

Voter Guide for Bandera County

Primary *Runoff* Elections: Tuesday - May 26, 2026

To Vote in one of the two Primary *Runoff* Elections - instructions:

1. If you voted in the Democratic Party Primary in March,
you can **only** vote in the Democratic Party Primary *Runoff* Election.
2. If you voted in the Republican Party Primary in March,
you can **only** vote in the Republican Party Primary *Runoff* Election.
3. If you did NOT vote in one of the Primary Elections in March,
you can vote in either one of the Primary *Runoff* Elections in May.

Deadline Dates for Primary Runoff Election on Tuesday - May 26, 2026			
Register to Vote/Change Address	Monday	April 27	Last day to register to vote
Voting by Mail	Friday	May 15	Last day to apply for Mail in Ballot
	Tuesday	May 26	Last day to return Mail in Ballot
Early Voting	Monday	May 18	First day to vote in-person
	Friday	May 22	Last day to vote in-person
Election Day	Tuesday	May 26	In-person at voting location

Get Ready to Vote in a Primary *Runoff* Election in Texas!

The Blanco County Voter Guide is published by the League of Women Voters of the Hill Country Texas:

Democratic Party Primary Runoff - Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General

Republican Party Primary Runoff - United States Senator, Attorney General, Railroad Commissioner,
Judge - Court of Criminal Appeals - Place 3
Bandera County Judge

This voter guide is available in printed form at public libraries and other locations. Voters may read and print this voter guide at the website: lwvhillcountrytexas.org.

VOTE411.org is a League website, which provides the election information on the candidates: a voter enters the address on their Voter Registration card to access the information.



League of Women Voters - Hill Country Texas
P. O. Box 290303 Kerrville, Texas 78029-0303
Email: president@lwvhillcountrytexas.org
Website: lwvhillcountrytexas.org

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan civic organization and does not support or oppose any candidate or candidates or political party or parties. This Voter Guide provides voters an opportunity to read about candidates who have filed for an office. The League of Women Voters of the Hill Country Texas makes contact with each candidate in a contested election using a variety of methods to contact and invite each candidate to participate in a county voter guide. The candidate makes the decision about responding to the voter guide invitation, as participation is voluntary. All responses to questions come directly from the candidates and are not edited by League of Women Voters.

Election and Voting Information for Bandera County

Sample ballots and other Information from the Bandera County Election Department posted online: <http://www.banderacounty.org/page/elections.home>

Take a photo ID with you to the voting location.

Curb-side voting is available for Early Voting and on Election Day.

Remember: no cell phones, no texting, no photos, no campaign clothing or material, no loitering

Orange voter registration card details the elections for the voter residence address.

EARLY VOTING in Bandera County - Three locations and voter may go to any location to vote.

Bandera	Ray Mauer Courthouse Annex	403 12 th Street
Lakehills	Lakehills Area Library	7200 FM 1283
Medina	Bandera County - Medina Annex	161 East Parker Street

Monday May 18	Tuesday May 19	Wednesday May 20	Thursday May 21	Friday May 22
7:00am to 7:00pm	7:00am to 7:00pm	7:00am to 7:00pm	7:00am to 7:00pm	7:00am to 7:00pm

ELECTION DAY: Tuesday - May 26, 2026

Locations open 7:00am to 7:00pm

Voter must go to the precinct location on the orange voter registration card.

Precinct #	Location	Address	City
101	Shepherd's Gate Church - Fellowship Hall	615 Polly Peak Drive	Bandera
102	Pipe Creek Volunteer Fire Department	1331 FM 1283	Pipe Creek
203	Lakehills Area Library	7200 FM 1283	Lakehills
204	Lakehills Area Library	7200 FM 1283	Lakehills
305	Ray Mauer Annex	403 12 th Street	Bandera
306	Medina Annex	161 East Parker Street	Medina
407	Bandera ISD Transportation Bus Barn	1576 Highway 173 South	Bandera
408	Tarpley Community Center	232 Valentine Lane	Tarpley
409	Lakeshore Volunteer Fire Department	9019 Wharton Dock Road	Bandera
410	Vanderpool Volunteer Fire Department	32647 FM 187	Vanderpool

Bandera County 2026 Primary Runoff Elections - Statewide Offices

United States Senate

The United States Senate has 100 seats - two seats per state. Senators are elected by all the voters in the state of Texas. The term of office is six years.

Duties: makes laws; raises revenues; appropriates federal funds and manages the federal debt; regulates commerce among states and with others nations; declares war and maintains and regulates the military; establishes the federal court system and defines federal crimes; and directs the census every ten years. The US Senate has the exclusive power to advise and consent on presidential nominations to executive and judicial offices, and to ratify U.S. treaties, and to try impeachments.

Republican Primary Runoff

John Cornyn	no response received
Ken Paxton	no response received

1. What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Cornyn: No response received.

Paxton: No response received.

2. What specific policies would you support to address the growing wealth gap between the highest and lowest earners, and what do you see as the appropriate role of the federal government in this issue?

Cornyn: No response received.

Paxton: No response received.

3. What policy changes would you propose to make the U.S. immigration system more effective and humane?

Cornyn: No response received.

Paxton: No response received.

4. The Constitution establishes a system of checks and balances among the three branches of government. As a Senator, what specific actions would you take to preserve the system so that the federal government can serve the people?

Cornyn: No response received.

Paxton: No response received.

5. What role should the federal government play in promoting a healthy American population and what steps would you take to ensure that healthcare is affordable and accessible for all Americans?

Cornyn: No response received.

Paxton: No response received.

Lieutenant Governor of Texas

The lieutenant governor is powerful because of their position as president of the Texas Senate. The term of office is four years.

Duties: appoint the chairs and vice-chairs of the committees; appoint senators to committees; assign bills to committees; control the agenda of the Senate.; serve as a member of several commissions and boards; and serve as governor in the absence of the governor.

Democratic Primary Runoff

Vikki Goodwin	website	Goodwin4Texas.com
Marcos Isaias Velez		no response received

1. What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Goodwin: I'm serving my 4th term in the TX Legislature; have been able to pass meaningful laws. I'm the owner of Goodwin & Goodwin Real Estate, involved community leader, graduate of UT & the LBJ School.

Velez: No response received.

2. What changes need to be made to Texas abortion laws to ensure women have access to proper medical care in the event of pregnancy complications?

Goodwin: We did not go far enough with the "Life of the Mother Act" that passed in 2025. The way to guarantee the best health outcomes for pregnant women is to allow women to make their own personal, private health care decisions in consultation with their doctors. Women who have adverse health conditions should have all options available for putting their own health before that of the fetus.

Velez: No response received.

3. What role should the state government play in promoting a healthy Texas population, and what steps would you take to ensure that healthcare is affordable and accessible for all Texans?

Goodwin: A healthy population is essential. The state should ensure no one falls through the cracks; focus on prevention and transparency. Programs that have proven records of success should be expanded, including Medicaid. Mobile health clinics that provide low-cost diagnostic tests and checkups can help reach areas where there is a lack of doctors. Keeping people out of emergency rooms will lower costs.

Velez: No response received.

4. What legislation would you support regarding cannabis?

Goodwin: I support treating cannabis like alcohol with regulations: must be 21 years of age to purchase, can't be sold next door to schools, can't be marketed to kids, labels must clearly indicate the contents and strength. We don't need a nanny state. People with cancer, PTSD, and all types of ailments should be able to continue buying a product that has helped them without the broken TCUP.

Velez: No response received.

5. What legislation would you recommend to ensure that Texans and Texas businesses have enough water for the future?

Goodwin: We should pass the TX Stewardship Amendment to ensure our water isn't polluted. We must update and improve our Texas Water Plan using the latest science. Now it includes plans for many reservoirs that aren't feasible, and not enough emphasis on re-use. We need to ensure we aren't developing the most expensive water. Desalination of ocean water is expensive, while storing rainwater is less costly.

Velez: No response received.

Attorney General of Texas

The Attorney General is the chief law enforcement officer of the state. The term of office is four years.

Duties: represents the state and state officials in legal matters; issues opinions; oversees collection of child support; administers the crime victims compensation fund; enforces the open records/open meetings acts; approves public bond issues; and enforces consumer regulations.

Democratic Primary Runoff

Joe Jaworski	website	JaworskiForTexas.com
Nathan Johnson	website	www.nathanfortexas.com

1. What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Jaworski: Courageous fighter in courtroom and public square. 8 years as Galveston mayor/councilmember; 35 years as Texas trial lawyer/mediator; loyal husband to Rebecca for 35 years; proud Dad to my two kids.

Johnson: Eight years as a state senator: passing >100 bills, killing and shaping bills, building coalitions, making government work, exercising independence, leadership and political judgment; law practice.

2. How would you protect Texans' freedom to vote while maintaining safe and secure elections?

Jaworski: I will staff a voter expansion division in the Texas OAG which will daily focus on removing the stain of voter suppression from Texas Law. I will be known as the Attorney General who finally enforced the law which requires Principals to offer registration to all high school seniors. I, with local District Attorneys, will personally prosecute offenders who intentionally break our voting laws.

Johnson: We have good laws to keep elections secure, provided that enforcement and audits are fair and consistent. As AG, I will work with DAs around the state to ensure security. As a Senator, I filed bills to protect election workers from harassment (safe and secure), allow voter registration online and same-day, enable citizen ballot initiatives, and move redistricting to an independent commission.

3. How would you address immigration issues affecting our state while ensuring all individuals within our borders have access to due process protections?

Jaworski: I will lead Texas on immigration issues by reminding voters that Immigration and criminal justice are two very different American institutions. I will demand that Congress perform its Constitutional duty to reform our immigration laws. I will support asylum as a proper tool of legal immigration. I will support Texas Dreamers who seek in-state college tuition to better themselves and our state.

Johnson: Work with the federal government to speed processing of asylum claims and treat applicants humanely, intercept and deter trafficking of drugs and people, revise Texas' ill-conceived 287(g) agreement, vastly expand guest worker program, work with other nations to stem the flow of migrants. The U.S. Constitution grants due process to everyone in the United States, including undocumented immigrants.

4. How would you identify, evaluate, and prioritize which state legal cases to pursue?

Jaworski: I will create/staff a Division of Affordability within the Texas OAG; it will use the power of government to reduce the cost of living in Texas for all 32 million residents of the state. I will measure performance and announce results. The OAG will expressly focus on helping young adult Texans to achieve the American Dream - affordable home ownership, debt free education, and starting a family

Johnson: I would ask three questions: whether there are actions that are harming Texans, whether the actions are illegal, and whether I can prove it. I would emphasize blocking federal overreach, promoting competition in markets, protecting people against violence and commercial scams, and rooting out political corruption. I would end the practice of using the office for personal and political purposes.

5. What specific improvements or reforms do you envision for the Texas Attorney General's office in the coming years?

Jaworski: End persecution of vulnerable citizens. Reform Child Support Division: promptly collect/disburse child support and assist payor and payee to collect correct amounts. Assist school principals to register every 18 year old senior to vote. Remain widely accessible to the public, rather than reclusive or partisan only. Focus political and legal decisions on affordability for everyday working Texans.

Johnson: Better leadership is needed more than structural reform. I'll recruit great staff, including attorneys, who are committed to serving the public over serving an ideology. I'll devote resources to performing the work of the office rather than the work of a political machine. There may be administrative changes and laws yet to pass or change, which we'll address in concert with the Legislature.

Attorney General of Texas

The Attorney General is the chief law enforcement officer of the state. The term of office is four years.

Duties: represents the state and state officials in legal matters; issues opinions; oversees collection of child support; administers the crime victims compensation fund; enforces the open records/open meetings acts; approves public bond issues; and enforces consumer regulations.

Republican Primary Runoff

Mayes Middleton		no response received
Chip Roy	website	chiproy.com

1. What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Middleton: No response received.

Roy: I have courtroom and prosecutorial experience as a US Attorney, a nationally recognized conservative voting record in Congress, and senior leadership experience as First Assistant Attorney General.

2. How would you protect Texans' freedom to vote while maintaining safe and secure elections?

Middleton: No response received.

Roy: As Attorney General, I will rigorously enforce Texas election law so that every eligible voter is protected and every unlawful ballot is prevented. This includes prosecuting election fraud, defending voter ID and citizenship verification requirements, and resisting federal attempt to undermine Texas's election safeguards.

3. How would you address immigration issues affecting our state while ensuring all individuals within our borders have access to due process protections?

Middleton: No response received.

Roy: Texas must use every lawful tool available to defend itself: litigation against unlawful federal policies, support for state and local enforcement efforts, aggressive action against cartel networks, and NGOs that facilitate illegal activity, and prosecution of crimes tied to human trafficking. As Attorney General, I will treat border security as a top priority and have a record of doing so.

4. How would you identify, evaluate, and prioritize which state legal cases to pursue?

Middleton: No response received.

Roy: As a former First Assistant Attorney General, I understand how the office functions day to day and how to align its work with clear strategic priorities. I would prioritize defending Texas sovereignty against federal overreach, aggressively prosecuting human trafficking, cartel activity, election fraud, and corporate cronyism and misconduct; and protecting Texans' constitutional liberties.

5. What specific improvements or reforms do you envision for the Texas Attorney General's office in the coming years?

Middleton: No response received.

Roy: As First Assistant Attorney General, I effectively served as the chief operating officer of the office overseeing the daily operations, coordinating across divisions, managing personnel, and ensuring the Attorney General's priorities were executed. My goal is an office that is feared by criminals, respected by the courts, trusted by law enforcement, and dedicated to serving the people of Texas.

Railroad Commissioner

The Railroad Commissioner is one of the three members of the Texas Railroad Commission. It has no regulatory authority concerning railroads. The term of office is four years.

Duties: regulates the oil and gas industry, gas utilities, pipeline safety, safety in the liquefied petroleum gas industry and surface coal and uranium mining.

Republican Primary Runoff

Bo French		no response received
Jim Wright	website	wrightfortexas.com

1. What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

French: No response received.

Wright: Currently Chairman of the Texas Railroad Commission. Started working in energy industry at age 19. Later created a group of environmental management companies that service the energy sector.

2. What steps would you take to eliminate the backlog of uncapped abandoned oil, gas, and injection wells across the state?

French: No response received.

Wright: The RRC is currently working with the U.S. Department of the Interior to streamline and improve the federal Orphaned Wells Grant Program. That and recent legislative initiatives in the state legislature make it easier to cut through red tape and allow the RRC to utilize its world-renowned well plugging expertise and save taxpayers money.

3. How would you improve transparency and public participation in the Commission's rulemaking and permitting process?

French: No response received.

Wright: We engage the public through open meetings and the RRC website, making information available on proposed rules. We have sector based advisory groups and remote listening sessions, hosted by the Office of Public Engagement. Those allow energy experts to answer questions on rulemaking and permitting processes. As chairman, I know transparency in what we do as a government agency is critical.

4. How would you ensure that the Commission is able to provide adequate monitoring and enforcement to the oil, gas, and mining sectors?

French: No response received.

Wright: RRC has been hard at work to improve our efficiency in staffing and the use of new data tools to flag potential issues or questionable recordings. That commitment results in better followup to serious complaints by the general public and ensures consistency in the reporting. Improved data results in improved monitoring and enforcement.

5. What do you see as the two greatest challenges to the office, and how would you address them?

French: No response received.

Wright: 1. Support the best use of our natural resources to benefit Texans, while maintaining stewardship of the environment. 2. Balancing the needs and wants of the various sectors and sizes of energy related businesses from small businesses to multi-million dollar interests

Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 3

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals is the highest court for criminal cases in Texas. The Court includes a Presiding Judge and eight Judges, each of which is elected by the voters of the entire state. The Court must review all cases in which the death penalty is assessed. It also exercises discretionary review in other criminal cases and issues rulings about wrongful imprisonment. The term of office is six years.

Republican Primary Runoff

Allison Fox	website	www.foxforjudge.com
Thomas Smith		no response received

1. What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Fox: I have almost 20 years in criminal appellate law, drafting opinions, reviewing records, and litigating writs. I am known for my rigor, neutrality, and fidelity to the Constitution.

Smith: No response received.

2. How will you ensure your rulings remain impartial and free from both political pressure and the interests of your campaign donors?

Fox: I will decide every case based solely on the law and the record. Ethical rules, precedent and judicial restraint - not politics or donors - govern my rulings.

Smith: No response received.

3. What do you see as the most pressing challenge facing the courts today, and how would you propose addressing it?

Fox: I believe the greatest challenge is applying the law consistently and impartially while resisting political pressure, misinformation, and demands for results over justice. I can address these problems by applying the law consistently, writing clear opinions, respecting precedent, and maintaining independence from politics - courts build trust through fairness, transparency, and restraint.

Smith: No response received.

4. What is your judicial philosophy?

Fox: My judicial philosophy is grounded in fidelity to the Constitution, respect for precedent, and judicial restraint. Judges must apply the law as written, decide cases on the record, and remain independent from political or personal views.

Smith: No response received.

Bandera County 2026 Primary Runoff Election - County Office

Bandera County Judge

A county judge in the state of Texas is elected to the county commissioners court to conduct the general business of the county. The Court consists of the county judge who is elected at-large and four commissioners who are elected by geographical precinct. The county judge is the presiding officer of the county commissioners court. A county judge represents the county in many administrative functions, serves as the budget officer in counties with fewer than 225,000 residents, and serves as the head of emergency management. The term of office is four years.

Duties: works with broad judicial duties, such as presiding over misdemeanor criminal and small civil cases, probate matters, and appeals from the Justice of the Peace Courts for the county. Some duties performed by a county judge may vary from county to county.

Republican Primary

Dennis Fitzgerald	website	www.voteforfitzgerald.com
Susan Junker	website	https://junkerforjudge.com

1. What training and experience qualifies you to serve as the County Judge for Bandera County?

Fitzgerald: I am military veteran, small business owner, licensed private investigator, an experienced arbitrator and mediator. My work requires sound judgement, ethical decision-making, and leadership in complex situations. I have worked closely with courts, law enforcement, and county-level processes, giving me a strong understanding of how local government functions and serves the public.

Junker: I have 45 years of training and experience in leadership, administration, budgeting, planning, emergency management, risk analysis, human resources, communications, contracting, investigations, and misdemeanor-level adjudication. My leadership and communication skills were developed in business (10 years), non-profit organizations (10 years), and in the U.S. Army (25 years, retiring as a Colonel). I hold two Master's degrees, a variety of NPO certifications, and executive training by Harvard and Carnegie Mellon. I have attended 75% of Bandera County Commissioners Court meetings in the past five years. I have led from 2 to 1,100 employees in challenging environments.

2. What is your experience working with budgets the size of the Bandera County budget?

Fitzgerald: As a small business owner, I have managed operational budgets that required cost control, long-term planning, and financial accountability. I have overseen staffing, contracts, and daily expenses while prioritizing efficiency and responsible spending. I approach budgeting with discipline and respect for the people whose money is being managed.

Junker: Bandera County has fewer than 300 employees and a budget of less than \$35 million. I have been accountable for equipment (\$100 million), inventory (\$50 million), and a \$1.6 million budget as a unit CEO in the military. In commercial business, I was responsible for the successful execution and profit in a \$200 million portfolio comprised of multiple government contracts spread across the U.S. I have 20 years of budget experience in short and long-range planning, justifying, risk analysis, trade-off decisions, procurement, multi-million-dollar bidding, problem-solving, and source selection of vendors.

3. Do you believe the county budget is adequate for the needs of Bandera County? Explain.

Fitzgerald: The budget must reflect priorities and be managed responsibly. Adequacy depends on efficient use of funds, careful oversight, and long-term planning. The focus should be on meeting essential needs while protecting taxpayers and maintaining financial stability.

Junker: In a word: no. The state legislature repeatedly requires or expands mandatory services without state funding. Commissioners Courts must then either raise property taxes or reduce services. Simultaneously, the legislature has capped the Court's ability to raise taxes. Examples of these legislated unfunded mandates include courts, mental health, and indigent criminal defense. Bandera County's Court options to protect priority services with sufficient revenue while keeping tax rates steady are increasingly difficult. Safety and security are paramount, which means maintaining adequate law enforcement, fire, and medical services and technologies to meet requirements.

4. What are your top three priorities, if elected as the County Judge for Bandera County?

Fitzgerald: Public safety, responsible budgeting, and effective county operations.

Junker: Priority One must be to ensure our emergency planning, communications capabilities, and the associated resources and shortfalls have been identified. This includes a long-range budget plan to address issues that cannot be funded in a year. Priority Two is to ensure safety (e.g., roads) and law enforcement are properly resourced, given analysis of our demographic projections, crime and accident statistics, and state and federal grant options. Priority Three, as the County's CBO, is to provide the leadership and the information necessary for the Commissioners Court, with citizen participation, to make difficult decisions while hiring and retaining quality staff.

5. How do you plan to address your priorities within the scope of your duties per the Texas Constitution?

Fitzgerald: I am a constitutionalist, meaning I believe government must operate within the limits set by the Constitution, respect the separation of powers, and remain accountable to the people. I will work with the Commissioners Court to prioritize public safety, fiscal responsibility, responsible governance.

Junker: All three priorities require revenue, relationships, and planning. I must identify shortfalls given the FY 27 county budget position that I will inherit. Within the priorities identified and their status, seek reasonable grant opportunities, conduct a workshop with the emergency management team to address critical needs, identify potential options such as postponement, trade-offs, contracts, and begin to develop a long-term budget plan, given the condition of infrastructure, equipment, estimated revenue, and expenditures, among other facts. Building consensus among the rural Hill Country counties, regular meetings with legislators, agencies, and other county taxing entities are required.

League of Women Voters - Hill Country Texas

For over forty years this League has served Kerr County and now serves six counties in the Texas Hill Country: Bandera, Blanco, Gillespie, Kendall, Kerr, and Llano. Members of this League live in all six counties. Both men and women over the age of 16 are members of the League and there are various membership levels with annual dues as a part of the membership. Visit the website to join: lvvhillcountrytexas.org

If reading this Voter Guide has helped you to be informed and vote, please consider a donation, in any amount, to help the Hill Country Texas League continue to offer this service to voters. Donations are accepted via the website: lvvhillcountrytexas.org or mail to the post office box listed on the front page.