





# Jones County Board of Supervisors, Beat 1

**Independent Bobby Brady Jr. (declined to participate)**

**1.) The sheriff received a \$5.5 million budget from the board of supervisors this fiscal year — almost twice what the previous administration had. He says he needs \$7.3 million. Do you support his budget increase, and why?**

**Baker:** The sheriff needs the support of the board to do his job regardless if it's Alex Hodge or one of the other candidates. We in the county need to have the comfort knowing we can trust the sheriff's department to be there for us. Seems like there is a struggle between the board of supervisors and the sheriff. I believe in supporting that department and making things work on both sides.

**Burnett:** This request is over one third more than allocated after a hard stretch to raise the Sheriff's budget to 5.5 million. A one third increase under normal operating procedures is just not possible without some type of revenue enhancement; for example, borrowing or raising taxes. I, in all good conscious, don't feel that I can approve this type of budget busting increase.

**Herrington:** I have been studying the county budget very closely and I think there is room for improvement of spending in each office and department. We will only be able to get the most out of our tax dollars when we stop thinking about self and our own opinions. Instead, we must focus on the needs of all the people of Jones County. As I have said from the beginning of my campaign, it is about the people of Jones County.

**Republican Michael Phillips (declined to participate)**  
**Democrat Gary D. Blackledge (withdrew)**

**1.) The sheriff received a \$5.5 million budget from the board of supervisors this fiscal year — almost twice what the previous administration had. He says he needs \$7.3 million. Do you support his budget increase, and why?**

**Boykin:** Money that goes toward the safety of the people of Jones County is definitely a high priority for all of us and needs to be supported. However a lot of things would have to be considered before giving any increases. Since I don't have access to the current budget and expenditures it's hard to say. I certainly wouldn't want to support an increase if it's not needed or will put us in a financial hardship.

**Bush:** The people of Jones County need adequately funded law enforcement protection. We need to work with the sheriff's department to address a budget that would meet the needs of Jones County citizens. The budget does include the upkeep of the jail which is in desperate need of upgrading. I have personally gone to visit facility and seen what needs to be updated. There also needs to be immediate action taken to provide for adequate security in our schools. Our children are the greatest asset this county possesses, and we must assure their safety. It would be hard to comment on the budget that is being presented without looking at the budget items individually. As a taxpayer, we are not allowed to view individual salaries and other budget line items.

**Dykes:** When you are elected to a public office you know what you are going to have to deal with. If you don't know what your budget is then you have not done what you should have done. As far as the past administration, I am the past administration. I am Larry Dykes, former sheriff of

**Mathews:** I would not accept or reject the sheriff's proposed budget without having full disclosure of an audit. If the increase in the budget exceed 3.5 mils then a referendum would be required for the voters to determine whether or not they support the budget increase. If the increase is less than the 3.5 mils, it is the fiscal responsibility of the elected supervisors to then accept or reject the budget based on facts provided by the audit and not by hearsay. Regardless of the millage increase, the burden will fall on the taxpayer. Transparency associated with the budget should be a number one priority of the Board of Supervisors in order to fulfill their responsibilities to the citizens of Jones County.

**2.) Outline your goals for the office and why you are running.**

**Baker:** I believe in accountability in that office. I want to be supervisor to help the people of Beat 1. I don't want yes man but do what's right.

**Burnett:** My goals as Beat One Supervisor are to complete and implement some additional services for the citizens of Jones County that we have started but not yet completed.

**Herrington:** One important goal is to visit and evaluate every office supported by the tax payers and determine what can be done to lower our budget. Another goal is to return the office of supervisor to its responsibilities to the people of Jones County, prioritizing them and appropriating tax dollars accordingly. We must also take

care of the elderly, give our children and grandchildren the opportunity for the best education they can get, protect our law enforcement, get illegal drugs out of the county, and fix our roads and bridges.

**Mathews:** Goals for the office: 1. Open a line of communication between the Board of Supervisors and the following: citizens of Jones County, as well as local, state and federal government agencies. 2. Maintain roads and bridges for the safety of our citizens in Jones County. 3. Support our law enforcement efforts to protect the citizens of Jones County. 4. Support the school districts in order to provide our children the best education that they can receive and deserve. I am running to serve the citizens of Jones County with an emphasis on the residents of Beat 1. I want to provide, as supervisor, the ability to work amicably with all facets of Jones County departments that fall under the jurisdiction of the Board of Supervisors. The office of supervisor requires business management and fiscal responsibility.

**3.) Why should voters cast their ballot for you?**

**Baker:** I am a life long resident of Jones County and Beat 1. I am an assistant pastor, a Mason and friend to many. I am one citizen for all citizens. I want to be a helping hand and not a problem.

**Burnett:** The governing Board of Supervisors takes a fixed amount of



**Republican**  
**Richard Baker,**  
**49, Sharon**  
**Community**

Current job/relevant experience: City of Laurel, assistant supervisor in drainage department; mechanic for Jones County Schools; have worked in oil field operating all types of equipment



**Republican**  
**Johnny Burnett,**  
**75, Beat One**

Current job/relevant experience: I am the incumbent supervisor of Beat One in Jones County, and I am still learning every day.



**Republican**  
**Toby Herrington,**  
**59, Shady Grove**

Current job/relevant experience: Contractor sales with Phillips Building Supply. I am familiar with tax structures, purchasing, bid procedures, construction projects of all kinds, and operating within your budget.



**Republican**  
**Harlon Mathews**  
**Jr., 56**

Current job/relevant experience: Veterinarian-Briarwood Animal Clinic-Owner and Manager since 1992

money and tries to fairly and equally distribute this money among all services in the county. I ask that the voters look at my record of never exceeding my budget and make their decision accordingly.

**Herrington:** I have always tried to live my life according to the following principles: honesty, integrity, hard work, strong family values, and with the upmost respect to others. I believe with those values that I can supervise the spending of your tax dollars appropriately and efficiently. I can work well with other elected officials because I have always been the type of person to sit down, discuss and determine what is best for everyone involved. Then we can move forward to accomplish those goals. I will make all decisions based on what is best for the people of Beat One and Jones County. I will serve you to the very best of my ability.

**Mathews:** I am a lifelong resident of Jones County, I was reared in the Shady Grove community. I served on the Jones County School board for a term of six years and was Board President for four of those years. The responsibilities of being a school board member allowed me the experience in overseeing a multi-million dollar budget. In addition, I am a long-time business owner in Jones County and have demonstrated through my business the importance of fiscal responsibility and appropriate business management. I am willing to cooperate and to coordinate the functions of the office of supervisor to appropriately manage taxpayer dollars. I believe in doing so, it will ensure the safety and well being for all citizens of Jones County. These are a few reasons why I feel that I am qualified for the voters of Beat 1 to elect me, Harlon Mathews, as their supervisor.

# Jones County Board of Supervisors, Beat 2



**Republican**  
**Chad Boykin, 46,**  
**Calhoun**  
**Community**

Current job/relevant experience: I work for Laurel School District



**Republican**  
**Mike Bush, 60,**  
**Laurel, Beat 2**

Current job/relevant experience: I am the Owner/President of Bar 3 Range. My experience with building roads and bridges will be an asset to the current conditions in Jones County.



**Republican**  
**Larry Dykes, 69,**  
**Pleasant Ridge**  
**Community**

Current job/relevant experience: Retired, former sheriff of Jones County



**Independent**  
**Ronnie Herrington, 62,**  
**Pleasant Ridge**

Current job/relevant experience: Oil/Gas industry; Jones County School Board; Past president Miss. Cattleman's Association, West Jones Booster Club, Dixie Golf Club, county Junior Livestock Association, Miss. Oilman's, handling budgets for each



**Republican**  
**Richy Seals, 54,**  
**Beat 2**

Current job/relevant experience: My experience as a business owner running multiple companies and having to budget, organize and lead people is something sorely needed on the Board



**Republican**  
**Mike Strickland,**  
**46, Big Creek**  
**Community**

Current job/relevant experience: SYSCO food service of Jackson

Jones County! When I left the sheriff's office Jan. 7, 2008 my budget was \$2.8 million and I know that we done a very good job with what we had! I did not complain I took what was given and tried my best to help and protect the people of Jones. I am running for supervisor, not for me but to help the people of not only Beat 2, but all the people in Jones Co. "I will not support an increase in the sheriff's budget" — "Be happy with what you have, I was."

**Herrington:** I do not support the sheriff's budget increase. I don't believe the current budget that the taxpayers are paying for is being spent/used wisely. I personally don't feel the taxpayers of Beat 2 are receiving timely response and services that are required from our local sheriff's department.

**Seals:** As to this matter this appears to be over a 35 percent increase in budget, I see no signs that the general fund budget would increase by 35 percent from one year to the next. I think that this budget increase should be denied and that any department manager that cannot live within his allocated budget should step aside and let someone else try.

**Strickland:** I believe that safety is and should be a top priority for our citizens as well as the ones protecting us. I support our local law enforcement and always will. I believe many attributes need reviewing before increasing any budget: a. Inflation b. Population growth c. Crime rates d. How the current budget is spent, etc. I am not opposed to reevaluating any budget, but it has to make sense for everyone involved. I am totally against a tax increase of any kind.

**2.) Outline your goals for the office and why you are running.**

**Boykin:** Most everyone I talk to wants a change and I think the people of Jones County deserve one. My goals, if elected, will be to take the

concerns of the people as far as I possibly can. I'm a real person living out in the community too and I share all of these concerns with them. Roads, bridges, taxes to name a few will be the first things I look in to. I want a chance to get in there and make some real changes that are long over-due.

**Bush:** My priority from day one in office will be to serve the people of Jones County by addressing the current condition of infrastructure and needs of the taxpayers in Beat 2. Then present a responsible strategy for updating and making improvements. I will investigate the job performance of current employees and their qualifications/work experience to make sure we are utilizing their skills properly. The board of supervisors need to take a no nonsense look at expenditures and assets. Each beat needs to work together in using equipment. There is excessive equipment that isn't being used and could be sold. Possibly outsourcing specific needs rather than trying to fix the problem in house. Residents need to be charged for extra debris waste as they do in the city. It is a costly cleanup. Use inmates for collecting garbage and other tasks which could offset some of the cost of the jail.

**Dykes:** Any time you decide to run for public office, you are asking people to vote for you. Are you running for the people in your beat, district, or countywide race, no matter what office you are running for it should always be for the people and not you! Some people seek a public office not for the people, but for the title of the position! The one and only reason I am seeking this office is to not only help the people of Beat II, but all the people of Jones County. My main goal in running for supervisor is to do all I can for the people, see how and where the money is being spent and how it benefits the people. We are all taxed to the limit! The only promise that I make is to try and help the people of Jones County.

**Herrington:**  
• To ensure that all departments stay within their budgets that have been previously set.  
• To appoint proper personnel to each department governed by the Supervisor's office.  
• To work cooperatively with all elected Supervisors to streamline county expenditures.  
• To serve all the people of Beat 2.  
The above are my set of goals for the office of Jones County Supervisor Beat 2. I

feel the past seven years with the Jones County School Board and the steps we have taken forward to provide our community with better schools has helped prepare me for this position. Working with the Jones County School Board to set and stay within our yearly budget of approximately 73 million has helped prepare me for the challenges of the Jones County Supervisor Position of Beat 2.

**Seals:** My goals for this office are for the county to become more accountable and more efficient with the people's money.

**Strickland:** My first priority will be to hire a qualified road foreman to lead our road crew. I say that because the current one will retire at the end of the year. I feel this will be the biggest decision I'll make to start off with. Once that is completed, my goal will be to review our budget to see where the areas of opportunity are. I want to make sure every cent of the tax payers money is being spent with a purpose.

**3.) Why should voters cast their ballot for you?**

**Boykin:** Hopefully because they see that I really do care about them and the issues

that mean the most for Beat 2 and all of Jones County. My intentions are honest and I will work hard to do what is best and most beneficial for the people.

**Bush:** As a lifelong resident and taxpayer of Jones County, I am concerned about the present administration's handling of important issues. I have 40 years of experience in business, road construction, civil construction, and business ownership with a degree from Mississippi State in Construction Engineering. My experiences throughout my career have taught me many lessons that I believe could be of much benefit to the taxpayers. I believe we all learn more from our mistakes than our successes. It's what you take from those life lessons and apply to the future that really counts. I am committed to serving the people of Beat 2 through fiscal responsibility, no nonsense leadership, and old-fashioned common sense.

**Dykes:** One of the most important things when it comes election year is to go "vote." So many people in Jones County don't vote, if you don't vote then don't complain. I would hope by now that



# Jones County Board of Supervisors, Beat 3

**1.) The sheriff received a \$5.5 million budget from the board of supervisors this fiscal year — almost twice what the previous administration had. He says he needs \$7.3 million. Do you support his budget increase, and why?**

**Dickerson:** First of all I am pro law enforcement and that being said if I was elected Beat 3 Supervisor, I would refrain from supporting any Sheriff Budget increase without proper support and improvements on the current budget structure that totals 5.5 million. I believe funds allocated should be used for the improvement of the protection of all Jones County residents. I cannot promise an increase in the budget without reviewing all budgetary purchases, which is not saying I will vote to increase the budget, it is a promise to review and analyze the budget. The board reviews budget request increases and I would like to improve upon the justifiable needs. I would encourage the Sheriff to help reach the goals needed to manage the Sheriff's department in a more efficient manner to provide Jones County with the protection they deserve.

**Holifield:** Any elected or appointed official that requests more than a 10 percent increase, especially 40-50 percent, should be voted on by taxpayers.

**Maxey:** This is a question that can't be answered honestly "from the outside looking in". In order to truly know all the details to every single item on the budget and the proposed budget. You would need to sit down with the sheriff and go through it with a fine tooth comb. You need to know in detail why he needs every single item he requested. Then set every item up on a priority scale. From the items the sheriff can not preform his duties without, to the luxury items the sheriff wants, but doesn't particularly need. The world is changing and evolving every day. We as people need to be willing to change and adapt with it. I do believe the sheriff needed more money then the previous administration did. Does he need \$7.3 million to operate? He would have to prove it to me!!

**Norwood:** The most important role of the Board of Supervisors is to provide adequate funding for public safety. I would look at the budget request, inquire about the details within the request, and

make an informed decision. If we work together, I believe we can come up with a solution that does not increase taxes but also provides the funding necessary for protecting our citizens in the best way possible.

**Saul:** I stand on my record of conservative governing. As with any budget increase, requested revenue has to be raised., shifted from other departments or taken from a rainy-day fund that most counties call overall surplus. The reason the government needs a strong surplus is because it affects the government's ability to borrow funds at a low interest rate. The best solution to a large budget increase requested is a ballot measure to let the taxpayers decide.

**Wright:** The safety and protection of Jons County's citizens is vital. I am in favor of adequately funding the needs of the sheriff's department. The current supervisors recently borrowed \$9.2 million to rework the second round of bridge closures and repave certain roads at election time. We must be better stewards of the tax payer's money. We must find solutions to our budgeting problems while fixing our roads, reducing our debt, and providing adequate protection to all citizens.

**2.) Outline your goals for the office and why you are running.**

**Dickerson:** My goals are promoting Jones County's growth and to stay in the mainstream to support needs and improvements. My first priority would be reviewing and analyzing the budget and adjust spending to maximize taxpayer dollars. My second priority would be road and bridge issues by establishing a yearly service plan. I would implement a regular inspection of all bridges and address any issues in a timely manner for the safety of the public. I believe that I have the experience and knowledge that is required. There are always ways to improve upon the budget, analyzing current spending would be a priority, allocating tax dollars in areas that are pertinent to Jones County would be another priority. The people of Jones County deserve to have their county improved upon and run with the best management that seeks to reach goals that are realistic to the growth and economy of Jones County.

**Holifield:** My goal is to have a short term and a long term plan in place so that roads



**Republican**  
**Phil Dickerson,**  
**53, Myrick**

Current job/relevant experience: I am a business owner who has been successful due to my skills and knowledge of budgeting, public relations and problem solving.



**Independent**  
**Donald Holifield,**  
**52, Rustin**

Current job/relevant experience: Over 30 years of experience in highway and bridge construction. I have built over 140 miles of 4-lane highway and many miles of 2-lane highway and roads.



**Republican**  
**Jessie James**  
**Maxey, 36, Glade**

Current job/relevant experience: I've worked in the oil and gas industry for the past 14 years. I was previously employed by the US Military.



**Republican**  
**Randy Norwood,**  
**50, Glade**

Current job/relevant experience: I am a poultry farmer, family business owner, and am currently serving my 11th year as a member of the Jones County Board of Education.



**Republican**  
**Barry Saul, 47,**  
**Erata**

Current job/relevant experience: Beat 3 Supervisor for last 16 years.



**Republican**  
**Johnny Wright,**  
**45, Landrum**

Current job/relevant experience: Owner of Johnny Wright Construction

and bridges can be repaired properly and not just temporarily patched up. Patching is a waste of taxpayer money. I would personally work to get more state and federal money instead of arguing and getting nothing. I work well with state and federal officials. My plan is for Beat 3 and Jones County to pave roads and fix bridges annually and not just right before elections. We can reduce taxes by:

- new growth in homes and businesses
- cutting waste by fixing bridges and roads right the first time with no patching
- getting more state and federal money for bridges and roads
- cutting out tax exempt status for some businesses

I WILL WORK HARD TO LOWER TAXES, AND I AM THE ONLY CANIDATE PROVEN TO LOWER TAXES!

**Maxey:** My overall goals are to better our communities and to make them stronger. Set budgets that benefit the majority of citizens, not just individuals. Help create and execute a friendly budget for the sheriff's department that benefits Jones County and the Sheriff. Reevaluate the county budget to see where money can be saved and cut out wasteful spending. Maximize our resources and tax dollars being spent to the fullest. I'm running for Beat 3 Supervisor because I want to be the voice for the common man. I want to put the value back into a hand shake and a man's word. By giving the citizens of Beat 3 an honest days worth of work, each and every day. I want to set and leave a positive example for our kids to follow in a world full of empty words and empty promises.

**Norwood:** I am running for the office of supervisor because I care about the well-being of the citizens of Jones

County. I believe it is possible for our county government to function more cost-efficiently while enhancing the welfare of our citizens. As a land owner and tax payer, I am empathetic to the impact a tax raise would have on the public and feel that a tax increase is not necessary. If elected, I plan to evaluate all agencies that would fall under me, including the Board of Supervisors, and make sure they are operating as efficiently as possible and using funds in the appropriate manner.

**Saul:** My goals are to continue to carry out our road and bridge program that has successfully repaved over 200 miles of public roads, replaced 15 bridges and box culverts, and made it possible to perform many day-to-day maintenance issues that have touched every community from Sandersville to Ovet. Along with many advances in infrastructure, we also have a commitment to the communities in different ways. We have built two new community centers, remodeled three community centers, and built two playgrounds and walking tracks that were paid for by local money and grant funding. If re-elected as Supervisor of Beat 3, I promise to continue to be your full-time supervisor and continue to work hard and remain dedicated the way I have been over the past 16 years.

**Wright:** My goal is to provide leadership to the citizens of Jones County. I will evaluate the roads and bridges in Beat 3 and put together a 5, 10, 15, and 20 year plan to start repairing our dysfunctional roads. I will start prioritizing our spending to get our budget in order so that we can take care of the areas of greatest need. I will cut wasteful and unnecessary spending.

**3.) Why should voters cast their ballot for you?**

**Holifield:** My experience makes me the right man for the job. I can build bridges and box culverts and roads, which also includes from right of way clearing to paving. Jones County cannot grow while raising taxes and wasting money. PROVEN TO LOWER TAXES! VOTE DONALD HOLIFIELD ON NOVEMBER 5, 2019 THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND MAY GOD BLESS JONES COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI.

**Maxey:** I'm no politician and I have no political agenda. I'm just a blue collar worker that gets up every morning and goes to work to provide a better life for my family, just like you. I will be dedicated, motivated, and loyal to the citizens of Beat 3. I will work side by side with the leaders of this county to figure out what's best for the majority. I am no miracle worker though. Some of the issues this county and beat have will take time to fix. The process to undo what has been already done is no easy task. If elected I will work tirelessly to make positive change. Change you can be proud of and change you can hang your hat on!

**Norwood:** Voters should cast their vote for me because I am experienced in managing large operational budgets and am committed to county agencies operating within approved budgets. I believe any decisions made by the Board of Supervisors should align with what is best for the citizens of Jones County. The Board of Supervisors makes decisions that directly impact economic development, public health, safety, and welfare; we need people of integrity that will work together for the betterment of our county.

**Saul:** I, along with my family, have a long history of serving the citizens of this county. I value the time of serving others. I believe it takes good people to do great things and I am still committed to that. My wife and I have two young teenage children and all I ever wanted for them was to have the opportunity, if they so choose, to stay here in Jones County and work and build a family. It takes a strong economy that can provide good jobs or the opportunity to be an entrepreneur. I have and will always provide support for a strong economy. I am dedicated to a fair and consistent response to all the citizens of Beat 3. I will continue to fight for every dollar for Beat 3 and continue to serve with a strong desire to make all communities the best they can be.

**Wright:** I started working for Larry J. Sumrall Contractors when I was 19 years old. I was a project superintendent by the time I was 22 years old. At the age of 25 I was the superintendent over building West Jones Elementary and finished two months early. I was superintendent on several multi-million dollar projects. I have experience in bridge repair and building box culverts. I have owned Johnny Wright Construction since 2006 and have completed numerous commercial, industrial, and residential construction projects on time and within budget. I have experience with estimating, working with architects and engineers, knowing plans and specifications, conducting meetings with owners and engineers, coordinating subcontractors, working within a budget, scheduling materials, solving problems that arise, and enforcing safety. I will be able to conduct business in the field and in the board room.

## Coroner

**Phyllis Pitts (Questionnaire not returned)**

**1.) What are the most pressing issues in the office you are seeking?**

**Hall:** Locally, there have been few issues for the past 20 years, under the leadership of Nancy Barnett, who is not seeking reelection. However, on the state level there are some issues that are being corrected, and changes are being made by the present Medical Examiner's Office. As Coroner of Jones County, I will work with the present state M.E. to assist in the improvements that are being made.

**Rowell:** The most pressing issues in the office of Coroner for Jones County is making sure that the grieving families of Jones County are cared for in a professional,

dignified manner. This extends throughout the entire aspect of the coroner's office, from notifying families of a death, to properly collecting and processing evidence at a death scene, to making sure autopsy and toxicology reports are completed and submitted in a timely manner. Having a good working relationship with the state medical examiner's office is crucial to the making sure that families get the answers they deserve as quickly as possible, and I plan to make sure that the Jones County Coroner's Office maintains and strengthens that relationship.

**2.) Outline your goals for the office and why you are running.**  
**Hall:** To continue working with families at their time of need, working with law enforcement, doctors, hospital staff, and first responders.

As Coroner, and as the budget allows, I would like to enlarge the county morgue and obtain a vehicle to transport cases to the county morgue when the ambulance service cannot.

**Rowell:** As coroner, I plan to continue making sure that all the deputy coroner's along with myself maintain the highest levels of training and certification necessary to perform the duties and investigations tasked to the office. As well as ensure that we have all the proper equipment to fulfill this position with ease and dignity.

**3.) Why should voters cast their ballot for you?**

**Hall:** I believe I have the experience. My entire career has been in the funeral and coroner industry. I will perform the duties of the

Coroner's office with the same compassion, respect, and knowledge as I have in my career as a Funeral Director and as Deputy Coroner.

**Rowell:** I humbly ask the voters of Jones County to consider me as their choice for Coroner. I am the youngest candidate in the field, but my dedication and commitment to the people of Jones County will certainly overcome that. Having worked in the funeral home business for several years, I have learned that dealing with death and grieving families is something that takes a special person, with a servant's heart. I feel blessed by the opportunity to seek this office and will strive every day to make it better. Your vote for me, is a vote for someone that will devote the days, nights, weekends, and holidays to serving the people of Jones County for many years to come.



**Republican**  
**Burl Hall,**  
**Ellisville**

Current job/relevant experience: Funeral Director, Funeral Home and Crematory Manager; 19-plus Years as Deputy Coroner in Jones County



**Republican**  
**Zachary Rowell,**  
**30, Ovet**

Current job/relevant experience: I currently work with Jones and Son Funeral Home since 2017. My wife and I Youth Pastor at Victory Heights Pentecostal Church.

## BEAT 2

Continued from E5

everyone in Beat II knows that I am running for Board of Supervisor. Most everyone already knows who I am and what I stand for. I was born and raised in Jones County,

lived here all of my life. I was raised to always be honest and respect people. If elected supervisor, my main objective will be to help the people and see what their concerns are. If you need to talk to me I will listen! If I can help you within the law I will. I will not be hard to get in touch with. "I will have a open door policy at

all times!"

**Herrington:**

- Dedicated to the taxpayers of Beat 2
- Born and raised in Beat 2
- Member of the Indian Springs Baptist Church
- Family man
- Honest and Dependable
- I understand that our future

lies in the hands of our children

- Experience presently as an elected member of the Jones County School Board Beat 2 for the past seven years.

**Seals:** What the Board of Supervisors require is better management and better leadership. These qualities I have

as evident by my business experience. I am not afraid to shout out for the citizens of Jones County.

**Strickland:** To be that person to work and bring results to all the people of Beat 2 and Jones County. From the boardroom to the roads we drive on. For me, this is

not about a political party but simply about someone that will deliver results for everyone. I believe we need someone that can relate to the people on a personal level and not a political level all the time. I'll work hard to provide positive results for everyone.



# Jones County Board of Supervisors, Beat 4

**1.) The sheriff received a \$5.5 million budget from the board of supervisors this fiscal year — almost twice what the previous administration had. He says he needs \$7.3 million. Do you support his budget increase, and why?**

**Barber:** Not no, but hell no! If he took the money he has used to support his private business and spent it doing his job as sheriff, he would not have a problem with the budget supplied. The taxpayers of Jones County spend way too damned much money for what they get in return! I am opposed to any tax increase. If you run for an office and can't do the job based on the budget, you don't know what the hell you're doing and should do the taxpayers a favor and resign! It is a crying shame our sheriff is allowed to associate with his personal business, which has somehow grown into a multi-million-dollar operation at the taxpayers' expense. It's time to look for a full-time sheriff and not a star want-to-be. I can not and will not support any office using us the taxpayers for personal

gain!  
**Dial:** I do not support an increase for the sheriff's department budget. It would be illegal to raise taxes that high. It is illegal to raise taxes over 3.5 mills. There is a state law that limits how much the millage rate may be raised. Tax payers would have to vote and pass a referendum. Then the millage rate would have to be changed in Jackson by the legislature. I know that every department needs more money, but the state law limits the millage rate and supervisors can not make that change. Some millage has to be spent on what it was collected for. There is only a portion that the supervisors can move, but it would shut down other departments.

**Scruggs:** The sheriff, like all other county officials, has a budget that must be managed. I believe that his current budget will be more than enough if he manages it correctly and does not spend frivolously; therefore, I am not in favor of a budget increase at this time.

**2.) Outline your goals for the office and why**

**you are running.**

**Barber:** Take control of our beat and insure that funds allocated to each office are handled appropriately, managed and used for one purpose only — to run each office within budget and put a stop to misappropriated spending. Hold each office accountable! Second is to fix these damned roads and bridges from the start, not waiting till election year to make a show. I am appalled at the offices that seem to believe we are simply too damned stupid to know what's happening. It's time to kick the good ol' boy to the curb and get to run our offices with personnel with the experience needed to do the job or boot them the hell out! I am of the opinion that we have a large number of inexperienced people using our money only to benefit themselves. Enough of being nice. Let's get experienced people to do what we need done!

**Dial:** I will make sure the county is operating as efficiently as it can for the citizens of Beat 4. Also, I will be the grass roots representative for the citizens of Beat 4. I want to serve the

people of my beat by being available and responsive to the public.

**Scruggs:** My goals are simple: I plan on continuing to save the taxpayers money by remaining under budget and not participating in wasteful spending, finishing repairs on the bridges that should have been completed under the former supervisor, and maintaining safe roads by properly repairing problems in a timely manner.

**3.) Why should voters cast their ballot for you?**

**Barber:** First, I'm a business owner. Being in business means watching every penny, making hard decisions and hiring experienced people. Second, over 25 years in the road, bridge and parking lot construction industry. You simply cannot learn how to do this job in a few years. We have enough inexperienced people playing with our money. Drive down any road — every one is dangerous and the ones they have overlayed will be in worse shape in two years than they were before. Just throwing asphalt over a



**Independent  
Bob Barber, 59**

Current job/relevant experience: B.D.Barber Construction/Barber Striping - 25 years' experience in road and bridge, parking lot maintenance and repair. I have experience in interstates, highways, and county road construction.



**Republican  
Andy Dial, 63**

Current job/relevant experience: Part-time Beat 2; Supervisor for Beat 4 for 20 years.



**Republican  
David Scruggs, 61, Sand Hill**

Current job/relevant experience: Four years as Beat 4 Supervisor; mechanic for 15 years; trucking for 12 years; heavy equipment operator

bad road is stupid! You see one of my men doing a job like it's being done today and I promise he or she will need a new job. I will personally train them, then fire anyone not willing to follow directions. It's your money. It's time to stop playing and get to work for the taxpayers now! Not just at election time!

**Dial:** I have proven leadership and past experience working with other supervisors and senators, legislators, the economic

development authority, as well as experience working and managing boards for Jones County and its departments.

**Scruggs:** In the past four years, I believe I have shown the citizens of Beat Four that I am hardworking and honest. I am by no means perfect, and I have and will make mistakes, but I strive each day to make the best decisions for my county and to provide the safe roads and bridges that our citizens deserve.

# Jones County Board of Supervisors, Beat 5

**Democrats  
Travares Comegys (Questionnaire not returned)  
Ernest Hollingsworth (Questionnaire not returned)**

**Independent Chris Holifield (Questionnaire not returned)**

**1.) The sheriff received a \$5.5 million budget from the board of supervisors this fiscal year — almost twice what the previous administration had. He says he needs \$7.3 million. Do you support his budget increase, and why?**

**Carmichael:** In recent years, Sheriff Hodge has been embroiled in budgetary battles with Jones County Board of Supervisors over annual requested increases that the BOS deemed excessive for the sheriff department. A requested \$1.8 million budget increase by the sheriff amounts to about a 33 percent

increase. Generally, annual budget increases range from about three percent to fifteen percent based on a number of fiscal variables, which must be carefully managed. When managed well, budgets are flat or with little variance. From my vantage point now, I support a flat budget for the sheriff.

**Chinn:** First, I would need to evaluate the existing budget and assure we are providing the necessary services. Then consider the budget increase to see where it aligns with the county current public safety needs and compare it against all the other needs of county. Lastly, I would need a list of current expenses to make sure current operations are being efficient and effective in spending while also looking for ways to implement effective strategies to cut cost

**2.) Outline your goals for the**

**office and why you are running.**

**Carmichael:** My goals for the office are to retsore the work and service practices that citizens in District Five once witnessed and welcomed. I will be mindful of roads, streets and bridges. I will study the present millage rate and be very mindful of tax dollars and wisely use them in the best public interests. I am running for Supervisor District Five because the office needs sound, experienced, mature, incorruptible, practical leadership. And I offer these qualities to the residents in District Five and Laurel-Jones County. I bring integrity to the office.

**Chinn:** I am running for Supervisor of Beat 5 to move Beat Five forward with Prepared and Proven leadership. 1) Keeping the people of Beat 5 informed 2) Making sure tax dollars are spent responsibly with priorities in the right place and 3) be there

when the citizens of Beat 5 call to assist however needed thats within the law and budget.

**3.) Why should voters cast their ballot for you?**

**Carmichael:** Voters should cast their vote for me because I am the best qualified candidate running for the office. With my experience and maturity as a Laurel City Councilman for over 14 years, I understand infrastructure needs and the importance of District Five working hand and glove with the City of Laurel, because upwards of 70 percent of District Five constituents are in the City of Laurel, which is underserved. I plan to serve the entire district well.

**Chinn:** I ask for the citizens of Beat 5 vote because I am prepared and a proven leader with the experience to do an effective job for



**Democrat  
George  
Carmichael, 50,  
Laurel**

Current job/relevant experience: Line operator at Georgia Pacific; four-term Laurel councilperson (president, vice president)



**Democrat  
Trey Chinn, 36,  
Laurel**

Current job/relevant experience: Business and Government Consultant with experience in policy, large budgets, HR, and management. Further, I have previous experience as a Laurel City Councilman.

the people of Beat 5. Our message is clear how to move Beat 5 forward as indicated in the previous answer. For more information, visit [www.TreyChinn.com](http://www.TreyChinn.com).

**Bill Smith (Questionnaire not returned)**

**1.) What are the most pressing issues in the office you are seeking:**

**Sumrall:** I am currently serving as your district one Constable for 3 1/2 years now, I feel it is important to make myself available to the citizens when needed, serve process in a timely matter, and patrol the area for the citizens safety. Currently you are not required to have any Law Enforcement training to run for

Constable. Our society is continuing to change and become more dangerous with that being said I personally believe it is beneficial to have a Certified Law Officer as your Constable that is trained to serve and protect our community.

**2.) Outline your goals for the office and why you are running.**

**Sumrall:** I made an oath 20 years ago to serve and protect with professionalism and integrity. I pledge to continue to serve and protect the citizens of Jones County along with

being visible by patrolling district one for your safety. I will serve process and warrants in a timely and professional manner and make myself available when needed.

**3.) Why should voters cast their ballot for you?**

**Sumrall:** Serving as Constable requires you to serve summons, garnishment, and evictions against individuals and in some cases having to handle dangerous situations. A constable also has arresting power, the power to write tickets and to

carry a weapon. I have over 20 years' experience in Law Enforcement, Local, State and Federal, for the past 3 1/2 years the tax paying citizens in Jones County, has not had to pay for any required training for me. I receive continued yearly training at no cost to the tax payers, that makes me the best candidate for the position. I pledge to you the citizens of Jones County District One to serve with integrity and professionalism. I ask for your continued prayers and support. I ask you to go to the polls on August 6 and vote to re-elect Mike Sumrall as your District one Constable.



**Republican  
Mike Sumrall, 45,  
Ellisville**

Current job/relevant experience: Current District 1 Constable, 20+ years Law Enforcement experience at jail, Sandersville chief, Sheriff's Office (deputy and investigator), MDOC and U.S. Marshal Special Task Force

# Constable, District 3

**1.) What are the most pressing issues in the office you are seeking?**

**Livingston:** As a whole the Justice court process works very smoothly. I do think the softening of the laws on a state level has made it difficult for Justice court to collect fines as needed.

**Sims:** I own and operate a security patrol business which requires me to patrol approximately 4000 miles a month, covering the Jones - Wayne county line, Laurel and Ellisville. I have served around 200 process papers for various attorneys which is the main duty of a constable.

**2.) Outline your goals for the office and why you are running.**

**Livingston:** I will continue to work close with District 3 community and

assist local law enforcement to do whatever it takes to make our community safe.

**Sims:** My main goal is to be more involved and visible to my district and to give the residents whatever assistance I can to help solve their problems.

**3.) Why should voters cast their ballot for you?**

**Livingston:** Experience, Dedication to the duties of the Constable. I have proven over the last 3.5 years that all processes are returned in a timely manner and action will be taken within the law when citizens of District 3 has called on me.

**Sims:** I would greatly appreciate everyone's support on August 6th and I look forward to becoming your next constable.



**Republican  
David  
Livingston, 46,  
Jones District 3**

Current job/relevant experience: Constable District 3, 17 years in law enforcement



**Republican  
Mike Sims, 64,  
Myrick**

Current job/relevant experience: I own and operate a security patrol business

RE-ELECT  
DAVID  
SCRUGGS

SUPERVISOR  
BEAT FOUR

★★★★★

“Building a  
Better Beat!”

*Paid for by David Scruggs*



# Constable, District 2

## 1.) What are the most pressing issues in the office you are seeking?

**Gibson:** We need a change in Dist. 2. I will be a hard working constable for the people. I will serve process in a timely manner. I will be a constable that you will be able to call on day or night. I will be a constable that will work for the citizens not against them.

**Jackson:** My decision to run for office did not stem from my own personal political aspirations. It was inspired from listening to the voice of the people of Jones County. Residents have expressed to me that they are dissatisfied. They tell me they are tired of papers are not being delivered in a timely manner. They tell me they are tired of a lack of professionalism. Their concerns are my concerns, and addressing those concerns is the driving force behind my run for constable. If I am

elected, I will make sure that all the duties of the office are fulfilled in a way that will make the people of Jones County proud.

**Strickland:** The most pressing issues for Constable are serving papers/process correctly, promptly, and professionally.

## 2.) Outline your goals for the office and why you are running.

**Gibson:** The reason I'm running for constable is we need a constable that will handle situations in a professional manner. One of my goals will be to meet the people of Dist. 2. As I have talked to people while campaigning, I get asked often who is our constable! If I am elected constable, the citizens will know who their constable is in a positive way.

**Jackson:** My goal is to restore the trust and respect of the people. There should never be any

doubt that important documents will be delivered in a timely and professional manner. To gain that trust, I must invest time getting to know the people and letting them get to know me. During an election, political candidates tend to make a lot of promises. Many voters have become jaded from speeches that sounded great but turned out to be nothing but more than noise. I want people to know my words are more than campaign rhetoric. If given the chance, I intend to show through my actions how much I value integrity and fairness. I want to improve community relations. I want the people of Jones County to know they can feel comfortable coming to me with questions and concerns. Above all, I want people to know I will always follow my sworn duty which is to uphold the law.

**Strickland:** My goals this term are to continue doing

a great job by getting papers served in a correct & timely manner

## 3.) Why should voters cast their ballot for you?

**Gibson:** I have lived in Jones Co. all my life. I have worked with 2 Administrations with the Sheriff's Dept. I have the experience to do the job. I will be a constable that will work for the people.

**Jackson:** The reason I get up every day and put on the uniform is because I want to make Jones County a safe place to live for my children and for your children. If elected Constable of Jones District 2, I promise to serve to the best of my abilities. Again my campaign is about "SETTING HIGHER STANDARDS" and protecting the citizens of Jones County. I am Honest, Trustworthy, and Dependable. Thanks for your prayers and support!!!!



**Republican**  
**Danny Gibson,**  
**59, Calhoun**  
**Community**

Current job/relevant experience: Former deputy for Jones County Sheriff's Department



**Democrat**  
**Le'Byron**  
**O'Keith Jackson,**  
**32, North Laurel**

Current job/relevant experience: I am a Sergeant at the Petal Police Department and also a Sergeant with the Sumrall Police Department. I have 9 years of Law Enforcement Experience.



**Republican**  
**Larry Strickland**

Current job/relevant experience: Over 30 years law enforcement experience, 8 as the Jones Co. Constable

**Strickland:** I am the most experienced for this position, as I have over 30 years in law enforcement experience and 8 years as your district 2 Constable. I know my district well. I will continue to serve Jones Co. promptly, professionally, and courteously. I have no other jobs to

hinder my serving abilities. I also have my own personal fully equipped car to do the job as well as ability to transport my own prisoners. I also patrol the district and occasionally follow school buses. Please ReElect for your district 2 Jones Co. Constable!

## 1.) What are the most pressing issues in the office you are seeking?

**Byrd:** The most pressing issues in the office I am seeking are complying with new laws that are passed affecting our office. Our office

flows smoothly because of Ms. Ramona Blackledge's great leadership and my years of experience. Many transactions are complicated but we are able to find resolutions and our goal is always to help the tax payer.

**Walker:** I believe the tax assessor/collector's office needs to be more open and willing to help the taxpayers of Jones County with their problems and concerns. They should not simply take the "this is just the way it is" approach. I believe there

needs to be more focus on fair and true assessed values on residential and commercial properties. I believe most taxpayers want to pay their share of taxes, they just want to be treated fairly in doing so. Jones County has a horribly outdated Mapping system. This makes things very difficult for it's residents, realtors, land surveyors and developers. We want to see Jones County thrive, not remain stagnant.

## 2.) Outline your goals for the office and why you are running.

**Byrd:** My goals for the office are to meet any challenges that require change and continue to provide excellent service, to work with the legislature, and to enforce the laws as they apply to these offices. I intend to maintain good relationships with Department of Revenue staff and other Tax Assessor and Collectors. I will ensure that our staff is educated and professional. I am running because I am the only EXPERIENCED, QUALIFIED and KNOWLEDGEABLE candidate for this position. I am trained and designated as a CR I and CR II in tax revenue.

**Walker:** My biggest vision for the Tax Assessor/Collector's office is to update and maintain an up to date mapping system. I would also like to develop more tax resources with online forms and answers to frequently

asked questions. In general, make the office more consumer friendly. I plan to develop assessments that reflect the true values of the property they represent. I would like to be a voice for the taxpayers of Jones County by representing their concerns to the County Officials at their monthly board meetings. I WILL serve the taxpayers with integrity, impartiality and professionalism. I will always maintain an open-door policy in effort to make the Tax Assessor/Collector more available to help with individual concerns.

## 3.) Why should voters cast their ballot for you?

**Byrd:** This office is the hub of county government. It is very important that this office has a person who knows the laws, who knows the day to day operations, who can manage staff, who can work with the public, who can comply with Department of Revenue and Department of Audit regulations, who is a proven leader, who can safe keep tax revenue, who needs no training for the job and will basically hit the ground running on DAY 1 on January 1, 2020. Ms. Ramona Blackledge has mentored me through the years and

prepared me for this job.

**Walker:** For the past 30 plus years, the office of Tax Assessor/Collector has run unchanged. If the current administration has its way, that will continue, just under a new name. I feel like it's time for a new set of eyes and ears in office that can bring a breath of fresh air and change along with it. With my more than 25 years of management experience, along with exemplary people skills and a strong work ethic, I can help lead the office in a new direction that the people of Jones County can be proud of.



**Republican**  
**Tina Gatlin**  
**Byrd, 45,**  
**Soso**

Current job/relevant experience: I am currently the Administrator for the Tax Collecting and Assessing offices. I have 25 years of experience. I started as a Deputy Clerk and was promoted because of my knowledge and hard work.



**Republican**  
**Michael**  
**Walker, 45,**  
**Moselle**

Current job/relevant experience: Manager of Colonial Chapel Funeral Homes of Laurel and Taylorsville; funeral director over 20 years; Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs; small business owner

# STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 88

From my house to the Courthouse to the State House...

Your Vote Counts!



Continuing to work for you!

EXPERIENCED  
QUALIFIED  
LEADERSHIP  
Over 40 years of experience

Ramona Q. Blackledge

Please allow me to be your voice in the Legislature.  
God bless America and the great State of Mississippi!

It has been my privilege to be your public servant for 30 years as Tax Assessor-Collector. PUBLIC SERVICE has given me the knowledge and experience to be effective at the state level as your Representative of District 88. I will be an advocate for our veterans, for public education, for our right to bear arms, for law enforcement, for medical and emergency services, for the protection of the unborn and the elderly, for the rights of victims of crimes, and for economic development that will provide jobs for Mississippians. I will be your voice in the Legislature and will always strive to make good decisions on your behalf, seeking the wisdom of God to guide me.

Your vote and support is always appreciated!

Paid for by Ramona Q. Blackledge

"Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves and the only way they could do this is by not voting." – Franklin D. Roosevelt

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

ELECT

INTEGRITY • CHARACTER • HONESTY

DANNY GIBSON

Constable

District 2

★

Paid for by friends of Danny Gibson

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



1.) What are the most pressing issues in the office you are seeking?

**Allen:** The justice court needs a drug court for families and veterans. Therefore, I am proposing a family and veteran drug court as an additional plan to aid in the reconciliation of families. Our veterans are the forgotten treasures in our communities and we need to operate as our brother keepers, as we lend them a hand of recovery. Although some might fear that drug courts drain valuable government funds, they actually save taxpayers money. In the United States, for every \$1 invested in drug courts, taxpayers save as much as \$3.36 in criminal justice costs alone. Mississippi House Bill 1352 expanded the concept of drug courts to include mental health courts, veteran courts, and other type of intervention courts. These programs can help people with mental health issues receive treatment, or connect veterans with services.

**Blakeney:** As a Justice Court Judge I am an employee of the people as well as for the people and this office needs to solve the problems of the individuals whom are brought in front of me. It's a terrible situation we are in that all the law enforcement and justice system wants to do is help themselves and their friends and not the people in general. We need to Quail the growing recidivism rate for it is growing at an alarming rate.

**Hedgepeth:** We need highly qualified judges at all levels. The law only requires a Justice Court Judge to have a GED and be a registered voter. The people deserve much more. The Judge should be well versed in the law. He should be well versed in the







proper procedures required of a judge. He should be experienced in handling the cases he is being hired to handle.

**Musgrove:** The most pressing issue for any judicial position is to maintain and uphold the integrity of the judicial system by keeping social status or prominence a non-existent element of ALL cases, and making an unbiased decision in ALL cases that is directly supported by the evidence presented according to law.

**Rogers:** Justice Court is often called “small claims” court and is for cases valued at \$3,500 or less. Justice Court is also where misdemeanor criminal cases and any traffic offense that occurs outside of city limits is heard. Justice Court judges conduct bond hearings and preliminary hearings in felony criminal cases and they also issue search warrants. Many, if not most litigants in Justice Court do not have an attorney and it is important to see that these litigants are treated fairly and with respect. Justice Court judges also have a duty to make a determination of probable cause before issuing search warrants, which is the foundation of insuring that the State of Mississippi has a case that can be properly prosecuted and not dismissed on some preventable legal technicality.

**Saul:** There is no particular issue that stands out as a “pressing matter” on a Justice Court docket because the matters are considered small claims, but the caseload considered as a whole is quite important; it is the nuts and bolts of everyday life for the average citizen. The Justice Court hears civil matters under \$3,500, misdemeanor criminal matters, game and

Justice Court, District 1

					
<b>Democrat</b> <b>Minister Marian Allen, 53, Ellisville/Currie</b> Current job/relevant experience: Licensed Master Degree Social Worker for over 20 years and currently working at Ellisville State School, Minister Wesley (UMC), paralegal work, and community advocate	<b>Independent</b> <b>Larry Blakeney, 74, Hebron</b> Current job/relevant experience: I work in retail; I have been dealing with the public for over 50 years. I love to help people with their everyday problems.	<b>Republican</b> <b>Grant Hedgepeth, 57, Ellisville</b> Current job/relevant experience: I have been a lawyer for 32 years including former District Attorney, Assistant Attorney General, Public Defender and private attorney.	<b>Republican</b> <b>Glen Musgrove, 51, Soso</b> Current job/relevant experience: Broadcast Chief Engineer; previous law enforcement, civil and criminal investigation and trial preparation experience.	<b>Republican</b> <b>Noel Rogers, 46, Ellisville</b> Current job/ relevant experience: Husband, father of two children, and an attorney with over 18 years of courtroom experience. I also currently serve as Jones County Youth Court Special Master.	<b>Republican</b> <b>Sonny Saul, 61, Shady Grove</b> Current job/experience: I am a school resource officer in Stringer; previously worked for the Jasper County Sheriff's Department; retired after 25 years with Mississippi Highway Patrol

fish violation, some traffic offense, and bond hearings; it also issues search warrants, helps recover property to settle debts, and addresses some personal disputes. While these are small issues compared to what other courts hear, how they are handled is what will make or break a community. It is critical that we elect sensible people to serve as Justice Court judges so they will keep things running smoothly and fairly for our community. If voters have questions for me, I encourage them to contact me at (601) 319-3576.

2.) Outline your goals for the office.

**Allen:** My goals are to restore integrity and fairness, establish family drug courts, establish veteran drug courts, utilize state and federal funding to rebuild family infrastructure and extend a helping hands to our veterans who fought for us to have freedom in these United States of America. The goals of drug courts are to reduce recidivism, reduce substance use, reduce the costs of drug-in-

volved crimes, and decrease prison crowding. Graduates have lower rates of recidivism and substance use, and the treatment is far more cost effective than incarceration. I choose to run as a candidate for Justice Court Judge as a proud American Citizen wanting to see our laws enforce fairly for all. The constitution of the United States and its' amendments regulate governmental powers with basic written principles. The principles preserve our liberties and create justice for all.

**Blakeney:** My office will try its best to help with the young and old citizens alike. Our young citizens needs help and supervision with drugs alcohol and poverty in everyday life. What they don't need is to be arrested and thrown away in jail where they are much worse than they already are. We need to work with schools and churches in the community. I drove a school bus route for some years and I had a rough route to boot and instead of throwing kids off my bus for small infractions I help them stay in school. The children respected me and would even fight for me today. They knew I was there to help them and not to drag them down and not get them expelled from school. I knew they needed to be in school every day and ask for anybody I'll help them in every way I can.

**Hedgepeth:** I want to bring true, relevant experience to the bench. Experience in criminal law will help ensure that guilty criminals don't slip through the cracks due to technicalities. It will also help to ensure that innocent people are not wrongfully arrested. I also want to help reduce the overcrowding in the County Jail and help reduce the “revolving door” of repeat offenders.

**Musgrove:** My goal for the office of Justice Court Judge District 1 is to bring fairness, honesty and integrity as a public servant. In 1984, I began serving the citizens of Jones County as a volunteer firefighter (at the age of 16) and "retired" from active fire service in 2014 after serving as Vice President of the Jones County Volunteer Fire Council, District 1 Fire Chief and 10 years as Fire Chief of Soso Volunteer Fire Department. I also served as a police officer in the Town of Soso. I am no stranger to public service and am unwavering in my dedication. I am seeking this office because I understand the importance of an unbiased decision — a decision made without regard to race, sex, social or political status, etc. I will serve with honesty, fairness and integrity not only because it is what is expected, but because it is a way of life for me.

**Rogers:** If elected Justice Court Judge for District 1, my goal will be to see that each and every person is treated fairly and with respect, no matter the person's age, gender, social status or race. I

am running for Justice Court Judge because I feel I can offer voters a choice of someone who already has years of legal training and experience and will apply the laws of our great State of Mississippi to all people equally and fairly.

**Saul:** I will be impartial to everyone and will be fair but firm in dealing with matters that are brought before the Court. Common sense and fair-mindedness will govern my actions. After retiring from the MHP, I remained drawn to public service. I prayed and soul-searched about how I could give back to my community. My training and experience made Justice Court the obvious choice. The bulk of my career was spent in the MHP Enforcement Division; knowing first-hand what happens on the side of the road will be a benefit to anyone exercising judgment over traffic-related issues. I have more courtroom experience in Justice Court than some lawyers, having served on the prosecution and defense side of traffic and DUI cases and as an expert witness. Furthermore, I have painted houses, hot-shotted, and worked other jobs that provide a generalized knowledge base that will be instrumental in Justice Court.

3.) Why should voters cast their ballot for you?

**Allen:** As a leader with strong faith values I believe in leading by example therefore I have an immense documented record of service in the community. The community has always been an intricate part of my life. I was awarded the Dr. King Drum Major for Justice and The Federation of Democratic Women Community Leader Awards. My service in the community through volunteerism at the soup kitchen, an advocate for the elderly and disabled getting social security and disability benefits, a string advocate for drug court to restore veterans and families, as a social worker reuniting families and advocating for children. An educational background in paralegal studies in law, social work, and certification as a drug court professional. The laws in the justice court system will be taught at the Mississippi Judicial College. I will bring to the bench years of courtroom experience. I will make sound and fair decisions with integrity.

**Blakeney:** I'm My Own man and it pleases my heart to help people. Wait for the most part or a Christian Community. It is the Apostle Peter who asked Jesus how long shall I forgive one who send against me. Shall it be seven times and Jesus replied not seven but Seventy Times. A vote for me is a vote for someone who shall always do what he says he will and will listen to everyone. Everyone needs to be forgiven at least once in their life. In our society we've lost track of what made us a great country. And if you need reminding just look at your money for it all says "In God

We Trust".

**Hedgepeth:** I have more courtroom experience than all of my opponents combined. I've prosecuted and defended all manner of criminal cases ranging from traffic offenses to capital murder cases, and I've handled complex civil litigation cases. That experience allows me to evaluate and analyze cases from a fair and impartial point of view, favoring neither the prosecution nor the defense. A fair and impartial judge makes sure that the cases are decided fairly on the facts and the law rather than on partiality or favoritism. An experienced, fair-minded judge simply makes the system work as it should for everybody.

**Musgrove:** Any voter that knows me personally can answer that question! Whether or not doing what is right is popular, doing what is right is required. Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is looking. I will serve the people of Jones County with the same dedication with which I have served since 1984.

**Rogers:** 1) As a resident of Ellisville, I am the only candidate who has a law degree and lives in District 1. Two of the four Republican candidates for this office do not reside in District 1 and will not be able to vote for themselves. While it is technically legal for these candidates to run outside of the district in which they live, I believe the voters in District 1 will frown upon the practice. 2) As an attorney with almost two decades of experience, a strong work ethic, and good common sense, I have the legal training and working knowledge to hit the ground running, and will not need “on the job” training that several of the other candidates will need; and 3) Most importantly, while I am by no means perfect, as a Christian, I believe I have a strong moral compass to guide me in treating all people fairly and equally in the eyes of God as well as in the eyes of the law.

**Saul:** I am a Christian with a heart for people and a career law enforcement officer with a respect for the law; these traits qualify me to be a fair but effective judge. I am a church deacon and a volunteer with Mission at the Cross and Gideon International. My honesty, strong sense of family values, and common-sense approach to conflict will serve the citizens of Jones County well. Several of my opponents are attorneys; people think being a lawyer is an important qualification for a judge, but Justice Court Judges are specifically exempt from the requirement of being a lawyer; Mississippi believes that allowing non-lawyers to serve as judges in Justice Court enables better access to lawful resolutions in small claims issues. I believe my work experience as well as my personal characteristics uniquely qualify me to hear the variety of cases that will come before the Justice Court.

ELECT



TINA GATLIN BYRD

DEDICATED. EXPERIENCED. QUALIFIED.



Moving Forward with Honor and Integrity

"ENDORSED BY RAMONA Q. BLACKLEDGE"

JONES COUNTY

TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR

25 YEARS EXPERIENCE

ADMINISTRATOR OF ASSESSING AND COLLECTING OFFICES  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE COLLECTOR I AND II  
LIFE LONG JONES COUNTY RESIDENT  
MARRIED TO PHILIP J. BYRD · SON ALEX B. BALL  
MEMBER OF LIFE CHURCH

It would be a privilege to be your next Tax Assessor/Collector of Jones County.

Your vote will be greatly appreciated.

PAID FOR BY TINA GATLIN BYRD