

BEFORE YOUR VOTE: ABOUT THIS VOTER GUIDE



This voter guide was prepared with information submitted by each candidate. You can review the requirements each campaign met to be included, learn more about all of the candidates on your ballot, and find additional voting resources at wakedems.org/vote

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US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 4



Valerie P. Foushee

A mother, a public servant, and a lifelong North Carolinian, Congresswoman Valerie Foushee is running for re-election to stand up to the chaos in Washington that's making life less affordable for hardworking North Carolinians and chipping away at our rights and liberties.

Top issues: Congresswoman Foushee is committed to fighting back against **attacks on our democracy**, defunding and **protecting our community from ICE**, making **healthcare more affordable** by passing Medicare for All, and working to **lower costs**.



Nida Allam

Nida Allam is a Durham County Commissioner and organizer who has expanded housing, raised wages, strengthened public schools, and expanded healthcare access. Daughter of immigrants, she's grassroots-backed, rejects corporate PAC money, and will fight for all of our communities.

Top issues: Address the affordability crisis by **lowering costs** for working families. Defend democracy with voting rights, fair maps, and **corporate PAC-free** politics. **Protect immigrant families** with paths to citizenship. Guarantee healthcare as a human right with **Medicare for All**.

US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 13



Paul Barringer

Paul Barringer is an attorney, health care operations leader, and landowner who's worked for decades to fix broken systems. He's running for Congress to stand up for District 13, defend the Constitution, and put communities, not Washington, back in charge.

Top issues: **Cost of living** because North Carolina families are being squeezed, **healthcare** because care should be affordable and local, and **Constitutional balance** because Congress must reclaim its role.



Frank Pierce

Frank Pierce is the 1st Vice Chair of the Democratic Men of North Carolina. Frank is a small business owner of a landscape company. Frank is also a board member of Aids Alliance. He started the Feed the Firefighters of Raleigh program so they are fed every Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Top issues: **Affordability**, lowering cost of living and insurance. **Infrastructure**, increasing access to broadband as well as clean water in District 13. **Healthcare**, adding more access and **affordability** for all.

RALEIGH CITY COUNCIL AT-LARGE (SELECT 2)



Ms. Stormie Denise Forte

Stormie is a Raleigh native. She's a licensed attorney and realtor. She's also certified as an Ombudsman, mediator, and rehabilitation counselor. As a lifelong Democrat, she'll continue finding solutions to the most pressing issues for the residents of the City of Raleigh.

Top issues: **Homelessness** and **affordable housing**, efficient/reliable **public transportation**, and improving/expanding **infrastructure**.



Clark Rinehart

Clark is a husband, dad to two WCPSS elementary schoolers, and an active volunteer in youth sports, city committees, and local nonprofits. He works in social entrepreneurship and currently serves as interim Executive Director of the Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership.



Sana Siddiqui

A 26-year Raleigh resident, Sana is a small business owner with a unique mix of professional and civic experience and local ties. She has spent years partnering with the City on community events, serving on multiple advisory boards, and building community across Raleigh.



Cameron Zamot

Cameron Zamot is an entrepreneur, engineer, husband, and veteran. As owner of The Bike Library, he's committed to building community and getting people on bikes. As a former City employee, he's familiar with the municipal system and committed to making the city grow well.

Top issues: **Transportation** because if our city moves well, it will grow well. **Housing** because more housing options will bring down prices.

RALEIGH CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT C



Corey Branch

Corey has served District C for 10 years. The district has had more Affordable Housing projects than three other districts, and housing options across incomes have increased alongside transit stops/routes and youth non-profit funding.

Top Issues: Housing **affordability**, **transit**, & **youth programs**.



Jared S. Ollison

Jared Ollison is an Air Force veteran who served in the Middle East. He then served his community as a law enforcement officer for thirty years. He now seeks to represent District C. **Top issues:** Addressing **homelessness** & **affordable housing** so people can afford to buy a home and live where they work.



**Wake County
Democratic Party**

PRIMARY VOTER GUIDE

Bring this guide into the voting booth with you to reference as you fill out your ballot.



Today, you'll help select our Democratic nominees. This fall, we'll need your help electing them!

**Volunteer with us to help elect
Roy Cooper & Anita Earls**

Did you know **150,000** people in Wake County voted for Democrats in 2024 but **did not vote** in the last midterm election? You can sign up to help get them to the polls at

wakedems.org/volunteer

NC COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE SEAT 3



James Weldon Whalen

James Whalen is fighting to protect our rights. As an attorney, he fought gerrymandering, halted legislative overreach, and stopped a dangerous attempt to discard thousands of votes and undo Justice Allison Riggs's victory. He'll continue fighting for us on the Court of Appeals.

Top issues: Current court majorities have allowed extreme **partisan gerrymandering**, blocked **public school funding**, & attempted to discard thousands of lawful ballots. Instead, James will **uphold our constitution**.



Christine Marie Walczyk

Judge Christine Walczyk has worked in law for 30 years. She is one of the longest-serving trial judges in our state and has a proven record of safeguarding due process and individual rights. As the only woman running for the Court in 2026, she hopes to give Democratic women a seat at the table.

Top issues: Protect **individual liberties** guaranteed by the Constitution, promote **equal access to justice**, build a **strong judiciary that works for the people**, and bring experience, integrity, and balance to the Court.

WAKE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



Sherita Walton

Sherita Walton is a seasoned attorney with over 20 years of legal experience. She has served as a prosecutor, a defender, and now as a legal advisor to the Raleigh Police Department, bringing a well-rounded understanding of the justice system to every role she's taken on.

Top issues: Strengthen the DA's office by protecting **public safety** and prioritizing violent crime, administering justice with **dignity and fairness**, fostering **transparency**, and expanding **diversion/prevention** programs.



Melanie Shekita

Melanie Shekita is a 27-year career prosecutor and head of the Special Victims Unit. She is committed to public safety by building an office rooted in trust, fairness, and accountability; one that reflects our growing and diverse community and holds the most violent offenders accountable.

Top issues: **Early intervention** with community partners to stem the rise in juvenile violence, promoting **accountability** both inside and outside the office, and keeping our communities **safe** with timely, efficient action.



Wiley Nickel

Wiley Nickel is a husband, father, and Wake County attorney who has spent his career fighting for justice. Working for President Obama, he learned that real leaders fight for change. As a State Senator and NC Congressman, he fought to defend voting rights and protect abortion access.

Top issues: Supporting **public safety**, taking on corrupt politicians, **standing up to Trump's attacks** on our communities, and keeping Wake County safe by pushing for **more resources for the DA's Office**.

NC HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 37



Winn Decker

Winn Decker, Ph.D. is a public policy professional running for the NC House to make life more affordable, strengthen public schools, and help southern Wake County grow responsibly. He brings real experience turning policy into results and focusing on making state government work better for people.

Top issues: **Cost of living** because families deserve stability & security, **public schools** because education builds opportunity, and **infrastructure** to help communities thrive, keep up with growth, & preserve quality of life.



Ralph Clements

Ralph Clements, a Raleigh native and son of Wake County teachers, has 38 years of business experience, with three decades as a management consultant helping healthcare leaders improve patient care. His record in professional and volunteer roles demonstrates his dedication & effectiveness.

Top issues: **Rebuild public trust** in the legislature, **end gerrymandering** to protect voting rights, **invest in education** to provide opportunities for our children, protect access to **quality healthcare**, and **lower costs**.



Marcus Gadson

Marcus Gadson is a constitutional scholar who has worked to serve the community as a member of the NC Advisory Committee to the US Commission on Civil Rights, a member of the NC ACLU's governing board, and secretary in the Raleigh-Apex NAACP branch.

Top issues: Addressing the **cost of living**, **making NC public schools #1** in reading and math, finding real solutions to **lower crime** and **protect public safety**, and **protecting democracy** by ending partisan gerrymandering.

NC HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 38



Collin Fears

Collin Fears is a restaurant manager and organizer. Raised by a single mother in Raleigh, food stamps and Medicaid were his family's lifeline. He's jumping into the fight to protect those programs and the public schools that helped him succeed, so they are there for the next generation.

Top issues: **Affordability** because working families can't afford necessities, **Public Education** to power our community's future, & **protecting Medicaid Expansion** because red tape should never be an obstacle to healthcare.



Abe Jones

Abe Jones is a lifelong public servant—former judge, former Wake County commissioner, former state assistant US attorney, and current legislator—running to make NC fairer and more affordable, strengthen public schools, protect healthcare, and ensure justice and accountability for us all.

Top issues: **Lowering costs**, **fully funding public schools** and paying teachers competitively, and **protecting healthcare** and basic freedoms so North Carolina works for working families—not special interests.

WAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONER AT-LARGE (SELECT 2)



Mona Singh

Since moving to Wake County in 1995, Mona Singh has been a problem-solver (135 U.S. patents, \$1B in revenue impact), a grassroots Democratic leader, and a community organizer. She will put these skills to work to help Wake flourish.

Top issues: **Affordable housing**, **Education**, **Equity**, **Healthcare**, **Transit**.

Mona's skills will complement our current Commissioners to break down silos and find inefficiencies across crucial County services.



Steve S. Rao

Steve Rao has 14 years of experience on the Morrisville Town Council, where he helped guide one of Wake County's fastest-growing towns to become an All-America City. His campaign is about three things, Results, Actions and Opportunities.

Top issues: Support **public schools** and Wake Tech, advocate for classroom teachers, work to fix our **EMS system** and support our **first responders**, champion **community investments** like **affordable housing** and **transit**.



Kimberly McGhee

Kimberly McGhee is an activist, business owner, and servant leader with over 30 years of experience working alongside families, seniors, and caregivers. She brings boots-on-the-ground insight and practical leadership to ensure every ZIP code thrives.

Top issues: **Housing stability** because safe homes are foundational, **mental health** and **healthcare** because wellness impacts every family, and access to **education**, **workforce pathways**, **food**, and **transit** because opportunity should not depend on ZIP code.



Jonathan Lambert-Melton

As a Raleigh City Councilor since 2019, Jonathan Lambert-Melton delivered results for Wake's largest city. He's running for County Commissioner to strengthen public schools, expand housing, support public safety, and promote smart growth countywide.

Top issues: Invest in **public schools**, fund **affordable housing** and advance policies to increase **housing supply**, and promote **sustainable growth** that protects **our environment**.



Christine Kushner

Christine Kushner has spent over 15 years fighting for public education and strong local services. As former Chair of the Wake County Board of Education, she delivered vital resources for students and educators.

Top issues: **Public education** to provide the schools our students deserve, **public health** to help us take care of each other, and **economic mobility** for affordable housing and improved transit.

Live in Raleigh? **Flip** to see which City Council candidates on your ballot are Democrats and learn more about them!

