includes opposition to the PATRIOT Act and support for a “Digital Bill of Rights” to safeguard privacy and civil liberties.
- **Education:** Hafeez identifies “quality education” as a non-negotiable priority and supports increasing teacher pay and ending predatory for-profit student lending. His policy platform does not provide detailed positions on school choice or vouchers or nondiscrimination protections for faith-based schools.

- **Healthcare:** Hafeez supports universal healthcare and explicitly endorses Medicare for All, along with lowering prescription drug prices and expanding mental health and women’s healthcare services.



Carlos Quintanilla

Bio: President of Tu Plan America Inc.

Campaign Website - <https://quintanillaforcongress.com/policies>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** No specific foreign policy positions (e.g., on war, U.S. alliances, Middle East, or humanitarian aid) were found on Quintanilla’s campaign website or in the reviewed public materials nor record of using the term “genocide” to describe the events taking place Sudan or Palestine.
- **Immigration:** Quintanilla identifies as an immigration activist and criticizes “atrocities... committed by ICE agents.” He supports a secure border but opposes imprisoning people whose “only crime is looking for a better life,” and says he will propose immigration reform to help hardworking immigrants.
- **Religious Freedom:** No standalone policy on religious liberty, protection of faith communities, or church-state issues appears on his campaign site or in the available public information.
- **Civil Rights:** Quintanilla emphasizes protecting basic rights of minority communities and fighting discrimination so people “do not have to live in fear” of losing rights. He also frames his activism on immigration enforcement and drug rehabilitation in terms of community equity. The materials reviewed here do not include detailed policy positions on protecting free speech.
- **Education:** While Quintanilla’s policy page does not detail a formal education platform, his biography highlights founding “Breakfast in the Classroom,” a program feeding over 250,000 students daily, suggesting support for student welfare and anti-hunger initiatives in schools.
- **Healthcare:** Quintanilla, a cancer survivor, says the U.S. healthcare system is chaotic and believes “everyone, no matter their status, should have the right to healthcare.” He stresses the need for access without forcing families to choose between care and basic needs.

Republican Primary



John Sims

Bio: Firefighter/EMT

Campaign Website: <https://votejohnsims.com/>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** No specific policy positions on Palestine, Iran, or Sudan were found on the campaign website or in reviewed public materials nor record of using the term “genocide” to describe the events taking place Sudan or Palestine.
- **Immigration:** Sims calls for “[secure borders](#)” paired with an “earned” pathway to legal status for certain long-time immigrants (including fines, full-time work, and “no line-jumping”), while emphasizing deportation for criminals and border security technology.
- **Religious Freedom:** Sims’ campaign messaging includes opposition to “any foreign or religious law overriding the Constitution,” framing religious freedom primarily through constitutional preemption language.
- **Civil Rights:** His campaign messaging emphasizes defending constitutional rights broadly, including a strong emphasis on Second Amendment-related policy. The materials reviewed here do not include detailed policy positions on protecting free speech.
- **Education:** No detailed education platform on the campaign website or in reviewed public materials.
- **Healthcare:** Sims proposes capping family health insurance out-of-pocket costs at \$12,000 with “dollar-for-dollar” tax relief above that amount, framing it as a cost-control approach rather than a universal coverage proposal.



Patrick Gillespie

Bio: Customs broker

Website: <https://patrickgillespie4congress33.com/about-patrick-gillespie>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** No specific policy positions on Palestine, Israel, Iran, Sudan, or broader U.S. foreign policy are articulated on Gillespie’s campaign website or in

public materials nor record of using the term “genocide” to describe the events taking place Sudan or Palestine.

- **Immigration:** Gillespie emphasizes strict border enforcement, stating that securing the southern border is necessary to stop illegal immigration, human trafficking, and the flow of fentanyl. His public statements focus on enforcement and deterrence.
- **Religious Freedom:** Gillespie frames religious freedom through constitutional principles and references to “the laws of nature and nature’s God.”
- **Civil Rights:** Gillespie does not provide a detailed civil rights platform on his campaign website, specifically protecting free speech rights. [External candidate questionnaires](#) indicate support for voter ID requirements.
- **Education:** Gillespie states support for parental choice in education and emphasizes parents’ rights in determining their children’s schooling.
- **Healthcare:** No healthcare policy platform is presented on campaign website or in public materials.

Monte Mitchell

Bio: NA

Website - NA

Key Issues

No detailed public statements on the issues nor does the candidate have a campaign website.



Kurt Schwab

Bio: Air Force Reserve veteran and executive director of a veterans organization

Website - <https://kurtschwab4congress.com/>

- **Foreign Affairs:** Schwab’s campaign materials emphasize support for Israel. Candidate does not mention anything regarding Iran nor record of using the term “genocide” to describe the events taking place Sudan or Palestine.
- **Immigration:** Schwab advocates for finishing construction of the border wall, ending “catch-and-release,” stopping cartel trafficking, and securing the U.S.–

Mexico border, prioritizing rule of law enforcement and classifying major cartels as terrorist organizations.

- **Religious Freedom:** Schwab’s platform includes defending free speech and faith as part of constitutional values, but his public materials do not articulate a specific religious freedom policy.
- **Civil Rights:** Schwab highlights constitutional values, including defending the Second Amendment and free speech. The materials reviewed here do not include detailed policy positions on protecting free speech.
- **Education:** Schwab supports parental rights in education, advocates for strong academics, safer schools, and expanded pathways to skilled careers such as vocational training and apprenticeships.
- **Healthcare:** Schwab proposes improving local access to primary care through mobile medical units, lowering barriers to care particularly for low-income families, seniors, the disabled, and the homeless, and prioritizing patient-focused reforms.

Congressional District 37

Democratic Primary



Greg Casar

Bio: A labor organizer and has been serving in Congress since January 2023 and currently chairing the Congressional Progressive Caucus.

Campaign Website - <https://www.casarforcongress.com/>

Official Website - <https://casar.house.gov/>

- **Foreign Affairs:** While his campaign website does not state where he stands on Palestine, Iran, and Sudan, as a sitting congressman, he co-signed a caucus leadership statement calling for full humanitarian access to Gaza, condemning what it described as “starvation” of Gaza’s population and urging U.S. leverage to restore aid access.
- **Immigration:** Casar’s campaign website frames immigration as a civil-rights and economic issue but does not provide a detailed policy platform. In his public record, he has consistently supported expanded immigrant rights, due process

protections, and limits on abusive enforcement practices, including opposing policies that increase detention or criminalize immigrant communities.

- **Religious Freedom:** While there is nothing on his campaign website, he [spoke out against the Governor’s foreign terrorist designation of CAIR](#), criticizing it as discriminatory and harmful to civil liberties. More broadly, his public statements frame religious freedom within opposition to government actions that target specific religious communities.
- **Civil Rights:** Casar’s campaign and congressional record emphasize voting rights, workers’ rights, protest rights, and equal protection under the law. As Chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, he has framed civil rights as central to democracy and has publicly opposed state and federal actions he says suppress dissent or disproportionately harm marginalized communities. In his public record, Casar has spoken out in defense of [protest rights during pro-Palestine demonstrations at the University of Texas-Austin](#), stating that “peaceful assembly and free speech are basic constitutional rights” and criticizing the escalation of force against student demonstrators.
- **Education:** His campaign materials emphasize public education, workforce development, and reducing political interference in classrooms, though they do not outline a detailed K-12 or higher-education platform. In office, Casar has highlighted education as part of broader economic mobility and worker-training efforts.
- **Healthcare:** Casar’s campaign and official materials frame healthcare as a right, emphasizing affordability and access. His public record includes defending the Affordable Care Act, opposing cuts to Medicaid, and supporting measures to reduce prescription drug costs.



Esther Amalia de Jesus Fleharty

Bio: An epidemiologist who ran HIV clinics, oversaw food pantries, served on a COVID-19 task force reporting to the Governor’s office

Campaign Website - <https://www.flehartyforcongress.com/>

- **Foreign Affairs:** No Israel/Palestine, Gaza, Iran, or Sudan policy statement was located on the campaign pages captured for this guide.
- **Immigration:** Fleharty frames part of her campaign as opposing what she describes as chaotic policies from former President Trump and Texas Governor Abbott, though the site does not elaborate specific policies on her site.

- **Religious Freedom:** No specific campaign statement on religious freedom and anti-Muslim bigotry was located in the campaign materials.
- **Civil Rights:** : No specific campaign statement on civil rights and specifically on free-speech was not located.
- **Education:** No detailed education platform was located in the captured excerpts.
- **Healthcare:** Given her public-health background, healthcare is central to her bio narrative, and she supports codifying Roe v. Wade and protecting access to FDA-approved medication abortion/contraceptions.

Republican Primary



Genell Gary

Bio: Human resource professional and former mayor/city councilwoman/city commissioner.

Campaign Website: <https://www.genellgary.com>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Gary’s campaign website does not include specific positions on Israel/Palestine, Iran, or Sudan in the materials reviewed for this guide.
Immigration: No detailed immigration platform was located on her campaign issue pages; her public materials reviewed focus more on infrastructure/public safety and constituent services than federal immigration policy.
Religious Freedom: No specific statement was located in reviewed campaign materials addressing anti-Muslim bigotry or protections for religious minorities.
Civil Rights: Gary says she would help residents organize around shared priorities and establish district offices to provide individualized support, and she lists public safety and “safe and responsible technological advancement” among top priorities. Nothing is mentioned regarding free speech.
Education: No dedicated education platform was located in the reviewed campaign issue pages; workforce/vocational training is not a central focus in the materials captured (outside of general “opportunity” framing).
Healthcare: Gary’s senior-care page prioritizes protecting Social Security and Medicare, strengthening long-term care, and easing costs for family caregivers (including tax relief), framing elder care affordability as a major concern.



Janet Malzahn

Bio: A UT Law graduate and attorney licensed

Campaign Website: <https://www.janet4congress.com>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Malzahn’s campaign website does not present specific policy positions on Israel/Palestine, Iran, or Sudan in the materials reviewed for this guide.
Immigration: Her “Austin First Priorities” include ending “cartel trafficking,” and her bio highlights work/advocacy related to trafficking of unaccompanied minors and closing loopholes she says empowered cartels.
Religious Freedom: Her campaign priorities include “Stop unconstitutional Sharia law,” and she also highlights involvement with Christian institutions and explicitly references her church and Christian K-12 education as part of her community/political activity.
Civil Rights: Her platform messaging emphasizes “Defending the Constitution,” including “election integrity,” “secure citizenship voting,” and “Back the Blue,” without specific discussion of protecting free speech.
Education: Her campaign priorities include “school choice” and “parental control,” and she references organizing with groups focused on education/parental-rights issues.
Healthcare: Malzahn’s platform includes lowering healthcare costs by removing what she describes as federally mandated regulations, and she references issues like coverage for “illegals” and “misgendering” within that healthcare-cost framing.



Lauren B. Peña

Bio: Founder of Peña Legal Advocacy and part of Republican Party leadership

Campaign Website: <https://www.lauren4congress.com>

Key Issues

- **Foreign Affairs:** Peña’s policy page includes an “abroad” human-rights framing focused on confronting human trafficking, opposing “religious persecution,” and

opposing “tyrannies,” but does not address Israel/Palestine, Iran, or Sudan in the reviewed policy text.

- **Immigration:** Peña states she would “secure the border with real enforcement” as part of her economic platform.
- **Religious Freedom:** Peña says she will protect “the free exercise of faith,” and in her healthcare section she frames protecting “faith and conscience” as part of limiting federal mandates and protecting providers/parental authority.
- **Civil Rights:** Peña’s “Human Rights Agenda” emphasizes protecting free speech, free exercise of faith, Second Amendment rights, opposing “federal targeting,” and ensuring equal protection rather than selective enforcement.
- **Education:** Peña’s platform links education to parental rights and “keep[ing] radical political agendas out of classrooms,” and separately supports vocational/skills-based training in her economic platform.
- **Healthcare:** Peña’s healthcare platform emphasizes limiting federal “overreach,” restoring doctor–patient decision-making, opening competition across state lines, hospital price transparency, and expanding Health Savings Accounts.

Key Issues considered for State & Local Offices

The summaries in this guide are based on a review of publicly available information about candidates running for state and local offices. They are intended to help voters understand candidates’ public records, stated priorities, and actions as they relate to issues affecting Muslim communities and all Texans.

Texas House of Representatives

House District 26

Republican Primary



Matt Morgan (Incumbent)

Bio: Current Texas State Representative for HD 26 and small business owner

Website - <https://www.morganfortexas.com/>

Summary: Morgan has emphasized priorities such as property-tax relief, border security, reduced government spending, and insurance reform in public campaign materials. I During the 2025 TX legislative session, Morgan voted for SB 326, legislation requiring K-12 schools to use the IHRA definition of antisemitism, which includes examples that classify certain criticism of the Israeli government as antisemitic, and voted against SB 2972, a bill that expanded restrictions on expressive activity and protests on public college and university campuses following pro-Palestine demonstrations. No public statements were located on his campaign website, official channels, or social media addressing Muslim communities and Palestine.

Democratic Primary



Elizabeth Markowitz

Bio: Educator/community advocate

Website - <https://www.eliz4tx.com/>

Summary: Her top priorities include expanding access to affordable, high-quality healthcare (including Medicaid expansion, rural hospital support, telehealth, mental-health services, and lower prescription costs), strengthening public education (raising teacher pay, reducing over-testing, expanding early childhood and technical education, and modernizing classrooms), and boosting economic opportunity through property tax relief, workforce training, small business support, rural broadband expansion, and infrastructure investment. Markowitz frames these issues around affordability, safety, and opportunity for families in her district. No public statements on Muslim and Palestine were located on her campaign website, public profiles, or standard candidate surveys as of current available information.



Daniel Lee

Bio: Attorney

Website - <https://votefordaniel.com/>

Summary: His campaign highlights expanded access to affordable healthcare, investment in public education and teacher pay, infrastructure improvements (including grid reliability and flood protection), and clean energy development as key priorities for the district. Lee frames his platform around supporting families, strengthening schools, and ensuring infrastructure resilience for diverse communities in Fort Bend County. In available public records and on his campaign website and social media, no specific statements were located addressing Muslim communities and Palestine.

House District 27

Democratic Primary



Ron Reynolds (Incumbent)

Bio: Current Texas State Representative for HD 27, former associate municipal judge for the city of Houston

Website - <https://house.texas.gov/members/2040>

Summary: His [priorities](#) include affordable health care, minimum wage increases, commonsense gun reforms, strong public schools, and criminal-justice reforms, and cites the ramifications of anti-DEI policies as a challenge for his district, framing local needs around health coverage (such as Medicaid expansion), equity of opportunity, and education investment. During the 2025 TX legislative session, He voted against SB 326, legislation that would require K-12 schools to use the IHRA definition of antisemitism, which treats criticism of the Israeli government as antisemitic, and against SB 2972, a bill expanding restrictions on campus protests following pro-Palestine demonstrations. In late 2025, Reynolds joined a

broad coalition with CAIR-Houston and other community leaders in a [press conference](#) opposing Governor Greg Abbott’s designation of CAIR as a “terrorist organization” and responding to what participants described as a politically driven smear campaign against the civil-rights group.



Paul Prevot

Bio: Retired U.S. Army, Sergeant First Class (SFC), senior instructor/course manager, education administrator (current)

Website - <https://www.paulprevotfordistrict27.com>

Summary: Prevot says his campaign focuses on [education transparency and choice awareness, workforce development, responsible fiscal policy, improving pathways to career readiness, and supporting communities through clear communication and collaboration](#). He highlights local challenges including school closures, educational gaps, rising costs, and infrastructure pressure from growth and calls for legislative emphasis on education modernization, workforce and economic growth, and infrastructure resilience. No official statements on Muslim or Palestine were found on his campaign site or standard candidate profiles.

Republican Primary

Max Alalibo

Bio: NA

Website - N/A

Summary: Not enough public information

House District 28

Republican Primary



Gary Gates (incumbent)

Bio: Current Texas State Representative for HD 28 and businessman

Website - <https://www.gatesfortexas.com/>

Summary: He emphasizes public safety, disaster preparedness, workforce development, and conservative fiscal policy, and has sponsored legislation to help high school students gain career credentials and support comprehensive security and emergency response training in schools. During the 2025 TX legislative session, he voted for SB 326, legislation that would require K-12 schools to use the IHRA definition of antisemitism, which treats criticism of the Israeli government as antisemitic, and for SB 2972, a bill expanding restrictions on campus protests following pro-Palestine demonstrations. No official statements on Muslim or Palestine were found on his campaign site or reviewed public materials.

Democratic Primary



Sandy Ibanez

Bio: Teacher, realtor, and community advocate

Website - <https://www.sandyfortexas.com/>

Summary: She emphasizes strengthening public education, expanding access to affordable healthcare and mental-health services, addressing cost-of-living pressures, and investing in local infrastructure. Ibanez frames her campaign around community well-being, opportunity, and responsiveness to families' needs in a rapidly growing district. No official statements on Muslim or Palestine were found on his campaign site or reviewed public materials.



Kristyna Loundy

Bio: Small business owner, author, real estate investor, former hospitality manager

Website - <https://kristynafortexas.wordpress.com/>

Summary: She is running to bring “practical, family-focused leadership” to the Legislature, with priorities that include easing the cost of living for working families, improving public education, expanding access to childcare and healthy school meals, and increasing legislative transparency and accountability. She frames her campaign around addressing everyday concerns of families in her district. No official statements on Muslim or Palestine were found on his campaign site or reviewed public materials.

House District 61

Republican Primary



Karissa Richardson (Incumbent)

Bio: Current Texas House of Representative for District 61

Website - <https://keresafortexas.com/>

Summary: Richardson focuses on conservative priorities including faith-based values, parental rights in education, property-tax relief, and limited government. During the 2025 TX legislative session, she voted for SB 326, legislation requiring K-12 schools to use the IHRA definition of antisemitism, which includes examples that treat criticism of the Israeli government as antisemitic, and voted for SB 2972, a bill expanding restrictions on expressive activities and protests at public colleges and universities following demonstrations, including pro-Palestine protests. In reviewed campaign materials and public statements, no direct comments were located addressing Muslim communities, or Palestine.



Frederick Frazier

Bio: Retired police officer, Dallas Police Association VP, McKinney City Council at-large, and former Texas House of Representative for District 61

Website - <https://www.frazierfortexas.com/>

Summary: Frazier’s public campaign messaging centers on conservative law-and-order priorities, border security, property tax cuts, and supporting business-friendly policies. In available public records and candidate questionnaires reviewed, there are no documented statements from Frazier specifically addressing Muslim communities, anti-Muslim bigotry or Palestine.

Democratic Primary



Brittany Black

Bio: A business owner and senior software engineer

Website - <https://brittanyfortexas.com/>

Summary: Her campaign priorities include strengthening public education, expanding access to affordable healthcare, and improving economic opportunity for families. She frames her platform around defending civil rights, supporting public schools, and ensuring government accountability. In reviewed campaign materials and available public statements, no specific comments were located addressing Muslim communities and Palestine/Gaza.



Jackie Bescherer

Bio: Former Dallas police officer

Website - <https://jackiebfortexas.com/>

Summary: Her campaign emphasizes fully funding public education, raising teacher pay, expanding healthcare access, and addressing affordability for families. She presents her platform as focused on strengthening public schools, supporting working Texans, and

safeguarding individual rights. In reviewed campaign materials and available public statements, no specific comments were located addressing Muslim communities and Palestine/Gaza.

House District 67

Republican Primary



Jeff Leach (Incumbent)

Bio: Current representative for district 67 and attorney

Website - <https://jeffleach.com/>

Summary: Leach has publicly aligned with conservative leaders on shared priorities such as property-tax relief, public education funding, parental rights in schools, conservative social policies, and infrastructure priorities. During the 2025 TX legislative session, Leach voted for SB 326, which would require K-12 schools to adopt the IHRA definition of antisemitism, a definition that treats criticism of the Israeli government as antisemitic, and he was the House sponsor of SB 2972, legislation that restricts expressive activities on public colleges and universities following demonstrations, including pro-Palestine protests. Leach [publicly praised](#) Grapevine-Colleyville ISD’s decision to withdraw from allowing the Islamic Games, a multisport event open to Muslim and Non-Muslim students, to be hosted at a district facility.



Matt Thorsen

Bio: Small business owner and former aerospace industry worker

Website - <https://thorsenfortexas.com/>

Summary: His campaign emphasizes conservative priorities such as securing the border, reducing property taxes, protecting Second Amendment rights, election integrity, and expanding personal “health freedom.” On his campaign website, Thorsen explicitly frames

“radical Islam” as a political system incompatible with Western civilization and says combating it is a priority, language many civil-rights advocates identify as anti-Muslim rhetoric. In reviewed public materials and social media activity, he has criticized Rep. Leach for being “[weak on Islam](#),” accusing him of agreeing “more often with the D-Muslims than our patriot conservatives,” a statement widely interpreted as dismissive of Muslim Texans on the basis of religion.

Democratic Primary



Jordan Wheatley

Bio: A public school teacher and coach

Website - <https://www.jordan4texas.com/>

Summary: He emphasizes affordable public education, fully funding schools, property-tax relief, expanding access to quality health care, and investing in community development as core priorities. He has focused on equity in education funding and ideas like a sovereign investment model to reduce local school taxes while increasing state support. In reviewed public campaign materials, questionnaires, and social media, no statements were located addressing Muslim communities, anti-Muslim bigotry, and Palestine/Gaza.



Emeka Eluka

Bio: Engineer

Website - <https://www.emekafortexas.com/>

Summary: His campaign messaging focuses on practical solutions to traffic, housing growth, educational support, and local quality-of-life issues. In available campaign materials and public online information, no statements were located addressing Muslim communities, anti-Muslim bigotry, and Palestine/Gaza.

House District 76

Democratic Primary



Suleiman Lalani (incumbent)

Bio: Current representative for district 76 and physician

Website - <https://www.drlalanifortexas.com/>

Summary: His legislative record includes work on healthcare access, public education funding, technology and data privacy protections, disaster preparedness, infrastructure resilience, and public-safety policy, including flood and camp safety legislation. His campaign highlights his participation in a Democratic quorum break during a Texas special session. During the TX 2025 legislative session, He voted against SB 326, legislation that would require K-12 schools to use the IHRA definition of antisemitism, which treats criticism of the Israeli government as antisemitic, and against SB 2972, a bill expanding restrictions on campus protests following pro-Palestine demonstrations. His campaign describes him as among the first Muslims elected to the Texas Legislature, notes he hosted a Capitol iftar, and states he has faced Islamophobic attacks; while he issued a ceasefire statement, he also did not respond to a direct request for comment about Palestinian casualties, instead saying in a constituent exchange that “[people are dying every day and everywhere](#).” He has issued a [statement](#) in opposition of the Governor’s foreign terrorist designation of CAIR.



Marie Baptiste

Bio: Community advocate and business executive

Website - <https://www.baptiste4txd76.com/>

Summary: She prioritizes Medicaid expansion, living wages and workers’ rights, expanded access to mental-health clinics, and investments in infrastructure—particularly water systems strained by rapid population growth. She highlights property-tax relief through expanded homestead exemptions, especially for lower-income homeowners, as a key

district need. While she did not issue formal statements on Palestine-related policy, she has [publicly opposed](#) the designation of CAIR.

Republican Primary



Christian Amuta

Bio: Republican precinct chair

Website - <https://christianfortexass.org/>

Summary: Amuta’s campaign website frames his platform around conservative themes including stronger border security, economic development, fiscal responsibility, public safety, Second Amendment protections, and “energy independence,” along with calls for government transparency and infrastructure investment. No official statements on Muslim or Palestine were found on her campaign site or standard candidate profiles.

Linda Howell

Bio: Real Estate Agent

Website - NA

Summary: Not enough public information



Lea C.S. Simmons

Bio: Republican Precinct chair and community advocate

Website - <https://leacssimmons.com/>

Summary: Simmons’ emphasizes conservative principles, including protecting the U.S. and Texas Constitutions, limited government, lower taxes, and individual freedoms, particularly freedom of speech, religion, and family rights. She frames her candidacy around serving with a “servant’s heart” for all residents of Fort Bend County and building

relationships across diverse communities. No official statements on Muslim or Palestine were found on her campaign site or standard candidate profiles.

House District 89

Republican Primary



Candy Noble

Bio: Current representative for HD 89 and Board of trustees service at Hardin-Simmons University

Website - <https://votecandynoble.com/>

Summary: Noble focuses on property-tax relief, education reform, border security, and conservative fiscal priorities. In the 89th Texas Legislature, she voted for SB 326, legislation requiring K-12 schools and higher-education institutions to use the IHRA definition of antisemitism — which includes examples classifying criticism of the Israeli government as antisemitic — and voted for SB 2972, a bill that expanded restrictions on expressive activity and protests at public colleges and universities following demonstrations, including pro-Palestine protests. Regarding comments tied to Muslim or Islam-related issues, Noble was the primary author of House Bill 4211, a 2025 law aimed at regulating certain real-estate arrangements after controversy over the East Plano Islamic Center’s “EPIC City” development, which had drawn local attention for its association with a Muslim community.



Jeff Forrester

Bio: Veteran

Website - <https://www.forresterfortexas.com/>

Summary: Forester emphasizes property tax cuts, reduced government spending, defending individual liberties, accountability in Austin, and empowering local communities. His campaign messaging centers on faith, family, and constitutional conservative principles, and he has signed the Texas First Pledge to prioritize state interests. No public statements were located from Forrester specifically addressing Muslim communities, anti-Muslim bigotry, and Palestine/Gaza.



Freddie America

Bio: Electrical contractor

Website - <https://www.freddieamericafortexas.com/>

Summary: America highlights economic opportunity, small business concerns, and community-based priorities typical of grassroots campaigns. No public statements were located from America in reviewed sources addressing Muslim communities, anti-Muslim bigotry, and Palestine/Gaza.

Democratic Primary



Angie Carraway

Bio: Educator/Teacher

Website - <https://www.citizensforcarraway.com/>

Summary: Her campaign centers on strengthening public schools, lowering cost pressures for working families, and improving government transparency and responsiveness, arguing that too many decisions are made “far away from the people who live with the consequences.” In available public profiles and voter guides, no public statements were

located from Carraway specifically addressing Muslim communities, anti-Muslim bigotry, and Palestine/Gaza.

Harris County

County Judge

Democratic Primary



Annise Parker

Bio: Former Houston mayor, previously served as Houston controller and city council member

Website - <https://www.anniseparker.com/>

Summary: Parker’s campaign emphasizes public safety, infrastructure investment, responsible budgeting, and strengthening city services. She highlights her executive leadership experience managing large municipal systems and frames her platform around stability, transparency, and effective governance. In reviewed campaign materials and publicly available statements, no specific comments were located addressing Muslim communities and Palestine/Gaza.



Letitia Plummer

Bio: Practicing dentist and small business owner; former Houston City Council member and community nonprofit founder

Website: - <https://www.drletitiaplummer.com/>

Summary: Plummer’s campaign priorities include economic opportunity, small business support, public safety, healthcare access, and infrastructure improvements. She frames her platform around equity, community investment, and expanding opportunity for working families. In response to Governor Abbott’s November 2025 designation of CAIR as a

“foreign terrorist organization,” Letitia Plummer [publicly condemned](#) the action as a dangerous and Islamophobic policy that fractures community trust and harms civil liberties.



Matt Salazar

Bio: Entrepreneur/business owner

Website - <https://www.votemattsalazar.com/>

Summary: Salazar’s campaign messaging emphasizes government accountability, transparency in county operations, disaster preparedness, and improving public safety coordination. He frames his platform around restoring trust in county leadership, strengthening infrastructure resilience, and improving service delivery for residents. In reviewed campaign materials and publicly available statements, no specific comments were located addressing Muslim communities and Palestine/Gaza.

Republican Primary



Aliza Dutt

Bio: Mayor of Piney Point Village and former energy analyst

Website - <https://www.teamdutt.com/>

Summary: Dutt’s campaign emphasizes fiscal responsibility, property-tax relief, public safety, and disaster response management. She frames her platform around conservative governance principles, improving county efficiency, and strengthening emergency preparedness. In reviewed campaign materials and publicly available statements, no specific comments were located addressing Muslim communities and Palestine/Gaza.



Oscar Gonzales

Bio: Former sheriff's deputy

Website - <https://oscargonzalesforharriscountyjudge.com/>

Summary: Gonzales highlights priorities including border security coordination, public safety, fiscal discipline, and infrastructure improvement. His campaign messaging centers on strengthening law enforcement support and ensuring responsible budgeting at the county level. In reviewed campaign materials and publicly available statements, no specific comments were located addressing Muslim communities and Palestine/Gaza.



Warren Howell

Bio: Business owner and construction executive with experience in commercial insurance/risk management; also an Air Force veteran and civic association president

Website - <https://www.warrenhowell.info/>

Summary: Howell's campaign emphasizes conservative fiscal management, reducing property taxes, disaster preparedness, and public safety coordination. He is also running on a platform to end Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives within the county government. In reviewed campaign materials and publicly available statements, no specific comments were located addressing Muslim communities and Palestine/Gaza.



Marty Lancton

Bio: President of the Houston Professional Fire Fighters Association

Website - <https://www.lanctonforharriscounty.com/>

Summary: Lancton's campaign messaging focuses on strengthening public safety, improving emergency response systems, enhancing infrastructure planning, and promoting fiscal discipline in county governance. He frames his candidacy around restoring effective leadership and operational accountability. In reviewed campaign materials and publicly available statements, no specific comments were located addressing Muslim communities and Palestine/Gaza.



Orlando Sanchez

Bio: Former Houston City Council member and Harris County treasurer

Website - <https://www.orlandosanchez.com>

Summary: Sanchez emphasizes public safety, infrastructure development, property-tax restraint, and efficient county management. Drawing on prior public service experience, he frames his platform around restoring conservative leadership and strengthening county operations. In reviewed campaign materials and publicly available statements, no specific comments were located addressing Muslim communities and Palestine/Gaza.



George Zoes

Bio: Business owner

Website - <https://votezoes.com/>

Summary: Zoes' campaign highlights fiscal conservatism, property-tax relief, public safety, and business-oriented management of county government. He frames his platform around operational efficiency, infrastructure oversight, and strengthening emergency response coordination. In reviewed campaign materials and publicly available statements, no specific comments were located addressing Muslim communities and Palestine/Gaza.

County Attorney

Democratic Primary



Abbie Kamin

Bio: Houston City Council member (District C) and previously served as an associate director for the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) Texas Chapter.

Website - <https://www.abbiekamin.com/>

Summary: Kamin’s campaign messaging emphasizes using the county attorney’s office to defend Harris County from state/federal overreach, protect voting rights/local control, and strengthen environmental and neighborhood protections, alongside improving day-to-day county operations and strengthening protections for children and vulnerable adults. In reviewed campaign materials and questionnaire coverage available, no public statements were located addressing CAIR or Muslim communities. However, as a city council member, Kamin said people can disagree with Israel’s government while still supporting Israel’s “[right ... to exist in peace.](#)” Additionally, in Oct. 2023, Kamin said [she worked with city leadership](#) to ensure Muslim locations and schools received the same protection as Jewish institutions amid heightened tensions. In a Dec. 2024 City Council discussion about removing authorization to invest in Israeli bonds, she [referenced an ADL memo](#) warning divestment could contribute to “demonization of Israel” and rising antisemitism.



Audrie Lawton Evans

Bio: Harris County Civil Court at Law judge

Website - <https://www.audrieforcountyattorney.com/>

Summary: Lawton-Evans says she would continue a proactive county-attorney posture by focusing on government transparency/open-records access, expanding consumer-protection enforcement, pursuing litigation against polluters and scammers, and building a voter protection division to respond to voter-suppression efforts. In reviewed campaign materials and questionnaire coverage available, no public statements were located addressing CAIR, Muslim communities, or Palestine/Gaza.

Republican Primary



Jacqueline Lucci Smith

Bio: Smith is a former judge of Harris County Civil Court at Law No. 2 (served 2007–2012) and previously worked in county government including at the Harris County Attorney’s Office and the Harris County Tax Office; she later opened her own practice (Lucci Smith Law, PLLC).

Website - <https://smith4harriscounty.com/>

Summary: Smith frames her campaign around a “back-to-basics” approach emphasizing transparency, strict adherence to the Texas Election Code, preventing official misconduct/scandals, supporting law enforcement, and improving delinquent tax collections. On her campaign site, she criticizes the Uplift Harris program as unconstitutional and argues Harris County should move away from what she calls “woke agendas and handouts.” In reviewed campaign materials and questionnaire coverage available, no public statements were located addressing CAIR, Muslim communities, or Palestine/Gaza.

Fort Bend County

Fort Bend County Judge

Democratic Primary



Dexter McCoy

Bio: Current Fort Bend County Commissioner (Precinct 4), elected in 2022. McCoy previously served in the Obama Administration and in leadership roles within Fort Bend ISD.

Website - <https://www.dextermccoy.com/>

Summary: McCoy’s campaign emphasizes transparency, affordability, targeted tax relief, infrastructure investment (including transit and flood resilience), workforce development, and expanding access to healthcare and community services. As County Commissioner, he [publicly opposed](#) Governor Abbott’s November 2025 designation of CAIR as a “foreign

terrorist organization,” stating he stands with CAIR and Muslim Texans and describing the action as divisive political theater. In January 2026, he authored a county resolution [recognizing and celebrating Muslim American Heritage Month](#). He is also listed as [a signer of a Local Progress letter](#) calling for a durable ceasefire in Gaza and increased humanitarian aid, reflecting engagement on Palestine-related issues.



Christian Becerra

Bio: Presiding Judge of the 434th District Court (elected 2020); former prosecutor and private attorney.

Website - <https://judgebecerra.com/>

Summary: Becerra’s campaign focuses on restoring integrity in county government, responsible growth planning, public safety coordination, infrastructure investment, and expanding access to healthcare and mental-health services. In reviewed campaign materials and publicly available questionnaire responses, no public statements were located addressing Muslim communities, Palestine/Gaza, or Governor Abbott’s designation of CAIR.



Rachelle Carter

Bio: Attorney; Associate Municipal Court Judge; small business owner; public-service experience including education.

Website - <https://www.rdcarterlaw.com/>

Summary: Carter’s campaign priorities include fixing existing roads/drainage and strengthening flood mitigation before further expansion, plus public safety/emergency preparedness and county transparency. In reviewed campaign materials and publicly indexed information, no specific statements were located addressing Palestine/Gaza, Muslims, or CAIR.



Eddie Sajjad

Bio: Technologist/entrepreneur and data/AI consultant; long-time Fort Bend resident.

Website - <https://eddieforfb.com/>

Summary: Sajjad’s campaign emphasizes generating county revenue without raising tax rates, publishing clearer infrastructure/drainage plans, and expanding transparency tools for residents. His platform also frames Fort Bend’s diversity as a strength and calls for “building bridges” across communities; Sajjad [criticized](#) the Governor’s foreign terrorist designation of CAIR and has spoken against the genocide in Palestine on multiple occasions (here is [one example](#)).



Cynthia Lenton-Gary

Bio: Former city council member and community leader

Website - <https://cynthia4fortbend.com/>

Summary: Lenton-Gray's platform emphasizes fiscal responsibility and tax relief, smart growth and infrastructure planning, and workforce development and public safety. In reviewed content on her campaign site, no specific statements were located addressing Muslim communities or Palestine/Gaza.

Republican Primary



KP George (incumbent)

Bio: Fort Bend County Judge; previously served on the Fort Bend ISD school board; background as a financial planner.

Website - <https://www.kpgeorge.com/>

Summary: George says his priorities as county judge are public safety, economic development, and infrastructure/mobility, and he highlights grant funding and the county's Office of Economic Development. In 2025, George announced [he was switching from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party](#) while facing felony money-laundering charges; he has denied wrongdoing. George said that since taking office he partnered with Muslim community members to launch countywide Ramadan iftar food distributions, provide active-shooter/public safety trainings for masjids, issue proclamations for Islamic holy observances, bring COVID-19 vaccines to masjids/Islamic organizations, and organize a display of Islamic art in the Historic County Courthouse. However, in reviewed campaign materials and publicly posts, no specific statements were located addressing Palestine/Gaza.



Daniel Wong

Bio: CEO of Tolunay Wong Engineers; former Sugar Land City Council member; member of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Website - <https://danielowong.com/>

Summary: Wong's campaign emphasizes "restoring public trust," public safety, responsible growth, infrastructure/flood mitigation, and fiscal discipline (including property-tax relief and spending controls). In reviewed campaign materials and publicly posts, no specific statements were located addressing Palestine/Gaza or Muslims.



Melissa M. Wilson

Bio: Real-estate/insurance broker and builder, with a business-management background

Website - <https://melissamechelle.org/>

Summary: Wilson's campaign priorities center on public safety (including sheriff resourcing), "qualified CEO" management of county operations, budget restraint/audits, and growth/development decisions with resident input (including around eminent domain). In reviewed campaign materials and publicly indexed information, no specific statements were located addressing Palestine/Gaza or Muslims.



Kenneth Omoruyi

Bio: CPA firm owner and educator; previously worked in the energy sector and has served as a Texas governor appointee (Texas State Board of Public Accountancy).

Website - <https://kennethforfortbend.com/>

Summary: Omoruyi’s campaign focuses on fiscal transparency, “maximizing” taxpayer dollars, and government efficiency, alongside business-friendly economic development and streamlined permitting. In reviewed campaign materials and publicly indexed information, no specific statements were located addressing Palestine/Gaza or Muslims.



Daryl Aaron

Bio: Retired U.S. Army officer; attorney; also cites experience in homeland security, emergency services, and veterans services.

Website - <https://www.darylaaron.com/>

Summary: Aaron’s campaign frames the county judge role primarily as an executive leadership job, emphasizing operational management, preparedness, and core-service budgeting. In reviewed campaign materials and publicly indexed information, no specific statements were located addressing Palestine/Gaza or Muslims.

Fort Bend County Commissioner Pct 2

Democratic Primary



Grady Prestage (Incumbent)

Bio: Fort Bend County Commissioner for Precinct 2 since 1990/1991; registered professional civil engineer. Fort Bend County’s official bio notes he helped launch major

county entities such as the Community Development Department, Housing Finance Corporation, Toll Road Authority, and Parks & Recreation Department.

Website - <https://www.gradyprestage.com>

Summary: On his campaign site and in county materials, Prestage highlights a long tenure focused on county infrastructure and facilities—parks, community centers, libraries, annex buildings, and major mobility projects. In a January 2026 Community Impact questionnaire, he said he’s running to provide experienced leadership during rapid growth, emphasizing the need for infrastructure to keep pace with development and for county investments to improve quality of life; he points to his engineering background and experience overseeing major projects as key qualifications. In January 2026, he signed onto a county resolution [recognizing and celebrating Muslim American Heritage Month](#). In the publicly available materials reviewed, no specific statements were located addressing Palestine/Gaza



Larry Blackmon

Bio: Retired teacher

Website - <https://www.larryblackmoncampaign.com>

Summary: He has advocated for more community-centered planning and clearer communication to residents about upcoming projects. In the publicly available materials reviewed, no specific statements were located addressing Muslim communities or Palestine/Gaza.

Republican Primary

Tony Aranda

Bio: Veteran of the Marine Corp

Website - <https://tonyarandacampaign.com/>

Summary: On his campaign website, Aranda says he is running to serve Fort Bend County with “integrity, transparency, and practical leadership,” emphasizing responsible decision-making as the county rapidly grows and highlighting needs around infrastructure and efficient government for taxpayers. In the publicly available materials reviewed, no specific statements were located addressing Muslim communities or Palestine/Gaza.

Fort Bend County Commissioner Pct 4

Democratic Primary



Maggie Salomon

Bio: Small business owner and CPA

Website - <https://www.maggiesalomon.com>

Summary: Salomon said she is running to bring “practical, accountable leadership” to county government, with a focus on how infrastructure, flooding, safety, and budgeting affect families. She listed top priorities including flood mitigation and drainage accountability, infrastructure improvements, public safety coordination, responsible budgeting, and youth/community programs, and emphasized maintaining core systems (roads, drainage, public safety) as budget priorities. In the public materials reviewed , no specific statements were located addressing Muslim communities or Palestine/Gaza.



April L. Jones

Bio: Small business owner; director on North Mission Glen MUD board; Mission Glen HOA board president.

Website - <https://www.april4fb.com>

Summary: Jones’ platform is summarized as emphasizing transparency and accountability at Commissioners Court and prioritizing residents over “political interests.” In Community Impact’s questionnaire, she highlights budget discipline and public safety coordination with constables/residents/local officials, and frames her approach around strengthening community programs and services. In the public materials reviewed , no specific statements were located addressing Muslim communities or Palestine/Gaza.



Haroon Mughal

Bio: Chief Deputy in the Fort Bend County District Clerk’s Office

Website - <https://www.haroonmughal.com>

Summary: Mughal frames his candidacy around “integrity, transparency, and accountability” and says he wants county government that supports smart growth and protects residents’ quality of life as Fort Bend rapidly expands. He lists top priorities including infrastructure improvements, traffic mobility, public-safety partnerships, efficient county services, and transparent governance. In the public materials reviewed , no specific statements were located addressing Muslim communities or Palestine/Gaza.



Nabil Shike

Bio: Former elected constable, lawyer, and small business owner

Website - <https://www.shikeforpct4.com>

Summary: He frames his campaign around county transparency, budget oversight, and public-safety support, including advocating for law enforcement resources and competitive pay. While constable, Shike [called for a ceasefire](#) and has used his platform to post on Palestine and [organized Fort Bend County iftar events](#) to bring awareness to the Muslim community’s presence in the district.



Robert Nnake

Bio: Former community relations director for Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo

Website - <https://www.nnakeforfortbend.com>

Summary: On his campaign website, Nnake emphasizes lowering everyday costs alongside better jobs, strong schools, and preparation for flooding and a water crisis. He frames priorities as smart growth, infrastructure readiness, and making county government more responsive and transparent. Nnake’s campaign emphasizes building “stronger communities” through celebrating diversity, rejecting divisive politics, and increasing county participation and connections among residents from all backgrounds. In [a recent campaign ad](#), Nnake states that despite the rising islamophobia and anti-immigrant sentiment across the state, his goal is to continue working together emphasizing the strength in diversity.



Nicole Roberts

Bio: Attorney/corporate executive; elected Municipal Utility District board member; former member of the Fort Bend County Citizens Redistricting Committee.

Website - <https://www.nicole4fortbend.com>

Summary: Roberts' campaign centers on making sure Fort Bend's rapid growth "works for families," with priorities that include affordability, infrastructure investment, and ensuring every neighborhood has a voice in county decisions. She lists top priorities as flood/drainage resilience, responsible growth and infrastructure, public safety, and economic opportunity, emphasizing proactive planning and transparency in how county dollars are spent. Her website also highlights her background in infrastructure planning through MUD service and a focus on representation and accountability. In the public materials reviewed, no specific statements were located addressing Muslim communities or Palestine/Gaza.



Brittanye LaShay Morris

Bio: Attorney; former state district judge; community advocate; small business owner

Website - <https://www.morrisforyou.com>

Summary: Morris says she is running to protect Fort Bend's quality of life as the county grows, prioritizing responsible growth, infrastructure, small-business support, and keeping animal-welfare services aligned with population increases. She emphasizes budget discipline, public safety that includes mental-health resources, and advocates for improved local healthcare capacity, including the idea of a county hospital to reduce reliance on transfers to Houston. She has participated in broader community events focused on inclusion, such as serving alongside community leaders at a [Ramadan iftar event](#) hosted in Harris County Precinct 4. In the public materials reviewed, no specific statements were located addressing Muslim communities or Palestine/Gaza.

Republican Primary



Abolaji Ayobami

Bio: Business owner; civil/structures/environmental engineering consultant; pastoral counselor.

Website - <https://www.aayobami.com>

Summary: Ayobami said he is running as a long-time resident/homeowner and described goals around economic sustainability, “transformative” infrastructure development, and public safety/secure communities. He also emphasized budgeting for public safety/first responders and described interest in economic development efforts aimed at attracting investment and expanding opportunities. In the reviewed public materials, no specific statements were located addressing Muslim communities or Palestine/Gaza.



Ken Mathews

Bio: Experience in large-scale management and negotiations

Website - <https://www.ken4fortbend.com>

Summary: Mathews framed his candidacy around managing growth responsibly, controlling spending, and preventing residents from being “taxed out of their homes.” He emphasized transparency (including an advisory council drawn from neighborhoods), and listed budgeting priorities including traffic, flooding, public safety, and efficiency/cost reductions as the county grows. In reviewed public materials, no specific statements were located addressing Muslim communities or Palestine/Gaza.



Adam Schoof

Bio: U.S. Army veteran and current Fort Bend ISD Board of Trustees member

Website - <https://fortbendforadam.com/cgi-sys/suspendedpage.cgi>

Summary: Schoof emphasized priorities such as law enforcement competitiveness, timely infrastructure completion, tax relief through business/industrial development, and flood

mitigation strategies. In reviewed public materials, no specific statements were located addressing Muslim communities or Palestine/Gaza.



Ramesh Kumar Cherivirala

Bio: Financial advisor; described by Community Impact as active in the Fort Bend GOP and involved in Indo-American conservative organizing.

Website - <https://www.ramesh4fortbend.com>

Summary: Cherivirala framed his priorities around public safety, reducing the property-tax burden through efficient spending, and improving mobility/traffic. He described budgeting priorities as “needs over wants,” including full funding for law enforcement, emergency services, and flood mitigation while reducing waste. In reviewed public materials, no specific statements were located addressing Muslim communities, Palestine/Gaza,

Collin County

Collin County Judge

Republican Primary



Chris Hill (incumbent)

Bio: Collin County Judge since 2018.

Website - <https://www.chrishill.us/>

Summary: Hill’s campaign/Q&A messaging centers on limited government, low taxes, private property rights, transparency, and opposition to COVID-era mandates (“no lockdowns... no mask mandates... no vaccine mandates”), with an emphasis on maintaining Collin County’s “healthiest, safest” status. In public meetings and related coverage around the proposed EPIC City Muslim-focused development, Hill publicly said he could not support the project (even before a plat was filed), with concerns framed

around compliance/discrimination/transparency depending on outlet. No specific statements were located addressing Palestine/Gaza



Rick Grady

Bio: Former Plano City Council member; serves on the Collin Central Appraisal District board.

Website - <https://gradyforcollincounty.vote/>

Summary: Grady’s Q&A and campaign materials emphasize Collin’s rapid growth outpacing planning, citing needs in public safety staffing, roads/thoroughfares, emergency services expansion, and county debt/finances; he calls for “no defunding” law enforcement, corporate-style management discipline, and intergovernmental partnerships. Despite anti-Muslim attacks from his opponents, Grady views the Muslim community as a significant part of the local constituency that deserves engagement, rather than exclusion. No public statements located in reviewed materials referencing Palestine/Gaza.

Democratic Primary

John R. “Buster” Brown

Bio: Listed as the Democratic candidate for County Judge; uncontested in the Democratic primary.

Website – N/A

Summary: No public information was found in search.

Collin County Commissioners Court Precinct 2

Republican Primary



Michael Slaughter

Bio: Former city council member/Mayor Pro Tem; identifies as a reserve police officer; business owner.

Website: <https://www.michaelslaughter.com/>

Summary: Slaughter’s campaign materials stress public safety, “protecting freedoms,” and representation/constituent services, with a conservative governance frame; in the reviewed sources, no public statements were located about Muslims or Palestine/Gaza.

Collin County Commissioners Court Precinct 4

Republican Primary



Shelby Williams

Bio: Former Plano City Council member (Place 5); Republican candidate for Precinct 4.

Website - <https://shelbyhwilliams.com/>

Summary: Williams’ public-facing campaign presence emphasizes conservative “values,” local governance, and quality-of-life concerns in a high-growth area; in reviewed sources, specific statements on Muslims/Palestine were not located.



Woody Huffines

Bio: Financial/project management executive; Republican candidate for Precinct 4; uses campaign social media to emphasize full-time focus on Commissioners Court responsibilities.

Website - <https://www.woodyhuffines.com/>

Summary: Huffines frames his bid around **fiscal responsibility**, county operations, and effective management during growth; no verified public statements were located on Muslims/Palestine in the reviewed materials surfaced here.

Democratic Primary



Julie Holmer

Bio: Former Plano City Council member.

Website - <https://julieforcommissioner.com/about>

Summary: Holmer’s campaign and questionnaire-style excerpts emphasize public safety resourcing/coordination as the county grows, data-driven budgeting, and maintaining fiscal responsibility. No record of public statements about Muslims or Palestine.

Ballot Propositions

These are non-binding party propositions meaning that **they don’t directly create laws but signal what primary voters think the respective party should prioritize**. They come after the candidate races on your ballot and you get to vote for or against (can also leave blank) any of the measures.

Democratic Primary

1. Texas should expand Medicaid and ensure access to affordable healthcare for all (YES/NO)

- a. **Analysis:** Texas has the highest uninsured rate in the nation, leaving millions of residents without access to preventive and life-saving care. Muslim communities in Texas include many working-class families, immigrants, and seniors who are disproportionately uninsured. Expanding access to

affordable healthcare supports the civil right to equal access to essential services and aligns with Islamic principles of preserving life and preventing harm.

2. Texans should support humane and dignified immigration policies and pathways to citizenship (YES/NO)

a. **Analysis:** Immigration enforcement in Texas has had direct consequences for Muslim families, including the detention of Leqaa Kordia, a Palestinian Muslim woman held at the Prairieland Detention Facility despite being found releasable by an immigration judge, and Maher Tarabishi, who was detained during a routine ICE check-in and later chose to self-deport following prolonged legal and personal hardship. During this period, Maher's U.S.-citizen son, Wael Tarabishi, who had significant medical needs and relied on his father for care and support, passed away, underscoring the human cost of aggressive enforcement practices. These cases illustrate how limited humanitarian safeguards can lead to family separation, prolonged detention, and coercive outcomes. In Texas, where immigration enforcement is highly visible and politicized, policies that prioritize due process, family unity, and clear legal pathways raise serious civil rights considerations.

3. Texans should have the right to make their own healthcare decisions, including reproductive rights (YES/NO)

4. Texas should address the state's housing crisis in affordability and access (YES/NO)

a. **Analysis:** Texas is experiencing a growing housing affordability crisis driven by rising rents, limited supply, and rapid population growth. Housing instability disproportionately affects low-income families, seniors, immigrants, and communities of color, increasing risks of displacement and homelessness. Lack of affordable housing also strains schools, healthcare systems, and local economies. Addressing housing access is a public policy issue with direct implications for equal opportunity and family stability. In Texas, where tenant protections are limited, housing policy choices carry significant civil rights consequences.

5. Texas should fund public schools at the national per-pupil average (YES/NO)

6. Secure online voter registration should be accessible to all eligible Texas residents (YES/NO)

a. **Analysis:** In Texas, eligible voters often face administrative barriers, missed deadlines, and limited access to registration opportunities. Expanding secure voter registration options modernizes election systems and reduces

barriers to participation while maintaining election integrity. Equal access to the ballot is a foundational civil right in a democratic society.

7. Texas should ensure a clean and healthy environment, including clean air and water (YES/NO)
8. Texas should legalize cannabis for adults and expunge records for past low-level cannabis offenses (YES/NO)
9. Texas should raise salaries and provide cost-of-living increases to school and state employees (YES/NO)

10. Texas should ban racially motivated redistricting and create a non-partisan redistricting board (YES/NO)

- a. **Analysis:** Texas has a long history of redistricting practices that dilute the voting power of minority communities, leading to repeated legal challenges. Mid-decade redistricting and racially motivated maps undermine fair representation and public trust in elections. An independent redistricting process can help ensure compliance with the Voting Rights Act and promote transparency. Fair maps are essential for communities to have meaningful political voice and access to responsive representation. In a rapidly diversifying state like Texas, redistricting decisions have far-reaching civil rights implications.
11. The working class should receive greater tax relief while shifting more tax burden to the wealthiest (YES/NO)
12. Texas should expand accessible public transportation in rural and urban communities (YES/NO)
13. Texas should implement “red flag” laws for individuals with a history of domestic abuse (YES/NO)

Republican Primary

1. Texas property taxes should be assessed at the purchase price and phased out entirely over time through spending reductions (YES/NO)
2. Texas should require any local government budget that raises property taxes to be approved by voters in a November general election (YES/NO)
3. Texas should prohibit the denial of healthcare or medical services based solely on a patient’s vaccination status (YES/NO)
4. Texas public schools should teach that life begins at fertilization (YES/NO)
5. Texas should ban gender, sexuality, and reproductive clinics and services in K-12 schools (YES/NO)
6. Texas should enact term limits on all elected officials (YES/NO)

7. Texas should ban the large-scale export or sale of groundwater and surface water to any single private or public entity (YES/NO)

8. Texas should reduce the burden of illegal immigration on taxpayers by ending public services for undocumented immigrants (YES/NO)

a. **Analysis:** In Texas, limiting access to services such as emergency care, education, or victim support can discourage vulnerable communities from seeking help, increasing risks for the entire public. Such measures may also raise constitutional and humanitarian concerns, particularly when they impact mixed-status families and U.S.-citizen children. From a policy perspective, denying basic services does not address the root causes of immigration and can exacerbate inequality and social instability.

9. The Texas Legislature should stop awarding committee chairmanships and leadership positions to Democrats (YES/NO)

10. Texas should prohibit “Sharia Law” (YES/NO)

a. **Analysis:** The U.S. Constitution already guarantees that only federal and state law may be enforced in American courts and prohibits the establishment of any religious legal system. “Sharia” refers to a personal religious and ethical framework followed by Muslims in their private lives, not a parallel system of governance. Proposals singling out Islam are rooted in fear-based narratives rather than legal necessity and raise serious First Amendment and equal protection concerns. In Texas, where Muslim communities have experienced increased harassment, surveillance, and discriminatory enforcement, such measures risk legitimizing religious discrimination without addressing any existing legal gap.