

2026 Hamilton County Democrat Primary Election

Voter Guide

501(c)(3) - compliant
and nonpartisan

County Commission Dist. 5

County Primary Election | 5/5/2026



**YOUR VOTE
MATTERS**

5/5/2026

Online Voter Registration/Record Updating available until 4/6/2026 at: <https://sos.tn.gov/elections>

Contact Church Voter Guides at: Info@VoteChattanooga.org | Updated 4/6/2026

For other Voter Guides and more information, please go to our website: www.VoteChattanooga.org

Church Voter Guides does not endorse or oppose any candidates for public office or any political party.

The Voter Guide Information contained in this document is provided for informational purposes only. It was obtained directly from candidates and other sources, and we have done our best to convey it to you accurately, but nothing herein has been "fact checked". Utilize this Voter Guide at your own discretion. We take no responsibility for the factual nature of the content, or for publishing errors, etc. To the best of our knowledge, this Voter Guide is 501(c) (3) – and officially nonpartisan, and thereby it does not support or oppose any candidate.

Hamilton County 2026 Democrat Primary Election Voter Guide for County Commission Dist. 5

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Introduction to the Voter Guide

Church Voter Guides is an independent 501(c)(3) faith-based nonprofit organization. We serve the public by providing objective research and education on matters specifically of interest to Christians, primarily through the production and distribution of 501 (c)(3)-compliant, nonpartisan voter guides.

Church Voter Guides does not endorse or oppose any candidates for public office or any political party.

Church Voter Guides, a Chattanooga nonprofit, initially started in Colorado Springs in April of 2021. This new Voter Guide for the 2026 Democrat Primary is being distributed electronically only, both through our interactive website and by downloadable and printable PDF files. We have produced one Voter Guide for each seat that is: (1) conducting an election this year, and (2) for which at least one candidate in that election answered our Questionnaire. Our Voter Guides are being promoted through a wide-ranging network of area churches, faith-based non-profit organizations, mainstream and social media, and other means.

The purpose of our Voter Guides is to educate and inform voters of each candidate's positions on a variety of policy issues that they are likely to address if elected. As a Voter Guide designed to be distributed through Churches, we ask the candidates questions on topics that are of utmost interest to the Christian voter

How to Get the Most Benefit from this Voter Guide

The core information in this Voter Guide comes directly from the County Primary Elections candidates themselves. We asked them questions, they answered (with a 120 word limit), and we have published their responses here. In order to understand and utilize this information to the fullest, so that you may vote in the most informed way, we suggest the following:

1. Pray and ask the Almighty for discernment. The Kingdom of God is all about truth, while politics is a system fraught with compromise. Make sure you consider the candidates' answers with a Heavenly mindset.
2. Ask yourself, "Did the candidate actually answer the question, or rather side-step it, or give a fluff, wishy-washy, and/or 'political' type answer that leaves you not really knowing where he/she truly stands on the issue?"
3. Learn more about the candidates running for County Commission Dist. 5 including their positions on issues we did not cover in our questionnaire, by visiting their official campaign websites (if they have one.) The website URL for each candidate is listed in the Voter Guide.
4. Educate yourself more about the Christian/Biblical perspective regarding many of the subjects covered in our Voter Guide by reading topical articles on our website: www.VoteChattanooga.org
5. Use search engines to find additional information about each candidate, including written articles and videos, other voter guides, and even voting records for those who have served in public office before. You may even want to watch online recordings of the local County Commission Dist. 5 meetings to see how incumbents conduct themselves and vote.
6. Reach out to the candidates themselves through the provided email addresses and other means, in order to ask them questions of personal importance to you. Please make sure to show great respect toward each candidate and his/her time, especially to those with whom you disagree. Running for office is hard, stressful, time consuming work, and these are your fellow citizens who have lives, families, jobs...and feelings (just like you!)

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What makes a Voter Guide 501 (c)(3) - Compliant and Nonpartisan?

Federal tax law permits nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations to develop and distribute materials about political candidates' positions on issues, in order to educate voters impartially and on a nonpartisan basis; meaning that it is free from party affiliation, bias, or designation. The IRS states that 501 (c)(3) organizations may conduct any range of activities to promote voter participation and educate voters so long as it is nonpartisan. But, 501(c)(3) organizations are explicitly prohibited from supporting or opposing candidates for public office.

Some of the activities 501(c)(3) nonprofits *MAY* perform: Conduct or promote voter registration; educate voters on the voting process; distribute nonpartisan sample ballots, candidate questionnaires, and **voter guides**; organize "get-out-the-vote" activities; encourage and help people to vote; educate the candidates on issues important to their organization; and continue to do issue advocacy during an election.

So, first and foremost: **Church Voter Guides** does **NOT** endorse or oppose any candidates for public office or any political party.

Second, all of our staff and volunteers are required to act in a nonpartisan manner when working for or representing the organization and the creation of the Voter Guide.

Third, we do not edit, revise, or editorialize candidate responses to our Questionnaire. We do not even correct typos. **Candidate answers are published verbatim**, ensuring that their responses accurately represent their positions and perspectives on these issues. We then simply share this information through the Voter Guide, and you decide whom you believe to be the best candidate.

To be fair and impartial, we reached out by email, text, and phone when determined necessary, to all registered candidates running for County Commission Dist. 5 throughout Hamilton County for their 2026 elections, inviting them to answer our questionnaire. Candidate information is presented in alphabetical order by **last name**. If a Candidate did not respond at all, or did not choose to participate, or did not choose to respond to certain answers in the questionnaire, then it is noted where applicable. If there were not enough candidates running, then we did not produce a Voter Guide for that seat.

Join Our Growing Grassroots Coalition of Citizens, Churches/Nonprofit Organizations, and Media Partners Committed to Promoting the Voter Guide throughout Our Region

Let's get the word out!

It's simple. Just share our website URL all around the Hamilton County region:

www.VoteChattanooga.org

Tell your friends and neighbors, post on social media, and ask your Pastors to promote it to your congregation (we'll even provide you /them with the announcement info and the slide deck.)

Please contact us for any reason, we'd love to collaborate with you: Info@VoteChattanooga.org

The "Small Print": The information contained in this document is being provided for informational purposes only. It was obtained directly from candidates and other sources, and we have done our best to convey it to you accurately, but nothing herein has been "fact checked". Utilize this Voter Guide at your own discretion. We take no responsibility for the factual nature of the content, or for publishing errors, etc. To the best of our knowledge, this Voter Guide is 501(c)(3)-compliant and officially nonpartisan, and thereby it does not support or oppose any candidate

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**Hamilton County
2026 Democrat Primary Election
Voter Guide
for County Commission Dist. 5**

**County
Commission**

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County Commission | Survey Questions Index

- 1) **Purpose:** What do you view as the purpose and role of the County Commission?
- 2) **Candidate's Focus/Expertise/Initiatives:** What are your areas of special focus and/or expertise and what initiatives would you undertake as County Commissioner?
- 3) **Budget:** What would be your top three spending, savings, and economic development priorities?
- 4) **Constitutional Liberties:** As County Commissioner, what measures will you champion to protect the individual Constitutional liberties of all Hamilton County residents, such as freedom of speech, peaceable assembly and exercise of religion?
- 5) **Protecting Life:** What legal means, if any, would you support to protect the most vulnerable in our county, including the lives of the unborn, the trafficked, the poor and homeless, and the elderly?
- 6) **Moral Values:** Should government laws, ordinances, regulations, etc. follow the moral principles of the Ten Commandments? Why, or why not?
- 7) **Speed cameras:** How would you address the use of automated speed cameras within the county (including those in school zones)? What oversight and transparency measures should be required to maintain public trust? Do speed cameras contradict constitutional protections within drivers' rights such as due process and the right to confront one's accuser?
- 8) **Zoning/Planning:** What policies would you support to prevent and disclose potential conflicts of interest between developers and members of Hamilton County's zoning and planning committees, and how would you ensure that land-use decisions are made transparently, ethically, and in the best interest of residents rather than private interests?
- 9) **Managing County Growth and Infrastructure:** What strategies and/or resources does the county currently have to better pace growth in Hamilton County so infrastructure, roads and emergency services can keep up with development? How would you use these tools to address this issue?
- 10) **Planning for Unincorporated Areas:** Do you support having a separate planning commission for the unincorporated areas? Please explain your reasoning, and if applicable, what steps you would take.

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County Commission Dist. 5

(In alphabetical order)



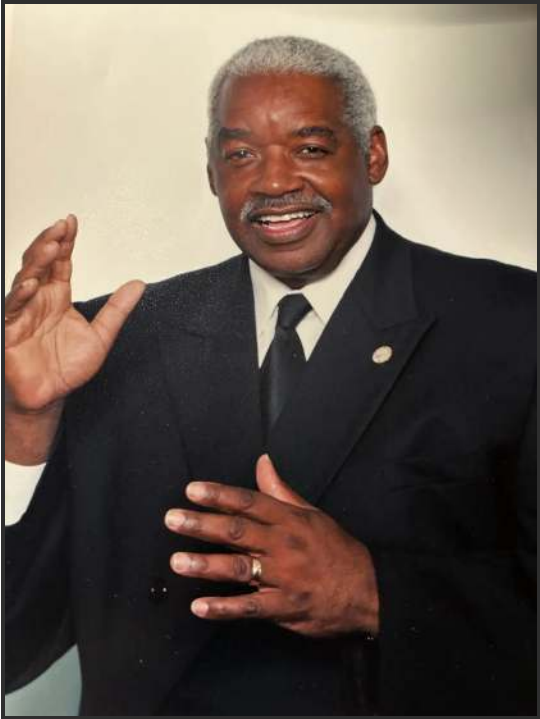
Greg Beck



Katherlyn Geter

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Greg Beck

Candidate Information

Email Address:	gregorybeck412@aol.com
Occupation/Vocation:	Court Officer
Years as resident of:	Continuous
Campaign Website:	N/A

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1) Purpose: What do you view as the purpose and role of the County Commission?

Core Responsibilities of a Hamilton County Commissioner

1. Oversees County Budget & Financial Decisions

Commissioners review, monitor, and approve county budgets, appropriations, spending, and fiscal policies.

They work closely with the County Mayor, Finance Department, and County Auditor to ensure responsible use of public funds.

2. Sets Local Laws, Policies, and Regulations

3. Represents the People of Their District

Each commissioner is elected to represent a specific district within Hamilton County.

They advocate for community needs—such as infrastructure, safety, development, and neighborhood concerns.

4. Provides Oversight of County Departments & Services

The Board of County Commissioners has jurisdiction over numerous county departments and boards, including:

5. Ensures Transparency, Accountability, and Ethical Governance

2) Candidate's Focus/Expertise/Initiatives: What are your areas of special focus and/or expertise and what initiatives would you undertake as County Commissioner?

I am committed to serving every corner of our community with purpose and compassion. That begins with standing beside families of murder victims, ensuring they receive the support, justice, and healing they deserve. I am equally focused on creating good-paying jobs that strengthen our local economy and open doors of opportunity for every resident. We must continue enhancing public education so our children learn in safe, modern schools that prepare them for a brighter future. I will champion affordable housing that keeps families stable and neighborhoods strong. And I remain dedicated to improving the quality of life for our senior citizens, honoring their contributions with services, respect, and meaningful support.

3) Budget: What would be your top three spending, savings, and economic development priorities?

Top Spending Priorities for Hamilton County

These categories consistently receive the largest allocations and deliver the greatest community impact.

1. Public Education (Top Priority)

Nearly two-thirds of the county budget goes to schools, making it the single largest investment area. Funds support teacher pay, school safety, new school construction, and rising operational costs.

2. Public Safety

• FY26 budget directs most new revenue to public safety: Sheriff's Office, EMS, animal control, and volunteer fire departments.

3. Health Department

4. County Workforce

Employees receive raises, health-insurance cost coverage, and one-time bonuses to maintain competitive staffing.

Top Areas for Savings & Efficiency

1. Administrative Overhead

• Streamlining internal operations, consolidating services, and reducing duplicative processes can save millions over time.

.

4) Constitutional Liberties: As County Commissioner, what measures will you champion to protect the individual Constitutional liberties of all Hamilton County residents, such as freedom of speech, peaceable assembly and exercise of religion?

Here's the heart of it, I will champion the protection of individual constitutional liberties, I will focus on strengthening the structural safeguards that keep government power in check, while ensuring citizens can actually exercise their rights

- Strengthen the Structural Checks on Government Power
- Advocate for transparent government operations and strong oversight
- Protect the Core Bill of Rights Liberties or committees.
- Protection from Unreasonable Searches
- Advocate for strict warrant requirements and limits on digital surveillance.

Champion Civic Education

I already excel at this, my work with seniors, youth, and community groups is exactly what strengthens liberty.

Promote education on the Constitution, voting rights, and civic responsibility.

I think public that understands its rights is harder to oppress.

.

5) Protecting Life: What legal means, if any, would you support to protect the most vulnerable in our county, including the lives of the unborn, the trafficked, the poor and homeless, and the elderly?

I believe every person in Hamilton County—born and unborn, young and old, poor or prosperous—deserves dignity, protection, and opportunity. I support using every lawful county tool to safeguard the most vulnerable. That includes strengthening partnerships with law enforcement to combat human trafficking, expanding support services for victims, and ensuring strict accountability for traffickers. I will champion programs that provide shelter, mental-health care, and pathways to stability for the poor and homeless. I support protecting seniors through stronger oversight of elder-care facilities and enhanced community-based services. While state law governs abortion, I will always promote a culture of life by supporting resources for mothers, children, and families so no one faces hardship alone.

6) Moral Values: Should government laws, ordinances, regulations, etc. follow the moral principles of the Ten Commandments? Why, or why not?

Our laws should reflect the moral principles that promote human dignity, justice, and personal responsibility—values that are also expressed in the Ten Commandments. Principles such as honoring life, protecting families, prohibiting theft, perjury, and exploitation are foundational to a healthy society and align with the ethical traditions of many faiths. At the same time, our Constitution prohibits government from establishing a specific religion, ensuring freedom for all. I believe we can uphold moral standards that strengthen our community without violating that constitutional boundary. In practice, this means supporting laws that protect life, promote honesty, safeguard property, and ensure fairness—universal values that benefit everyone, regardless of their faith background.

7) Speed cameras: How would you address the use of automated speed cameras within the county (including those in school zones)? What oversight and transparency measures should be required to maintain public trust? Do speed cameras contradict constitutional protections within drivers' rights such as due process and the right to confront one's accuser?

Automated speed cameras should only be used in Hamilton County when they clearly improve public safety—especially in school zones—and never as revenue generators. If they are used, strict oversight is essential. I support requiring full transparency on camera locations, citation data, revenue distribution, and vendor contracts. Independent audits should verify accuracy, and citizens must have a simple, fair appeals process.

Regarding constitutional protections, any enforcement tool must respect due process. Drivers must have the right to challenge a citation before a neutral decision-maker, and evidence—including calibration records—must be available for review. While courts have generally upheld speed cameras, concerns about confronting one's accuser are valid, which is why human oversight and clear accountability are necessary.

8) Zoning/Planning: What policies would you support to prevent and disclose potential conflicts of interest between developers and members of Hamilton County's zoning and planning committees, and how would you ensure that land-use decisions are made transparently, ethically, and in the best interest of residents rather than private interests?

I support strong, enforceable policies that prevent conflicts of interest between developers and members of Hamilton County's zoning and planning bodies. This begins with mandatory disclosure of financial ties, business relationships, campaign contributions, and any personal interests that could influence a land-use decision.

Members with conflicts should be required to recuse themselves, and all recusals should be publicly recorded.

To maintain public trust, I support transparent processes: publishing meeting agendas and development proposals well in advance, livestreaming and archiving meetings, and providing clear explanations for decisions. Independent ethics reviews, periodic audits, and strict limits on private meetings with developers are also essential.

9) Managing County Growth and Infrastructure: What strategies and/or resources does the county currently have to better pace growth in Hamilton County so infrastructure, roads and emergency services can keep up with development? How would you use these tools to address this issue?

Hamilton County already has several tools to better pace growth so infrastructure, roads, and emergency services can keep up. These include the Regional Planning Agency's long-range land-use plans, traffic impact studies, subdivision regulations, and capital improvement planning. The county can also require developers to address infrastructure impacts—such as road upgrades, turn lanes, drainage improvements, and adequate access for fire and EMS—before projects are approved.

I would use these tools more aggressively and transparently. That means enforcing traffic and infrastructure impact requirements, coordinating closely with schools and emergency services, and aligning zoning decisions with actual infrastructure capacity rather than developer timelines

10) Planning for Unincorporated Areas: Do you support having a separate planning commission for the unincorporated areas? Please explain your reasoning, and if applicable, what steps you would take.

N/A



Katherlyn Geter

We made multiple attempts to communicate with Katherlyn Geter; however, the Candidate did not complete the survey by the submission deadline.

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An advertisement for a training program. It features a blue checkmark icon with a red and white striped banner above it. The text reads: "HOW TO RUN FOR OFFICE AS A CHRISTIAN CONSERVATIVE". Below this, it says "Comprehensive Campaign Training with a Biblical Worldview" and lists the target audience: "For Current and Prospective Candidates, Campaign Consultants and Managers, Candidate Families, Pastors, Campaign Volunteers, and All Citizens who Wish to Serve Our Nation by Glorifying God through Government". A photo of Pastor and Former U.S. Congressman Bill Redmond is shown with the text "Instructed by Pastor and Former U.S. Congressman Bill Redmond". The slogan "Winning Back America ... One Candidate at a Time!" is written in a script font. At the bottom, the website "www.RunForOffice.training" is displayed in red and blue.

The logo for "choices" features a blue heart icon inside a speech bubble shape, followed by the word "choices" in a lowercase, blue, sans-serif font. Below the logo is a blue banner with the text "Saving and transforming lives since 1985" in white.

- ♥ VISIT TEAM.CHOICESCHATTANOOGA.ORG
- ♥ FOLLOW [TEAM.CHOICESCHATT](https://www.facebook.com/TEAM.CHOICESCHATT)  
- ♥ GET INVOLVED!



An advertisement for "july 2 life .com". The text "july 2 life .com" is written in a colorful, cursive font. To the right is a small American flag icon. Below the text, it says "3 million letters to end abortion" in a bold, sans-serif font. The background of the advertisement is a photograph of the U.S. Capitol building.

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