



INFORMATIONAL VOTER GUIDE

Republican Primary March 3, 2026

Cooke County Conservatives • CookeConservatives.com

U.S. SENATOR ~ 6-Year Term

KEN PAXTON – CCC endorsed

U.S. HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 26 ~ 2-Year Term

BRANDON GILL – CCC endorsed

Running for his second term, Gill is our very popular conservative Representative. He might be the youngest in Congress, but proved to be the toughest. Son-in-law of famous conservative Dinesh D'Souza. <https://gill.house.gov/about>
<https://brandongillforcongress.com/about>

Endorsed by President Trump

GOVERNOR ~ 4-Year Term

LT. COL. "DOC" PETE CHAMBERS – CCC endorsed

Special Forces, Green Beret, Combat Surgeon, Combat Purple Heart, Physician, Task Force Surgeon for Operation Lone Star, U.S. Senate Whistleblower, Counter Human Trafficking on Texas Border, Search & Rescue/Recovery Ministry.

Endorsed by *General Michael Flynn & Lt. Col. Allen West.*

https://rumble.com/v757smk-exclusive-interview-republican-candidate-for-texas-governor-doc-pete-chambe.html?e9s=src_v1_s%2Csrc_v1_s_o&sci=dcbd3138-ae97-4ca6-9f1d-116cf9c34651 Alex Jones Show Info Wars interview of Doc Chambers – what Doc can and will do and what Abbott has refused to do.

Things you need to know about the Governor

- **Commander in Chief** of Texas

- **Chief Executive** of Texas
- Does *not* run with Lt. Gov ~ possible to have a partisan split
- Citizen, minimum 30 years old, 5-year residency
- Signs or vetoes legislation ~ VETO is a powerful tool
- *Appoints Secretary of State* who is over all elections
- *Appoints Regents* to Boards of the University Systems and **Commissioner of Education** (many more appointments, far too many which needs to change)
- Power to call a **special session** of the Legislature, which cannot call itself into session, as we found out with COVID
- Can exercise **Emergency Powers** (subject to abuse as COVID brought to light, *unconstitutionally granted* by Legislature in violation of Art. II, Sec. 1 of Texas Constitution)
- Governor legally and morally empowered by **Article I, Section 10, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution** where the states reserved their sovereign authority to act in the **protection of their citizens when threatened by “invasion or imminent harm.”**

LT. GOVERNOR ~ 4-Year Term

PERLA HOPKINS

We would like to see a much stronger candidate, but we definitely want to retire Dan Patrick. Hopefully this is a year for new leadership in Texas. Perla is supported by many grassroots activists. <https://perla4tx.org/>

Things you need to know about the Lt. Governor

- **President of the Texas Senate** – controls legislation
- Citizen, minimum 30 years old, 5-year residency
- Appoints Senate committees including chair and member assignments
- Chairman of the **Budget Board**
- Considered the **most powerful position in Texas.**

ATTORNEY GENERAL ~ 4-Year Term

AARON REITZ – CCC endorsed

Things you need to know about the Attorney General

- **Chief Legal Officer** for the State of Texas, *not* for the Governor
- Citizen, minimum 18 years old, 1-year residency
- Defends Texas laws and Texas Constitution

U.S. Marine served in Afghanistan. Deputy Attorney General for Legal Strategy under Ken Paxton. Chief of Staff to Senator Ted Cruz. Lead the DOJ's Office of Legal Policy under Attorney General Pam Bondi. Stood with Paxton against Texans for Lawsuit Reform and others who pushed the impeachment. Looks to be the most prepared and willing to continue Paxton's aggressive defense of Texas.

Endorsed by Ken Paxton.

Interview by Texas Scorecard <https://texasscorecard.com/podcasts/real-texans-aaron-reitz/> Texas Tribune article on Reitz and Chip Roy <https://www.texastribune.org/2025/08/25/paxton-reitz-cruz-roy-texas-attorney-general-endorsements/>

COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS ~ 4-Year Term

DON HUFFINES – CCC endorsed

- **Chief Tax Collector** for 60 different types of taxes
- Manages state finances, funds, contracts, purchasing for over 200 agencies
- Will direct & manage the new \$1 billion state voucher system

Successful real estate developer, took no taxpayer money as a former State Senator and will take no salary as Comptroller. Ran for Governor in 2022. Promises to DOGE Texas.

<https://donhuffines.com/>

Endorsed by Ted Cruz, Charlie Kirk, Riley Gaines, Ron Paul, & more.

LAND COMMISSIONER ~ 4-Year Term

DAWN BUCKINGHAM – unopposed

Texas General Land Office (GLO) is **oldest state agency** established in Texas Constitution in 1836, charged with the **stewardship of 13 million acres of state lands plus natural resources**. Serves veterans, schools, state history (including monuments like the Alamo), and environment. Deposits funds into the **Permanent School Fund**. Responsible for numerous commissions.

AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER ~ Elected ~ 4-Year Term

NATE SHEETS – CCC endorsed

From a backyard beehive, created America's #1 branded honey company Nature Nate's. First to test honey for toxins. Cow/calf operation, cutting horses, regenerative ranching. Texas-

first trade, cleaner & healthier food, secure borders, rural job creation, combat agro-terrorism, foreign land ownership, champion 2nd amendment. <https://natesheets.com/>

Long list of endorsements

Abbott did a surprise endorsement (which doesn't thrill anyone), but Nate is independent and not part of the Abbott camp.

RAILROAD COMMISSIONER ~ 6-Year Term

JAMES MATLOCK – CCC endorsed

No longer oversees railroads. Agency exercises primary regulatory jurisdiction over the **oil and natural gas industry**, pipeline transporters, natural gas and hazardous liquid pipeline industry, **natural gas utilities**, the LP-gas industry, and coal and uranium surface mining operations, land reclamation, and clean water acts. **Three-member commission**, staggered elections, chairman chosen by those commissioners.

Former Marine James Matlock is the one candidate who has spent 18 years on the ground in oil & gas, a portion of those years as a landman. James has researched solutions to the demand of water & energy by AI Centers, solutions that will protect our aquifers and private wells. He has solutions for the 8,000 orphan wells in Texas. He's ready to fight China, Blackrock, waste, and mismanagement. He's working on a name change to describe what the agency actually does. <https://matlockfortexas.com/>

SUPREME COURT (Civil)

All four Supreme Court offices are unopposed.

JUDGE, COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS, PLACE 3 ~ 6-Year Term

THOMAS SMITH – CCC endorsed

Ten years working with AG Paxton. Endorsed by *Grassroots America We the People*, helped ban sanctuary cities, protected religious liberty. <https://smithfortexas.org/>

JUDGE, COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS, PLACE 9 ~ 6-Year Term

JOHN MESSINGER – CCC endorsed

Highly experienced, strong on law enforcement. *Endorsed by Grassroots America We the People.* <https://messingerforjustice.com/>

STATE HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 68 ~ 2-Year Term

DAVID SPILLER – *unopposed*

COOKE COUNTY JUDGE ~ 4-Year Term

FRED HAIMAN – *CCC endorsed*

- Not required to be a lawyer or a judge.
- Presides over the **County Commissioner's Court**.
- Minimum 18 yrs. of age, lived in Texas for one year, in Cooke County for 6 months.

Fred Haiman is a highly experienced attorney with a passion for true public service, transparency, integrity. We're excited to see a man of his character, abilities, and dedication run for County Judge.

(Kerri Kingsbery's name is on the ballot, but Kerri decided it was best she not run and her name could not be removed. KERRI KINGSBERY is NOT a candidate.)

A NUMBER OF COUNTY OFFICES ARE UNOPPOSED

All county offices are 4-year terms. Every **two years**, we **vote on half the county offices** to avoid the potential disruption of a complete county turnover.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER, Precinct 4

CCC offers no opinion on this race.

*Political Advertising Paid for by
Cooke County Conservatives PAC*