



## REMEMBER...

**Your OPINION is IMPORTANT  
BUT it is your VOTE that COUNTS!**

### YOU MAY VOTE IF...

1. You are a US Citizen
2. You are 18 or older
3. You are registered to vote

### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500  
(202) 456-1111 or (202) 456-1414  
[www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)  
(4 Year Term)

**PRESIDENT**  
*Barack Obama* (D) 2016

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
*Joe Biden* (D) 2016

**U.S. SENATOR (6 Year Term)**  
*Bill Nelson* (D) 2018  
United States Senate  
716 Senate Hart Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-5274  
Toll Free in Florida: 1-888-671-4091  
[www.billnelson.senate.gov](http://www.billnelson.senate.gov)

*Marco Rubio* (R) 2016  
United States Senate  
284 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3041  
Toll Free in Florida: 1-866-630-7106  
[www.rubio.senate.gov](http://www.rubio.senate.gov)

**U.S. HOUSE 17<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT (2 Year Term)**  
*Tom Rooney* (R) 2016  
2160 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-5792 DC or (863) 402-9082  
[www.rooney.house.gov](http://www.rooney.house.gov)

### STATE GOVERNMENT

Governor/Lieutenant Governor and Cabinet  
The Capitol, 400 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001  
[www.flgov.com](http://www.flgov.com)  
(4 Year Term - 2018)

**GOVERNOR**  
*Rick Scott* (R) (850) 488-7146

**LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**  
*Carlos Lopez-Cantera* (R) (850) 488-7146

**ATTORNEY GENERAL**  
*Pam Bondi* (R) (866) 966-7226

**COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE**  
*Adam H. Putnam* (R) (800) 435-7352

**COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION**  
*Pam Stewart* (R) (850) 245-0505

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**  
*Jeff Atwater* (R) (877) 693-5236

### STATE LEGISLATORS

**SENATE DISTRICT 21** (4 Year Term)  
*Denise Grimsley* (R) 2016  
205 S Commerce Avenue, Suite A  
Sebring, FL 33870  
(863) 386-6016 or 850-487-5021 TLH  
Email: [Grimsley.denise.web@flsenate.gov](mailto:Grimsley.denise.web@flsenate.gov)  
[www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**HOUSE OF REPS DISTRICT 55** (2 Year Term)  
*Cary Pigman* (R) 2016  
205 S Commerce Avenue, Suite B  
Sebring, FL 33870  
(863) 386-6000 or (850) 717-5055 TLH  
Email: [Cary.pigman@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:Cary.pigman@myfloridahouse.gov)  
[www.myfloridahouse.gov](http://www.myfloridahouse.gov)

LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION DIVISION  
1-800-342-1827

### LOCAL POLITICAL PARTY

**OKEECHOBEE DEMOCRATIC PARTY**  
*Magi Cable* 863-763-8667  
**OKEECHOBEE REPUBLICAN PARTY**  
*Debi Large* 863-532-2482

### OKEECHOBEE CITY GOVERNMENT

(Nonpartisan / City Residents Only)  
(4 Year Term)

55 SE 3rd Avenue  
Okeechobee, FL 34974  
863-763-3372  
[www.cityofokeechobee.com](http://www.cityofokeechobee.com)

#### CITY COUNCIL

<i>Noel Chandler</i>	2018
<i>James A. Kirk</i>	2016
<i>Mike O`Conner</i>	2016
<i>Gary Ritter</i>	2018
<i>Dowling R. Watford, Jr.</i>	2018

**CITY CLERK** *Lane Gamiotea* 2018

### OKEECHOBEE COUNTY GOVERNMENT

#### COUNTY CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

(4 Year Term)  
(Terms Expire 2016)

**COUNTY SHERIFF** *Paul May* (R)  
(863) 763-3117  
[www.okeesherriff.org](http://www.okeesherriff.org)

**CLERK OF THE COURT** *Sharon Robertson* (D)  
(863) 763-2131  
[www.clerk.co.okeechobee.fl.us](http://www.clerk.co.okeechobee.fl.us)

**PROPERTY APPRAISER** *Bill Sherman* (R)  
(863) 763-4422  
[www.okeechobeeepa.com](http://www.okeechobeeepa.com)

**TAX COLLECTOR** *Celeste Watford* (D)  
(863) 763-3084  
[www.okeechobee-county-taxcollector.com](http://www.okeechobee-county-taxcollector.com)

**SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS** *Diane Hagan* (D)  
(863) 763-4014  
[www.voteokeechobee.com](http://www.voteokeechobee.com)

**COUNTY JUDGE**  
(6 Year Term)

*Jerald (Jerry) Bryant* 2018  
(863) 763-3193

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS		
(Elected at Large)		
(4 Year Term)		
304 NW 2nd Street, Room 123		
Okeechobee, FL 34972		
863-763-6441		
www.co.okeechobee.fl.us		
Dist. 1	<i>Vacant</i> ( )	2016
Dist. 2	<i>Bryant Culpepper</i> (R)	2018
Dist. 3	<i>Frank Irby</i> (R)	2016
Dist. 4	<i>Terry Burroughs</i> ( R)	2018
Dist. 5	<i>Margaret G. Helton</i> (R)	2016

SCHOOL BOARD		
(Nonpartisan / Elected at Large)		
(4 Year Term)		
700 SW 2nd Avenue		
Okeechobee, FL 34974		
863-462-5000		
www.okee.k12.fl.us		
Dist. 1	<i>Joe Arnold</i>	2018
Dist. 2	<i>Malissa Morgan</i>	2016
Dist. 3	<i>Dixie Ball</i>	2018
Dist. 4	<i>India Riedel</i>	2016
Dist. 5	<i>Jill Clericuzio Holcomb</i>	2018

JUDICIAL OFFICES		
<b>19<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT STATE ATTORNEY</b> (4 Year Term)		
<i>Bruce H. Colton</i> (R)		2016
312 NW 3rd Street, Suite 260		
Okeechobee, FL 34972		
(863) 763-5557		
<b>19<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER</b> (4 Year Term)		
<i>Diamond R. Litty</i> (R)		2016
312 NW 3rd Street, Suite 220		
Okeechobee, FL 34972		
(863) 763-7977		
19TH CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES		
(6 Year Term)		
<i>Sherwood Bauer, Jr.</i> (#3)		2018
<i>Robert E. Belanger</i> (#12)		2018
<i>Barbara W. Bronis</i> (#17)		2020
<i>Laurie Buchanan</i> (#10)		2020

19TH CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES (cont'd from front)		
(6 Year Term)		
<i>Cynthia L. Cox</i> (#13)		2020
<i>Janet C. Croom</i> (#8)		2018
<i>Michael C. Heisey</i> (#4)		2020
<i>Paul B. Kanarek</i> (#5)		2018
<i>Steven J. Levin</i> (#7)		2020
<i>James W. McCann</i> (#1)		2016
<i>F. Shields McManus</i> (#6)		2016
<i>Elizabeth A. Metzger</i> (#18)		2020
<i>Lawrence M. Mirman</i> (#16)		2020
<i>Robert L. Peg</i> (#19)		2018
<i>William L. Roby</i> (#14)		2020
<i>Victoria L. Griffin</i> (#11)		2020
<i>Charles Schwab</i> (#9)		2016
<i>Gary L. Sweet</i> (#2)		2016
<i>Dan L. Vaughn</i> (#15)		2020

4TH DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS		
(6 Year Term)		
<i>Cory J. Ciklin</i>		2016
<i>Burton C. Conner</i>		2018
<i>Dorian K. Damoorgian</i>		2016
<i>Alan O. Forst</i>		2020
<i>Jonathan D. Gerber</i>		2016
<i>Robert M. Gross</i>		2016
<i>Mark W. Klingensmith</i>		2020
<i>Spencer D. Levine</i>		2016
<i>Melanie G. May</i>		2016
<i>W. Matthew Stevenson</i>		2020
<i>Carole Y. Taylor</i>		2018
<i>Martha C. Warner</i>		2020

STATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICES		
(6 Year Term)		
<i>Charles T. Canady</i>		2016
<i>Jorge Labarga</i>		2016
<i>R. Fred Lewis</i>		2018
<i>Barbara J. Pariente</i>		2018
<i>James E.C. Perry</i>		2016
<i>Ricky Polston</i>		2016
<i>Peggy A. Quince</i>		2018

This brochure reflects information available as of April, 2015.

Registration Information	
<b>How to Register</b> You may pick up an application from one of the following locations:	
Supervisor of Elections office	Senior Services Center
Driver's License Office	HRS
WIC	Public Library
Hunting/Fishing License Locations	
or you may call the elections office and a form will be mailed to you. You may also visit our website at <a href="http://www.VoteOkeechobee.com">www.VoteOkeechobee.com</a> where you will find an easy to complete online registration form.	
Once you have completed your voter registration application, mail or deliver it to the elections office. A voter information card will be mailed to you.	
<b>Requirements to Register</b> You may register to vote if you are:	
• a U.S. Citizen	
• a resident of the State of Florida (your county of residence)	
• 18 years of age (you may pre-register at 16)	
• in possession of civil rights pertaining to voting	
You must <b>register at least 29 days prior to voting in any Election.</b>	
<b>Closed Primary</b> Florida is a closed primary state, in a primary election voters may only vote for candidates in their party of registration. By not selecting a party when you register, your vote is limited in the primary election to nonpartisan races and issues. In the general election, you may vote for any candidate, regardless of party affiliation.	
<b>Party Affiliation</b> You may choose to register in a political party (major or minor) or register with no party affiliation. You may change your party affiliation, however the completed application must be submitted at least 29 days prior to a primary election.	
<b>EXCEPTION: UNIVERSAL PRIMARY CONTEST</b> If all candidates have the same party affiliation and the winner will have no opposition in the general election, then <b>ALL</b> qualified voters may vote on that “Universal Primary Contest” in the primary election.	
<b>Voter Responsibility</b> It is very important that each voter keep his or her information current with the elections office.	
For more information contact the Elections Office.	

<b>DIANE HAGAN</b>
<b>Supervisor of Elections</b>
<b>304 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Room 144</b>
<b>Okeechobee, FL 34972</b>
<b>863-763-4014</b>

Voting Information	
<b>Election Day Voting</b> Voting in a precinct in which you do not live is illegal. You must vote only at the precinct in which you reside. You are encouraged to report any changes in your registration (i.e., address, name, party affiliation) to the Elections Office. A current and valid picture / signature ID is required.	
<b>Absentee (Vote by Mail)</b> Any registered voter may apply by mail, phone, e-mail, or in person to the Elections Office for an absentee ballot. Absentee ballots will not be forwarded, so please keep your address updated. An absentee ballot must be received by your Elections Office no later than 7 p.m. Election Day.	
<b>Early Voting</b> The law permits voters to vote in person prior to election day. Early Voting begins up to 15 days before election day and ends the Saturday before election day. A current and valid picture / signature ID is required.	
<b>To Remain a Voter</b> Registration is permanent as long as you remain a qualified voter and a resident of Florida, please <b>keep</b> your <b>address current</b> with the Supervisor of Elections. You may <b>change your address</b> , by phone, in person or in writing. Also, if you <b>change your name</b> by marriage or other legal process, the Supervisor of Elections must be notified in writing.	
<b>Identification Requirements</b> In order to vote you must present a current and valid picture / signature identification. It can be one form, such as a Florida driver license or Florida issued ID, or two separate forms of identification. If you do not have proper ID you will be allowed to vote a provisional ballot.	

2016 Election Schedule	
<b>Presidential Preference Primary Election</b>	
Registration Closes: February 16, 2016	
Early Vote: February 29—March 12, 2016	
PPP Election: March 15, 2016	
<b>Primary Election</b>	
Registration Closes: August 1, 2016	
Early Vote: August 15—August 27, 2016	
Primary Election: August 30, 2016	
<b>General Election</b>	
Registration Closes: October 11, 2016	
Early Vote: October 24—November 5, 2016	
General Election: November 8, 2016	
<b>(2016 Election Schedule Dates Subject to Change)</b>	