

May 2026 Primary Election: Candidates & Resources

OHIO EXECUTIVE BRANCH

4-year terms

Governor: [Amy Acton](#)

Preventive Medicine and Pediatrics physician; Former Director of ODH 2019-2020

[Issue statements](#)

Lt. Governor: [David Pepper](#)

Attorney, served on Cincinnati City Council and Hamilton County Board of Commissioners
Ohio Democratic Party Chair 2015-2020

Ohio Attorney General (*contested*)

[Elliot Forhan](#)

- Attorney; Served in Ohio House of Representatives 2022-2024
- Sanctioned by Party: [Democratic Ohio Representative sanctioned by party](#) & [Democratic candidates condemn controversial comment](#)

[John J. Kulewicz](#) (endorsed by the ODP)

- Litigation partner at large law firm with experience at the U.S. Supreme Court
- Upper Arlington City Council Member, 2020-present

Auditor of State: [Annette Blackwell](#)

Mayor/Director Safety of Maple Heights, 2015-present

Ohio Secretary of State (*contested*)

[Bryan Hambley](#)

- Oncology (cancer) physician
- Campaigned against Gerrymandering
- [Issue Statements](#)
- [Endorsements](#)

[Allison Russo](#)

- Holds a Doctor of Public Health in Health Policy and a Master of Public Health in Epidemiology
- Served 4 terms in Ohio House of Representatives, 2019-2026
- Former Democratic Minority Leader; [approved redistricting maps, "the best of two bad options"](#)
- [Endorsements](#)

Treasurer of State: [Seth Walsh](#)

Exec. Dir., College Hill Urban Redevelopment Corporation

Cincinnati City Council member 2022-present; member, Cincinnati Retirement System Board of Trustees

U.S. SENATE (*contested*)

Special Election (to complete the remaining two years of J.D. Vance's original six-year term)

[Sherrod Brown](#) (endorsed by the ODP)

OH Secretary of State, 1983-1991; U.S. House of Representative, 1993-2007; U.S. Senator, 2007-2025

[Ron Kincaid](#)

IT Professional; background in autism care and Special Olympics volunteer work

U.S. CONGRESS - 7th DISTRICT (contested)

United States House of Representative (2 year term)

For more info: [Link to Candidate Bios, Issue Statements, and Club Questionnaire Answers](#)

Please refer to the candidate websites for information regarding their campaigns & endorsements. Links below:

John Butchko (No website as of 2/24/26)

- Retired minister
- Ran for House in '12 as Independent, registered to vote in Cleveland (District 11)
- No Issue Statements/website available

[Ann Marie Donegan](#)

- Nurse/Healthcare Consultant
- Former Mayor and City Council Member, Olmsted Falls
- [Issue Statements](#)

[Michael Eisner](#)

- Personal Injury Attorney
- Interned with Howard Metzenbaum
- [Issue Statements](#)

[Ed FitzGerald](#)

- Attorney
- Former Lakewood mayor/Cuy. Cty. Exec., ran for governor '14
- [Political "past"](#)
- [Issue Statements](#)

[Keith Mundy](#)

- Owned CourtDelivery.com
- Community organizer for Sanders; ran for House in '16 &'24; lives in Parma
- [Issue Statements](#)

[Brian Poindexter](#)

- Union Iron Worker
- Brook Park City Councilman since 2018
- [Issue Statements](#)
- Endorsed by Ohio AFL-CIO

[Laura Rodriguez-Carbone](#)

- Community Outreach Coordinator
- Registered to vote in Lakewood (District 11)
- [Issue Statements](#)

[Scott Schulz](#)

- Former VP of Enrollment Management, Baldwin Wallace University
- Bay Village Board of Education member, 2020-2025
- [Issue Statements](#)

Ohio Democratic Party Positions

Democratic State Central Committee (4-year term) **(contested)**

The person we elect represents our State Senatorial District in the Ohio Democratic Party (these are party positions, not public offices) - members should be active Democrats from their district

Elect one man and one woman representing each district

District 23 Committee Man:

Tristan W. Rader
Mike Rogalski
Mike Seals
Robert F. Shields

District 23 Committee Woman:

Bride Rose Sweeney
Danielle L. Sydnor
Teri Wang
Stephanie Howse-Jones
Caitlin Rader

Ohio Legislative Branch

Ohio State Senator, District 23	Bride Rose Sweeney
Ohio House of Representatives, District 16 (2-year term)	<u>Scott DiMauro</u>

Judicial Branch

County Judicial Seats **(only contested judicial race listed)**

Elected county-wide, 6 year term, each judge begins on a specific date (FTC= Full Term Commences)

★ = Cuyahoga County Democratic Party Endorsed Candidate

[Court of Common Pleas, General Division \(FTC 1/3/27\)](#)

★ [William Vodrey](#) - elected to first term in 2020; regular attendee at Democratic Club events across the county ("Mr. Everywhere"); prior to his first term, he served as a Cleveland Municipal Court magistrate, an assistant county prosecutor, and as a Legal Aid attorney; 33 years practice

James Gallagher - currently an assistant county prosecutor; 11 years practice

[Complete Cuyahoga County Board of Elections Candidate List \(3/9/26\)](#)