

OVERVIEW (For Pages: 2-11)
November 2020 Elections - Union County Democratic Candidates
Supported by Union County Senior Democrats (UCSD)

There are many candidates that will appear on North Carolina ballots for the November 2020 elections for Union County and other statewide voters to consider. However, the candidates listed herein are limited to only those individuals that are running for *offices that primarily serve all or parts of Union County*. Note that the information in the “ABOUT THE CANDIDATE” column was extracted from the candidates’ websites, Facebook pages and/or other news reporting about the candidates’ political career.

The purpose of this UCSDs Democratic Candidates resource document is to:

- Act as a proxy for those candidates we will not be able to schedule to speak at our monthly general meetings between now and the November 2020 elections
- Educate UCSD members on the Democratic candidates running for political offices that cover all or parts of Union County. Key information provided include:
 - Names of opponents
 - An overview of the responsibilities/description of the offices for which the candidates are running
 - The areas of Union County the candidates will represent
 - Candidates’ campaign profile

Additional benefits:

- Provides convenient “point and click” links to candidates’ email and website information, where available.
 - Serves as a consolidated and comprehensive tool that not only offers to educate but provides information that enables the user to educate others who might be undecided about whom to vote for.
 - Features information on two important NC federal races that are crucial to flip to **BLUE**:
 - US Senate
 - US House of Representatives - District 9
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**UNION COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES - FALL ELECTION 2020
SUPPORTED BY UNION COUNTY SENIOR DEMOCRATS (UCSD)**

CANDIDATE	OPPONENT	AREA COVERED BY OFFICE	ABOUT THE OFFICE	ABOUT THE CANDIDATE
CLAUDIA SANDOVAL Union County School Board at Large Phone: 704-993-6854 www.claudia4ucps.com csandoval.nc@gmail.com	Todd Price (R) Incumbent Sarah May (R)	Union County At Large	The primary functions of the board are to establish policies for the operation of the schools and to generally oversee that the superintendent and administrative staff who manage the system's day-to-day operations carry out these policies.	As a proud mom of three Union County Public School (UCPS) students, I have a vested interest in UCPS. As a mom, I'm on the front lines helping with homework, student stress, college readiness, extracurricular activities, volunteering, and teacher support. I want to ensure that our county's schools provide rigorous and innovative curricula and instruction that is student-focused and will prepare our students for success in a 21st century workplace.
CANDICE STURDIVANT Union County School Board District 1 Phone: 704-233-2303 candice.sturdivant@ucps.k12.nc.us	No opponents	Union County School Board District 1		Candice is currently a member of the Union County Public Schools school board, representing District 1 in North Carolina. Sturdivant assumed office in 2016. Sturdivant's current term ends in 2020.
MARTY MOFFAT Union County Board of Commissioners 412-956-0056 https://www.facebook.com/campaignto.electmarty	David Williams (R) Richard B. Helms, Sr. (R)	Union County	The Board of County Commissioners is the legislative and governing body of Union County	Marty Moffat is a Duke graduate and longtime Monroe resident running to use his business background to add a fresh perspective to the County Commission. We need to get a better grasp on managing Union County's growth, and Marty's proven track record of managing a business will be of great benefit to the commission.

CANDIDATE	OPPONENT	AREA COVERED BY OFFICE	ABOUT THE OFFICE	ABOUT THE CANDIDATE
<p>TIFFANY WILSON NC District Court Judge District 20D Seat 2 (704) 565-9535 www.votetiffanywilson.com info@votetiffanywilson.com</p>	<p>Matt Smith (R)</p>	<p>NC District Court 20D is one of 44 district courts in North Carolina. It serves part of Union County. North Carolina House Bill 717 law restructured the superior court, district court, and prosecutorial districts of the state in 2018. (Ballotpedia)</p>	<p>District court judges can conduct jury trials in criminal or civil proceedings. In some instances, district court judges can decide cases without a jury -- a procedure known as a "bench trial". The role of federal judges at the trial court level is to decide questions of law.</p>	<p>Since returning to Union County in 2003, Wilson placed a high importance on working with families, protecting women and children from violence, and supporting youth. Wilson began practicing in Juvenile Court with the intention of inspiring and guiding youth. She took her passion for change and effectively advocated for her young clients. With the intent on doing what is best for families and the community, she has served as an attorney in Family Treatment Court, and she has both prosecuted and defended cases in Child Support Court. She has practiced for over 16 years in the Department of Social Services Court.</p> <p>Wilson, an experienced defense attorney, has represented clients in both District and Superior Court, including representation for DWI treatment court. Most recently, she has worked as the conflict Guardian ad Litem attorney, assuring that the voice and best interest of children were considered. Her advocacy for uplifting others is not confined to the courtroom; she tirelessly volunteers in the community.</p>

CANDIDATE	OPPONENT	AREA COVERED BY OFFICE	ABOUT THE OFFICE	ABOUT THE CANDIDATE
<p>TRIPP HELMS NC District Court Judge District 20B Seat 1 704-698-3220</p>	<p>Stephen V. Higdon (R)</p>	<p>North Carolina District Court 20B is one of 44 district courts in North Carolina. It serves part of Union County.</p> <p>North Carolina House Bill 717 law restructured the superior court, district court, and prosecutorial districts of the state in 2018 (Ballotpedia)</p>	<p>District court judges can conduct jury trials in criminal or civil proceedings. In some instances, district court judges can decide cases without a jury -- a procedure known as a "bench trial". The role of federal judges at the trial court level is to decide questions of law.</p>	<p>William F. "Tripp" Helms, of Monroe, NC, was appointed by Governor Cooper in 2019 to District Court Judge of District 20B, filling the vacant seat previously held by the Honorable Hunt Gwyn.</p> <p>Helms has served his community with positions on the Union County Board of Education, Monroe Rotary Club and the State Board of Election Compliance Commission on Accountability. Helms received his Juris Doctor from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law, his Masters of Theological Studies from the Divinity School at Duke University and his Bachelor of Arts degree from Davidson College.</p>
<p>HUNT GWYN NC Superior Court Judge District 20B Seat 1 704-953-8402 http://www.huntgwynforjudge.com NHunt.Gwyn@nccourts.org</p>	<p>Jonathan Perry (R)</p>	<p>NC Superior Court is one of 70 superior courts in North Carolina. It is part of the 3rd division of the superior courts. It serves Union County. North Carolina</p>	<p>Like the superior court division, district courts hold trials and empanel juries to determine the facts of specific cases. District courts handle serious, but lower level crimes, and civil cases between \$10,000 - \$25,000.</p>	<p>Hunt is now a Superior Court Judge. He lives in Unionville with his wife of 24 years, Jana, and their two grandchildren Bay leigh and Dillon.</p> <p>As the current Resident Superior Court Judge for Union County, Judge Gwyn has successfully presided over a variety of jury trials to verdict, including Robbery, Child Abduction, Contract Disputes, Assault, Burglary,</p>

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HUNT GWYN...(Cont.) 		House Bill 717 law restructured the superior court, district court, and prosecutorial districts of the state in 2018. (Ballotpedia)		Rape, Kidnapping, and Libel & Slander. Judge Gwyn served as a Union County District Court Judge for nineteen years before becoming a Superior Court Judge. He was named Chief District Court Judge in 2011.
ERICKA MCKNIGHT House District #68 704-858-4907 www.winwithericka2020.com Ericka68@WinWithEricka2020.com	Davis Willis (R) No incumbents	Stallings, Marvin, Weddington, Waxhaw, Mineral Springs, Wesley Chapel, Indian Trail, Monroe	Also referred to as a congressman or congresswoman, each representative is elected to a two-year term serving the people of a specific congressional district. Among duties, representatives introduce bills and resolutions, offer amendments and serve on committees.	Ericka L. McKnight is a proud business owner and resident in Waxhaw, NC. Ericka has devoted her time and advocacy works in adult education, real estate initiatives and philanthropy. Her proudest role is motherhood to her 3 beautiful children. Candidate McKnight a bestselling author and real estate agent, was born and raised in Buffalo, New York, relocated to Charlotte then settled in Waxhaw, North Carolina.

CANDIDATE	OPPONENT	AREA COVERED BY OFFICE	ABOUT THE OFFICE	ABOUT THE CANDIDATE
<p>PAM DeMARIA House District #69 (704) 621-7336 www.pamdemia4nchouse.com INFO@PAMDEMARIA4NCHOUSE.COM</p>	<p>Dean Arp (R) Incumbent</p>	<p>Stallings, Weddington, Mint Hill, Indian Trail, Monroe, Unionville</p>	<p>Also referred to as a congressman or congresswoman, each representative is elected to a two-year term serving the people of a specific congressional district. Among duties, representatives introduce bills and resolutions, offer amendments and serve on committees.</p>	<p>Pam De Maria is a progressive candidate for NC House #69. She has been an active member of the community and champion for the people of Union County for 21 years. She is dedicated to fighting for expanded health care for all of her constituents. She will advocate for a living wage, our environment, desperately needed infrastructure and public transportation, educational funding, and common-sense gun safety legislation. Pam believes a change is necessary in order to put people first! Her priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding Health Care/Medicaid Expansion to everyone in the state, no one should be left out • Enacting Common-sense gun safety legislation • Building opportunities for living-wage jobs for all Union County residents • Finding innovative choices and sustainable solutions to address affordable housing and homelessness in Union County • Embracing solutions to combat Climate Change and grow the economy with Clean Energy Jobs Focusing on the recent hardships faced by our farmers

CANDIDATE	OPPONENT	AREA COVERED BY OFFICE	ABOUT THE OFFICE	ABOUT THE CANDIDATE
<p>JOSE SANTIAGO State Senate District 35 980-253-1757 www.santiagofornc.com jsantiago@ucdemsn.org</p>	<p>Todd Johnson (R) Incumbent</p>	<p>Waxhaw, Jarrs, Marvin, Weddington, Mineral Springs, Monroe, Unionville, Wingate, Marshville, Indian Trail, Stallings</p>	<p>A State Senator is a member of the legislative branch, just like a U.S. Senator. S/he is elected by voters to represent them in the State Senate where primary duties are creating, debating, and voting on legislation that either makes new laws or modifies existing ones.</p>	<p>José Santiago is the Democratic candidate for NC Senate District 35 (Union County). His priorities include increasing education funding, enacting common sense gun laws, expanding Medicaid, creating high paying green jobs, and protecting our environment.</p> <p>José Santiago was born and raised in Puerto Rico. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Central Florida and his MBA from the University of Central Florida and is a former business executive and management consultant with 35 years of experience bringing people together to solve complex problems.</p>

CANDIDATE	OPPONENT	AREA COVERED BY OFFICE	ABOUT THE OFFICE	ABOUT THE CANDIDATE
<p>MARCUS SINGLETON State Senate District 36 www.marcussingleton.com singletonforncsenate36@gmail.com</p>	<p>Paul Newton (R) Incumbent</p>	<p>Indian Trail, Stallings, Mint Hill, Fairview, Midland, Locust, Concord, Mt. Pleasant, Kannapolis</p>	<p>A State Senator is a member of the legislative branch, just like a U.S. Senator. S/he is elected by voters to represent them in the State Senate where primary duties are creating, debating, and voting on legislation that either makes new laws or modifies existing ones.</p>	<p>A United Methodist Church minister and Army Veteran, Marcus Singleton and his wife, Rosslyn, have made Concord home - where they are raising two sons.</p> <p>Marcus has seen first-hand the challenges families face as costs for basic essentials such as health care, childcare, and housing continue to increase while salaries and hourly wages are not keeping up.</p> <p>“I am running because our communities need representation in Raleigh that will fight for them. My experience leading rural, suburban and urban churches has given me insight to the daily survival struggles of working-class and middle-class people.</p> <p>As a pastor, I have demonstrated my commitment to public service in everything I do. Inspired by my faith, I plan to provide leadership and continue fighting for the betterment of Cabarrus and Union County families in the State Legislature.”</p>

CANDIDATE	OPPONENT	AREA COVERED BY OFFICE	ABOUT THE OFFICE	ABOUT THE CANDIDATE
<p>GLORIA OVERCASH House District 55 www.gloriaovercash.com govercash@windstream.net</p>	<p>Mark Brody (R) Incumbent</p>	<p>Waxhaw, Jaars, Monroe, Wingate, Unionville, Indian Trail, Fairview, Marshville, Peachland, Polkton, Ansonville, McFarlan, Morven, Wadesboro, Likesville</p>	<p>Also referred to as a congressman or congresswoman, each representative is elected to a two-year term serving the people of a specific congressional district. Among duties, representatives introduce bills and resolutions, offer amendments and serve on committees.</p>	<p>Gloria Overcash has spent decades helping people while working in law and government, and she is ready to hit the ground to work for you. Her priorities include bringing jobs, rebuilding our crumbling infrastructure while controlling growth around the Monroe bypass, retaining veteran educators, supporting family farms, and restoring non-partisan judicial elections.</p> <p>Gloria is a long- time resident of Anson and Union counties. She’s your hometown girl who was educated in the public schools of Anson County and is a graduate of Wingate College. Gloria and her husband Dan have lived in Peachland for over 30 years. She has deep roots in both counties and has long been dedicated to serving them.</p>



KEY NORTH CAROLINA US SENATE RACE (FEDERAL)

CANDIDATE	OPPONENT	AREA COVERED BY OFFICE	ABOUT THE CANDIDATE
<p>CAL CUNNINGHAM NC US Senate https://www.calfornc.com/</p> <p>PO Box 309 Raleigh, NC 27602 Info@calfornc.com</p>	<p>Thom Tillis (R) Incumbent</p> <p>Shannon Bray (L)</p> <p>Kevin E. Hayes (Constitution Party)</p> <p>Jeremy Thomas (Independence Party)</p>	<p>North Carolina</p>	<p><i>“North Carolinians are loyal, hardworking, decent and proudly independent people, and we expect the same from our U.S. Senator.” — Cal Cunningham</i></p> <p>Growing up in the small town of Lexington, Cal learned what it meant to serve from the church youth group leaders who took him on service projects in Appalachia. Working on the family brickyard, Cal learned the value of hard work and the dignity that comes with a job.</p> <p>At the foot of his father, a small-town lawyer who took on his neighbors’ causes as his own, Cal learned that, oftentimes, justice requires a fight. And at Fort Bragg and abroad, the paratroopers, Reservists and special operators Cal served with in the Army taught Cal a deeper form of patriotism and honor.</p> <p>These values are North Carolina values, and they are what will guide Cal as North Carolina’s next U.S. Senator, where he’s committed to putting the seat back to work for the people of the state he loves and has called home his entire life.</p> <p>Cal was born to his parents, Julee and Calvin, in Winston-Salem, where Cal’s dad was still in school. Cal was raised in Lexington, North Carolina, and has called North Carolina home his entire life. In his hometown, he grew up learning the value of public service and hard work.</p> <p>Cal met his wife, Elizabeth, in the fall of 1997. After earning his undergraduate and law degrees at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Cal and Elizabeth returned to Lexington to raise a family</p>



KEY NORTH CAROLINA US HOUSE RACE (FEDERAL)

CANDIDATE	OPPONENT	AREA COVERED BY OFFICE	ABOUT THE CANDIDATE
<p>CYNTHIA WALLACE NC US House of Representatives District 9 (704) 307-6318 http://cynthiawallace.com info@cynthiawallaceforcongress.com</p>	<p>Dan Bishop (R)</p>	<p>North Carolina District 9</p>	<p>Cynthia L. Wallace is the Democratic nominee for the NC's 9th Congressional District. She won the March 3, 2020 Democratic primary with 56% of the vote. Cynthia says that, <i>"I am running for Congress to provide more responsive representation on issues important to residents in our part of North Carolina."</i> In Congress, she will fight for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· Good paying jobs· Affordable healthcare and lower prescription drug prices· Reducing the pay gap· Improved critical infrastructure <p>The granddaughter of farmers, she grew up in rural Southern GA raised by a father who was an activist and elected official and a mother who her earned her living in textile factories. She earned a bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Spelman College and a Master of Science in Statistics from the University of North Florida, which has led her to a 25-year career in financial services with expertise in regulatory compliance and risk management. Active in numerous business and civic organizations over her 14 years in Charlotte, she has served as chair of the 9th Congressional District for the NC Democratic Party since January 2017.</p>

VOTE IN THE NOVEMBER 2020 ELECTIONS



<https://www.ncsbe.gov/Voters/Registering-to-Vote>

- ✓ Register to Vote
- ✓ Check your voter registration status...early and often
- ✓ Be an advocate by encouraging *non-registered voters to register to vote and registered voters to check their voter registration status...early and often*