

# Election

## 2026 PRIMARY ELECTION QUESTIONNAIRE: MAGISTRATE CANDIDATES

The Oldham Era conducted a questionnaire for candidates who are running with opposition in the 2026 primary election, and the responses received before the deadline will be published in the Era in the coming weeks leading up to May 19.

Aside from personal information such as occupation or experience, candidates were asked two main questions — the second of which candidates were given six different questions to choose from. The question that each candidate chose to fill out is listed with their response.

This week's edition features candidates running for magistrate positions in District 1, District 2 and District 3. District 4 was not included as only one candidate is running. Visit oldhamcountyky.gov/magistrates and click "Interactive GIS Map by Address" to help determine which district you live in.

Candidates' questionnaires are listed below in the order of the magisterial districts, and in each district by the order their questionnaires were received.



Submitted photo

**BRENT LIKINS**

**Email:** Brentlikins@bellsouth.net  
**City of residence:** Goshen  
**Office seeking:** Magistrate, District 1

**Party:** Republican Party  
**Website/Facebook:** Brentlikins@bellsouth.net  
**Occupation:** Registered Professional Civil Engineer

**Education, degrees or work experience:** University of Louisville Speed Scientific School

**Political experience/community involvement:** Five terms 18 years as Oldham County Fiscal Court Magistrate District #1

**What would be your top priority if elected and/or what is the biggest issue facing this office?**

To represent the people in my District while serving as a Magistrate on Oldham County Fiscal Court. Widening US 42, New 225 acre Stewart Park on Ky.393 , Any new sub-divisions must meet the requirements of the Oldham County Comprehensive Plan and the Technical Review Committee. No tax increases -be fiscally responsible with people's money who work hard to get ahead and who pay taxes that make Oldham County a great place to live..

**How would you advocate for and achieve fiscal responsibility while in office?**

I have always held the opinion that fiscal responsibility while in office is much like what would you do if it was your own money. People who live Oldham County are very affluent.

We have the highest average income in the State. The key word here is INCOME. How do you get income ? You work for it ! We teach our children to work for it. It is my utmost responsibility to spend our tax dollars in a manner that achieves the highest and greatest good for our community.

In today's society we see all kinds of corruption in

government. We elect our government officials and hope they have integrity. Integrity is something you either have or do not have. There is no in between. You are not a 6.4 or an 8.1 . You are either a 0 or a 10 .

Most people who take the time to read this do not know exactly what a Magistrate is. There are 8 Magistrates along with a County Judge Executive who comprise Oldham County Fiscal Court. We are in charge of the Police Department, Roads, EMS, Animal Control, Planning and Zoning, Emergency Dispatch, Recycling, Construction, Engineering and appoint members to 28 different Boards.

It takes a majority vote to approve any money spent , Resolutions, Ordinances, Zoning Changes , etc. in order to run Oldham County government. If we all thought alike we would only need one Magistrate. They call that democracy. If I am elected for my 6th term I will represent all of my constituents who trust in my judgment, character and integrity.

*Republican District 1 Magistrate candidates Joyce F Fletcher and Randy Powell did not submit a response to the questionnaire. Democratic candidate Galen L Clark was not included because he has no opposition in the primary.*



Submitted photo

**ROBERT LANE**

**Email:** rdlane56@yahoo.com  
**City of residence:** La Grange

**Office seeking:** Magistrate, District 2  
**Party:** Republican Party  
**Website/Facebook:** https://www.facebook.com/share/185EdAy2Fk/?mibextid=wwXlfr

**Occupation:** Retired Law Enforcement  
**Education, degrees or work experience:** Some college, retired police officer with 23 years of service

**Political experience/community involvement:** No political position ever held. Creator of Guns N Hoses Charity Flag Football Game, Cops Catching Kindness and Inspiration, Former board member of Hometown Pizza Every Slice Matters and the Oldham County American Red Cross.

**What would be your top priority if elected and/or what is the biggest issue facing this office?**

Work to bring back trust of our elected official's, with Honesty, Integrity.

I would also like to get one of the fiscal court meeting moved to a later time.

**How would you advocate for and achieve transparency while in office?**

I would like to help create a public relations/media position within the Judge Executives office that allows us to get pertinent information out to our community via social media accounts and local media outlets.

I will advocate for one of our monthly fiscal court meeting to be moved to a later time in the day, to allow more public attendance.

I will also use my social media outlets to help decimate as much information as possible that is allowed

by rules, regulations and law.

As needed, I would like to have District 2 community meetings to discuss topics and issues arise throughout the year.



Submitted photo

**RANDALL (RANDY) MCGRAW**

**Email:** r.mcgraw@outlook.com  
**City of residence:** Prospect  
**Office seeking:** Magistrate, District 2

**Party:** Republican Party  
**Website/Facebook:** FaceBook: McGraw for Magistrate - Oldham County District 2 / Website: McGraw4Magistrate.com

**Occupation:** Recently Retired Business Exec; HS Football Coach

**Education, degrees or work experience:** Degree: BS Management Information Systems - WKU 1998; Work Experience: 25+ years working in and leading technology/software companies in multiple markets (communications, collaboration and financial technology) and sizes from small to the Fortune 500 (LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/rmcgraw/)

**Political experience/community involvement:** This is my first foray into the political environment. I don't see myself as being political, I see

this as an opportunity to try and give back and serve this great community. My community involvement encompasses several years at the OCYFL as volunteer board member and coach, volunteering within the schools, I substitute teach and am currently a coach at one of our local high schools.

**What would be your top priority if elected and/or what is the biggest issue facing this office?**

My top priority as Magistrate for District 2 is engagement, accessibility, and communication.

I want every resident in our district to know I am there to represent them — and that starts with me showing up to listen and learn. Real engagement only happens when people trust that their voice matters, and trust only comes from open, honest, and transparent communication.

That is why I will make transparency a daily practice: clear updates on decisions, straightforward answers to questions, and regular opportunities for face-to-face conversations. When residents see that I'm genuinely listening and sharing honest information, they are far more likely to engage.

My goal is to be the kind of Magistrate who learns what our community truly views as important, understands the many different vantage points across District 2, and then works collaboratively to guide Oldham County into the future in a smart and strategic way.

Engagement, accessibility, and open communication aren't just nice-to-haves — they are the foundation of effective representation. That practical, principled, collaborative approach is what I will bring to the Fiscal Court every single day.

**How would you advocate for and achieve fiscal responsibility while in office?**

Fiscal responsibility means ensuring every tax dollar delivers value for Oldham County families. Since 2015, our county budget has grown nearly 200%, from \$25M to over \$71M in 2026. While this increase stems from growth and rising property values , not rate hikes, families are still paying more. We must ask: are we seeing the benefits?

I have successfully managed operating budgets exceeding \$150M and was accountable for \$4B in revenue. I will bring that same experience to the Fiscal Court through three pillars:

1. Data-Driven Decisions: Advocate for "impact summaries" using existing data aimed to create objective views of the effectiveness of spend where we can along with prompting for reasonable justification on spending before funds are committed.

2. Absolute Transparency: Advocate for re-vamping our online presentation of information for more easily accessible visibility on spend. When numbers are clear and honest, trust grows.

3. Targeted Prioritization: First we should never

lose sight of things most important, prioritizing safety and infrastructure — police, emergency services and roads. Second, we should be maximizing existing assets by ensuring we are getting the most out of resources we have before adding new ones. Third, new investments should come with estimated impacts or outcomes so it can be measured for success, accountability, and/or learnings.

Let's work, vote McGraw May 19th!



Submitted photo

**MARK THEISS**

**Email:** theiss4magistrate@gmail.com

**City of residence:** Buckner  
**Office seeking:** Magistrate, District 2

**Party:** Republican Party  
**Website/Facebook:** Mark Theiss for Oldham County Magistrate

**Occupation:** retired  
**Education, degrees or work experience:** graduate OCHS, attended University of Kentucky

**Political experience/community involvement:** Volunteer:

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- CLUES ACROSS**
- Egyptian bull-god
  - Romanian monetary unit
  - Will Ferrell holiday film
  - It Ain't Half Hot Mum actor
  - Error-related negativity
  - Volcanic crater
  - Boston Herald columnist Margery
  - True market value
  - Italian term for exchange rate
  - Informal loan clubs
  - Men s fashion accessory
  - Children's craft supply
  - Extra benefits
  - In an early way
  - A judge has one
  - Soviet Socialist Republic
  - Tractor unit
  - Defunct supercomputer developer
  - Promotional materials
  - A forgetful state
  - One who beheads
  - Photographers
  - Small, rich sponge cake
  - Clergy s vestment
  - Expressed pleasure
  - Abba \_\_, Israeli politician
  - Zero
  - Ancient Greek word for earless
  - Nigerian governmental area
  - Mild expression of surprise
  - Places to hang things
  - Keyboard key
  - Make a mistake
  - One-time president of Republic of Korea
  - Showcases
  - Bird of prey
  - King of Thebes
  - Cleaving tool
  - Large African antelope
  - Three are particularly notable
  - Meet one s needs
  - C. European river
  - Dictator
  - Indicates how much out of 100 (abbr.)
  - The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet
  - Consume food
  - Woman (French)
  - Scrape a surface
  - Green vegetable
  - Pacific Standard Time
  - Capital of Brazilian city
  - Paddle
  - Cause to become insane
  - Drier and flakier
  - Mimic
  - ESPN personality Kimes
  - One who moves slowly
  - Secret political clique
  - Behind the stern of a ship
  - Supernatural force
  - Sanctuary
  - Swiss river
  - Grayish white
  - Engrave by coating
  - North Carolina university
  - Midway between south and southeast

**PUZZLE SOLUTION**

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Email bids to the Construction Manager Doug Wood at DWood@hollenbach-oakley.com and CC John Stewart at JStewart@encompass-ddc.com Thursday, May 28th for furnishing labor and materials and performing all work as set forth in this Advertisement for Bids, General Conditions, Special Conditions, Specifications, and/or Drawings prepared by Mindel Scott Associates Inc., 5151 Jefferson Blvd, Louisville, KY 40219, (502) 695 9800. Contact Doug Wood Dwood@hollenbach-oakley.com with any questions. Please submit questions by 5:00 PM on Monday, 5/11/26.

Immediately following the scheduled closing time for the reception of bids, all proposals which have been submitted in accordance with the above conditions will be reviewed per the guidelines outlined in the RFP. The work to be bid upon is described as follows:  
• LATERAL EXTENSION: including but not limited to 25' 8" sanitary sewer, 2 manholes, rock removal, and all other incidentals. Copies of the Drawings and Contract Documents are made available in the following dropbox folder below or via Lynn Imaging Plan room.

**Dropbox Link:** https://tinyurl.com/RFP-OR-DF-Lateral-Ext  
Copies of the Drawings and Contract Documents can be distributed by Lynn Imaging. Interested parties should visit the Lynn Imaging Plan Room at Lynnimaging.com and select "Denton Floyd Lateral Extension 0426"

Oldham LaGrange Development Authority will review and award per the method outlined in the RFP. Refer to the LaGrange Utilities Commissions Specifications for ALL governing specifications and details. Bidders must comply with the President's Executive Order Nos. 11246 and 11375, which prohibit discrimination in employment regarding race, creed, color, sex, or national origin. Bidders must COMPLY WITH Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Anti-Kickback Act, Section 3 Segregated Facilities, Section 109 and the Contract Work Hours Standard Act. Federal law prohibits discrimination on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, age, handicap, and sex in this project. Minority firms are particularly encouraged to participate.