



Calcasieu Parish

What's on the Ballot?

**U.S. Senate General
Open U.S. Representative Primary
& Open Primary**

**Tuesday,
November 3, 2026**

Polls are open from 6:00 AM - 8:00 PM

The Fall 2026 ballot will give you the opportunity to vote on a US Senator, US Representatives, Regional and Local races. Check for your full sample ballot at pcej.org/SampleBallots closer to the election. The Power Coalition has put together this primer to help you prepare to go to vote this election season. Make your voice heard and your power felt at the polls.

**An Early Vote is a
Powerful Vote**



TUESDAY-TUESDAY

October 20-27

(excluding Sunday) 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM CST

CALCASIEU PARISH

EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

- **Calcasieu Registrar Of Voters**
1000 Ryan St Rm #7 • Lake Charles, LA 70601
337-721-4000
- *** Sulphur Law Enforcement Building**
500 N. Huntington St. • Sulphur, LA 70663
337-721-4000
- *** Moss Bluff Library**
261 Parish Rd • Moss Bluff, LA 70611
337-721-4000
- *** Iowa Library Annex**
109 S Thompson Ave • Iowa, LA 70647
337-721-4000

Vote by Mail

If you are planning to Vote By Mail (VBM), we recommend you do so as early as possible to make sure your vote is counted.

Are you Eligible?

bit.ly/VoteByMailPower

**Request a Vote by Mail
Ballot by October 30**

Return Your Ballot



Mail by



**To Get A
Postmark By**



**If You Need A Same Day Postmark:
Go to the USPS Counter & Request a
Manual Postmark**



**Are You
Registered
to Vote?**

**Check Your Registration
Status Today**

pcej.org/RegistertoVote

Federal Government

U. S. Senator

☐ Jamie Davis – Democrat, Black, Male

☐ Julia Letlow – Republican, White, Female

The Senate is part of the legislative branch of the U.S. Government that makes laws.

The Senate has 100 members, 2 from each state, who are elected to serve for a term of 6 years. Senators must be 30 years of age, U.S. citizens for at least nine years, and residents of the state they represent. The Senate votes on bills, resolutions, motions, amendments, nominations, and treaties in a variety of ways. The Vice President of the United States serves as President of the Senate and may cast the decisive vote in the event of a tie in the Senate. The Senate also tries impeachment cases for federal officials referred to it by the House.

U. S. Representatives

3rd & 4th Congressional Districts

The House of Representatives is part of the legislative branch of the U.S.

Government that makes laws, also referred to as a congressman or congresswoman, each U.S. representative is elected to a two-year term serving the people of a specific congressional district.

Representatives introduce bills and resolutions, offer amendments and serve on committees. The House has several powers assigned exclusively to it, including the power to initiate revenue bills, impeach federal officials, and elect the President in the case of an electoral college tie. The House of Representatives is made up of 435 elected members, divided among the 50 states in proportion to their total population. In addition, there are 6 non-voting members, representing the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and four other territories of the United States. The presiding officer of the chamber is the Speaker of the House, elected by the Representatives. This person is third in the line of succession to the Presidency.

Regional & Local Government

Member of School Board

Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

Louisiana's 64 parishes (plus a handful of city school systems) each elect a school board to govern their public schools. Members are elected by district to four-year terms at the congressional elections, and the board elects a president and vice president from among its own members.

Responsibilities: The school board sets policy for the parish or city school system, hires and oversees the superintendent, and adopts the district's budget. Boards make decisions on school staffing formulas and salaries, facilities and construction, school boundaries and closures, and disciplinary policy, and they provide financial oversight for the entire district. Because school boards control local education budgets and policy, school board elections have a direct, immediate impact on the classroom experience of students in a parish.

Mayor

City of DeQuincy City of Westlake Town of Iowa

The mayor is the chief executive officer of a city, town, or village. In most Louisiana municipalities, the mayor is elected to a four-year term and works alongside a board of aldermen or city council.

Responsibilities: The mayor directs the day-to-day operations of municipal departments, prepares and administers the city's budget, and appoints (subject to council approval) officials like the clerk, tax collector, and other municipal officers. The mayor can veto ordinances passed by the council, presides over council meetings in some cities, and represents the municipality in dealings with other governments and agencies. In municipalities without an elected police chief, the mayor also oversees the police department.

City Council

Council Member, Town of Iowa, Districts A, B, C, D, E

Council Member, City of Westlake, Divisions A, B, C, D, E

Councilman, City of DeQuincy, Districts 1, 2, 3, 4

Councilman at Large, City of DeQuincy

City Council members represent districts within their parishes or municipalities.

Responsibilities: Councils hold regular public meetings and have the opportunity to reshape how their parish or municipality addresses crucial issues, like public safety, equitable economic opportunity, and infrastructure. They vote on policy decisions governing their jurisdictions--which are often introduced based on citizen input--and approve budgets, and can appoint members of commissions, civil service boards, and other governing bodies within a parish or city.

Legal System

District Attorney 14th Judicial District Court

As the chief prosecutor for a judicial district

(sometimes a single parish, sometimes covering multiple parishes), DAs largely shape how your parish's criminal legal system is operated. Your vote for DA can reshape the criminal legal system in your parish and in Louisiana.

Responsibilities: DAs have the power to choose which charges are filed against an individual accused of a crime, divert the accused to a program, or dismiss the case altogether. The DA also has the power to identify and tackle racial disparities within the criminal legal system.

City Marshal

City Court, City of Lake Charles & City of Sulphur

A city marshal is the elected executive officer of a city court, serving a six-year term. Louisiana has 47 city marshals and constables (the position is called "constable" in East Baton Rouge and Orleans parishes). Marshals are independently elected and separate from the police department and sheriff's office.

Responsibilities: The marshal executes the orders of city court, including serving warrants, subpoenas, and eviction notices, providing courtroom security, collecting and disbursing fines, and processing wage garnishments and property seizures. In carrying out arrests and preserving the peace, a marshal has the same authority as a sheriff. Marshals may appoint deputy marshals, who share the same powers and for whom the marshal is responsible. The chief is appointed, the mayor directly supervises the department instead. Either way, the chief of police is responsible for law enforcement within the municipality's limits, working alongside the parish sheriff and other local agencies.

Chief of Police

City of Weslake

Town of Iowa

The chief of police leads a city or town's police department. In many Louisiana municipalities, the chief of police is an independently elected official, separate from the mayor and council, one of the few places in the country where this is the case. Some municipalities have instead voted to make the position appointed by the mayor.

Responsibilities: Where the chief is elected, they have full authority over hiring, promoting, disciplining, and firing police department personnel, and over how the department is run day to day though the mayor and council still control the department's budget. Where the chief is appointed, the mayor directly supervises the department instead. Either way, the chief of police is responsible for law enforcement within the municipality's limits, working alongside the parish sheriff and other local agencies.

Courts

District Judge 14th Judicial District Court

ES 1, Div. F, H, & J • ES 2, Div. C, D, & G • ES 3 Div. A, B, E

District court judges make important decisions in civil and criminal cases (mainly felonies and property-related matters) that impact not only the parties who appear in court for specific cases, but also the community at large. They also handle appeals of criminal cases tried by city, municipal, and traffic courts (with a few exceptions).

Magistrate Judge 14th Judicial District Court

Magistrate Judges are the first judges you see, and they determine how your case moves forward. They

also often conduct mediations, resolve discovery disputes, and decide a variety of motions. They determine whether criminal defendants will be detained or released on a bond, and may appoint counsel for defendants.

City Judge City Court

City of Sulphur

Division A & B, City of Lake Charles

City and Parish Courts typically have civil jurisdiction over cases involving small claims, evictions, and traffic violations. Different parishes and cities may have individual rules about the maximum claims to be made in their courts.

Justice of the Peace

Ward 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Justices of the peace have no criminal jurisdiction, except as committing magistrates and for the issuance of peace bonds. They have original civil jurisdiction in cases up to \$5,000, but are NOT allowed to decide lawsuits involving title to real estate, the right to public office, divorce proceedings, suits against public bodies, and executory proceedings.

Constable Justice of the Peace

Ward 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

The role of the constable is to preserve the public peace, execute the process in City Courts and Justice of Peace Courts, and discharge other functions assigned by law. They serve warrants and summonses, collect garnishments, and process evictions and other matters pertaining to the court.

Constitutional Amendments on the Ballot

Removing Payment Order Requirement for State Retirement System Unfunded Liability Amendment

Let the state apply surplus funds toward paying down retirement-system debt.

Prohibit Post-Conviction Bail for Individuals Convicted of Assault Against Minors Amendment

Ban post-conviction bail for aggravated offenses against minor victims.

Prohibit Property Expropriation by Foreign Adversaries Amendment

Prohibit expropriation of property by foreign adversaries or their agents, as defined by law.

Tax Exemption for Rehabilitated Property Amendment

Authorize a property tax exemption for rehabilitated derelict or blighted property.

Gubernatorial Two-Term Lifetime Limit Amendment

Change the gubernatorial term limit from two consecutive terms to a lifetime maximum of two terms.

Property Tax Exemption for Seniors Amendment

Authorize a property tax exemption of up to \$30,000 in assessed value, increasing with age, for eligible homeowners 65 and older.

Property Tax Rate Limits Based on Existing Voter-Approved Maximums Amendment

Allow taxing authorities to levy property tax rates above the previous year's rate but below the constitutional maximum approved by voters.

One-Time Transfer of Disabled Veteran Homestead Tax Exemption for Surviving Spouses Amendment

Allow the surviving spouse of a disabled veteran to transfer the homestead property tax exemption one time to a new homestead.

Use Public Funds for Drinking Water Utility Service Lines Amendment

Allow public funds to be used to maintain drinking water service lines affected by hazardous materials on customer-owned property.

Raise Income Limit to \$150,000 for Special Property Tax Assessment Amendment

Increase the income limit for the special property tax assessment from \$100,000 to \$150,000.

Note: SB 107 (Act 243) sets April 17, 2027 as a backup statewide election date for any amendment that needs it.

Local Millages

City of DeQuincy Proposition (Sales Tax Renewal)

This measure asks DeQuincy voters to renew an existing 0.5% sales and use tax for 15 years, starting August 1, 2027 (about \$362,976 a year), to fund public safety, fire protection, and criminal justice facilities and equipment, with the option to issue bonds for capital costs like fire trucks.

School District No. 30 Proposition (Bond)

This measure asks voters in Calcasieu Parish School District No. 30 to authorize up to \$74 million in bonds (up to 25 years, up to 7% interest) to build, acquire, and improve school buildings, playgrounds, and equipment, repaid through an estimated 8-mill property tax.

Check for Sample Ballots:
pcej.org/SampleBallots



POWER COALITION For Equity & Justice

PowerCoalition.org/Vote

 PowerCoalition  @PowerCoEJ

(504) 766-9289 • info@powercoalition.org