

2018 General Election

Candidate Guide

Saint Joseph County, Indiana



<https://www.civicdutyco.org/southbend>

Vote on Tuesday, November 6th!

Federal Races

U.S. Senate

Joe Donnelly (D)

Recognized as one of the most bipartisan senators in the country, Joe Donnelly has represented the state of Indiana in the Senate since 2012 and serves on the Armed Services Committee, Banking Committee, Agriculture Committee, and Aging Committee. Previously, he served three terms in the House of Representatives from Indiana's 2nd Congressional District and currently lives in north central Indiana with his wife and two children.

Learn more at <https://www.donnelly.senate.gov/>

Mike Braun (R)

Mike Braun is a businessman and former state representative running for the U.S. Senate seat against incumbent Joe Donnelly. Braun grew up in Jasper, IN before attending Wabash College and Harvard Business School. He returned to his hometown and became the founder and CEO of Meyer Distributing, employing thousands of employees. Learn more at

<https://www.mikebraunforindiana.com/>

Indiana U.S. House District 2

Mel Hall (D)

Born and raised on a family farm in Indiana, Mel Hall attended Taylor University, went to seminary, and served as a Methodist minister in Detroit's poorest and most densely-populated neighborhood for seven years. Mel then went on to work at Press Ganey, becoming CEO and growing the company to over 800 employees. He is now running in Indiana's 2nd Congressional District against incumbent, Jackie Walorski. Learn more at <https://www.melforcongress.com/>

Jackie Walorski (R)

Jackie Walorski has represented Indiana's Second Congressional District since her election in 2012. Born in South Bend, IN, Walorski attended Riley High School before working as a local news reporter and a missionary. She served three terms in the Indiana House of Representatives, becoming Assistant Floor Leader. In Congress, she is currently a member of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee. Learn more at

<https://www.standwithjackie.com/>

State Races

Secretary of State

Jim Harper (D)	Connie Lawson (R)
<p>Born and raised in Valparaiso, Indiana, Jim Harper practices law and is running for Indiana Secretary of State against Connie Lawson. He attended Valparaiso High School then went to Indiana University and received his law degree from Georgetown University. He currently serves on the board of a non-profit law firm that provides free and reduced-cost legal services to veterans, as well as the Hilltop House, a Valparaiso non-profit that provides early-childhood education and other services to Porter County families. Learn more at http://harperforindiana.com/</p>	<p>Connie Lawson has served as Indiana's 61st Secretary of State since her appointment in 2012 by Governor Mitch Daniels. As a former small business owner and Hendricks County Clerk, Lawson has drawn on her business and government experience as Secretary of State. She was a State Senator for sixteen years and was the first woman to serve as Majority Floor Leader in the Indiana State Senate. Lawson lives in Danville with her husband Jack. Learn more at http://www.voteconnielawson.com/</p>

State Treasurer

John Aguilera (D)	Kelly Mitchell (R)
<p>John Aguilera is a military veteran and former four-term Indiana state representative from East Chicago. Aguilera has a professional background in the technology and currently leads a small IT firm. He has campaigned on the promise of bringing diversity and inclusion to the office of the treasurer and hopes to be a check on the "one-party rule" [by Republicans] in Indiana. Learn more at https://www.aguileraforindiana.com/</p>	<p>Kelly Mitchell was elected as Indiana's 55th Treasurer in 2014. In her role as Chief Investment Officer, Mitchell manages roughly five to seven billion dollars every day for the state. She received a B.A. in Political Science from Valparaiso University, a M.A. in Philanthropic Studies from IUPUI, and a M.A. in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College. Prior to serving as Treasurer, Mitchell was a County Commissioner in Cass County, Indiana. Learn more at https://www.votekellymitchell.com/</p>

State Auditor

<p>Joselyn Whittaker (D)</p> <p>Joselyn Whittaker is running for State Auditor against incumbent Tera Klutz. She is a former educator with 35 years of experience as a teacher and administrator. She owns a small business that specializes in instructional curriculum consulting. Whittaker is also the president of the Marion NAACP Branch #3059 and the Marion Grant County Minority Health Coalition. Learn more at http://joselyn4indiana.com/about-joselyn/</p>	<p>Tera Klutz (R)</p> <p>Tera Klutz was appointed in 2017 by Governor Eric Holcomb to serve as Indiana's 57th Auditor of State. Born and raised in Fort Wayne, Klutz went on to earn an accounting degree from Indiana University - Fort Wayne and pass the Board of Accountancy CPA. Prior to holding state office, she served as Allen County Auditor and was an active member on the Indiana Counties' Legislative Committee. Learn more at http://www.teraklutz.com/</p>
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Indiana Senate District 11

<p>Ed Liptrap (D)</p> <p>Ed Liptrap is running to represent District 11 in the Indiana Senate. Growing up in Southern California, he joined the Navy and served until 2002. After his service, he moved to South Bend with his wife, Heather. Ed Liptrap is now a cabinet maker with a passion for public service. Learn more at http://www.voteliptrap.com/</p>	<p>Linda Rodgers (R)</p> <p>Linda Rodgers is running to represent Indiana's 11th Senate District. She has lived in the Michiana area for over 40 years and currently resides in Granger. A graduate of Central Michigan University, Rodgers has owned and managed several businesses with her husband, Mike. She was the first female President of the St. Joseph Valley Home Builders Association. Learn more at https://www.lindarogers.org/</p>
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Indiana House District 5

<p>Don Westerhausen (D)</p> <p>Dr. Don Westerhausen is running to represent District 5 in the Indiana House of Representatives. Westerhausen is a cardiologist who has lived and worked in Northern Indiana for 25 years. He has made increasing funding for public education, expanding Medicare, and creating a non-partisan redistricting commission for 2020 his major campaign issues. Learn more at https://www.votewesterhausen.com/</p>	<p>Dale Devon (R)</p> <p>Dale Devon has represented Indiana's 5th House District since his election in 2012. He serves on the Education, Family, Children & Human Affairs, and Utilities, Energy and Telecommunications Committees. Devon was born and raised in Clay Township and has lived in Granger for almost 30 years. Devon got his start as a building contractor and rose to be a national director for the Home Builders Association. Learn more at https://www.indianahouserepublicans.com/members/general/dale-devon</p>
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Indiana House District 6

<p>Rep. Patrick Bauer (D)</p> <p>Patrick Bauer has represented District 6 in the Indiana House of Representatives since 1970. He served as Speaker of the House from 2003-2005 and from 2007-2011. Bauer has also served as chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee and House Minority Leader. Learn more at http://indianahousedemocrats.org/pat-bauer/</p>	
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Indiana House District 7

<p>Rep. Joe Taylor (D)</p> <p>Representative Taylor has represented Indiana House District 7 since 2016 and is running for reelection. Taylor lives in St. Joseph County and works as an assembler at A.M. General. He has spent the past 20 years in many different leadership positions in the UAW-Local 5 and has served as its president since 2011. Learn more at http://indianahousedemocrats.org/joe-taylor/</p>	<p>Troy Dillon (R)</p> <p>Troy Dillon is running for the Indiana House of Representatives from the 7th District, having grown up in the St. Joseph County area. His main priorities are public safety, school safety, property taxes, road conditions, wages, gun rights, veterans, and drugs. https://www.facebook.com/Troy-Dillon-For-State-Representative-2125318967697793/</p>
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Indiana House District 8

<p>Rep. Ryan Dvorak (D)</p> <p>Ryan Dvorak is currently serving his eighth term representing Indiana House District 8. He is currently the Ranking Minority Member on the Rules Committee and is a member of the Committee on Judiciary, Courts & Criminal Code, and the Committee on Environmental Affairs. He is also a practicing attorney at the law firm May Oberfell Lorber. Learn more at http://indianahousedemocrats.org/ryan-dvorak/</p>	
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Indiana House District 21

	<p>Timothy Wesco (R)</p> <p>Timothy Wesco has represented Indiana's 21st House District since 2010. He graduated from Bethel College in 2014 with a degree in Organizational Management and now lives in Osceola with his wife, Kathryn. Wesco also serves as an Assistant Pastor at Calvary Baptist Church in Elkhart and as a volunteer firefighter/EMT. Learn more at http://www.timothywesco.com/timothy_wesco_bio.htm</p>
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County Races

Probate Court Judge

<p>Jason Cichowitz (D)</p> <p>Born and raised in St. Joseph County, Jason Cichowicz practices law and is running for Probate Court Judge. He earned a Finance and Management Degree from Indiana University, and went on to receive his Juris Doctor from Western Michigan University. He currently practices criminal defense law in his own law firm. He lives in St. Joseph County with his wife of 10 years and their 2 children. Learn more at http://cichowiczforjudge.com/#resume</p>	<p>James Fox (R)</p> <p>James Fox has served as Probate Court Judge of St. Joseph County since his election in 2012. He received a bachelor's degree from DePaul University and a law degree from the Valparaiso University School of Law. Fox previously worked as a deputy prosecuting attorney in Elkhart County. Learn more at https://ballotpedia.org/James_N._Fox</p>
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County Prosecutor

Ken Cotter (D)

Born and raised in Mishawaka, Ken Cotter is the current Prosecutor for St. Joseph County, a position he has held since 2014. He attended the University of Notre Dame for both his undergraduate studies and Law School. He has served in the St. Joseph County Prosecutor's Office in various capacities, including as Chief Deputy Prosecutor. He lives in Mishawaka with his wife and 4 children. Learn more at https://www.facebook.com/pg/Kpc4prosecutor/about/?ref=page_internal

Circuit Court Clerk

Rita Glenn (D)

Rita Glenn has served as Chief Deputy Clerk of the St. Joseph Circuit Court since 2011 after working in the office for over twenty years. Glenn is a native of South Bend, Indiana and graduated from Washington High School.

County Auditor

Mike Hamann (D)

Mike Hamann currently serves as St. Joseph County Auditor, and is seeking re-election. He earned a degree in History from the University of Notre Dame. Hamann has served on the County Council since 2009 and previously served as a Republican County Commissioner from 1999 to 2003.

County Assessor

Rosemary Mandrici (D)

Rosemary Mandrici has served as St Joseph County Assessor since 2011, and is seeking re-election. She previously served as the Portage Township Assessor from 2004 to 2010. Mandrici graduated from St. Mary's College, the University of Notre Dame, and is currently pursuing a Master's Degree through Indiana University.

County Sheriff

Bill Redman (D)

Bill Redman has served with the St. Joseph County Police Department for more than 2 decades. He has worked in the department in various capacities, including as a patrol officer, D.A.R.E instructor, Public Information Officer, and Honor Guard Unit member. Lieutenant Redman lives in St. Joseph County with his wife of 24 years, Kimberly, and their five daughters. Learn more at <https://www.redmanforsheriff.com/>

Paul Jonas (R)

Paul Jonas is running for St. Joseph County Sheriff, having grown up in the area and attending Riley High School. Jonas joined the St. Joseph County Police Department in 1984, becoming an officer in 1986. He retired in 2014 after 30 years of service with the rank of sergeant, having served on the SWAT, patrol, and courthouse divisions. Learn more at <http://pauljonasforsheriff.com/>

County Commissioner District 1

Tim Swager (D)

Tim Swager is a resident of Granger and fourth-generation Hoosier running for District 1 County Commissioner. He works for his family's small communications-manufacturing business. Swager is campaigning on the promise of increased accountability and efficiency in local government. Learn more at <http://voteswager.com/>

Andrew Kostielney (R)

Andrew Kostielney has been a County Commissioner since 2009 and represents parts of Clay, German, Harris, Penn, Portage and Warren Townships. Kostielney has prioritized the double tracking of the South Shore Line as well as building more walkable sidewalks and trails throughout the county. Kostielney is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and is an Assistant Manager at the Robinson Community Learning Center. Learn more at <https://www.facebook.com/AKostielney/>

County Council District A

Robert (Bobby K) Kruszynski (D)

Robert Kruszynski is the incumbent councilmember for District A in the County Council of St. Joseph County. He is a lifelong resident of St. Joseph County, and previously served as County Highway Commissioner. He is campaigning with a focus on job creation and maintenance, adequately funding and maintaining the county's criminal justice system, and upgrading local infrastructure.

Aaron Troutmiller (R)

Aaron Troutmiller is running for St. Joseph County Council District A, having been born and raised in South Bend, IN. Troutmiller lost the race for County Clerk in 2014. He is a longtime volunteer and member of the board of directors for Camp Millhouse, a summer retreat for children and adults with mental and physical disabilities.

County Council District B

Corey Noland (D)

Corey Noland is the current District B representative in the County Council of St. Joseph County, a position he has held since 2009. Noland is a lifelong resident of the county, having grown up in Warren Township. He is also a service manager for Koontz-Wagner. Learn more at <https://www.facebook.com/coreynolandforcountycouncil/>

Dennis Jordan (R)

Dennis Jordan is running for St. Joseph County Council District B after losing the race in 2014 by 35 votes. Jordan graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1978 and currently owns Altec Engineering based in Elkhart, IN. He also serves as Vice President of the St. Joseph County Redevelopment Commission.

County Council District C

Cindy Kilgore (D)

Cindy Kilgore formerly served for 31 years as an officer of the South Bend Police Department. Kilgore is campaigning with an emphasis on County Health Department funding, leaf removal, and transparency. Learn more at <http://electcindykilgore.com/>

Richard Pfeil (R)

A lifelong resident of South Bend, Richard Pfeil currently serves as a member on the St. Joseph County Council. Pfeil was previously a CEO of a local electric company, and he founded the Pfeil Innovation Center in South Bend to encourage business growth in the area. Learn more at <https://www.pfeilforcouncil.com/>

County Council District E

Diana Hess (D)

Diana Hess has served as the County Councilwoman from District E since 2013. She is currently also the Executive Director of Neighborhood Resources Connection. Hess is a graduate of Indiana University South Bend with a masters in public administration. Learn more at <https://www.facebook.com/hess4council/>

County Council District H

Joe Canarecci (D)

Joe Canarecci has been a Councilman At-Large on the Mishawaka City Council since 2016 and is running to represent District H in the St. Joseph County Council. Canarecci is a lifelong resident of St. Joseph County where he lives with his wife and four children.

Brian Pawlowski (R)

Brian Pawlowski is running for St. Joseph County Council District H. He grew up in South Bend, Indiana, attending LaSalle High School. Pawlowski served in the Marine Corps as both an active and reserve duty officer. After working in Washington DC, Pawlowski returned to South Bend where he served as Deputy Chief of Staff to Mayor Pete Buttigieg. Learn more at <http://pawlowskiforcouncil.com/>

Additional Resources:

To determine which Indiana State House District you live in, visit:

http://iga.in.gov/information/house_district_map/

To determine which St. Joseph County Council District you live in, visit:

<http://www.sjcindiana.com/827/County-Council>