



**PEOPLE Choice** ✓

The following candidates have been endorsed by the Delegate Assembly of AFSCME, District Council 47

**MUNICIPAL PRIMARY ELECTION**  
**Tuesday, May 18, 2021**

**JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT**

	<b>Button #</b>
Maria C. McLaughlin	(D) 1

**JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT**

	<b>Button #</b>
Timika Lane	(D) 3

**JUDGE OF THE COMMONWEALTH COURT**

(Vote for no more than 2)

	<b>Button #</b>
Lori A. Dumas	(D) 6
Sierra Street	(D) 7

**JUDGE OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS**

(Vote for no more than 8)

	<b>Button #</b>
Wendi Barish	(D) 11
Craig Levin	(D) 12
Cateria R. McCabe	(D) 13
Nick Kamau	(D) 14
Daniel R. Sulman	(D) 15
Betsey Wahl	(D) 18
John R. Padova	(D) 21
Chris Hall	(D) 22

**JUDGE OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT**

(Vote for no more than 3)

	<b>Button #</b>
Michael C. Lambert	(D) 25
George R. Twardy	(D) 27

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

	<b>Button #</b>
Larry Krasner	(D) 30

**CITY CONTROLLER**

	<b>Button #</b>
Rebecca Rhynhart	(D) 31



Labor Donated

**Ballot Question #1 – Proposed Constitutional Amendment 1:  
Termination or Extension of Disaster Emergency Declarations**

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to change existing law and increase the power of the General Assembly to unilaterally terminate or extend a disaster emergency declaration—and the powers of Commonwealth agencies to address the disaster regardless of its severity pursuant to that declaration—through passing a concurrent resolution by simple majority, thereby removing the existing check and balance of presenting a resolution to the Governor for approval or disapproval?

 **VOTE NO**

**Ballot Question #2 – Proposed Constitutional Amendment 2:  
Disaster Emergency Declaration and Management**

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to change existing law so that: a disaster emergency declaration will expire automatically after 21 days, regardless of the severity of the emergency, unless the General Assembly takes action to extend the disaster emergency; the Governor may not declare a new disaster emergency to respond to the dangers facing the Commonwealth unless the General Assembly passes a concurrent resolution; the General Assembly enacts new laws for disaster management?

 **VOTE NO**

**Ballot Question #3 - Proposed Constitutional Amendment 3:  
Prohibition Against Denial or Abridgement of Equality of Rights Because of Race or Ethnicity**

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended by adding a new section providing that equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged because of an individual's race or ethnicity?

 **VOTE YES**

**Ballot Question #4 – Statewide Referendum  
Making Municipal Fire & Emergency Medical Services Companies Eligible for Loans**

Do you favor expanding the use of the indebtedness authorized under the referendum for loans to volunteer fire companies, volunteer ambulance services and volunteer rescue squads under 35 PA.C.S. §7378.1 (related to referendum for additional indebtedness) to include loans to municipal fire departments or companies that provide services through paid personnel and emergency medical services companies for the purpose of establishing and modernizing facilities to house apparatus equipment, ambulances and rescue vehicles, and for purchasing apparatus equipment, ambulances and rescue vehicles, protective and communications equipment and any other accessory equipment necessary for the proper performance of the duties of the fire companies and emergency medical services companies?

 **VOTE YES**

**Ballot Question #5: Proposed Charter Change - Bill No. 210073 (Resolution #210085)**

Shall the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter be amended to provide for an expanded Board of License Inspection Review that can hear and decide cases on three-member panels?

 **VOTE YES**

April 23, 2021

Dear AFSCME siblings,

Last year with the help of all of you, we were successful in electing a new President and Vice President. President Biden's initiatives have resulted in the passage of the American Rescue Plan which has brought money to the City to restore needed programs which were cut as a result of the pandemic, a comprehensive vaccination program, and assistance for small businesses. In addition, legislation has been introduced to increase in taxes on the rich, rebuild our crumbling infrastructure and to provide economic assistance to working families.

This election year on the ballot are court races for the Supreme, Superior, Commonwealth, Court of Common Pleas and Municipal along with the race for District Attorney and the City Controller. There are also four proposed Constitutional Amendment questions, one Statewide Referendum and one proposed City Charter change. We are recommending you **Vote No on ballot questions #1 and #2 and Yes on ballot questions #3, 4 and 5.** A "no" vote on question #1 opposes this constitutional amendment, meaning the Governor would continue to be allowed to issue emergency declarations without a legislative vote after 21 days. A "no" vote on question #2 opposes this constitutional amendment, meaning that the governor would continue to be allowed to veto resolutions terminating emergency declarations and a two-thirds legislative vote would be required to override the veto.

AFSCME District Council 47 continues to support Larry Krasner for DA and Rebecca Rhynhart for City Controller. Under Larry's leadership he has implemented policies that put people first such as implementing a restorative justice program for adults and children, obtained funding to help kids who lack resources to pay off restitution, developed a database of police misconduct, as well as exonerated 18 individuals within 3 years who were charged unjustly for a crime they did not commit. This are just a few of the things Larry has done but please see the list of DA Krasner's accomplishments on the District Council's website.

Enclosed is the union's endorsement slate. It is imperative that every member and their families and friends **VOTE in the primary election taking place on Tuesday, May 18.** We strongly encourage those who have received a mail-in ballot to drop them off at one of the drop off sites listed on [www.philadelphiavotes.com](http://www.philadelphiavotes.com). The center city drop-off site is City Hall (South Broad Apron) – 1400 John F. Kennedy Blvd or at City Hall 140 (enter through South Gate). The *deadline to drop off your ballot* is before 8:00 p.m. on election day. If you decide you want to go to the polls, they are open from 7 AM to 8 PM.

Again, please encourage your friends and family members to **VOTE on May 18 if in person or before May 18 by mail-in ballot**. Continue to wear face masks and social distance. We want everyone to stay healthy and be safe.

In Solidarity,

*Catherine Scott*

Catherine Scott, President  
AFSCME District Council 47

In Solidarity,

*Pamela G. Robinson*

Pamela G. Robinson, Vice President  
AFSCME District Council 47

CS/PGR:jm  
Enclosure (1)

## **KRASNER ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

***When Philadelphia voters elected Larry Krasner as its District Attorney in 2017, he promised to end the failed tough-on-crime policies of the past, work to support victims and the community and hold the powerful accountable. He has kept his promises.***

**In just three years, he has upended the office culture and implemented policies that put people first. Under Larry's leadership:**

- The county jail population has decreased by 40% and this summer fell to its lowest level since 1985.
- The amount of time people will spend in prison has dropped by over 18,000 years.
- Years under probation or parole have decreased by 57% overall, 65% for drug offenses and 70% for property offenses in the most oversupervised big city, Philly, and the second most oversupervised state, Pennsylvania.

**Larry treats kids like kids and recognizes they can grow and change:**

- The office has helped reduce out-of-home placement of children by over 80%.
- In 2019, 98% of all juvenile arrests were handled in juvenile court.
- The office has vastly expanded juvenile diversion programs to felony cases, and has implemented a restorative justice program for children that allow the child and victim to heal without the use of incarceration.
- The office has also obtained funding to help kids who lack resources to pay off restitution.

**He has exonerated the innocent:**

- The office has exonerated an astounding 18 individuals in just three years.

**He has held police accountable:**

- The office has developed a database of police misconduct and refuses to rely on officers who are not credible or turn the other way when they discriminate, abuse their power, and make openly racist, sexist, and xenophobic statements. Police misconduct in the database is provided to the defense as required by law.
- The office has fearlessly charged and is prosecuting police officers for abusing their power, including a Chief Inspector for sexual abuse against women officers, two on-duty officers for the killings of men who were unarmed when they were shot, and police personnel who have assaulted peaceful protesters.

**He has protected the undocumented:**

- Under Larry's watch, the office broke its information-sharing contract with ICE.

- The office also formed a new unit that considers immigration consequences in charging and sentencing decisions to mitigate the likelihood of deportation for non-serious offenses.

**He has taken a public health approach to drug use:**

- The office has stopped prosecuting nearly all simple drug possession cases. Marijuana possession cases are not charged. Other drug possession cases are diverted toward treatment.
- He has expanded diversionary opportunities for some other drug crimes to help address the root causes of the activity, instead of imposing ineffective punishments.
- Larry has supported the opening of a harm reduction center, a supervised injection site where overdoses are prevented and treatment is made available.
- And he has sued Big Pharma on behalf of the people of Philadelphia for its role in the opioid epidemic, and to make sure Philly gets its fair share from the harm inflicted on Philly by Big Pharma.

**He has worked to end extreme sentences:**

- He has not sought the use of the death penalty to date.
- He has resentenced nearly all of those who received juvenile life without parole sentences, far more quickly than in other jurisdictions.
- The office regularly supports requests for commutations and pardons in appropriate cases.
- He has demanded that the office consider and be prepared to argue the total cost of each year of prison imposed before requesting an incarcerative sentence in money, in family separation, in job loss and in other ways.

**He has increased support for victims and impacted communities:**

- The office launched the CARES program, which provides intensive support for 45 days after the homicide of a family member. These services are in addition to the victims' services normally provided, where victims are connected to crisis responders and other community supports.
- It likewise expanded its support systems for all victims to make sure they understand the criminal process and are connected to trauma resources if they need them. The office has improved its documentation and accountability for communicating with victims and survivors.
- The office is investing civil asset forfeiture money in prevention of future victimization in neighborhoods impacted by gun violence.

## **KRASNER ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### **He has shifted resources to solving serious crimes:**

- In the first quarter of 2020, before courts shut down, a greater share of homicide cases have ended in convictions than in any year since 2014.
- Convictions in shooting cases were likewise at their highest point in years.
- Larry is actively working with city partners, non-profits, and doctors to explore public health solutions to gun violence, and to help the police increase its solve-rate for shooting crimes, as it currently hovers at 20%.
- Larry has been a constant and loud advocate for new, cutting edge forensic tools (including new DNA capacity and new phone technology) to solve crimes quickly and accurately. His advocacy, if heeded, has the potential to significantly reduce shootings and homicides by solving crimes early in ways that prevent cycles of retaliatory violence.