

Official Voters Guide

2016 HARRIS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PRIMARY RUNOFF EDITION



TEXAS CONSERVATIVE REVIEW

TCR RECOMMENDATIONS

Please vote for the most qualified, conservative candidates in the following races. Each endorsed candidate is shown in BOLD with a YELLOW HIGHLIGHT and a red check mark.



RAILROAD
COMMISSIONER

✓ **GARY GATES**

WAYNE CHRISTIAN



JUDGE, COURT OF
CRIMINAL APPEALS PLACE 2

✓ **RAY WHELESS**

MARY LOU KEEL



JUDGE, COURT OF
CRIMINAL APPEALS PLACE 5

✓ **BRENT WEBSTER**

SCOTT WALKER



STATE REPRESENTATIVE,
DISTRICT 128

✓ **WAYNE SMITH**

BRISCOE CAIN



HARRIS COUNTY
REPUBLICAN PARTY CHAIR

✓ **RICK RAMOS**

PAUL SIMPSON

EARLY VOTING RUNS MAY 16-20; ELECTION DAY IS MAY 24

TEXAS HOUSE DISTRICT 128 WAYNE SMITH OR BRISCOE CAIN

By *Gary Polland*, TCR Managing Editor



Conservative, liberty minded voters in East Harris County have a choice to make about the direction of our state in the Runoff election for

House District 128. We recommend re-electing State Representative Wayne Smith.

Wayne Smith brings his background as an engineer and successful Baytown businessman to the Texas House. We are grateful for his service in the U.S. Army and, as a decorated Vietnam veteran, he gives us confidence that he will stand and fight when others who are less tested may turn tail and run.

Wayne's track record in Austin makes his principles crystal clear. He has a 100% Pro-Life rating and an A+ from the National Rifle Association. He was singled out by the Texas Association of Business for the 2015 "Champion for Free Enterprise" Award. He's rock solid.

Wayne Smith passed legislation that gives counties the authority to shut down illegal game rooms that are a breeding ground for serious crimes including sex and human trafficking, drugs, and murder. This has had a real and significant impact upon the District and won high praise from law enforcement.

Wayne Smith led the charge to reduce traffic congestion in our local area by standing up to TXDOT and demanding they make the Spur 330 connection from State Highway 146 to IH-10 a priority. This is critically important to those in his district, not only to improve the daily commute but also to assure there is a path to safety when hurricanes threaten the area. This kind of work doesn't always make headlines, but it is the mark of an effective legislator.

Wayne Smith is a leader in the fight for border security and voted to provide an additional eight hundred million dollars in funding for the Texas border. This funding increased the number of state troopers and provided more boats, vehicles and high-tech tracking equipment. Border security and the safety of Texans and all Americans is clearly the responsibility of the federal government, but their failure to act has left the responsibility to men like Wayne Smith and he has stood tall.



Briscoe Cain is young and inexperienced. He ran in 2014 in another district and finished 4th in the race. He moved to House District 128

in order to run for office.

It is problematic that Briscoe Cain is under investigation by the Texas Ethics Commission for refusing to file the required paper work disclosing his campaign contributions.

We are also concerned that Briscoe Cain is a personal injury trial lawyer and makes his living suing businesses and doctors. The kind of lawsuits Cain files can kill jobs and weaken the business environment in Houston.

Cain offers few ideas of what he is for, only a predictable laundry list of everything to which he is opposed. In time he may gain the maturity to make an effective leader – but now is not his time.

Use the Texas Conservative Review Voters Guide when you cast your ballot in the May 24 Republican Primary Runoff Election. Early voting is May 16-20. ★

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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★ ★ ★ ★ ★

House District 128 in East Harris County includes parts of Baytown, Channelview, Crosby, Deer Park, Highlands, La Porte, Morgan's Point and Pasadena. More information about Wayne Smith is available at www.WayneSmithCampaign.com.

Wayne Smith started his own engineering business 38 years ago and built it into one of the more successful firms in the Houston area. As a State Representative, Wayne Smith has fought to reduce the tax burden on our local businesses because he understands the problems of taxes firsthand. Real business experience and real life experience gives Wayne Smith the temperament to be a respected leader in Austin.



Why does the Railroad Commission race matter?



The Oil & Gas Industry is the backbone of our State's economy. And the race to fill the open seat on the commission is one of the most important in years.

The choice is clear.

- ✓ **Gary Gates** - Proven Business leader who has created hundreds of jobs and believes private sector solutions will enhance the agency.
- ✗ **Wayne Christian** - 15-year Career Politician who authored legislation pushing subsidies and who supports green energy mandates. 80R House Bill 121



The Railroad Commission is a three-person board tasked with overseeing Texas' Oil & Natural Gas Industry. Gary is running to fill an open seat on the Commission.

AS RAILROAD COMMISSIONER, GARY GATES WILL

1. Support Texas Energy Producers and Consumers... not state subsidized green energy like his opponent
2. Use his Proven Business Experience... because Gary's not a Career Politician
3. Improve Agency Transparency...no more Austin insiders

Gary Gates



CONSERVATIVE REPUBLICAN
FOR RAILROAD COMMISSIONER

www.GaryGatesForTexas.com • Facebook: Gary Gates for Texas

paid political ad Gary Gates for Railroad Commissioner

THE HARRIS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY—NEW TIMES REQUIRE NEW LEADERSHIP

By *Gary Polland*, TCR Managing Editor

As Republicans and Conservatives, we face challenging times. The good news is the Presidential battle boosted turnout to 329,000+ in Harris County, the bad news is the Democrats had a significant jump too.

In addition, the GOP voters are dissatisfied with the state of our party and its elected officials at the national level all the way down to the local level. Now that the Trump nomination is all but inevitable, it is possible our party's standard-bearer is someone who the majority of Republicans won't even support.

This tells us we will have the most challenging election in Harris County, ever.

Since it is a Presidential election year, Democrat turnout will go up. We also know from 2014 that a bland GOTV program headlined by the lackluster "Harris County Works" theme and with nothing about our great candidates, that GOP turnout declines.

Our collective angst was demonstrated by the 60% of our primary voters who rejected the incumbent party Chairman and his 20th century mindset in this past April's primary ballot.

We are in a new century and what is required to be successful in politics is changing. For my generation the old way still works, but we are slowly declining in numbers. For the younger generation, we need 21st Century solutions and new, young, vigorous, and, yes, ethnic conservative leadership for our party, which are the keys to winning in November.

Having served you as Chairman for three great terms with a 98% success rate, I know what is required for a successful leader and **Rick Ramos** has what it takes.

Voters like stories and Rick Ramos has one that will inspire and attract new voters. Rick and his family fled a communist dictatorship in the dead of night to seek a better life in the U.S. With desire and hard work, Ramos built a successful legal practice and achieved the American Dream. He also has the speaking skills and charisma, that the incumbent lacks, to be the spokesman this party desperately needs for our conservative principles and candidates. He is also not afraid of standing up for our values—even when those values are

controversial to the politically correct left— as he did as one of the leaders of the finance committee for Campaign for Houston, the real leaders of our fight to defeat HERO and keep men out of women's bathrooms.

Finally, Rick Ramos will be an independent voice who will hold our elected officials accountable and fight against the Establishment that has left so many of us feeling betrayed. He will not answer to the special interests who don't always have our best interest at heart. These are the same special interests who spent nearly half a million dollars to seize control of the HCRP Chairmanship to advance their interests and to buy silence on the conservative agenda.

It is time to pass the torch of leadership to the next generation. Rick Ramos' youth, energy, passion and heritage make him ideally suited to accept the torch and to lead the HCRP in the critical 2016 election. This election for the leadership of the Harris County Republican Party is about the future. Rick Ramos is that future. ★

ABOUT TEXAS CONSERVATIVE REVIEW

Gary Polland



The pugnacious and always outspoken Gary Polland is one of the leading conservative voices in Texas. Whether it's through the popular TCR Internet newsletter and website, his TCR voters guides, or as co-host of *Red, White and Blue* - the popular political roundtable show on PBS Houston - Polland has made himself into a force for tough, thoughtful conservatives.

Polland has been a practicing attorney for more than 40 years. His practice is a mix of trial work in family and juvenile courts.

He is Board Certified in Civil Trial law and has a reputation as a tough and skilled advocate for his clients.

Polland served as Harris County Republican Chairman from 1996 to 2002 and was overwhelmingly returned to office every time he ran. As party chairman, he earned national recognition for his leadership. His aggressive party-building efforts, including leading the fight against a bad arena deal and against the court ordered striking down of the Texas sodomy law, were featured in publications like Human Events, The American Spectator, the Houston Chronicle and Inside Houston Magazine.

Over the years, Polland's political alliances have stretched from the White House to the halls of Congress and to the Texas Legislature and Governor's Mansion. He is a confidant to state, national and local officials. His support and advice have proven invaluable to conservatives seeking

office. His TCR guides for voters offer insight and information on local, state and national issues and elections, they have become a key feature of the campaign season in Texas.

Polland received the "Elected Official of the Year" award from the Republican National Hispanic Assembly. The "Tuff Tusk" award from the National Federation of Pachyderm Clubs and was also named "Reaganite of the Year" by the Reagan Alumni Association. Polland was also honored to receive the "Torch Bearer" award from TORCH; a faith based religious organization. Polland authored "A Time for Choosing: 25 Years Later" and is in the process of revising and updating President Reagan's classic speech.

Whether it's on the web, in books, on television or at the forefront of the latest political battle, Gary Polland is a conservative leader that voters have come to rely on for insight and information. ★

RICK RAMOS

FOR HARRIS COUNTY REPUBLICAN **CHAIRMAN**

STANDING UP FOR OUR CONSERVATIVE VALUES

Thank you for the tremendous support I received in the March Primary. It would be my honor to, once again, earn your vote in the May 24th runoff election.

Rick Ramos has the conservative vision to move our party forward.

As our Harris County Republican Party Chairman, Rick will:

- Stand up for the values that make our party great
- Build a bridge to like-minded voters
- Hold Republican elected officials accountable when they fail to represent our Party Platform and conservative values
- Empower grassroots activists with the most cutting edge and user-friendly technology available
- Inspire and engage the next generation of voters



“As a first generation Cuban American who fled a communist dictatorship in the dead of night, I understand the greatness of this country and the ideals and values that make it the envy of the world. I achieved the American dream through hard work and by embracing our American values. As your chairman, I will fight for our shared conservative values and hold our Republican representatives accountable when they fail to uphold our values and the party platform.”

— Rick



RickRamosForCountyChair.com

pol ad pd for by Rick Ramos Campaign, Lucy Forbes, Treasurer

Online subscriptions are free so please join the family at
www.texasconservativereview.com



RUNOFF ENDORSEMENTS

By TCR Editor-in-Chief, Gary Pollard

TCR believes in telling you why we make certain recommendations.
Please review below and vote for the most qualified, conservative candidates.



RAILROAD COMMISSIONER: GARY GATES

Gary Gates is a seasoned business owner who can take a business approach to the Texas Railroad Commission, which plays a huge role in our Texas economy. Gates' opponent filed for the office initially and then quit the race. But because it was too late for him to withdraw his name, he stayed on the ballot and made it to the runoff. We believe that Texans should elect a candidate who is committed to the office of Railroad Commissioner and not one who doesn't even want the job or quits at the first sign of opposition. Texans deserve a fighter, and Gary Gates fits the bill.



JUDGE, COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS, PLACE 2: RAY WHELESS

Judge Ray Wheless enlisted in the Air Force during the Vietnam era after dropping out of high school. He went on to earn his undergraduate degree and a law degree before beginning a career as a successful attorney where he practiced until becoming judge. Judge Wheless has presided over both criminal and civil cases and this versatility will give him a unique perspective on the CCA. Wheless has also been active within the Republican Party for 35 years, serving as a precinct chair and fundraiser.



JUDGE, COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS, PLACE 5: BRENT WEBSTER

Brent Webster's commitment to conservative values is evidenced by the overwhelming number of conservative organizations endorsing his candidacy. Webster is a native Houstonian who earned his law degree at the University of Houston before entering public service where he has been a prosecutor, Assistant District Attorney and General Counsel to the Williamson County D.A. where he currently serves. There is no doubt that Webster will carry his law-and-order mindset to the CCA.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 128: WAYNE SMITH

Wayne Smith has an impressive record of achievement on conservative issues that includes: Co-authored legislation to provide \$800 million in new funding for border security, co-authored legislation that would have banned sanctuary cities in Texas, co-authored \$1.2 billion tax cut and supported legislation that defunded Planned Parenthood. Smith's solid record on our issues earns him our endorsement for reelection. In the next critical session of the Legislature we need an experienced conservative like Wayne Smith representing District 128.



HARRIS COUNTY REPUBLICAN CHAIRMAN: RICK RAMOS

Rick Ramos has an inspiring story. He and his family fled a communist dictatorship in the dead of night to seek a better life in the U.S. With desire and hard work, Ramos built a successful legal practice and achieved the American Dream. Now Ramos wants to apply his grit and determination to reforming and revitalizing the local party. Ramos' youth, energy, passion and heritage make him ideally suited to lead the HCRP in the critical 2016 election. This election for the leadership of the Harris County Republican Party is about the future. Rick Ramos represents that future.