

A VOTER EDUCATION RESOURCE • PUBLISHED JUNE 2026

Southern Arizona Primary Election 2026 Jewish Voters' Guide

From JPSA's Center for Jewish Resilience

Ahead of the 2026 primary election, the Center for Jewish Resilience asked every candidate in this guide the same four questions: their priorities for the office they seek, and how they would prevent and respond to antisemitism within the authority of that office. Their answers appear on the following pages as they submitted them, with light corrections to spelling and obvious typos.

Candidates who did not reply, or could not be reached, are listed in every race; [the response table on page 3](#) shows, at a glance, who chose to engage with our community.

Like Jewish Community Relations Councils (JCRCs) and other Jewish community organizations across the country, the Center for Jewish Resilience prepared this guide as a nonpartisan voter education resource. Our goal is to provide voters with direct access to candidates' perspectives on issues of importance to the Jewish community and the broader public. We hope this guide will continue to grow as a community resource in future election cycles, with increasing participation from candidates and expanded opportunities for meaningful civic engagement.

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The Four Questions We Asked

Every candidate received the same questionnaire. Throughout this guide, each answer is labeled Q1 through Q4; the full text of each question is below.

Q1 • TOP THREE PRIORITIES

What are your top three priorities for the office you are seeking, and how would those priorities affect Tucson, Pima County, or Arizona residents?

Q2 • ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

According to ADL's 2024 Audit, antisemitic incidents in the U.S. reached the highest number in their recorded history. If elected, what specific steps would you take within the authority of the office you are seeking to prevent, respond to, and reduce antisemitic hate crimes, harassment, vandalism, and discrimination?

Q3 • SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

Jewish Federations of North America has reported that Jewish communities spent \$800 million nationally on security, including guards, security directors, training, and facility hardening in the past year. What role should the office you are seeking play in helping Jewish institutions, houses of worship, schools, and community centers remain safe while maintaining public access and civic trust?

Q4 • ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

Antisemitism is an old hatred that morphs over time in how it targets Jews. Today, anti-Jewish hate can appear in rhetoric that targets Jews because of their connection to Israel, blames Jewish constituents collectively for Israel's actions, promotes replacing Israel, or denies that Jews have a right to self-determination in their ancestral homeland. Not to be confused with disagreement with Israeli government policy, how would you address this form of contemporary anti-Jewish hate within the authority of the office you are seeking?

Reading this guide

Responses are reproduced as each candidate submitted them, with light corrections to spelling and obvious typos. Nothing has been edited for substance or shortened. Candidate bios were written by the candidates themselves.

No response means the campaign received our questionnaire and did not reply. **Unreachable** means we could not locate working contact information for the campaign.

Jewish Philanthropies of Southern Arizona is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. This guide is a nonpartisan educational resource; it does not endorse or oppose any candidate or political party.

Who Responded

We sent the questionnaire to **74 candidates** across **19 races**. **18 responded**. Their full answers begin on page 6.

STATEWIDE OFFICES

Governor

Teri Ann Hourihan	No Labels Party	Responded · p. 6
Hugh Lytle	No Labels Party	<i>unreachable</i>
Andy Biggs	Republican	<i>no response</i>
Ken Miceli	Republican	<i>no response</i>
Scott Neely	Republican	<i>unreachable</i>
David Schweikert	Republican	<i>no response</i>

Secretary of State

Alexander Kolodin	Republican	<i>no response</i>
Gina Swoboda	Republican	<i>unreachable</i>

Attorney General

Rodney Glassman	Republican	<i>no response</i>
Warren Peterson	Republican	<i>no response</i>

State Treasurer

Katherine Haley	Republican	<i>unreachable</i>
Elijah Norton	Republican	<i>unreachable</i>

Superintendent of Public Instruction

Tom Horne	Republican	<i>no response</i>
Kimberly Yee	Republican	<i>no response</i>
Michael Butts	Democrat	<i>no response</i>
Brett Newby	Democrat	<i>unreachable</i>
Teresa Leyba Ruiz	Democrat	<i>no response</i>

Corporation Commission

Ralph Heap	Republican	<i>no response</i>
David Marshall	Republican	<i>no response</i>
Nick Myers	Republican	<i>no response</i>
Kevin Thompson	Republican	<i>no response</i>
Jonathon Hill	Democrat	<i>unreachable</i>
Clara Pratte	Democrat	<i>unreachable</i>

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

Arizona State Senate LD 20

Alma Hernandez	Democrat	Responded · p. 8
Rocque Perez	Democrat	<i>no response</i>

Arizona State Representative LD 16

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

Teresa Martinez	Republican	Responded · p. 8
Chris Lopez	Republican	<i>no response</i>

Arizona State Representative LD 17

John Winchester	Republican	Responded · p. 9
Rachel Keshel	Republican	<i>no response</i>
Anna Orth	Republican	<i>unreachable</i>
Holly Lyons	Democrat	<i>unreachable</i>
Kevin Volk	Democrat	<i>no response</i>

Arizona State Representative LD 18

Nancy Gutierrez	Democrat	Responded · p. 10
Chris Mathis	Democrat	<i>no response</i>

Arizona State Representative LD 19

Jackie Anderson	Democrat	Responded · p. 11
Aiden Swallow	Democrat	<i>no response</i>
Cheryl Caswell	Republican	<i>no response</i>
Lupe Diaz	Republican	<i>no response</i>
David Gowan	Republican	<i>no response</i>

Arizona State Representative LD 20

Genoveva Diaz	Democrat	Responded · p. 12
Sally Ann Gonzales	Democrat	<i>no response</i>
Ben Koehler	Democrat	<i>no response</i>
Betty Villegas	Democrat	<i>no response</i>

Arizona State Representative LD 21

Consuelo Hernandez	Democrat	Responded · p. 13
Miranda Lopez	Democrat	Responded · p. 13
Stephanie Stahl Hamilton	Democrat	<i>no response</i>
Martiza Higuera	Democrat	<i>no response</i>

Arizona State Representative LD 23

Juan Manuel Guerrero	Democrat	Responded · p. 14
Emilia Cortez	Democrat	<i>no response</i>
Mariana Sandoval	Democrat	<i>no response</i>
Noami Miguel	Democrat	<i>no response</i>
Michele Pena	Republican	<i>no response</i>
Jimmy Holmes	Republican	<i>no response</i>
Gary Garcia Snyder	Republican	<i>no response</i>

CITY & TOWN OFFICES

Oro Valley Mayor

Mark D Napier	Responded · p. 16
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CITY & TOWN OFFICES

Melanie Barrett *no response*

Oro Valley Town Council

Jake Harrington **Responded** · p. 16

Rosa Dailey *no response*

Chris DeSimone *unreachable*

Rhonda Pina *no response*

Marana Mayor

Greg Johnsen *no response*

Jon Post *no response*

Marana Town Council

Jackie Craig **Responded** · p. 18

Herb Kai **Responded** · p. 19

Julie Prince **Responded** · p. 20

Susan Ritz **Responded** · p. 21

Jackie McGuire *no response*

Teri Murphy *no response*

John Officer *no response*

Sahuarita Town Council

JD Cubillo **Responded** · p. 21

Chelsea Hundal **Responded** · p. 23

Robin Earl *unreachable*

Deborah Morales *no response*

Tom Murphy *unreachable*

Statewide Offices

GOVERNOR

Teri Ann Hourihan

NO LABELS PARTY

CANDIDATE BIO

Teri Hourihan is an Arizona native, mother of two young boys, licensed counselor, earned her PhD in 2018, Christian, & owner of a small business. Teri entered the race as Governor as a way to serve her state and people in it by saving Arizona, protecting families, and fixing governmental agencies that continue to serve self and each other over the people (us).

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

1. Water conservation and preservation: this will help all Arizona to continue to grow and persevere in our growth. Right now, we are in a critical time where water is running low and Arizona needs a Governor that is serious about fast solutions. We need short term solutions and long-term solutions to override the short term because projects are not yet started in Arizona for a long-term goal. I will also ensure data centers are taxed and not using water without paying their way to be here and help with water and energy conservation. All of Arizona will be helped with feeling secure in growth and being in Arizona with their families for decades to come.

2. Affordability/cost of living - water and energy preservation will begin to help the crisis in our state being unaffordable. Creating housing that is affordable, matching New Mexico's universal free childcare, utilizing vacant buildings for shelters and helping low income families and communities, creating easier traveling options, lowering gas prices but controlling inflation by the owners, ensuring inflation does not rise with wage increase, creating rebates for farmers market vendors and buyers, increasing wages of public servants and teachers, and stop data centers and utility companies from increasing cost while at the same time pushing their expansions onto residents. I will also allow competitive utility companies into county and cities, so residents have at least 2 to choose from versus 1 required per city/county. This will help reduce cost. Healthcare will be a focus for Arizonan's to have health care that is affordable for their families including dental. Residents

of the entire state will be helped by better quality of life.

3. Schools/public agency accountability - All school choices will remain and work together, all taxpayer dollars will be accountable to the public for schooling regardless of where the student chooses to attend school or is home schooled. Schools will stop expanding as they settle with the current changes of decrease in enrollments. ESA will remain and be safe but ensuring that any money given in ESA follows the student into a public school if they halfway through the year change from ESA to public. The ESA program is more cost effective for Arizona over traditional and charter public schools. If ESA is removed taxpayers will pay millions of dollars more in tax money annually. Teachers will have salaries that match the national average at minimum and funding for schools will increase to at minimum match national average. State agencies will be audited for fraud and reform occur to ensure that every state agency under the Governor is clean from fraud and misuse of taxpayer dollars and help publicly accountable for how they are fixing the problems (beyond what is already public in the Auditor General report).

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

I want to create an anti-hate law in Arizona to once and for all finally have it state vs. city/county wide. I will ensure that we make sure policy and law. I would make sure hate crimes are investigated properly and law enforcement trained to respond, expand state security against hate crimes, create emergency preparedness, create policy in schools that protect children and educators, and other ways to ensure no hate.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

Ensuring public safety of all including these communities, strengthen hate crime prosecution and penalty, work in connection with the community and leaders to attend to what they need and seek to serve their community. I would ensure that there is an open communication so any new or existing events could be easily communicated to me and a solution could begin to form quickly.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

Ensure agencies under the governor have policies in place that protect the community and ensure hate is not disseminated without penalty, provide training in state agencies regarding culture and religious values of Judaism, and education staff in agencies and the public about the errors in this type of rhetoric providing resources. As above, create policies and enforce current policies across the state to ensure safety in all communities and to help stop this from happening, including when it happening through cyber connections and internet.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Hugh Lytle (No Labels Party) · unreachable
Andy Biggs (Republican) · no response
Ken Miceli (Republican) · no response
Scott Neely (Republican) · unreachable
David Schweikert (Republican) · no response

SECRETARY OF STATE

No candidates in this race responded.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Alexander Kolodin (Republican) · no response
Gina Swoboda (Republican) · unreachable

ATTORNEY GENERAL

No candidates in this race responded.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Rodney Glassman (Republican) · no response
Warren Peterson (Republican) · no response

STATE TREASURER

No candidates in this race responded.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Katherine Haley (Republican) · unreachable
Elijah Norton (Republican) · unreachable

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

No candidates in this race responded.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Tom Horne (Republican) · no response
Kimberly Yee (Republican) · no response
Michael Butts (Democrat) · no response
Brett Newby (Democrat) · unreachable
Teresa Leyba Ruiz (Democrat) · no response

CORPORATION COMMISSION

No candidates in this race responded.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Ralph Heap (Republican) · no response
David Marshall (Republican) · no response
Nick Myers (Republican) · no response
Kevin Thompson (Republican) · no response
Jonathon Hill (Democrat) · unreachable
Clara Pratte (Democrat) · unreachable

Arizona State Legislature

ARIZONA STATE SENATE LD 20

Alma Hernandez

DEMOCRAT

CANDIDATE BIO

I am the daughter of a Mexican immigrant mother and a union worker father, became the youngest woman ever elected to the Arizona State Legislature and the first Mexican American Jew elected in the U.S. Raised on the South Side and a proud Sunnyside School District graduate, I hold degrees from the U of A and ASU, including two masters and a law degree. I am a professor of Health Policy and the Ranking Democrat on Judiciary Committee. Despite a Republican majority, I have passed ten laws, secured millions, strengthened unions, advanced justice reform, protected reproductive freedom, and expanded health care access.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

Affordability, protecting our Public Education system and Healthcare. These are all the core issues impacting our communities.

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

I have been doing this work for years even before getting elected and I am very proud of being a very vocal and involved member of the Jewish Caucus and I have proudly led many of these efforts. I did my legal externship with the ADL and worked with JCRC before running for office here in the community. I will continue to lead on fighting back against antisemitism and extremism on both sides of the aisle. The bill that is currently moving which would provide buffer zones is my original bill and the hate crimes legislation I first ran 4 years ago and unfortunately that died this year again. This is exactly why in 2021 I ran my mandatory Holocaust education legislation that was signed into law.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

Me and my sister Rep. Consuelo Hernandez sent a letter two years ago urging the Governor to release the funds for security grants rather than wait until the following budget year because we know all too well what security means in our community. We could not continue to wait for this to be done on its own and personally as a board member of my synagogue (Chaverim) I know the financial impact the community is faced with as these are costs that we must cover. I believe it is absolutely our job to keep the community safe. We have been hit hard.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

I live this every single day. The community knows where I stand on this issues I have been an advocate since I was 14- years old I will not stop now and I will never cower to political pressure. It has been increasingly hard to see the direction my own party has gone in with regard to this issue however I remain committed to fighting and pushing back on the divisive rhetoric. I believe in Israel's right to exist, I believe that anti-Zionism is antisemitism period. I will not stand by that because we have seen this hate before it always starts with the Jews but it does not certainly end with us.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Rocque Perez (Democrat) · no response

ARIZONA STATE REPRESENTATIVE LD 16

Teresa Martinez

REPUBLICAN

CANDIDATE BIO

I am Teresa Martinez. I am born and raised in Casa Grande, Arizona. I am a mother of a 23-year-old. I have worked at Frito LA for 10 years. I was a high school substitute teacher for three years and I've worked in government for 20 years. I love my district. I'm advocating for roads, affordability and water.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

My top priority is maintaining our roads and road safety, making sure we do everything to bring down the cost of utilities and to have fairness in the courts. I believe the entire state benefits

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

I ran a bill to protect places of worship from being disrupted. Currently that bill is in the senate

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

I think we have to have strong laws that protect our places of worship and school, businesses and communities from being harassed intimidated or attacked. Stiffer penalties for those who attack religious buildings and communities.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

I think making the state laws protect the Jewish community equally and efficiently. We need to be diligent in protecting them in the state laws need to support that.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Chris Lopez (Republican) · no response

ARIZONA STATE REPRESENTATIVE LD 17

John Winchester

REPUBLICAN

CANDIDATE BIO

John Winchester is the Senior Director of Government & Community Engagement for Arizona State University serving Southern Arizona in Pima, Cochise, and Santa Cruz Counties. John is a native of Tucson where he lives with his wife Fernanda and four beautiful children and where they are engaged members of their community and volunteer regularly. John serves on the Board of Directors of The Chamber of Southern Arizona, serves on the Public Policy Councils for The Chamber of Southern Arizona, Greater Vail Area Chamber, and Southern Arizona Leadership Council (SALC), volunteers with Greater Tucson Leadership to plan Government Issue Day, and participates as a mentor for the Emerging Leaders Council and Tucson Young Professionals.

John has received several recognitions for his work in the community: He is a Flinn-Brown Fellow in the Arizona Civic Leadership Academy and Fellow of the Southern Arizona Workforce Leadership Academy offered by the Center for the Future of Arizona and the Aspen Institute. He is an alumni of both the Honorary Commander program at Davis Monthan Airforce Base and the Greater Tucson Leadership, was elected Chair of the Emerging Leaders Council of The Chamber of Southern Arizona, served as Chair of the Advocacy Committee for Tucson Young Professionals, was named one of Tucson's 40 under 40 by the Arizona Daily Star and the Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in 2016, recognized as a NextGen Leader in 2024 by BizTucson, received the "People's Choice Award" in the Arizona Diaper Bank's 2024 "Dancing with the Stars", and awarded the Signal Lantern Award by the Greater Vail Area Chamber as an emerging leader in the region. John holds a Master of Arts in Public Administration and a Graduate Certification in Nonprofit Leadership Management from the University of Arizona, and a Master of Arts in Classic Liberal Education and Leadership from Arizona State University.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

Affordability is the number one issue for families and residents. I will work to lower costs in housing and energy by cutting red tape and creating supply, and work to create a vibrant economy that creates more opportunities for individuals to earn higher wages. My other three primary issues contribute to affordability as well. Public Safety is of high concern for many families, but public safety is also ravaging business and driving up costs for local consumers. Property damage for businesses in our community have driven up insurance, security, and facility costs forcing business owners to increase prices. Housing first policies, lack of support for policing, and failure to prosecute crimes have been forces that drive Public Safety risks. Lastly is education. Our k-12 system only graduates 72% of its students, leaving an annually compounding problem of a large pool of unprepared workers. This has led to a large workforce non-participation rate of 40% among prime working age adults in Pima County. Folks without education will find it increasingly hard to find jobs that will provide for families, driving them to public services, which are growing at an alarming rate. Pima County has a high poverty rate and a high rate of people on assistance. We are failing our people.

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

I do not believe we can stop antisemitism. It seems to be a disease without a cure. But it should absolutely not be publicly tolerated, and public harassment, vandalism, and other forms of violence should be treated as domestic terrorism, and prosecuted as such. Public demonstrations of antisemitism should be driven back underground in shame.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

I believe that the number one purpose of government is security. Our local governments have not provided that security, which is why local Jewish organization have had to pay for it. That security should be provided by local jurisdictions, and Jewish communities should not have to pay for it. I believe the state should threaten to withhold state shared revenues if local jurisdictions cannot demonstrate protection for their local populations, particularly those who face regular threats and violence.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

Anti-Zionism masquerades as antisemitism. I believe the best way to address the issue is to not just condemn it publicly when it appears, but to expand on programmatic ways in which the state, and local communities within the state, can normalize relations with Israel. Arizona has a trade office. What can we do to normalize business and trade, research and education, or most importantly water security.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Rachel Keshel (Republican) · no response

Anna Orth (Republican) · unreachable

Holly Lyons (Democrat) · unreachable

Kevin Volk (Democrat) · no response

ARIZONA STATE REPRESENTATIVE LD 18

Nancy Gutierrez

DEMOCRAT

CANDIDATE BIO

Representative Nancy Gutierrez was elected to the Arizona State House in 2022, and serves as the Arizona House Minority Assistant Leader. She is the Ranking Member on the Education Committee and serves on Appropriations. Nancy is a public school teacher. Nancy is a Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellow, she is a member of the Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers and is an appointed Commissioner for the Education Commission of the States. Nancy advocates for our public education system and our Developmentally Disabled Communities. She fights for our precious Arizona water, public lands, reproductive freedom, LGBTQ+ rights and gun sense legislation.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

I advocate for our public schools. Our communities rely on strong public schools that serve all students. They have been underfunded for decades. I also work to pass gun safety legislation. This is crucial in this state and must be done to make our communities safer. I'm also working hard to make sure that we have body autonomy which includes women's healthcare from puberty through menopause. More than half of our population is women and we are overlooked in the medical fields. This must change.

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

I have been a strong voice in speaking out against antisemitism and will always do so. I use the spotlight I have to bring awareness to this issue. It is NEVER acceptable to be antisemitic in any way. I attend community events at my local JCC to learn more about how to help. I meet with groups who have or want to create legislation that would help with this issue. I will continue to be an active ally to my Jewish community.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

Last summer I worked hard to secure funding for security for the Maccabi games in Tucson. I reached out to the Governor and the Mayor's office. I also volunteered at several events. I will continue to do everything I can to make sure that our Jewish institutions are safe.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

I have been dealing with this since I got into office. I make it a point to support my Jewish community, friends and neighbors publicly in my speeches, on my social media and in my life. I travelled with our Legislative delegation to Israel in March 2024. I learned so much on the trip and am forever grateful for that experience. I have lost supporters because of that, but it was the right thing to do. I will continue to lead in this way.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Chris Mathis (Democrat) · no response

ARIZONA STATE REPRESENTATIVE LD 19

Jackie Anderson

DEMOCRAT

CANDIDATE BIO

I am running because I was concerned about the chaos occurring in the state House of Representatives for the last four years. I am a retired registered nurse. I have worked in the emergency room for 19 years in Arizona. My biggest concern was the loss of Medicaid or as known as AHCCCS. I realize that this is a federal issue, but it's going to affect the community of LD 19. My other biggest concern was water security. LD1 covers 5 parts counties. And each county has unique concerns about water, security and accessibility.

The third point I was concerned about, of course, was at public education, and the current voucher system is draining our public education funds. I do support The New initiative project education act.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

Again my top priorities, of course would be water, public education, funding, and healthcare. I realize that I don't know all of the nuances of the bill process in the state legislature. I am sure the Democratic caucus has many bills in draft form, but have not been able to submit them due to the current majority refusing to accept their bills. I think the biggest priority is to be elected and hopefully become the majority.

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

As elective officials, we should make it very clear to the citizens of our communities that we have that we follow the law and the legal process. And when antisemitism and hate crimes occur.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

I don't want to be negative about this question my understanding is the church and state is separate and if we help one religious group, would we not have to help other religious groups?.

I think the a public statement that in and hate crimes is unacceptable.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

With all due I think people who have dual citizenship's should respect their countries, my great great grandparents arrived in the United States before the Civil War and came to the United States because they were starving to death or didn't want to continually fight war in Europe. Add Jews to have the right to be proud of their ancestral homeland. I realize you may not appreciate my answer cause I don't have an ancestral homeland. I'm too many generations American so I have. I have lost that connection again. I'm not sure what authority I can seek for, but it continuously talk about hatred among people's of the world. .

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Aiden Swallow (Democrat) · no response

Cheryl Caswell (Republican) · no response

Lupe Diaz (Republican) · no response

David Gowan (Republican) · no response

ARIZONA STATE REPRESENTATIVE LD 20

Genoveva Diaz

DEMOCRAT

CANDIDATE BIO

Genoveva Diaz is a teacher, single mother of three, cancer survivor, and community leader dedicated to education, culture, and service. For more than 15 years, she has worked to support students, families, and underserved communities through education and the arts. Born in Oakland, California, and raised in Mexico, Genoveva proudly promotes Mexican culture, traditions, and the importance of preserving the roots and values of the communities she represents. Through folklórico dance, mentorship, and community outreach, she has inspired young people to embrace their identity, believe in themselves, and create opportunities for a brighter future.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

My top three priorities are education, healthcare, and affordable housing. As a teacher and single mother, I understand the challenges many Arizona families face every day. I believe every child deserves access to quality education, safe schools, and the support needed to succeed academically and personally. I also believe healthcare should be accessible and affordable, especially for working families, seniors, and people facing serious illnesses. As a cancer survivor, this issue is deeply personal to me. Finally, I want to fight for affordable housing because too many families in Tucson and across Arizona are struggling with rising rent and housing costs. These priorities would help create stronger communities, improve quality of life, and give families greater stability and opportunity for the future.

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

The rise in antisemitism is a very sad reality, and it reflects a deeper division and anger that we are seeing across our society today. Unfortunately, this violence and discrimination are not limited to antisemitism alone. We are also seeing hostility toward Hispanic communities and growing tensions caused by conflicts happening around the world.

If elected, I would support stronger education, community dialogue, and public awareness efforts to combat hate, misinformation, and extremism in all forms. I believe education is one of the most powerful tools we have because many people are being misinformed by harmful rhetoric and divisive narratives.

I would also support collaboration between schools, community organizations, faith groups, and law enforcement to prevent hate crimes, protect vulnerable communities, and promote respect, understanding, and peaceful coexistence among all people in Arizona.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

The safety of every community should be a priority, including Jewish institutions, houses of worship, schools, and community centers. No family should feel afraid to practice their faith, attend school, or participate in community life because of hate or threats of violence.

I believe the role of public officials is to support policies that strengthen public safety, improve coordination with law enforcement, and ensure that communities have access to security resources and emergency preparedness training when needed. At the same time, it is important to maintain civic trust, openness, and respect for civil

rights.

As a teacher and community leader, I also believe education and dialogue are essential to reducing hate and extremism. We must promote understanding between communities and reject antisemitism, racism, and discrimination in all forms while building a safer and more united Arizona.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

This is a difficult issue because unfortunately tensions and anger toward Jewish communities have increased with everything happening in Gaza and now Iran. My perspective is that in my district we have people from many different backgrounds, cultures, and beliefs, and every person deserves respect regardless of their religion, opinions, or identity.

Now more than ever, educating people about respecting others is essential. We must be able to disagree on political issues without promoting hate toward entire communities. Respect for the rights and dignity of others must remain a priority.

If elected, I would focus on promoting education, dialogue, mutual respect, and peaceful coexistence among all communities. I believe leaders have a responsibility to reduce division, reject discrimination in all forms, and encourage informed conversations instead of fear, misinformation, and hostility.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Sally Ann Gonzales (Democrat) · no response

Ben Koehler (Democrat) · no response

Betty Villegas (Democrat) · no response

ARIZONA STATE REPRESENTATIVE LD 21

Consuelo Hernandez

DEMOCRAT

CANDIDATE BIO

Representative Consuelo Hernandez was born and raised in Tucson. She earned her degree in Global Health from Arizona State University and went on to become the president of Sunnyside Union School District School Board and dedicate her career to mentoring at-risk youth and fighting to improve her community. She earned her MLS from the University of Arizona and is pursuing her JD at ASU. She was named among the most effective democratic legislators. Rep. Hernandez, has been a part of efforts to support legislation protecting Jewish students on campus, securing state funding for the Holocaust education center and, worked to help fight against antisemitism since she has been in office.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

Housing, access to healthcare, and public safety.

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

I have been at the forefront of these efforts at the state capitol not only supporting but pushing for our institutional partners to take hate crime legislation as a priority.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

As a legislator I have supported the Jewish community to ensure we had funding at the state level to help subsidize some of the costs for places of worship through grants and this was supported by Governor Hobbs.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

I have been working since I was 15 to help lobby members of congress and, have made a concerted effort to build relationships at every level of government to support efforts to combat Jewish hatred.

Miranda Lopez

DEMOCRAT

CANDIDATE BIO

I'm a two time University of Arizona graduate and a community organizer who has worked in local and state politics in Arizona for the last eight years, including as the former Executive Director for the Pima County Democratic Party and the Southern Regional Director for the Arizona Students' Association. In 2025 I was elected as Treasurer for United Campus Workers Arizona while I was finishing my Masters degree in Public Administration at the UA.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

Voters in District 21 are facing unprecedented hardships especially in regards to public education, housing affordability, and environmental exploitation. Our state budget and public education fund have been decimated by the universal voucher system. Young working people are putting more than 50% of their income towards rent or a mortgage if they are lucky enough to have one. Data centers, mining projects and corporate farms continue to strain our already limited water supply with no concern for the subsequent effects on local communities. We need progressive solutions to solve these problems, like returning to a progressive state tax system, reinvesting in public education, incentivizing the development of middle housing and restricting corporate use of water, land and utilities.

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

I would support a public awareness campaign to reduce antisemitism and a program to train law enforcement to work directly with Jewish community leaders. I would also support increased funding to better track antisemitism at the state level. I would not support any legislation that targets free speech or creates a separate charge category for hate crimes.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

Apart from the policies outlined in the response to question 11, I don't think the role of state representative has a greater role to play in safety for Jewish institutions than any other religious institution.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

I do not equivocate anti-Zionism with antisemitism, and I would make that clear in any communications relating to Israel. I both disagree with Israel's government policy of genocide against the native Palestine population as well as practices of colonialism through Jewish settlements. I do not agree with any claims to "Jewish ancestral" land that was inhabited by generations of Palestinians until the 20th century.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (Democrat) · no response
Martiza Higuera (Democrat) · no response

ARIZONA STATE REPRESENTATIVE LD 23

Juan Manuel Guerrero

DEMOCRAT

CANDIDATE BIO

Juan Manuel Guerrero is a veteran, community leader, and lifelong public servant dedicated to fighting for Arizona families. Raised in an immigrant family as the eldest of seven children, Juan learned responsibility early after leaving school at 13 to help support his family when his father became ill with pancreatic cancer. He later earned his GED and graduated from Arizona Western College and University of Arizona. A former United States Navy combat corpsman, Juan also served in law enforcement and community health leadership. Today, he is running to represent Arizona Legislative District 23 with integrity, service, and compassion.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

My top three priorities are economic opportunity, public education, and community safety.

First, I will focus on expanding good-paying jobs and workforce training so families in Southern Arizona can build stable careers without leaving the region. That includes supporting small businesses, infrastructure investment, and partnerships with community colleges and industry.

Second, I will prioritize strengthening public education by supporting K-12 funding, improving teacher recruitment and retention, and expanding career and technical education so students are prepared for both college and skilled trades.

Third, I will work to improve public safety through practical, community-based approaches that strengthen law enforcement capacity, improve emergency response, and address hate crimes and violence through prevention, reporting, and accountability.

Together, these priorities will help Tucson, Pima County, and Arizona build a stronger economy, better schools, and safer communities where families can thrive.

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

I would take a prevention-and-accountability approach focused on coordination, education, and enforcement. I would strengthen collaboration between local law enforcement, schools, and community organizations to ensure antisemitic threats and hate crimes are properly identified, reported, and investigated. I would support training for law enforcement and public employees on recognizing and responding to antisemitism and other hate-based conduct, including clear reporting protocols.

In schools, I would support curriculum and professional development that addresses antisemitism, Holocaust education, and broader civic understanding to reduce ignorance that can lead to discrimination. I would also support policies that ensure schools and public institutions respond quickly and consistently to harassment and vandalism incidents.

Finally, I would work to ensure victims and communities have clear access to reporting systems and support services, and I would promote public messaging that condemns hate in all forms while protecting free speech and civil rights.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

The office should play a practical, nonpartisan role in helping Jewish institutions and all houses of worship remain safe while preserving openness and public trust.

First, I would support sustained funding for nonprofit security grants so schools, synagogues, and community centers can harden facilities, train staff, and improve emergency preparedness without shifting the full cost onto local communities.

Second, I would strengthen coordination between local law enforcement, school districts, and organizations like the Center for Jewish Resilience within Jewish Philanthropies of Southern Arizona and partners such as the ADL to ensure rapid reporting, threat assessment, and consistent response to hate incidents.

Third, I would support training for public safety officials on recognizing and investigating hate crimes while reinforcing constitutional protections, so security measures do not create unnecessary barriers or discourage community access.

The goal is a balanced approach: strong prevention and response to threats, while keeping civic spaces open, welcoming, and trusted.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

Within the authority of the office I am seeking, I would address contemporary antisemitism by focusing on clear standards, education, and consistent enforcement of civil rights protections.

First, I would support adopting and using widely recognized definitions of antisemitism, such as the IHRA working definition, as a training and reference tool for law enforcement, schools, and public institutions so there is consistency in identifying when rhetoric crosses into harassment, discrimination, or threats.

Second, I would strengthen education and prevention efforts in schools and public programs to help distinguish legitimate policy debate from hate-based generalizations about Jewish people, including instruction on antisemitism, Holocaust education, and media literacy.

Third, I would ensure that civil rights and hate crime reporting systems are accessible and responsive, so incidents tied to antisemitic harassment, vandalism, or intimidation are investigated and addressed promptly.

At the same time, I would protect free speech and the right to political disagreement, while drawing a clear line where speech becomes targeted discrimination, threats, or collective blame against Jewish residents.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Emilia Cortez (Democrat) · no response
Mariana Sandoval (Democrat) · no response
Noami Miguel (Democrat) · no response
Michele Pena (Republican) · no response
Jimmy Holmes (Republican) · no response
Gary Garcia Snyder (Republican) · no response

City & Town Offices

ORO VALLEY MAYOR

Mark D Napier

CANDIDATE

CANDIDATE BIO

I have been in public service since 1981. I served more than three decades as a law enforcement officer. This included being a commander with Tucson Police, Assistant Director Glendale Police Department and Sheriff of Pima County Arizona. I have managed multi-million dollar budgets and led organizations of hundreds of employees. I also served as an Assistant County Administrator. I have a B.S. In Social Psychology and a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice. I am a graduate of the FBI National Executive Institute.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

Public Safety

Fiscal Responsibility

Sensible Growth

All three of these are critical to a thriving community

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

Zero tolerance to hate in all its forms. As mayor I will set the tone and serve as an example in this regard. When hate crimes occur I will ensure they are fully investigated and dealt with promptly. Hate-related crimes are incredibly damaging to our community and serve to create collateral fear among our residents.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

We should work with the Jewish community address concerns, ensure open lines of communication and work collaboratively to address physical security around places of worship.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

By being a strong advocate for the Jewish community and a vocal voice of intolerance of the antisemitism that is clearly increasing on our county. The mayor can, and should, speak out on these issues.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Melanie Barrett · no response

ORO VALLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Jake Harrington

CANDIDATE

CANDIDATE BIO

Jake Herrington is originally from Baltimore, Maryland and has lived in Arizona for over thirty-five years.

He is married with two adult children - his son, a military veteran, and his daughter, a registered nurse.

I am a grandfather to a beautiful granddaughter.

Jake's father is an Army Veteran and his mother worked for TUSD's Native American Studies Department.

He has been a Christian most of his life and serves at the Oro Valley campus of Zion City (formerly Victory Worship Center), where he has attended with his family since 2008.

Jake believes effective leadership begins with listening, clarity, and service before self - choosing statesmanship over politics... every time.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

Budget & Financial Transparency

Every dollar matters. Jake believes residents deserve clear, accessible information about how their tax dollars are spent and supports responsible budgeting with long-term accountability.

Safety & Security

Strong fire and police services are the foundation of a safe community. Jake supports ensuring first responders have the resources, staffing, and support they need to protect Oro Valley families.

Smart, Healthy Growth

Planning for the future matters. Jake's experience on Oro Valley's Planning & Zoning Commission gives him firsthand insight into how thoughtful land use and development policy can protect quality of life while accommodating growth.

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

Antisemitism and hate crimes have no place in Oro Valley or anywhere in America. According to the ADL's 2024 Audit, antisemitic incidents reached the highest levels ever recorded in the United States, and we must take that warning seriously.

This issue is also personal to me. I have Jewish family members in my family tree, and I understand how hateful rhetoric, threats, vandalism, and discrimination create

fear and division within families and communities. Every resident should feel safe attending religious services, owning a business, going to school, or expressing their faith without intimidation.

If elected, I would support a zero-tolerance approach toward antisemitic acts, hate crimes, vandalism, harassment, and discrimination in Oro Valley. Within the authority of local office, I would focus on several key actions:

- Strengthening partnerships between the Town, law enforcement, schools, faith leaders, and organizations such as the Anti-Defamation League to improve reporting, awareness, and rapid response to hate incidents.
- Supporting additional education and community outreach programs that promote understanding, civility, and respect for all cultures and religions, while addressing extremism and hate before it escalates.
- Encouraging clear reporting systems for hate crimes and bias incidents so victims and witnesses know where to turn for help and support.
- Backing public safety efforts that protect houses of worship, schools, and community gathering spaces from threats and vandalism.
- Publicly condemning antisemitism and all forms of hate whenever they occur. Silence from leadership only enables division.
- Continuing to promote a community culture centered on safety, respect, accountability, and unity for all residents regardless of religion, ethnicity, or background.

Oro Valley should be known as a safe, welcoming, and respectful community where people from every background can live, work, worship, and raise their families without fear. That is the standard I will continue to support and defend.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

Thank you for this important question.

The safety and security of Jewish institutions, houses of worship, schools, and community centers must remain a priority for local leadership. No family, congregation, student, or community member should feel unsafe while participating in religious, educational, or cultural activities.

Jewish communities across the country have been forced to invest heavily in security measures due to the rise in antisemitism, threats, vandalism, and targeted violence.

While faith-based institutions should remain welcoming and accessible to the public, they should not have to carry these burdens alone.

If elected, I believe the role of local government should include strong collaboration with law enforcement, community leaders, schools, faith organizations, and security professionals to help maintain safe environments while preserving civic trust and openness.

Within the authority of the office I am seeking, I would support:

- Strong partnerships between local law enforcement and Jewish organizations to improve communication, threat awareness, emergency response coordination, and community trust.
- Assistance in identifying and pursuing available state, federal, and nonprofit security grant opportunities that can help institutions strengthen facility safety, surveillance systems, emergency preparedness, and training programs.
- Increased community engagement and public education efforts that combat antisemitism, hate crimes, and extremism while promoting respect and understanding across all backgrounds and faiths.
- Support for emergency preparedness training, active threat response planning, and coordinated safety exercises for houses of worship, schools, and community facilities.
- Public leadership that clearly condemns antisemitism, hate crimes, intimidation, and discrimination in all forms.

Public safety and civil liberties must work together. Our community should remain welcoming, open, and united while also ensuring that Jewish residents and institutions have the protection, support, and resources they need to feel safe.

Thank you again for raising this important issue.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

No resident should be blamed, threatened, harassed, or discriminated against because of their faith, heritage, cultural identity, or connection to Israel. Jewish residents deserve the same safety, dignity, and protection afforded to every member of our community.

Within the authority of the office I am seeking, I would address contemporary antisemitism through several practical and community-focused approaches:

- Publicly condemning antisemitic rhetoric, harassment, threats, vandalism, and intimidation whenever they occur, regardless of political context.
- Supporting partnerships between local government, law enforcement, schools, faith leaders, and community organizations to improve awareness, reporting, education, and prevention efforts related to antisemitism and hate crimes.
- Encouraging respectful civic dialogue that protects free speech while rejecting hate, discrimination, and efforts to target or isolate individuals based on religion or ethnicity.
- Supporting safety and preparedness initiatives for Jewish institutions, houses of worship, schools, and community organizations facing increased security concerns.
- Promoting educational and community outreach efforts that foster understanding, historical awareness, and mutual respect among diverse backgrounds and beliefs.

I believe communities are strongest when people of all faiths and backgrounds feel safe, respected, and included. Oro Valley should continue to be a place where residents can express their identity and beliefs freely without fear of intimidation, discrimination, or hate.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Rosa Dailey · no response
Chris DeSimone · unreachable
Rhonda Pina · no response

MARANA MAYOR

No candidates in this race responded.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Greg Johnsen · no response
Jon Post · no response

MARANA TOWN COUNCIL

Jackie Craig

CANDIDATE

CANDIDATE BIO

Jackie was born in Tucson. She graduated from the University of Idaho with a degree in English Literature and later earned a Masters in National Security Strategy from the National War College in Washington, DC. Jackie served as a Foreign Service Officer in the Department of State for 25 years, with assignments in Asia, Africa, South America and Washington, DC.

Since her retirement in 2013, Jackie and her husband have lived in The Highlands of Dove Mountain. Jackie has served in many voluntary positions in her community as well as a Town of Marana Councilmember from 2020-2024.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

1. Work to build up the infrastructure to support Marana's growth
2. Smart Growth which means a dense urban core, interconnectivity and jobs, shops, restaurants and housing all in the same area.
3. Protect wildlife corridors and undisturbed open space.

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

No one should be attacked or persecuted in any other less physical way due to their religious beliefs or cultural heritage. I believe Marana has always enforced that and I would certainly advocate for continued enforcement.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

Marana has a strong and effective police force and would and should take seriously any threat. As we know, there has been vandalism and worse in areas of Tucson nearby and it wouldn't be tolerated and definitely would be investigated if it happened or was threatened in Marana.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

As this is a municipal office, there really isn't much scope for these national and partisan conversations. I cannot remember anything remotely connected to antisemitism rhetoric coming before the Council. I think the only thing in the scope of the office I seek was to tell any constituent who I deemed was spouting anti-Jewish hate that that type of speech was not acceptable.

Herb Kai

CANDIDATE

CANDIDATE BIO

Herbert "Herb" Kai was born and raised in Marana, where he is a self-employed pecan rancher and cotton farmer. He attended Marana's public schools before earning a Bachelor's degree in Agronomy with Business Management from the University of Arizona. Beyond farming, Herb manages family operations, including shopping centers, trailer parks, and motels. He has proudly served the Marana Town Council as Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilman. He is married to Diana Kai and has a son and a daughter.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

Water Management: Herb has spent over 50 years protecting Marana's water supply. He has secured 100-year water allocations and converted 2,000 acres of his own farmland to help preserve groundwater for residents today and for generations to come.

Public Safety: Herb is committed to keeping families safe by supporting a fair, respected, and professional police force and fire district — one that serves every resident with integrity and without bias.

Keeping Marana's Small-Town Feel: Herb believes that what makes Marana special is its people and its roots. He is dedicated to preserving that community spirit through education about Marana's history and bringing neighbors together through town gatherings that strengthen the bonds that make this place home.

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

I was born and raised here in Marana, where my family put down roots 150 years ago. As someone of Chinese descent, I know firsthand what it feels like when your appearance, your customs, and your beliefs make you a target. Harassment doesn't need a reason; it just needs a difference.

In the 1950s, Marana schools were ethnically segregated. Hispanic and African American children could only be taught by teachers of the same ethnicity. My mother wouldn't stand for it. She marched down to that school and said her three children deserved to learn from all races, and she moved all of us kids into the ethnic classrooms. Within a year, the segregation ended. That's the power of one person standing up for what's right, and it shaped who I am.

Hatred toward Jewish people, or any community, is something I take personally. As Councilmember, I will continue to support our Marana Police Department to ensure hate crimes are tracked, reported, and taken seriously. I will support officer training that builds cultural awareness and community trust. And I will continue to use my platform to make clear that Marana is a welcoming town for every family, no exceptions.

We don't have to agree on everything to stand together against hate. That's a Marana value, and I'll defend it every day I serve.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

The fact that Jewish communities across this country had to spend \$800 million last year just to feel safe in their own synagogues, schools, and community centers is unacceptable, plain and simple. No family should have to walk past armed guards to attend worship or drop their kids off at school. That's not the America any of us want.

As someone who has experienced prejudice firsthand, I understand that feeling of unease, wondering if today is the day someone decides your difference is a threat. It's exhausting, and it's wrong.

As Councilmember, I believe our town has a responsibility to be a true partner to every house of worship and community institution in Marana. That means working with our Marana Police Department to build genuine, ongoing relationships with Jewish institutions and all faith communities, not just showing up after something goes wrong, but being present, being known, and being trusted.

It means ensuring our officers are trained to recognize and respond to hate-motivated incidents quickly and sensitively. And it means using my voice on the council to ensure that no community ever feels it is facing these threats alone.

Every family in Marana deserves to feel safe. Every door should be open without fear. That is a promise I take seriously, and one I will work toward every single day.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

Antisemitism in any form is wrong, and that includes when it hides behind political language; blaming Jewish neighbors collectively for the actions of a foreign government, or denying Jewish people the same right to a homeland that every other people deserve. That's not political commentary, that's prejudice, and it needs to be called what it is.

As someone who has faced prejudice because of my own heritage, I know hatred doesn't always announce itself; the target changes, but the ugliness doesn't.

My job as Councilmember isn't to weigh in on foreign policy, but it absolutely is my job to make sure every resident of Marana, including our Jewish neighbors, feels seen, respected, and protected right here at home. No one in Marana should be made to feel that their identity or heritage makes them a target.

Julie Prince

CANDIDATE

CANDIDATE BIO

Julie Prince has called Marana home since 2003 and is running for Town Council to help ensure Marana remains a great place to live, work, and visit for families of all backgrounds. She believes Marana can grow responsibly by balancing housing and business development with the preservation of the natural environment, expanding amenities like The Loop, maintaining public safety, and keeping town services strong. She supports growth decisions that are transparent, thoughtful, and shaped by the people who live here.

With decades of experience covering local government and public safety as a journalist, along with years of civic involvement in transportation and community safety issues, Julie understands how decisions are made and how they affect residents. On the Council, she will listen, ask questions, and work to ensure Marana remains a community where families want to live, visit, and stay.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

Responsible Growth

We support smart, sustainable growth that benefits the people of Marana over corporations that are only focused on short-term profit.

Infrastructure and employment need to grow together for a stronger Marana.

Infrastructure and housing developments need to be balanced. Put a moratorium on building rental housing subdivisions that are exempt from the 100-year assured water supply.

Encourage more local housing developers and ensure Marana residents that any new house built in Marana is thoroughly inspected and meets strict codes.

Local Jobs

We support the development of small businesses in Marana.

Marana ordinances should favor small business development and keep money in Marana to help power our economy.

Safeguard Resources

We support investing in science and research to improve our energy infrastructure and safeguard our water resources for Marana's future!

Water is the most critical resource in Marana. The New Council will look for ways to reduce large users to safeguard homeowners.

Put a moratorium on building datacenters and other high-intensity energy users until the problems are substantially worked out and the infrastructure is in place. If these businesses are good now, they will be good 5-years from now.

Connect our Community

We support efforts to connect our community.

Look for opportunities to provide bus services similar to Oro Valley that will pick residents up at their door and get residents to different parts of Marana.

Look for opportunities to integrate Marana Unified Schools with the Town government, etc.

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

Review any current town code relating to hate groups, antisemitism and strengthen/create if necessary. Write and present Council/Mayor resolution against antisemitism in Marana government and staff. Hold town hall to discuss any antisemitic/other hate crimes in a neighborhood/area of town.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

Be sure Marana police are in touch with the local Jewish community to be aware of any specific events, concerns, or problems that the community members have and to have the police (and vice versa) notify the council members and mayor.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

the same as the answers given to 12 & 13 above

Susan Ritz

CANDIDATE

CANDIDATE BIO

I am a Veteran, 24 years of service in the ARNG, and an Arizona registered professional engineer (PE) in Mining and Mineral processing. I have been married for 31 years and have lived in Marana since 2006. I came to Arizona to work as a Mining Industry consultant. I am running for council to serve again, this time as a duly elected representative, who has solid engineering skills to help lead Marana into the future.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

Data centers. If the data center referendum is not on the November ballot, electing me will help put teeth into the current Ordinance to prevent harm to our community.

That is priority number one.

Smarter Growth. Marana is growing a sea of houses without the supporting infrastructure. This needs to change. I will look for opportunities to include local, small and medium businesses into the plan so that people who live in Marana can also work in Marana. This work will be ongoing as I serve my term in office.

Transparent and Ethical Government. The current council often blames people for not keeping up with the happenings in their government. This is backwards.

Government should be the one to actively and consistently communicate and receive feedback.

Additionally, the current Code of Ethics ordinance has no mechanism for the public to complain about problems and is enforced by the Council. I will change that as a first priority.

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

Hate crimes will not be tolerated in Marana. There is currently no accessible data specific to Marana. Research is needed to determine what types of hate crimes are being committed so that solutions can be implemented. Aside from that, having a transparent and ethical government will help assure residents that all hate crime, including antisemitism, is addressed in a timely fashion.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

This is part of having a transparent and ethical government. When residents trust their elected officials and institutions, residents will be more willing to report problems. I will encourage our Marana PD to report any hate crimes, especially antisemitism, and discuss with our PD and the Jewish Community what actions they want to see taken to keep them safe.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

I will reach out to the Jewish community to find out what they see happening in Marana. If there are problems I will seek to address those at the lowest level possible, closest to the people affected. This may take the form of additional training for our PD and emergency services, specific outreach programs, or even a citizens committee.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Jackie McGuire · no response

Teri Murphy · no response

John Officer · no response

SAHUARITA TOWN COUNCIL

JD Cubillo

CANDIDATE

CANDIDATE BIO

Juan D. Cubillo is an active-duty military service member, an author, and a former U.S. Diplomat with a background in public service and international affairs. He holds a bachelor's degree in Public Relations and a master's degree in International Relations. Cubillo is committed to advocating for responsible growth and long-term safety in Sahuarita. He is a father of 3 and a proud husband to Mary, who is originally from Costa Rica.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

My top 3 priorities are ensuring long-term safety, ensuring responsible growth, and advocating for stronger education. These objectives will preserve Sahuarita's desirability as a place to live and will give our children a home they won't be rushing to move out of.

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

The rise in antisemitic incidents across the country is concerning, and while a town council member cannot control national trends, local leaders do have a responsibility to help ensure that hate has no place in our community.

If elected to the Sahuarita Town Council, I would focus on three areas: prevention, response, and community engagement.

First, prevention starts with strong relationships. I would support regular communication between the Sahuarita Police Department and local faith communities so concerns can be identified before they escalate. I have experience in education so I would collaborate with the school board on prevention initiatives. I would also advocate for making sure community organizations are aware of available state and federal security grant opportunities that can help protect houses of worship and community facilities.

Second, when incidents occur, the Town must respond quickly and clearly. Hate-motivated crimes, vandalism, threats, and harassment should be thoroughly investigated and reported. I believe town leaders should publicly condemn acts of antisemitism and other forms of hate without hesitation. Residents deserve to know that their local government stands with victims and takes these incidents seriously.

Third, I would work to strengthen community engagement. Sahuarita is at its best when residents from different backgrounds know one another and participate together in civic life. Supporting community events, encouraging dialogue among faith groups, and promoting mutual understanding can help reduce the fear, misinformation, and isolation that often fuel prejudice.

Ultimately, my commitment is simple: every resident of Sahuarita should be able to worship, gather, attend school, run a business, and participate in public life without fear of intimidation, discrimination, or violence. While the Town Council's authority is limited, it can still play an important role by supporting public safety,

fostering community partnerships, and speaking clearly against antisemitism whenever it appears.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

The role of the office I am seeking is not to manage security operations directly, but to ensure that local government is a reliable partner. That means maintaining strong coordination between law enforcement and community leaders, supporting access to available security grants, sharing threat information promptly, and ensuring that first responders are trained and prepared to respond to incidents involving hate crimes or targeted violence.

At the same time, we must preserve the openness and civic trust that make our communities strong. Security measures should be effective without creating unnecessary barriers between institutions and the public they serve. The goal is to protect people while safeguarding the freedoms of worship, association, and community engagement that define our country.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

As a member of the Sahuarita Town Council, my role would be local, but it would still be important. I would work closely with the Sahuarita Police Department, local schools, and community organizations to ensure that any threats targeting Jewish residents, houses of worship, or community institutions are taken seriously and addressed promptly. I would also support efforts to educate the public about hate crimes and ensure that town leaders maintain open lines of communication with faith communities.

Sahuarita is a growing and diverse community. Whether someone attends a synagogue, a church, a mosque, or no religious institution at all, they should feel safe participating in civic life. If incidents of antisemitism occur, I believe town leaders should speak clearly and unequivocally against them rather than remaining silent. Silence can be interpreted as indifference, and public officials have a responsibility to set a standard for respectful civic engagement.

Chelsea Hundal

CANDIDATE

CANDIDATE BIO

Chelsea Hundal is a dedicated Sahuarita resident, wife, mother, community volunteer, and candidate for Town Council. Having made Sahuarita her home, she is committed to preserving the qualities that make the town a great place to live while preparing responsibly for future growth. Chelsea is passionate about supporting families, improving community amenities, encouraging civic engagement, and ensuring residents have a voice in local government. She believes in transparent leadership, thoughtful planning, and practical solutions that put people first. Through volunteer work and community involvement, Chelsea has developed a deep appreciation for the residents and neighborhoods that make Sahuarita unique.

Q1 · TOP THREE PRIORITIES

My top three priorities are responsible growth, quality of life, and transparent government. I believe communities should plan carefully for future growth by considering infrastructure, public services, and long-term sustainability. Thoughtful planning helps ensure that growth benefits both current and future residents.

I believe that maintaining a high quality of life is essential. Strong communities are built through safe neighborhoods, access to recreation and community amenities, and opportunities for residents to connect and engage with one another.

Third, I value transparency and public involvement in government. Residents deserve clear communication, access to information, and meaningful opportunities to participate in decisions that affect their community.

By focusing on these priorities, local governments can help create communities that are well-prepared for the future, responsive to residents' needs, and committed to preserving the qualities that make them desirable places to live, work, and raise a family.

Q2 · ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES

Hate crimes, harassment, vandalism, and discrimination directed at any group have no place in our communities. Within the authority of local government, I would coordinate with law enforcement to ensure hate crimes are properly reported, investigated, and prosecuted under applicable laws. I would also support efforts to improve communication between local government, community organizations, faith communities, and residents so that concerns can be identified and addressed early.

Education and community engagement are also important tools for reducing prejudice and fostering mutual understanding among residents. Local leaders should promote a culture of respect, inclusion, and civil discourse while ensuring that all residents feel safe participating in community life.

If elected, I would work to ensure that incidents of antisemitism and other forms of hate are taken seriously, responded to appropriately, and addressed in a manner consistent with the responsibilities and authority of the office.

Q3 · SECURITY FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

Local government plays an important role in supporting public safety and helping ensure that all residents and community institutions can operate in a secure environment. This includes maintaining strong partnerships between local government, law enforcement, schools, houses of worship, and community organizations to address safety concerns and share information.

Local officials can and should support efforts to improve emergency preparedness, promote awareness of available security resources and grants, and encourage open communication between institutions and public safety agencies. It is also important to balance security measures with maintaining public access, civic engagement, and community trust.

The goal should be to foster an environment where people can gather, worship, learn, and participate in community life safely while ensuring that public resources and policies are applied fairly, transparently, and consistently.

Q4 · ISRAEL-RELATED ANTISEMITISM

I believe my responsibility would be to ensure that all residents are treated fairly and protected from harassment, discrimination, and threats based on their identity, religion, ethnicity, or ancestry. Public officials should distinguish between lawful political expression and conduct that targets individuals or groups because of who they are.

When concerns about anti-Jewish hate arise, local government should support education, community dialogue, and coordination with law enforcement and community organizations to ensure incidents are appropriately addressed. We should also promote an environment where residents can participate in civic life without fear of intimidation or discrimination.

My focus would be on upholding the rule of law, protecting civil rights, and ensuring that all members of the community are able to live, work, worship, and engage in public life safely and with equal protection under the law.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

Robin Earl · unreachable

Deborah Morales · no response

Tom Murphy · unreachable

About the Center for Jewish Resilience

The Center for Jewish Resilience, a program of Jewish Philanthropies of Southern Arizona, is the central address for Jewish community security, public affairs, and antisemitism education in Southern Arizona. The Center fields, tracks, and responds to reports of antisemitic incidents across the region, and educates the community about them.

Our public affairs work builds on JPSA's historic Jewish Community Relations Council: we build sustained relationships with elected officials, law enforcement, interfaith leaders, and civic organizations, and we work to ensure Jewish interests are represented.

Learn more at jparizona.org.

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