



Questions for Candidates for Texas Attorney General from the Conservative Coalition of Harris County

Candidate Name: **Aaron Reitz**
Position: **Attorney General of Texas**
Date: **January 16, 2026**

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

As AG Paxton said when he endorsed me to succeed him, I am “the only candidate who is fully vetted, battle-tested, proven, and ready to be AG...He has already proven himself as a defender of Texas, of Texans’ rights, and of the Constitution.” My experience winning for our values throughout the justice system makes me preeminently qualified to fulfill the constitutional duties of the Attorney General: “The AG shall represent the State in all suits and pleas.” Tex. Const. art. IV, sec. 22. This is a legal, law-enforcement, executive branch job—not a legislative post.

My record speaks volumes. AG Paxton continued: “[Aaron] drove our Texas v. Biden docket and spearheaded some of our most consequential battles—on border security, immigration, Big Tech, Covid tyranny, energy and the environment, pro-life, Second Amendment, religious liberty, free speech, and election integrity.”

This is also why President Trump elevated me to the highest ranks of his Department of Justice, calling me a “true MAGA attorney” and a “warrior for our Constitution.”

My career has been defined by litigating, investigating, suing, defending, appealing, and winning on all the major issues conservatives care about—and that winning record makes me the best candidate for Attorney General.

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).

I’m running for Attorney General because we are in a battle for the soul of our state and our nation—and from long, hard-fought personal experience, I know that the primary arena in which we confront the Left is the justice system. The Attorney General leads that fight in courts

across Texas and around the country. In this race, I am the only candidate who has proven himself in battle capable of doing so.

That is why I'm running: to lead legal troops into legal combat to deliver legal victories for Texas and Texans, just as I've done throughout my career. That is what is truly at issue in this primary election—not who repeats the right talking points, but who voters can trust, based on their legal record (not a legislative record), to advance our values throughout the justice system. Other candidates can talk about what they intend to do. I can show Texans what I have already done.

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

My top three priorities fall under the broader goal of partnering with the Trump Administration to advance the America First Law & Order Agenda—something I am uniquely positioned to do as a former Trump-vetted, Trump-trusted senior executive at the Department of Justice. Specifically, my top three priorities are:

a. Illegal immigration.

Our country was invaded by millions of illegal aliens during the Biden Administration. Every one of these illegals must be deported. They drain public resources, harm our economy, erode American culture, and insult our core Texas value of law and order. As a former senior executive in the Trump Administration, I am uniquely positioned to serve as the link between federal immigration enforcement and local law enforcement to facilitate and expedite the mass identification, arrest, detention, and deportation of illegal aliens.

b. Islamification.

Islamists are targeting Texas for their next takeover. They know how to exploit a gross misinterpretation of the First Amendment, and they know they are dealing with Republicans who lack the spine to stop them. Using the full powers of the Attorney General's office, I will smoke out their dark money networks, revoke corporate and nonprofit charters, make aggressive referrals to federal and local law enforcement for prosecution, and investigate so invasively that they will have no choice but to leave. I write more about this problem in my July 2025 op-ed here: <https://www.dailywire.com/news/epic-city-replacing-old-glory-with-the-crescent-moon>

c. Election integrity.

Nothing is more important to the continued existence of a free republic than public confidence in secure elections. Sometimes we will win, and sometimes we will lose. But what must never be in doubt is whether the process itself was free and fair. Right now, that confidence is eroding. I know this better than anyone: I oversaw election integrity efforts in the 2020 and 2022 cycles as AG Paxton's Deputy. I watched as the Court of Criminal Appeals in 2021 stripped the AG of criminal enforcement authority under the Election Code, and as the Legislature failed to act in 2023. Thankfully, in 2025, the Legislature restored those powers—the

same powers I had in 2020. We will wield them fully, targeting the jurisdictions most likely to violate the law—namely, big blue cities and counties.

4. What are your solutions to identifying, investigating, and prosecuting public benefit fraud in our state?

Public benefit fraud should stir righteous indignation among law-abiding, tax-paying Texans. First, it steals from those in genuine need to line the pockets of crooks. Second, it drives up prices, fees, and taxes for everyone, because instead of funding public benefits, taxpayer dollars are diverted to criminals—often at massive scale, as we have seen among the Somali population in Minnesota.

If fraud is that bad there, imagine how much worse it may be in Texas—a state with more than five times the population and seven times the economic output. As Attorney General, I will smoke it all out, hold bad actors accountable, and make taxpayers whole.

The Attorney General already has powerful tools to do this. First, by deploying one of the largest Medicaid fraud units in the country—the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit—which investigates provider fraud, kickbacks, double billing, phantom services, and patient ineligibility. Second, through legislatively assigned criminal prosecution authority under the Texas Penal Code. Third, by working with and protecting whistleblowers under the False Claims Act. Fourth, through in-depth interagency data matching, ensuring that the Texas Workforce Commission, Health and Human Services Commission, Comptroller, and other agencies’ data align and expose fraud patterns. And finally, by partnering with the Trump Administration’s soon-to-be-created Assistant Attorney General position overseeing nationwide fraud investigations, bringing the full force of the Department of Justice to bear.

I am the only candidate who has overseen all of these functions as AG Paxton’s former Deputy. I know how to deploy these legal troops, I know the battlefields on which they operate, and I have already successfully investigated and prosecuted public benefit fraud in Texas. Texans can trust me to do even more as their next Attorney General.

5. What strategies will you use to improve efficiencies for investigating and prosecuting crimes, including human trafficking, internet crimes against children, and election fraud?

As a general rule, the Attorney General has very little criminal-law authority except where the Legislature specifically grants it. Many people mistakenly view the AG as Texas’s “top cop” or chief prosecutor, but that is inaccurate. The Attorney General’s office is primarily a civil law office that handles constitutional litigation, often reaching the Texas and U.S. Supreme Courts. Most criminal prosecutions are handled by local district attorneys—and in blue jurisdictions, that reality has often produced disastrous results.

That said, human trafficking, internet crimes against children, and election fraud are areas where the Attorney General does have authority.

Human trafficking and internet crimes fall under the same umbrella. The Attorney General's office plays a major role in combating these evils through criminal enforcement, civil litigation, victim services, training, and coordination with state, federal, and local partners. The office's work generally falls into two categories: criminal enforcement and civil enforcement.

On the criminal side, the AG's authority is currently too limited. In most cases, the AG can only investigate or prosecute trafficking offenses when requested by a local district attorney or federal agency. That means the state's top law enforcement officer must often wait for permission to pursue traffickers—a structure that makes no sense. As Attorney General, I will ask the Legislature to expand the AG's original and concurrent jurisdiction so traffickers can be prosecuted aggressively without unnecessary bureaucratic obstacles.

On the civil side, the AG's authority is much broader—and this is where the office can be especially effective. Civil enforcement does not require referrals, and successful actions allow the state to recover damages directly, redirecting resources to protect victims and dismantle trafficking networks. Having worked at the Department of Justice and overseen civil human trafficking investigations, I know how to expand and strengthen this work immediately.

The bottom line is this: Texas needs an Attorney General who treats human trafficking as the evil it is, understands where the system works and where it fails, has deep federal, state, and local connections, and possesses the experience to push for the legal reforms necessary to put more traffickers behind bars and protect vulnerable Texans.

As for election integrity, I will do two things. First, I will reinvigorate the election integrity division, which was hollowed out after a disastrous 2021 Court of Criminal Appeals decision and only restored by the Legislature in 2025. I oversaw the AG's election integrity efforts in 2020 and 2022, and I am the only candidate who knows how to secure the ballot box throughout the justice system—by aggressively deploying investigative and litigation resources into major problem areas, immediately responding to suspected Election Code violations, and litigating cases to their full extent so the public can trust the transparency and fairness of our elections.

Second, I will lead a full forensic audit of Texas's voter rolls and elections. I will partner with the Secretary of State—or, if necessary, legally compel cooperation—to conduct machine testing, cybersecurity reviews, chain-of-custody examinations, physical security checks, voter roll audits, ballot-by-mail and provisional ballot reviews, enhanced poll worker training, and full manual recounts. Once sworn in in January 2027, I will begin laying the legal and political groundwork to ensure these measures are fully implemented by the 2028 election cycle, which Democrats will undoubtedly attempt to manipulate unless stopped.

AARON F. REITZ



Aaron Reitz is an attorney with the law firm Hance Scarborough, LLP, where he represents and counsels private-sector clients in matters involving federal and state regulatory and public policy law, as well as a wide range of civil litigation matters in state and federal courts. He is also a candidate for Texas Attorney General.

Prior to joining the firm, Aaron served as the Presidentially-appointed, Senate-confirmed head of the Justice Department's Office of Legal Policy (OLP). As the Assistant Attorney General over OLP, Aaron was charged with developing and implementing DOJ's significant policy initiatives, handling special projects that implicate the interests of multiple DOJ components, and serving as the primary policy advisor to Attorney General Pam Bondi. As Chief Regulatory Officer, Aaron also reviewed and coordinated all regulations promulgated by DOJ. Lastly, he identified and vetted candidates for federal judgeships, and coordinated the nomination and confirmation process with the White House and Senate.

Before DOJ, Aaron served as Senator Ted Cruz's Chief of Staff, where he oversaw domestic policy, legislative, communications, administrative, Commerce Committee, Judiciary Committee, and Foreign Relations Committee teams, as well as several regional offices throughout the State of Texas. During his time as Chief, Aaron advanced several critical legislative efforts that strengthen border security and mitigate the immigration crisis, protect children and families online, generate investment in domestic high-tech projects, and stimulate billions of dollars of economic activity in Texas.

Aaron previously served as Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's Deputy Attorney General for Legal Strategy, where he directed the Agency's Texas-versus-Biden docket. Aaron was the Agency's "offensive coordinator": he planned, staffed, and executed the Agency's most consequential lawsuits and legal initiatives on matters including immigration, federal-state-local relations, election integrity, voting rights, Big Tech, consumer protection, energy, and the U.S. and Texas Constitutions. He was a key architect behind *Texas v. Pennsylvania*, the U.S. Supreme Court case that challenged the constitutionality of four states' administration of the 2020 presidential election.

Aaron clerked for now-Chief Justice Jimmy Blacklock on the Texas Supreme Court and practiced both corporate law and commercial litigation in Houston and Austin. He graduated from the University of Texas School of Law, where he was President of the Texas Federalist Society and Editor in Chief of the *Texas Review of Law & Politics*. Before law school, he was an officer in the United States Marine Corps. He spent nearly five years on active duty and deployed to the northern Helmand Province of Afghanistan, where he was embedded with the Afghan National Army. Aaron is still in the Marine Corps Reserve.

Aaron is married to his high school sweetheart. They have four children, and the Reitz Family is active with Saint Mary Cathedral in downtown Austin, Texas.

AARON REITZ

FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL

BATTLE TESTED

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ...



PRESIDENT **Donald J. Trump**

"Aaron...was previously Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's Deputy, where he led dozens of successful lawsuits against the lawless and crooked Biden Administration. Aaron is a true MAGA attorney [and] a warrior for our Constitution." 12/21/2024



U.S. SENATOR **Ted Cruz**

"Throughout his career in law, government, and on the battlefield, Aaron has earned the respect and admiration of all who have worked with him...I can attest to his exceptional character, unwavering commitment, and strong moral values...What truly sets Aaron apart is his character. A man of faith, family, and unwavering principles, he is committed to doing what is right, even in challenging circumstances." 3/26/2025



TEXAS ATTORNEY GENERAL **Ken Paxton**

"Aaron & I have fought many battles together. Reitz was my 'offensive coordinator' directing actions on border security, immigration, Big Tech, energy, pro-life, Bill of Rights, & election integrity. I agree with President Trump: Reitz is a 'true MAGA attorney' & 'warrior for our Constitution.' I'm excited Aaron is in this race!" 6/13/2025

U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi

"I'm proud to have worked with Aaron Reitz at the Justice Department. Aaron played a central role in our work to Make America Safe Again—his next chapter will surely contribute to President Trump's mission, and I look forward to seeing what Aaron does next in his home state of Texas!" 6/11/2025

U.S. Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche

"It's been such a privilege to work alongside you Aaron Reitz. You brought clarity, focus, and results to some of the Department's most important work implementing President Trump's agenda." 6/11/2025

FBI Director Kash Patel

"Aaron is a personal friend, great American, and a relentless advocate for law and order. Thanks for serving our country, now it's time to deliver on his next mission." 6/11/2025

U.S. Border Czar Tom Homan

"Aaron and I spent the Biden years fighting together to stop the invasion of illegal aliens, defending our border, and keeping our communities safe. Since then he's become a good friend and close ally. Good luck brother Aaron Reitz in Texas!" 6/18/2025

Federal Trade Commission Chairman **Andrew Ferguson**

"[Aaron] is an America First warrior. Texans should be thrilled he's coming home to fight for them." 6/11/2025

Federal Communications Commission Chairman **Brendan Carr**

"A rock-ribbed conservative, Aaron fought for and advanced a strong Law and Order agenda. Proud of his accomplishments in Washington and look forward to his work ahead in Texas." 6/11/2025

Head of Trump's Office of Information & Regulatory Affairs **Jeff Clark**

"Aaron is a brilliant lawyer and his values are MAGA all the way...I'm firmly convinced Aaron will (re)take Texas by storm and we'll be hearing a lot about his derring-do in the coming years." 6/11/2025

U.S. Marine & M.O.H. Recipient **Dakota Meyer**

"We're both Marines, both served in Afghanistan, and we're both proud Texans. There's no doubt in my mind—he's the right guy to be our next Texas Attorney General. Texas needs someone who's not in it for themselves, someone who's been in the fight and knows what it means to serve. That's Aaron. Semper Fi, brother." 7/2/2025

POLITICAL AD PAID FOR BY AARON REITZ, CANDIDATE FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL

USE OF HIS MILITARY RANK, JOB TITLES, AND PHOTOGRAPHS IN UNIFORM DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY OR THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

To: Conservative Coalition of Harris County PAC
From: Aaron Reitz, Republican candidate for Texas Attorney General
Date: January 16, 2026
Subj: Legal Record Snapshot and Qualifications for Texas Attorney General

Article IV, Section 22 of the Texas Constitution provides that: “The Attorney General shall represent the State in all suits and pleas.” The office is a legal, executive-branch, law-enforcement role—not a legislative post.

Measured against that constitutional mandate, I am the only candidate in this race with an actual, recent, and relevant record of doing the work the Attorney General is charged to perform: litigating, investigating, suing, defending, appealing, and leading legal teams to advance the priorities that conservative Republicans care most about.

What follows is a snapshot of that record across four major legal-policy areas that are central to the Attorney General’s responsibilities and are most frequently raised in discussions of this race: Border Security; Pro-Life, Family, and Values; the Second Amendment; and Energy and the Environment.

My experience extends well beyond these four legal categories. As Attorney General Paxton stated when he endorsed me, I “drove our Texas v. Biden docket and spearheaded some of our most consequential battles—on border security, immigration, Big Tech, Covid tyranny, energy and the environment, pro-life, Second Amendment, religious liberty, free speech, and election integrity.” This memo focuses on the four issue areas I am most often asked to address, but it reflects a broader record of hands-on legal leadership directly aligned with the constitutional role of the Texas Attorney General.

BORDER SECURITY

1. As Deputy AG for Legal Strategy under AG Ken Paxton, I:

- a. Led aggressive legal opposition to Biden’s border failures, directing and coordinating 16 solo- and multi-state lawsuits challenging the Administration’s unlawful immigration policies, including: the deportation freeze, changes to the public charge rule, ICE arrest prioritizations, rollback of Remain-in-Mexico, termination of Title 42, and the unconstitutional handling of DACA, border wall construction, Central American Minors program, asylum, and parole authority.
- b. Published actionable guidance to law enforcement, landowners, and the public to help Texans navigate and resist the consequences of the federal border crisis.
- c. Represented the Attorney General’s Office on the Governor’s Task Force on Border & Homeland Security, established in June 2021 to coordinate state-level policy and enforcement.

- d. Planned and supported numerous border delegations, bringing together law enforcement, elected officials, attorneys general, and conservative leaders for key site visits to McAllen, Laredo, Del Rio, and El Paso.

2. As Senator Ted Cruz's Chief of Staff, I:

- a. Prepared the Secure the Border Act of 2023, the Senate's most comprehensive border legislation in years, which would resume border wall construction, restore Trump-era asylum protocols, criminalize visa overstays, increase Border Patrol and ICE personnel, defund NGOs aiding illegal entry, and block CBP One abuse.
- b. Drafted a major amendment to the National Security Supplemental that prioritized border infrastructure, technology upgrades, and manpower support for frontline enforcement.
- c. Coordinated the Justice for Jocelyn Act, requiring DHS to detain asylum-seekers unless no detention options are available, impose GPS monitoring and curfews, and expedite deportations for violations.
- d. Reintroduced Kate's Law, imposing enhanced criminal penalties on repeat border crossers.
- e. Directed a sustained public campaign confronting the Biden Administration's open-borders agenda and making the case for real border security.
- f. Spearheaded a bipartisan resolution commemorating the 101st anniversary of the U.S. Border Patrol, honoring the heroes on the front lines.

3. As President Trump's Senate-confirmed head of DOJ's Office of Legal Policy, I:

- a. Cut off DOJ funding to sanctuary cities, redirecting resources to lawful jurisdictions that cooperate with federal enforcement.
- b. Managed and supported lawsuits against sanctuary states obstructing federal immigration law.
- c. Defended dozens of President Trump's Executive Orders advancing strong immigration enforcement, wall construction, and the removal of illegal aliens.
- d. Restructured internal DOJ policies to ensure full compliance with the Administration's border-security agenda, despite resistance from entrenched career staff.
- e. Implemented the AG's directive for the "Total Elimination of Cartels and Transnational Criminal Organizations," intensifying prosecutorial focus on drug and human smuggling networks.

- f. Authored the memo rescinding illegal aliens' access to federal benefits, closing loopholes that incentivized unlawful entry.
 - g. Refocused DOJ prosecutorial priorities, resulting in hundreds of millions of dollars in drug seizures, the arrest and indictment of dozens of cartel and gang leaders, and a demonstrable disruption of transnational criminal enterprises operating at our border.
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PRO-LIFE, PRO-FAMILY, AND PRO-VALUES

1. As Law Clerk to Now-Chief Justice Jimmy Blacklock, I:

- a. Drafted, opined, and wrote legal memos defending parental rights (in the context of parent-child relationship law, conservatorship, possession, access, termination, guardianship, abuse, neglect, and the like) under the Texas Family Code.

2. As Deputy Attorney General for Ken Paxton, I:

- a. *Defended life from conception to natural death by:*
 - i. Defending SB 8, the "Texas Heartbeat Act," banning abortions after detection of an unborn child's heartbeat.
 - ii. Defending Texas's Human Life Protection Act (trigger law) following *Dobbs*.
 - iii. Suing the Biden Administration over unlawful EMTALA guidance seeking to compel ER doctors to perform abortions.
 - iv. Suing the Biden Administration for attempting to force pharmacies to dispense abortion-inducing drugs.
 - v. Defending the constitutionality of local ordinances declaring Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn.
- b. *Advocated for religious liberty by:*
 - i. Filing and joining amicus briefs before the U.S. Supreme Court and federal appellate courts defending:
 - 1. Faith-based schools invoking the ministerial exception in employment decisions.
 - 2. Faith-based foster care and adoption agencies.
 - 3. Faith-based student organizations.
 - 4. Faith-driven small businesses (photographers, bakers, etc.).
 - 5. Public employees (e.g., coaches) exercising their religious freedom rights.
 - ii. Providing legal guidance to churches and faith-based schools so they could open quickly and stay open during the Covid era.

- c. *Protected children and families by:*
 - i. Authoring the Attorney General Opinion declaring puberty blockers, sterilizing drugs, and other so-called gender-transition procedures for minors to be child abuse under Texas law.
 - ii. Suing the Biden Administration for threatening to withhold HHS funds from states resisting its transgender mandates.
 - iii. Launching investigations into hospital networks providing unlawful gender-transition services to minors.

3. As Chief of Staff to Senator Ted Cruz, I

- a. Developed the framework for the “Life Month” resolution (June 2025).
- b. Led messaging and campaign architecture around Sen. Cruz’s pro-life and pro-family record during the 2024 re-election.
- c. Elevated national attention to President Trump’s pardons of pro-life activists unjustly targeted and imprisoned by Biden’s DOJ.
- d. Directed introduction of the Safeguarding Honesty in Our Pronouns (SHOP) Act, prohibiting federal funds from enforcing compelled-pronoun policies.
- e. Coordinated expansion of 529 Plans to strengthen families’ ability to save for children’s education.

4. As Senate-Confirmed Head of the Office of Legal Policy, DOJ (Trump Administration), I was

- a. Founding member, Task Force to Combat Anti-Christian Bias.
- b. Senior advisor to AG Bondi on the Religious Liberty Commission.
- c. Lead coordinator on rollback of Biden-era lawfare investigations against pro-life and religious organizations.

SECOND AMENDMENT

1. As Deputy Attorney General for Legal Strategy under Ken Paxton, I:

- a. Filed a U.S. Supreme Court amicus brief defending Hawaiians’ right to carry firearms outside the home.
- b. Challenged the ATF’s unconstitutional bump-stock rule.
- c. Joined litigation to overturn New York’s “sensitive locations” gun restrictions.

- d. Sued the ATF over its unlawful attempt to ban stabilizing braces.
- e. Coordinated early resistance to ATF efforts to criminalize private firearm sales.
- f. Vigorously defended Texas's Constitutional Carry law in court.
- g. Fought local governments and businesses attempting to restrict lawful carry in public venues.
- h. Defended Texas's intrastate silencer law against federal overreach.
- i. Sued the ATF for treating unfinished firearm parts as complete firearms.
- j. Issued statewide guidance prohibiting public funds from supporting anti-2A discrimination.
- k. Publicly condemned Biden's push for an "assault weapons" ban and the left's red-flag law agenda.

2. As Senator Ted Cruz's Chief of Staff, I:

- a. Led a Commerce Committee investigation into corporate discrimination against the firearms industry.
- b. Coordinated Senate opposition to Biden's efforts to align U.S. policy with international arms control regimes.
- c. Filed an amicus brief defending U.S. gun manufacturers against the Mexican government's politically motivated lawsuit.

3. And as the Presidentially-appointed, Senate-confirmed head of the Justice Department's Office of Legal Policy, I:

- a. Actively participated in DOJ's Second Amendment Task Force to shape and implement pro-2A litigation and policy.
 - b. Oversaw the rollback of ATF autonomy and reasserted political oversight over federal firearms policy.
 - c. Helped restore firearm rights to law-abiding Americans wrongly prohibited from ownership.
 - d. Spearheaded the repeal of several unconstitutional anti-2A regulations.
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ENERGY & THE ENVIRONMENT

1. **As Attorney General Ken Paxton's Deputy for Legal Strategy, I served as Texas's "offensive coordinator," spearheading our state's fight against the Biden Administration's radical anti-oil-and-gas agenda. My leadership delivered results:**
 - a. *Blocked Biden's Keystone XL Pipeline Cancellation:* Led a multistate coalition to challenge the unlawful termination of the Keystone XL Pipeline, protecting critical energy infrastructure and thousands of Texas jobs.
 - b. *Stopped California's Emissions Overreach:* Sued to prevent the Biden EPA from reinstating California's Clean Air Act waiver, which would have imposed California's extreme standards nationwide, threatening Texas's energy sovereignty.
 - c. *Halted WOTUS Overreach:* Sued to block the Biden EPA's expansive "Waters of the United States" (WOTUS) redefinition, safeguarding Texas landowners and energy producers from federal overreach beyond Congress's intent.
 - d. *Reversed Oil and Gas Leasing Freezes:* Successfully sued to overturn the Biden Administration's moratorium on oil and gas exploration on public lands and offshore waters.
 - e. *Challenged Flawed Social Cost Metrics:* Sued to stop the Biden Administration's use of so-called "social costs" of carbon and greenhouse gases in regulatory cost-benefit analyses, protecting industry from skewed economic burdens.
 - f. *Protected West Texas from Nuclear Storage Risks:* Sued Biden's Nuclear Regulatory Commission to block a license for storing spent nuclear fuel in West Texas, prioritizing regional safety and industry stability.
 - g. *Defended Trump-Era Clean Water Act Rules:* Intervened to uphold a Trump-era Clean Water Act rule against Biden's attempts to dismantle it, ensuring practical regulations for energy development.
 - h. *Fought Fuel-Economy Mandates:* Sued the EPA and NHTSA to block fuel-economy standards that forced electric vehicle adoption, protecting consumer choice and the oil and gas market.
 - i. *Opposed ESG Investment Rules:* Sued Biden's Department of Labor to prevent fiduciaries from prioritizing Environmental-Social-Governance (ESG) factors, shielding Texas's energy sector from ideologically driven financial pressures.

- j. *Secured Texas's Air Quality Authority*: Sued the Biden EPA over its wrongful denial of Texas's State Implementation Plan for air quality, defending state-led environmental solutions.
- k. *Blocked SEC's Proxy Vote Rule*: Sued the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to stop a rule requiring mutual funds to report proxy votes, which enabled pressure from government and activist groups to impose ESG agendas on energy investments.
- l. *Protected Texas Conservation Efforts*: Sued Biden's Fish and Wildlife Service for designating the lesser prairie chicken as endangered, defending Texas's effective conservation programs and energy development.
- m. *Opposed "Climate Emergency" Power Grab*: Led opposition to Biden's "climate emergency" declaration, preventing sweeping federal regulations that would cripple Texas energy production.
- n. *Pushed Back on NAAQS Overreach*: Challenged the Biden EPA's overly stringent National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), advocating for balanced regulations that support energy growth.
- o. *Amplified Industry's Voice*: Actively engaged in federal notice-and-comment rulemaking to ensure Texas's oil and gas interests were robustly represented, shaping regulations to prioritize Texas energy success.

2. As Senator Ted Cruz's Chief of Staff, I drove a pro-energy agenda with national impact:

- a. *Advanced Pro-Energy Legislation*: Led Commerce Committee staff under Senator Cruz (as Ranking Member and later Chairman) to champion policies that unleashed oil and gas production and countered regulatory overreach.
- b. *Blocked Gulf Restrictions*: Successfully opposed NOAA/NMFS's attempts to expand Rice's Whale habitat, which would have restricted Gulf oil and gas exploration, protecting Texas's offshore energy industry.
- c. *Protected LNG Exports*: Opposed Biden's freeze on LNG export permits and co-developed the PROTECT LNG Act to shield authorized permits from judicial overreach, streamline litigation, and secure Texas's LNG leadership.
- d. *Overtaken Gas Furnace Rules*: Introduced a resolution to block the Biden Department of Energy's burdensome gas-furnace efficiency standards, preserving affordable energy for Texas families and businesses.
- e. *Nullified Greenhouse Gas Rules*: Introduced a resolution to repeal the FHWA's greenhouse-gas performance-measure rule for state departments of transportation, reducing regulatory burdens on infrastructure critical to energy transport.

- f. *Fought SEC Climate Rules*: Backed efforts to overturn the SEC's climate-risk disclosure rule, protecting oil and gas companies from costly and intrusive reporting requirements.
- g. *Challenged EPA Tailpipe Standards*: Forced a Senate vote to overturn EPA tailpipe standards that effectively banned gas-powered vehicles, defending consumer choice and Texas's oil market.
- h. *Led National Messaging Campaign*: Built a high-impact campaign exposing Biden's anti-energy policies, rallying support for Texas's oil and gas industry as a pillar of American prosperity.

3. As the Presidentially-appointed, Senate-confirmed head of the Justice Department's Office of Legal Policy, I delivered transformative victories for energy:

- a. *Eliminated Anti-Energy Guidance*: Played a pivotal role in Attorney General Pam Bondi's Day One policy letter, "Rescinding 'Environmental Justice' Memoranda," dismantling Biden-era DOJ guidance that targeted oil and gas with excessive enforcement.
- b. *Conducted Anti-Energy Rule Sweep*: Led the Office of Legal Policy to execute a comprehensive review of DOJ regulations, cases, and initiatives, rooting out anti-energy policies to unleash oil and gas production.
- c. *Aligned Litigation with Energy Goals*: Partnered with the Environment and Natural Resources Division to ensure DOJ litigation strategies advanced the Trump Administration's pro-energy executive orders, bolstering Texas's oil and gas sector.
- d. *Implemented State Overreach Protections*: Coordinated the DOJ's execution of President Trump's Executive Order "Protecting American Energy From State Overreach," aligning policies to block state-level environmentalist abuses.
- e. *Led Lawsuits Against Climate Superfund Laws*: Advised on DOJ lawsuits challenging state "climate superfund laws" in Hawaii, Michigan, New York, and Vermont, protecting oil and gas companies from punitive financial liabilities and securing their operational freedom.



For Immediate Release: August 25, 2025

Contact: info@reitzfortexas.com

**Ken Paxton Gives “True MAGA Attorney” Aaron Reitz His
COMPLETE AND TOTAL ENDORSEMENT for Texas Attorney General**

Austin, TX - Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton today announced his full endorsement for his former Deputy, Aaron Reitz, to succeed him as the next Attorney General of Texas.

“One of the most frequent questions Texans ask me is: ‘Ken, who should succeed you as Attorney General?’ My answer is now definitive: Aaron Reitz,” Paxton said. “From 2020 to 2023, Aaron served as my Deputy Attorney General for Legal Strategy and ‘offensive coordinator.’ He drove our Texas v. Biden docket and spearheaded some of our most consequential battles—on border security, immigration, Big Tech, Covid tyranny, energy and the environment, pro-life, Second Amendment, religious liberty, free speech, and election integrity.”

Paxton continued: *“Aaron Reitz is the only candidate who is fully vetted, battle-tested, proven, and ready to be Attorney General. He is loyal, fearless, trusted, and relentlessly committed to the Rule of Law. He has already proven himself as a defender of Texas, of Texans’ rights, and of the Constitution. That’s why President Trump called him a ‘true MAGA attorney’ and a ‘warrior for our Constitution’—and I could not agree more.”*

“Aaron Reitz absolutely must be Texas’s next top lawyer,” Paxton concluded. “For that reason, I am giving him my complete and total endorsement to succeed me as Attorney General.”

Upon receiving Attorney General Paxton’s endorsement, **Reitz issued the following statement:**

“Serving as Ken Paxton’s ‘offensive coordinator’ was the crusade of a lifetime. I am deeply honored to have his support in my campaign for Attorney General. Under Ken Paxton, Texas has been a shining example for the conservative movement on how to fight and win against the enemies of Law, Order, and Liberty. My promise to Texans is that I will keep my foot on the gas and energetically carry on Paxton’s legacy. That is the only way to defend Texas from the radical left. As the only pro-Paxton candidate in this race, I am unequivocally the best person to lead the Office of the Attorney General of Texas into battle.”

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For Immediate Release: January 16, 2026

Contact: info@reitzfortexas.com

“Never Been Done Before”:

Paxton-Endorsed Marine Aaron Reitz Obliterates Competition in Key Fundraising Metrics

Austin, TX – Aaron Reitz, President Trump’s “true MAGA attorney” at the Justice Department and Ken Paxton’s endorsed successor for Texas Attorney General, hauled in nearly \$4 million from nearly 3,000 individual contributions in under seven months since launching his campaign. He retains nearly \$3 million cash on hand.

“This has never been done before: no one in modern Texas politics has gone from \$0 to \$4 million—or from zero donors to thousands—as a non-office-holding, first-time statewide candidate. No rollover money from prior campaign accounts. No inherited wealth. No gimmick loans to juice the numbers. Just raising hard-earned dollars from scratch the old-fashioned way,” Reitz said.

“How did this happen? Simple. Grassroots voters see a Marine officer, Afghanistan War veteran, Texas Supreme Court clerk, and senior executive at both the Office of the Attorney General of Texas and the U.S. Department of Justice—and they know they’re looking at their next Attorney General. They see a battle-tested fighter in the justice system, and their money follows,” Reitz continued.

“Compare this to my opponents. First, Joan Huffman. I raised nearly three times as much new money as she did as an Attorney General candidate—and from 15 times as many individual contributions. Joan’s donor base is the swampy, powerful few in the establishment who fear her punitively wielding her Senate committee gavel if they don’t fall in line.”

“Second, Mayes Middleton. Excluding Mayes’s inherited family cash that he hopes to buy the race and endorsements with, I raised nearly four times as much as he did. In fact, Mayes’s \$900,000 in new money is about as much as he spent trying to destroy Ken Paxton by bankrolling Paxton’s primary challengers, House impeachment managers, and House Republicans who voted to impeach. On top of that, I secured six times as many individual contributions. Meanwhile, Mayes’s burn rate is mind-boggling. Yet no amount of his family’s fortune will ever convince Texans that a candidate who has never practiced law and betrayed Paxton is ready to serve as our state’s Chief Legal Officer.”

“Third, Chip Roy. I raised 1.5 times as much new money as Chip as an Attorney General candidate from more than double the number of individual contributions. Embarrassingly, Chip tried to inflate his report by injecting a \$1 million loan just before the stroke of midnight on New Year’s Eve. Texans simply don’t want someone who called for President Trump to be impeached or who was a leading national figure in the effort to oust Attorney General Paxton from office.”

“Lastly—and this may be the most shocking statistic of all—I brought in 1,000 more individual contributions *than all three of my opponents combined*. Why? Because this is a true grassroots campaign powered by the People. Texans want a Paxton-endorsed, Trump-trusted champion who has spent his career leading legal troops into legal combat to deliver legal victories for our state, our nation, and conservative Republican values.”

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Ryan Munce, co/efficient
DATE: December 1, 2025
RE: 2026 GOP Primary - Texas Attorney General

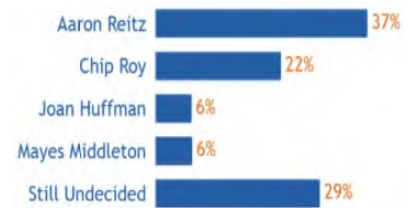
This memo outlines key findings of our recent survey in Texas regarding the race for Attorney General. The survey comprised 939 likely Republican primary election voters and was conducted between November 20 and 24, 2025, using mobile text responses and landline telephone interviews. The results are balanced by the age, gender, education level, and race of the true voting population, with a margin of error of +/- 5.23%.

Bottom line up front:

When voters test-drive each of the four AG candidate vehicles on the lot, the overwhelming majority of Republican primary voters buy Reitz.

Candidate Biographies and Qualifications

Voters were initially provided a neutral, impartial biography on each candidate in the Texas Attorney General race, including how each candidate frames themselves in their own campaign materials. When voters are informed of candidate backgrounds, Reitz decisively outperforms the field. Reitz’s basic biography—Marine Officer, Afghanistan War veteran, Trump-appointed DOJ official, Chief of Staff to Senator Ted Cruz, Deputy to Attorney General Paxton, Texas Supreme Court law clerk—dominates the competition with a double-digit lead over his competitors.



When primary voters review résumés alone before any political messaging, positive spin, or negatives, Reitz’s legal, military, and professional background resonated the most with Texas Republican primary voters when they consider selecting their next Attorney General.

Reitz’s Competition: Anti-Trump, Anti-Paxton, and Anti-Conservative

The dynamics of the race change even more drastically when voters are informed of each candidate’s public record. The message battery was read as these verifiable charges will be and have been levied on the campaign trail:

Chip Roy: Two-thirds of voters are less likely to support Roy after learning of his long opposition to President Trump and Trump’s supporters, his certification of the 2020 election results while saying President Trump was “impeachable,” President Trump’s sharp criticism of Roy, and Roy’s crusade to remove AG Paxton from office. Roy enjoys higher name ID than others in the field, but his negatives are catastrophic, and once voters are reminded of them, his support utterly collapses.

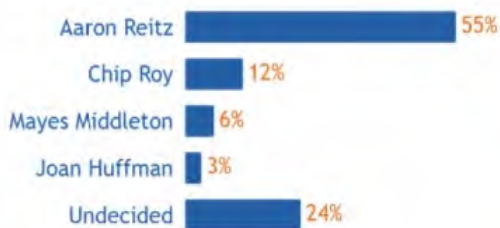
Joan Huffman: Huffman was initially perceived as anti-conservative, with more than three-fourths of primary voters against her based on her opposition to protecting Second Amendment rights. Her attempts at slashing the Attorney General’s Office budget from her position as State Senator and Committee Chairwoman are particularly damaging, with 76% of voters less likely to vote for her, including nearly 90% of “Trump Republicans” and a plurality of her previous supporters.

Mayes Middleton: Middleton loses support from nearly 75% of GOP Primary voters, 80% of Trump and Evangelical voters, and even a majority of his own original supporters when they learn of his support for the state budget’s DEI policies. Furthermore, his massive financial support for anti-Paxton candidates and causes, as well as his widely reported efforts to whip conviction votes in the Senate against AG Paxton after a sham House impeachment, pushes voters to move decisively away, with 62% of all voters (and more than 75% of Trump Republicans) saying they are less likely to vote for him.

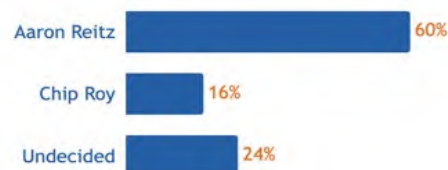
After a message battery on Reitz’s record and accomplishments versus Roy’s, Huffman’s, and Middleton’s, Reitz surges to 55% support on the full ballot, taking a 43-point lead over the name-ID frontrunner Chip Roy, with the other candidates in single digits. On the head-to-head ballot against Roy, Reitz climbs even higher to 60%, while Roy secures only 16%.

Importantly, voters who were initially undecided move substantially toward Reitz, with more than two-thirds of voters who were undecided on the initial ballot now backing Reitz based on these messages.

Knowing what you know now, if the March 3, 2026, Republican primary election for Attorney General of Texas were held today, who would you vote for?



Now, if the March 3, 2026, Republican primary election for Attorney General of Texas were held today, who would you vote for between these candidates?



Conclusion

The data clearly shows that Aaron Reitz is the favorite among Republican primary voters as their next Attorney General. On basic biography alone—without spin or campaign rhetoric—Reitz dominates. Then, once positive and negative messaging is included, Reitz’s lead grows exponentially.

Republican voters want Reitz as Texas’s next Chief Legal Officer: Marine, Trump’s “true MAGA attorney” and “warrior for our Constitution,” and Paxton’s endorsed successor.