



**REMEMBER...**

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

**YOU MAY VOTE IF...**

1. You are a Citizen of the United States of America
2. You are 18 or older
3. You are registered to vote
4. You are not a convicted felon, or if you are, your rights to vote has been restored
5. You are not adjudicated mentally incapacitated with respect to voting or, if you have, your right to vote has been restored

**FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

**PRESIDENT**

*Joseph R. Biden* (D) 2024

**VICE PRESIDENT**

*Kamala D. Harris* (D) 2024  
The White House  
(202) 456-1111 or (202) 456-1414  
[www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)  
(4 Year Term)

**U.S. SENATOR (6 Year Term)**

*Rick Scott* (R) 2024  
United States Senate  
(202) 224-5274  
Toll Free in Florida: 1-888-671-4091  
[www.rickscott.senate.gov](http://www.rickscott.senate.gov)

*Marco Rubio* (R) 2022

United States Senate  
(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)**

*Gregory Steube* (R) 2022  
(202) 225-5792 DC or (863) 402-9082  
[www.steube.house.gov](http://www.steube.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 - 2022)

**GOVERNOR**

**COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE**

*Nikki Fried* (D) (800) 435-7352

**COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION**

*Richard Corcoran* (R) (850) 245-0505

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

*Jimmy Patronis* (R) (877) 693-5236

**STATE LEGISLATORS**

**SENATE DISTRICT 26** (4 Year Term)

*Ben Albritton* (R) 2022  
150 North Central Ave  
Bartow, FL 33830  
(863) 534-0073 or 850-487-5026 TLH  
[www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**HOUSE OF REPS DISTRICT 55** (2 Year Term)

*Kaylee Tuck* (R) 2022  
55 S Parrott Ave  
Okeechobee, FL 34974  
(863) 462-5019 or (850) 717-5055 TLH  
[www.myfloridahouse.gov](http://www.myfloridahouse.gov)

**LOCAL POLITICAL PARTY**

**OKEECHOBEE DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

*Weston Harvey* 863-634-2848

**OKEECHOBEE REPUBLICAN PARTY**

*Jim Craig* 574-249-9495

**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>	2024
<i>Monica Clark</i>	2024
<i>Bob Jarriel</i>	2022
<i>Bobby Keefe</i>	2022
<i>Mayor Dowling R. Watford, Jr.</i>	2022

**CITY CLERK** *Lane Gamiotea* 2022

**OKEECHOBEE COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

**COUNTY CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS**

(4 Year Term)  
(Terms Expire 2024)

**SHERIFF** *Noel Stephen* (R)  
(863) 763-3117  
[www.okeesherriff.org](http://www.okeesherriff.org)

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

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

**TAX COLLECTOR** *Celeste Watford* (R)  
(863) 763-3084  
[www.okeechobeeountytaxcollector.com](http://www.okeechobeeountytaxcollector.com)

**SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS** *Melissa Arnold* (R)  
(863) 763-4014  
<http://www.voteokeechobee.gov/>

**COUNTY JUDGE**

(6 Year Term)

*William Wallace* 2024  
(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>David Hazellief</i> (R)	2024
Dist. 2	<b>Vacant</b>	2022
Dist. 3	<i>Brad Goodbread</i> (R)	2024
Dist. 4	<i>Terry Burroughs</i> (R)	2022
Dist. 5	<i>Kelly Owens</i> (R)	2024

## 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>	2022
Dist. 2	<i>Malissa Morgan</i>	2024
Dist. 3	<i>Melisa Jahner</i>	2022
Dist. 4	<i>Amanda Reidel</i>	2024
Dist. 5	<i>Jill Holcomb</i>	2022

## JUDICIAL OFFICES

### 19<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT STATE ATTORNEY (4 Year Term)

*Thomas Bakkedahl* (R) 2024  
312 NW 3rd Street, Suite 260  
Okeechobee, FL 34972  
(863) 763-5557

### 19<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER (4 Year Term)

*Diamond R. Litty* (R) 2024  
312 NW 3rd Street, Suite 220  
Okeechobee, FL 34972  
(863) 763-7977

### 19<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES

(6 Year Term)

	<i>Dan L. Vaughn</i> (#3)	2024
	<i>Robert E. Belanger</i> (#12)	2024
	<i>Brett M. Waronicki</i> (#17)	2026
	<i>Gary L. Sweet</i> (#10)	2026

## 19<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES

(6 Year Term)

	<i>Cynthia L. Cox</i> (#13)	2026
	<i>Janet C. Croom</i> (#8)	2022
	<i>Victoria L. Griffin</i> (#11)	2026
	<i>Michael C. Heisey</i> (#4)	2026
	<i>Michael J. Linn</i> (#5)	2024
	<i>Steven J. Levin</i> (#7)	2026
	<i>James W. McCann</i> (#1)	2022
	<i>Michael J. McNicholas</i> (#6)	2022
	<i>Elizabeth A. Metzger</i> (#18)	2026
	<i>Lawrence M. Mirman</i> (#16)	2026
	<i>Robert Meadows</i> (#19)	2024
	<i>William L. Roby</i> (#14)	2026
	<i>Charles Schwab</i> (#9)	2022
	<i>Laurie Buchanan</i> (#2)	2022
	<i>Sherwood Bauer, Jr.</i> (#15)	2026

## 4<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS

(6 Year Term)

	<i>Cory J. Ciklin</i>	2022
	<i>Burton C. Conner</i>	2024
	<i>Dorian K. Damoorgian</i>	2022
	<i>Alan O. Forst</i>	2026
	<i>Jonathan D. Gerber</i>	2022
	<i>Robert M. Gross</i>	2022
	<i>Mark W. Klingensmith</i>	2026
	<i>Jeffrey T. Kuntz</i>	2024
	<i>Spencer D. Levine</i>	2022
	<i>Melanie G. May</i>	2022
	<i>Edward L. Artau</i>	2024
	<i>Martha C. Warner</i>	2026

## STATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

(6 Year Term)

	<i>Charles T. Canady</i>	2022
	<i>Jorge Labarga</i>	2022
	<i>C. Alan Lawson</i>	2024
	<i>Carlos G. Muniz</i>	2024
	<i>John D. Couriel</i>	2024
	<i>Ricky Polston</i>	2022
	<i>Jamie R. Grosshans</i>	2024

This brochure reflects information available  
as of July 2021.

## Registration Information

**How to Register** You may pick up an application from one of the following locations:

Supervisor of Elections office	WIC
Driver's License Office	CPS
Senior Services Center	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 <http://www.voteokeechobee.gov/> 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.

**Requirements to Register** 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)
- If you are a felon with rights restored
- You must **register at least 29 days prior to voting in any Election.**

**Closed Primary** Florida is a closed primary state. In a primary election, registered 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.

**Party Affiliation** 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.

### **EXCEPTION: UNIVERSAL PRIMARY CONTEST**

If all candidates have the same party affiliation and the winner will have no opposition in the general election, then **ALL** qualified voters may vote on that "Universal Primary Contest" in the primary election.

**Voter Responsibility** It is very important that each voter keep his or her information current with the Elections Office.

For more information contact the Elections Office.

**Melissa Arnold**  
**Supervisor of Elections**  
**304 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite 144**  
**Okeechobee, FL 34972**  
**863-763-4014**

<http://www.voteokeechobee.gov/>

## Voting Information

**Election Day Voting** 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.

**Vote by Mail (Absentee)** 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.

**Early Voting** 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.

**To Remain a Voter** Registration is permanent as long as you remain a qualified voter and a resident of Florida. Please **keep your address current** with the Supervisor of Elections. You may **change your address**, by phone, in person or in writing. Also, if you **change your party** OR **change your name** by marriage or other legal process, you must complete a new voter application.

**Identification Requirements** 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. A provisional ballot will be issued if you do not have proper ID.

## 2022 Election Schedule

### **Primary Election**

Registration Closes: **July 25, 2022**

Early Vote: **August 13-20**

Primary Election: **August 23, 2022**

### **General Election**

Registration Closes: **October 10, 2022**

Early Vote: **October 29-November 5**

General Election: **November 8, 2022**

**(2022 Election Schedule Dates Subject to Change)**