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Important Dates

Friday, October 14

Regular voter registration deadline: Voter registration forms must be postmarked or delivered to your county board of elections office by 5 p.m.

Voters may also same-day register at any one-stop early voting site in their county from Thursday, October 20 to Saturday, November 5.

Thursday, October 20

One-stop early voting starts: Voters may register and vote at any one-stop early voting location in their county of residence. For locations and hours, check with your county board of elections office, or vt.ncsbe.gov/OSSite.

Tuesday, November 1

Deadline to request an absentee ballot:

Requests must be received by your county board of elections office by 5 p.m.

Saturday, November 5

One-stop early voting ends: One-stop early voting sites close at 3 p.m.

Tuesday, November 8

Election Day: Polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. for in-person voting. Find your polling place through the Voter Search tool:

vt.ncsbe.gov/reglkup/

Absentee ballots received after 5 p.m.

November 8 must be postmarked on or before

Election Day and received by mail by 5 p.m. Monday, November 14.

Ballots *without* a postmark must be received by November 8.

Judicial Voter Guide 2022

Midterm General Election

About This Guide

Funding for this guide comes from the N.C. Public Campaign Fund, which was created by a \$3 check-off designation on the state tax form and a \$50 surcharge on annual dues paid by members of the North Carolina State Bar. The fund was repealed in 2013. The Judicial Voter Guide will continue to be published until remaining funds are spent.

About The Appellate Courts

The N.C. Supreme Court is the state's highest court. One chief justice and six associate justices review cases from the N.C. Court of Appeals, the N.C. Business Court, and cases in which the death penalty has been imposed. In limited cases involving federal law, the U.S. Supreme Court may hear appeals from this Court.

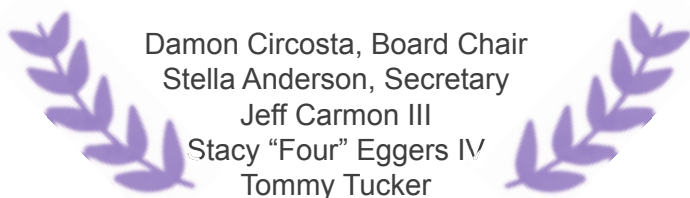
The N.C. Court of Appeals is the state's intermediate appellate court and reviews cases first decided in the Superior and District Courts, as well as appeals from administrative agencies. Currently, 15 judges sit on rotating panels of three, considering errors in legal procedures or in judicial interpretation of the law. If a panel is divided (2-1), the losing party has an automatic right to appeal to the N.C. Supreme Court.

Supreme Court justices and Court of Appeals judges serve eight-year terms.

About the State Board of Elections

The State Board of Elections is the state agency charged with the administration of the elections process and campaign finance disclosure and compliance. The governor appoints the five-member board from a list of nominees submitted by the state party chair of each of the two political parties having the highest number of registered affiliates. Not more than three members of the State Board shall be members of the same political party.

State Board Members



Damon Circosta, Board Chair
Stella Anderson, Secretary
Jeff Carmon III
Stacy "Four" Eggers IV
Tommy Tucker

Be a Democracy Hero

Make a positive impact on your community while being paid hourly as an official election worker. If you want to work in elections, complete the election worker interest survey at: ncsbe.gov/democracy-heroes-form or contact your county board of elections.

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Judicial Candidates

The order of candidates in this guide is the order in which they will appear on the November ballot by contest, which is based on a random drawing conducted according to N.C.G.S. § 163-165.6(c). The information for each candidate was provided by the candidate. Statements by candidates do not express or reflect the opinions of the State Board of Elections (N.C.G.S. § 163-278.69(c)).

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Richard Dietz
Republican Party Nominee
NC Supreme Court Associate Justice Seat 3



Place of Residence: Raleigh

Education: LL.M. Duke University School of Law; J.D. Wake Forest University School of Law; B.S.B.A. Shippensburg University

Occupation: Judge

Employer: N.C. Court of Appeals

Date Admitted to the Bar: 2002

Legal/Judicial Experience: I have served as a Court of Appeals judge since 2014 and am a board certified specialist in appellate practice. Before becoming a judge, I worked as a lawyer helping people with complex cases and constitutional issues in courts across the nation.

Candidate Statement: Unlike many judges, I don't come from a family of lawyers. I grew up in a small town and was the first in my family to attend college. Through hard work, I went on to graduate first in my class at Wake Forest law school.

Before I became a judge, I spent years as a practicing lawyer representing real people with real legal problems. My work helping people access the courts earned me many awards including the Leader in the Law and Citizen Lawyer awards. I understand the struggles people face in our court system and I'm committed to making the courts work better for you.

You can count on me to always be fair and never wade into politics. Our Supreme Court needs leaders who rise above partisanship and focus on preserving the blessings of our liberties—I will be that leader for North Carolina. With your help, I will win this election and continue defending your rights, keeping you safe, and helping all North Carolinians resolve their legal disputes fairly. Thanks for believing in me! Learn more at JudgeDietz.com.

Lucy Inman

Democratic Party Nominee

NC Supreme Court Associate Justice Seat 3

Place of Residence: Raleigh

Education: JD with honors, UNC School of Law, 1990; BA in English with highest honors, NC State University, 1984

Occupation: Appellate Judge

Employer: North Carolina Court of Appeals

Date Admitted to the Bar: 1990



Legal/Judicial Experience:

- NC Court of Appeals Judge, 2015-Present
- NC Superior Court Judge, 2010-2014
- Attorney, 1992-2010
- Law Clerk to NC Chief Justice James Exum, 1990-1992

Candidate Statement: In 32 years as a lawyer and a judge, I have served people in communities large and small. I am running for the North Carolina Supreme Court to preserve the rule of law, to keep our justice system fair and free from partisan politics and ideology, and to pursue equal justice for all.

Every person in every courtroom deserves to be treated fairly and with respect. That means judges must:

- Listen
- Honestly consider the facts of each case
- Apply the law equally to everyone, without fear or favor
- Write consistent decisions in terms the general public can understand
- Leave politics at the courthouse door

In courtrooms across our state and at the Court of Appeals, I have fulfilled these duties. I will bring this same commitment, experience, and skill to the Supreme Court.

Three retired North Carolina Supreme Court chief justices, dozens of retired justices and judges, and citizens of all political stripes across the state have endorsed my candidacy. You can find out more at lucyinmanforjustice.com. I appreciate your caring about justice and hope to earn your vote.

Sam J. Ervin IV
Democratic Party Nominee
NC Supreme Court Associate Justice Seat 5



Place of Residence:
Morganton, North Carolina

Education: Graduate, Freedom High School, 1974; A.B., magna cum laude, Davidson College, 1978; J.D., cum laude, Harvard Law School, 1981.

Occupation: Associate Justice

Employer: Supreme Court of North Carolina

Date Admitted to the Bar: August 1981

Legal/Judicial Experience: I practiced law in Morganton from 1981 until 1999, having handled numerous appeals to the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. After leaving private practice, I served as a Commissioner of the North Carolina Utilities Commission from 1999 until 2009 and as a Judge of the North Carolina Court of Appeals from 2009 until 2015, when I became a member of the Supreme Court.

Candidate Statement: I am a fifth generation North Carolinian and a native of Morganton, where I have been active in my community and church. I have had the privilege of serving on our state’s highest court for the past seven years. The courts are responsible for ensuring that justice is done, that the legal rights of all people are protected, and that governmental authority is exercised within proper constitutional bounds. My judicial philosophy is simple—judges should decide cases based solely on the law and the facts, everyone is entitled to equal treatment under the law, and judges should not have partisan or ideological agendas. Our system of government depends upon the existence of a fair and impartial judicial system; I am committed to ensuring that we have such a system. I have been endorsed by three former chief justices of the Supreme Court, two former chief judges of the Court of Appeals, and other former appellate judges.

Trey Allen

Republican Party Nominee

NC Supreme Court Associate Justice Seat 5

Place of Residence:

Hillsborough

Education: J.D., UNC Chapel Hill; B.A. (Highest Honors), UNC Pembroke

Occupation: General Counsel

Employer: NC Administrative Office of the Courts

Date Admitted to the Bar: 2000



Legal/Judicial Experience:

- Judge Advocate, US Marine Corps (2000-2005)
- Law Clerk, Justice Paul Newby (2005-2006)
- Private Practice (2006-2013)
- Assistant/Associate Professor, UNC Chapel Hill (2013-Present)
- General Counsel, NC Administrative Office of the Courts (2021-Present)

Candidate Statement: Many people have lost faith in our courts because they believe that judges routinely make decisions based on their political views. As a Justice on the NC Supreme Court, I will be guided by the text and history of the Constitution. I will interpret our laws according to their wording and the intent of the legislature. I will always remember that judges are the servants – not the masters – of the law. I will never base decisions on my political views or personal preferences.

Through a combination of opportunity and hard work, I have gained the broad legal experience that Supreme Court Justices need. I have prosecuted crimes and advised commanders as a Marine officer, clerked for a Supreme Court Justice, argued constitutional law and other cases in state and federal courts, and obtained recognition as a teacher and scholar of NC law. As General Counsel for the NC Administrative Office of the Courts, I serve as the top attorney for our state's court system. Trial court judges, clerks of court, and magistrates contact my office for guidance on legal matters.

Please support me if you want a Justice who will uphold the rule of law. You can learn more at www.treyallennc.com.

Julee Tate Flood

Republican Party Nominee

NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 8



Place of Residence: Holly Springs

Education: B.S., M.S. — UFlorida; M.P.A. — UMaine; J.D. — UNH; Ph.D. — UTennessee

Occupation: Judicial Law Clerk, Attorney

Employer: State of North Carolina

Date Admitted to the Bar: 2008

Legal/Judicial Experience:

- Judicial Law Clerk, NC Court of Appeals
- Extensive appellate judicial opinion drafting experience
- Founding Partner, In-house Counsel, Veterinary services businesses
- Law Professor: Elon Law; UTennessee Law and Graduate Education (Adjunct); Duke Paralegal (Adjunct)

Candidate Statement: I am uniquely qualified to be a judge on the Court of Appeals having analyzed, researched, and written hundreds of judicial opinions for nine appellate jurists. For each case, I seek to apply the law as written in the Constitution, statutes, and case precedents. Consistency yields fairness, stability, and confidence in the courts. My business and education law experience also benefit the Court.

My legal scholarship includes a book on higher education employment law, a dissertation on law and faculty tenure, and articles on law and policy. I have taught law, graduate, and paralegal students.

Serving my community, I sit on board support committees for CORRAL, a faith-motivated equine therapy nonprofit organization, and the bench and bar committee for the Wake County and Tenth Judicial District Bar Associations. Married since 1985, my husband Tim and I have attended Shepherd's Church since 2003.

If elected I will:

- Apply the rule of law fairly and equally
- Adhere to the Constitution and protect the constitutional rights of those in court
- Stand firm against judicial activism and not legislate from the bench
- Treat each person with dignity and respect

I humbly ask for your support and vote. juleeflood.com

Carolyn Jennings Thompson

Democratic Party Nominee

NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 8

Place of Residence: Oxford, NC

Education: BA, Hampton University; JD, NC Central University School of Law

Occupation: Attorney

Employer: Law Office of Carolyn J. Thompson

Date Admitted to the Bar: 1996



Legal/Judicial Experience:

Former District Court judge and Superior Court judge with over 25 years of combined legal and judicial experience. In 2018, Thompson was appointed by Gov. Cooper to serve as a Superior Court Judge. She was the first African American and first woman to serve in the 9th Judicial District.

Candidate Statement: I am the only candidate for this seat with judicial experience. I believe I can make a difference in the service of equal justice as required by our laws and constitution. True justice is independent of party affiliation, divisive ideologies, and social differences. I am committed to serving with integrity, fairness, and impartiality. I stand on the shoulders of generations who paved the way for my academic career at Hampton University and from NCCU School of Law. Their servant leadership testament instilled in me at an early age that “to whom much is given, much is required.” I honor their sacrifices with a dedication to serve others and earn unfailing leadership. My husband and I have a blended family of 5 adult children and 4 beautiful grandchildren. Endorsed by Gov. Cooper, Cong. Butterfield, Cong. Eva Clayton, Cong. Deborah Ross, Sen. Jay Chaudhuri, Sen. Toby Fitch, NCAJ, Durham Comm on Affairs of Black People, NC State AFL-CIO, People’s Alliance PAC, Granville County Concerned Citizens, Granville County Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance.

carolynthompsonforjudge.com

Brad A. Salmon

Democratic Party Nominee

NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 9



Place of Residence: Sanford, NC

Education: BA, North Carolina State University; JD, Campbell University's School of Law

Occupation: North Carolina District Court Judge (District 11; Harnett, Johnston and Lee Counties)

Employer: State of North Carolina

Date Admitted to the Bar: August 2012

Legal/Judicial Experience:

- Founded The Salmon Law Firm, LLP. in Lillington, NC. Our firm focused on criminal, civil and administrative matters. I also worked with our juvenile courts and was a defense attorney in our Veterans Treatment Court.
- Former Member of the North Carolina House of Representatives
- Current District Court Judge

Candidate Statement: I am honored to be running for the North Carolina Court of Appeals. I would bring to this important judicial office a diverse set of skills and experiences. I was raised on a multi-generational family farm in rural Harnett County. There amongst family, friends and neighbors, I learned the values of hard work, common sense solutions and how to treat people. After school, I returned home to begin a small-town law firm. In our firm, we took great pride in helping real people solve their legal problems. In 2014, I was elected to represent Lee and Harnett Counties in the North Carolina General Assembly. This legislative experience has been invaluable in understanding both the law-making process and how laws impact North Carolinians. Since becoming a District Court Judge, I have further refined my legal knowledge by presiding over criminal and civil trial courts in District 11. I have real life, practical experience that will help me be a very effective appellate court judge.

Donna Stroud

Republican Party Nominee

NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 9

Place of Residence: Garner, NC

Education: 2014, LL.M., Judicial Studies, Duke Law School; 1988, JD, Campbell Law School, ranked 1st in class; 1985, BA, Campbell University, summa cum laude

Occupation: Chief Judge

Employer: Court of Appeals

Date Admitted to the Bar: 1988

Legal/Judicial Experience:

- Chief Judge, January 2021-present
- Associate Judge, 2007-2020
- Adjunct professor, Campbell Law, 2008-present
- District Court Judge, Wake County, 2004-2006
- Private practice, 1988-2004

Candidate Statement: Since 2007, in thousands of appeals, I have considered each case fully and fairly, applied the law exactly as written and upheld the Constitution. I've written over 1,200 opinions, applying my practical courtroom experience as an attorney and trial judge. I was appointed by Chief Justice Paul Newby to serve as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and I began serving in this role in January 2021. As a law professor, I teach Judicial Process—the study of the courts, judicial philosophy, and decision-making. I also frequently teach lawyers and trial judges. I support the independence, professionalism, and integrity of our judges and courts at all levels, and I serve on several commissions, including the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism.

I am honored to have broad bipartisan support. I have been endorsed by former justices of the Supreme Court, including Chief Justice Mark Martin, and by former Chief Judges of the Court of Appeals John Martin and Linda McGee.

I am a Kinston native and have been married to Wilson Stroud since 1986; we have 2 sons. I ask for your prayers, support, and vote. Please visit JudgeStroud.com.



John M. Tyson

Republican Party Nominee

NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 10



Place of Residence:
Cumberland County

Education: Juris Doctor (J.D./ honors) Campbell University School of Law (1979-Charter Class); Master of Laws in Judicial Process (LL.M.) University of Virginia School of Law (2004); Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.), Duke University (1988); Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in English & Education, University of North Carolina-Wilmington (1974)

Occupation: Judge, NC Court of Appeals, Adj Professor of Law.

Employer: North Carolina Judicial Branch; Campbell University School of Law

Date Admitted to the Bar: 1980 North Carolina; 1981 Virginia; 1983 US Supreme Court.

Legal/Judicial Experience: I served as elected Judge on the North Carolina Court of Appeals from 2001 until 2009. The Governor appointed me as a Recall Judge on the North Carolina Court of Appeals and as Emergency Superior Court Judge in 2009. I served as Chair of the State Ethics Commission from 2013-14. Voters re-elected me to the Court of Appeals in 2014. My peers elected me Vice-Chair of the North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission. NC State Bar Board Certified Specialist -Real Property; *AV Pre-Eminent* highest peer review rating in both ethics and knowledge of law; Martindale Hubbell.

Candidate Statement: My judicial philosophy supports the mission & goals of North Carolina's Judicial Branch: "To protect and preserve the rights and liberties of all the people, as guaranteed by the Constitutions and laws of the United States and North Carolina, by providing a fair, independent and accessible forum for the just, timely and economical resolution of their legal affairs." The Constitution "says what it means and means what it says." Fairness and Impartiality is expected of all Judges.

Please see: www.judgejohnnytyson.com.

Gale Murray Adams

Democratic Party Nominee

NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 10

Place of Residence: Fayetteville

Education: B.A. English/
Economics, UNC-Chapel Hill;
J.D., N.C. Central University
School of Law

Occupation: Superior Court
Judge

Employer: State of North
Carolina



Date Admitted to the Bar: 1984

Legal/Judicial Experience:

- U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General (JAG)
- Assistant District Attorney
- Assistant Federal Public Defender
- Superior Court Judge

Candidate Statement: Raised in the tobacco fields of Warren County by a single mother of four, I learned at an early age the importance of hard work. This humble background and my diverse legal experience broaden my perspective and equip me to fully consider matters from various viewpoints before making a decision. When I proudly served my country as a US Navy JAG, assisting servicemembers in various criminal, civil, and administrative matters, I learned the importance of reducing distractions to sharpen focus on the mission. As a prosecutor working closely with victims and law enforcement, I learned the importance of balancing and protecting the rights of victims and defendants. As a defense attorney, I learned the importance of zealous representation to facilitate a just and informed resolution. As a Superior Court Judge presiding over civil and criminal matters, I learned those who appear before me are counting on me to be independent and impartial, to listen to their positions, to treat them with respect, and to understand the real impact my decisions have on their lives. These combined lessons have equipped me to serve with distinction on the NC Court of Appeals. I pledge nothing less. I humbly ask for your vote for the NC Court of Appeals.

Learn more at: JudgeGaleAdams.com.

Darren Jackson

Democratic Party Nominee

NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 11



Place of Residence: Wake County

Education: UNC-CH, B.A.; Duke University School of Law, JD

Occupation: Judge, Court of Appeals

Employer: NC

Date Admitted to the Bar: 1996

Legal/Judicial Experience:

- 25+ years in private practice
- Judge on Court of Appeals since January 2021
- NC Sentencing Commission (2013-2017)
- NC Courts Commission (2015-2017)

Candidate Statement: I am the only candidate in this race with appellate experience. I have filed appeals, I have orally argued appeals, and now as a judge, I have written over 100 appellate opinions.

I practiced law with a small firm in Zebulon where I enjoyed a general practice with an emphasis on civil litigation. In my 25 years of practice, I litigated both criminal and civil cases in all levels of the state courts, from Small Claims Court to the Supreme Court, as well as US District and Bankruptcy Courts and the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals.

In addition to my law practice, for 12 years, I served in the General Assembly as a State Representative. I served on many committees including: Appropriations, Justice and Public Safety (Vice-Chairman), Education, Elections, Ethics, Insurance, Judiciary (Vice-Chairman), Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House, Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure Oversight, Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety, and House Select Committee on COVID-19, Continuity of State Operations (Emergency Services, Elections & Public Safety (Chair).

Legal Honors/Awards:

- Martindale-Hubbell Top Rated Lawyer in Litigation for Ethical Standards and Legal Ability
- Defender of Public Safety, NC Sheriffs' Association (2019)
- Legislative Excellence Award, Police Benevolent Association (2018)
- Legislator of the Year, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (2013, 2015)

Michael J. Stading

Republican Party Nominee

NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 11

Place of Residence: Mint Hill, NC

Education: UNC Chapel Hill - Bachelor of Science in Business Administration; Campbell Law School – Juris Doctorate; Judge Advocate General's School – Judge Advocate Staff Officer Course; Air University – Squadron Officer School

Occupation: District Court Judge; Assistant Staff Judge Advocate

Employer: State of North Carolina; United States Air Force

Date Admitted to the Bar: August 2006

Legal/Judicial Experience: Currently serve as a NC District Court Judge and Reservist for the US Air Force as an Assistant Staff Judge Advocate, Board Certified Specialist in State Criminal Law, former prosecutor, former defense attorney, and former attorney for the Fraternal Order of Police.

Candidate Statement: Michael is a native and lifelong resident of North Carolina with a professional career dedicated to service of country and community. He has an exceptionally broad base of legal experience not simply limited to one side of the courtroom. Michael has served in the capacity of judge, prosecutor, defense attorney, and attorney representing law enforcement. Michael is a Board Certified Specialist in NC Criminal Law. He operated his own law practice where he zealously and effectively represented thousands of clients. In his current role as a judge, Michael has continued to contribute to the betterment of the court system and legal profession by serving as a Truancy Court judge, Drug STEP Court judge, lead domestic violence judge, and member of the Mecklenburg County Bar Professionalism Committee. He regularly presides over criminal, civil, and domestic cases. Moreover, Judge Stading has the distinct honor to serve as a Captain in the Judge Advocate General's Corp for the United States Air Force.



3 Ways to Vote in the 2022 General Election in North Carolina

Option 1: Vote By Mail



- Request your absentee ballot by 5 p.m. **Tuesday, November 1, 2022.**
 - Your absentee ballot must be returned to your county board of elections by 5 p.m. on November 8. Absentee ballots received after 5 p.m. on November 8 must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by mail by 5 p.m. on Monday, November 14.
 - Find more information about voting by mail at ncsbe.gov/vote-mail.
-

Option 2: Vote Early in Person



- The early voting period begins **Thursday, October 20, 2022**, and ends at 3 p.m. **Saturday, November 5, 2022.**
 - During early voting, voters may cast a ballot at any early voting site in their county, and eligible individuals may register and vote at the same time.
 - Find more information about early voting at ncsbe.gov/vote-early.
-

Option 3: Vote on Election Day in Person



- Polls are open from: 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Election Day – **Tuesday, November 8, 2022.**
- Any voter in line at 7:30 p.m. will be able to vote.
- Learn more about Election Day voting at ncsbe.gov/vote-election-day.

Voting 101: Basic Tips for Voters

Register to vote. You may download the North Carolina Voter Registration Application at ncsbe.gov, fill it out, sign it, and mail it to your county board of elections.

Existing N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles customers may register to vote or update their registration online: go.usa.gov/xuDvD.

You may also register to vote in person at your county board of elections office. Find your county board of elections here: vt.ncsbe.gov/BOEInfo.

The regular voter registration deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, October 14. Voters may also same-day register and vote at any one-stop early voting site in their county during the early voting period from October 20 to November 5.

Check your voter registration. To make sure your registration is accurate and up to date, use the Voter Search tool at vt.ncsbe.gov/RegLkup.

View your sample ballot. To view your sample ballot, use the Voter Search tool at vt.ncsbe.gov/RegLkup. After you've located your voter record, click on the link under the "Your Sample Ballot" section.

Vote by mail. Absentee-by-mail voting is available to all registered voters in North Carolina. To request an absentee ballot, use the North Carolina Absentee Ballot Portal at votebymail.ncsbe.gov/app/home. You can also complete the North Carolina Absentee Ballot Request Form for 2022 (available at ncsbe.gov/voting/vote-mail) and submit it to your county board of elections in person or by mail via the U.S. Postal Service, DHL, FedEx, or UPS. Track your ballot for free at northcarolina.ballottrax.net/voter/.

Vote during the one-stop early voting period. In 2022, voters can take advantage of a 17-day, in-person early voting period from October 20 to November 5. Voters will be able to go to any one-stop early voting site in their county to register and cast a ballot. Sites, days and hours vary by county. To view locations and schedules, go to vt.ncsbe.gov/OSSite.

Vote on Election Day. Polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Election Day — Tuesday, November 8. Any voter in line at 7:30 p.m. will be allowed to cast a ballot. Voters may find their Election Day polling place through the Voter Search tool at vt.ncsbe.gov/RegLkup.

Treat others at the polls with courtesy and respect. The State Board of Elections asks voters, campaigners, and advocates to promote a positive experience during early voting and on Election Day. Please respect the right of all voters to participate in the election without fear of intimidation or violence. Intimidating any voter is a state and federal crime.

10 Facts About Election Security

1. **No Evidence of Successful Attack:** No election system or voting system in the state has ever been the target of a successful cyberattack.
2. **Partnerships:** Elections officials are in regular contact and have strong and growing relationships with partners in federal and state governments, who assist with cyber and physical security, share information, plan for election events and respond to incidents.
3. **Paper Ballots:** Under state law, all 100 counties use paper ballots, producing a paper trail which can be easily audited or recounted. By federal law, ballot marking devices must be available at every polling place for any voter who needs or wishes to use one to mark a ballot.
4. **Certified Voting Systems:** All voting systems used in North Carolina are certified by the State Board of Elections after extensive testing and public demonstrations, and must be approved by county officials before purchase. Voting systems used in North Carolina meet all applicable federal regulations governing voting systems and are certified, used, and audited in other states.
5. **No Internet or Modems:** By state law, voting machines may not be connected to the internet, limiting the possibility of cyber interference. No voting machine in North Carolina contains a modem or modem chip.
6. **Logic and Accuracy Testing:** Before every election, county boards of elections conduct logic and accuracy tests on every voting machine that will be used in the election to ensure proper coding of ballots and counting of votes for every contest on the ballot.
7. **Bipartisan, Trained Officials:** Every polling place is staffed with bipartisan, trained officials from the local community who take an oath to uphold state elections laws and work together to ensure election security. Bipartisan State and County Boards of Elections oversee all aspects of elections. Bipartisan election observers also witness the voting process.
8. **Post-Election Audits:** After every election and before results are certified, the State and County Boards of Elections conduct multiple audits designed to detect irregularities, such as equipment tampering, ballot stuffing, and voting machine or tabulation errors. In the sample hand-count audit, for example, two voting sites are selected at random in every county, every ballot in those voting sites is counted by hand by bipartisan teams, and the results are compared with the machine-counted results. This audit helps confirm the accuracy of the machine counts.
9. **Investigations Division:** North Carolina is one of few states with a dedicated Investigations Division, which is staffed by experienced professionals who investigate reports of fraud and other irregularities and refer cases to prosecutors when warranted by evidence.
10. **Informed Voters:** Every voter can help promote election security by voting, checking their ballot before casting it, reporting problems with the voting process to poll workers and volunteering to work in elections. Also, voters should get information on elections from trusted sources, particularly elections officials, and verify information about elections before sharing it on social media. Election-related misinformation is rampant.

Letter From Our Executive Director

Dear fellow North Carolinians,

Elections are democracy in action. The State Board of Elections and county boards of elections work hard to protect our democracy so you can exercise your right to vote. We make sure that our elections are secure and that your vote counts.

We want all voters to understand the many safeguards in place in North Carolina elections:

- North Carolina's 100 bipartisan county boards of elections train thousands of election workers to conduct fair elections. These include your neighbors, members of your community from all political backgrounds, all working together to ensure that your vote counts. They volunteer their time to work from dawn to dusk on Election Day or at early voting sites. They swear an oath that they will carry out the election fairly.
- Before every election, election officials test thousands of ballot scanners and other voting machines. Only authorized individuals can access this equipment. These units have met state and federal standards before use in North Carolina. No voting machine is ever connected to the internet or any other network.
- After each election, audits are conducted in every county to make sure that ballot scanners counted ballots correctly. Additional audits make sure that all ballots are accounted for and that the results are accurate.

These are a few of the many steps that your local election officials take before, during, and after each election to ensure your vote counts.

Because of today's social media environment, falsehoods about elections or voting have become all too common. We want you to know the facts about your elections. Here are a few ways you can do that:

- Sign up to be an election official and learn first-hand about the process.
- Seek information from trusted sources like your county board of elections and the State Board of Elections. The State Board's website, ncsbe.gov, includes accurate, up-to-date information about upcoming elections, registering to vote, and the various ways to cast your vote.
- Remember that election procedures vary from state to state. If you're new to North Carolina, please educate yourself on how the process works here. This will make your voting experience go more smoothly.

We thank you for voting, and for entrusting your local election officials with making sure your vote counts!

Sincerely,



Karen Brinson Bell

Executive Director,
NC State Board of Elections





NORTH CAROLINA

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

PO Box 27255

Raleigh NC 27611-7255

**Attention:
Voters and
would-be
voters.**



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