



## Questions for Candidates for Texas Attorney General 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 Candidate is Running |
|----------------|---|
| George P. Bush | Texas Attorney General                  |

*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 in your political race.

**Answer:** I am a United States Veteran, father, and a proven conservative fighter that can win statewide. I was first elected as Texas Land Commissioner in 2014, where I won by over 25 points. In the last midterm election in 2018, I not only won my election by 10 points but received the second-most votes of any statewide candidate, behind only Governor Abbott. In addition, I out-performed Attorney General Paxton by nearly 250,000 raw votes.

Prior to running for office, I was a successful attorney and businessman. After earning my Juris Doctorate from The University of Texas School of Law, I served as a judicial clerk for U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Texas, Sidney A. Fitzwater, a Ronald Reagan appointee. I then practiced corporate and securities law with Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, LLP, conducting legal due diligence and preparing transaction documents in connection with mergers, acquisitions, offerings, credit facilities, securities filings, and divestitures for private equity clients and publicly held corporations. I subsequently co-founded Pennybacker Capital LLC, a real estate private equity firm, in 2007, and St. Augustine Partners LLC, a Fort Worth-based investment firm focused on oil and gas transactions and consulting for private businesses. I was awarded The University of Texas' Latino Leadership Award in 2015, the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award from The University of Texas School of Law in 2016, and the Outstanding Young Texas Ex Award in 2016. As Texas Land Commissioner, I've been in the courthouse fighting for Texas, taking on the Obama administration to defend Texas from a federal land grab, standing up against the Biden Administrations weaponized EPA, and launching suit against the Biden Administration for their failure to finish building the wall.

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:** I am running for Attorney General to not only deny Democrats its first statewide in 28 years but to give Republicans, conservatives, and Texans alike an Attorney General that will fight and **win** against the Biden Administration's federal overreach, protect our rights and constitutional freedoms and bring faith and confidence back to an office tarnished with personal corruption and scandal.

Texas must once again establish itself as a leader in the nation when it comes to standing up to oppressive federal overreach. I am running to restore leadership and integrity to our state attorney general's office and ensure that our state's leading law enforcement agent is above reproach. For years we have been hearing about indictments against our sitting Attorney General, and most recently, the ongoing FBI investigation into his abuse of power. It's an embarrassment to our state.

As Attorney General, I will secure our borders and elections, stand up to the federal government to protect Texans constitutional liberties, defend and stand with law enforcement and restore integrity back to the Office of Attorney General.

As Texas Land Commissioner, I have proven myself as an effective, trustworthy leader in the fight for our rights and values. That's what Texans can expect from me as Attorney General, here at home and in the courts.

I am the only candidate in this race who can step into the Attorney General's office on day one, ready to go. As Texas Land Commissioner, I have executive management experience, overseeing an agency of over 800 staff members, and administered a budget of \$2.5 billion. Not only that, I have a proven track record of reforming state government to make it more responsive, reliable, and fiscally efficient.

3.

**Answer:**

**1) Secure the Border**

The day after I announced my candidacy, I was endorsed by the National Border Patrol Council, comprised of 18,000 men and women in the United States Border Patrol. It's time for us to put Texas first. We are seeing our borders overwhelmed with violent cartel activity, human smuggling, and trafficking as well as a massive surge of illegal drugs into our community. Joe Biden has abandoned the border.

Our Attorney General is the first line of defense against the federal government. As Attorney General, I will:

- Work with the Governor to deploy more National Guard troops to the Texas/Mexico border.
- Toughen criminal penalties on drug smugglers and human traffickers.
- Finish President Trump's wall and continue building the Texas wall.

Texas cannot stand by and watch as violent cartels overrun our borders. I'm proud to have taken historic measures to construct the Texas wall on state-owned lands.

**2) Restore Government Accountability**

Taxpayers deserve accountability from our government. Commissioner Bush will eliminate wasteful spending and focus on zero-based budgeting. On day one, I will return transparency to the state's top law enforcement office. At the General Land Office, I focused on zero-based budgeting, and stood out as a fiscally conservative leader. Across the Attorney General's Office, I will improve the decision-making process by reducing bureaucracy and ensuring that the contracting process is above board.

Texans deserve the best representation possible, so we must recruit the top conservative attorneys to stand up for Texans rights. In addition, I will improve relationships with District Attorneys across the state, leading to an increase in criminal prosecutions.

**3) Defend our Law Enforcement**

The very individuals who protect and serve our state are under attack. Commissioner Bush will fight radical liberal policies and anti-police rhetoric to ensure Texas always supports our police officers.

As Attorney General, Commissioner Bush will prioritize recruiting Texas's most talented police officers to investigate Texas's top crimes and enhance public safety.

From the days of the Wild West to the notoriety of the iconic Texas Rangers, the Lone Star State has long led the nation in law and order. But with thousands of out-of-state families moving into Texas each day, the state sees an influx in outsider politics and cries to defund the police. If Texas can't maintain law and order, then no state can. We must have an attorney general who can keep his own record clean and defend Texas from socialist influences.

**4) Fight for Survivors of Human Trafficking**

Texas is the second-largest hub of human trafficking in the nation. I will

join together with survivors of human trafficking and victim advocates to dedicate more resources than ever before to fighting crime in our state and partner with law enforcement to put offenders behind bars.

I will lead the Attorney General's office in implementing technology to help stop this crime and increase access to victims' services. Together, we will dedicate more resources than ever before to fighting crime in our state. In addition, I will be the lead in partnering with law enforcement agencies across Texas to put human traffickers behind bars.

4. What changes can be made to state Attorney General office's to improve productivity, reduce waste and increase efficiencies?

**Answer:** The Attorney General's office has seen a mass exodus of conservative, Christian attorneys under the current administration. As Attorney General, I will recruit the state's top attorneys to work at the AG's office, helping Texas not only launch but win lawsuits against the overreaching Biden Administration. In addition, I will implement zero-based budgeting, running our AG's office like a business, maximizing every dollar spent.

I will lead the Attorney General's office in implementing technology to help stop this crime and increase access to victims' services, and child support. By utilizing technology, we can increase the ability for parents to provide child support and cut down on costs associated with collection.

5. What issues need to be addressed by the Attorney General concerning election fraud in Texas?

**Answer:** Secure elections are the bedrock of our nation. In the past election, there were many counties that changed their election rules with very little alert to the public. There was secrecy in our elections process. We must return to a secure election system.

As Attorney General, I will expand the voter fraud division of the Attorney General's office to ensure that they have the resources required to go after individuals and groups who seek to interfere in our elections.

Further, we must:

- Verify the accuracy of Voter Registration rolls
- Require an ID for in-person and absentee voting
- Prevent vote harvesting
- Allow election monitors complete access to the election process
- Provide voting assistance

The all-Republican Court of Criminal Appeals just recently voted to remove the only original jurisdiction that the Texas AG's office had remaining to prosecute voter fraud. This shows their loss of faith in the current Attorney General. As AG, I will work with the legislature to clarify this original jurisdiction and ensure that Texas has secure and fair elections.

6. In your opinion, does the Federal government have the authority to issue mask and vaccine mandates in Texas? If not, does the state or local government have this authority?

**Answer:** The federal government does not have the ability to dictate to Texans how we live our lives. Just because the state of Texas has the ability to enforce a mask or vaccine mandate does not mean that they should.

Individuals in Texas have a right to decide whether they should be vaccinated or not. No private entity or government should be able to force anyone to make a legal decision about their vaccination status. Further, our police officers, border patrol agents and first responders should not, in any way, lose their jobs if they decide against vaccinations.

The Governor clearly had the legal authority to prohibit businesses from instituting a vaccine mandate. Texans cannot be forced to receive medical treatment. As President Biden sits back and mocks those choosing to take in all the information before making their own health decisions, I believe the Attorney General should be doing more to stand up for Texans' rights. President Biden's overreaching mandate should be met with the full force of the Attorney General's office. Texans cannot be forced to receive medical treatment.

I would have taken further action than the current AG did, leading the nation in pushing back against this mandate and standing in strong support of Abbott's executive order, rather than just signing onto another state's coalition.

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.

George Prescott Bush is a native Texan, born in Houston on April 24, 1976. As an Attorney, Businessman, former school teacher, former Naval Officer and your current Texas Land Commissioner, George P. Bush has dedicated his life to public service.

Bush received his undergraduate degree from Rice University. After graduating, he taught history to at-risk students before earning a Juris Doctorate at The University of Texas School of Law.

In 2006, Bush applied to the U.S. Naval Reserve through the Direct Commission Officer program. In June of 2010, he was mobilized for an eight-month tour of duty at Bagram Air Field in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Among his service decorations, Commissioner Bush was awarded the Joint Service Commendation Medal for his meritorious service. He received the Afghanistan Campaign Medal for serving in theater and earned the Intel Warfare Designator pin.

After earning his Law Degree from UT Law, he went on to Clerk for U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Texas, Sidney A. Fitzwater, a Ronald Reagan appointee. He then practiced corporate and securities law with Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, LLP, conducting legal due diligence and preparing transaction documents in connection with mergers, acquisitions, offerings, credit facilities, securities filings, and divestitures for private equity clients and publicly held corporations. He subsequently co-founded Pennybacker Capital LLC, a real estate private equity firm, in 2007, and St. Augustine Partners LLC, a Fort Worth-based investment firm focused on oil and gas transactions and consulting for private businesses, serving as general counsel for both of those entities.

Bush was first elected as the 28th Texas Land Commissioner on Nov. 4, 2014 and was overwhelmingly re-elected on November 6, 2018. As Texas Land Commissioner, Bush serves the schoolchildren, veterans, and the environment of Texas. He does so by preserving our history, maximizing state revenue through innovative administration, and through the prudent stewardship of state lands and natural resources. Since September of 2017, Commissioner Bush and the General Land Office (GLO) have led the state's housing-related recovery efforts following Hurricane Harvey, helping more than 60,000 victims of Hurricane Harvey rebuild their homes and their lives.

As Texas Land Commissioner, Commissioner Bush has not only fought but won for Texans in the courts. He's currently suing the Biden Administration, in a case named Bush v. Biden, for their failure to finish building the congressionally authorized border wall. Previously, he won a major legal victory for Texas schoolchildren, standing up to the Obama Administration's Bureau of Land Management's illegal land grab, protecting state assets for years to come. He has routinely fought for freedom against

federal government overreach and ensured that unelected bureaucrats do not dictate how our state operates.

In addition, he has posed legal challenges against radical environmentalists abusing the Endangered Species Act and protected state property rights from trial lawyers.

Commissioner Bush has stood up to the EPA, pushing back against radical carbon regulations that threaten Texas's electrical grid's stability. He's also legally fought to preserve Texas' oil and gas rights in Denton when far-left environmentalists tried to disrupt the oil and gas industry. Most recently, he is in the courthouse on a suit called *Bush v. Biden*, calling out Biden's failure to finish building the wall.

Bush is the grandson of President George H.W. Bush, the son of former Florida Governor Jeb Bush and the nephew of President George W. Bush. He lives in Austin with his wife, Amanda, and their two sons.

# *Texans Know the Leader We Have in*

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## **LEADERS FROM ACROSS TEXAS HAVE ENDORSED GEORGE P. BUSH**

Commissioner Bush has already been endorsed by 40 law enforcement officials and organizations, 60 conservative grassroots leaders, and over 200 Tejano community leaders across the state, including the National Border Patrol Council. Notable endorsements include:

- National Border Patrol Council
- Texas Young Republicans
- Deputy Sheriff's Association of Bexar County
- Former US Congressman "Judge" Ted Poe
- James Baker- White House Chief of Staff for President Reagan / Former Secretary of State / Former Secretary of the Treasury
- Rolando Pablos- 111th Texas Secretary of State
- Nelson Balido- Chairman of the Border Security and Commerce Council
- Karen Newton- TFRW Immediate Past President
- State Representative Sam Harless
- JT Edwards- Former State Republican Exec Committee

Please find a full list of his endorsements here:

<https://www.georgepbush.com/endorsements/>