

VOTE THE WHOLE BALLOT



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JUSTICE IS ON THE BALLOT IN 2018

In addition to federal and other local races, justice is on the ballot in 2018. And while the N.C. General Assembly has placed these races toward the bottom of the ballot, voting for a justice, judges, a sheriff, or a D.A. should be a top priority for voters. Review your ballot at ncvoter.org.

WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT

WHY IT MATTERS

NC Supreme Court Justice:

Serves on the state's highest court, their decision is the final word.

Hears appeals on issues ranging from felony convictions to corporate fraud, and rules on issues like civil and voting rights.

NC Court of Appeals Judge:

Reviews civil and criminal cases first decided in the superior or district courts, except for cases involving the death penalty.

Hears appeals on misdemeanor and felony cases, including issues like whether an officer has reasonable suspicion to arrest a defendant.

NC Superior Court Judge:

Hears felony criminal cases, and civil cases involving more than \$25,000. Also hears appeals for charges of misdemeanor crimes from the District Court.

Sets the bail schedule, or how much bail defendants must pay for pretrial release based on a scale for felony criminal or civil charges.

District Court Judge:

Hears civil and misdemeanor cases on legal matters related to business, family, drugs and traffic violations.

Decides issues like domestic violence, divorce, child support, marijuana possession, and juvenile cases. These judges decide the terms of pretrial release, including bail amounts.

District Attorney (or DA):

Represents the state in all criminal and some juvenile matters.

Decides whether a person is charged with a criminal offense, and what the charges will be; how long someone must wait before their trial; and what bail amount, if any, to recommend to a judge.

County Sheriff:

Only law enforcement officer to have jurisdiction throughout an entire county.

The Sheriff issues subpoenas, warrants, and summonses, make arrests and extradites prisoners. The Sheriff runs the jail and decides whether or not to comply with requests from ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement).

DISHONEST AMENDMENTS ARE ON THE BALLOT IN 2018

Six constitutional amendments will appear **near the end** of your 2018 ballot.

Vote **AGAINST** all of these amendments. **FOR** **AGAINST**

WHAT IT SAYS

“Constitutional amendment protecting the right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife.”

WHY IT MATTERS

Supported by the corporate gun lobby, lets the legislature decide how you hunt & fish.

WHAT IT SAYS

“Constitutional amendment to strengthen protections for victims of crime, to establish certain, absolute basic rights for victims, and to ensure the enforcement of these rights.”

WHY IT MATTERS

Victims need protections, but this solution proposed by a California billionaire delays justice for everyone, at a hefty cost to taxpayers.

WHAT IT SAYS

“Constitutional amendment to reduce the income tax rate in North Carolina to a maximum allowable rate of seven percent (7%).”

WHY IT MATTERS

Permanently shifts taxes to help wealthy donors at the expense of working families and hurts our ability to fund our classrooms and help teachers.

WHAT IT SAYS

“Constitutional amendment to require voters to provide photo identification before voting in person.”

WHY IT MATTERS

Only Mississippi has a strict photo ID mandate in its constitution. This proposal is worse: it lets legislators revive a discriminatory law to exclude any voters they want.

WHAT IT SAYS

“Constitutional amendment to change the process for filling judicial vacancies that occur between judicial elections...[portions omitted for space]...the legislature will recommend at least two nominees to the Governor via legislative action not subject to gubernatorial veto; and the Governor will appoint judges from among these nominees.”

WHY IT MATTERS*

Gives the legislature the power to appoint political cronies as judges who will rule in favor of corporate polluters and other special interests.

WHAT IT SAYS

“Constitutional amendment to establish an eight-member Bipartisan Board of Ethics and Elections Enforcement in the Constitution to administer ethics and elections law.”

WHY IT MATTERS*

Removes the board’s unaffiliated member, creating a 4-4 deadlocked split that limits voting access and blocks investigations of political corruption.

*Former governors from both major parties oppose.