

VOTER GUIDE – NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION
OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE PRIMARY

Tuesday, November 3, 2020
POLLS ARE OPEN 7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OAKLAND AREA

Website: lwvoa.org E-mail: contact@lwvoa.org Phone: 248-594-6602

**THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE ELECTION WILL APPEAR TWICE ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT, ONCE TO FILL
A PARTIAL TERM ENDING 12/31/2020 THE OTHER FOR THE FULL 4 YEAR TERM BEGINNING 1/1/2021**

2 Candidates for COUNTY EXECUTIVE, partial term ending 12/31/2020

<p>CANDIDATES for EXECUTIVE</p> <p>ONE partial term ending 12/31/2020 <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Please provide biographical information and explain why you are running for county office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues that this county office should address and what actions would you, as an elected official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p><i>Democrat</i> DAVID COULTER 555 Leroy St. Ferndale, MI 48220</p>	<p>As the current county executive, I am working collaboratively with the Board of Commission to achieve results. I hired the most diverse leadership team in county history, signed the first non-discrimination policy and stood with Black Lives Matter as residents throughout our county protest racial inequity. I have also stood up to President’s Trump dangerous agenda and preserved family planning services at Planned Parenthood for our residents. We are transforming our county health clinics to provide primary care and mental health services. I have achieved these results while maintaining strong fiscal policies, approving a three-year balanced budget and securing the county’s AAA bond rating. I am championing an Oakland Together agenda because I know that for too long residents felt excluded from county government and overlooked in county policies. Now we are bringing everyone together, celebrating our diversity, building on our strengths, and addressing our challenges.</p>	<p>We must manage the COVID-19 pandemic, recover from the recession and incorporate diversity, equity and inclusion into all our efforts. In three short months over 8500 residents have tested positive for COVID-19 and tragically over 1000 have died. Our quick actions during the Stay at Home order to require health standards to screen employees, require social distancing and face coverings at open businesses helped to slow the virus. Now we are opening safely and implementing aggressive testing throughout the county to track any reemergence of the virus. In order to recover from the recession, we are providing grants to our small businesses, community non-profits and local governments hard hit by the pandemic. We are working with our schools so they can open safely in the fall by providing trained school nurses and ensuring child care providers can operate safely and provide affordable child care as parents return to work.</p>

OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE PRIMARY (Continued)

<p>CANDIDATES for <u>EXECUTIVE</u></p> <p>ONE partial term ending 12/31/2020</p> <p><i>Vote for no more than ONE</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less):</p> <p>Please provide biographical information and explain why you are running for county office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less):</p> <p>What are the top 3 Priority Issues that this county office should address and what actions would you, as an elected official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p>Republican</p> <p>MIKE KOWALL</p> <p>2333 Cumberland Dr. White Lake, MI 48383</p>	<p>Mike is married to Eileen and owned the former Accurate Woodworking Inc. of Waterford before he was approached by L. Brooks Patterson and Representative David Galloway to run for State House.</p> <p>After serving in the House, Mike was asked, and encouraged, to serve as the White Lake Supervisor, and then as one of five State Senators serving Oakland County. During his term in the State Senate, Mike was chosen by his fellow members as their Senate Majority Floor Leader.</p> <p>As a Senate Leader, Mike made it a priority to honor our Veterans with multiple Veteran Remembrance Ceremonies throughout our State.</p> <p>In short, Mike knows how to balance the financial, economic and employment needs of our state and our County. And, he knows we need to take care of those who are unable to take care of themselves. Balanced. Thoughtful. Nuanced. Action.</p> <p>Brooks knew what we know now. If we want Oakland County to be a great place to live, work and raise a family, we need MIKE KOWALL for Oakland County Executive!</p>	<p>TAX INCREASES AND TRANSIT: MIKE WILL fight ANY proposal that adds additional taxes on Oakland County Citizens for programs, or Transit Systems. Mike has fought, and won, against the current Administration’s plan to raise the average homeowner’s taxes by \$1,020.00 per year.</p> <p>AAA BOND RATING – FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY: Maintaining a AAA Bond rating allows us to bond for infrastructure programs and fix our roads at a lesser expense. The leaders in Oakland now are turning us away from the fiscal responsibility that has fostered the Economic Development and Quality of Life we have seen over the last 30 years.</p> <p>THREE YEAR BALANCED BUDGET – FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY: It was under the leadership of Brooks Patterson that Oakland County became the first County in the Nation to adopt a three-year rolling line item budgets. MIKE KOWALL wants to maintain this level of fiscal forecasting. MIKE KOWALL will pledge to provide a balanced budget and will work to maintain fiscal responsibility.</p>

OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE PRIMARY (Continued)

3 Candidates for COUNTY EXECUTIVE for 4 year term

<p>CANDIDATES for EXECUTIVE</p> <p>ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Please provide biographical information and explain why you are running for county office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues that this county office should address and what actions would you, as an elected official, take regarding each of them?</p>
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OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE PRIMARY (Continued)

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<p><i>Libertarian</i> CONNOR NEPOMUCENO 6 S. Main St., Apt. 1 Clarkston, MI 48346</p>	<p>I've lived in Oakland County for three years, it is my home, and I am here because I feel that it matters. I came here to work in the auto industry. I have no background in politics, this is my first election. I am not running to make a career, but because I recognize that politics is not a game, but a competition of real ideas with real impact.</p> <p>My ideas are unfettered Freedom. I believe the moral limit of human action is the rights of others. I believe in personal choice for faith, relationships, and happiness. I believe this allows our community to cooperate, furthuring both our own self interests and the mutual interests of the community. I view government mandate as an imposition on our neighbors, and a yoke upon our own shoulders.</p> <p>If elected, it would be my mission to lighten that load and get this government out of your way and work with the county commissioners and lobby our representatives in Lansing and Washington, to protect the natural rights each of us are born with.</p>	<p>Reduce the Cost Of Living. First, abolish the property tax, saving every household thousands of dollars a year. Second, loosen the zoning and building codes to expand housing access, making our housing markets more competitive. Thirdly, deregulate our public utilities, including schools, energy, internet, and cable, to encourage greater competition and consumer choice.</p> <p>Reduce the Cost of Doing Business. Many of the above mentioned reforms will help our businesses as well, by lowering overheads and allowing for reinvestment by owners. This in turn leads to more time and services offered to consumers. Additionally, by streamlining business licensing, particularly the Cannabis Regulatory Commission which will allow for new Dispos, we can create many jobs for Oakland residents.</p> <p>Implement Constitutional Sanctuary policies. This allows us to protect our Second Amendment rights and our vulnerable immigrant population from aggressive and overbearing federal agencies. End the War on Drugs</p>

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan national organization whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party. Candidate responses are included as submitted and have not been edited except in cases where the replies have exceeded the stated word limitations. **Spelling and Grammar were not corrected.** The inclusion of candidates' statements and opinions is solely in the interest of public service and in no way is to be construed as an endorsement by the League of Women Voters which takes no responsibility for any views or facts stated by the candidates.