Governor — Kay Ivey (R), Walt Maddox (D)
The head of the executive branch faithfully executes state laws, commands our Army and Air National Guards, and signs/vetos bills from the state legislature. They also declare state of emergencies, call special sessions for the state, and pardon criminal convictions.

Lieutenant Governor — Will Ainsworth (R), Will Boyd (D)
The second-ranking officer in the executive branch and the first in line to succeed the Governor. The lieutenant governor acts as president of the Senate and is the tie-breaking vote.

Attorney General — Steve Marshall (R), Joseph Siegelman (D)
They defend Alabama in suits against the state. They also provide legal advice to state and county officers and advisory opinions on the constitutionality of bills as well as request execution dates for prisoners on death row. They may direct the prosecution of any criminal case in any of the courts of the state.

Secretary of State — John Merrill (R), Heather Milam (D)
The Alabama chief election official certifies vote totals, candidate qualifications, and ballots. They also maintain the state government’s official documents and public records.

State Treasurer — John McMillan (R)*
They handle all deposits, payments, investments, and other financial dealings on behalf of the state of Alabama.

State Auditor — Miranda Joseph (D), Jim Zeigler (R)
They’re constitutionally required to report annually on all receipts and disbursements of every character, all claims audited and paid out, and all taxes and revenues collected into the treasury.

State Board of Education —
District 2 Adam Jortner (D), Tracie West (R) — District 4 Yvette M. Richardson (D), Don Wallace (R) — District 6 Cynthia McCarty (R)* —

* - winner, uncontested

The 2018 midterm election will determine seats for local, state, and federal positions. In this guide, we provide everything you need to know to be an informed voter when you go to the polls on November 6. This guide does not assess any candidate’s fitness for a job nor recommend any candidate over another.

HOW TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CANDIDATES

Follow them online. Visit their websites, sign up for emails, and follow them on social media.

Go to events. Attend candidate forums, debates, and other campaign events and ask questions.

Read the news. Local, reputable sources oftentimes provide overviews of candidates running for election.

District 8 Jessica Fortune Barker (D), Wayne Reynolds(R)
The board consists of nine members who authorize education policy for Alabama and who appoint the State Superintendent. The Governor acts as its president. Elected members serve four-year terms. Four odd districts members are elected in presidential election years, while even districts members are elected during midterms.

Commissioner of Agriculture and Industries — Rick Pate (R)*
They manage the Department of Agriculture and Industries which oversees farms, animal and plant industry, pesticides, and other agricultural products.

Public Service Commission —
Place 1 Cara McClure (D), Jeremy H. Oden (R) — Place 2 Chip Beeker, Jr. (R), Kari Powell (D)
Tasked with overseeing the regulation of public transport and utilities, they provide consumers with safe, adequate and reliable services at rates that are equitable and economical.
**Jefferson County District Attorney Election**

Mike Anderton (R), Danny Carr (D)

The district attorney is the chief prosecutor for a local government area in Alabama. DAs are responsible for presenting cases against individuals and groups they suspect of breaking the law, initiating and directing further criminal investigations, guiding and recommending the sentencing of offenders, and are the only attorneys allowed to participate in grand jury proceedings. They have the sole power to decide whether to file criminal charges as well as the severity of those charges, including if someone receives a death sentence.

Our DAs, elected to six-year terms, will be determined in 2022. However, a call for a special election will put two candidates on the ballot in Jefferson County this fall.

**County Sheriff** —
An elected position for the county’s chief law enforcement officer. Some counties have specific laws which govern the sheriff’s office differently. The Alabama Supreme Court holds Alabama county sheriffs as state officers thus making them immune to most legal actions.

**Judicial**

**Alabama Supreme Court—**
- Chief Justice Tom Parker (R), Bob Vance, Jr. (D) — Place 1
- Sarah Hicks Stewart (R) — Place 2
- Tommy Bryan (R)* — Place 3
- Will Sellers (R)* — Place 4
- Jay Mitchell (R), Donna Wesson Smalley (D)

Officials are authorized to review decisions of any state court, conclude legal matters other can’t help due to lack of jurisdiction, and set official practices and procedures for all state courts. Their rulings are usually final. The chief justice acts as administrative head of Alabama’s judicial system but does not have additional authority or power during legal proceedings.

**Criminal Appeals —**
- Place 1 Richard Minor (R)* — Place 2
- Chris McCool (R) — Place 3
- Bill Cole (R)*

They hear matters settled at circuit court level, including exclusive jurisdiction over all misdemeanors, felonies, and habeas corpus.

**Civil Appeals —**
- Place 1 Richard Minor (R)* — Place 2
- Chris McCool (R)* — Place 3
- Bill Cole, (R)*

They hear matters such as divorce, custody, worker’s compensation, and appeals from administrative agencies.

**Legislative**

**Alabama House of Representatives**
While both legislative bodies pass bills on public policy matters, set levels for state spending, raise or lower taxes, the House is the only chamber that can originate revenue bills. They are also able to override a gubernatorial veto with a simple majority.

- **District 1**: Phillip Pettus (R), Bobby James Dolan III (I)
- **District 2**: Lora Kay Morrow (D), Lynn Greer (R)
- **District 3**: Chad Young (D), Andrew Sorrell (R)
- **District 4**: Juanita Allen Healy (D), Parker Moore (R), Polan Willis Jr. (I)
- **District 5**: Brian Williams (D), Danny Crawford (R)
- **District 6**: Andy Whitt (R)*
- **District 7**: Kenneth Brackins (D), Proncey Robertson (R)
- **District 8**: Billy Jackson (D), Terri Collins (R)
- **District 9**: Terrie Jones Savage (D), Scott Stadthagen (R)
- **District 10**: J.B. King (D), Mike Ball (R), Elijah Boyd (L)
- **District 11**: Randall Shedd (R)*
- **District 12**: Corey Habison (R)*
- **District 13**: Connie Cooner Rowe (R)*
- **District 14**: Tim Wadsworth (R)*
- **District 15**: Suzanna Coleman (D), Allen Farley (R)
- **District 16**: Kyle South (R)*
- **District 17**: Tracy Estes (R)*
- **District 18**: Eddie Britton (D), Jamie Kiell (R)
- **District 19**: Laura Hall (D)*
- **District 20**: Linda Meigs (D), Howard Sanderford (R)
- **District 21**: C. Terry Jones (D), Rex Reynolds (R)
- **District 22**: Ritchie Whorton (R)*
- **District 23**: James Hanes, Jr. (R)*
- **District 24**: Nathaniel Ledbetter (R)*
- **District 25**: Mac McCutcheon (R)*
- **District 26**: Kerry Rich (R)*
- **District 27**: Bill Jones (D), Wes Kitchens (R)
- **District 28**: Kyle Pierce (D), Gil Isbell (R)
- **District 29**: Jared Millican (D), Becky Nordgren (R)
- **District 30**: Jared Vaughn (D), B. Craig Lipscomb (R)
- **District 31**: Mike Holmes (R)*
- **District 32**: Barbara Boyd (D), James Lloyd (R)
**District 26:** David Burkette (D), D.J. Johnson (R)  
**District 27:** Nancy Carlton Bendinger (D), Tom Whatley (R)  
**District 28:** Billy Beasley (D)*  
**District 29:** Donnie Chesteen (R)*  
**District 30:** Clyde Chambliss Jr. (R)*  
**District 31:** Jimmy Holley (R)*  
**District 32:** Jason Fisher (D), Chris Elliot (R)  
**District 33:** Vivian Figures (D)*  
**District 34:** Jack Williams (R)*  
**District 35:** Tom Holmes (D), David Sessions (R)

**House of Representatives** — Congressional representatives are responsible for crafting, debating, and passing federal law in coordination with the U.S. Senate. The House represents the popular will, so voters elect their state representatives directly. They possess the authority to initiate revenue bills and impeachments.

**BALLOT INITIATIVES**

**Amendment #1: Ten Commandments Amendment**

+ This proposed amendment would authorize the display of the Ten Commandments on government property including public schools.

+ The ACLU opposes this because a constitutional display of the Ten Commandments is already permissible so this Amendment does nothing to further religious liberty. The Amendment is likely to result in potentially costly litigation against government entities.

**Amendment #2: Anti-Abortion Amendment**

+ This proposed amendment would declare that the state of Alabama must recognize and support the “rights of unborn children.”

+ The ACLU opposes this Amendment because it attempts to criminalize abortions with no exceptions. Health care shouldn’t be a decision left up to lawmakers in Montgomery.

**Amendment #3: University of Alabama Trustees Amendment**

+ This proposed amendment would remove the state superintendent from the board, establish districts for membership, and eliminate the 70 year age cap for board members.

+ The ACLU takes no position on this Amendment.

**Amendment #4: Legislature Vacancy Amendment**

+ This proposed amendment would allow a vacated seat in the Alabama House or Senate to stay empty until the next general election if the vacancy occurs on or after October 1 in the third year of a term.

+ The ACLU takes no position on this Amendment.

**IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES**

**October 22, 2018**  
Voter registration deadline for general election

**November 1, 2018**  
Last day to apply for an absentee ballot for the general election

**November 5, 2018**  
Last day for voter to hand-deliver or postmark an absentee ballot

**November 6, 2018**  
Statewide General Election

**HOTLINE**

CALL 334-420-1748.

If you have a complaint about voting on Election Day, call our hotline to leave a message or submit a comment online. This is not intended to offer assistance or legal advice.

www.aclualabama.org/vote