CUYAHOGA COUNTY

NOVEMBER 3 ELECTION GUIDE

MESSAGE FROM CLEVELAND VOTES.

"YOUR PRESENCE AT THE POLLS MAKES OUR CITY STRONGER."

At Cleveland VOTES, we believe that our democracy works best when every voice is heard and every community is fully involved. This upcoming election is far more than a simple date on the calendar—it is an opportunity to impact the future of our neighborhoods, our region, and the services and decisions that affect our daily lives.

Presidential elections often receive the most attention in our country. However, we believe that EVERY single election matters. And we believe that EVERY single vote matters.

We created this guide to provide clear, reliable, and unbiased information so that every eligible Clevelander can participate in democracy with total confidence. Whether this is your very first time voting or you have been casting ballots for decades, we want you to know that your presence at the polls makes our city stronger.

If we are to face the challenges and opportunities ahead of us, we must stay informed and active in our communities. A healthy democracy requires us to listen to one another and take part thoughtfully. Our shared future is built through the power of voting and cooperation.

LET'S VOTE

As you get ready to vote, we invite you to explore the candidates and issues, design your own voting plan, and encourage those around you to do the same. Together, we can keep working toward a more equal Cuyahoga County that represents all of us.

Let's vote.

CLEVELAND VOTES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Voting Dates, Deadlines and Resources 2

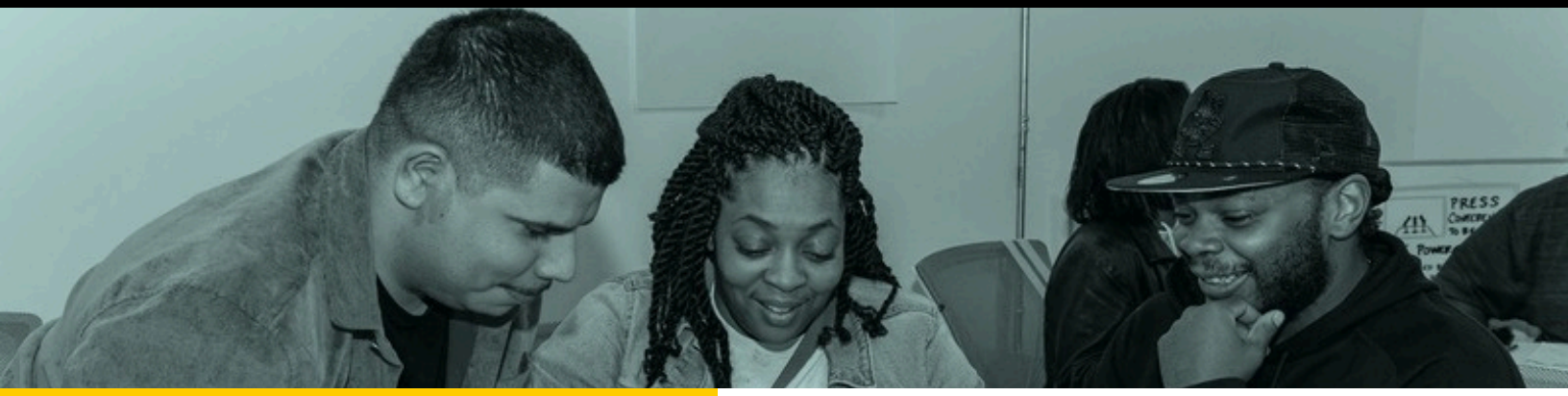
Local Races 3

Ohio Voting Requirements 5

State Issues and Races 6

Federal Races 10

VOTING DATES, DEADLINES + RESOURCES



Key Dates

Registration Deadline
Oct. 5
Early In-Person + Absentee Voting Opens
Oct. 6
Vote-by-Mail/Absentee Applications Due
Oct. 27
Last Day of Early In-Person Voting
Nov. 1
Absentee Ballots Postmark Deadline
Nov. 3

Election Day
Nov. 3

EARLY VOTING HOURS
November General Election

Oct. 13 - 23 (Weekdays)	8am - 5pm
Oct. 24	8am - 4pm
Oct. 26	7:30am - 7:30pm
Oct. 27	7:30am - 8:30pm
Oct. 28 - 30	7:30am - 7:30pm
Oct. 31	8 - 4pm
Nov. 1	1 - 5pm
Nov. 3 (Election Day)	6:30am - 7:30pm

Check Your Voter Registration

Find Your Polling Location

Vote by Mail

Get a Sample Ballot

Accessible (ADA) Voting Services

Board of Elections

1803 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114

LOCAL RACES + ISSUES

Cuyahoga County Health and Human Services Levy

The levy would keep the County's current 4.7-mill property tax and add 2.5 more mills. If voters approve it, the extra money will help the County's Department of Health and Human Services pay for important programs affected by federal budget cuts and rising prices. The levy would raise about $110.76 million to support many services, including programs for older adults and people with disabilities. It would cost homeowners about $87.50 per $100,000 of property value each year.

Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities Funding Levy

The levy would provide 2.25 mills for the Board of Developmental Disabilities, which provides services to county residents with disabilities. Some of these services include housing support, clinical and mental health care, education of children and adults, and job training. The levy would last for 10 years and would raise about $94.5 mills per year. It would cost homeowners about $79 per $100,000 of property value each year.

Cuyahoga County Executive

Chris Ronayne**

Party: Democrat **Website:** chrisronayne.com

Summary: Ronayne is the current Cuyahoga County Executive. He assumed office on January 1, 2023 and is running for re-election. His administration has focused on homelessness, public transportation, and county service delivery. As part of these efforts, he established a Department of Housing and Community Development and appointed a Senior Advisor for Transportation. His administration has also supported economic development initiatives along Lake Erie.

Cuyahoga County Council

District	Candidate	Party	Website
1	Patrick Kelly**	Democrat	facebook.com/PatrickKellyforCouncil
1	James M. Trutko	Republican	trutkoforcuyahogacouncil.com
3	Martin J. Sweeney**	Democrat	sweeneyforcouncil.com
5	Courtney Scheff	Democrat	courtneyscheff.com
5	Michael J. Gallagher**	Republican	*No website provided*
7	Yvonne M. Conwell**	Democrat	*No website provided*
9	Meredith M. Turner**	Democrat	facebook.com/CuyTurner4D9
11	Christine McIntosh	Democrat	christine-mcintosh.com
11	William McLaughlin	Republican	*No website provided*

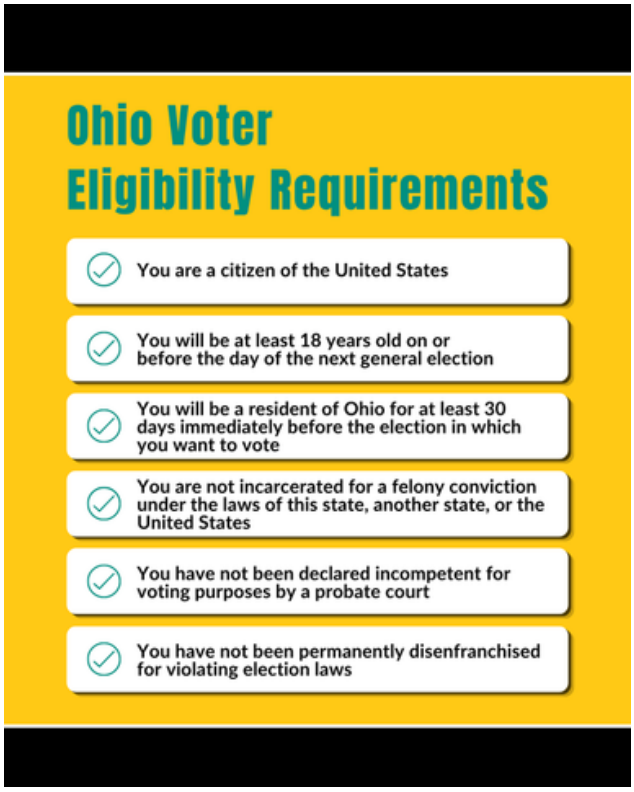
*This race is nonpartisan **Incumbent candidate

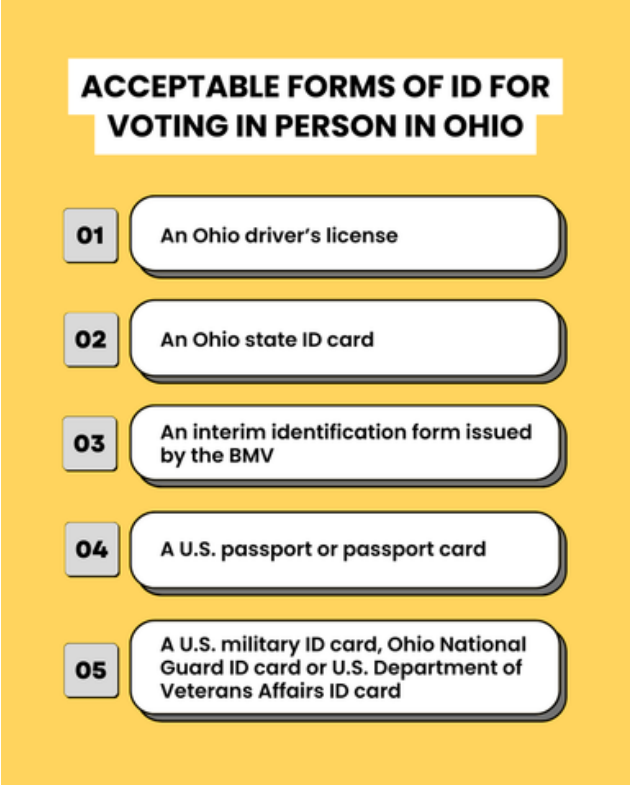
Court of Common Pleas*

Cuy. County Court of Common Pleas Domestic Relations Division Term starts 01/09/2027	
Pamela Hawkins	pamelahawkinsforjudge.com
Sunny Simon	votesunnysimon.com
Cuy. County Court of Common Pleas General Division Term starts 01/01/2027	
Kira Krivosh**	krivoshforjudge.com
Jacob Westfall	westfallforjudge.com
Cuy. County Court of Common Pleas Domestic Relations Division Term starts 01/08/2027	
Colleen Ann Reali**	colleenannrealiforjudge.com
Cuy. County Court of Common Pleas General Division Term starts 01/02/2027	
Morgan Caruso	carusoforjudge.com
Daryl Dennie	daryldennie4judge.us
Cuy. County Court of Common Pleas General Division Term starts 01/03/2027	
William Vodrey**	votevodrey.com
Timothy Clary	judgetimothyclary.com
Cuy. County Court of Common Pleas General Division Term starts 01/04/2027	
Jennifer O'Donnell**	jenniferodonnellforjudge.com
Cuy. County Court of Common Pleas General Division Term starts 01/05/2027	
Brendan J. Sheehan**	brendansheehan.com
Cuy. County Court of Common Pleas General Division Term starts 01/06/2027	
Andrew J. Santoli**	andrewsantoli.com
Cuy. County Court of Common Pleas General Division Term starts 01/07/2027	
Diane Russell	russellforjudge.org
Cuy. County Court of Common Pleas General Division Term starts 01/10/2027	
Shannon M. Gallagher**	*No website provided*

Cuy. County Court of Common Pleas General Division	Term starts 02/09/2027
Antonio Nicholson	anicholsonforjudge.com
Fallon Radigan	radigan4judge.com
Cuy. County Court of Common Pleas Probate Division	**Term starts 01/01/2027**
Nicholas Celebrezze	votecelebrezze.com
Cuy. County Court of Common Pleas Probate Division	**Term starts 02/09/2027**
Laura J. Gallagher**	*No website provided*

Please note that these are county races. You might be voting on more issues and races in your muncipality. To see everything what will be on your ballot, go to ballotpedia.org.





Local Races Glossary

- **County Executive -** *Elected head of government in a county. They run county agencies, manage the budget and services, sign laws passed by the county legislature, and appoint some county officials.*
- **County Council -** *An elected group that runs a county with the help of the county executive. Cuyahoga County Council is made up of 11 elected representatives from across the County. Elected every four years.*
- **Court of Common Pleas -** *A trial court that hears many kinds of cases. These courts are usually organized by county. They handle major civil cases, such as disputes over large amounts of money or property, serious criminal cases called felonies, and appeals of decisions made by government agencies.*
- **Incumbent -** *Someone who is currently holding a specified office.*
- **Nonpartisan -** *Not connected to any political party.*
- **Levy -** *A request for funds to be raised by taxing the value of property. Often put towards public services like schools, parks, and public works projects.*

STATE RACES + ISSUES

Ohio Require Voter Identification Amendment

- A **YES** vote supports amending the Ohio Constitution to require a photo ID to vote.
- A **NO** vote opposes amending the Ohio Constitution to require a photo ID to vote.

Governor/Lieutenant Governor

Amy Acton/David Pepper

Party: Democrat **Website:** actonforgovernor.com

Summary: Acton's campaign focuses on improving health care, education, and the economy for Ohioans. She supports expanding access to health care and strengthening the state's public health system. Her platform includes increasing funding for schools and supporting teachers. In addition, she wants state government to be more transparent, involve communities in decision-making, and promote long-term economic growth across Ohio.

Vivek Ramaswamy/Rob McColley

Party: Republican **Website:** vivekforohio.com

Summary: Ramaswamy's campaign focuses on tax cuts, reducing government regulation, and making Ohio more business-friendly. He supports school choice, charter schools, and greater parental involvement in education. His platform also includes expanding domestic energy production, merit-based immigration, stricter border enforcement, and policies aimed at increasing economic competitiveness.

No photo provided.

Don Kissick/James Mills

Party: Libertarian **Website:** donkissick.com

Summary: Kissick's campaign focuses on making government more open, reducing corruption, and helping small businesses. He supports replacing property taxes with local sales taxes, limiting tax breaks for data centers, protecting same-sex marriage, reducing regulations on the marijuana industry, reducing federal immigration enforcement, and creating a path to legal status for undocumented immigrants.

No photo provided.

Attorney General

Candidate	Party	Website
John Kulewicz	Democrat	john4ohioag.com
Keith Faber	Republican	keithfaber.org

State Auditor

Candidate	Party	Website
Annette Blackwell	Democrat	blackwellforohio.com
Frank LaRose	Republican	franklarose.com

Secretary of State

Candidate	Party	Website
Allison Russo	Democrat	allisonrusso.com
Robert Sprague	Republican	spragueforohio.com
Tom Pruss	Libertarian	votepruss.com

State Treasurer

Candidate	Party	Website
Seth Walsh	Democrat	sethwalshforohio.com
Jay Edwards	Republican	edwardsforohio.com

Supreme Court

Term starts 01/02/2027

Candidate	Party	Website
Jennifer L. Brunner**	Democrat	justicebrunner.com
Colleen O'Donnell	Republican	odonnellforohio.com

Term starts 01/01/2027

Candidate	Party	Website
Dan Hawkins**	Republican	hawkinsforohio.com
Marilyn Zayas	Democrat	judgemarilynzayas.com

Ohio 8th District Court of Appeals

Term starts 02/10/2027

Candidate	Party	Website
Michael John Ryan**	Democrat	*No website provided*

Term starts 02/11/2027

Candidate	Party	Website
Emanuella Groves **	Democrat	*No website provided*

Term starts 02/09/2027

Candidate	Party	Website
Jeff Crossman	Democrat	crossmanforjudge.com

Term starts 02/12/2027

Candidate	Party	Website
Anita Laster Mays**	Democrat	*No website provided*
Anthony Alto	Republican	*No website provided*

Special Election; Term ends 12/31/2028

Candidate	Party	Website
Ashley Kilbane	Democrat	facebook.com/KilbaneForJudge

State Senate

District 21

Candidate	Party	Website
Kent Smith**	Democrat	kentsmith.org
Mikhail Alterman	Republican	altermanprojects.com

District 23

Candidate	Party	Website
Bride Rose Sweeney	Democrat	briderosesweeney.com
Robert Dintaman	Republican	dintaman4ohio.com

State House of Representatives

District	Candidate	Party	Website
13	Tristan Rader**	Democrat	tristanrader.com
13	Bill Fronimo	Republican	fronimo.org
14	Sean Brennan**	Democrat	brennanforohio.com
14	David Morgan	Republican	morgan4ohiohouse.com
15	Chris Glassburn**	Democrat	chrisglassburn.com
15	Daniel Conway	Republican	conwayforohio.com
17	Megan Coy	Democrat	coyforohio.com
17	Mike Dovilla**	Republican	mikedovilla.com
18	Davida Russell	Democrat	facebook.com/russell4staterep
18	Maureen Lynn	Republican	*No website provided*
19	Nicole Sigurdson	Democrat	nicolefor19.com
19	Ed Hargate	Republican	edhargate.com
20	Eugene Miller	Democrat	instagram.com/eugenemillerusa
20	Donna Walker Brown	Republican	*No website provided*
20	Teri Wang	Independent	instagram.com/vote_teriwang
21	Eric Synenberg**	Democrat	ericsynenberg.com
21	Tina Barhams	Republican	*No website provided*
22	Darnell Brewer**	Democrat	darnellbrewer.com
23	Dan Troy**	Democrat	danieltroy.com
23	Julie A. Belich	Republican	*No website provided*

Not sure what district you're in? Go to findmydistrict.ohiosos.gov.

State Races Glossary

- **Governor -** Elected leader in charge of running the state government. Can suggest new laws, sign or veto bills, give pardons, and manage state programs. Elections for governor occur every 4 years.
- **Lieutenant Governor -** Second-in-command after the governor. They take over when the governor is away, resigns, or dies. The governor and lieutenant governor are elected together and are from the same party.
- **Attorney General -** Elected official who represents the state in court and provides legal advice to the governor, state agencies, and the legislature. Handles consumer fraud, civil rights, and antitrust lawsuits on behalf of the state's citizens.
- **State Auditor -** An elected official who monitors how the state spends money. They check that taxes are used properly and legally by looking at the finances of state agencies, local governments, and other groups that get public funds.
- **Secretary of State -** Elected official who runs state elections, registers businesses so they can operate in Ohio, keeps records of important legal transactions, and provides access to public documents.
- **State Treasurer -** An elected official in charge of collecting taxes and fees, keeping taxpayer money safe, and managing the state's investments.
- **Ohio Supreme Court -** The highest court in Ohio. Makes the final decisions about laws and the state Constitution. The court has seven justices who are elected by voters for six-year terms.
- **Courts of Appeals -** The middle level of Ohio's court system. Review decisions made by lower courts, such as common pleas and county courts. An appeal is decided by a panel of three judges. Ohio has 12 courts of appeals districts.
- **Ohio Senate -** The "upper house" of Ohio's legislative branch. Works with Ohio House of Reps to make state laws. Half of the seats are voted on every two years.
- **State Representative -** The "lower house" of the Ohio legislative branch. Works with the Ohio Senate to make laws. Reps are elected for two-year terms.

FEDERAL RACES

U.S. Senate

Sherrod Brown

Party: Democrat **Website:** sherrodbrown.com

Platform summary: Supports legal access to abortion. Prioritizes climate action and supports clean energy tax credits. Advocates for increasing law enforcement resources, de-escalation training, and ending racial profiling. Wants to see infrastructure investment and job creation. Opposes school vouchers and emphasizes funding public schools. Favors tightening gun laws and banning assault weapons. And has campaigned for easier voting access.

Jon Husted*

Party: Republican **Website:** jonhustedforsenate.com

Platform summary: Favors banning abortion and overturning Roe v. Wade. Opposes increased environmental regulations and clean energy tax credits. Wants to provide more funding to law enforcement and border security. Has called for increased defense spending, cutting foreign aid, and easing welfare regulation. Supports school choice and private school funding through tax credits. Seeks to expand gun rights. And has proposed stricter ID requirements for voting.

Gregory Levy

Party: Independent **Website:** greg4senate.com

Platform summary: Calls for universal healthcare, free public education, student debt cancellation, rent caps, and expanded union jobs. Supports banning corporate political influence, restructuring federal institutions, and expanding civil rights, including abortion access, LGBTQ+ protections, and immigrant rights. And calls for major cuts to military spending and transitioning to a renewable-energy economy.

Bill Redpath

Party: Libertarian **Website:** billredpath.com

Platform summary: Proposes cutting federal spending by reforming public programs, closing the Departments of Education and Housing and Urban Development, and implementing a flat tax. Calls for ending tariffs, allowing more immigration with safety checks, and removing federal laws against crimes that do not directly hurt others, such as drug use. Supports choosing the president by the national popular vote. Wants the U.S to be less involved in military actions in other countries.

Not sure if you're a Democrat, Republican, Libertarian or Independent?
You can take this quiz to find out!

*Incumbent

U.S. House of Representatives [District 7]

Brian Poindexter

Party: Democrat **Website:** poindexterforcongress.com

Platform summary: Supports working families and organized labor. Proposes making the economy work more for workers rather than corporations and wealthy Americans. Supports protections for organizing and better wages and workplace safety. Calls for more accessible healthcare that isn't tied to employment. Also advocates for "Made in America" policies, discouraging companies from moving jobs overseas and encouraging domestic investment.

Max Miller*

Party: Republican **Website:** votemaxmiller.com

Platform summary: Emphasizes an "America First" approach to politics. Priorities include lowering taxes, expanding career and technical education and workforce development, supporting law enforcement, securing the southern border, expanding American energy production to lower costs, reducing regulations to encourage job creation, and investing in infrastructure. Has voiced support for farmers, American manufacturing, and national security.

Andrey Joseph Martinichin

Party: Independent **Website:** andrey4congress.org

Platform summary: Emphasizes universal, affordable healthcare, drawing on his nursing experience. Supports higher wages, stronger collective bargaining rights, accessible education and skills training, cheaper childcare, and other policies that would help reduce the cost of living. Calls for investing in teachers through better salaries, benefits, and working conditions.

U.S. House of Representatives [District 11]

Shontel Brown*

Party: Democrat **Website:** shontelbrown.com

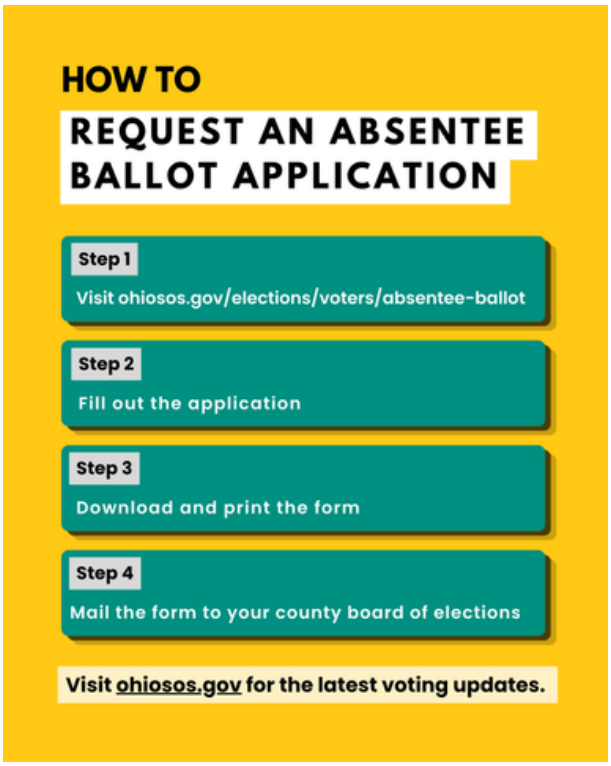
Platform summary: Wants to expand healthcare access, create good-paying jobs, lower the cost of living, and protect civil rights. Supports strengthening the Affordable Care Act, manufacturing, and clean energy. Advocates for voting rights, reproductive rights, LGBTQ+ protections, criminal justice reform, and equal opportunities in education. Supports immigrant protections and policies that promote fairness while opposing actions that unfairly target vulnerable communities.

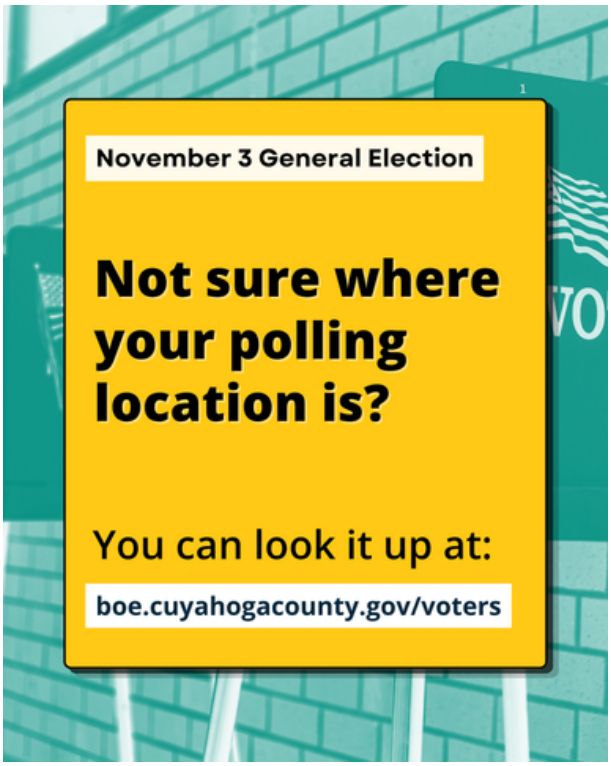
Mike Kirchner

Party: Republican **Website:** mikekirchner.com

Platform summary: *No platform provided.*

**Incumbent*





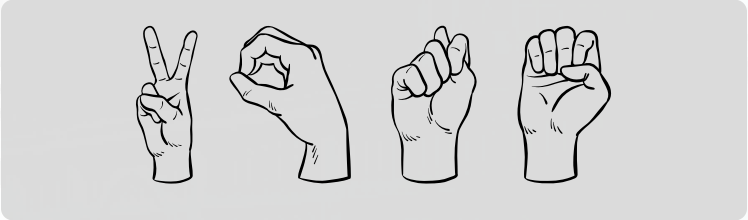
Did you know you can track your ballot from the moment you request it until it's received by your county board of elections? Once your ballot is received, it is securely stored until it is counted. Go to ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/toolkit/ballot-tracking to track your ballot.

Federal Races Glossary

- **Federal -** *The national government (e.g. President, Supreme Court, Congress).*
- **Congress -** *Made up of the Senate and House of Representatives. Together, they make and approve laws for the country. Congress also helps make sure the president and courts do not have too much power.*
- **U.S. Senator -** *Every state elects two senators to represent them in Congress. They serve six-year terms. Some of their key powers include proposing legislation, amending bills, and oversight of the federal budget.*
- **U.S. Representative -** *The number of representatives a state has is based on how big the population is. They are elected every two years. Reps introduce bills, offer amendments, and serve on committees.*
- **Democrat -** *A political party that often supports more government help in areas like schools and social programs, rules for businesses, and keeping religion separate from government. Many also support abortion rights, gun control laws, and programs that help workers and minority groups.*
- **Republican -** *A party that often supports lower taxes, less government control over businesses and schools, a strong military, and traditional family values. Many also oppose abortion, gun control laws, and programs like affirmative action.*
- **Libertarian -** *A party that believes the government should be very small (at all levels). Libertarians think people should have a lot of freedom over their money and property.*
- **Independent -** *Someone who is not formally aligned with a political party.*
- **Constituent -** *A resident of a district or member of a group represented by an elected official.*
- **Tax Credit -** *A dollar-for-dollar reduction of the income tax you owe. Unlike deductions, which lower your taxable income, a credit directly subtracts from your final tax bill. Governments use tax credits as incentives to promote specific behaviors, such as hiring certain workers, purchasing energy-efficient home upgrades, or supporting families.*
- **Roe v. Wade -** *A 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision that established a constitutional right to abortion in the United States.*
- **School voucher -** *Government-funded certificates or subsidies that allow parents to use taxpayer dollars to cover tuition at private or charter schools, rather than sending their child to their assigned public school.*
- **Tariff -** *A tax imposed by a government on goods and services imported from other countries.*

MIDTERM ELECTION GLOSSARY

- **Registration -** *The process that allows citizens to register with election officials in order to become eligible to vote*
- **Midterm Election -** *General elections that are held in November near the midpoint of a president's four-year term of office*
- **Absentee ballot -** *A vote cast by someone who is unable to vote in person at their official polling location on election day (for example, voting by mail)*
- **Board of Elections -** *A bipartisan administrative body responsible for overseeing and administering elections within a specific jurisdiction, such as a county*
- **Early voting -** *An option that allows voters to cast their ballots at a time and location other than in person on Election Day*
- **Polling place -** *A place where voters go to cast their votes in an election*



Still have questions?

Here are some helpful websites:

- clevotes.com/voteractivation
- boe.cuyahogacounty.gov
- ohiosos.gov
- voteriders.org

HAVE A QUESTION ON ELECTION DAY?

Call or text **866-OUR-VOTE** to speak with a trained **Election Protection** volunteer.

Want to feel more secure *before* you hit the polls? Visit 866ourvote.org to learn more about the Election Protection resources available to you.

ELECTION PROTECTION