

VOTER GUIDE – AUGUST PRIMARY ELECTION
COUNTY COMMISSIONER – DISTRICT 17

Tuesday, August 7, 2018
POLLS ARE OPEN 7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OAKLAND AREA

Website: www.lwvoa.org **E-mail:** contact@lwvoa.org **Phone:** 248-594-6602

You may VOTE in ONLY ONE PARTY'S PRIMARY - either Republican or Democratic – for ALL partisan offices on ballot.
Note: Candidates are ordered within each office by party with Republicans preceding Democrats.

3 Candidates for COUNTY COMMISSIONER for ONE 2-year term

1 Republican and 2 Democrats are running for this office in District 17

CANDIDATES for COUNTY COMMISSION ONE 2-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i>	Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for County Commissioner and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.	Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues that the County Commission should address and what actions would you, as a commissioner, take regarding each of them?
<p><i>Republican</i> JEREMY MINKIN 17155 Sherfield Place Southfield, MI 48075</p>	DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION	
<p><i>Democrat</i> YOLANDA SMITH CHARLES 17580 Westland Ave. Southfield, MI 48075</p>	<p>Yolanda Smith Charles is a product of Southeastern Michigan, a graduate of Southfield Public Schools, and has enjoyed what it means to live in Oakland County for decades.</p> <p>As a youngster during the summer months, Yolanda learned community working in the 46th District Court and Southfield's Human Services department learning from champions of the Lathrup Village, Oak Park, and Southfield communities. Yolanda earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Management Information Systems and a Master's Degree in Education with a concentration in Instructional Technology.</p> <p>As an 8 year Trustee on the Southfield Board of Education, Yolanda learned what it takes to work collaboratively but also the necessity of diversity in thought and approach. Additionally, she was elected in 2017 to serve on the Oakland County School Board Association Board of Directors. Yolanda wants to take that intensity to the County Commission office to better serve the people of District 17...vote4yolanda.com.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Environment- Our parks, waterways, soil and air quality are a few aspects of the environment where the County Commission can make a strong impact. Education, advocacy and inquiry can help protect our natural resources in a manner fitting to our stellar county. It starts with policy but it continues through gaining buy-in from residents and other stakeholders to ensure sustainability for decades to come. 2. Resource Allocation- South Oakland County suffers from a lack of support from the County at-large. Many communities that border 8-mile provide the county with the majority of it's resources...it's time that allocation becomes more equitable. #roads 3. Technology Infrastructure and Workforce Development- Oakland County can provide stellar workforce development support by investing in technology throughout the county. My goal is to partner with businesses in my District to bolster there needs and find innovative ways to connect them to the top-quality candidates in District 17. – YSC

COUNTY COMMISSIONER – DISTRICT 17 (Continued)

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<p><i>Democrat</i> NANCY QUARLES 15801 Providence Apt. 11E Southfield, MI 48075</p>	<p>BIO INFO: Western Michigan University PhD; I have served as a State Representative. Currently, I am the Oakland County Commissioner, District 17 (Lathrup Village, portion of Southfield and Oak Park); where I serve on the Finance and General Government Committees. In addition, I hold the office of the Vice Chairman of the Michigan Democratic; Former President, Southern Oakland County NAACP; Chairman, Social Justice -- Triumph Church; former Board of Directors Member, Metro Detroit Planned Parenthood; and State Director, National Congress of Black Women. I am seeking re-election to continue working on initiatives I have begun and have not completed. Two initiatives I plan to continue to work on during the next term are ‘Ban the box’ and diversity in appointments to the counties boards and commissions. It is important to have citizens' boards reflect the population of the county. I will introduced the resolution for ‘Ban the box’, which is a second chance and fairness initiative.</p>	<p>The County Commission should address Economic Development, distribution of resources, and aging infrastructure. There needs to be more collaboration between the cities and the county for Economic improvement. As it relates to District 17, the county must look for ways to keep the economic revitalization strong in the district, as well as, the southern part of the county. It is essential to ensure the County’s resources are divided equally among all the communities. I will continue the collaboration of getting the county more involved with working with the cities in this part of the county. Most of Oakland County’s population is in the south end, however – the distribution of resources do not reflect this fact. In many of the county’s mature communities, their infrastructure needs repair. I will advocate to have the county focus on working with aging cities for long-term solutions, not short-term actions. Comprehensive planning will result in better infrastructure solutions.</p>

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