



# **Executive Committee Meeting Packet**

**October 3, 2022**



## **AGENDA**

### **Quarterly Executive Committee Meeting**

**Monday, October 3, 2022**

**Location: Church at the Cross - 3835 S. Dairy Ashford Rd., Houston, TX 77082**

**6:00 PM: Refreshments**

**6:40 PM: Recognition of sponsors**

**6:45 PM: Sponsor remarks**

**7:00 PM: Call to Order**

- 1. Invocation**
- 2. Pledges**
- 3. National Anthem**
- 4. Certification of Quorum**
- 5. Memorial Resolution**
  - a. Resolution Honoring Dan Comstock**
- 6. Review and Approval of Minutes of July 9, 2022, Organizational Executive Committee Meeting**
- 7. Required Approval of Chairman Appointments**
- 8. Announcement of Chairman appointments not requiring approval**
- 9. Treasurer's Report**
- 10. Chairman's Report**
- 11. Committee Reports**
  - a. Vacancy Committee Report and swearing-in of new precinct chairs**
  - b. Ballot Security Committee Report**
  - c. Local Government Committee Report**
  - d. Marketing Committee Report**
- 12. Resolutions**
  - a. Resolution to mandate a new metro election**
  - b. Local government resolutions recommending local candidates, opposition to Harris County bonds, and amending the local government platform (dependent upon receiving 10 precinct chair signatures)**
  - c. The Harris County Republican Party Supports Making Harris County Safe Again (dependent upon receiving 10 precinct chair signatures)**
  - d. Harris County Republican Party Resolution in Support of Commissioners Ramsey and Cagle's Efforts to Stand Up for Harris County Residents (dependent upon receiving 10 precinct chair signatures)**
- 13. New Business**
- 14. Adjournment**

## Resolution Honoring Dan Comstock

WHEREAS, Daniel Martin Comstock was born in Seldon, Kansas on October 6, 1941 and was a devoted son and brother to his family, including 10 siblings; 7 of which he spent 12 years helping his mother raise; and

WHEREAS, Dan learned the values of integrity, strong work ethic, respect for others, being a good neighbor and kindness to all; values that remained with him throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, Dan and Patricia married November 25, 1972 and they shared a life devoted to worshipping the Lord as Catholic Christians and members of the St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Community; and

WHEREAS, Dan worked in the oil industry for 58 years and received numerous service and mentor awards; and

WHEREAS, Dan was an unabashed, passionate patriot who thoroughly understood and firmly believed in the principles upon which this country was founded; and

WHEREAS, Nothing gave Dan more joy than to be engaged in contributing to our representative form of government; and

WHEREAS, One of the greatest joys of Dan's life was all the wonderful people that he came to know and work with in his beloved Republican Party; and

WHEREAS, Dan served as a Precinct Chair and Election Judge for Precinct 759 in SD7 for 12 years before recently being redistricted to SD15, and was a member of the Local Government Committee and served as Chairman; and

WHEREAS, Dan Comstock, who placed his trust in Jesus, "the way, the truth, and the life," returned to the Lord on July 14, 2022, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Harris County Republican Party hereby honors Dan Comstock for his admirable life of service to God, family and country; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Harris County Republican Party offers prayers for and extends heartfelt condolences to the family of Dan Comstock; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be included in the minutes of the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee meeting this third day of October, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melissa Rowell, Pct 480

James Buntrock, pct 726, SD7 Chair Bill Ely, pct 844 Buffie Ingersoll, pct 262 Vergel Cruz, pct 578, SREC Secretary Tara Beulah, pct 909 Richard Urdiales, pct 671 Kristin Cobb, pct 690 Tom Bazan, pct 661 Mark McCaig, pct 687 Mike Palmquist, pct 633 Sarah Singleton, pct 143 Ralph Fite, pct 499 Mark Goloby, pct 398 J.R. Haas, pct 684 Jim McSpadden, pct 625 Drake Cameron, pct 805 George Porter, pct 734 Robert Jeter, pct 662 Linda Nuttall, pct 622 Tom Zakes, pct 221 Susan Flores, pct 759 Matthew Cowan, pct 311 Cody McCubbin, pct 442

# VACANCY COMMITTEE REPORT / RECOMMENDATIONS

Precinct	FirstName	LastName	Email	SD	Interview_Date	Board_Decision
0029	Cody	Rawlins	1badroadking08@gmail.com	6	8/1/2022	Approved
0056	Pamela	Edwards	PGEDWARDS2@ATT.NET	7	9/12/2022	Approved
0071	Gina	Gray	gina.gray@gmail.com	15	8/1/2022	Approved
0075	Kerry	Fletcher	kerry.s.fletcher@gmail.com	15	8/29/2022	Approved
0083	Susan	Helms	susiehelms1951@gmail.com	6	9/12/2022	Approved
0114	Melissa	Spears	mspears29@gmail.com	7	7/18/2022	Approved
0132	Elvin	Craig	elvin.lee7729@gmail.com	13	9/12/2022	Approved
0178	Gilda	Bayegan	gildabb@msn.com	17	9/12/2022	Approved
0204	Devin	Bily	drbily@peoplepc.com	15	8/15/2022	Approved
0222	Chris	Stillwell	chrisjstillwell@gmail.com	13	8/15/2022	Approved
0256	Evelyn	Lantz	eolantz@yahoo.com	13	9/12/2022	Approved
0263	MacK	Miller	mackmiller@gmail.com	7	7/18/2022	Approved
0330	Cordelia	Ewing	cordietalk@gmail.com	15	8/29/2022	Approved
0340	Deanna	Robertson	dlrharrison@gmail.com	4	9/12/2022	Approved
0370	Kimberly	Lofland	kwlofland@hotmail.com	7	8/1/2022	Approved
0386	john	isaacks	John-baytown@att.net	11	8/1/2022	Approved
0456	Steven	Arthur	steven-arthur@outlook.com	11	8/29/2022	Approved
0482	Jamie	Bautista	antoniobautista@sbcglobal.net	7	9/12/2022	Approved
0539	Sarah Lindley	Bailey	baileytands@gmail.com	4	7/18/2022	Approved
0593	Daniel	Flores	dpf1973@sbcglobal.net	15	8/15/2022	Approved
0610	Andrew	Zacharias	andrew.p.zacharias@gmail.com	15	8/15/2022	Approved
0720	Diana	Lopez	dianalopez57@gmail.com	17	8/29/2022	Approved
0867	Yvette	Llorance	illoren@yahoo.com	13	7/18/2022	Approved
0882	Alma Lorena	Barreno-Zertuche	albzertuche@gmail.com	7	8/29/2022	Approved
0901	Christopher	Wilson	chris.honda@hotmail.com	18	8/29/2022	Approved
0902	Milton	Sasser	miles.sasser@gmail.com	15	8/1/2022	Approved
0955	Ryan	Hairell	ryan.hairell@nsmg.com	7	8/15/2022	Approved
0968	Aurora	Ortiz	rori.car@outlook.com	4	7/18/2022	Approved
1016	Michael R.	Lloyd	homes@michaelrlloyd.com	4	8/15/2022	Approved
1036	Susanne	Salas	SusanneSalas@protonmail.com	15	8/15/2022	Approved
1096	James	Elliott	gary@ksevradio.com	11	8/29/2022	Approved
1134	Carl	Comstock	ceddycomstock@gmail.com	7	9/12/2022	Approved
1138	Brandon	Kiser	brandonkisertx@gmail.com	7	8/15/2022	Approved
1151	Thomas	Ellis	tcpellis@live.com	7	9/12/2022	Approved



## **Ballot Security Committee Report 10/3/2022**

### **1. Training for November Election**

- a) As of September 24, 263 vetted, HCRP volunteers have been trained as poll watchers for the mid-term election.
- b) As of September 24, 159 vetted, HCRP volunteers have received supplemental Election Law training to work in the polls for the mid-term election.

### **2. Voter Roll Clean Up**

- a. Members of the Ballot Security Committee, assisted by other volunteers, have challenged the voter registration addresses of over 8,000 Harris County voters illegally registered at commercial post office boxes and other illegal addresses.
- b. In response to pressure from the Ballot Security Committee and the Texas Secretary of State, between April and July of this year the Harris County EA sent voter registration residence challenges to 141,000 registered voters in Harris County.

### **3. Data for Election Challenges in November**

- a. The Ballot Security Committee has created a database of over 10,000 illegal voters and illegal voter registration addresses in Harris County.
- b. Beginning on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of Early Voting, BSC will scour the Daily Voter Roster to identify any of these illegal voters who have voted in the mid-term election.
- c. By November 10, BSC will be able to notify all Republican candidates of the total number and the names of illegal voters who took part in the election. Any of our candidates who lose by a number of votes which is less than the number of illegal voters will have a factual, legal foundation for challenging the election results based on the case law in *Leal vs. Pena* decided in January of this year.

### **4. Digital Poll Watchers**

BSC has established the unofficial position of digital poll watcher to accomplish the following:

Identify newly registered voters with an illegal registration address for legal challenge.

Identify any voters who vote once by mail and again in person to have their mail ballots cancelled.

Identify voters with an effective registration date after November 8 who vote in this election.

Provide Republican candidates on the ballot with a list and count of all illegal voters who vote in the mid-term election.

## Local Government Committee Report

- Platform Adoption
  - Started with last term's platform
  - Added language advocating for elections to be removed from unaccountable Election Administrator and put under elected County Clerk
  - Also voted to oppose Harris County Proposition A and B (\$1 billion of new debt)
  - These will be voted on tonight in two resolutions for New Business
- Endorsements
  - Discussed races on the ballot and identified opportunities for involvement (based on importance, Republican vs. Democrat, precinct chair requests)
  - Contacted candidates with R voting history as able and interviewed those who responded
  - Recommendations: to be voted on by EC tonight via a third resolution in New Business
    - North Harris County Regional Water Authority
    - Tomball ISD
    - Huffman ISD



## Marketing Committee Report

10-3-22

*"The Harris County GOP Marketing Committee exists to create content to deliver messaging to voters in Harris County at Community events."*

### 1. A Look Back

- a. Lyons Avenue Renaissance Festival
  - i. Designed and printed "History of Republican Party" Card
  - ii. Designed and printed
- b. Nigeria Cultural Parade Festival

### 2. Currently in the Works

- a. Promotional Kit
  - i. HCGOP Canopy
  - ii. Two Table Cloths
  - iii. Pop Up Banner
- b. Issue Cards (4.25" x 5.5" Card)
  - i. "You Might Be a Republican If"
  - ii. Card on Crime
- c. New Bilingual Committee Members
  - i. Adren Cavazos - Spanish
  - ii. Lily Troung - Vietnamese

### 3. Looking Ahead

- a. Developing a 4.25" x 5.5" issue card for "Wings over Houston" event
- b. Continue to support the Engagement Committee by equipping them with Materials to Pass Out at events.
- c. Develop a better acquisition process that helps HCGOP staff identify Independent voters who sign up on the HCGOP website through one of our "Issue Cards".
- d. Continue to create content and fundraise for printed marketing material to pass out at events.
- e. Recruiting more committee members with Graphics Design experience. Please email J.R. Haas if you or someone you know would like to join the committee.

### Marketing Committee Members

- |                    |                  |                 |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| - Bill Fagan       | - Emely McHattie | - Adren Cavozos |
| - Glen Risley      | - Lily Troung    |                 |
| - Gerry Vander-Lyn | - Rori Ortiz     |                 |

J.R. Haas, Chairman  
Email: jr.haas4liberty@gmail.com  
Cell: 832.209.9573



## Candidates Committee Report

October 2022

### 1. Republican Primary Candidate Interviews

Completed for 2022

### 2. Candidate Resumes

Completed for 2022

### 3. Ongoing Candidate Training

Candidate training is the main recruitment tool for candidates able to run successful campaigns. The Candidate Training Subcommittee Chair, Jeff Snover, assures topics are covered in areas needed and requested by the candidates such as speech writing, campaign finance and running successful campaigns with committee support. 2021-2022 has seen well over 200 participants to date.

### 4. Ongoing Candidate Recruiting

Our committee is focused on assuring 50 Harris County seats in this election including county level races, U.S. House, State House and Senate have a Republican running in each. 8 seats have no Republican running. These seats are HDs 137, 139, 140, 141, 143, 144, 146 and SD 13 (ORVS% 21.3). Candidates Committee member George Brian Vachris stepped up to run in Senate District 15 (Whitmire, ORVS% 36.5). Candidate Trainings will resume in 2023 as a recruiting tool for the committee.

### 5. Compile Candidate Resources

Subcommittees compile resources to provide to our candidates to run an effective campaign. These include but are not limited to campaign managers, vendors, fundraisers, social media professionals, videographers, photographers etc. If you have a resource that will benefit candidates, please submit that information the Chair, kristinjcobb@gmail.com.

### 6. Candidate Centric Vision: Building an engaged Party

Focusing on benefiting candidates at the Party level will garner more interaction by elected officials with the grassroots, especially Precinct Chairs. When elected officials interact with grassroots this increases engagement, retention, and production enhancing overall party influence. We recruit candidates that can win by providing training and resources to assure Republicans are running in every seat.

#### Harris County Races ORVS% 2022

Texas House		Texas Senate		US House	
126	61.4	4	67.4	2	63.3
127	60.9	6	31.3	7	36.3
128	68.4	7	60.6	8	64.4
129	59.2	11	60.2	9	23.5
130	68.7	13	21.3	18	25.8
131	18.5	15	36.5	29	29



132	59.5
133	56.2
134	41.9
135	39
137	34.8
138	56
139	26.2
140	27.6
141	16.7
142	25.2
143	32.4
144	41.7
145	29.7
146	21.2
147	21.9
148	41.6
149	35.6
150	59.8

17	61.5
18	61.3

36	66.1
38	61.7

#### **Candidates Committee Members**

Alan Bensten  
Judith Ottmann  
Hon. Dave Wegner

Travis Clarke  
Annie Pati

Lui LaRotta  
Jeffrey Snover

Jim Noteware  
Richard Stoitsits (pending)

Kristin Cobb, Chair  
Contact: kristinjcobb@gmail.com  
Mobile: 281-914-2085

## October 3 Executive Committee Judicial Recruitment and Screening Committee Report

Chair: SJ Swanson

First, as the official work of the HCRP Judicial Recruitment and Screening Committee per the bylaws is not “up” yet until early next year - with approval and encouragement of our party Chairman and Political Director, I’ve unofficially expanded our committee scope beyond the official duties of recruiting potential judicial candidates, investigating and reporting on the qualifications of candidates, promulgating an application form, and interviewing candidates to generally supporting our official current judicial candidates.

This support includes assisting in getting the word out and encouraging people to support the Joint Judicial Campaign, supporting the candidates social media efforts, block walking efforts, introductions to various affinity groups, law firms, and business groups, and some general encouragement and providing an ear and shoulder to the candidates as needed.

Most recently, our committee members have been encouraged to do the following (which we would encourage all Precinct Chairs to do as well):

1. Distribute the attached a list of the judicial candidates to friends and neighbors (be sure to set your printer to print the entire image which runs to the edge of the page). These include justices on the two Courts of Appeals (the 1<sup>st</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>) which are based in Houston, as well as all of the trial judges who run county wide regardless of the “district” or county court “number”, and the justices of the peace who are in smaller precincts within the county.

This is a great handout when talking to people about who to vote for (and remind them they can only take paper lists/notes into the voting booth – none on a phone or tablet). These lists are printed and available at the party headquarters office and the various field offices, too. The QR code on the list will take you straight to the party’s website page that lists each candidate with their picture, contact, website, social media, etc. (here is the link directly – scroll down to the Meet the Candidates section [Our Judicial Candidates - Harris County Republican Party \(harriscountygop.com\)](https://www.harriscountygop.com/our-judicial-candidates)).

2. If you are on social media, please go out to each of the candidates social media channels and like or follow their page. Also like (at least some) of their posts. This helps with the social channel’s algorithms that help these pages rise to the top of searches and feeds. Not all of the candidates have Facebook or Twitter or Instagram, but many of them do. You can also “invite” some of your friends to also like/follow the candidates’ pages by clicking on the button with the three dots on the right side of their homepage on Facebook.
3. Yard signs for the individual candidates, and the “Tired of Crime? Vote for Republican Judges” yard signs are available at the Westside offices, and are being distributed during block walks (see next item). Tired of Crime bumper stickers are also available and have been reordered. Please post at your home and on your vehicle.

## October 3 Executive Committee Judicial Recruitment and Screening Committee Report

4. If you are able to block walk, now is the time to do so. There are block walks listed on the party's website in the events section with a RSVP button, or you can contact Nolan Shultz ([nolan.shultz@harriscountygop.com](mailto:nolan.shultz@harriscountygop.com)) with the party directly about various locations or setting up a walk in your area. There is truly nothing like the personal touch of talking to another person face to face about our candidates and getting out to vote.
5. Coming in a close second to fact to face, is the personal phone call, email, postcard, etc. from you to your friends and neighbors about actually getting out and voting all the way down the long ballot of 88 races total (some people may have a few less if they don't have a commissioner or JP up for election).
6. Same as above about personal touch for friends and supporting our candidates. You have no doubt heard that it takes a lot of money to advertise and get our message out to the literally hundreds of thousands of people we are specifically targeting who are independent, new in the area, or who haven't voted all the way down the ballot for the R team recently. You can encourage people to give to the Joint Judicial Campaign "JJC" (again using the QR code or directly on the website. A tagline is \$68 for 68 judicial candidates, but any amount will be appreciated.
7. Sign up (now!) to work the polls, whether it be as an election judge, alternate judge, election clerk, or poll watcher (contact the HCRP or click the website link to be an election worker to sign up). Or volunteer to hand out the judicial candidate list or individual candidate's info at the polls during early voting or on election day. Let me or Vanessa Ingrassia, HCRP Political Director ([Vanessa.Ingrassia@harriscountygop.com](mailto:Vanessa.Ingrassia@harriscountygop.com)) know if you can give some time to this effort (the party and JJC will be coordinating so we get all the target polls covered).

We will have an in-person meeting for our committee after the election, and will have a Zoom meeting in mid-October before early voting. In the meantime, please call or email me if you have any questions or suggestions.



## The Military Partnership Committee

## Report

October 3, 2022

1. Purpose:
  - a. Support and participate in community veteran events and activities.
  - b. Share Republican values with veterans.
  - c. Advocate on behalf of veteran's needs including medical healthcare, mental health, employment, safety, and financial concerns.
  - d. Promote legislation benefiting the welfare of veterans and their families at the County, State, and National levels.
2. Military Partnership Committee will host a table at the Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) for All Military Retirees, providing voter registration and promoting the Wings Over Houston event.  
When: 8 October 2022 Time: 0800–1330 Where: Joint Reserve Training Center 10949 Aerospace Avenue Ellington Field Houston, Texas 77034  
The following services will be offered: ID cards, wills and legal assistance, flu and COVID immunizations. Also participating will be the Fort Sam Houston Retirement Services Office, US Family Health Plan, USAA, TRICARE, Delta Dental, VA Healthcare, Veterans Services, VA Cemetery, VA Regional Benefits Office, and others.
3. Military Partnership Committee, with the support of Harris County Republican Party, will provide a vendor's tent at Wings Over Houston, October 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> (see attached flyer), to promote all Republican Candidates, and Republican values to an estimated 50,000 attendees. All Republicans, Republican Candidates, and their staff are invited to purchase tickets and join us for a great opportunity to Meet and Greet and enjoy a spectacular airshow.
4. Military Partnership Committee has designed T-Shirts with new logos which will soon be available for purchase on the HCRP website.

### Military Partnership Committee Members

Dr. Rick Morlen SD4  
Terry Proctor SD 6  
George Porter SD 7  
Frank Lytle SD 7  
Randy Elms SD 11

Charles Painter SD 15  
Dennis Griffith SD 17  
Bill Comee SD 18  
Eugene Vecera At Large  
Daniel Lindstrom At Large  
Tom Cottar At Large

Dr. Milinda Morris- Chairman  
[Precinctchair0490@gmail.com](mailto:Precinctchair0490@gmail.com)  
Ph.# 940-300-6828



# Wings Over Houston

**October 29 - 30**

**Make sure you stop by the Harris County GOP  
Military Partnership Committee booth to learn how we  
support our active Military, veterans, and candidates.**

**Buy tickets here:**

<https://wingsoverhouston.com/buy-tickets/>



**POL. ADV. PAID FOR BY HARRIS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY**

## October 3 Executive Committee Meeting Training & Development Committee Report

### Committee Members:

Cindy Wingo, Chair

Javier Adame

Lucke Campbell

Jeff Mares

Anne Meng

Debra Pannell

Tom Terris

Marina Trevino

The Committee accepted leadership of this committee on August 1<sup>st</sup> via a Zoom meeting. Cindy Wingo volunteered to chair the committee.

Since that time, we have conducted 3 Precinct Chair Orientations and with a total of 37 Precinct Chairs in attendance. We have attempted to give the new Volunteers tools to jumpstart their jobs of organizing their precincts.

We plan to have at least 2 more Orientations (based on the need) before the election. Please check the Events calendar to determine the dates and time.

We have also been leading the Weekly Fire Zoom meetings. We are always looking for topics that would interest the Precinct Chairs for the Weekly Fire meetings. Feel free to let us know if you have a need.

The next precinct chair orientation will be Wednesday, October 12 from 6:30 PM - 8:00 at the Harris County GOP HQ, located at 8588 Katy Freeway, Houston, TX 77024.

Thank you,

Cindy Wingo, Chair

HCRP Training and Development

*A request to the legislature ...*

## **Please mandate a new Metro election**

1. Whereas Houston Metro has a multi-billion dollar plan to expand its fixed guideway program based on the traditional American commuting pattern, including \$2 billion for 25 miles of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) in the “University Corridor”;
2. Whereas, Inflation, now hovering around 9%, has rendered Metro's construction cost estimates invalid since voters approved its long-range plan in 2019;
3. Whereas, A new Census Bureau report shows that the COVID pandemic has increased the percentage of Americans working from home from barely eight **to almost 18 percent**;  
(See: <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2022/people-working-from-home.html>)
4. Whereas the common use of computers for “remote work,” spurred by the pandemic, has given working from home a growing appeal;
5. Whereas Metro has suffered a decline in ridership since its peak in 2001 when Metro relied solely on flexible buses, despite billions in capital investment spent this century for light rail and BRT, Be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Harris County Republican Party urges the Harris County delegation to the Texas legislature to pass a bill requiring Metro to suspend additional spending on fixed guideways, rail, and BRT, until Metro has prepared new cost and ridership estimates based on inflation and the shrinking market for mass transit service, and received voter approval in a new election.

**Opposition to Harris County Propositions A, B, and C**

Whereas: Propositions A, B, and C on the Harris County general election ballot will allow Harris County to issue a combined \$1.2 billion of new debt, to be borne by taxpayers with a predicted increase of \$0.012 per year for every \$100 of valuation; and,

Whereas: Republican County Commissioners Tom Ramsey and Jack Cagle voted against adding these propositions to the ballot, citing that no list of projects has been issued for these bonds; and,

Whereas: Lina Hidalgo and Democrat commissioners plan to use the campaign for these bonds to drive up turnout in heavily Democrat precincts; now

Therefore,

Be it resolved: That the Harris County Republican Party urges all Republican voters to vote in all races, to the very bottom of their ballots, and to oppose Harris County Propositions A, B, and C.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Bowen, Local Government Committee Chairman



## **Harris County Local Government Platform Adoption Resolution**

- Whereas: A party platform exists to guide Republican activists' messaging and actions; and,
- Whereas: Many local officials run for office as Republicans and then support agendas in office that are not consistent with our principles and beliefs as Republicans; and,
- Whereas: The Texas GOP platform is the authoritative statement of our beliefs as pertains to local government issues, but in many cases may not address issues that are specific to Harris County; and,
- Whereas: A short platform for local government would help Republican voters and activists to hold their local officials accountable.

Therefore,

Be it resolved: That the Harris County Republican Party adopts the following Local Government Platform for the 2022-2024 term of the Executive Committee, with the understanding that this platform can be amended or expanded at any time by future resolutions as needs in Harris County arise.

### **Principles:**

1. Every level of local government should be as responsive as possible to the voters they represent.
2. Every local government should respect property rights by refusing to enact burdensome regulations and taxes.
3. Every local government should oppose all wasteful, unnecessary, or otherwise superfluous public expenditures.
4. Every local official should uphold a commitment to transparency and open governance.
5. Every local official should be committed to delivering high quality constituent service at all times.

### **Harris County Platform:**

1. Republican County Commissioners should vote to oppose, or if there are only two Republicans on the Commissioner's Court, deny quorum, for ad valorem tax increases under SB2.
2. Republican County Commissioners should vote to remove the office of Election Administrator for the county and return elections to the County Clerk and Tax Assessor's offices.
3. Expenditures for flood mitigation should be based only on science and engineering, and not social or equity concerns.
4. Taxpayer money should not be used to defend illegal immigrants from the enforcement of our nation's laws and immigration policies.

### **City of Houston Platform:**

1. We oppose a strong-mayor form of government because it politicizes the provision of basic city services to all citizens of Houston. We support proposals to allow individual or groups of City Council members to add items to a meeting agenda without approval from the Mayor.
2. The Houston police chief, and if one is ever hired, a City Manager, should be hired by the City Council and subject to retention elections at regular intervals.

3. Component units such as TIRZes or corporate entities created by the City should not be able to issue bond debt without approval from the voters.
4. We oppose the expansion of existing management districts within the City without approval of the voters in the areas being added to the management districts.
5. All subsidiary entities (component units and management districts) should have their meeting notices, agendas, and minutes posted in a common location on the City website.
6. The City of Houston should not contract for or participate in any lobbying or advocacy activities conducted by the Texas Municipal League, which represents the interests of governments and not of taxpayers.

#### **Small Cities and Special Purpose Districts:**

1. All small cities and districts should have their meeting notices, agendas, and minutes posted electronically.
2. All elections should take place on the common ballot in the election run by the County. Local governments should not run their own elections.
3. Firms should not be eligible to bid for projects funded by a bond issue if they contributed to a campaign or PAC in the election that approved that bond.
4. Small cities should not contract for or participate in any lobbying or advocacy activities conducted by the Texas Municipal League, which represents the interests of governments and not of taxpayers.

#### **School Districts:**

1. All elections should take place on the common ballot in the election run by the County. **School districts should not run their own elections.**
2. Firms should not be eligible to bid for projects funded by a bond issue if they contributed to a campaign or PAC in the election that approved that bond.
3. School districts should not contract for or participate in any lobbying or advocacy activities conducted by the Texas Association of School Boards, which represents the interests of governments and not of taxpayers.

#### **Local Law Enforcement:**

1. We oppose any efforts to defund the police.
2. Law enforcement entities should cooperate with immigration enforcement authorities.
3. As our population grows, police departments should grow at a commensurate rate to ensure adequate coverage of all areas by law enforcement.
4. Local law enforcement should not conduct property seizure or asset forfeiture without a criminal conviction.
5. Law enforcement entities should not conduct no-knock raids unless they are intervening in a life-threatening emergency.
6. We support the continuance of the Contract Deputy Program partnerships between Constable offices and local neighborhoods and homeowners' associations.

Respectfully submitted as a report of the Local Government Committee.

THE HARRIS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY SUPPORTS  
MAKING HARRIS COUNTY SAFE AGAIN

Whereas, in February 2019, the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee passed a resolution supporting the allocation of sufficient resources to law enforcement, including the Harris County District Attorney's Office, in order to keep Harris County citizens safe and see that justice is done for all Harris County citizens, including crime victims and survivors.

Whereas, in February 2019, the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee expressed its support for bail in accordance with the Texas Constitution, including bail by sufficient surety with the constitutional exceptions as outlined in Article I, Section 11.

Whereas, over the last five years, homicides have dramatically increased in Harris County:

2018	436
2019	491
2020	662
2021	720
2022	491 (through September 15)

Whereas, over the strenuous objection of the Harris County District Attorney, Rodney Ellis, personally, outside of the scope of his authority as a county commissioner settled the *ODonnell, et al. v. Harris County* case, which challenged misdemeanor bail policies.

Whereas, in 2019, Karakatsanis filed the *Russell v. Harris County* case, which challenges the Harris County felony bail system. The Civil Rights Corps sued Sheriff Ed Gonzalez, who is represented by Murray Fogler, the lawyer for Arnold Ventures — the group that has funded the woke criminal justice movement that has devastated New York. Gonzalez continues to advocate for federal court intervention into the county's bail system.

Whereas, in March 2020, Attorney General Ken Paxton and Governor Greg Abbott stopped Lina Hidalgo's wholesale release of all Harris County Jail inmates — General Paxton intervened in *Russell* and Governor Abbott issued executive order GA-13.

Whereas, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals *en banc* decided *Daves v. Dallas County, Texas*, a case brought by Karakatsanis to challenge the bail system in Dallas County. In *Daves*, the Court vacated the federal district court's injunction that controlled the work of the Dallas County bail system. The Court held that, under the Texas Constitution, judges exercise state judicial power and act for the state. The Court directed the federal district court to apply abstention principles to determine whether federal judicial intervention in the Dallas County bail system is prohibited and signals that is likely true.

Whereas, based on the Fifth Circuit's opinion in *Daves*, the *ODonnell* consent decree should be dissolved and should not have been entered – it was wrong then and it is wrong today.

Since the *ODonnell* consent decree was entered on November 21, 2019, twelve law enforcement officers have been murdered in Harris County:

Officer	Agency	End of Watch
Deputy Constable Jennifer Chavis	Harris County Precinct 7	April 2, 2022
Deputy Darren Almendarez	Harris County Sheriff's Office	March 31, 2022
Deputy Constable Neil Adams	San Jacinto County Constable's Office, Precinct 1	February 23, 2022
Sergeant Ramon Gutierrez	Harris County Sheriff's Office	January 24, 2022
Corporal Charles Galloway	Harris County Precinct 5	January 23, 2022
Deputy Constable Kareen Anthony Atkins	Harris County Precinct 4	October 16, 2021
Senior Police Officer Bill Jeffrey	Houston Police Department	September 20, 2021
Sergeant Sean Sebastian Rios	Houston Police Department	November 9, 2020
Sergeant Harold Lloyd Preston	Houston Police Department	October 20, 2020
Investigator Lemuel Delray Bruce	Houston Fire Marshal's Office	October 16, 2020
Sergeant Christopher Charles Lewis Brewster	Houston Police Department	December 7, 2019
Sergeant Kaila Marie Sullivan	Nassau Bay Police Department	December 10, 2019

Whereas, Harris County has 55 capital murder defendants on bond right now.

Whereas, Harris County Deputies have been forced to sue Harris County because of unsafe working conditions. A female sergeant working in the Harris County jail was sexually assaulted by an inmate.

Whereas, as of September 1, 2022, Harris County felony courts have 42,815 active cases pending and the Harris County misdemeanor courts have 33,072 active cases pending.

Whereas, since January 1, 2019, Lina Hidalgo, Rodney Ellis, and Adrian Garcia have created a government bureaucracy by creating government departments (Justice Administration Department, Office of Justice and Safety, Office of Managed Assigned Counsel) that work to undermine law and order while failing to fully fund law enforcement; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Harris County Republican Party supports the allocation of sufficient resources to law enforcement, including the Harris County Sheriff's Office, the Harris County Constables, and the Houston Police Department in order to keep Harris County citizens safe and see that justice is done for all Harris County citizens, including crime victims and survivors.

*Be it further Resolved*, that the Harris County Republican Party supports the allocation of sufficient resources to the Harris County District Attorney's Office, including enough financial support to fund requisite staffing to address the Harris County case backlog that was created by the democrat judges.

*Be it further Resolved*, that the Harris County Republican Party supports the election of Alexandra del Moral Mealer as Harris County Judge, Jack Morman as Harris County Commissioner, Precinct 2, and Jack Cagle as Harris County Commissioner, Precinct 4 to make Harris County safe again and provide law enforcement with the necessary funding.

*Be it further Resolved*, that the Harris County Republican Party supports the election of Republican judges for every criminal and civil court in Harris County.

## **Harris County Republican Party Resolution in Support of Commissioners Ramsey and Cagle's Efforts to Stand Up for Harris County Residents**

Whereas, violent crime in Harris County has dramatically increased since 2018 with violent criminals being released into our neighborhoods on multiple and low bonds;

Whereas, the budget for Harris County public safety in recent years has not adequately funded additional constables to patrol Harris County neighborhoods;

Whereas, increased funding for public safety, under Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo's leadership, has instead gone for trees, lighting, and early childhood education rather than increasing "boots on the ground" for neighborhood policing to protect our county;

Whereas, Harris County residents are struggling to make ends meet due to an inflation rate that is at a 40-year high and 26% of Houstonians are struggling to pay their electric bills;

Whereas, Harris County taxpayers have experienced a dramatic increase in their property tax values this year leading to an increase in the property taxes they will pay annually at a time they can least afford it;

Whereas, Harris County tax revenues will increase by over \$245 million due to the increase in residential and commercial property tax values unless the tax rate is reduced significantly;

Whereas, Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo and Commissioners Adrian Garcia and Rodney Ellis have refused to negotiate in good faith with Commissioners Ramsey and Cagle to reduce the property tax burden placed on the taxpayers and add additional constables to the workforce to make our county safer;

Whereas, if Harris County residents and taxpayers are having to make difficult decisions on how to make do with less amidst rising costs, Harris County government should do the same; therefore,

Be it resolved, that the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee supports and commends the recent actions of Commissioners Tom Ramsey and Jack Cagle when they recently broke the quorum of Harris County Commissioners

Court in an effort to stop the wasteful spending of Lina Hidalgo, Rodney Ellis and Adrian Garcia on items that do not prioritize the funding of public safety including adding constables to police neighborhoods and reduce the overall tax burden of the taxpayers.