



## Questions for Candidates for County Treasurer Conservative Coalition of Harris County

*Our questionnaire is for candidates to indicate their reasons and opinions concerning issues surrounding their races. This questionnaire will be posted onto the Conservative Coalition of Harris County website for public voter viewing.*

Candidate Name	Position for which the Candidate is Running
Marc Cowart	Harris County Treasurer

*Please give your answer to each of the following questions and please include your rationale with each answer. Please be concise and clear.*

1. 

Please describe the qualifications and experience that make you the best candidate for the County Treasurer's office.
<b>Answer:</b> The Harris County Treasurer, like many elected roles, is one of philosophy, leadership and management. My philosophy is conservative. My conservative world view was shaped by Ronald Reagan, even though I was too young to vote for him. I have been a conservative and a Republican since those days. I have supported and worked on behalf of too many conservative causes and candidates to list. I have also been an outspoken leader on issues. Most recently, I spoke out at Commissioners Court on Commissioner Ramsey's agenda item relating to the incumbent Harris County Treasurer. Following that appearance, I was quoted in the Houston Chronicle, and made two appearances on radio. I am the only candidate in this race who can make that statement. Finally, I have experience managing staff and teams of one to over one hundred.
  
2. 

Please explain what you believe are the most significant issues in this race, why you are running for this position and what differentiates you from the other candidate(s).
<b>Answer:</b> If the objective is to nominate the most qualified REPUBLICAN to face the Democrat in November, then I am the only choice, as I am the ONLY Republican in the race. My "Republican" opponent has NEVER voted in a Republican primary election. Worse than that, her only primary history is in the DEMOCRAT primary, as recently as 2024, which makes her a Democrat. I am running, as previously stated, to restore transparency to the office of Harris County Treasurer and to shine a light on wasteful spending. We need to #takebackharriscounty by winning the County Judge's race, at least one of the two open county commissioner seats, county clerk and district clerk. Then we must do a deep dive into all elected offices and departments to identify all the waste, fraud and abuse that has infiltrated county government. If elected, I will conduct such an audit at the Harris County Treasurer's Office.

3. What will your top two priorities be during your upcoming term?
- Answer:** I believe restoring transparency is the first issue of vital importance. I believe Orlando Sanchez was the best County Treasurer in the history of the office. Orlando, who has endorsed me in this race, won several awards for transparency because, among other reasons, he created and maintained an online and searchable database of all Harris County expenditures. Following Orlando's defeat, the Democrats dismantled his achievements and went back to business-as-usual. Orlando has shared his playbook for transparency and efficiency, which I will implement if successful in November. Another key issue is using the office as a "bully pulpit" to speak out and educate taxpayers regarding Harris County expenditures and financial management as Orlando Sanchez did. Paul Bettencourt, who has also endorsed my candidacy, pioneered this strategy in Harris County as Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector.
4. The Commissioners Court has a Department of Budget and Management, which seems to be a redundancy with the HC Treasurer's office. Please discuss whether it should be abolished. Why or why not?
- Answer:** Eliminating redundancy, particularly from a fiscal responsibility standpoint, makes a lot of sense provided it can be done while maintaining checks-and-balances. From a practical standpoint this eventuality is likely unrealistic as Commissioners Court is unlikely to relinquish an entity under their control.
5. Should the Treasurer take a more active role in matters related to audit, bond, and investment on behalf of the Commissioner's Court?
- Answer:** I would be in favor of a more active and empowered Treasurer's Office but, for the same reason as stated in question 4, is highly unlikely to happen. Commissioners Court is highly unlikely to expand powers over an entity over which they have no control. For the voter it makes sense because those increased duties would be performed by an office that is accountable to the voters, rather than office that is only accountable to Commissioners Court.

BY RETURNING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, THE CANDIDATE ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL ANSWERS TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE. THE ANSWERS ON THE FOREGOING REFLECT THE CANDIDATE'S BEST EFFORTS TO ANSWER THIS QUESTIONNAIRE HONESTLY AND DIRECTLY.

PLEASE SAVE YOUR COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE TO YOUR LOCAL MACHINE IN THE EVENT THAT THERE ARE ANY TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WHEN YOU ATTEMPT TO EMAIL IT BACK.

Once this questionnaire has been completed, please email it to:

[alex@cchc-pac.org](mailto:alex@cchc-pac.org)

\* **Please note:** You **must** return your questionnaire from the email address to which it was sent. Questionnaires returned from any other email address will be considered fraudulent and will **not** be recorded and no answers will be published in the voter's guide. CCHC-PAC deems a return from the proper email address as authentication of the correct respondent.

— Marc —  
**COWART**  
★  
For Harris County Treasurer

## Republican History

- Voted in every Republican Primary since 1986
- Delegate to numerous Senate District and State Conventions
- Republican Precinct Chair beginning in 1992. Chaired 4 different precincts over 33 years.
- Volunteer and paid staff member for dozens of Republican campaigns.
- Campaign manager for the successful “Campaign for Houston” that defeated the City of Houston “HERO” Ordinance that would have allowed men in women’s restrooms.
- Paid staff member of the Harris County Republican Party under three different chairmen. Positions held include Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, Political Director and Finance Director.
- Member, Cherry Tree Republicans
- Member, Cypress Republicans

## Endorsements

- Conservative Republicans of Texas
- Conservative Republicans of Harris County
- Texas Conservative Review
- The LINK Letter
- Katy Christian Magazine
- Senator Paul Bettencourt, State Senate District 7
- Senator Mayes Middleton, State Senate District 11
- State Representative Valoree Swanson, Texas House District 150
- State Representative Briscoe Cain, Texas House District 128
- State Representative Sam Harless, Texas House District 126
- Bill Rickert, Fort Bend County Treasurer
- Harris County School Trustee Eric Dick
- Deborah Kelting Fite, State Republican Executive Committee Member SD7

[Marc@MarcCowart.com](mailto:Marc@MarcCowart.com) | 832-282-2175

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— Marc —  
**COWART**  
— ★ —  
For Harris County Treasurer

- Ralph Fite, State Republican Executive Committee Member SD7
- Ken Moore, State Republican Executive Committee Member SD11
- Gaylyn DeVine, Harris County Precinct 0537 Chair and SREC Member SD11
- Jeff MacGeorge, Precinct Chairman, Precinct 548
- Chef Ronnie Killen (Killen's Steakhouse, Killen's BBQ, etc)
- Mark Lanier, Attorney
- Tony Buzbee, Attorney
- Dr. Steven Hotze, Founder, Conservative Republicans of Texas
- Robert Talton, Former State Representative
- Orlando Sanchez, Former Harris County Treasurer
- Chris Daniel, Former Harris County District Clerk
- Gary Polland, Former Harris County Republican Party Chairman
- Jared Woodfill, Former Harris County Republican Party Chairman
- Keith Nielsen, SREC Member, SD6 and former Harris County Republican Party Chairman
- Jeff Yates, Former Executive Director, Harris County Republican Party
- Stan Stanart, Former Harris County Clerk
- Bert Keller, Former Houston City Councilmember
- Oliver Pennington, Former Houston City Councilmember

**Professional**

- Chief of Staff to Republican Fort Bend County Judge KP George
- Founder, The Cowart Group, a communications and political consulting firm
- Managing Editor, Texas Conservative Review
- Former Director of Communications and Media Relations for Harris County District Clerk Chris Daniel
- Financial Services professional holding two insurance licenses (TX1335923) and a mortgage loan officer license (NMLS 2693519). Former loan officer Allied National Mortgage. Former Field Underwriter, Expanded Mortgage Credit
- Former Executive Director, Harris County Republican Party (and other roles)

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For Harris County Treasurer

- Former Safety Engineer in the petrochemical industry, conducting safety audits, designing safety policies and procedures, and performing safety investigations and root cause analysis

**Personal**

- Married to the former Cecilia “Cecy” Loor for 9+ years
- Member of Champion Forest Church
- Biblical-Literacy Class member and volunteer video camera operator

# Bill Rickert

## FORT BEND COUNTY TREASURER

As the elected Fort Bend County Treasurer, I know firsthand that this office demands more than just technical skill—it requires unquestioned integrity, sound judgment, and a commitment to public trust.

Recent headlines involving elected officials serve as a sobering reminder of how quickly confidence in government can be shaken when transparency and accountability fall short. Regardless of party or personality, the public deserves to know that the stewardship of their tax dollars is handled with professionalism, ethics, and respect for the law.

That is why I am proud to offer my endorsement to Marc Cowart for Harris County Treasurer in the Harris County Republican Primary. This candidate brings a clear understanding of public finance, a record of service, and—most importantly—the character necessary to restore and maintain trust in the Treasurer’s office. Voters deserve a Treasurer who stays focused on doing the job the right way, not becoming a distraction or liability to the taxpayers they serve.

County Treasurer is not a ceremonial role. It is a position that requires diligence, internal controls, and a steady hand, especially in times when public confidence must be rebuilt. I believe Marc is prepared to meet that responsibility and serve with honor.

Regards,



Bill Rickert  
Fort Bend County Treasurer

