



Voter Guide with information from VOTE411.org

Primary Runoff Election for Kerr County Sheriff - Republican Party Ballot

The Mission of the League of Women Voters: Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

This publication provides voters in our community with unbiased, nonpartisan information on candidates that comes from the candidates themselves in their own words. The League of Women Voters is nonpartisan.

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The information provided on this flyer is also available at the website VOTE411.org, sponsored by the League of Women Voters - Hill Country Texas.

EARLY VOTING IN TWO LOCATIONS WITH CURB-SIDE VOTING AVAILABLE:

Hill Country Youth Event Center 3785 Highway 27 in Kerrville

Ingram ISD Business Office Building 509 College Street in Ingram

1	Monday	June 29	7am-7pm		6	Monday	July 6	7am-7pm
2	Tuesday	June 30	7am-7pm		7	Tuesday	July 7	7am-7pm
3	Wednesday	July 1	7am-7pm		8	Wednesday	July 8	7am-7pm
4	Thursday	July 2	7am-7pm		9	Thursday	July 9	7am-7pm
5	Friday	July 3	Holiday		10	Friday	July 10	7am-7pm

ELECTION DAY - TUESDAY, JULY 14 FROM 7AM TO 7PM - FOUR LOCATIONS:

Precinct #	Location	Address
101, 107, 109, 113, 118, 119	River Hills Mall	200 Sidney Baker South Kerrville
202, 211, 215, 220	Union Church Building	101 Travis Street Kerrville
303, 308, 312, 314	Cailloux Theatre	910 Main Street Kerrville
404, 405, 406, 410, 416, 417	Citywest Church	3139 Junction Highway Ingram

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The sheriff acts as a conservator of the peace and the executive officer of the county and district courts, serves writs and processes of the courts, seizes property after judgment, enforces traffic laws on county roads and supervises the county jail and prisoners.

A sheriff in Texas has the following duties per the Texas Association of Counties:

1. Serves as a licensed peace officer and is responsible for enforcing the criminal laws of the state
2. Manages and operates the county jail
3. Provides security for the courts
4. Serves warrants and civil papers

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Primary Runoff Election for Kerr County Sheriff - Republican Party Ballot

The Primary Runoff Election will decide the Republican candidate for the General Election on November 3, 2020. Candidates from all parties will be invited to participate in the Voter Guide for that election.

All Voter Guide responses come directly from the candidates and are not edited by LWV-Hill Country Texas. The League does not support or oppose any candidate or candidates or political party or parties.

1. What in your background qualifies you for the position of Kerr County Sheriff?

Garcia: I am uniquely qualified because I have worked in every department of the Sheriff's Office. I am currently SERVING Kerr County 19 years. Sheriff Hierholzer hired me in 2001. Matter of fact, this would be the first time in the history of the Kerr County Sheriff position that, if I am blessed to be elected, has/have worked in every facet of the Sheriff's Office. Plus, I am the only candidate who can combine his training and experience from the private sector (35 years. 32 years in management) to bring about required growth and change at the Sheriffs Office.

Leitha: I have over 31 years' experience in Law Enforcement, at the local, state, and federal levels. I retired from Texas DPS as a special Agent and Narcotics Sergeant. I am a Kerr County Native. I have worked with the FBI, DEA, Customs, ATF, and other jurisdictions and have successfully filed over 350 felony cases against drug smugglers, gangs, and violent criminals. I have been an active member of community organizations, including the Center Point School Board, HCDJLS, Elks Lodge, and FFA, among others. I have extensive supervisory and administrative law enforcement experience, and over 5000 hours of law enforcement education.

2. What are the current challenges for the Kerr County Sheriff and how will you address the challenges?

Garcia: The first challenge of 2020 is the effect of COVID-19. I will use guidelines from the Governor's office to assure the jail remains COVID free. I will continue to protect our employees from the virus and confront any spike in crime related to the virus's economic impact, while Continuing to provide the highest standard of public safety. Another challenge is the civil unrest gripping our nation. Kerr County is blessed with wonderful citizens and profession Law Enforcement. I will make sure our deputies continue their training in use of force, de-escalation training, and community relations to continue to protect the rights of EVERYONE.

Leitha: Like counties nationwide, drugs will continue to be a top concern for law enforcement, along with the many issues that come with them. With Covid-19 effects, the next Sheriff will face a tightening budget situation. I have extensive experience dealing with both drug enforcement and budgetary issues. As Sheriff, my office will continue to provide value and maintain efficiency for Kerr County taxpayers. The next Sheriff will also be responsible for protecting the health and safety of KCSO staff and inmates in the Kerr County jail from the Covid-19 threat, as task that requires strong leadership and a team approach.

3. What measure or programs do you propose to reduce crime in Kerr County?

Garcia: Much of the crime in Kerr County is related to the use and sale of illegal drugs. Kerr County has a huge recovery community. I will increase emphasis in the patrol and investigative divisions to continue to take drug dealers off the street. We will increase neighborhood awareness to assist with thefts, burglaries, many related to drug activities. I will work with the courts to make sure drug dealers are removed from society. I will implement a mental health peace officer program to assist in proactive measures to our MHDD consumers and mental health programs and emergencies.

Leitha: In my experience at the municipal, county, state, and federal levels, I have seen many programs that work well to combat crime in our communities. Working with three decades of colleagues at all levels of law enforcement, I will cooperate with outside agencies for the benefit of Kerr County. Dozens of grant and assistance programs are available to local jurisdictions. I will also explore adding mental health capabilities to the Sheriff's office and expand drug awareness programs to reduce local demand. I will approach KCSO programs with an experienced and pragmatic view for stopping and preventing crime.