

# Voters Guide for Wichita County


## Part 1 - Local Races

## Part 2 - State Races

## for Primary Election - March 2, 2010

This VOTERS GUIDE for WICHITA COUNTY (part One) is published and funded by the League of Women Voters of Wichita Falls (LWV-WF), through donations from its members and Citizens of Wichita Falls. Part Two is funded by the League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund (LWV-TEF) through contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations. The LWV-WF is affiliated with the League of Women Voters of Texas & the League of Women Voters of the United States, and is a non-partisan, non-profit, organization which works to promote

political responsibility through active informed participation of all citizens in their government. The League does not support nor oppose any political party or candidate. This VOTERS GUIDE is designed to convey factual information to help prepare citizens to cast informed votes. Responses to the questionnaire are printed only for races contested in this Primary (or which will be contested in the General Election). Candidates' replies are printed without editing or verification. To conserve space, replies have word limits. Candidates are listed by Party, and then alphabetically.



The League of Women Voters invited each candidate to respond to either two or three questions for this Voters Guide. Their unedited answers begin on page two.

### Where to Vote on Tuesday, March 2, 2010

#### WICHITA COUNTY VOTING PRECINCTS, 2010

10. MSU Hardin Administration Bldg., 3410 Taft Blvd., Wichita Falls
11. Allendale Baptist Church, 4650 Allendale Road., Wichita Falls
12. Ben Franklin School, 2112 Speedway Street, Wichita Falls
13. Southern Hills School, 3920 Armory Road, Wichita Falls
14. West Wichita Coop Bldg., 5668 FM 1206, Iowa Park/Valley View
15. Fain Elementary School, 1562 Norman Street, Wichita Falls
16. Fowler Elementary School, 5100 Ridgecrest Drive, Wichita Falls
17. Cameron Gardens Fire Dept., 153 FM 1740, Wichita Falls
18. Texas Highway Department - Training Center, 1601 Southwest Parkway, Wichita Falls
20. City View ISD Conference Ctr., 1121 Crescent Lane, Wichita Falls
21. Kate Haynes Elementary School, 1705 Katherine Dr., Wichita Falls
22. John G. Tower Elementary School, 5200 Hooper Dr., Wichita Falls
23. Burk Burnett Community Center, 735 Davy Drive, Burk Burnett
24. Burk Burnett High School, 109 Kramer Road, Burk Burnett
25. "Old" Burk Burnett City Hall, 208 E. 4th Street, Burk Burnett
30. Washington/Jackson Math Science Center, 1300 Harding St., WF
31. WFISD Education Center, 1104 Broad Street, Wichita Falls
32. First Baptist Church - Family Center, 300 West Bank, Iowa Park
33. W.R. Bradford Elementary School, 800 South Texowa, Iowa Park
34. Lamar Elementary School, 2206 Lucas Avenue, Wichita Falls
35. Hirschi High School, 3106 Borton Street, Wichita Falls
36. Salvation Army Community Center, 2900 5th Street, Wichita Falls
37. Martin Luther King Center, 1100 Smith Street, Wichita Falls
38. Kate Burgess Elementary School, 3106 Maurine St., Wichita Falls
39. City View High School, 1600 City View Drive, Wichita Falls
40. Sam Houston Elementary School, 2500 Grant Street, Wichita Falls
41. Region IX Education Service Center, 301 Loop 11, Wichita Falls
42. Ben Milam Elementary School, 2960 Stearns Avenue, Wichita Falls
43. Knights of Columbus, 2250 Turtle Creek Rd., Wichita Falls
44. Cunningham Elementary School, 4107 Phillips Drive, Wichita Falls
45. Crockett Elementary School, 3015 Avenue I, Wichita Falls
46. Jefferson Elementary School, 4628 Mistletoe Drive, Wichita Falls
47. Chaparral Baptist Assembly, 3784 Church Camp Road, Iowa Park
48. First United Methodist Church, 1107 South Bailey Street, Electra
49. First Baptist Church, 406 West Garrison Avenue, Electra

#### Where to Vote Early February 16th thru 26th

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Wichita Falls-</b>            | County Courthouse, 900 7th Street - 2nd Floor.<br>Sikes Senter Mall, in Penney's Court.<br>Home Depot, 3705 Kell Blvd. |
| <b>Burkburnett-<br/>Electra-</b> | Little Red School House, 114 N. Ave. D.<br>Commissioner Bldg., Pct 4, 2023 State Hwy 25-<br>North                      |
| <b>Iowa Park-</b>                | Wichita County Tax Office, 400 North Wall Street.  |

### Run-Off Election, If Necessary

**If a Run-Off Election** becomes necessary, it will be conducted on Tuesday, April 13, 2010

**Several Local Races** have more than two candidates opposed in this Primary. This may also be true for several Statewide & Appellate Court Races.

**Voting Boxes** will probably be combined, in any such Run-Off Election. The County Clerk will announce in the news media, any changes in voting location, and the sites for Early Voting, for such possible Run-Off .

**Voters' Guide On-line**

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This VOTERS' GUIDE is available on-line to view, read, download, or print: [www.lwvtexas.org/local/wichitafalls/](http://www.lwvtexas.org/local/wichitafalls/)

# State Representative, District 69

**Question 1:** What are your qualifications for this office? Include your occupation, education, training & experience.?

All answers have a 100 word limit.

**Question 2:** During the next Legislative Session, what is your goal & plan to properly fund State Government?

**Question 3:** What are the other most pressing problems you will face in the next Legislative Session, and how would you recommend they be resolved?

## Two Candidates in the Republican Primary

### Lanham Lyne, Wichita Falls

**Answer 1:** I am a lifelong Republican and have lived in the district for 30 years. My business experience gives me a firm understanding of budgets, government regulation, and what it takes to make a payroll. I know that small business is the engine of economic growth. As Wichita Falls mayor, I took office - and have served - during challenging times. Just like area families, I've had to make decisions on where to cut the budget, and that will be important as Texas faces tough decisions ahead. I've served on numerous non-profit boards, giving me a deep understanding of our local needs.

**Answer 2:** As a conservative, I believe the state is properly funded. To keep Texas growing and vibrant, we need to set priorities on current spending. As State Representative, I'll take an aggressive approach to how we can cut unnecessary government programs. I'll use my business experience to ask the tough questions about just how your tax dollars are being spent and will push for a stronger constitutional spending limit to keep government in check in Texas.

facing the Legislature. Locally, our region must create more jobs and opportunity for our residents, and I'll use my business background to right legislation which adds new regulation, controls prices, restricts competition, or threatens job creation. Other important issues include protecting our region's oil and gas interests from bad laws which hurt producers, working to stop illegal immigration protecting property rights, and fighting against federal mandates which cost Texas taxpayers. In redistricting, we must protect the interests of rural Texas while ensuring fair representation.

**Answer 3:** The budget will be far and away the largest issue

### Joe Clement, Wichita Falls

**Answer 1:** I am a 30 year resident of District 69. I have served North Texas for 28 years as a State Trooper and 24 years within the North Texas school districts. As an Air Force veteran and a community member, I understand Sheppard AFB's importance to our region. As a volunteer to multiple organizations, I have constantly served the needs of the community. I am a MSU graduate currently employed in the Wichita Falls School District. My lifelong dedication and service to our community qualifies me to serve the people of District 69 in Austin.

**Answer 2:** First, any tax system funding the government must be equitable to all. I believe the sales tax system does that. Second, our state budget must be balanced. Wasteful spending must be curtailed. I want to limit legislative spending to the rate of population growth indexed to inflation. Thirdly, I want a fiscally transparent government in deed not words. Finally, I am against tax increases in general and specifically if they don't get our state house in order. I will vote against any attempt to increase or levy new taxes in the next legislature.

**Answer 3:** First are jobs and the economy. I want government to promote the free market system vs. strangling it. I will push for tax incentives to attract private enterprise to create jobs. I want education strategies that hold students accountable. I want to eliminate TAKS and find a better accountability measure. A secure border makes Texas safer. I want state and local law enforcement officers to have the authority needed to enforce immigration laws. Finally, I want a welfare system that gets people back on their feet not a system that makes welfare a lifestyle.

## One Candidate in the Democratic Primary

### Michael Smith, Wichita Falls

**Answer 1:** Having lived and worked in Wichita Falls for over 60 years; I know Archer and Wichita Counties well. Graduating from Wichita Falls High School; I went on to earn Bachelors and Masters degrees from MSU. I retired from City View Independent School District after 37 years of service, working as teacher, principal, and superintendent. As superintendent for 13 years; I have had extensive training and experience in budgeting, program evaluation, personnel management, State and Federal laws and programs, and working with the public. I have served since 2007 as District 1 City Councilor in Wichita Falls.

**Answer 2:** My goal will be for a complete review of State government to evaluate the needs and priorities of our citizens and government. Only once this has been done can we really plan adequate and needed funding. Texas must continue to grow new jobs in our existing businesses, attract new business and new jobs from outside our State, and continue to offer an attractive business climate to accomplish this. We need to specifically attract green and renewable industries. We need to grow and ensure a skilled work force through quality public education and post-graduate job training.

**Answer 3:** We must encourage employers to hold on to jobs, use State programs to attract and hold new business and jobs, and continue to provide an attractive business climate in Texas. We need to streamline State government but not to the detriment of needed services for our citizens. We must continue to develop the use of our natural resources for the benefit of our citizens and our State. In doing this we must also guard against harm to our environment, our communities, and our citizens. Quality public education is a prerequisite to the solving of any problem in our State.

## 78th District Judge

**Question 1:** What are your qualifications for this office? Include your occupation, education, training, & experience?

All answers have a 100 word limit.

**Question 2:** What will be your #1 priority while in this office?

**Question 3:** What are the other most pressing problems you will face in this office, and how do you think each one should be resolved?

## Two Candidates in the Republican Primary

### Barney Fudge, Burkburnett

**Answer 1:** I graduated from Burkburnett High School (1963); from Texas A&M (1967); and Oklahoma University College of Law (1970). My 40 years of experience, 34 with Fudge & Elder in Wichita County, is extensive in real estate, banking, oil & gas, business entities, family law, Uniform Commercial Code, litigation, and wills & probate. Most of the jury trials in the 78th District Court are civil cases, and my civil background is instrumental in presiding over such cases.

**Answer 2:** My priorities will be to judge cases in a fair manner in order to enforce the laws (both civil and criminal) of the state of Texas, to work hard to control the 78th Court's docket, and to be on the job to dispose of cases.

the County jail. The crowded jail is being efficiently addressed by the Sheriff's Department, but they need the assistance of the courts, the county and the voters to resolve the present overcrowded conditions. We need to continue to work with Child Advocates and CASA volunteers to protect the interests of children.

**Answer 3:** We need to work with the Wichita County Sheriff's office to find ways to assist with the overcrowding of

### Barry Macha, Wichita Falls

**Answer 1:** 25 years experience as Wichita County District Attorney. Responsible for criminal & juvenile prosecutions and representing the state and county in civil and family law matters. Successfully argued civil and criminal cases before our state's highest courts: Texas Supreme Court (civil) and Court of Criminal Appeals. State and nationally board certified. Martindale-Hubbell highest rating for legal ability and general ethical standards. 2003 State Bar of Texas Prosecutor of the Year. Licensed in Texas state and federal courts including U.S. Supreme Court. Law degree, University of Houston, *Summa Cum Laude* graduate, MSU graduate. Eagle Scout.

**Answer 2:** My top priority as 78th District Judge will be to execute justice fairly, impartially, and efficiently. I will not hesitate to appropriately punish sex offenders, gang members, and all those who threaten the peace & safety of our community. A judge must be tough. My record as District Attorney demonstrates my commitment to justice. Also, I will ensure that people have their day in court without unreasonable delays. I will fairly and impartially interpret the law and apply it to the facts of each case. I will follow the law as written, and will not legislate from the bench.

**Answer 3:** The large number of criminal trials in the 78th District Court requires a judge with significant criminal law experience. Over the past 5 years, 70% of the jury trials in the 78th were criminal cases. Case reversals are costly and take a heavy toll on all concerned, especially child crime victims. As the only candidate who is state & nationally board certified in criminal law I am the most qualified candidate. I have tried over 20 murder cases (including 3 death sentences; 12 for life or 99-years in prison) and several sexual assaults with life of 99-year verdicts.

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WE HAVE NOT LISTED, races for which there will be no contest in both the Primary & General Election, on November 2nd.  
NOR HAVE WE ASKED QUESTIONS of the candidates for the U. S. Congress 13th District race (but will for the Gen. Election): Mac Thornberry (Republican), John T. Burwell (Libertarian), and Michael Barrett (Constitution). No Democratic candidate.

## County Court at-Law #1

**Question 1:** What are your qualifications for this office? Include your occupation, education, training and experience

All answers have a 100 word limit.

**Question 2:** What will be your #1 priority while in this office?

**Question 3:** What are the other most pressing problems you will face in this office and how do you think each one should be resolved?

### Two candidates in the Republican Primary

#### Gary Butler, Wichita Falls

**Answer 1:** I am a graduate of WFHS, MSU, and Oklahoma City University Law School. I served as a felony prosecutor in Wichita County from 1998-2001 and have operated a private practice ever since. I am licensed to practice in Texas & Oklahoma as well as the Federal courts in each. I am an Associate Judge for the City of Wichita Falls and the Municipal Judge for Archer City. I have tried both criminal and civil jury trials and have practiced in every area of law in which County Court at Law No. 1 has jurisdiction

**Answer 2:** The number one priority is to get control of the criminal docket of over 1500 pending criminal cases. It is an absolute necessity because 200 or more new criminal cases are filed every month. The bases must be brought to trial or otherwise resolved in an expeditious manner as it is costing the taxpayer roughly \$50.00 per day to house these individuals while awaiting trial or other resolution. The back log delays justice to the victims of the crimes and other litigants seeking their day in court in all the other matters in which this court has jurisdiction.

**Answer 3:** The most pressing problems for this court, like many others around the state, is time. Time to devote to the ever growing number of cases. I will use new docket control procedures, a larger number of criminal docket calls, standing orders in criminal cases, use of scheduling orders in civil cases, allowing uncontested matters to be heard without formal scheduling and develop a reduced form system for criminal pleas and family law orders. I will use all tools at my disposal to make this court efficient, consistent and cost effective.

#### Tom Key, Wichita Falls

**Answer 1:** I am a 1990 graduate of Texas A&M, a 1993 graduate of Baylor Law School, licensed by the State Bar in 1993. I began my practice with the Palmer Law Firm in Marshall. My practice in Marshall included serving as Assistant City Attorney. In 2000, I moved to Wichita Falls, where I practiced civil law, focusing on commercial litigation, real estate litigation and probate. In 2004, I joined the firm of Russell, Leonard & Key and continued practicing in the same areas. I have been counsel of record in six published cases, and a

number of other appellate cases which generated opinions.

**Answer 2:** My number one priority will be to review the scheduling of cases in the court and to work with the local bar (including District Attorney's office) to ensure that the court is handling its caseload efficiently, making maximum use of the time available for hearings and trials.

**Answer 3:** I think that in the long term, we may want to

consider looking at the jurisdiction statute for the County Courts at Law, particularly if Wichita County adds a District Court dedicated to cases under the Family Code. If another court is added, and that takes away some of the civil cases now being heard by the County Courts at Law, then we may want to consider increasing the amount in controversy limit for civil cases, giving the County Court at Law eminent domain jurisdiction, or making other adjustments which will help equalize the case load among the various courts.

## County Court at-Law #2

### Three candidates in the Republican Primary

#### John Lane, Wichita Falls

**Answer 1:** I am an experienced litigator in matters that come before this court including civil law, probate, guardianships, adoptions, family law, and some misdemeanor criminal law. Now in my 40's happily married and the father of two, I grew up here, attended WFISD through Rider, earned Bachelor's & Master's degrees from MSU and graduated with honors from Regent University Law School in 2000. I have handled numerous jury and non-jury cases throughout the state including successfully arguing cases before multiple Texas Courts of Appeal and Federal Courts. As a business owner, I am experienced in personnel management, budgeting and case-load organization.

**Answer 2:** I will make it my priority while serving as judge to protect the safety and quality of life of the people of Wichita County. I will enforce the law firmly but fairly, in a timely manner and without prejudice or preference. Under my leadership, the court will be an open instrument of justice, not led by personal agenda or outside influence but according to the rule of law. I will listen objectively, give respect to all persons and opinions and strive for wisdom and grace in my decisions. Those convicted will be punished proportionately to their crime and record.

**Answer 3:** The most pressing problem in our courts is the

slowness of the system and backlog of cases. Currently, getting a trial can take months or even years. Trying cases throughout the State, I experience many types of docket management, including electronic filing and records exchange. To speed things up, I will urge for the installation of a fully electronic records system such as those used in other Texas courts. Additionally, I believe shared prove-up responsibilities and a dismissal docket should be employed to encourage efficiency and discourage litigants from sitting on inactive cases for unreasonable periods of time.

#### Tony Fidelie, Wichita Falls

**Answer 1:** I am a Wichita Falls native. I hold a bachelor's in finance & political science from MSU, an M.B.A. & law degree from Texas Tech and a license to practice law in Texas, the federal Court of Appeals in New Orleans, and the U.S. Supreme Court. I'm the chief civil prosecutor for Wichita County and chief attorney for the Wichita County Sheriff and Judge, and oversight of the legal aspects the County's \$47 million budget. As a career public servant, I've tried over 100 cases in state district court and in Wichita County's Courts at

law.

**Answer 2:** Fairness & impartiality. A county court at law judge hears cases across a broad spectrum of issues, including criminal, civil, probate and mental health commitment hearings. A court at law judge can never lose sight of the fact that the litigants before him are ALL members of the public he is charged with serving, while also being mindful of the county's available resources and the best way to allocate them.

**Answer 3:** Docket management. Today's courts are tasked with processing more cases, with fewer personnel and tighter budgets, than ever before. Despite these pressures, criminal prosecutors, criminal defendants, civil litigants, and all others with business before the court are entitled to speedy, and fair, hearings. Likewise, the taxpayers are also entitled to a court that operates effectively and efficiently. I intend to do the best I can in order to accomplish these goals.

#### Greg King, Wichita Falls

**Answer 1:** I am 43 years old. I grew up in Wichita Falls, graduating from Rider High School in 1984. I graduated from Texas A&M University in College Station with a B.S. in psychology in 1988. I earned my law degree from the University of Texas School of Law in Austin in 1991. I have been a lawyer for more than 18 years. I practiced in Houston for two years. I was a prosecutor here for 7 1/2 years. I have had my own law office for 7 1/2 years. I have been involved in more than 50 jury trials.

**Answer 2:** If I am privileged to serve as judge of the County Court at Law #2, then my number 1 priority will be to treat all of the persons who appear before me with fairness, courtesy, and respect. I have practiced before more than a dozen different judges in my 18 years of legal experience. The best judges listened to both sides of the dispute with an open mind, treated everyone with dignity, and impartially applied the law to the facts. I will strive to maintain the independence of the judiciary and do the right thing in every single case.

**Answer 3:** One pressing problem is our increasing jail population. I will work hard to quickly set criminal cases for trial to give defendants their day in court. The guilty need to be promptly convicted & sentenced. But if there is insufficient evidence, then the accused citizen should be quickly acquitted and released. Another problem is the delay in hearing civil cases, especially family law matters. I will work hard to set temporary orders hearings as soon as possible, and I will enter scheduling orders to insure that cases do not linger for an unnecessarily long time on the court's docket.

### One candidate in the Democratic Primary

#### Kimberley Latham, Wichita Falls

**Answer 1:** I am in private practice, with one law partner. I was well-trained for the practice of law at MSU and the Texas Wesleyan School of Law, where I was the Managing Editor of the Law Review and graduated fourth in my class. I currently handle many different types of cases, including minor criminal cases, civil lawsuits including suits for damages & some family law, cases brought by the Texas Department of Family & Protective Services (CPS), and appeals. I believe that this training & experience prepared me to resolve skillfully all cases filed in CCL #2.

**Answer 2:** Without a doubt my top priority will be to ensure every party's right to due process under the law, while resolving cases in a timely manner. Whether I am hearing a criminal matter, a divorce, a suit for money damages, or other case, I will doggedly maintain fairness, strive for timeliness, and uphold every party's opportunity to have his/her/its position fully heard. My focus will be on Justice for All.

**Answer 3:** (1) The size of the Court's docket is an ongoing concern: it affects the jail population, litigants' ever-increasing

expenses as they wait for a hearing, and children's lives as they wait for the Court to determine custody matters. The Court's schedule should be re-vamped and streamlined, the parties and attorneys should be encouraged to maintain a realistic case schedule, and Alternative Dispute Resolution should be utilized to its fullest potential. (2) I want to ensure that attorneys appointed to represent indigent criminal defendants, indigent parents, or children in CPS cases, are compelled to effectively and zealously represent these clients.

# Criminal District Attorney

## ... (Only Republicans are running for District Attorney, and Justice of the Peace)...

**Question 1:** What are your qualifications for this office? Include your occupation, education, training and experience?

All answers have a 100 word limit.

**Question 2:** What will be your #1 priority while in this office?

**Question 3:** What are the other most pressing problems you will face in this office, and how do you think each one should be resolved?

**Answer 1:** BBA Finance Texas Tech University 1981. Juris Doctor Texas Tech University 1989. Practicing Attorney in Wichita County for over 20 years. Over 7 years in the District Attorney's Office. Over 13 years in private practice with Monte J. White & Associates, P.C. For 20 years I have practiced in every area the District Attorney's office handles. I have done this from both inside and outside the office. This has given me a unique perspective and allows me to understand what needs to be changed to improve the operation of the office.

**Larry Lewis, Wichita Falls**  
**Answer 2:** The prosecution of methamphetamine manufacturers and dealers will be my first priority. The spread of this drug fuels most of the crime in our community. I intend to target these offenders raising sentences and expediting the trial docket. This will allow our citizens, who make up the jury panels, to determine what punishment these offenders should receive. I will also target these offenders in the misdemeanor courts. This will help them decide that Wichita County is not the place to spread their poison.

**Answer 3:** First, gang members are violent & funded by drugs. They will be dealt with in the same manner as stated in question 2. Second, leadership -I will personally try cases and supervise my staff both in & out of the courtroom. Third, increasing penalties on misdemeanors and reducing the backlog on the courts' docket. The office will try two misdemeanor cases in each court every jury week available. Fourth, office unity & training -I will hold a weekly meeting for all attorneys. An educational issue will be presented and discussed. Attorneys will be cross-trained in each department.

**Answer 1:** I graduated with honors from Rider High School in 1980. I earned a Bachelors in Geology from Baylor University in 1985. I graduated from Baylor Law School in 1987. I am an evangelical Christian who earned a Masters degree from Dallas Theological Seminary in 2001. I have over 22 years of experience and served two terms as an Assistant District Attorney in Wichita County. I worked as a felony prosecutor from 2002 through 2007. I was a tough aggressive prosecutor who tried more felony cases to a jury than any other prosecutor. I am currently in private practice.

**Mark Barber, Wichita Falls**  
taking criminal cases to trial before Wichita County juries. The District Attorney's office must be fair, but must be tough and aggressive in trying cases to juries. Wichita County can have great law enforcement agencies, but it is ultimately up to the District Attorney to make sure that the criminals receive the punishment that they deserve. As District Attorney, I intend to personally handle the most difficult and complicated felony cases brought to the office. I further intend to instill a tough, aggressive approach in all the assistants as well.

**Answer 3:** Something that must change is the high percentage of child molesters, child abusers and sex offenders receiving probation through plea bargains. These individuals live among us. Myself and the most experienced prosecutors will handle these cases so prison sentences are obtained. Hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars have been used in the last few years to hire outside counsel to represent the County in civil rights lawsuits. I will personally handle these suits to save taxpayer dollars. Money seized from criminals will not be used to supplement salaries, but will be used to reduce the tax burden.

**Answer 2:** The District Attorney's office needs to be aggressive in

**Answer 1:** My extensive trial and administrative experience sets me apart. In 15-years as a prosecutor, I have earned a reputation as a tough trial attorney. I recently obtained a 202-year sentence against a child-predator. I have also obtained life sentences against murderers, rapists, and drug dealers. Additionally, I have the most administrative experience in the race. I am the First Assistant overseeing the DA's Office. I have also served as Felony Chief and Juvenile Chief. I graduated from Burkburnett High School. I earned a criminal justice degree from MSU, and my law degree from Oklahoma City Law School.

**Maureen Shelton, Wichita Falls**  
**Answer 2:** Aggressively targeting methamphetamine-related crime is my top priority. Meth is a poison to our community. Meth spawns identity thefts, burglaries, and child endangerment. When I became Felony Chief in 2007, I met with local law enforcement to map out a strategy for targeting meth crime through aggressive courtroom prosecution of meth cooks and identity thieves. Our strategy is working and has led to major sentences for drug dealers & a recent 35-year sentence against an identity thief, the largest in Wichita County history. As DA, I would continue to ensure that meth crime means hard time.

**Answer 3:** Effectively coordinating with law enforcement to target child predators, gang member, and habitual offenders is a major challenge for the next DA. In 15-years as a prosecutor, I have successfully partnered with local law enforcement. I'm endorsed by the Wichita Falls & Burkburnett Police Officers' Associations, Sheriff Duke, & so many other licensed peace officers because of my emphasis on training, education, and my accessibility. As DA, I will work closely with law enforcement to lock up sex offenders who prey on our kids, gang members who shoot-up our neighborhoods, and habitual offenders who commit a disproportionate amount of crime.

## Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1 - place 2 (Wichita Falls)

### Michael Little, Wichita Falls

**Answer 1:** I continue to serve as your Justice of the Peace since 1994. After graduating from Hirschi High School in 1974, I entered the U.S. Air Force and received an honorable discharge. I then entered college, graduating from MSU with a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. I was commissioned a Wichita Falls police officer in 1981, serving as a patrol officer, accident investigator DARE officer, training instructor and crime prevention specialist. I have earned over 3000 hours of education in civil & criminal law and am a charter member of the College of Justice Court Judges.

the public quick access to the courts in non-emergency situations. Working with the Office of Court Administration, I will soon be able to accept civil cases that have been e-filed through Texas Online. In order to make judges more available for law enforcement, I have introduced a method whereby digital search & arrest warrants can be securely issued by a judge almost anywhere and at anytime. Seconds count in many cases and this will enable law enforcement to have on-scene access to arrest & search warrants.

to implement uniform procedures and develop innovative ways to deal with increasing caseloads & budget restraints. Working with the other judges and the Commissioners Court, I developed and implemented video arraignment of prisoners and video teleconferencing of mental health hearings to provide a safer environment & reduce costs. I developed the Truancy Intervention program to help kids stay in school. This program has saved local taxpayers over three million dollars in attendance funds paid by the State &, more importantly, increased school attendance and graduation rates each year.

**Answer 2:** It is important to use existing technology to provide

**Answer 3:** I have regular meetings with all Justice Court judges

### Charles (Chuck) Elmore, Wichita Falls

**Answer 1:** Korea veteran, insurance agent, underwriter, entrepreneur, sales, research/development, manufacturing, general contractor, property manager, real-estate, teacher & foster parent/28 kids. City Councilor with 100 town hall meetings, never missed a council meeting; Council liaison & member to many boards including the 4B Board. Support City staff, MSU, Sheppard AFB, Keep WF Beautiful, RiverBend, RR Museum, Kemp Center, Downtown Proud & CV Community Partners. Member of Citizen Police academy, Citizen Fire academy, strong supporter of police & fire department members. Student of life & people; I listen, look at

problems, evaluate and make fair & unbiased decisions.

year and 20 hours each year thereafter. So, I will be trained pursuant to the law.

**Answer 2:** Texas law requires that a person be a U.S. citizen, a Texas resident for 12 months and a district resident for 6 months, be in good standing and by statute does not require any legal background of graduate training. I will absorb all of the professional knowledge necessary to exercise judicial responsibilities in an independent and impartial manner and improve the administration of justice through aggressive management of the court's docket. Texas requires a minimum of 80 hours of education during the 1st

**Answer 3:** My experience with the needs and concerns of foster children has given me an insight into the proper disposition of truancy matters. In addition to the Small Claims Court, there are 1000's of landlords in this county who depend on reliable & predictable justice in our JP Court. I will provide that reliability & predictability with courtesy and consideration for all.

## Justice of the Peace, Pct. 4 (Electra)

### Karen Hamilton, Electra

**Answer 1:** Justice of the Peace, Pct. 4, Wichita County -2007 to present.. Municipal Court judge, Electra, Texas -2yrs. Over 150 hours of State judicial training. As a computer engineer & consultant, worked with both corporate & government entities, across the United States & Canada, to improve & expand their business operations through computer automation. M.S. degree in mathematics/computer science at University of Texas at Arlington.

**Answer 2:** I will continue to serve the citizens of Wichita County, Pct. 4, with honesty and integrity and applying the law with impartial & fair justice; upholding the vows of my judicial oath and adhering to Texas statutes, in processing all judicial cases.

classes to be taught in Electra, to avoid financial and transportation hardships to families caused by attending classes in Wichita Falls. Due to economic downturns, consulting organizations have lost grants that funded the classes. While the court's truancy program continues to include required tutoring & activities to promote responsibility, communications, goals planning, citizenship, etc., I continually add new activities to help replace the topics addressed in the counseling classes, until funding returns.

### Judy Baker, Electra

**Answer 1:** One of the most important qualifications I have for this office is 20 years County government experience. This knowledge will enable me to work together & interact with all county departments needed to make the JP office run more efficiently, with better results for both the community and the county. I am currently employed by Patterson Auto Group as their title specialist. I have to keep informed on changes in the law for motor vehicles, just as I did as a supervisor for 16 years for the Vehicle Registration for Wichita

County.

this office with fairness, honesty & impartiality.

**Answer 2:** My #1 priority while in this office will be to make the office more user friendly by bringing a new attitude. I would like the office to be open the standard times of 8am to 5pm with a 1 hour lunch, and one night a week open till 6pm for citizens who need to use our services after their work. If a citizen has an issue I will work to help them solve the problem using all the avenues available to

**Answer 3:** Truancy continues to be a problem. Parents and students need to understand just how important school is for the students future. The routine of getting up & going to school, studying, & making good grades will set the pattern for their future, be it college or the work force. I will work hand in hand with the school administration to find a solution for this problem.