

POLS 3311.90L – Contemporary Texas Politics Class

Texas Primary Election Project Spring 2022

Democratic Party Candidates

(See Separate Republican Party Candidates)

Primary Election Candidate Information

Compiled by Class Groups

For Federal and Statewide Offices

**and selected offices in Cameron County and Hidalgo County
on the March 1, 2022, Primary Election Ballot**

(Note: Information was compiled by students as a class project primarily from candidates' websites and campaign literature. It was created so that class members would be better-informed voters. The project is not an official document and does not claim to be complete or error free.)

POLS 3311.90L – Contemporary Texas Politics

Texas Primary Election Project - Spring 2022

Group 1

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Group 2

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Alayza Gallardo
Beyonce Galvan**

Group 3

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Karla Garcia
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Daniel Garza
Jose Gonzalez**

Group 4

**Julia Gonzalez
Kayla Gonzalez
Juan Longoria
Matthew Martinez
Maria Perez**

Group 5

**Samantha Perez
Martin Resendiz
Kyle Robertson
Alma Rodriguez
Maria Sanchez**

Group 6

**Anapaola Sanchez-Guerra
Kassandra Vasquez
Sandra Zambrano
John Zieske**

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
U.S. Representative District 15: Eliza Alvarade

1. Name of Office: U.S. Representative District 15
2. Name of candidate: Eliza Alvarado
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: McAllen, TX
5. Occupation: Director of Partnership and College Career Pathways at Region One Education Service Center
6. Education: Bachelor's political science; Master's Political Management; Ph.D. Public Affairs
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: N/A
9. Incumbent: No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: District Director
11. Experience candidate says qualifies her for office: Political campaigns (Hillary Clinton for President 2008, Dolly Elizondo for Hidalgo County Democratic Chair, Rubén Hinojosa for Congress); work experience in Congress (legislative correspondent/systems administrator); government-related jobs (Political Management Strategist, Director of Governmental relations)
12. Issues that the candidate says are most important:
 - a. Access to quality healthcare
 - b. Immigration system
13. Candidate's plans to address these issues if elected:
 - a. Expand Medicaid and allow a public option under the Affordable Care Act to expand access for the uninsured.
 - b. Provide a roadmap to citizenship.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
U.S. Representative District 15: Julio Garza

1. Name of Office: U.S. Representative District 15
2. Name of candidate: Julio Garza
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Edinburg, Texas
5. Occupation: Small businesses owner
6. Education: Graduated from University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: Catholic
9. Incumbent: No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience:
 - Democratic Party secretary
 - Precinct chair
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him for office:
 - Experience as a Democratic Party secretary
 - Internship at the Texas Legislature
12. Issues that the candidate says are most important:
 - a. Immigration
 - b. Abortion
13. What he plans to do to address these issues if elected:
 - a. Promote a direct path to citizenship.
 - b. Support abortion access.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
U.S. Representative District 15: Ruben Ramirez

1. Name of Office: U.S. Representative District 15
2. Name of candidate: Ruben Ramirez
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Edinburg, Texas
5. Occupation: Trial attorney
6. Education: Bachelor's in Business Administration in International Business
7. Family: Grandmother, father, wife, son
8. Religion: Catholic
9. Incumbent: No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: No
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him for office:
 - Experience as an attorney
 - School teacher
 - Military veteran.
12. Issues candidate says are most important:
 - a. Education
 - b. National security and Border security
13. What he plans to do about these issues if elected:
 - a. Increase funding and resources
 - b. Full funding of the military and change asylum laws.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

U.S. Representative District 15: John Villarreal Rigney

1. Name of Office: U.S. Representative District 15
2. Name of candidate: John Villarreal Rigney
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Edinburg, Texas
5. Occupation: Attorney, Business owner (construction company)
6. Education: Bachelor of Science in Engineering (UTPA)
7. Family: Melissa (wife); Lloyd (son); Andrew (son)
8. Religion: N/A
9. Incumbent: No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: No
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him for office: Practicing Attorney, Business Experience
12. Issues candidate says are most important:
 - a. Economic opportunity
 - b. Healthcare
13. Candidate's plans to address these issues:
 - a. Support an increase in the federal minimum wage.
 - b. Push for an affordable healthcare plan.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

U.S. Representative District 15: Vanessa Stephanie Tijerina

1. Name of Office: U.S. Representative District 15
2. Name of candidate: Vanessa Stephanie Tijerina
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Raymondville, TX
5. Occupation: Nurse
6. Education: STEM graduate
7. Family: 4 children.
8. Religion: N/A
9. Incumbent: No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience:
 - Candidate for the Green Party in 2016
 - Raymondville, Texas mayoral candidate
 - Republican candidate for Senate in 2020
11. Experience candidate says qualifies her for office: 25 years in the health industry; track record of activism and advocacy
12. Issues candidate says are most important:
 - a. Increasing minimum wage
 - b. Job creation
13. Candidate's plans to address issues if elected:
 - a. Raise minimum wage to \$15.
 - b. Lift federal ban on cannabis and repair U.S. infrastructure.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
U.S. Representative District 15: Michelle Vallejo

1. Name of Office: U.S. Representative District 15
2. Name of Candidate: Michelle Vallejo
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Mission, TX
5. Occupation: Co-founder New Leaders Council STX Frontera; Co-founder Hustle + Socialize.
6. Education: Studied political science and history at Columbia University, NY
7. Family: Daughter of Daniel and Maribel Vallejo
8. Religion: n/a
9. Incumbent: No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: None
11. Experience candidates says qualifies her for office: Endorsed by LUPE Votes; Endorsed by Texas College Democrats; Endorsed by former Texas State Senator Wendy Davis
12. Issues that the candidate says are most important:
 - a. Health care for all
 - b. Raising the minimum wage to \$15
13. Candidate's plans to address issues if elected:
 - a. Expand Medicare coverage to cover a wider range of medical needs.
 - b. Support higher working wages as the cost of living rises.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
U.S. Representative District 34: Laura Cisneros

1. Name of Office: U.S. Representative District 34
2. Name of Candidate: Laura Cisneros
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville, Texas.
5. Occupation: Doctor of Oncology
6. Education: Autonomous University of Tamaulipas Faculty of Medicine (1987); University of Kansas School of Medicine (residency, internal medicine 1991-1994); University of Kansas School of Medicine (fellowship, hematology, and medical oncology, 1995-1997)
7. Family: NA
8. Religion: NA
9. Incumbent: No
10. Experience in government: None
11. Experience Candidate Says Qualifies her for Office: Contributed to organizing and running political campaign in Midwest; attended meetings with Chicago Mayor Richard Daley; active in Chicago area Latin American community
12. Issues Most Important to Candidate:
 - a. Poverty and unemployment
 - b. Healthcare reform
13. What Candidate will do to Address Issues if Elected:
 - a. Focus on small business and provide incentives to corporations to promote business and create higher paying jobs.
 - b. Work with other members of Congress to make health insurance affordable and accessible.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

U.S. Representative District 34: Vicente Gonzalez Jr.

1. Name of Office: U.S. Representative District 34
2. Name of candidate: Vicente Gonzalez Jr.
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: McAllen, Texas
5. Occupation: Current U.S. Representative District 15; attorney, Small business owner;
6. Education: Del Mar College (Banking and Finance degree 1990); Embry Riddle University (Business Aviation degree 1992); Texas Wesleyan University School of Law (Juris Doctorate 1996); Negotiation training at Harvard University School of Law
7. Family: Lorena Saenz Gonzalez (wife)
8. Religion: NA
9. Incumbent: Current U.S. Representative in District 15 – not District 34.
10. Experience in government: Current U.S. District 15 Representative (3 terms 2017-present); Congressional Intern in Washington, DC
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him for office: Experience in government office; Business experience; Military family; current U.S. Representative for District 15, serves on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and Financial Services Committee.
12. Important Issues for candidate:
 - a. Veterans' affairs
 - b. Jobs and the economy
13. How issues will be addressed if elected:
 - a. Create full-service VA hospital in the Rio Grande Valley and increase funding for mental health services and quality health care for veterans.
 - b. Strengthen trade ties along U.S.-Mexico border to support creation of higher wage jobs.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

U.S. Representative District 34: Osbert Rodriguez Haro

1. Name of Office: U.S. Representative District 34
2. Name of candidate: Osbert Rodriguez Haro
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville
5. Occupation: Farmer, elementary coach, CEO of Texas Association of Sephardic Jews, Haro Solar Consulting and CEO of Haro Solar.
6. Education: Texas A&M University – Agricultural Science; Ph.D. Medical Science, Autonoma de Guadalajara
7. Family: Three children
8. Religion: NA
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: South Texas Community Advisory Board.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Farmer, elementary coach, CEO of Texas Association of Sephardic Jews, Haro Solar Consulting and CEO of Haro Solar.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Climate
 - b. Medicaid
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected? (One sentence each.)
 - a. Support climate change provisions.
 - b. Expand Medicaid.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
U.S. Representative District 34: Filemon Meza

1. Name of Office: U.S. Representative District 34
2. Name of candidate: Filemon Meza
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Edinburg
5. Occupation: School Teacher
6. Education: NA
7. Family: NA
8. Religion: NA
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: NA
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: NA
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important. NA
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected? NA

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
U.S. Representative District 34: Beatriz Reynoso

1. Name of Office: U.S. Representative District 34
2. Name of candidate: Beatriz Reynoso
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Harlingen
5. Occupation: Design Consulting, small business owner
6. Education: The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, B.A. Political Science, 2019.
7. Family: NA
8. Religion: NA
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: U.S. Air Force veteran 2007 - 2015
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: U.S. Air Force Security Forces, Public Health technician, served in Afghanistan, first-generation college graduate.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Medicare
 - b. Wages
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Support Medicare for all.
 - b. Support raising the minimum wage.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

U.S. Representative District 34: William Thompson

1. Name of Office: U.S. Representative District 34
2. Name of candidate: William Thompson
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Harlingen
5. Occupation: Investor; former history teacher
6. Education: B.S. degree, Texas A&M University; Master's in Public Service Administration
7. Family: wife and two children
8. Religion: NA
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: U.S. Marine Corps
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: U.S. Marine Corps veteran; military intelligence, cyber security, satellite operations, served in Afghanistan, high school teacher, starting own business.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Rights
 - b. Freedom
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected? (One sentence each.)
 - a. Safeguard rights.
 - b. Protect freedom.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
U.S. Representative District 34: Diego Zavala

1. Name of Office: U.S. Representative District 34
2. Name of candidate: Diego Zavala
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville
5. Occupation: Vice Principal, high school teacher
6. Education: Bachelor's degree, St. Mary's University Political Science; Master's in International Development
7. Family: NA
8. Religion: NA
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: NA
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Teaching middle school and high school students in underserved communities.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Education
 - b. Inequality
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Empower students in underserved communities through education.
 - b. Ensure that government serves underserved communities.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Governor: Inocencio (Inno) Barrientez

1. Name of Office: Governor
2. Name of candidate: Inocencio (Inno) Barrientez
3. Political Party: Democratic Party
4. City of Residence: Seguin, Texas
5. Occupation: Small business owner
6. Education: Studied at University of Texas San Antonio
7. Family: NA
8. Religion: NA
9. Incumbent: No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: NA
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: NA
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Discrimination
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Work with all; have an open-door policy

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Governor: Michael Cooper

1. Name of Office: Governor
2. Name of candidate: Michael Cooper
3. Political Party: Democratic Party
4. City of Residence: Beaumont, Texas
5. Occupation: General Sales Manager (Kinsel Toyota); Pastor (The Church of I Am); NAACP Beaumont Chapter President
6. Education: Bachelor's degree in business from Lamar University and master's degree in psychology from Grand Canyon University.
7. Family: Marla Cooper (wife), Michael II (son), Mallory (daughter), Meagan (daughter), and youngest child
8. Religion: Baptist
9. Incumbent: No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Past candidate for Texas Lt. Governor and the US Senate.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him for office: Experience in seeking office for Texas lieutenant governor and the US Senate.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important:
 - a. Education
 - b. Affordable healthcare
13. What does he plan to do to address these two issues if elected?
 - a. Expand education. Education and youth programs are the key to lowering crime rates, drug addiction, and homelessness.
 - b. Coordinate with with major insurance organizations to help rewrite policies to include coverage of pre-existing conditions and preventive care incentives.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Governor: Joy Diaz

1. Name of Office: Governor
2. Name of candidate: Joy Diaz
3. Political Party: Democratic Party
4. City of Residence: Austin, Texas
5. Occupation: Journalist
6. Education: Studied journalism
7. Family: Luis Diaz (husband), Camila Diaz (daughter 14), and Fausto Diaz (son 11)
8. Religion: Christian
9. Incumbent: No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: None
11. Experience candidate says qualifies her for office: Candidate Diaz was exposed to government processes as a journalist and served the public as a schoolteacher.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Healthcare
 - b. Energy and environment
13. What candidate will do to address these issues:
 - a. Expand Medicaid.
 - b. Pursue a more sustainable energy model.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Governor: Beto O'Rourke

1. Name of Office: Governor
2. Name of candidate: Beto O'Rourke
3. Political Party: Democratic Party
4. City of Residence: El Paso, Texas
5. Occupation: Politician, businessman and professor
6. Education: Bachelor of Arts degree in English literature, Columbia University
7. Family: Amy Hoover Sanders (wife), Ulysses (son), Henry (son), and Molly (daughter)
8. Religion: Roman Catholic
9. Incumbent: No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Served on the El Paso City Council and was Representative for Texas' 16th congressional district in the United States House of Representatives.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him for office: political experience; Texas Democratic Party nominee for U.S. Senate in 2018.
12. Issues that the candidate says are most important:
 - a. Power grid
 - b. Utility bills
13. What does he plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Investigate price gouging in 2021 winter storm and hold energy companies accountable.
 - b. Fully weatherize the power grid and natural gas supply to prevent failure.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Governor: Rich Wakeland

1. Name of Office: Governor
2. Name of candidate: Rich Wakeland
3. Political Party: Democratic Party
4. City of Residence: Houston, Texas
5. Occupation: Business Owner
6. Education: Bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University at College Station and graduate degree from the University of Texas at Austin
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: Methodist
9. Incumbent: No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: U.S. Navy 1980 - 2010
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him for office: Served in the Navy.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Protect constitutional rights
 - b. Immigration
13. What does he plan to do to address these two issues if elected?
 - a. Veto any attempts at restricting the 2nd Amendment.
 - b. Build an economic wall to stop undocumented immigration.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Lieutenant Governor: Michelle Beckley

1. Name of Office: Lieutenant Governor
2. Name of Candidate: Michelle Beckley
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Carrollton, Texas
5. Occupation: Manages family business, Kookaburra Bird Shop
6. Education: Bachelor of Biomedical Science, Texas A&M University
7. Family: Husband
8. Religion: n/a
9. Incumbent: No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Candidate in Texas General Election as State Representative for District 65 in the years 2018 and 2020.
11. Experience candidates says qualifies him/her for office: n/a
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important
 - a. Assuring election integrity
 - b. Balancing the economic and environmental systems in Texas
13. What does she plan to do to address these two issues if elected?
 - a. Transparency; accountability for legislators making false claims with no evidence.
 - b. Revive House Bill 1986 that ensures ERCOT meets the conditions that would prevent a power blackout.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Lieutenant Governor: Carla Brailey

2. Name of Office: Lieutenant Governor
3. Name of Candidate: Carla Brailey
4. Political Party: Democratic
5. City of Residence: Houston, TX
6. Occupation: Educator; works in non-profit organizations and government agencies.
7. Education: Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice, Texas State University; Master's degree in counseling psychology, a certificate in Women's Studies, Master's of Divinity Degree and Ph.D. from Howard University.
8. Family: 1 daughter
9. Religion: Christian
10. Incumbent: No.
11. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Served as the Vice Chair of the Texas Democratic Party and the Democratic National Committee (DNC) Interfaith Council Co-Chair.
12. Experience candidates says qualifies him/her for office: Professor of Sociology at Texas Southern University; been an educator for over 20 years; endorsed by 2020 Presidential candidate Michael Bloomberg.
13. List two issues that the candidate says are most important:
 - a. Covid-19
 - b. Creating substantial changes within the justice system
14. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues if elected?
 - a. Coordinate with community to create health fairs to further spread access to Covid-19 vaccine and testing sights.
 - b. Work with City of Houston Police Reform to create change

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Lieutenant Governor: Mike Collier

1. Name of Office: Lieutenant Governor
2. Name of Candidate: Mike Collier
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Humble, TX
5. Occupation: Business
6. Education: BBA in Petroleum Land Management, UT Austin; MBA in General Finance, UT Austin.
7. Family: Wife and two sons
8. Religion: n/a
9. Incumbent: No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Senior advisor to President Biden (2020); Finance Chair of the Texas Democratic Party
11. Experience candidates says qualifies him/her for office: Candidate, Lt. Governor of TX (2018), Candidate, TX State Comptroller of Public Accounts (2014)
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important
 - a. Funding for Public Schools
 - b. Fixing the Texas Power Grid
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues if elected?
 - a. Fully fund public schools.
 - b. Invest in reconstructing the grid to make it more reliable.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Attorney General: Mike Fields

1. Name of Office: Attorney General
2. Name of Candidate: Mike Fields
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Houston, Texas
5. Occupation: Attorney; Harris County Criminal Court at Law #14 Judge (retired)
6. Education: Southwest Texas State University San Marcos (BA Criminal Justice)
St. Mary's School of Law (Juris Doctorate)
7. Family: Jennifer Fields (wife), Laura Fields (daughter); Daughter (12 yrs.)
8. Religion: Not available
9. Incumbent: No
10. Experience in government: Assistant District Attorney for Harris County District Attorney's Office; Assistant Attorney General for the Texas Attorney General's Office; Harris County Criminal Court at Law Judge.
11. Experience Candidate Says Qualifies Him for Office: First-hand experience working in Texas Attorney General's Office; Assistant District Attorney for Harris County; presided over Harris County Court #14
12. Issues Most Important to Candidate:
 - a. Returning Texas AG's Office to traditional "core functions"
 - b. Ending divisive politics
13. What candidate will do to address issues if elected:
 - a. Focus on assisting local prosecutors, water rights issues and child support enforcement.
 - b. Reach out to members of both parties willing to compromise.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Attorney General: Rochelle Mercedes Garza

1. Name of Office: Attorney General
2. Name of Candidate: Rochelle Mercedes Garza
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville, TX
5. Occupation: Civil rights attorney
6. Education: graduated from the University of Houston Law Center and from Brown University with honors.
7. Family: Husband
8. Religion: n/a
9. Incumbent: No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: none
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: n/a
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important:
 - a. Health Care
 - b. Reproductive Rights
13. What does candidate plan to do to address these two issues if elected?
 - a. End lawsuits from the AG's office against municipalities and counties during Covid-19 pandemic and support communities through health care emergencies.
 - b. Support reproductive rights and constitutional rights to access abortion care.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Attorney General: Joe Jaworski

1. Name of Office: Attorney General
2. Name of Candidate: Joe Jaworski
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Galveston, Texas
5. Occupation: Attorney, Mediator
6. Education: Davidson College, Davidson, NC (BA Spanish Literature 1984); University of Texas at Austin School of Law (J.D., 1991)
7. Family: Rebecca Jaworski (wife), son and daughter
8. Religion: NA
9. Incumbent: No
10. Experience in government: Galveston City Council Member, District 3 (2000-2006); Galveston Mayor Pro Tem (2004-2006); Galveston Mayor (2010-2012)
11. Experience Candidate Says Qualifies Him for Office: Third generation Texas trial Lawyer with over 30 years of experience; Mediation skills have helped resolve matters in state and federal courts; served in local government
12. Issues Most Important to Candidate:
 - a. Corruption in Texas politics
 - b. Social and criminal justice reform
13. What Candidate will do to Address Issues if Elected:
 - a. Use legal system to fight for fairness and justice.
 - b. Increase young adult productivity by keeping them out of prison; proceeds will fund the police.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Attorney General: Lee Merritt

1. Name of Office: Attorney General
2. Name of Candidate: Lee Merritt
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Plano, Texas
5. Occupation: Civil Rights Attorney
6. Education: Temple University's Beasley School of Law (2012); Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia
7. Family: Children (4), Gregory Merritt (father), Stacy Merritt (mother)
8. Religion: Not available
9. Incumbent: No
10. Experience in government: None
11. Experience Candidate Says Qualifies Him for Office: Voted one of the nation's most influential Black Americans in 2017; handled many civil rights cases in Texas; awarded the "Nation Builder" award by The National Black Caucus of State Legislators.
12. Issues Most Important to Candidate:
 - a. Voter rights
 - b. Fixing Texas power grid
13. What candidate will do to address Issues if elected:
 - a. Support Voter rights and and civil liberties in Texas.
 - b. Address power grid issues.

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Attorney General: S. "T-bone" Raynor**

1. Name of Office: Texas Attorney General
2. Name of candidate: S. "T-bone" Raynor
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Dallas, TX
5. Occupation: Attorney
6. Education: SMU Law School
7. Family: none
8. Religion: Christian
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? no
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: none
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: His experience working as a General Counsel at a financial group is what Raynor says qualifies him for the job.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Immigration
 - b. Political corruption
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Combat the issue of immigration by following Federal laws while also showing some compassion.
 - b. Follow Micah 6:8 - act justly, show love and mercy, and walk humbly.

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Comptroller of Public Accounts: Janet T. Dudding**

1. Name of Office: Comptroller of Public Accounts
2. Name of candidate: Janet T. Dudding
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Bryan College Station
5. Occupation: Accountant
6. Education: BSBA-Accounting from the University of Southern Mississippi and her MBA from Millsaps College.
7. Family: Daughter
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? no
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Delegate from Brazos County to the 2018 Texas Democratic Party State Convention; won a seat on the Rules Committee
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Experienced accountant; worked at the Office of State Auditor.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Healthcare crisis
 - b. Wage crisis
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Expand Medicaid so that people have access to healthcare.
 - b. Raise the minimum wage.

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Comptroller of Public Accounts: Tim Mahoney**

1. Name of Office: Comptroller of Public Accounts
2. Name of candidate: Tim Mahoney
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Austin, TX
5. Occupation: Attorney
6. Education: Associate's Degree from Dallas Community College, Bachelor's Degree from University of Texas, Master's Degree from University of Texas, Law Degree from South Texas College of Law
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? no
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Chief notary for the petition drive for Bernie Sanders' presidential campaign in Texas.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Practicing attorney since 1992 with experience in Texas Public Policy and Texas Legislature.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Affordable education for every citizen including adults and children.
 - b. Fairness for the average citizen
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Integrate life-choice options in the government to make education more accessible and affordable.
 - b. Educate citizens on Texas budget for accountability.

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Comptroller of Public Accounts: Angel Luis Vega**

1. Name of Office: Comptroller of Public Accounts
2. Name of candidate: Angel Luis Vega
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Katy, TX
5. Occupation: Author and Leadership Coach
6. Education: Bachelor's Degree from Websters University
7. Family: wife with two children
8. Religion: Christian
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? no
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: none
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Two decades' worth of experience of private industry
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Boosting the economy
 - b. Equality for women
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Tax small businesses less, maximize tourism, close corporate tax loopholes, and increase minimum wage.
 - b. Ensure that women have equal opportunities in the workplace and equal pay, 12 weeks paid maternity plus three more months, if needed.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Commissioner of the General Land Office: Jay Kleberg

1. Name of Office: Commissioner of the General Land Office
2. Name of candidate: Jay Kleberg
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: Austin
5. Occupation: Conservationist and documentary film producer
6. Education: MBA from the University of Texas
7. Family: Wife: Chrissy Kleberg, Three Daughters: Sophia, Katherine, and Amelia
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: In 2010 ran for the El Paso-area Texas House District 78
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Associate Director of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Fighting climate change
 - b. Protect the state's public and economic health
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Diversify portfolio of renewables and lead the state toward a low-emission future.
 - b. Protect the workers and communities while promoting energy innovation that leads to economic growth and good-paying jobs.

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Commissioner of the General Land Office: Michael Lange**

1. Name of Office: Commissioner of the General Land Office
2. Name of candidate: Michael Lange
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: Houston
5. Occupation: Responsible for a multi-billion dollar company and manages investments.
6. Education: University of Texas at Austin - Finance. Advanced course work - Rice University and New York Institute of Finance
7. Family: a brother and a father.
8. Religion: NA
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: None
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: City Knowledge and Rural Wisdom
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. The kids fund, which helps teachers, helps children and parents
 - b. The 1.4 million veterans and gold star families (people who've lost someone in service) that need assistance
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Utilize 13 million football fields of land that belong to the people of Texas to produce over one billion dollars of income a year that will support school funds.
 - b. Address veterans benefits and needs that the state of Texas can provide.

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Commissioner of the General Land Office: Sandragrace Martinez**

1. Name of Office: Commissioner of the General Land Office
2. Name of candidate: Sandragrace Martinez
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: San Antonio
5. Occupation: Licensed professional counselor
6. Education: Master's of Arts in Marriage and Family and therapy at St. Mary's University
7. Family: Son
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: 20 years running for Municipal Offices and political networking
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Brings psychology and zoom expertise that would be critical in leading the current staff and Boards at the GLO (General Land Office)
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. First responders and disaster readiness
 - b. Education
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Equip Fire Fighters and First Responders with the manpower, necessary tools, and technology to do their jobs effectively.
 - b. Make school funding a priority.

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Commissioner of the General Land Office: Jinny Suh**

1. Name of Office: Commissioner of the General Land Office
2. Name of candidate: Jinny Suh
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: Austin
5. Occupation: Licensed attorney and small business owner
6. Education: Columbia Law School
7. Family: Daughter of immigrant parents, a wife and a mother to two children.
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Patent litigator
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Experienced Community organizer with a demonstrated history of working in the civic and social organization industry
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Schools
 - b. Small business
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Ensure that the Permanent School Fund is fully funded by the General Land Office.
 - b. Ensure that Texans affected by policies of the General Land Office live with dignity and security.

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Commissioner of Agriculture: Susan Hays**

1. Name of Office: Commissioner of Agriculture
2. Name of candidate: Susan Hays
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: Austin
5. Occupation: Attorney and Lobbyist
6. Education: Georgetown University Law
7. Family: Husband
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Instrumental in advocating and drafting the 2019 Texas hemp law.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office:
Understands policy and is a clear communicator
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Helping farmers
 - b. Rural hospital shortage
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Help small famers and medium-sized operations to prosper in agriculture.
 - b. Revitalize agriculture programs that can boost rural economic development and rural hospitals.

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Commissioner of Agriculture: Ed Ireson**

1. Name of Office: Commissioner of Agriculture
2. Name of candidate: Ed Ireson
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Austin
5. Occupation: Businessman. Co-founder of Jog.ai. Former director of People Operations at Mutual Mobile.
6. Education: Louisiana State University.
7. Family: Wife and son
8. Religion: N/a
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: None.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Businessman and parent. His family has been running cattle in Brazos County for 130 years, and he has worked with Texas ranchers to help sell their beef direct to consumers across the state
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Immigration
 - b. Water Resources
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Advocate for an immediate expansion of the H-2A visa program to alleviate labor shortages and help counteract supply chain constraints.
 - b. Support programs that work with farmers to promote efficiency in their water use, including crop rotations and rotational grazing for livestock.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Member, State Board of Education District 2: Pete Garcia

1. Name of Office: Member, State Board of Education District 2
2. Name of candidate: Pete Garcia
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: San Juan
5. Occupation: Account manager at meat market
6. Education: PSJA Early college High school
7. Family: Wife: Margarita Salazar, Daughter: Ana Garcia
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Commissioner of the city of San Juan
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Served San Juan for the past two decades as a school trustee, city commissioner, and parish volunteer.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Needs of Texas students
 - b. Protecting the rights of parents and teachers
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Ensure that schools have staff and resources they need to stay healthy and safe.
 - b. Ensure that teachers receive better compensation.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Member, State Board of Education District 2: Thomas Garcia

1. Name of Office: Member, State Board of Education District 2
2. Name of candidate: Thomas Garcia
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: McAllen, Texas
5. Occupation: Founder and Executive Director of CSLAP
6. Education: Princeton 2016, UCLA 2020
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: N/A
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Was an instructor at UCLA and a high school teacher at PSJA school district.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Safe and better work conditions for teachers
 - b. Proper education for students
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Provide mentors that will help prepare students to succeed after high school
 - b. Ensure that teachers receive better pay

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Member, State Board of Education District 2: Victor Perez

1. Name of Office: Member, State Board of Education District 2
2. Name of candidate: Victor Perez
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Alamo, Texas
5. Occupation: Executive director at Pharr economic development corporation
6. Education: Bachelor of science at UTRGV, Master of Education at UTRGV
7. Family: Wife: Elizabeth Flores-Perez, Sons: Gabriel Perez, Ezra Perez, Victor Perez Jr
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Past member of PSJA school district representing Place 6
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Former paraprofessional, teacher, principal and school board member
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Covid-19
 - b. Wasteful spending
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Ensure that school districts receive adequate funding.
 - b. Make health for teachers and students a priority.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Member, State Board of Education District 2: Wayne Raasch

1. Name of Office: Member, State Board of Education District 2
2. Name of candidate: Wayne Raasch
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: West Columbia, Texas
5. Occupation: N/A
- 6 Education: N/A
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: A 2016 Democratic candidate for the U.S. House to represent the 27th Congressional District of Texas; Democratic candidate for District 28 in the Texas House of Representatives in the November 2, 2010, election.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: N/A
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important. N/A
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected? N/A

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Member, State Board of Education District 2: Michael Vargas

1. Name of Office: Member, State Board of Education District 2
2. Name of candidate: Michael Vargas
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: San Benito, Texas
5. Occupation: Assistant Director of Public Affairs at City of Pharr
6. Education: Bachelor of Political Science; Brown University
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? no
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Member of the San Benito Board of Trustees, representing Place 1, 2015-2019.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: In 2015, elected as a School Board Member of the San Benito Consolidated Independent School District and served for 5 ½ years.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Support for students to achieve their dreams.
 - b. Ensure that teachers and schools have the resources necessary to help students and the region.
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Improve school funding.
 - b. Support programs to help ensure that children succeed.

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
State Senator, District 27: Alex Dominguez**

1. Name of Office: State Senator District 27
2. Name of candidate: Alex Dominguez
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville
5. Occupation: Attorney
6. Education: BA in Political Science from Rice University in Houston in 1993; Juris Doctorate from the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University.
7. Family: Wife, Jill, and a son.
8. Religion: Catholic
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No. Current State Representative for District 37 since 2019.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Current Texas State Representative District 37, Appropriations Committee, Environmental Regulation Committee, Vice chair, Local & Consent Calendars Committee, Vice chair; 2019-2020, County Affairs Committee, Natural Resources Committee
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Current State Representative District 37; former County Commissioner for Precinct 2 for over 4 years; worked with three different county judges, four different commissioners, and numerous elected officials.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Transportation
 - b. Jobs and the economy
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Support transportation projects to help South Texas become an economic and industrial hub.
 - b. Bring job-creating companies to South Texas.

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
State Senator, District 27: Morgan LaMantia**

1. Name of Office: State Senator District 27
2. Name of candidate: Morgan LaMantia
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: South Padre Island
5. Occupation: Attorney, Businesswoman
6. Education: Business degree from the University of Texas at Austin; graduate of St. Mary's University School of Law.
7. Family: Parents Steve and Linda LaMantia
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? no
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: N/A
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Heads up data analytics and serves as In-House Counsel for family business. Started a health care initiative to give employees free access to a doctor and health education to manage chronic diseases like diabetes. When PPE supplies were scarce in the early stages of the pandemic, worked the supply chain to ensure all employees had needed safety equipment.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Access to affordable health care
 - b. Support for teachers, public schools, and small businesses
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Expand Medicaid and address the nursing shortage by providing more scholarships to encourage young people into frontline health care careers.
 - b. Raise teacher pay and expand career technology education in K-12 to train for hireable job skills at salaries that can break the cycle of poverty.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
State Senator, District 27: Sara Stapleton-Barrera

1. Name of Office: State Senator District 27
2. Name of candidate: Sara Stapleton-Barrera
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville
5. Occupation: Attorney
6. Education: Antioch College; Texas Southern University, Juris Doctor.
7. Family: Husband Ricardo Barrera and 3 children.
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? no
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: none
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Defended the indigent in rural areas of Texas as a lawyer with Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid; founder of South Texans for Term Limits; assisted three major municipalities in South Texas adopt term limits since 2020; candidate in 2020 in Senate District 27; first intern accepted to the Trial Lawyers College
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Infrastructure and workforce training
 - b. Equality of laws without discrimination and constitutional protection for all
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Implement workforce programs that can sustain the economy with the district's workforce instead of outsourcing jobs.
 - b. Support affordable healthcare for all.

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
State Senator, District 27: Salomon Torres**

1. Name of Office: State Senator District 27
2. Name of candidate: Salomon Torres
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville
5. Occupation: Business owner of Soluciones Consulting in Harlingen, Consultant
6. Education: St. Edward's University; Master's in Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin; Columbia Law School
7. Family: Wife Ivette, and 4 children.
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? no
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: 27 years professional career in Washington, D.C. and the Rio Grande Valley: Legislative staff in U.S. House of Representatives Committee Professional Staff; Valley District Director
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: 27 years professional career in Washington, D.C. and the Rio Grande Valley: Legislative staff in U.S. House of Representatives Committee Professional Staff; Valley District Director
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Education and healthcare
 - b. Infrastructure
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Protect Federal Higher Education Funding; Healthcare Reform
 - b. Focus on transportation, water supply, drainage and regional flood control; smart use and preservation of natural resources and land.

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
State Representative District 37: Ruben Cortez**

1. Name of Office: State Representative District 37
2. Name of candidate: Ruben Cortez
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville, Texas
5. Occupation: Businessman
6. Education: N/A
7. Family: wife Sandra, 4 children, Sofia, Ana, Julieta, Ruben
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Current Texas State Board of Education member: Committee on School Initiatives, former member Ad Hoc Committee on the Long-Range Plan for Public Education; former member Board of Trustees, Brownsville Independent School District.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Prior to election to the state Board of Education, served on the board of trustees of BISSD; Council of Urban boards of Education and National School Board Association prekindergarten legislative committee.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Further education on Mexican American studies in high school
 - b. Better pay for teachers and smaller class sizes
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. A Mexican American studies course to be approved by Texas for all Texas high schools.
 - b. Support better pay for teachers

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
State Representative, District 37: Frank Puente**

1. Name of Office: State Representative District 37
2. Name of candidate: Frank Puente
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Harlingen, Texas
5. Occupation: Roofer
6. Education: Graduated from University Texas of Pan American
7. Family: 1 son, Frank Puente Jr.
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Harlingen City Commissioner - Elected District 2 commissioner in 2019.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Service as Harlingen City Commissioner and Mayor Pro Tem.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Improve road utility infrastructure
 - b. Support and provide additional opportunities for small business growth
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Support a plan for better roads and improve the sewage system.
 - b. Provide opportunities for small business

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
State Representative, District 37: Luis Villarreal Jr.**

1. Name of Office: State Representative District 37
2. Name of candidate: Luis Villarreal Jr.
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Harlingen
5. Occupation: Self-employed
6. Education: Bachelor's degree Double Major in Government and Public Service UTRGV,
Master's degree in Public Policy and Management UTRGV.
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? no
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Former Director of Administration for Senator Eddie Lucio Jr.; worked with a Port Committee which dealt with all ports in Texas and trade issues; worked with a Transportation Committee on public roads and infrastructure.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Created over 1,200 jobs across the Rio Grande Valley, invested in Downtown Harlingen by renovating commercial property which attracts people and new businesses, promoted economic development by creating jobs with competitive wages.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Quality and affordable health care.
 - b. Workforce structure that supports employers and employees
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Support reducing price of drugs and healthcare without sacrificing quality of care.
 - b. Create a system that embraces high salaries and benefits.

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
State Representative District 38: Erin Elizabeth Gamez**

1. Name of Office: State Representative District 38
2. Name of candidate: Erin Elizabeth Gamez
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville, Texas
5. Occupation: Attorney practicing civil, family, and criminal law.
6. Education: Bachelor of Arts in government and minor in Spanish Cum Laude from the University of Texas at Austin; law degree from South Texas College of Law
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? no
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience:
Law offices of Ernesto Gamez, Jr., Attorney at Law, General Litigation - Civil and Criminal Law
State Bar of Texas - Continuing Legal Education; A South Texas Litigation Course, Lecturer on
Civil Forfeiture
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office:
Cameron County Mental Health Diversion Court Defense Attorney; 82nd Legislative Session -
Legislative Aide (2011); 80th Legislative Session - Texas House of Representatives, Legislative
Aide; Brownsville Community Health Center, Board Member.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Law and Immigration
 - b. Job Creation
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Support funding for local and state law agencies.
 - b. Support jobs as plumbers, electricians, scaffolders and skilled labor workers.

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
State Representative District 38: Jonathan Gracia**

1. Name of Office: State Representative District 38
2. Name of candidate: Jonathan Gracia
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville, Texas
5. Occupation: Lawyer
6. Education: Doctor of Jurisprudence, University of Texas School of law.
7. Family: one daughter
8. Religion n/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Justice of the Peace
Precinct 2, Place 2 – Brownsville 2015 to Present, Asst. District Attorney Cameron County DA's
Office, Special Projects Director Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz – 2004 Legislative Assistant/
Special Projects, EDC Director City of Port Isabel – 2000 Economic Development Corporation.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Justice of the Peace
Precinct 2, Place 2, EDC Director City of Port Isabel – 2000 Economic Development Corporation.
20 years of public service
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Healthcare
 - b. Public Schools
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Increase transparency in healthcare. Reduce the cost of prescription drugs and
expanding access to Medicaid.
 - b. Increase teacher pay, counselor, and staff pay, workforce development and technical
training, taking care of retired educators with a 13th check.

**Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Criminal District Attorney Hidalgo County: Nereida Lopez-Singleterry**

1. Name of Office: Criminal District Attorney Hidalgo Country
2. Name of candidate: Nereida Lopez-Singleterry
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Edinburg
5. Occupation: Attorney
6. Education: Doctor of Jurisprudence from Michigan State University College of Law
7. Family: Husband and two children
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? no
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Associate Judge of Master Court 1 and Municipal Judge for the City of San Juan
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Working as an attorney and judge for multiple criminal cases
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. The overcrowding of jails
 - b. Keeping the community safe
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Establish programs that will help work with victims, defendants, and those incarcerated
 - b. Support safety of the community

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney: Toribio Terry Palacios

1. Name of Office: Criminal District Attorney Hidalgo County.
2. Name of Candidate: Toribio Terry Palacios.
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: Edinburg.
5. Occupation: Criminal Defense Attorney.
6. Education: Bachelor's Degree from UTPA and a Juris Doctorate from Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University.
7. Family: Hope Palacios – Wife; nine children: Audra, Alexandra, Toribio Junior, Andres, Shiloh Lily, Kali, Alian, and Annika and seven grandchildren.
8. Religion: N/A.
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No
10. Past Elective or Governmental Appointive Experience: City of Edinburg Municipal Court Judge.
11. Experience Candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Municipal judge for the city of Edinburg 27 years (1994-2021), criminal defense attorney 30 years.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important:
 - a. Specialized Crime Units.
 - b. Youth Drug Problems.
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Create specialized crime units for the cities of Hidalgo County to investigate public corruption and fraud.
 - b. Promote programs to establish detox centers and sobriety houses to help youth rehabilitate from drug addiction.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Hidalgo County Judge: Ricardo “Richard” F. Cortez

1. Name of Office: Hidalgo County Judge
2. Name of Candidate: Ricardo “Richard” F. Cortez
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: McAllen
5. Occupation: Hidalgo County Judge
6. Education: Certified Public Accountant License in 1973. BBA In Accounting UTPA
7. Family: N/A.
8. Religion: N/A.
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? Yes.
10. Past Elective or Governmental Appointive Experience: Former Mayor of McAllen 2005 to 2013.
11. Experience Candidate says qualifies him/her for office: current service as county judge; long-time accountant; involvement in federal, state, and local law cases; and former mayor of the city of McAllen.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important:
 - a. Promoting education and reducing poverty through education
 - b. Infrastructure.
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Promote and encourage youths to go to college
 - b. Support expanding the infrastructure of Hidalgo County to improve the drainage systems and avoid future flooding.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Hidalgo County Judge: Norma Ramirez

1. Name of Office: Hidalgo County Judge
2. Name of Candidate: Norma Ramirez
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: Edinburg, Texas
5. Occupation: Vice President of Southwest Grain Corporation
6. Education: UTPA Graduate
7. Family: N/A.
8. Religion: N/A.
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past Elective or Governmental Appointive Experience: No.
11. Experience Candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Her experience working as the Precinct Chair and Hidalgo County Democratic Party Chair
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important:
 - a. Taxes.
 - b. Infrastructure.
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Avoid raising taxes and use county's expanding economy to make more jobs available; lowering property taxes on the middle class.
 - b. Maintain and expand the county's infrastructure – bridges, drainage systems and roads.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Hidalgo County Judge: Tania Ramirez

1. Name of Office: Hidalgo County Judge
2. Name of Candidate: Tania Ramirez.
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: McAllen, Texas
5. Occupation: Attorney of Tania Ramirez Law Group, PLLC
6. Education: B.A. in Political Science from Our Lady of the Lake University, J.D. from Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School
7. Family: N/A.
8. Religion: N/A.
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past Elective or Governmental Appointive Experience: Hidalgo County Assistant District Attorney, McAllen City Commissioner (District 4).
11. Experience Candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Assistant District Attorney for Hidalgo County; McAllen City Commissioner (District 4).
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important:
 - a. Cooperation among the Lower Rio Grande Valley Counties
 - b. Poverty
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Cooperate with counties of the Rio Grande Valley to benefit from the region's growing economy, increase jobs, and relieve poverty.
 - b. Avoid raising taxes.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Hidalgo County District Clerk: Laura Hinojosa

1. Name of Office: Hidalgo County District Clerk
2. Name of candidate: Laura Hinojosa
3. Political Party: Democratic Party
4. City of Residence: McAllen, Texas
5. Occupation: Hidalgo County District Clerk
6. Education: Certified secondary English teacher
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: N/A
9. Incumbent: Yes
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Current Hidalgo County District Clerk, voting member in statewide judicial committee, president of the County & District Clerk Association of Texas
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Served the county and state of Texas as a clerk in several capacities and serves as voting member on a statewide Judicial Committee (information technology); serves as president of the County and District Clerk's Association of Texas (governing body of clerks statewide). District Clerk since January 2007.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Progress in the district clerk's office
 - b. Streamline processes; responsive government
13. What candidate plans to do to address these issues if reelected:
 - a. Enhance customer service.
 - b. Promote improved technology .

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Hidalgo County Clerk: Arturo Guajardo Jr.

1. Name of Office: Hidalgo County Clerk
2. Name of candidate: Arturo Guajardo Jr.
3. Political Party: Democratic Party
4. City of Residence: McAllen, TX
5. Occupation: Hidalgo County Clerk
6. Education: University of Texas Pan-American with bachelor's degree in Political Science (1992); master's degree in Public Administration in December 2009.
7. Family: Wife and two daughters
8. Religion: N/A
9. Incumbent: No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Member Property Record Industry Association (PRIA), National Association of County Recorders, Election Officials and Clerks (NACRC), International Association of County Recorders, Election Officials and Clerks (IACREOT), and the Governmental Collectors Association of Texas (GCAT).
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Taught at Donna ISD, seven years with the law firm of Calame, Linebarger, Graham and Pena, LLP, eight years as Chief Deputy County Clerk, a certified mediator.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Making government accessible to the public.
 - b. Saving taxpayer dollars.

Candidate's plans to address these two issues if reelected:

- a. Internship opportunities through his office and opening it to graduate level research studies.
- b. Use innovative, environment friendly, and cost-efficient methods to save taxpayer money.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Hidalgo County Treasurer – Lita L. Leo

1. Name of Office: Hidalgo County Treasurer
2. Name of candidate: Lita L. Leo
3. Political Party: Democratic Party
4. City of Residence: Mission, TX
5. Occupation: Hidalgo County Treasurer
6. Education: La Joya High School, Bachelor of Arts from Texas Tech University
7. Family: William 'Billy' Leo (father), Filomena Leo (mother), Nora Lisa, Billy Jr, Leticia, and Michael Leo (siblings)
8. Religion: N/A
9. Incumbent: Yes
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Present Hidalgo County Treasurer
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Experience in the private sector, working in campaigns, former political activist, previous employment with elected officials at local and national level
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Stay involved with the community

What candidate plans to do to address this issue:

- b. Use open door policy to be available for citizens

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Hidalgo County Commissioner Precinct 2:
Eduardo Eddie Cantu

1. Name of Office: Hidalgo County Commissioner Precinct 2
2. Name of Candidate: Eduardo Eddie Cantu
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: Pharr, Texas
5. Occupation: Hidalgo County Commissioner
6. Education: Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from St. Mary's University 1995, University of Texas School of Law Juris Doctor degree 1998
7. Family: Lili Cantu – Wife; Angelina Cantu – Daughter; Christian Cantu – Son
8. Religion: Christian.
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? Yes.
10. Past Elective or Governmental Appointive Experience: Two terms as Hidalgo County Commissioner Precinct 2
11. Experience Candidate says qualifies him/her for office: 12 years as county commissioner
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important:
 - a. Infrastructure.
 - b. Community Improvement.
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Continue maintenance and improvement of county roads, development of new parks, improve drainage systems, maintain multi-city hike and bike trail
 - b. Expand the services of the Boy's and Girl's clubs for children in rural areas

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Hidalgo County Commissioner Precinct 2: Pablo Soto Jr.

1. Name of Office: Hidalgo County Commissioner Precinct 2
2. Name of candidate: Pablo Soto Jr.
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: Pharr, TX
5. Occupation: Registered Professional Land Surveyor
6. Education: Bachelor's in Engineering
7. Family: NA
8. Religion: NA
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: NA
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: 5 years in public service
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Drainage System
 - b. Illegal dumping
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Improve all areas of the county with drainage ditches, while widening the main drain that flows into Willacy County.
 - b. Work with communities and neighborhoods to halt drainage problems.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Hidalgo County Commissioner Precinct 4: Homero Jasso Jr.

1. Name of Office: Hidalgo County Commissioner Precinct 4
2. Name of candidate: Homero Jasso Jr.
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Edinburg
5. Occupation: business owner /self employed
6. Education: NA
7. Family: wife and three children
8. Religion: NA
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Former Edinburg City Councilmember.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Public service: Service on Edinburg City Council.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Drainage System
 - b. Prevent flooding
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Support a new master drainage plan in collaboration with cities.
 - b. Be proactive in preventing flooding.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Hidalgo County Commissioner Precinct 4: Ellie Torres

1. Name of Office: Hidalgo County Commissioner Precinct 4
2. Name of candidate: Ellie Torres
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Edinburg
5. Occupation: Business Owner, Hidalgo County Commissioner
6. Education: Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and Master of Education in Counseling and Guidance
7. Family: David Torres (husband) and two sons
8. Religion: NA.
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? yes
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: First Woman to serve as a Precinct 4 County Commissioner (January 1, 2019).
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: 2 years in public office
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Drainage system
 - b. Community resources centers
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Collaborate with neighboring counties to expanding drainage.
 - b. Expand services and quality of life.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Hidalgo County Justice of the Peace Precinct 4, Place 2:
Felix Gutierrez Jr.

1. Name of Office: Hidalgo County Justice of the Peace Precinct 4, Place 2
2. Name of candidate: Felix Gutierrez Jr.
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: Edinburg
5. Occupation: Self-Employed
6. Education: Bachelor's in Business administration
7. Family: Wife and two sons
8. Religion: NA
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Former sheriff's office experience.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Former sheriff's office experience.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Youth and crime
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Help youth avoid crime.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Hidalgo County Justice of the Peace Precinct 4, Place 2:
Andre Maldonado

1. Name of Office: Hildago County Justice of the Peace Precinct 4, Place 2
2. Name of candidate: Andre Maldonado
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: Edinburg
5. Occupation: attorney
6. Education: Texas- Pan American Bachelor's, South Texas College of Law
7. Family: Wife and two children
8. Religion: NA
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: NA
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: 2 years of public service:.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important. NA
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected NA

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Hidalgo County Justice of the Peace Precinct 5, Place 1: Jason JP Pena

1. Name of Office: Hidalgo County Justice of the Peace Precinct 5, Place 1
2. Name of Candidate: Jason JP Pena
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Elsa, TX
5. Occupation: Justice of the Peace Precinct 5, Place 1
6. Education: N/A
7. Family: Wife, 4 children
8. Religion: Christian
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? Yes
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Incumbency
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Incumbency
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important. N/A
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected? N/A

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Hidalgo County Justice of the Peace Precinct 5, Place 1: Connie Villanueva

1. Name of Office: Hidalgo County Justice of the Peace Precinct 5, Place 1
2. Name of Candidate: Connie Villanueva
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Monte Alto, TX
5. Occupation: Community Organizer
6. Education: N/A
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: Christian
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: N/A
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: A local community organizer in Monte Alto that has assembled community projects in a location that does not have elected officials due to its small size.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Covid-19 pandemic
 - b. Help the community
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Combat the pandemic.
 - b. Direct social investment in the community .

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Cameron County District Judge 357th Judicial District: Juan A. Magallanes

1. Name of Office: Cameron County District Judge 357th Judicial District
2. Name of Candidate: Juan A. Magallanes
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville, TX
5. Occupation: Incumbent Cameron County District Judge 357th Judicial District
6. Education: B.A. University of Texas, Austin, 1977; J.D. Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: Christian
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? Yes
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Elected to current position in 2014 and re-elected in 2018; Cameron County Local Court Rules Amendment Committee; Brownsville Board of Adjustments and Appeals; Cameron County Juvenile Advisory Board, Brownsville Charter Review Committee; Brownsville Airport Advisory Board.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Longtime Lawyer, current experience being the incumbent; memberships have included Rio Grande Trial Lawyers Association, Texas Trial Lawyers Association and Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Dispensation of Justice
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Be fair, thoughtful, and ethical

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Cameron County District Judge 357th Judicial District: Victor Ricardo Ramirez

1. Name of Office: Cameron County District Judge, 357^h Judicial District
2. Name of Candidate: Victor Ricardo Ramirez
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville, TX
5. Occupation: Lawyer
6. Education: Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law (2004)
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: N/A
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Practicing lawyer for 17 years
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important. N/A
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected? N/A

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Cameron County District Judge 484th Judicial District: Noemi Garcia-Martinez

1. Name of Office: Cameron County District Judge, 484th Judicial District
2. Name of Candidate: Noemi Garcia-Martinez
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville, TX
5. Occupation: Cameron County Juvenile Court Referee (484th District)
6. Education: Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: Christian
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Current position as a Juvenile Court referee in the 484th District.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Experience through Juvenile Court, and a practitioner of law.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Decisions in accordance with state law.
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Render decisions in each hearing in accordance with state law.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Cameron County District Judge, 484th Judicial District:
Adela Kowalski-Garza

1. Name of Office: Cameron County District Judge, 484th Judicial District
2. Name of candidate: Adela Kowalski-Garza
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: Brownsville
5. Occupation: Prosecutor, Master Lecturer in Criminal Justice Department at UTRGV
6. Education: St. Mary's University and South Texas College of Law
7. Family: Married with 3 sons: Noe, Maximiliano, and Juan Pablo.
8. Religion: Catholic
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: State Prosecutor for the Cameron County District Attorney's Office, Assistant United States Attorney, First chair prosecutor in the 404th District Court of Texas
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/ her for office: 33 years of Public Service and experience
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Helping troubled youth
 - b. Education
13. What does he/ she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected? N/A

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Cameron County Clerk: Perla Diaz

1. Name of Office: Cameron County Clerk
2. Name of candidate: Perla Diaz
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: Brownsville, TX
5. Occupation: Cameron County employee
6. Education: N/A
7. Family: Son, Domanique
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Deputy clerk
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/ her for office: Deputy clerk and court administrator
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Make a difference in the community
 - b. Provide better services
13. What does he/ she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Listen to the suggestions of employees
 - b. Conduct business in a quick and efficient manner

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Cameron County Clerk: Sylvia Garza-Perez

1. Name of Office: County Clerk
2. Name of candidate: Sylvia Garza-Perez
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: Brownsville, TX
5. Occupation: Cameron County Clerk
6. Education: University of Phoenix Master's Degree in Administration/ Management
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? Yes
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience:
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/ her for office: current Cameron County clerk.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Serve community
 - b. Employee development
13. What does he/ she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Community outreach
 - b. Leadership Academy

Democratic Party Primary Candidate.

Cameron County Commissioner Precinct 4: Ruben De La Rosa

1. Name of Office: Cameron County Commissioner Precinct 4
2. Name of candidate: Ruben De La Rosa
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: Harlingen
5. Occupation: N/A
6. Education: N/A
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: N/A
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/ her for office: N/A
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important. N/A
13. What does he/ she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected? N/A

Democratic Party Primary Candidate.

Cameron County Commissioner Precinct 4: J.V. Garcia

1. Name of Office: Cameron County Commissioner Precinct 4
2. Name of candidate: J.V. Garcia
3. Political Party: Democrat
4. City of Residence: Harlingen
5. Occupation: Civil engineer
6. Education: N/A
7. Family: wife Jessica and two children
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: N/A
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/ her for office: training, experience, and education to fix flooding issues
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Improving drainage throughout the city of Harlingen and in towns in his precinct.
 - b. Revive and reinvigorate Don Jose Esparza County Park in San Benito
13. What does he/ she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. With assistance of two engineers and a construction specialist, expand stormwater detention capacity.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
Cameron County Justice of the Peace Precinct 2, Place 2:
Elizabeth Garza

1. Name of Office: Cameron County Justice of the Peace Precinct 2, Place 2
2. Name of candidate: Elizabeth Garza
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville, TX
5. Occupation: Criminal Lawyer
6. Education: Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Texas Southern University
7. Family: Two daughters
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No.
- 10, Past elective or governmental appointive experience: 2016 Cameron County Judge candidate,
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: practicing attorney for 13 years; practicing mediator.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Give power of justice to the people
 - b. fair trials
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Listen to court cases objectively.
 - b. Make rulings based on evidence available.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate.

Cameron County Justice of the Peace Precinct 2, Place 2:

Cyndi Hinojosa

1. Name of Office: Cameron County Justice of the Peace Precinct 2, Place 2
2. Name of Candidate: Cyndi Hinojosa
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville, TX
5. Occupation: Licensed Professional Counselor
6. Education: University of Texas-Pan American
7. Family: Husband and two children
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate incumbent? No.
10. Past Elective and or Governmental appointive experience: Precinct Chair for Pct. 9 of Cameron County,
11. Experience candidate says that makes him/her qualified: Former counselor at La Esperanza Home for Boys; former parole officer; community service for 25 years.
12. List 2 issues that the candidate says it is important
 - a. Justice
 - b. Fair representation of minorities
13. What did she plan to do addressing those issues?
 - a. Listen
 - b. Help youth, adults and elderly

Democratic Party Primary Candidate.

Cameron County Justice of the Peace Precinct 2, Place 2:

Javier Reyna

1. Name of Office: Cameron County Justice of the Peace Precinct 2, Place 2
2. Name of Candidate: Javier Reyna
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville, TX
5. Occupation: Former Law Enforcement Captain
6. Education: N/A
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate incumbent? No
10. Past Elective or Governmental appointive Experience: 28 years of law enforcement experience; candidate for Justice of the Peace Precinct 2, Place 2 in 2018.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him for office: 16 years as captain of operations and critical incident commander for Cameron County Sheriff's Office.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important
 - a. Uphold justice
 - b. Protect the rights of citizens
13. What plans he has to address the issue? N/A

Democratic Party Primary Candidate.

Cameron County Justice of the Peace Precinct 2, Place 3:

Erika Perez-Murillo

1. Name of Office: Cameron County Justice of the Peace Precinct 2, Place 3
2. Name of Candidate: Erika Perez-Murillo
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville, TX
5. Occupation: N/A
6. Education: N/A
7. Family: Husband and six children
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No
10. Past Elective or Governmental Appointive Experience: None
11. Experience candidate says that qualifies her for office: Supporting local business groups in the valley and hosting community events
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important
 - a. Preserve the rights of citizens
 - b. Equal representation
13. What does she plan to do to address this issue?
 - a. Uphold citizens' rights guaranteed by the constitution
 - b. Be impartial in court cases

Democratic Party Primary Candidate.
Cameron County Justice of the Peace Precinct 2, Place 3:
Mary Esther Sorola

1. Name of Office: Cameron County Justice of the Peace Precinct 2, Place 3
2. Name of Candidate: Mary Esther Sorola
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Brownsville, TX
5. Current Occupation: Cameron County Justice of the Peace Precinct 2, Place 3
6. Education: University of Texas- Pan American
7. Family: N/A
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? Yes
10. Past Elective or governmental appointive experience: Court Administrator and Coordinator Cameron County Court at Law No. 2
11. Experience candidate says that qualifies her for office: 20 years of public service experience as a judge (Member of the Texas Justice of the Peace and Constables Association)
12. List of two issues that the candidate say are most important:
 - a. Child Care
 - b. Public Health
13. What does she plan to do to address those issues?
 - a. Review current child laws
 - b. Uphold civil rights

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Cameron County Justice of the Peace Precinct 3, Place 2: David Garza

1. Name of Office: Cameron County Justice of the Peace Precinct 3, Place 2
2. Name of candidate: David Garza
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: San Benito
5. Occupation: Justice of the Peace
6. Education: Business degree, Texas Southmost College
7. Family: Wife and Children
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? Yes
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: N/A
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Is an incumbent; more than 20 years of service
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important. N/A
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected? N/A

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

Cameron County Justice of the Peace Precinct 3, Place 2: Jessica A. Gonzales

1. Name of Office: Cameron County Justice of the Peace Precinct 3, Place 2
2. Name of candidate: Jessica A. Gonzales
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: San Benito
5. Occupation: NA
6. Education: NA
7. Family: NA
8. Religion: NA
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? No
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: NA
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: NA
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important. NA
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected? NA

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
State Senator District 20: Juan “Chuy” Hinojosa

1. Name of Office: State Senator District 20
2. Name of candidate: Juan “Chuy” Hinojosa
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: McAllen
5. Occupation: Attorney
6. Education: BA at UTRGV, JD at Georgetown University
7. Family: Spouse Rosalie Weisfeld, 2 daughters and 1 son
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? Yes
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Texas House Member 1981-1991, 1997-2003
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Candidate was prev. a house member for 10+ years, senator incumbent
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Protect funds for local communities
 - b. Increase crucial services for vulnerable pop
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected? (One sentence each.)
 - a. Secure funding to stimulate local economies.
 - b. Support education and health care.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
State Representative District 35: Oscar Longoria

1. Name of Office: State Representative District 35
2. Name of candidate: Oscar Longoria
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Mission
5. Occupation: Attorney
6. Education: BA UT Austin, JD UT School of Law
7. Family: Wife and 2 Daughters
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? Yes
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Board Member of Agua Special Utility District, South Texas College Trustee
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Current position as State Representative, serving fourth term;
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Education
 - b. Health care
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected? (One sentence each.)
 - a. Expand Broadband.
 - b. Expand health care in nursing homes.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
State Representative District 36: Sergio Munoz Jr.

1. Name of Office: State Representative District 36
2. Name of candidate: Sergio Munoz Jr.
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Palmview
5. Occupation: Attorney
6. Education: UT Austin, Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law
7. Family: Wife and four children
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? Yes
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: State Representative District 36 since 2011, currently serves on committees for higher education, pensions, investments and financial services.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Current State Representative for District 36; served since 2011; multiple legislative committees.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Education
 - b. Healthcare
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Collaboration
 - b. Communication

Democratic Party Primary Candidate

State Representative District 39: Armando “Mando” Martinez

1. Name of Office: State Representative District 39
2. Name of candidate: Armando “Mando” Martinez
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Weslaco
5. Occupation: Firefighter, Licensed Paramedic and Critical Care Flight Paramedic
6. Education: University of Texas Pan American, B.S.
7. Family: Married: Marisa Pena Martinez; children: Matthew, Kuentin and Madison Rose
Parents Alfredo Martinez and Esmeralda Martinez
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? Yes
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: 17 years as state representative
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: N/A
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Improving health care for the Rio Grande Valley
 - b. Economic opportunity for the community
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Focus on Medicaid issues as well as indigent health care.
 - b. Develop infrastructure that will create economic opportunities for the community .

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
State Representative District 40: Terry Canales

1. Name of Office: State Representative District 40
2. Name of candidate: Terry Canales
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Edinburg
5. Occupation: Chairman of the House Transportation Committee and Lawyer
6. Education: Bachelor's Degree at the University of The Incarnate Word and law degree at St. Mary's School of Law
7. Family: Wife Erica Canales and children: Juliana, Terry Andres, Caleb, Trigo, and Catalina.
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? Yes
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Elected Texas State Representative for District 40 in 2012.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Experience in the Texas Legislature as Representative from District 40 since 2012; currently serves as Chair for Transportation Committee, also serves on international relations and economic development committees.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. Transparency
 - b. Open government
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Pass legislation so the public knows how their tax dollars are spent
 - b. Pass legislation to ensure the right of individuals to have their voice heard at local governmental meetings.

Democratic Party Primary Candidate
State Representative District 41: Bobby Guerra

1. Name of Office: State Representative District 41
2. Name of candidate: Bobby Guerra
3. Political Party: Democratic
4. City of Residence: Edinburg
5. Occupation: Lawyer and Rancher
6. Education: Pan American University and Texas Southern University Law School
7. Family: Wife Leslie-Yoder Guerra; children Justin, Cameron, and Tessa, and grandchild Olivia.
8. Religion: N/A
9. Is this candidate an incumbent? Yes
10. Past elective or governmental appointive experience: Texas State Representative for District 41 since 2012; former Chair of Hidalgo County Democratic Party.
11. Experience candidate says qualifies him/her for office: Current Texas State Representative for District 41; serves as Vice Chair for Public Health and as a member of the Local and Consent Calendars and Ways and Means Committees; law practice for nearly 35 years; former Chair of Hidalgo County Democratic Party.
12. List two issues that the candidate says are most important.
 - a. First class education for students
 - b. Health care
13. What does he/she plan to do to address these two issues, if elected?
 - a. Better fund public schools.
 - b. improve and protect the public health of all Texans.