



Questions for Candidates for US Congress Offices from the Conservative Coalition of Harris County

Our questionnaire is designed to give the candidate space 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 Candidate is Running
Crystal Sarmiento	US CONGRESS TX-CD09

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

- Please describe the qualifications and experience that make you the best candidate in your political race.

Answer: As a business owner, business consultant, and former Mayor ProTem and current City Councilmember in Manvel, Texas, I bring unmatched real-world experience and proven conservative leadership to this race. With over 27+ years in corporate performance improvement in high-stakes industries, including energy, tech (driving innovation), automotive, construction, and education, I've tackled multifaceted challenges, negotiated tough deals, overseen multimillion-dollar budgets, led diverse teams, and delivered measurable results like job creation and sustainable growth.

On Manvel City Council, I fought for taxpayers by helping secure the city's first-ever 10% homestead exemption (unanimously approved in June 2024), which reduced property tax burdens for homeowners, advocated for stronger fiscal policies, financial transparency, business incentives to attract growth, and cost saving measures that prioritized essential services without wasteful spending. These wins demonstrate my commitment to fiscal responsibility and putting residents first.

My hands-on expertise across sectors, combined with public service success, equips me to cut through Washington bureaucracy, reject big government overreach, and deliver pragmatic, conservative solutions. This district needs a fighter with the most qualified real-world experience—no more being left behind under my watch.

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).

Answer: The most significant issues are skyrocketing inflation, job losses to overseas competition, unreliable energy and infrastructure, failing education systems that leave workers unprepared, unchecked federal spending, and socialist policies eroding the American Dream.

This district rooted in Houston-area energy, manufacturing, and growth communities – has been left behind by corrupt career politicians prioritizing party insiders over constituents. I'm running to bring bold, conservative leadership that secures jobs, protects taxpayers, restores energy independence, and empowers families. What differentiates me is my proven track record: vast private-sector experience creating real results in complex situations across energy, tech, automotive, construction, and education; plus tangible council wins like the 10% homestead exemption and fiscal safeguards in Manvel. Unlike others with limited practical experience or who follow the status quo, I offer no-nonsense pragmatism, a fighter's spirit for taxpayers, and direct accountability. I commit to monthly town halls in different district towns to hear from you and ensure your voice drives decisions in Washington.

3. What will your top 2 or 3 priorities be during this upcoming term?

Answer:

Aggressive Job Creation and Securing the American Dream:

Slash excessive regulations, incentivize domestic manufacturing and energy production, expand workforce training tied to high-demand industries, and foster public-private partnerships to bring good-paying jobs home. Reject socialist schemes that grow government dependency and focus on opportunity, innovation, and economic freedom so every family thrives.

Taxpayer Protection and Cutting Federal Waste:

Fight to lower taxes, eliminate fraud and wasteful spending, and ensure every federal dollar works for constituents, not bureaucrats. Build on my Manvel successes in fiscal responsibility to protect families from inflation and overregulation.

Energy Reliability, Resilient Infrastructure, and Aligned Education/Workforce:

Invest in modernizing our grid (balancing renewables with oil/gas job protection), storm-hardened projects, and transportation; strengthen vocational/STEM training and industry-school partnerships to prepare our workforce and empower parents with choices.

4. What are your solutions to identifying and cutting fraud and waste in the federal budget?

Answer: To identify and cut fraud and waste:

- Implement rigorous, independent audits of all federal agencies and programs, starting with high-risk areas like entitlements, defense contracts, and pandemic-era spending.
- Require performance metrics and sunset clauses for programs - those failing to deliver results get eliminated.
- Empower whistleblowers with stronger protections and incentives to expose waste.
- Adopt zero-based budgeting: force agencies to justify every dollar annually rather than automatic increases.
- Cut duplicative programs and reduce bureaucratic overhead. My business and council experience - managing budgets tightly, securing cost savings, and prioritizing essentials will drive these reforms to restore fiscal sanity and return money to hardworking taxpayers.

5. What are the most important issues that Republicans need to focus on in order to maintain control of the US House in the November 2026 election?

Answer: Republicans must focus on:

- Economic Strength and Jobs – Deliver relief from inflation, secure supply chains, and create American jobs through deregulation and energy dominance ... voters want results, not excuses.
- Border Security and Immigration - Finish the wall, enforce laws, and stop chaos at the border to protect communities and sovereignty.
- Fiscal Responsibility - Fight wasteful spending, cut taxes, and reject big government expansions to appeal to taxpayers tired of Washington excess.
- Education and Family Values - Empower parents, promote school choice, and reject indoctrination to win suburban and family voters.
- Energy Independence – Unleash domestic production to lower costs and create jobs while rejecting radical green agendas. By delivering on these conservative priorities with bold action and clear contrasts to Democrat overreach, we secure the House and advance the America First agenda.

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

* **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.