HARRIS COUNTY EDITION

EARLY VOTING IS OCTOBER 22ND - NOVEMBER 2ND, ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 6TH

CRUZ VS. O’ROURKE

VOTE ALL THE WAY DOWN BALLOT; WHY JUDGES MATTER

SAMPLE BALLOT

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The Most Important Election of Our Lifetime!

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For Republicans, the 2018 midterm elections represent a tale of two tickets—first, is the top of the ticket that includes a high-profile race for U.S. Senate, along with state officeholders including Governor Greg Abbott and Lt. Governor Dan Patrick whose victories are all but guaranteed; then there is the bottom of the ticket for local offices such as the judiciary and county officeholders like County Judge Ed Emmett and District Clerk Chris Daniel. The danger is assuming that the high profile races are locked up, leading voters to believe their votes aren’t needed, causing them to stay home and leading to a cascade of losses down ballot. Regardless of whether the race is at the top or the bottom of the ballot, the stakes are high and demand that all conservatives take the threat seriously and not only vote, but be prepared to get others to vote. Of course, for these votes to be effective, conservatives must vote either the Straight Republican ticket or be prepared to vote all the way down the ballot in over 90 races.

All elections have consequences—this one is no different. From the top of the ballot with Senator Ted Cruz, down through the judicial races and finally to county races, the Republican candidates have a clear advantage over their Democrat rivals. Precinct Four Commissioner Jack Cagle, for example, faces a wild-eyed liberal, while his Precinct Two counterpart, Jack Mormon, is challenged by perennial candidate, Adrian Garcia, who has declared that he wants to abolish ICE. Garcia also has a cloud of scandal over his candidacy stemming from the hiring of a friend with a known and documented history of sexual harassment to investigate... sexual harassment while at the sheriff’s office. Within weeks, his pick was harassing women again. Talk about the fox guarding the henhouse!

The easiest way to elect the best candidates is to take advantage of the very first option on the ballot—the Republican Party Straight Party vote. Be aware though that after voting #1, you may not be done. There are a number of voters who can cast votes in municipal races, propositions, school board races, the Lone Star College District and others that are not affected by the straight party vote—so be sure and scroll all the way to the end to make sure you vote everything.

_With positions like these, the difference between Cruz and O’Rourke is clear; and the consequences of this election are even clearer._

This is your chance to do your part—vote and get as many conservative friends and family members to vote in this critical election. For conservatives, this election is a tale of two tickets—but we as a community of like-minded voters get to decide if this will be the best of times or the worst of times.

**TED CRUZ VS. ROBERT FRANCIS O’ROURKE**

It seemed like a joke when Irish-American Robert Francis O’Rourke appeared on the statewide political landscape under the nickname “Beto” to run against the powerful incumbent Ted Cruz in the race for the U.S. Senate. But Robert O’Rourke was not new to the political scene and is certainly no joke, as Congressman Silvestre Reyes learned in 2010 when the Irish O’Rourke leveraged an Hispanic nickname to defeat the 16-year incumbent in a 78 percent Hispanic district.

Now, after months of campaigning for the U.S. Senate seat, no one is laughing at O’Rourke in his newest campaign. Since winning his primary election, O’Rourke has crept up in the polls and outraised the powerful incumbent thanks, in large part, to the deep pockets of billionaire George Soros and friends. In the latest campaign finance report for example, O’Rourke raked in a record-setting $38 million in just three months. O’Rourke has also been out front, criss-crossing the state, shaking hands and littering the political and literal landscapes—his signs are ubiquitous and cross every conceivable demographic line; appearing in the yards of low income neighborhoods as equally as they appear in front of gated mansions.

Republican voters who underestimate this new liberal standard bearer and choose to stay home this cycle risk one of the most powerful and influential seats in government, and by extension risk the public policy implications of an O’Rourke victory.

With O’Rourke in the U.S. Senate, President Trump and conservatives will have one less vote for sound fiscal policies, one less vote to uphold the 2nd Amendment, one less vote to curtail government regulations and one less vote for the President’s judicial nominees, including to the Supreme Court, and one less friend of Israel.

There is also the impact on America’s idea of law and order and moral framework by the devout liberal who is pro-choice, is intent on imposing limits to the Second Amendment, wants to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and favors legalization of Marijuana. He is opposed to President Trump on these and numerous other issues, most notably immigration—O’Rourke favors elimination of ICE, preferring to focus on legalizing all illegal immigrants in the U.S. and believes that, in his words, “... the border with Mexico has never been safer.”

With positions like these, the difference between Cruz and O’Rourke is clear; and the consequences of this election are even clearer. An O’Rourke victory would mean...
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constant opposition to everything that the President and members of Congress have been working to achieve during the first term of the Trump presidency and everything they hope to accomplish in the future. This is simply something we can’t allow to happen by staying home this November.

THE BOTTOM OF THE BALLOT: HARRIS COUNTY JUDICIARY AND LOCAL RACES

While the impact of an O’Rourke U.S. Senate victory is obvious, the consequences are no less ominous down the ballot in the Harris County judiciary, where the Democrats have staked their claims thanks to Obama cycles that buried the careers of qualified and experienced Republican judges in mass graves.

The consequences of these elections aren’t abstractions debated 1,400 miles away in Washington, DC—no, the rulings these judges make every day affect ordinary citizens living in our local communities. They are rulings that affect justice, whether that is in a criminal case where life and death may be decided or a civil case where victims seek financial recourse or in the critical family courts where the sensitive issues of divorce, child custody and domestic violence are, hopefully, carefully and objectively adjudicated. The issues of these courts require the experienced and qualified minds of legal experts who have advocated passionately in front of the bench, so they are prepared to rule dispassionately from behind the bench.

First and foremost, citizens of Harris County are entitled to judges who will uphold the rule of law and not legislate from the bench, which we routinely see from the Democrats more concerned with political correctness than ruling objectively. Take, for example, Democrat Judge Kevin Fine who sided with a defendant who killed a mother in front of her two young children and ruled the death penalty unconstitutional. Thankfully, Fine’s attempt at legislating from the bench was quickly rebuffed by a higher court, maintaining the rule of law. This same Democrat would later be arrested and sentenced for sex and drugs.

Judges are also expected to act with integrity. In the case of Kevin Fine, it should have been easy to predict his ultimate fall from grace based on the fact that he admitted being a “cocaine addict” before his election. Another Democrat on this year’s ballot was fired from his position at the Public Defender’s Office for falsifying government records and then threatening a co-worker in order to keep the crime silent.

Then there’s the ultimate measure to predict success or failure—experience and qualifications, areas where the Republican field of candidates is clearly superior. One Democrat candidate for judge of a criminal court, for example, has only tried one case in criminal court—and that was over 30 years ago. On the job training, anyone? Another Democrat for a juvenile bench has never tried a case in either a juvenile or family court. Yet another Democrat has a record that includes dismissal of 25% of her cases for failing to show up for court. Now she wants taxpayers to trust that she will show up and actually work for the tax dollars at stake. Cases like these in the ranks of Democrat candidates are too numerous to list—suffice it to say, the Democrats’ experience pales in comparison to that of the Republicans who have a combined 1,000+ years of legal experience.

ABOUT TEXAS CONSERVATIVE REVIEW EDITOR

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, regular radio appearances, his TCR voters guides, or as co-host of Red, White and Blue - the popular political roundtable show on Houston Public Media (PBS Channel 8), now in its 17th season (visit www.houstonpublicmedia.org for past episodes) - Polland is a force for tough, thoughtful conservatives. Polland has been a practicing attorney for more than 42 years. His practice is a mix of trial work in family, civil and juvenile courts. He is Board Certified in Civil Trial law and has

Human Events described Gary Polland as the most successful County Chairman in America.

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 and has been featured in publications like Human Events, The American Spectator, the Houston Chronicle and Inside Houston Magazine. Gary also appears regularly as a commentator on KTRH, KPRC and KSEV radio stations.

Polland received the “Elected Official of the Year” award from the Republican National Hispanic Assembly, and was also named “Reaganite of the Year” by the Reagan Alumni Association.

Whether it’s on the web, in books, on television and radio or at the forefront of the latest political battle, Gary Polland is a conservative leader that voters have come to trust for insight and accurate information.
SAMPLE BALLOT

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