

**VOTER GUIDE – AUGUST PRIMARY ELECTION**  
**COUNTY COMMISSIONER – DISTRICT 12**

**Tuesday, August 4, 2020**  
**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 Democratic or Republican – for ALL partisan offices on ballot.  
**Note: Candidates are ordered within each office by party with Democrats preceding Republicans.**

**3 Candidates for COUNTY COMMISSIONER for ONE 2-year term**

**2 Democrats and 1 Republican are running for this office in District 12**

<u>CANDIDATES for COUNTY COMMISSION</u>	<u>Question 1 (150 Words or less):</u> Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for County Commissioner and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.	<u>Question 2 (150 Words or less):</u> 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><b>ONE 2-year term</b> <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i></p> <p><b>Democrat</b>  <b>KELLY DILLAHA</b>                      2553 Manchester Rd.                      Birmingham, MI 48009</p>	<p>I've lived in Oakland County for 20 years, 9 in Birmingham. My husband Scott and I wanted to be rooted in a community with caring neighbors, excellent schools, vibrant shops and safe streets. This week, our twin sons Aidan and Brady graduated from Seaholm without a commencement ceremony, but the outpouring of well-wishes from teachers and neighbors lifted us up and reminded us why we chose Oakland as our home. I'm running for County Commission because I want to play an active part in shaping Oakland's future. In a few years when my sons graduate from college, I want Oakland to be the place they choose to start their careers and raise their families. Through my professional and volunteer work, I have built strong relationships with community groups, business leaders, educators and government. I am proud of my reputation as someone who works hard to get things done on time and within budget. I'm not a career politician, I'm a business owner and parent who cares about where we are headed.</p>	<p>As County Commissioner I will bring smart, forward-thinking, compassionate leadership to Oakland County. I will fight to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep families safe and rebuild our economy by ensuring businesses have information and protective equipment to reopen safely, and the Public Health Division has resources to fight future outbreaks.</li> <li>• Make sure we have clean, safe drinking water by working with residents and local municipalities to explore ways to speed up lead service line replacements. Also, the Commission recently installed lead-free bottle filling stations in schools, and I'd like to expand that project by replacing existing drinking fountains that have tested for lead.</li> <li>• Address the unique needs of our growing senior population, projected to make up 40% of Oakland County by 2035. I cared for my when she was diagnosed with Alzheimer's, so know first-hand the challenges that seniors and their families face. I'll support our seniors during budget and policy discussions.</li> </ul>

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER – DISTRICT 12 (Continued)**

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<p><b><i>Democrat</i></b> <b>WILLIAM GAGE</b> 1234 S. Timberview Trl. Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304</p>	<p>I was born in Detroit and I have been a resident of Oakland County for several decades. I am a retired trial attorney who specialized in medical malpractice. I graduated from Wayne State University and Wayne State University School of Law. I retired from the active practice of law several years ago and I believe I have the experience and knowledge to be of public service to the people of Oakland County. I believe that a good political and economic system should be good for most of the citizens most of the time. I also believe that citizens should be running the government as opposed to career politicians. Oakland county is one of the wealthiest counties in the country and yet we have great disparity in living standards, education and medical care.</p>	<p>My overall philosophy is that government should work for the people and not the politicians or special interest. I am interested in attempting to create economic dignity for all citizens to the extent possible. This pandemic and the recent evidence of continuing racism hopefully provides an opportunity to reassess our values in terms of how our citizens are treated. The commission has several issues that could be important in this regard. Criminal justice reform would be one of the top issues as well as regional transportation, specifically dealing with the problem of the last mile. Although the commission does not have direct jurisdiction over our schools I believe that the disparity in educational opportunities should be dealt with.</p>

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER – DISTRICT 12 (Continued)**

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<p><b>Republican</b> <b>CHUCK MOSS</b> 1184 Dorchester Rd. Birmingham, MI 48009</p>	<p>Michigan State University, James Madison College: 1975. University of Detroit School of Law, 1979, passed Bar 1979. Married to Alice, 1979. 2 children, Elizabeth and Carolyn. Lived in Birmingham since 1981.</p> <p>WORK: Attorney. DETROIT NEWS Columnist. WXTY Radio Talk Host. WTVS 56 Co-Host Back to Back.</p> <p>POLITICAL: Birmingham City Commissioner, Mayor Pro Tem, Mayor: 1997-2001. Oakland County Commissioner, 2001-2006. Chair Finance Committee. State Representative, 40th District. 2007-2012 Chair House Appropriations Committee. Board Member, Regional Transit Authority: 2013-Present.</p> <p>RELEVANT QUALITIES AND SKILLS: EXPERIENCE! I've done this job before; tackled governance and budget challenges at local, County, and State level, in good times and bad. Having worked through the Great Recession, I'm ready to deal with the post-Virus challenges. Ready to go on Day One.</p>	<p>1) Keep Oakland County finance and ethical best practices.  HOW: Keep and build on Patterson-era budget-ethical procedures &amp; safeguards.</p> <p>2) Assist post-virus economic recovery, keep Oakland jobs engine for state.  HOW: No tax increases, adding to burden on families and job creators. Keep burden of government low, assist county business recruitment and retention, like One Stop Shop, Automation Alley, and Emerging Sectors.</p> <p>3) Strengthen public health and safety services, including Community Mental Health services.  HOW: Prioritize health and safety in budgeting, increase priority for Community Mental Health</p>

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