

VOTER GUIDE – AUGUST PRIMARY ELECTION
COUNTY COMMISSIONER – DISTRICT 13

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 13

<p>CANDIDATES for COUNTY COMMISSION</p> <p>ONE 2-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i></p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>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>
<p><i>Democrat</i> MARCIA GERSHENSON 5964 Wing Lk. Rd. Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301</p>	<p>I am the incumbent County Commissioner for District 13 and the current Vice-Chair of the Commission. I am a native Michigander and a graduate of the University of Michigan. I am running for re-election because during these unprecedented times, experienced leadership matters and is critical to our recovery. I reach out regularly to local communities to offer County resources. My knowledge and expertise has been invaluable to assist residents and businesses with answers to questions and problems.</p>	<p>My priorities are to strengthen the Oakland County Health department by partnering with local health facilities to offer more services for families. This includes opening more locations that will better integrate our Health Department into our communities and become a valued resource and neighborhood health center.</p> <p>Also, I have been actively involved in the distribution of grants and loans to our local businesses and residents impacted by the corona virus. I will continue to focus on providing the necessary support and financial resources to our community to bring back jobs and businesses to help rebuild our economy.</p> <p>Seniors have always been a top priority for me. I will continue to advocate and distribute funding to local agencies that offer senior resources. Oakland County has a large senior population and I am committed to try and address their needs and help them live independently and safely.</p>

COUNTY COMMISSIONER – DISTRICT 13 (Continued)

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<p>Democrat SEAN THOMAS 34234 Northwick Farmington Hills, MI 48331</p>	<p>My name is Sean Thomas, I am an Oakland County homeowner and the Father of four wonderful children. I Studied Criminal Justice Administration at U of D Mercy. I am running for Oakland County Commissioner to promote inclusion and fairness for all. My skills include budget management,creative problem solving,analytical thinking and the ability to approach emergencies in a calm manner. I am a people person willing to listen to other point of views. My Executive involvement in organizations such as PTA,Optimist Club,Proud Dads club is a testament of my take action approach for continuous improvement in our community.. I served as an Emergency Response Team Leader for the State of Michigan,and union Rep (VP) and Conflict Resolution Counselor in Americorps as a business owner and professional boxing promoter I have produced and negotiated multi million dollar boxing events viewed on Showtime and Comcast Television. I am a Black American Male who loves his Family and Country.</p>	<p>Health and Safety of our citizens and financial stability of Oakland County by attracting new business and delaying any new tax hikes for our citizens during this covid 19 and economic crisis. My first actions would be to create a new channel of citizens and county officials to help review and correct police misconduct. I will immediately begin a campaign to bring in new business to Oakland county and support existing businesses and create incentives for family’s to come live here and I will lead with integrity keeping our citizens informed and involved.</p>

COUNTY COMMISSIONER – DISTRICT 13 (Continued)

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<p>Republican MAX ROHTBART 5613 Pembroke Crossing West Bloomfield, MI 48322</p>	<p>I am a lifelong resident of Oakland County, graduated Andover High School, and have a B.A. in History from Oakland University. I currently attend University of Detroit Mercy School of Law where I am entering my final year of studies, I also serve on the student board of governors and honor council. In addition I work as a sports official registered with the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) in the sports of Football and Baseball. The reason I am running for county commission is because I am concerned about the direction of the county, the state, and our country. Americans are divided and leaders on all sides are making the situation worse. People are increasingly distrustful of institutions which are meant to protect them, which sometimes fail to do so. We as elected officials and public servants need to spend more time in the community looking at common problems, so we can solve those problems before they become even worse.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Infrastructure improvement, while roads have long been discussed other important pieces of infrastructure have been neglected for decades. Water quality is a major issue in Oakland County, replacement of lead pipes has been moving forward slowly, however the county dumping raw sewage in our great lakes is unacceptable and needs to end, the county needs to start with a transition plan to divide drainage and sewage systems. 2. No gerrymandering, the next county commission is responsible for drawing the districts for the 2022-2030 elections. I pledge to not vote for any gerrymandered map. 3. Maintain Oakland County’s AAA bond rating, the county has maintained a AAA bond rating for the past 22 years under strong leadership. This bond rating allows the county to provide better services for less taxpayer expense. To maintain this rating the county commission must hold the executive to a high level of scrutiny to maintain strong budgeting practices which have served Oakland for decades.

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