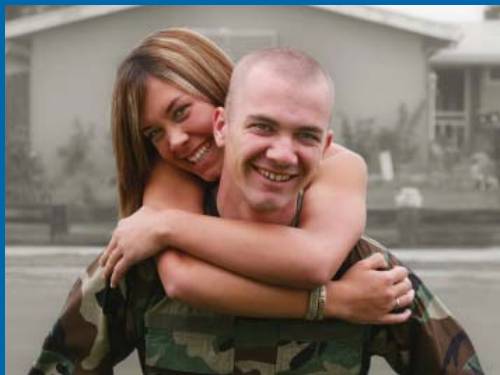


★ ★ ★ Step Up!

The 2008 Complete Non-Partisan No-Excuses Guide To Voting In NC



REGISTER TO VOTE UP TO NOV. 1
VOTE EARLY AND ON WEEKENDS
VOTE WITHOUT LEAVING HOME
VOTE WITHOUT WAITING IN LINE



Inside This Guide:

Voting has never been easier...

You don't have to take time off from work...

You can bring the kids with you...

You can choose to vote on weekends, and...

There are hundreds of volunteers standing by to make sure EVERY VOTE COUNTS IN 2008!

Inspire young people to look up to you...

Make your old high school teacher proud of you...

Save time and still send the message that you count...

Weigh in on decisions that affect *your* life...

and maybe, just maybe... you can change history!



The Basics on Voting in NC

North Carolina makes it easy for its citizens to vote:

You have the right to vote...



... if you can answer "Yes" to all three of these questions:

- 1) Are you a U.S. citizen?
- 2) Will you be at least 18 years old on Election Day, Nov. 4?
- 3) Will you have lived at your current address for at least 30 days before Election Day?

These are the basic requirements and they mean that you can vote if you are a student living on campus; or an ex-felon who has finished your sentence, including probation; or a person awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence; or a person who cannot read; or someone who has only lived in NC for a month before Nov. 4. **But you must register before you vote.**

Registering to vote is easy!

To register, you fill out a form that asks for your name, address and birth date. You need to provide your NC driver's license number or the last 4 digits of your Social Security number or another form of identification (or be prepared to show ID when you first vote). Other acceptable forms of ID include a utility bill (phone, gas, etc.), bank statement, paycheck stub or any government document with your residential address on it. Homeless people can list a shelter as their address. You can ask for help filling out the form if you need it.



To obtain a form, call or visit your local Board of Elections or call 1-866-522-4723. You can also get a registration form at any public library, high school, or Department of Social Services, public health or Division of Motor Vehicles office. Or you can print a form from this website: www.sboe.state.nc.us. If the library or other office does not promise to mail in the form, mail it in yourself to your local Board of Elections. By two weeks later, you should receive a voter card with information about your precinct and where to vote.



Looking for your Board of Elections? You'll find it listed in the phone book under "County Government" just like the water or sewer department. Or see Page 23 for telephone numbers for all NC county Boards of Elections.

What if I'm a student?

You may register in your old hometown and vote there – or you can declare your new address as your home, even if it's a dorm on campus, because that is where you go "home" day after day. See www.2008ElectionConnection.com for details.

When to register:

There are two deadlines when it comes to registering to vote. If you choose to mail in your form or give it to another person to turn in, the form must be submitted to the Board of Elections by October 10. Or you can use Same Day Registration and register in person at a One-Stop, Early Voting site in your county from October 16 to November 1. See details below.

Help! It's after October 10th... can I still register to vote?!

Don't panic! You can register (and vote on the same day) using Same Day Registration & Voting (SDR) during the statewide One-Stop, Early Voting period from October 16 to November 1. **But you cannot use Same Day Registration on Election Day.**

To use SDR, visit an Early Voting location in your county (call your Board of Elections to find location and hours; see Page 23 for the number). You need to show election officials one of these IDs with your name and current address: a NC driver's license, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck stub, student ID with a school document showing your address or a license, permit, bill or any other government document.

Unpacking? Be sure to update!



You must change your voter registration when you move to a new county. And even if you've moved within the same county, you should update your registration. Use the same form as a new voter, but fill out the extra section asking for your old address so the state can cancel your old registration and assign you to a new polling place. If you moved within the same county and forgot to change your registration, go to an Early Voting site during the Early Voting period or go to your old polling place on Election Day and ask for a "Provisional Ballot."

Su Voto Es Su Voz



Necesitas una forma de votación en español o información de los requerimientos para registrarte, no presentarse a votar e información general y preguntas de la cartilla de votación? Llama a La Junta de Elecciones de Carolina del Norte al 1-866-522-4723 o visítelos en su página web www.sboe.state.nc.us. Si quisiera aprender más sobre el proceso de registro como votante, ya sea usted o alguien más o simplemente está interesado en cómo tomar parte de este compromiso cívico, puede contactar a El Pueblo llamando al (919) 835-1525.

What if I changed my name?

To avoid problems when you vote, whenever your personal information changes, you should fill out a new voter registration form. If you haven't done this by October 10, it's best to vote at an Early Voting site where you can update your registration at the same time.

Can I vote if I am an ex-felon?

Yes. You temporarily lose your citizenship rights if you are convicted of a felony. But, no matter where you were convicted, your rights are automatically restored in NC after you serve your complete sentence, including probation or parole. You don't need a special document – just register and vote like any other citizen.

Do you have a loved one serving in the military?



Voters outside the U.S. or in the military can vote using an Absentee Ballot (see details at right) and have the option of faxing or scanning their Absentee Ballot request and sending it in as an attachment to an email – contact your local Board of Elections for details.

For more information on how to register and vote in North Carolina, please visit www.2008ElectionConnection.com or call 1-888-687-8683.

There are 3 ways to vote in NC

1. VOTE EARLY IN PERSON. From October 16 to November 1, you can vote by going to any One-Stop Early Voting site in your county. All counties must open at least one Early Voting location during this period. Some are open on the weekend. Different sites will have different hours, so check with your Board of Elections for location/times of sites (see BOE phone numbers on Page 23 of this guide). Going to one of these sites is also the best way to vote if you have moved within your county or if you are not registered yet and want to use Same Day Registration.

2. VOTE BY MAIL. From September 15 to October 28, you can request an Absentee Ballot – a ballot that is mailed to the address you specify and then mailed back after you complete it. You do not need an excuse to vote with an Absentee Ballot. To obtain an Absentee Ballot, you or a near relative must write your local Board of Elections; do **not** use a pre-filled out form. Send a simple letter with the voter's name, address of registration and date of birth, where the Absentee Ballot should be mailed to, and the signature of the voter or the person making the request for the voter. If the request is from a relative, it must also include that person's name, address and relationship to the voter. It is also a good idea to include a phone number or email address in case your Board of Elections needs to contact you for any reason. Be sure to follow the instructions sent with the Ballot very carefully.



3. VOTE ON ELECTION DAY. On November 4, vote at your precinct's voting place (your "polling place") between 6:30 AM and 7:30 PM. Your precinct is based on your home address and appears on the voter card mailed to you when you registered. You do **not** need the card to vote. Call your Board of Elections (see BOE phone numbers on Page 23 of this guide) to find your polling place or use www.vote411.org. If you are a first-time voter, you may be asked for ID, depending on how you registered. See the NC Voter Bill of Rights on Page 22 for details.

**Make sure your vote is counted!
See Page 22 for information on
"Election Protection."**

If there's a problem...

If the poll worker can't find your name on the voter rolls, or you accidentally go to the wrong voting location, or they ask you for identification you don't have with you – all is not lost! You have the right to ask for a "Provisional Ballot." You have to fill out a form in addition to the ballot so officials can verify your voter registration. But once your registration is verified, your ballot will count like any other ballot. You will be given a way to find out whether your ballot counted and, if not, why not.

**If you ask for a Provisional Ballot and are not given one, please call this special Hotline for help:
1-866-OUR-VOTE.**



*Have children? You can bring them with you to vote!
You'll be setting a good example when you do.*

It's a Family Affair...

Don't let a lack of childcare stop you from voting! Children are always welcome in the voting booth with you and often receive a special "I Voted" sticker when they accompany you to the polls. And now you can make voting even more fun, thanks to a group called **Kids Voting North Carolina**. Local chapters across NC sponsor a variety of activities for children related to voting and some even have special voting boxes at the polls so kids can vote when their parents do. Their votes are counted and announced just like the adult votes – and sometimes the results will surprise you! For more information and links to local chapters, visit www.kidsvotingnc.org.

Why Should I Vote?

The people who win the 2008 elections will make the decisions that determine what happens in all parts of your life for years to come, including how much healthcare and gas cost... who goes to prison and who gets a second chance... whether our public schools are adequately funded or not... who gets a tax break... whether communities offer safe, good-paying jobs... who can run for elected office... and more.

All of these things will be influenced by who gets elected to office this year. And while our representatives in government make these and other important decisions for us – **we are the ones who decide who our representatives are.** We live in a diverse society in America, and we know there is inequality among us. But at the ballot box, we all have an equal voice. That's the guiding principle of our democracy: one person, one vote. And that means we each have an equal voice in choosing our representatives. Use your voice! And remember this: if you don't vote, you give away your power. You let other people make the decisions that could change the course of your life.

**Don't give up your power.
Go to the polls and vote.**

How This Guide Can Help...

Newspapers and TV stations are full of stories about the presidential candidates. But we are also electing new leaders at the local and state level, and they will play an important role in your future. This guide can help you understand more about the people asking to be your state and local leaders. It provides information on their backgrounds and their priorities. It also explains some of the major issues facing North Carolina and how they could impact your life.

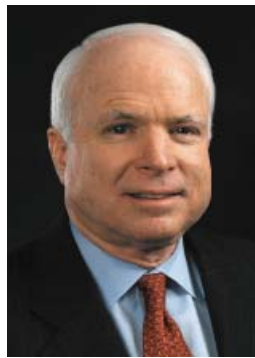
Use this guide to review the candidates and to make your own choices about who you want to see in office. Please also read about the organizations working on behalf of the issues critical to North Carolina's future. They will welcome your help in making our state a better place to be. After all, we're all in this together!



Candidate Information

Who will shape North Carolina's Future?

You probably already know that Senator Barack Obama is running for President on the Democratic Party ticket and that Senator John McCain is running for President on the Republican ticket. But did you know that there are dozens of other "down ballot" races – including many important statewide offices – that will affect your life greatly? This year, you can vote for one of NC's two U.S. Senate seats, choose a new Governor and



Senator John McCain

Lt. Governor and decide over a dozen more Council of State and high court races. Plus many NC House and Senate races are taking place in districts across the state while many local communities are choosing new leaders and voting on school board races and soil and water conservation posts. If you want to elect leaders to these offices who represent you and what you think – take a moment to

If you want to vote a "Straight Party" ballot (all the candidates of one party), remember that marking Straight Party does NOT include voting in the Presidential race or the judicial and non-partisan races. You must vote in those races separately.

review the candidates and their qualifications so that when you go to vote, you know you've made the right choice for you. The candidate profiles that follow are listed in the order in which they will appear on the ballot and are based on their own words. Please visit the indicated websites and the web resources listed on Pages 13 and 24 for more information on candidates and the elections process.



Senator Barack Obama

U.S. Senate Candidates

North Carolina's two U.S. Senators introduce and vote on bills in the U.S. Senate that guide Federal law and how the Federal government spends its budget. They also serve on committees that decide important U.S. policies in key areas such as foreign policy, healthcare, education and more. Senators serve 6-year terms. This year, you are voting to fill ONE U.S. Senate seat and may choose one candidate from among these three choices:

Kay Hagan: Democrat



After law school at Wake Forest, I worked at North Carolina's largest bank, eventually working my way up to Vice President. A decade ago, I was a mother who ran for state Senate because Raleigh needed a voice like mine. During my tenure, I have been an advocate for working families, teachers, children and veterans. As co-chair of the budget committee, I learned the importance of bipartisanship

while balancing five straight budgets and investing in priorities to move North Carolina forward. We need someone representing us who lives in North Carolina, is a proven problem solver and puts the best interests of residents here ahead of the special interests in Washington. www.kayhagan.com

Priorities:

We need a new economic framework that doesn't give tax breaks to big corporations that ship jobs overseas, makes college more affordable, finally keeps our promises to veterans, and makes healthcare for working families and North Carolina businesses a priority once again. We also need an energy policy that gets gas prices under control and develops alternative energy that creates new jobs here at home that cannot be outsourced.

Elizabeth Dole: Republican



INCUMBENT: Elizabeth Dole was born and reared in Salisbury, NC. She graduated from Duke and later from Harvard with a Masters in Teaching and a Law Degree. She has worked in the administrations of five presidents, including as Secretary of Transportation and Secretary of Labor. She served as President of the American Red Cross and became the first viable female Presidential candidate

from a major political party. She was elected as the first woman to ever represent NC in the U.S. Senate. Her accomplishments include: establishing the first-in-the-nation statewide immigration enforcement plan; delivering a tobacco quota buyout that saved thousands of farm families from bankruptcy and infused \$4 billion into NC's economy; protecting and expanding our military installations. www.elizabethdole.org.

Priorities:

There are many pressing issues. High gas prices are hurting NC families and businesses, and I have put forward an energy plan that provides immediate relief and long-term solutions. I established an immigration enforcement plan in NC, and I will continue pushing for actions that fix our broken borders and immigration system. My other key priorities are to ensure economy security, include providing tax relief, updating infrastructure and eliminating wasteful government spending.

Christopher Cole: Libertarian



I am 44 years old, a native-born Southerner and have been a resident of Mecklenburg County since 1981. In 1982, I graduated from Independence High School in Charlotte, and received my BA in Psychology from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in 1986. I have worked for LSAA, Inc, for 15 years, currently as manager for a contract post office. I am single with no children, and live in

Huntersville. www.lpnc.org/2008/us_senate.php

Priorities:

My long-term goal is the elimination of the personal income tax, by capping federal expenditures at current levels. Short-term, I seek getting our forces out of Iraq, with the institution of non-interventionist foreign policy, and the reduction of illegal immigration through removing federal labor restrictions.

Fast Fact: if you are 17 years old, you may register and vote during the Same Day Registration/Early Voting period so long as you will be 18 years old on Election Day (Nov. 4).

Governor of North Carolina Candidates

The Governor is the top executive of our state, with the power to veto General Assembly bills and appoint many state officials, board and commission members, as well as some judges.

Bev Perdue: Democrat

While working as a public school teacher and a hospital administrator, I saw government too often failing our most vulnerable citizens – especially the elderly and the young – and decided to do something about it. As a member of the General Assembly, I led efforts to raise teachers salaries from 43rd to 21st in the nation, created the Children's Health Insurance Program which now insures over 115,000 children, and led the creation of the Clean Water Trust Fund. As Lieutenant Governor, I worked to decrease teen smoking through a successful public education campaign, reduce health disparities in underrepresented groups, and led North Carolina's response to the Base Realignment and Closure Process (BRAC), not only saving our bases but adding thousands of jobs to our state. www.bevperdue.com



Priorities:

As Governor, I'll move our state forward by expanding access to health care and improving our public education system by raising teacher salaries, lowering the drop out rate, and making higher education affordable. I'll grow our economy by raising the minimum wage and creating high wage, high growth jobs in green technology and the defense/aerospace industries while creating jobs in small towns and cities by expanding Main Street Solutions.

Pat McCrory: Republican

I learned my values in Jamestown, NC where I grew up. I earned my degree and teachers certificate at Catawba College. I settled in Charlotte where I was given the opportunity to be a leader. In 1989, I was elected as an at-large member of the Charlotte City Council. I was elected mayor in 1995 and I'm the longest serving mayor in Charlotte history. My experience as the top elected executive in the second largest government in the state has provided me with the opportunity to deal with many of the same problems facing our state. I've recruited high paying jobs to our area, dealt with transportation and infrastructure needs and improved quality of life. www.patmccrory.com



Priorities:

I intend to change the culture of arrogance, secrecy, and scandal in state government – going instead in a new direction of transparency. We must address a 30% drop out rate in high school, mismanagement in mental health care, a politically run Transportation Department creating crumbling roads, and a government run behind closed doors without concern for citizen input. My top priority will be jobs. We can transform the state by creating jobs and revenue by pursuing offshore drilling.

Michael C. Munger: Libertarian

Dr. Michael Munger was born in Florida, in 1958. He grew up on an orange farm, near what is now Disney World. He went to Davidson, then to Washington University, finishing a PhD in Economics in 1984. After working as a staff economist at the FTC, he moved to academics, teaching at Dartmouth, UTexas-Austin, and UNC-Chapel Hill before moving to Duke in 1997. He has chaired Political Science at Duke since 2000, with an appointment in Economics. While at UNC, he directed the MPA program, training local managers. Dr. Munger has consulted widely with state and local governments. He has published four books and more than 100 articles on economic policy and politics. He is married to Raleigh attorney Donna Gingerella and has two teenage boys. www.munger4ncgov.com



Priorities:

1) Moratorium on capital punishment. I'd commute all death row sentences to life in prison without parole. 2) Economic development commission. End corporate welfare, refocus on "big three" of growth: better education; better infrastructure; lower taxes and reduced regulatory burden for small business. 3) Roads commission. Take HiWay Trust Fund out of legislature, let experts set priorities. Up or down vote, without amendments, like base closing commission.

Lieutenant Governor Candidates

The Lt. Governor presides over the NC Senate and is a member of many state councils, commissions and boards.

Walter H. Dalton: Democrat



I was born and raised in North Carolina and learned the strong NC values of public service and hard work at an early age. I've represented my community for 12 years in the NC Senate, serving as Chair of both the Education and Appropriations Committees and forging a commitment to public education, responsible economic development, and affordable, quality healthcare. I've also practiced public service in my community, helping to build a law practice and learning the importance of helping meet the needs of NC's working families. My background and experience, plus my positive leadership style make me the best candidate to move North Carolina forward as Lt. Governor. www.walterdalton.org

Priorities:

I will fight to continue improving public schools, community colleges and universities; expanding job opportunities; and creating access to affordable healthcare. We must ensure that all of our citizens are prepared to compete nationally and globally. Accordingly, NC must remain attractive to businesses that provide good paying jobs with good benefits.

Robert Pittenger: Republican

I am a small businessman from Charlotte and served nearly 3 terms in the NC Senate (2002–May, 2008). As Senator, I focused on state government efficiency reforms and common sense solutions to issues facing NC. I've chaired the NC Taxpayer Protection Caucus with Americans for Tax Reform and serve on the boards of the Jesse Helms Educational Foundation, CPCC Foundation, Presbyterian Hospital Foundation and Davidson College Board of Visitors. I am President of Robert Pittenger Company, a real estate investment firm, and have been married 30 years to my wife Suzanne. We have four grown children. I am a 1970 graduate of the University of Texas and a 2004 graduate of the Kennedy School of Government Executive Program. www.robertpittenger.com



Priorities:

As Lt. Governor, I would insure a fair and open debate in presiding over the NC Senate where all Senators have the right to speak on the issues, introduce amendments and cast roll call votes. I will work to reduce the size, scope and cost of government by cutting waste and fraud to enable us to lower our tax burden for individuals and small businesses to create more and better jobs for our state.

Phillip Rhodes: Libertarian

As a long-time software engineering professional, former assistant Fire Chief with the Civietown Volunteer Fire Department, former 911 dispatcher and holder of 3 college degrees, I believe I have the knowledge, skills and experience to serve my fellow citizens of NC as Lieutenant Governor. I will use my skills in analytical thinking and logic and my ability to exercise judgment under extreme stress to work to restore the NC government to its proper role: protecting the rights of our citizens. More importantly than education or skills, however, is my commitment to the traditional principles of freedom and liberty that have defined North Carolina throughout her history. I believe that "First In Freedom" should be the defining principle on which our government operates. www.philrhodes2008.com



Priorities:

The most important task I hope to accomplish is to reign in our out-of-control government and return it to its proper role. Our State government should protect property rights, provide rule-of-law and enforce contracts. Anything else is outside the valid scope of government.

Attorney General of North Carolina Candidates

The Attorney General heads up the NC Department of Justice, protects consumers from fraud and provides legal representation and advice to all state agencies and officers, including the General Assembly and the Governor.

Roy Cooper: Democrat



INCUMBENT: I've helped lead North Carolina's fight against crime with proven results. The state crime lab is a premier agency recognized nationwide. Unlike other states, North Carolina escaped the thousands of meth labs because of our comprehensive approach. We pushed to take meth ingredients out of the hands of the drug makers and the number of meth labs has decreased. I am working to strengthen the state's sex offender laws to give communities more information on where predators live. We are fighting the growing gang problem with tougher laws, better technology for investigators and prevention that will help keep kids from joining gangs in the first place. We've also protected consumers by getting more than \$80 million from violators and returning money to consumers' pockets. www.roycooper.com

Priorities:

As Attorney General, I will focus on a number of ways to help North Carolina: 1) Keeping our children safe from sex offenders with tougher laws, better community information and safety rules for kids on the Internet. 2) Cracking down on illegal drugs and traffickers with better detection and interdiction through good law enforcement. 3) Prosecuting violent criminals through investigative tools like the DNA database, firearms analysis and forensics examinations.

Bob Crumley: Republican



My personal mission has been to put people first. Today, my law firm is the largest consumer-based firm in the state, helping people at some of the most difficult moments of life. But, my work is more than being just a lawyer; my work also includes an environmental restoration and green recycling firm. It is important to seek a balance between demands of a growing state and preserving our natural resources. www.bobcrumley.com

Priorities:

The Attorney General is the state's lawyer and chief law enforcement officer. I will work to (1) solve the evidence backlog crisis at state crime labs; (2) stop the explosion of gang violence; and (3) ensure that decisions are based upon the law and not political considerations and ambitions.

Due to evidence backlogs at the state crime labs, the courts have become a revolving door. Failure to process evidence bogs down our court system and places our families at risk. We must also get control of a growing, statewide gang problem. The Attorney General cannot idly sit while gangs recruit our children and lead them to a life of violence. Finally, the law should be applied equally – regardless of race, socio-economic status or political affiliation.

Auditor of North Carolina Candidates

The State Auditor oversees and reviews the financial accounts of all state government agencies.

Beth A. Wood: Democrat

I have over 20 years experience as a CPA, 15 years experience in governmental audit and accounting and 10 years experience in senior management in the Office of the State Auditor. I am a proven leader who teaches CPA's across the nation how to audit governmental entities. I chose early in my career to specialize in governmental auditing and accounting. When elected, I will be the first female elected to this office but – more importantly – I will be the first Auditor, ever, with my qualifications and experience. Additionally, I have been a leader in the implementation of several significant initiatives within the Office that others said would never happen in State government. This could only have been accomplished through my ability to lead others. www.bethwoodcampaign.com



Priorities:

1) Eliminate the perception that the Office of the State Auditor is being used to advance political agendas; 2) Communicate to the General Assembly the results and consequences of audits performed by the Auditor's Office so the General Assembly can better utilize the information and hold State agencies accountable for their management of taxpayer moneys; 3) Reestablish a more comprehensive training program for the audit staff to ensure the best trained staff are performing audits of taxpayer dollars.

Leslie Merritt: Republican

INCUMBENT: Leslie Merritt was elected State Auditor in 2004, becoming the first Certified Public Accountant (CPA) to serve as North Carolina's State Auditor. Prior to being elected State Auditor, Leslie Merritt owned and operated a privately held accounting and auditing business for over twenty years. He was elected to the Wake County Board of Commissioners in 1994.

Leslie Merritt served as president of the Zebulon Elementary School PTA, the Zebulon Rotary Club and the Zebulon Lions Club. He also served as a director with the Zebulon Chamber of Commerce. Les Merritt and his wife, Cheryl, are members of Zebulon Baptist Church. They have two adult children. www.auditormerritt.com



Priorities:

If elected to a second term, I will focus on several key priorities: leveraging our recently-launched Investigative Task Force to expose fraud, waste and abuse in state government; continuing to increase our emphasis on performance audits to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of state government; and continuing our efforts to transform the Auditor's office into a pro-active agency that helps prevent problems rather than simply reporting them after the fact.



If I am a student away at school, should I use my campus address or my home address when I register and vote?



If you are a student who has moved away to attend school, under NC law, you have two choices: 1) You can declare your old address (probably your parents' address) as your home, because that's where you return periodically; in that case, you may register and vote in

your old hometown (remember you can go home during the Early Voting period or request an Absentee Ballot). Or, 2) you can declare your new college address as your home, because that's where you return, day after day. In that case, you may register and vote in your college town.



If my precinct is crowded on Election Day, can I vote somewhere else?

Yes, you can vote at any precinct in your county on Election Day by requesting what is called a Provisional Ballot. You must fill out an extra form, but if election officials verify your information, your choices will count in every race that also appears on the ballot in your

home precinct. You'll get a code to find out later if your information was verified. Of course, you can avoid the problem of crowded polls by visiting an Early Voting site in your county between Oct. 16 and Nov. 1. The least crowded times are weekdays in mid-morning and mid-afternoon.



To elect leaders you believe in.

Treasurer of North Carolina Candidates

The State Treasurer is responsible for investing the state's funds, overseeing the financial operations of our state government and serving on many boards, commissions and councils that shape the financial policies of state agencies.

Janet Cowell: Democrat

The State Treasurer is charged with a variety of duties. However, the most important one is managing North Carolina's \$78 billion pension fund. I began my career as a stock analyst with HSBC and Lehman Brothers. After earning my MBA from the Wharton School of Business, I consulted for a number of Fortune 500 companies working to make their organizations more efficient and effective. I have worked for a venture capital firm in Durham. My private sector experience in investment management, combined with my service on the Raleigh City Council and State Senate, has given me the perspective I need to understand the issues facing NC in the marketplace. www.cowellfortreasurer.com

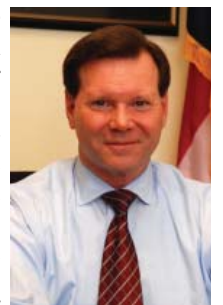


Priorities:

- 1) My most important goal is to insure a secure and safe retirement for North Carolina's public servants.
- 2) It is important that we invest in North Carolina's future and AAA bond rating by investing in education, transportation and infrastructure.
- 3) Finally, by working with the banking commission I will insure our banks are stable and our pensions are sound.

Bill Daughtridge: Republican

Representative Daughtridge is President of the Daughtridge Group of Rocky Mount and Greenville. Bill earned BS and MBA degrees at UNC-CH, where he was a Morehead Scholar. After serving as a financial analyst and engineer for Continental Oil Company, Bill returned to North Carolina and joined the family-operated business. A 3-term member of the NC House, his legislative efforts focused on economic growth and development. Bill has given his time and talent in service on several boards and commissions – including the NC Economic Development Board. Bill has made a lifelong commitment to community service and civic leadership – President of Boy Scouts of America Area 7 (NC/VA), UNC-CH Board of Visitors, and Board of Trustees of the NC Symphony Society. www.billdaughtridge.com



Priorities:

The Treasurer has many critical constitutional and statutory duties. The most important of these duties is to manage the state's pension and retirement benefits systems and ensure consistent returns on public funds. Second, the Treasurer oversees the state's financial system through key additional duties (supervises the state's banking system, assists local governments in debt issuance, etc.). Finally the Treasurer is an important education leader who serves on the State Boards of Education and Community Colleges.

Commissioner of Agriculture Candidates

The Commissioner of Agriculture heads up the Department of Agriculture and is chair of the state's Board of Agriculture. Many policies affecting the general public and our state's farmers are shaped by this office.

Ronnie Ansley: Democrat

Education and experience: NC State University, 1984 - B.S. in Agricultural Education; Clemson University, 1988 - Masters Degree in Agricultural Education; and Mississippi College School of Law, 1991 - Law Degree: Sales representative for Wayne Feeds selling livestock feed and animal health products. Presently serving as National President of the FFA (Future Farmers of America) Alumni; Serving as a Consultant on the National FFA Board of Directors; Serving on the National Council for Agricultural Education, Board of Directors and Executive Committee; Earned the State Farmer Degree and the American Farmer Degree in the FFA; and hold the Honorary State FFA Degree. (Also, I am an Eagle Scout.) www.ansley4ag.com



Priorities:

The three most important tasks or issues I will address when elected are: 1) Bio-fuels and renewable, sustainable energy sources and making North Carolina number one in the Nation in clean, green energy independence, without using corn and other feed stuffs to make fuel; 2) Economy – increased sales and marketing of North Carolina agricultural products and locally grown and marketed products; and 3) Food Safety – human and animal/pet food safety.

Steve Troxler: Republican

INCUMBENT: I have been a farmer, businessman and leader in the agricultural industry for 38 years. During my term as Commissioner of Agriculture I have called on all these skills.

My goal is to turn this Department into the best in the nation, and we have made many strides in that area.

My chief responsibility as Commissioner is to assure a safe and abundant food supply for all our citizens. With the challenges to come in the future, insuring a safe food supply is critical to every citizen. www.stevetroxler.com



Priorities:

My top priority as your Commissioner of Agriculture will be to insure a safe food supply for all our citizens in North Carolina. I am also running to continue some important initiatives for our agricultural products begun since I became Commissioner, such as the "Got To Be NC" marketing program. Farmland preservation is another top priority. We must continue our efforts to make sure that precious farm land is preserved and protected against development.

Commissioner of Insurance Candidates

The Commissioner of Insurance regulates the insurance industry in North Carolina, licenses insurance professionals in the state, educates consumers, handles consumer complaints and oversees the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

Wayne Goodwin: Democrat

I'm the *only* person in this race with directly relevant experience to the Insurance Commissioner's office: I'm already the Assistant Insurance Commissioner and an insurance industry regulator. As Assistant, I have performed the duties of Insurance Commissioner and supervised members of the Department in four offices around NC and served as Assistant State Fire Marshal. For years I've worked for low insurance premiums and a competitive insurance market. I earned B.A. (Morehead Scholar) and J.D. degrees at UNC-Chapel Hill before becoming a small businessman in Richmond County and serving in the State Legislature for 8 years. I am independent, with a balanced view that defers to the public interest and the consumer. www.WayneGoodwin.org



Priorities:

I will fight for low, fair insurance rates; more accessible health insurance; and a competitive, solvent NC insurance market. I will also seek growth in the Seniors Health Insurance Information Program; larger grants for fire and rescue departments; enhanced consumer protection; and a more technologically modernized Department. I will fight *against* insurance fraud.

John Odom: Republican

The people will be well served by my ability to get things done with my 35 years business, management and leadership experience. As a member of the Raleigh City Council for ten years, having served under three different mayors, my constituents could count on me to listen to their concerns and take quick action to help them. It was my pleasure to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem for two years. Getting results and finding solutions to problems is what I'm all about.



If I am elected Commissioner of Insurance for North Carolina, the people will have a friend they can count on with their insurance problems when they need it most. www.odom4doi.com

Priorities:

- 1) To make the Department of Insurance more responsive to the people;
- 2) To streamline the various divisions within the department and make them more efficient and effective; and
- 3) To maintain an OPEN DOOR POLICY for all North Carolinians regarding any insurance issue or other problems under the purview of the Department of Insurance.

Mark McMains: Libertarian

The people of North Carolina expect an individual who is devoted to understanding their needs and seeing they are satisfied.



As Insurance Commissioner, I offer my daily experience of working with insurance companies to see a turn around in high premiums. With my experience on the Fuquay-Varina Volunteer Fire Department, Board of Directors, I understand the high standards as Fire Marshal. www.lp.org/candidates/liberty-candidates-08/mark-mcmains-0

Priorities:

I made a decision to run for Insurance Commissioner because I feel that the people should be represented by a citizen who feels the effects of insurance rates each day. I intend to focus on automotive and health insurance as they are greatly impacting the young and elderly. I want to see high standards on safety issues and benefits for all firefighters and law enforcement.

I promise to all citizens of North Carolina that you will see integrity at its highest if elected as Insurance Commissioner. I appreciate your vote.

Commissioner of Labor Candidates

The Commissioner of Labor heads up the state's Department of Labor, which promotes the "health, safety and general well-being" of NC's working population and shapes many of our state's labor practices and workplace regulations.

Mary Fant Donnan: Democrat



As a candidate, I bring a fresh perspective to the office while also being grounded in the work of the department. I have recent, relevant experience in the Department, where I served as Policy Analyst and Director of Policy and Research from 1994-2001. I helped launch the NC Individual Development Account (IDA) and Asset-Building Collaborative and oversaw creation of the General Assembly's IDA program to help low-income working families buy their first homes, increase their education, and build small businesses. I also supported several interagency efforts, including the School to Work Initiative, the NC Alliance for Competitive Technologies, the Governor's Workforce Preparedness Commission and the NC Economic Development Board.

As an individual, my heart is guided by principles of fairness and justice. My leadership style is one of listening to others and building partnerships to work towards a better future. www.maryfantdonnan.com

Priorities:

I seek to be a leader in three primary ways: (1) Executing the duties of the office (workplace safety, workplace standards, and workforce development) with the highest standards; (2) serving as spokesperson for department related issues and developing and implementing good public policy; and (3) providing leadership to bring workplace issues into the broader efforts of state government (such as economic development efforts).

Cherie Berry: Republican



INCUMBENT: When I was sworn in as North Carolina's Labor Commissioner on Jan. 6, 2001, North Carolina was not even in the top ten safest states in the country in which to work. We went to work immediately to change that sad statistic. Our workers deserved better.

My top priority is and always will be creating and maintaining safe and healthy workplaces for hard working men and women. By working hand-in-hand with our employers and employees as partners, we have been able to achieve for the past seven years the lowest injury/illness rate and fatality rate for our workers in the history of the state. With your help we will continue to lower these rates, your life and livelihood depend on it.

Priorities:

- 1) The continued safety and health of over 4 million workers.
- 2) Continue to apply our labor laws fairly and consistently across the state.
- 3) Continue to develop partnerships with businesses to ensure opportunities and prosperity for employees, and profitability and sustainability for employers.

How can I find out where I should go to vote?



If you received a voter card in the mail from the county Board of Elections, it tells you the place to go vote for your "precinct." This polling place is based on your address. If you don't have a voter card (and you do not need one to vote, so long as you are properly registered), then you should call your local Board

of Elections to find out where you vote. See Page 23 for the telephone number of your local BOE. Or, you can use the League of Women Voter's on-line search engine at www.vote411.org. If you vote during the Early Voting period, you vote at any of your county's Early Voting sites between Oct. 16 and Nov. 1.



To honor the people who fought so hard for you to have the right.

Secretary of State Candidates

The Secretary of State is the state's chief recordkeeper and helps oversee the business-related operations of state government.

Elaine F. Marshall: Democrat

INCUMBENT: The first woman elected to NC statewide office, I strive everyday to be an engine for job creation and protection for the people of NC. My family taught me the value of service and hard work. So as a lawyer I advocated for victims of abuse, took on the insurance industry, and provided a voice for those in need. In the State Senate, I got critical healthcare for NC citizens and, as Secretary of State, I've made protecting consumers and creating jobs top priorities.



As a former teacher and businesswoman, I learned to listen to people to help them meet their goals and reach their aspirations. As Secretary of State, I work everyday to make NC a great place to live, work and raise a family. www.elainemarshall.org

Priorities:

The Secretary of State is a watchdog for NC citizens and oversees many activities that protect consumers, strengthen small-business and create jobs. Three of the most important are: 1) Protecting small businesses and consumers by fighting against counterfeit goods. 2) Saving tax dollars by cutting the time and cost of doing business and streamlining public records with secure new technologies. 3) Standing up to special interests by working for strong reform of lobbying laws.

Jack Sawyer: Republican

A native of Kinston, I have resided in North Carolina my entire life. I received a political science degree from UNC-Chapel Hill and earned a law degree from Regent University. As an attorney, I have represented thousands of homeowners and small businesses in various transactions.



As a small business owner I have created jobs, hired and managed employees, met a payroll, and have faced the challenges of rising healthcare costs for employees. As a husband of a wonderful wife and a Dad to three fantastic children, I understand that some things are more important than politics. My life experiences as an attorney, small business owner, husband and father have prepared me to bring accountable leadership to the office of Secretary of State. www.joinjack.com

Priorities:

If privileged to serve as your Secretary of State I will work hard to: 1) increase transparency in government through live internet streaming video of the monthly Council of State meetings, 2) enact effective policies and procedures to account for all money received and disbursed by the department, and 3) expand the use of technology in a responsible manner that gives North Carolina citizens access to useful public information.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Candidates

The Superintendent of Public Instruction heads up the Department of Public Instruction and oversees NC public school systems.

June St. Clair Atkinson: Democrat

INCUMBENT: From being a school teacher, community college instructor, author, educational administrator to my 2004 election as State Superintendent, I have worked to make public education better for all students. I have traveled to and worked with all 115 school districts. I know what it is like to stretch a dollar to meet educational goals. I worked my way through college to get a B.S. from Radford University, a M.S. from Virginia Tech, and a doctorate from NC State in educational leadership and policy.



I have been recognized by over ten state and national associations for innovation and contributions to education and served as president of two national education associations. I am the only candidate with education experience and a proven record of improving schools. www.juneatkinson.com

Priorities:

Imagine the day when we see signs all over North Carolina saying, "100% of our students graduated from high school prepared." Imagine the day when no student is embarrassed to read in public because they have poor reading skills. Imagine the day when teachers will not need second jobs to "make ends meet." With my vision, commitment and partnership development, we won't have to imagine. These goals can become a reality.

Richard Morgan: Republican

I guess what I'm about to say isn't politically correct, but consider two facts: Last year, North Carolina eighth-graders took the national writing exam – and we were the only state in the nation where scores dropped. 71% of our students were not proficient. And 30% of our students drop out of school. Even though we spend \$10 billion a year on education!



Here are two problems: Too much politics; and too much bureaucracy.

If elected, I will fight to cut the bureaucracy. And use every dollar of the savings to increase teachers' pay. The best thing we can do for our schools is raise teachers' pay so dramatically people are lined up at the door to be teachers. www.richardmorgan2008.com

Priorities:

Too often elected officials use our schools to accomplish political agendas. Let's get the schools out of the social engineering business and back to their core mission: educating students. I want to continue to work hard to improve the quality of education and better prepare our students. My vision is that we will be a leader in improving student achievement. A sharp contrast to our D+ grade on achievement!

Statewide Judicial Candidates

Judges have a lot of power in our state. In many instances, their word is law and they have the final say over decisions that affect people's lives dramatically. The state constitution gives voters the power to choose the judges who preside over North Carolina's courtrooms. Judges run for office without party labels, on a nonpartisan basis.

This year, you are being asked to choose one new justice for the NC Supreme Court. He or she will serve an 8-year term and help the other six NC Supreme Court justices decide questions of law that have arisen in the lower courts or before administrative agencies. You will also vote on six NC Court of Appeals seats.

NC Supreme Court Associate Justice: Choose One, Edmunds or Reynolds

Robert H (Bob) Edmunds, Jr. (Incumbent)



Personal Statement: The people of North Carolina elected me to the Supreme Court in 2000. I am running for re-election. Because the work of the Supreme Court affects all aspects of life, a Justice should have the widest possible experience. My preparation for the Supreme Court included military duty, representing the people as a state prosecutor and as a presidentially-appointed United States Attorney, litigating appeals, practicing as a partner in a firm, serving as an elected Court of Appeals judge, and earning an advanced law degree. In ten years on the bench, I have earned a reputation for being fair, diligent and thoughtful. Former Chief Justices Rhoda Billings, Jim Exum, Burley Mitchell, and

Beverly Lake have endorsed me in this election. If re-elected, I will continue to uphold the rule of law and fairly administer justice to all who come before the Court. I ask for your support on Nov. 4. www.reelectjusticeedmunds.com

Elected Justice, Supreme Court of N.C. 2001-present. Elected Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 1999-2000. Partner, Stern & Klepfer, LLP, Greensboro, N.C., 1993-1998. Board Certified Specialist in Criminal Law (1993-present) and in Criminal Appellate Practice (1994-present). Presidentially appointed U.S. Attorney, Middle District of N.C., 1986-1993. Asst. U.S. Attorney, 1982-1986. Asst. District Attorney, 1978-1982. Appointed by U.S. Chief Justice Rehnquist to Federal Criminal Rules Committee. Reappointed by Chief Justice Roberts. LL.M., Univ. of Virginia School of Law, 2004; J.D., Univ. of North Carolina School of Law, 1975; A.B., Vassar College, 1971 (Graduated with honors); Williams College, 1967-1970

Suzanne Reynolds



Personal Statement: Our Supreme Court should clarify and explain the law in opinions accessible to every lawyer – and, in turn – to every citizen of the state. In essence, the Court's opinions should teach the law. I have taught more than 2,000 lawyers and have written about the law for 27 years, on topics ranging from ethics to contracts. My legal treatise on NC family law is recognized as the authoritative source on the subject. With family law cases on the rise, my expertise is critical for the Court. As a law professor, my only agenda is to interpret and explain the law. As a judge, I would continue that work with integrity and without a political agenda. Most organizations that have endorsed in this race have endorsed me, including lawyers, teachers,

firefighters, and civic groups. Individual endorsers include many former appellate and trial judges. I would appreciate your vote. www.suzannereynolds.org

Professor of law for 27 years, Wake Forest University School of Law. Author, Lee's North Carolina Family Law (regularly cited by NC appellate courts). Governor's Distinguished Woman of NC for Education, 1998. Gwyneth B. Davis Award for Public Service, NC Association of Women Attorneys. Joseph Branch Teaching Excellence, Wake Forest University School of Law. Practice of law in Greensboro, NC, with Smith Moore Smith Schell & Hunter; B.A., Meredith College; M.A., UNC-Chapel Hill; J.D., Wake Forest University School of Law.

NC Court Of Appeals Judge: Choose One, Farlow or Wynn

Jewel Ann Farlow



Personal Statement: The people of North Carolina expect and deserve fairness, integrity, solid work ethic, impartiality, and respect from their appellate judges. If elected as a judge on the Court of Appeals, I will apply these qualities.

I was born and raised in Greensboro. I have practiced law for twenty years and have represented individual and business interests in diverse areas.

My experience includes matters ranging from traffic to murder and from small claims to complex business and appellate practice. My civil practice includes the areas of family law, domestic violence, contract, personal injury, business, landlord/tenant, and bankruptcy law.

All citizens are entitled to a fair, ethical and courteous court system. I will be a conservative judge. I will apply and follow the law.

My experience, dedication and work ethic provide me with the skills to be a competent, knowledgeable, honest, and effective appellate judge.

Attorney, private practitioner, 1991 to present; Certified District Court Arbitrator, State of North Carolina, 1995 to present; Rivenbark, Kirkman, Alspaugh & Moore, Associate Attorney 1988-1991. Wake Forest University School of Law, Juris Doctor, 1988; Duke University, Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, 1980, magna cum laude.

James A. (Jim) Wynn (Incumbent)



Personal Statement: I have been deeply honored to serve the people and justice system of our great State as a judge for over 17 years. I have worked hard to apply the law fairly and treat everyone with respect. Beyond serving on North Carolina's appellate courts, I am a Certified Military Trial Judge and was the Navy Reserve Judicial Unit's Commanding Officer. I write and speak nationally about judicial independence, including as Chair of the ABA's Judicial Division. Because of my hard work and experience, I have been endorsed by, among others, the NC Association of Educators, NC Association of Women Attorneys, and Democratic and Republican Former Chief Justices of the NC Supreme Court Burley Mitchell, James Exum, Henry Frye, and Rhoda Billings.

I hope to serve you and our justice system for another 8 years and ask for your support on November 4. www.judgewynn.com

Judge, NC Court of Appeals, 1990-1998 and 1999-present; Associate Justice, NC Supreme Court, 1998; Fitch, Butterfield & Wynn, Wilson and Greenville, NC, 1984-90; Assistant Appellate Defender, 1983-84; U.S. Navy JAG Corps, Naval Legal Service Office, 1979-83; Captain (O-6), U.S. Navy Reserves, over 28 years; Certified Military Trial Judge; Chair, Judicial Division of the America Bar Association; Past Vice President, NC Bar Association; Judicial Council, NC Association of Black Lawyers 1972; 1975, B.A., UNC Chapel Hill; 1979, J.D., Marquette University School of Law; 1995, LL.M., University of Virginia School of Law.

What makes the NC Court of Appeals races so important?

The North Carolina Court of Appeals decides questions of law in all cases appealed from North Carolina's Superior and District courts except for death penalty cases. This means that the decisions Court of Appeals judges make can shape the level of justice our state delivers in everything from minor cases to murder cases. The 15 members of the NC Court of Appeals sit in rotating groups of three and hear thousands of cases a year. This year, you are being asked to decide six seats on the NC Court of Appeals, with each elected judge serving an 8-year term.

NC Court Of Appeals Judge: Choose One, Ervin or Ruth

Sam J. Ervin, IV



Personal Statement: The law is the glue that holds our society together. In order for the law to play its intended role, it must be applied dispassionately, fairly and conscientiously. A case that reaches the Court of Appeals is a major event in the life of the people involved; it's the last opportunity most people have to be heard in our courts. The Court's decisions also affect countless other cases. That makes the Court of Appeals a uniquely important part of North Carolina's judicial system. If I am elected, I will study the facts of each case carefully, thoroughly review the applicable law, and make a decision based on a careful analysis of the statutes and prior decisions of the appellate courts. I have been endorsed by the NC Academy of Trial Lawyers, NC Association of Women Attorneys, NC Association of Defense Attorneys, NC Troopers Association, and the Police Benevolent Association. www.ErvinForCourtOfAppeals.com

Practiced law in Morganton (1981- 1999) and handled a wide variety of matters, including numerous appeals to the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court; in 1999, became a member of the Utilities Commission, a quasi-judicial body that regulates investor-owned electric, natural gas, telephone and water and sewer companies; as member of the Utilities Commission, has been involved in conducting hearings, ruling on procedural motions, deciding complex questions of law and fact and issuing detailed written orders that can be appealed to the appellate courts; A.B., Magna Cum Laude, Davidson College 1978; J.D., Cum Laude, Harvard Law School 1981.

Kristin Ruth

Personal Statement: Ten years as a trial judge have prepared me for the appellate bench where I can draw on my broad, practical experience. I know how the rulings from the appeals courts affect regular folks who appear in courtrooms around the state every day. A 2008 Federal grant to replicate my Problem-Solving Court in child support enforcement as a national model recognizes that innovative alternatives to incarceration (employment resources, electronic house arrest, and mediation) improves parental responsibility to better address the needs of our children. I am fair and impartial, have a solid academic record, and a reputation of hard work. I treat each person with respect and apply the law to each case individually. I wholeheartedly ask for your vote. www.JudgeRuth.com



District Court Judge, 10th Judicial District, 1998-Present; recognized nationally as authority on child support enforcement; Senior Partner, Ruth Benson Rose & Bynum (1992-1998); Associate, Law Office of William Marshall (1991-1992); Law Clerk, Administrative Law Judges (1988-1989); Member, Board of Directors, Carolina Dispute Settlement Services; Executive Member, Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism (2003-2006); Member, Federal Task Force on Child Support; Service of Excellence Award, NC Child Support Council (2000); American Business Woman of The Year (2003); Judge of the Year (2004); Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (2004); Recipient of federal grant to replicate Problem-Solving Court for U.S. (2008); Kansas State University BS 1978; Wiggins School of Law, Campbell University, JD 1990.

NC Court Of Appeals Judge: Choose One, Beasley or McCullough

Cheri Beasley



Personal Statement: As a judge for almost ten years, everyday, I make important decisions for families and other members of our communities. I am a Family Court Judge and Certified Juvenile Court Judge and preside over criminal and civil matters, offering vast experience for appellate court work. Fairness and integrity are the essence of high standards in court, in my family and in my community involvement. Making sure that justice is truly accessible to all people is my commitment.

I accept the spending and fundraising limits required to receive funds from the Public Campaign Financing Fund. I am pleased to be endorsed by NC AFL-CIO, NC Association of

Educators, the NC Academy of Trial Lawyers, the NC Association of Women Attorneys, and NC Police Benevolent Association. My husband Curtis and I have been married fifteen years and have twin third-graders, Matthew and Thomas. We are members of the First Baptist Church in Fayetteville. www.judgecheri.com

District Court Judge, 1999-present; Cumberland County Public Defender's Office, 1994-1999; Wake County District Attorney's Office, October - December 1993; Legal work for various companies in Research Triangle Park, 1992-93 The University of Tennessee College of Law Knoxville, December 1991.

Doug McCullough (Incumbent)

Personal Statement: Prior to my election, I had extensive trial experience as a Federal Prosecutor and as an attorney in private practice. I am the only member of my court to have both prosecuted and defended criminal and civil cases to jury verdict. I further served our country in the U.S. Marine Corps with 29 years service, retiring in 1998 as a Colonel, USMCR Ret.

While on this Court, I have authored approximately 800 judicial opinions and participated in thousands more. In every case I strive to decide cases fairly and impartially to protect our liberty. I am honored that many fine lawyers and retired appellate judges, including former Chief Justices I. Beverly Lake and Burley Mitchell, have endorsed me for re-election. If I am privileged to be re-elected, I pledge to continue to administer law in an even-handed manner. I need and appreciate your vote on Election Day. www.re-electjudgemccullough.com



Associate Judge, NC Court of Appeals 2001-present; Private practice with Stubbs & Perdue, 1996-2001; Sr. Assistant US Attorney & Acting US Attorney on 2 occasions 1981-1996; Counsel, US Senate, 1977-1981; Attorney, Philadelphia Organized Crime Strike Force, 1974-77; Judge Advocate, US Marine Corps, 1970-1974, University of South Carolina - JD, Columbia, South Carolina; Managing Editor, Law Review; Honor Council; 1967 - The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill - AB History, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

NC Court Of Appeals Judge: Choose One, Barrett or Stephens

Dan Barrett



Personal Statement: If elected, I will treat all who appear before the Court with respect and dignity. I will be fair and impartial in every case. I have a conservative judicial philosophy. I will not legislate from the bench. I have been blessed with the opportunity to give back to my community through service as Chair of the Davie County Commissioners, as Chair of Davie Hospital, and on numerous other community and charitable boards. As a candidate for governor in 2004, I walked across North Carolina. I was deeply enriched by the good people I met along the way. This opportunity allowed me to gain a unique insight into our great state. It is the people who make this a great state

and it has been an honor for me to be part of the North Carolina experience. I ask for your support and vote. www.BarrettforJudge.com.

Practicing attorney for 23 years; extensive state-wide trial and appellate experience; recognized as one of the leading employment law attorneys in North Carolina, including recognition as a "Legal Elite" in employment law by Business North Carolina magazine; author of North Carolina Employment Law (Lexis Law Publishing, 1998); as county commissioner, served in a quasi-judicial role in zoning/land-use disputes; top rating ("AV") by the Martindale-Hubbell national legal directory; Past Chair of the Labor and Employment Law Section of the North Carolina Bar Association. Scotland High School, Laurinburg, N.C., 1977; Wake Forest University, B.A. (cum laude), 1981; Wake Forest University School of Law, J.D. (Law Review; Moot Court), 1985.

Linda Stephens (Incumbent)

Personal Statement: As a judge, my role is to administer justice one case at a time. I am committed to working hard, approaching each case with an open mind, listening impartially, treating all parties with respect, applying the law as written, and judging fairly. The values of hard work and fairness have guided my 29 years as a lawyer and judge. I believe politics has no place the courtroom. In this nonpartisan race, my endorsements include former appellate judges from both major political parties, lawyer organizations that represent opposite sides in civil disputes, law enforcement organizations, citizens' groups, and teachers. I believe these endorsements indicate that I am fair and impartial in my application of the law. It is truly an honor to serve, and I pledge to continue to maintain the integrity of the office and to render my best judgment in the performance of my duties. www.JudgeLinda.org.



Judge, NC Court of Appeals, 2006-present. Teague, Campbell, Dennis & Gorham, LLP, Partner, 1989 to 2005, Associate, 1984-1989 (first woman associate and partner); President, NC Association of Defense Attorneys (first woman President), 2001-2002; Chair, NC State Bar Workers' Compensation Specialization Committee 2003-2005; significant trial and appellate practice; listed in The Best Lawyers in America, Workers' Compensation Section, 1995-2006; named one of the Top 50 Female Lawyers by North Carolina Super Lawyer Magazine, 2006. Deputy Commissioner, NC Industrial Commission, 1980-1984. Law Clerk for the Honorable Fred Hedrick, NC Court of Appeals, 1979-1980. UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law, J.D., 1979; Univ. of South Carolina, B.A., Journalism, magna cum laude, 1973.

NC Court Of Appeals Judge: Choose One, Arrowood or Hunter

John S. Arrowood (Incumbent)



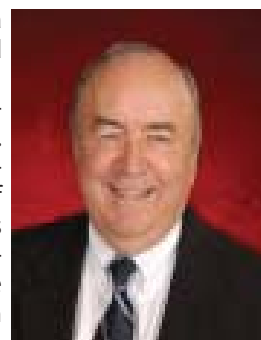
Personal Statement: I ask for your support and vote on November 4 to retain my seat on the North Carolina Court of Appeals. As a Judge, I have no agenda to pursue nor platform to advance. I pledge to administer justice fairly and without favoritism and to perform my responsibilities with integrity and to the best of my ability. I was born in Burnsville. Following the death of my parents while I was still a teenager, I lived with my brother, a State Trooper, in Lenoir. During my professional career I served as a research assistant and staff attorney at the Court. For 18 years I was engaged in private practice litigating complex commercial cases. My public service includes the: NC Banking Commission; NC Arts Council; Rules Review Commission; NC Railroad Board; and Charlotte Urban Ministry Center. I

am an active member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church. www.JudgeArrowood.com

Judge, NC Court of Appeals, 2007 - present; Special Superior Court Judge, 2007; James, McElroy & Diehl, P.A., 1989 - 2007; Research Assistant to Judge Arnold, Staff Attorney/Senior Staff Attorney/Director NC Court of Appeals, 1983 - 1989; Wilson Palmer & Cannon, 1982 - 1983. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, J.D. 1982; Catawba College, B.A. Magna Cum Laude, 1979

Robert N. (Bob) Hunter, Jr.

Personal Statement: Every person who comes before a court should be treated fairly and with respect. Judges should be base their decisions on the law and not let their personal preferences influence their decisions. I have no private personal agenda which I seek to advocate should I be elected. Every case should be decided on its merits. After representing people in private practice for nearly 35 years, the Court of Appeals provides me the opportunity to return the benefits that North Carolina has afforded me. My family and life experiences, as well as my years of professional practice, help give me a fuller understanding of the competing interests which judges must resolve. My decision to run is based in part on a desire to end my legal career in public service. I would be honored to receive your vote for the NC Court of Appeals. www.hunterforjudge.com

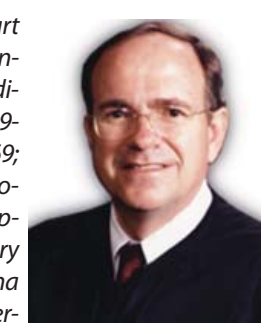


Private practice of law 1976 to present; "A.V." (highest level of professional excellence) rated by Martindale-Hubbell. Admitted to practice in all NC & Federal District Courts in North Carolina, 4th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court; Adjunct Professor, Wake Forest Law School (2006); Deputy Attorney General NC Department of Justice (1976); Chairman State Board of Elections (1985-1989); Public Administrator for Guilford County (1983 to 1994); Chairman NCBA Section on Constitutional Rights (2000). W.H. Page High School, Greensboro, NC, 1965; UNC-CH, B.A. 1969; UNC-CH School of Law, J.D., 1973

NC Court Of Appeals Judge: Incumbent John C. Martin is Running Unopposed

Personal Statement: It has been my privilege to serve the citizens of North Carolina as a trial and appellate judge for nearly 26 years. As Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, I have worked hard to improve the performance of the Court, implementing measures which have eliminated the previous backlog of cases and substantially reduced the time required to complete appellate review of cases by the Court. As Chairman of the North Carolina Judicial Standards Commission, I have requested and secured passage of legislation to expand the Commission and provide improved procedures for investigating and resolving complaints of judicial misconduct. I am also actively involved in providing training for trial and appellate judges, as well as lawyers and law students, in the fields of judicial ethics and professionalism. Even though I am seeking re-election without opposition, I would be honored by your vote. www.judgejohnmartin.com

Chief Judge, NC Court of Appeals, 2004-present; Judge, NC Court of Appeals, 1985-1988, 1993-2004; Chairman, NC Judicial Standards Comm., 2001-present; Judge, NC Superior Court, 14th Judicial District, 1977-1984; Private Law Practice, Durham, NC, 1969-1977, 1988-1992; 1LT, U.S. Army, Military Police Corps, 1967-1969; Member: Chief Justice's Comm. on Professionalism; North Carolina Judicial Council; Council of Chief Judges of State Courts of Appeal and its Education Committee; NC Judicial College Advisory Committee; Member and former V.P. (1997-98) North Carolina Bar Assn. Wake Forest University, B.A., 1965; Wake Forest University School of Law, J.D., 1967.



What Happens Next?

Holding Elected Officials to Their Promises

People who rarely vote will often say it's because it won't do any good. They'll tell you:

"Politicians will say anything to get elected. Then they'll do what they want!"

"They don't care what I think anyway. I don't have money to give their campaign."

The truth is that when voters accept what candidates say and don't bother to check on what they do, it's easy for them to get away with making promises they never fulfill. And when voters don't jump on elected officials who give special favors to large campaign donors, you can bet they'll keep doing it.

It doesn't have to be that way. **Your rights as a voter don't end at the ballot box. You can demand to be heard, and throw out the politicians who don't listen to you!**

In fact, North Carolina citizens have won important changes by organizing together for a specific purpose. For example, groups of citizens recently forced elected officials to raise the minimum wage for workers, provide more quality healthcare for children and reduce smokestack pollution.

It's your right to know what your elected officials are doing, who's giving them donations and how they vote on important issues. Here are some simple ways to follow what your elected officials are doing. These ideas are tailored for state representatives, but you can use the same techniques locally:

1 Follow what's going on in the NC General Assembly by reading the newspaper or visiting its website at www.ncga.net or following policy discussions at www.ncpolicy-watch.com.

2 Call your elected officials before important votes to let them know where you stand on the issue being debated. (A personal letter or call is better than an email.)

3 See who donated money to a candidate's campaign by visiting the Campaign Finance Report Search section of the State Board of Elections website: www.sboe.state.nc.us.

4 Visit your state legislator at the General Assembly at 16 West Jones Street, Raleigh. The building is open to the public. You can make an appointment to see your legislator there or arrange to meet him or her in your home county with other people who share your views.

5 Learn how to contact your state representatives by visiting the "Help" or "Citizen's Guide" sections of the General Assembly website at www.ncleg.net or by calling (919) 733-7928.



North Carolina's state motto is "Esse Quam Videri," a Latin phrase that means "to be rather than to seem." If you believe that politicians should be who they say they are, it's up to you to make sure they follow the law, practice strong ethics and listen to the people who live in their district.

Additional Info

Track campaign donations to candidates at:

- State Board of Elections: www.sboe.state.nc.us
- Center for Responsive Politics: www.opensecrets.org.

Learn more about the candidates/incumbents at:

- The Generation Engage NC Ballot Initiative – www.generationengage.org/state/nc/ballot.html
- UNC TV Election 2008 – www.unctv.org/election
- North Carolina General Assembly: www.ncga.state.nc.us

Learn more about NC's political parties at:

- NC Democratic Party: www.ncdp.org
- NC Republican Party: www.ncgop.org
- Libertarian Party of NC: www.lpnc.org
- NC Green Party: <http://www.ncgreens.org>



To change the policies that you disagree with to better ones.

It's All About the Issues!

To change the way government officials operate, it's important to focus on the issues that our elected representatives address. These big topics may sound familiar to you because they outlast most elections as well as most politicians. And they define what kind of society we have.

The pages that follow describe some of the major issues facing North Carolina and the organizations that are taking action now about them. If you're interested in an issue, please contact the listed organizations to learn how you can help our state tackle its toughest challenges and be the best it can be.

Join Us in Working For...

A Government That Benefits All of Us

Democracy is the best idea anybody ever had for running a country — but keeping our government open, honest and on the right track is a job that is never finished. As non-profit, non-partisan organizations, we protect our democracy in many ways, whether by pushing for open government records, limiting the power of big money in politics or getting more citizens involved by making it easier to vote or run for office. Sometimes we question the priorities of our government officials or policies that don't help everyday people. Often this work is controversial, because it challenges "the way things are." And that's OK, because we believe the best can always be better.

These groups are seeking to improve democracy in our state and to create a government better equipped to represent us all:



Common Cause

Common Cause North Carolina is a non-partisan grassroots organization that seeks to broaden and strengthen democracy by:

- Promoting fair elections.
- Curbing big money politics.
- Demanding high ethical standards for government officials.
- Boosting participating and faith in our self-government.
- Protecting civil rights and liberties for all Americans.

www.commoncause.org/nc
(919) 836-0027



Generation Engage

GenerationEngage is a nonpartisan civic-engagement initiative connecting young Americans to political leaders, civic organizations, and meaningful debate about the future. GenerationEngage believes the best investment in the future of our democracy is in young leaders at the local level.

www.GenerationEngage.org
(919) 833-1280



Common Sense Foundation

The Common Sense Foundation is a progressive think tank promoting fairness, justice and opportunity in North Carolina public policy. This year, our work focuses on immigrant rights, rural public transportation, the death penalty and mental illness.

www.common-sense.org
(919) 682-4466



NC Policy Watch

NC Policy Watch advances the state policy debate by generating a steady flow of timely, accurate and hard-hitting commentary and analysis that challenges conventional wisdom and spurs state leaders to build a more prosperous and equitable North Carolina.

www.ncpolicywatch.com
(919) 861-2065



Democracy North Carolina

Democracy North Carolina uses nonpartisan research, grassroots outreach, training and coalition building to:

- Increase voter turnout and civic participation.
- Protect voter rights and eliminate barriers to voting.
- Reduce the influence of big money donations on government.
- Promote campaign finance and ethics reform.
- Develop new civic leaders throughout North Carolina.

www.democracy-nc.org
(888) OUR-VOTE



NC Coalition for Lobbying & Government Reform

The North Carolina Coalition for Lobbying and Government Reform is a non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting good government policies that level the playing field for the citizens of North Carolina. The groundbreaking bipartisan coalition is comprised of more than 50 non-profit organizations and individuals covering the entire political spectrum.

www.nclobbyreform.org
(919) 833-0092



Safer Communities, Fairer Courts, Making People Whole

Ensuring that justice is both blind and fair is not simple. In many cases where someone is hurt by crime, the path to justice can have stumbling blocks that make it difficult for victims to be fully informed and restored. Many times, the families on both sides of the courtroom are dealing with horrible economic and social situations that leave both sides shattered. Ironically, our system that punishes crime can often make it difficult for the offenders to truly repay their debt to society and turn their lives around.

To bring real justice to our communities, it takes education, prevention, community rehabilitation programs, true community policing, and sensible laws and policies that tackle the causes of crime without increasing the economic burden that prisons alone create. We are constantly watching, working and talking to government officials to make our courts, police systems and statewide policies more effective and fair for all. Preventing crime and restoring communities are the most important values we share.

These groups are seeking equal justice and a safer world for us all:



NCCASA

The North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault seeks to end sexual violence, ensure fair treatment of survivors and keep North Carolinians safe. We work with rape crisis centers, law enforcement, medical personnel, statewide and national groups. We advocate for a world free of sexual violence and the societal changes, policies and funding to help achieve this goal.

www.nccasa.org
(888) 737-2272

North Carolinians Against Gun Violence

Guns kill more than 1,000 North Carolinians every year. Our mission is to make North Carolina safe from gun violence through the education of the public about preventing gun violence, the enforcement of current gun laws and the enactment of needed new laws.



www.ncgv.org
(919) 403-7665



Carolina Justice Policy Center

The Carolina Justice Policy Center works on a wide range of criminal justice issues in North Carolina including sentencing reform, advocating for more alternative programs to incarceration, and addressing critical problems in NC's use of the death penalty. CJPC is a criminal justice advocacy and policy-based non-profit that does not provide legal representation.

www.justicepolicycenter.org
(919) 682-1149



Murder Victims' Families for Reconciliation

We are a national organization that has designated North Carolina as a "Priority State." Our mission is to work with murder victims' family members and families of the executed to advocate for abolition of the death penalty in North Carolina and throughout the nation. We also support these victims' families.

www.mvfr.org
(919) 215-0714



NCCADV

The mission of NCCADV is to create social change through the elimination of the institutional, cultural and individual oppressions that contribute to domestic violence. Our vision is to empower all North Carolina communities to build a society that prevents and eliminates domestic violence. In addition to physical violence, battering often includes sexual, emotional and economic abuse. We believe domestic violence is absolutely unacceptable.

www.nccadv.org
(888) 232-9124



Each year, the NCCADV's KC's Ride Without Fear fundraising event raises thousands of dollars to fight domestic violence in North Carolina. The event is held annually to kick off Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which takes place in October.



To prove that you refuse to be taken for granted.

Join Us in Working For..

Essential Freedoms For All People

Freedom is the most powerful idea in the world. In America, we expect to think and say what we want, share information, choose our own friends and meet together whenever we wish. We count on being free to vote and free to go wherever we choose without fear. We expect a great deal of personal freedom, including the freedom to marry who we want or not at all — and the freedom to make personal decisions about our health and our bodies.

It has been a long, hard struggle to win our freedoms, and too many people in our country still do not enjoy real freedom because of their race, culture, gender or other differences. We are all human beings, and we are more alike than we are different. When all of us are free, we will create a better America and a better North Carolina.

These groups are all fighting to ensure North Carolina is a state where everyone has the same basic freedoms and opportunities:



El Pueblo

El Pueblo is a North Carolina non-profit statewide advocacy and public policy organization dedicated to strengthening the Latino Community. This mission is accomplished through leadership development, proactive and direct advocacy, education and promotion of cross-cultural understanding in partnerships at the local, state and national levels.

www.elpueblo.org
(919) 835-1525



Equality NC

The only organization working to secure equality for the state's LGBT community, Equality NC has held back a constitutional amendment against equal marriage for five years and made an anti-bullying bill its legislative centerpiece. Equality NC Foundation will present the 2008 Equality Conference & Gala on November 15 at Duke University.

www.equalitync.org
(919) 829-0343



Alliance of North Carolina Black Elected Officials

The Alliance of North Carolina Black Elected Officials (ANCBE) is a statewide coalition of Black Elected Officials, public policy advocates and community members. The group focuses on proactive strategies to foster public policy initiatives leading to positive change in the areas of education, healthcare, economic empowerment, crime and justice, and political effectiveness.

www.ncbeoalliance.org
(919) 833-6394



NAACP

We are the premier civil rights organization in the nation and in North Carolina that is intergenerational and multi-issue and that, for 99 years, has advocated for equity and a social justice agenda to secure the political, educational, social and economic rights of all people. Where would we be without the NAACP?

www.naacpnc.org
www.hkonj.com
www.ncprosecutorialmisconduct.com
1-866-NC-NAACP



A. Philip Randolph Institute

The North Carolina State Chapter of A. Philip Randolph Institute is an organization dedicated to developing programs to assure democratic social change and protecting social and economic programs that will improve the lives of all Americans.

www.apri.org
(919) 833-6671





FROM BLOODY SUNDAY TO VOTING ON SUNDAY



The Selma-to-Montgomery March for voting rights in 1965 represented the political and emotional peak of the modern civil rights movement. On "Bloody Sunday," March 7, 1965, some 600 civil rights marchers left Selma on U.S. Route 80, headed to Montgomery to protest Alabama's harassment and refusal to register black voters. They got as far as the Edmund Pettus Bridge six blocks away,

where state and local lawmen attacked them with billy clubs and tear gas and drove them back into Selma. The photographs of brutality, following months of attention on Selma's mistreatment of black residents, seared the nation's conscience.

Two days later, Martin Luther King, Jr., led a "symbolic" march to the bridge. Civil rights leaders then sought and won court protection for a third, full-scale march. On Sunday, March 21, about 3,200 marchers left Selma for Montgomery, walking 12 miles a day and sleeping in fields. By the time they reached the capitol on Thursday, March 25, they were 25,000-strong. Less than five months after the last of the three marches, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act of 1965, culminating an intense struggle by ordinary people to be treated as first-class citizens.

Today, the struggle for voting rights continues. For example, it is not always easy for people to take time off from work in order to vote. Because of public pressure, every NC county now opens at least one location for early voting (19 to 3 days before Election Day). Some are now open on Sunday afternoons. To find out if your county has Sunday voting, call your county Board of Elections (in the phone book under "Government Departments" or see Page 23 of this guide). When you vote on Sunday, you'll be honoring the civil rights pioneers who risked their lives on a Sunday in 1965 in order to give all of us an equal right to vote.



NARAL Pro-Choice NC

NARAL Pro-Choice North Carolina Foundation works to support and protect, as a fundamental right and value, a woman's freedom to make personal decisions regarding the full range of reproductive choices through education, training, organizing, legal action, and public policy.

www.prochoicenc.org
(919) 829-9779



Ipas

Ipas is an **international organization** that works around the world to increase women's ability to exercise their sexual and reproductive rights, and to reduce abortion-related deaths and injuries. We believe that women everywhere must have the opportunity to determine their futures, care for their families and manage their fertility.

www.ipas.org
(919) 967-7052 or (800) 334-8446



To maintain the freedoms that other people fought so hard to win.



**Planned Parenthood
of Central NC**

**Planned Parenthood
Health Systems, Inc.**

Planned Parenthood provides comprehensive reproductive healthcare to women, men and teens in our eight health centers across North Carolina. We are committed health educators in the communities we serve and advocates for common-sense public policies to help reduce unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted infection rates.

www.plannedparenthood.org

(800) 230-PLAN



Planned Parenthood peer educators march in the NAACP's 2008 HKonJ event. (Photo courtesy of Justin Colquhoun)



Although women did not even gain the right to vote until 1920, when the 19th Amendment was ratified and added to the U.S. Constitution, today they make up over half the voters in North Carolina, occupy top positions in its government and play an important role in shaping the policies of our state.



The 2007 U.S. Census estimated that North Carolina now has over 9 million residents and is the 10th largest U.S. state. North Carolina's diversified population includes 68% White Non-Hispanics, 22% African Americans, 1.3% American Indian, 1.9% Asian Americans and 6.7% Hispanics/Latinos. Women make up 51% of our overall state population.

Join Us in Working For...

Stronger Communities & Economic Security

How do you build a strong community? By getting people to work together for better housing, education, better jobs and programs that help people move up the economic ladder. By preserving what's strong in a community and working to make it stronger. We push our government leaders for wise investments in people, in better transportation, in healthcare and for fair wages and better working conditions.

These organizations work in rural and urban areas across our state, bringing affordable housing and prosperity to local communities:



Finding local heroes:

If you care about your community and the people who live there, one of the best things you can do is to pay attention to the candidates running in local races. The people who lead your school board or city council or board of county commissioners have the power to make decisions that hit very close to home. Make sure you choose these leaders well! It can be hard to find information on these candidates, but it's worth the effort. Ask your hometown newspaper to publish profiles on the candidates; start a bulletin board at your local library so people can read their biographies. Encourage your neighbors to choose leaders with a record of community service who have proved they can put the interests of everyone before their own.



ACORN

ACORN is the nation's largest grass-roots community organization of low-to-moderate income people with over 400,000 member families organized in 110 cities across the country. ACORN builds community organizations committed to social and economic justice, and uses direct action, negotiation, legislative advocacy and voter participation to empower marginalized citizens.

www.acorn.org

Raleigh ACORN: (919) 833-6194

Durham ACORN: (919) 682-4273

Charlotte ACORN: (704) 531-9800



CRA-NC

The Community Reinvestment Association of North Carolina's (CRA-NC) mission is to promote and protect community wealth. We advocate on behalf of underserved communities, including low-income and minority households. We seek to end predatory lending practices that strip wealth. CRA-NC uses research, education, mobilization and media in a framework of creative advocacy.

www.cra-nc.org

(919) 667-1557



NC Fair Share

"Working for a Fairer NC"

NC Fair Share

We provide tools for North Carolinians to receive leadership that will address issues of injustice impacting their lives that leads to work for a fairer North Carolina through community organizing and public policy changes at the local, state and national level.

www.ncfairshare.org

(866) 302-0031

Coalition to End Homelessness

The North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness is a statewide membership nonprofit that secures resources, encourages public dialogue, and advocates for policies to end homelessness. NCCEH's policy agenda is focused on ending homelessness through increased flexible funding for prevention services, affordable housing production and increased funding for housing and homelessness programs.



www.ncceh.org

(919) 755-4393



ACORN members fight for their communities through direct protest and other civic actions.

VOTE

Because you want YOUR community to have a voice in state policies.

NC Association of Community Development Corporations

The North Carolina Association of Community Development Corporations (NCACDC) strengthens the NC economy by supporting community development corporations (CDCs) as they build prosperous communities. We are a catalyst for partnerships that bring together community residents, business leaders and government to solve community problems and increase local investment.

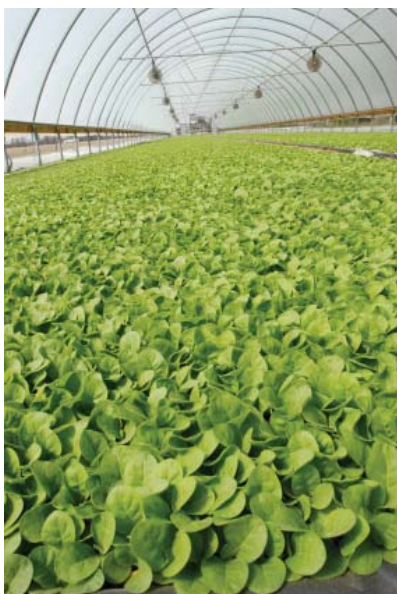
www.ncacdc.org
(919) 831-9710



NC Community Development Initiative

North Carolina Community Development Initiative is a statewide public-private partnership that provides leadership and capital investment to high-performance community development corporations (CDCs) as well as other community based economic development endeavors, (i.e. social enterprises) to improve the well being and quality of life for people in low resource communities.

www.ncinitiative.org
(919) 828-5655



North Carolina has economic challenges in both its large rural areas and growing cities.



NC Housing Coalition

NC Housing Coalition is a private, nonprofit organization working for decent, safe and affordable housing that promotes self-determination and stable communities. Our mission is to lead a campaign for housing to ensure that working families, people in crisis, seniors, and persons with disabilities may live with dignity and opportunity.

www.nchousing.org
(919) 881-0707



NC Justice Center

The Justice Center is the state's leading research and advocacy organization dedicated to transforming NC's prosperity into opportunity for all. Our mission is to eliminate poverty in North Carolina by ensuring that every household in the state has access to the resources, services and fair treatment it needs in order to enjoy economic security.

www.ncjustice.org
(919) 856-2570



Vote without leaving home – or if you find yourself far from home



Some people prefer to vote using an Absentee Ballot. This is a ballot that is mailed to the address you specify and then mailed back when you complete it. You do not need an excuse to vote by Absentee Ballot. You or a near relative can request one by writing your local Board of Elections from September 15 to October 28 for this year's election. You cannot use a form letter for this! All requests should include the voter's name, local address, where the Absentee Ballot should be mailed, the voter's date of birth and the signature of the voter or the person making the request for the voter. If the request is made by your relative, it must include their name, address and their relationship to you. It's a good idea to include a phone number or email address in case your Board of Elections needs to contact you for any reason. And remember: you must first be registered to vote. See Page 2 for how to register.

Join Us in Working For..

Clean Air, Clean Water and Green Open Space For All

Stop breathing. You can't, right? And you have to have water, too. All people need clean air and water, and in our fast-growing state, it's too easy for growth to overwhelm our ability to protect the water and air. There are many challenges from the mountains to the coast, in every county, with pollution from our cars, our rooftops and roads, our industries and our own individual use of energy. And if we live or work in a larger city, we may feel stress from the pressure of traffic. All of us welcome the chance to relax in a fresh green open space, whether we play sports, hunt and fish, or just sit and look at the landscape. We work to keep our state in balance, so we can enjoy life, as well as make a living.

These groups are making North Carolina a healthier place to live:



CCNC

Conservation Council of NC Foundation works statewide to protect and enhance the quality of life and environment for North Carolinians. We advocate for sound environmental policies and motivate citizens to participate in the democratic process on behalf of the environment. CCNCF collaborates with environmental groups to set a common environmental agenda.

www.conservationcouncilnc.org
(919) 839-0006



CONSERVATION TRUST
FOR NORTH CAROLINA

CTNC

The Conservation Trust for North Carolina protects the natural treasures of our state by working with 24 local land trusts, landowners, communities and numerous partners to preserve clean drinking water, scenic landscapes, farms and forests and wildlife habitat for future generations while increasing diversity and inclusiveness in the conservation movement.

www.ctnc.org
(919) 828-4199



North Carolina
Conservation
Network

NC Conservation Network

The North Carolina Conservation Network is a statewide network of over 120 environmental and community groups working to protect North Carolina's environment and public health. Visit our website to join our online network of citizens taking action on critical issues to protect North Carolina's natural beauty and public health.

www.ncconservationnetwork.org
(919) 857-4699



The HK on J Agenda

H = historic

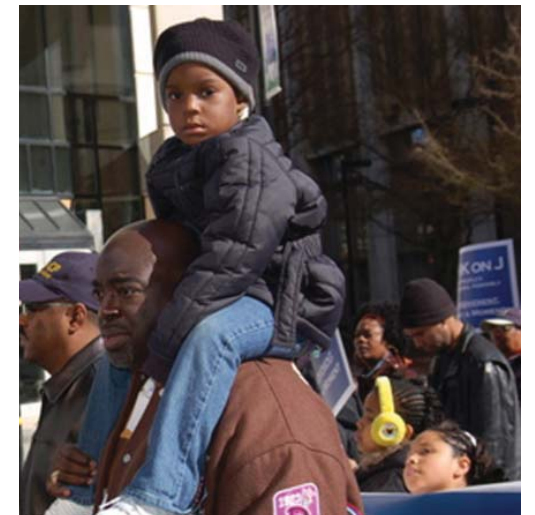
K = thousands, in the metric system

on J = on Jones Street, the address in Raleigh of our Legislature and many state office buildings.



If you don't like "the way things are" you're not the only one — there are *historic thousands* who aren't satisfied and who are working to change things for the better.

The coalition called HKonJ is a movement, not a moment. Begun in 2007, HKonJ works for a 14-point agenda that will make life better for all North Carolinians, particularly those who are discriminated against because of race, ethnicity or income. This coalition was called together by the NC State Conference of NAACP Branches and now includes 80 partner organizations that hold a mass assembly every year in February and work year-round to advance the 14 Point Agenda. Read the agenda below, or go to www.hkonj.com to get more details, see video clips and photos and sign up for the free email newsletters.



Photos courtesy of Dr. Jarvis Hall

THE HKonJ PEOPLE'S AGENDA: 14 POINTS

1. All Children Need High Quality, Well Funded, Diverse Schools. NC must meet its Constitution's requirement of adequate and diverse schools by fully funding the *Leandro* recommendations, applying transparent accountability and creating special leadership teams in its failing schools.

2. Livable Wages and Support for Low Income People. NC ought to provide livable wages, make sure no person goes hungry and ensure that everyone in need has affordable, accessible childcare.

3. Healthcare for All. NC ought to provide its people with health insurance and prescription drugs, while funding public health programs to treat social diseases that plague Black and poor communities, including HIV/AIDS, diseases caused by environmental pollution and warming, drugs, domestic violence, mental illness, diabetes and obesity.

4. Redress Two Ugly Chapters in NC's Racist History, namely, the overthrow of the bi-racial 1898 Wilmington Government and the sterilization of poor, mainly Black, women from 1947-1977. NC must implement its 1898 Wilmington Riot Commission recommendations and pay damages to the poor women it forcibly sterilized.

5. Same Day Registration through Election Day and Public Financing of Elections. NC must increase voter participation and reduce the influence of private money in elections so non-wealthy people can run for office.

6. Lift Every HBCU. NC must financially support our Historically Black Colleges and Universities to develop equitable infrastructure and programs with doctoral-level leadership for today's challenges.

7. Document and Redress 200 years of State Discrimination in Hiring and Contracting. NC must commission historical documentation of its contracting practices with racial minorities to justify constitutional redress.

8. Provide Affordable Housing and Stop Consumer Abuse. NC must provide an Affordable Housing Trust Fund for low-income renters, vouchers for wounded veterans who can not find accessible housing, meaningful tax breaks for seniors forced out of their homes, and protection against predatory lending and foreclosures.

9. Abolish Racially Biased Death Penalty and Mandatory Sentencing Laws; Reform Our Prisons.

10. Put Young People to Work to Save the Environment and Fight for Environmental Justice. NC must establish an Environmental Job Corps for young people who did not graduate from high school to re-engage them in public service. NC must fight all forms of environmental injustice.

11. Collective Bargaining for Public Employees and Support Smithfield Workers Right to Unionize. NC must support the right of Smithfield workers in Tar Heel to form a union and work in a safe environment, and support collective bargaining for public employees.

12. Protect the Rights of Immigrants from Latin America and other Nations. NC must provide immigrants with health care, education, workers rights and protection from discrimination.

13. Organize, Strengthen and Provide Funding For Our Civil Rights Enforcement Agencies and Statutes Now.

14. Bring Our Troops Home from Iraq Now. NC cannot address injustice at home while we wage an unjust war abroad.

The NC Voter Bill of Rights

If anyone tries to deny you these rights when you vote, call the Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE or 1-866-522-4723:

1. HOURS... Each polling place is open from 6:30 AM to 7:30 PM on Election Day. If you are in line or inside the polling place by 7:30 PM, you must be allowed to vote.

2. IDENTIFICATION... In general, you do not have to show identification to poll workers when you vote. However, if you are a first-time voter who registered to vote by mail or who gave the form to another person to deliver, ID may be required. It makes sense to take a form of ID: a current NC driver's license or one of these documents with your name and current address: utility bill (electric, gas, phone, water, cable bill), pay-stub/W-2, bank statement, or a license, permit or other document from any government agency.

3. PROVISIONAL BALLOT... If any problem arises, you have a right to vote with a Provisional Ballot. Ask for a Provisional Ballot if you believe you registered but your name is not on the rolls; or if you question the voting district (or ballot) assigned to you; or if you are told you're in the wrong precinct. You must also be given a way to find out if your Provisional Ballot counted, and if not, the reason why it did not count.

4. IF YOU MOVE... If you have lived in your new home more than 30 days, you have the right to vote in your current precinct. If you have lived there less than 30 days, you should vote in your old precinct or cast a provisional ballot in your current precinct. If you have moved within your precinct, you have the right to update your information at the polls and vote.

5. NAME CHANGE... If your name has changed, you have the right to vote, even if you have not reported your name change to election officials.

6. SPOILED BALLOT... If you make a mistake and "spoil" your ballot, you have a right to a new ballot.

7. ASSISTANCE... You have the right to assistance from a family member or, if you have a disability, from any person of your choice, except your employer or union agent. You can also receive ballot instructions in Spanish.

8. CURBSIDE... If the polling place is inaccessible to you due to a disability, you have a right to vote at the curb, in the vehicle you came in, or at the door of the polling place. (See "**For Voters with Disabilities**" below left.)

9. EX-FELONS & MISDEMEANANTS... You have a right to vote if you are in jail for a misdemeanor or if you are an ex-felon who has completed your sentence (including probation) and re-registered to vote.

10. INTIMIDATION... You have a right to vote without being intimidated or forced to vote for anyone you don't wish to vote for.

You also have the right to take this Bill of Rights into the voting booth with you.

Make sure every vote counts: Be a part of Election Protection!

True democracy means every voter is respected and every vote counts. To make sure the 2008 election is fair, you can be part of a national effort called Election Protection. Election Protection is a coalition of national and state organizations that train local volunteers, monitor elections and help voters who encounter problems or see suspicious activity at polling locations. Based on the information it receives, Election Protection can quickly dispatch lawyers to talk with election or court officials and insist that all election laws are followed and voter's rights are respected. You can volunteer to help in three ways:

1. Be a poll monitor who receives training to look for possible problems;
2. Help staff a hotline in North Carolina that relays problems to lawyers and others;
3. Tell others about the Election Protection Hotline and tell them to call if they have problems: 1-866-OUR-VOTE.

To volunteer or to report a problem or suspicious activity, call the toll-free Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683).



For Voters with Disabilities:

Sometimes access to your regular polling place can be difficult. If so, you may want to use Early Voting instead, since all Early Voting sites must be completely accessible. But if you prefer to vote on Election Day, you can vote from the curb without leaving your car. Polling places have a special spot for curbside voting near the front entrance. Simply pull up and wait and a poll worker will come out to assist you. (Usually, voters entering the polls will alert the poll worker that a car is waiting.) Before you go to vote, you may also want to check the accessibility of the polling place by calling the local Board of Elections or the State Board of Elections at 1-866-522-4723. You have the right to request another permanent polling place before the election if yours is inaccessible. Remember, if you go to your polling place and find it is inaccessible, you can vote at any other polling place in the county by asking for a Provisional Ballot.

For more information on disability rights in NC, call Disability Rights North Carolina at 1-877-235-4210 (voice) or 1-888-268-5535 (TTY). Or visit their website at www.disabilityrightsn.org.

Early Voting: Oct. 16 to Nov. 1

For sites in other counties, see www.2008ElectionConnection.com

Editions of this Guide for Guilford, Cumberland and Wake Counties list Early Voting sites in the middle pages of this booklet.

DURHAM COUNTY

The 7 sites below open: Oct 16-29, Mon.-Fri., 9am-5:30pm; Oct. 30 & 31, 9am-7pm; Saturdays Oct. 18 & 25, 9am-5:30pm; Sundays Oct 19, 12-3pm and Oct. 26, 12-5:30pm; and Saturday Nov. 1, 9am-1pm. All sites are in Durham:

- Board of Elections Office, 706 W. Corporation St.
- N. Regional Library, 221 Milton Rd.
- NCCU: Parish Center Mtng Room, 1400 S. Alston Ave.
- East Regional Library, 211 Lick Creek Lane
- Forest View Elementary School 3007 Mt. Sinai Rd.
- Southwest Library, 2320 Cook Rd.
- Duke University: Old Trinity Room, West Union, 114 Chapel Dr.

FORSYTH COUNTY

Election Board office opens: Oct 16-31, Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm; Sun. Oct. 26, 1-5pm; Sat. Nov. 1, 10am-1pm. The address is BOE, Government Center, 201 N. Chestnut St. in Winston-Salem.

The next 3 sites are open: Oct. 20-22 & 27-29, 10am-7pm; Oct 23-24 and 30-31, 10am-5pm; and Saturday, Nov. 1, 10am-1pm:

- Carver School Road Library, 4915 Lansing Dr., W-S
- Kernersville Library, 130 East Mountain St., Kernersville
- Clemmons Library, 3554 Clemmons Rd., Clemmons

The next 10 sites are open: Oct. 27-29, 10am-7pm; Oct. 30-31, 10am-5pm; and Nov. 1, 10am-1pm:

- Brown & Douglas Rec Center, 4725 Indiana Ave., W-S
- Harper Hill cOMMONS Shopping Ctr (Near Harris Teeter), 150 Grant Lane, W-S
- Lewisville Library, 6490 Shallowford Rd., Lewisville
- Malloy/Jordan Heritage Ctr, 1110 E. Seventh St., W-S
- Polo Park Recreation Center, 1850 Polo Rd., W-S
- Rural Hall Library, 7125 Broad St., Rural Hall
- Sedge Garden Rec Center, 401 Robbins Rd., W-S
- Southside Library, 3185 Buchanan St., W-S
- Walkertown Library, 2959 Main St., Walkertown
- WSSU (Anderson Center), 800 Price St., W-S

PITT COUNTY

The Elections Board office is not a site, but the next 3 sites are open Oct. 16-31, Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm; and Sat., Oct 18 & 25 & Nov. 1, 8am-1pm. The first site only (Community Schools) is also open on Sun., Oct. 26 from 1-5 pm:

- Community Schools Building Arts and Crafts Room, 4561 County Home Rd., Greenville. Saturday openings begin at 8:30am for this site.
- Pitt Co. Ag Center Auditorium, 403 Government Cir., Greenville
- County Office Building (former Council on Aging facility) 1717 W. 5th St.

The next 2 sites open Oct. 16-31, Mon.-Fri., 11am-7pm; Sat., Oct 18 & 25 & Nov. 1, 8am-1pm:

- Jaycee Park Recreation and Parks Auditorium, 2000 Cedar Lane, Greenville
- Winterville Fire Station Community Room, 2593 Railroad St., Winterville

The next site opens Oct. 24-31, Mon.-Fri., 11am-7pm; Sat., Oct 25 & Nov. 1, 8am-1pm:

- Newman Catholic Student Center ECU, 953 E. 10th St.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY

Instead of the Elections Board office, the following CPCC building is open Oct. 16-31, Mon.-Fri., 8 am - 7 pm; Sat., Oct. 25, 10am - 5pm; Sun., Oct. 26, 1- 4pm; and Sat., Nov. 1, 10am - 1pm. All sites listed below are located in Charlotte unless otherwise indicated:

- Central Piedmont Community College, Facilities Services Bldg., 1325 E. 7th St., Charlotte

The next 18 sites are open Oct. 16-31, Mon.-Fri., 11am-7pm; Sat., Oct. 25, 10am-5; Sun., Oct. 26, 1-4, Sat., Nov. 1, 10am-1pm:

- University City Regional Library, 301 E. W.T. Harris Blvd.
- South County Regional Library, 5801 Rea Rd.
- Independence Regional Library, 6015 Conference Dr.
- Main Branch Library, 310 N. Tryon St.
- West Boulevard Library, 2157 West Blvd.
- Steele Creek Library, 13620 Steele Creek Rd.
- Morrison Regional Library, 7015 Morrison Blvd.
- Beatties Ford Rd Library, 2412 Beattis Ford Rd.
- North County Regional Library, 16500 Holly Crest Lane, Huntersville
- Cornelius Library, 21105 Catawba Ave., Cornelius
- Freedom Regional Library, 1230 Alleghany St.
- Matthews Library, 230 Matthews Stations St., Matthews
- Plaza-Midwood Library, 1623 Central Ave.
- Sugar Creek Library, 4045 North Tryon St.
- Marion Diehl Rec. Center 2219 Tyvola St.
- Central Piedmont CC - North Campus, 11930 Verhoeff Dr., Huntersville
- Hayes Building, 11405 N. Community House Rd.
- Mountain Island Library, 4420 Hoyt Galvin Way
- UNC-Charlotte (Cone Center), 9201 University City Blvd.

ORANGE COUNTY

The Elections Board office is not an Early Voting site, but the next 3 sites are open Oct. 16-31, Mon.-Fri., 9am-4pm; Sat., Oct 18 & 25, 9am-4pm, and Sat., Nov. 1, 9am-1pm:

- Orange County Public Library, 300 W. Tryon St., Hillsborough
- Morehead Planetarium, UNC-CH 250 E. Franklin St., Chapel Hill
- Carrboro Town Hall, 301 W. Main St., Carrboro

The next 2 sites are open Oct. 16-31, Mon.-Fri., 12-7pm; and Sat., Nov. 1, 9am-1pm:

- Northern Human Services Center, 5800 NC HWY 86 N., Hillsborough
- Robert & Pearl Seymour Center, 2551 Homestead Rd., Chapel Hill

WILSON COUNTY

Election Board office opens: Oct 16-31, Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm; Sat. Oct. 18 & 25, 9am-3pm; Sat. Nov. 1, 8am-1pm. The address is:

- 112 Douglas St. East, Wilson

The next site is open Oct. 20-31, Mon.-Fri., 9am-4pm:

- Wilson County Miller Road Office Bldg, 2201 Miller Rd., Wilson

Phone Numbers for All County Boards of Elections

Alamance: 336-570-6755	Chowan: 252-482-4010	Guilford: 336-641-3836	Mitchell: 828-688-3101	Rutherford: 828-287-6030
Alexander: 828-632-2990	Clay: 828-389-6812	Halifax: 252-583-4391	Montgomery: 910-572-2024	Sampson: 910-592-5796
Alleghany: 336-372-4557	Cleveland: 704-484-4858	Harnett: 910-893-7553	Moore: 910-947-3868	Scotland: 910-277-2595
Anson: 704-694-3072	Columbus: 910-640-6609	Haywood: 828-452-6633	Nash: 252-459-1350	Stanly: 704-986-3647
Ashe: 336-846-5570	Craven: 252-636-6610	Henderson: 828-697-4970	New Hanover: 910-798-7330	Stokes: 336-593-2409
Avery: 828-733-8282	Cumberland: 910-678-7733	Hertford: 252-358-7812	Northampton: 252-534-5681	Surry: 336-401-8225
Beaufort: 252-946-2321	Currituck: 252-232-2525	Hoke: 910-875-8751	Onslow: 910-455-4484	Swain: 828-488-6177
Bertie: 252-794-5306	Dare: 252-475-5631	Hyde: 252-926-4194	Orange: 919-245-2350	Tyrrell: 252-796-0775
Bladen: 910-862-6951	Davidson: 336-242-2190	Iredell: 704-878-3140	Pamlico: 252-745-4821	Transylvania: 828-884-3114
Brunswick: 910-253-2620	Davie: 336-753-6072	Jackson: 828-586-7538	Pasquotank: 252-335-1739	Union: 704-283-3809
Buncombe: 828-250-4200	Duplin: 910-296-2170	Johnston: 919-989-5095	Pender: 910-259-1220	Vance: 252-492-3730
Burke: 828-433-1703	Durham: 919-560-0700	Jones: 252-448-3921	Perquimans: 252-426-5598	Wake: 919-856-6240
Cabarrus: 704-920-2860	Edgecombe: 252-641-7852	Lee: 919-718-4646	Person: 336-597-1727	Warren: 252-257-2114
Caldwell: 828-757-1326	Forsyth: 336-703-2800	Lenoir: 252-523-0636	Pitt: 252-902-3300	Washington: 252-793-6017
Camden: 252-338-5530	Franklin: 919-496-3898	Lincoln: 704-736-8480	Polk: 828-894-8181	Watauga: 828-265-8061
Carteret: 252-728-8460	Gaston: 704-852-6005	Macon: 828-349-2034	Randolph: 336-318-6900	Wayne: 919-731-1411
Caswell: 336-694-4010	Gates: 252-357-1780	Madison: 828-649-3731	Richmond: 910-997-8253	Wilkes: 336-651-7338
Catawba: 828-464-2424	Graham: 828-479-7969	Martin: 252-789-4317	Robeson: 910-671-3080	Wilson: 252-399-2836
Chatham: 919-545-8500	Granville: 919-693-2515	McDowell: 828-652-7121	Rockingham: 336-342-8107	Yadkin: 336-679-4227
Cherokee: 828-837-6670	Greene: 252-747-5921	Mecklenburg: 704-336-2133	Rowan: 704-216-8140	Yancey: 828-682-3950

First time voter? Here's what to expect:

Bring identification with you when you vote, just in case, and make sure it has your residence address on it (see Page 3).

This year, there are thousands of new voters hitting the polls. Elections officials expect lots of questions, so speak up if you need help! If you think you'll need more time than usual, the best place to vote is at an Early Voting site, because they can handle more problems, more quickly.

You will need to check in at a table before you vote. Give the pollworker your name and address and he or she will take care of the rest.

Habla Espanol? No hay problema, cada centro de votacion en Carolina del Norte ofrece instrucciones en espanol de como llenar la cartilla de votacion. Solo pregunte por una de ellas si la necesita.



In a hurry? Here are the least busy times to vote: on a weekday during Early Voting, in mid-morning or early afternoon, or in mid-morning or early afternoon on November 4 (Election Day).

An All-Purpose Solution: Use Early Voting....

- If you are registered and want to avoid long lines
- If you are not yet registered and you want to vote.
- If you work long hours or have an Election Day conflict.
- If you've moved within the same county since you last registered.
- If you have any questions about your right or eligibility to vote.

See Page 23 for all Board of Election phone numbers plus a list of the Early Voting sites in many of North Carolina's larger counties. Visit www.2008ElectionConnection.com for more information.

If your name is not listed and you are sure you registered, ask for a Provisional Ballot (see Page 3).

If you live in a county with paper ballots, you will be given a pen and a ballot and sent to a private booth to fill in the ovals next to the candidates you want to vote for. After you fill out your ballot, you will be asked to feed it into a scanning machine. Don't be shy about asking for help!

If you live in a county with touch screen voting, you will be directed to a voting machine that looks a lot like an ATM computer. Just follow the directions on the screen and feel free to ask for help.

Make sure you know your voting rights! See Page 22 for a complete listing

To confirm that you are registered or to report an election problem, call the national Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE.

Be Sure to Vote the Entire Ballot – From Top to Bottom!

North Carolina's ballot has 4 sections – and you can vote in all of them:

1. The Presidential election.
2. Partisan races, from Governor to local.
3. Non-partisan elections, including judges.
4. Local bonds or issues (in some counties only; most NC counties are not voting on referendums this year.)

If you want to vote a "Straight Party" ballot (all the candidates of one party), remember that marking Straight Party does NOT include voting in the presidential race or the judicial and non-partisan races. Remember to vote in those races separately.

If you vote by paper ballot in your county, turn the ballot over since it has items on both sides!

For More Information:

In addition to this guide, there are many on-line sources for election information.

If you don't have a computer, go to a public library with computers for public use (and, don't forget, you can register to vote while you are at the library until Oct. 10!) Here are some recommended sites with useful information:

Visit www.2008ElectionConnection.com for complete details about voter registration and your voting options in NC, plus ideas on how you can help get out the vote.

Visit the Generation Engage NC Ballot Initiative at www.generationengage.org/state/nc/ballot.html for many more resources.

Visit Election Protection's official website at www.866OURVOTE.org for detailed voting rights information and voter newsfeeds.

For basic voting and elections information, visit:

- The State Board of Elections at www.sboe.state.nc.us
- UNCTV Elections 2008 at www.unctv.org/election
- NC Policy Watch at www.ncpolicywatch.com
- A list of media outlets in North Carolina at www.usnpl.com/ncnews.php.

About This Guide:

The goal of this non-partisan voter guide is to put important information in one place and make it easy to use – and easy to vote. More voters, who are more informed, are good for democracy.

The guide was funded by several non-partisan foundations and compiled from public sources and information provided by the candidates. Special thanks to Democracy North Carolina for its leadership in designing the guide and assembling much of the information. The National Coalition on Black Civic Participation and its affiliate, the NC Coalition on Black and Brown Civic Participation, provided support for additional distribution of the guide. Thanks also to the non-profit, non-partisan organizations listed on Pages 14 through 21 for participating in the guide.

Did you enjoy this voter guide? Would you like copies for your community, church or neighborhood? Please direct all comments or requests for guides to 1-888-687-8683.