

TRUMP WINS

DONALD J. TRUMP RETURNS TO WHITE HOUSE



ENN FILE PHOTO

Donald Trump became 47th president-elect after serving as the 45th president

Avery Sloan
Elon News Network

Former president Donald Trump secured the presidential race as of early Wednesday morning with 277 electoral votes. His opponent, Democratic Vice President Kamala Harris, ended the night with 224. This race, like in 2020, came down to Pennsylvania — one of seven key battleground states this election. North Carolina,

another key swing state, went red and was called by 11:18 p.m. The other toss-up states in this election were, Georgia, Arizona, Michigan, Nevada and Wisconsin — all besides Georgia and Wisconsin have still not yet been called.

Polling before ballots were counted showed this race as deadlocked, with many election experts predicting it might be days before results were in, as was the case in 2020. But Jason Husser, director of the Elon Poll, said polling can be wrong and the popular vote can be close even if the Electoral College is not, depending on how swing states vote.

“It is possible that there’s

systemic polling error that’s in favor of one candidate more than the other, and it’s one of the things where we can speculate,” Husser said. “But it’s very difficult to know, and it’s sort of beyond the precision of what polls can do.”

The presidential race affects more than just who is in the White House. Trump may appoint Supreme Court justices in the case of a vacancy. When he served his first term as president, he appointed three justices of the Supreme Court, 54 judges for the U.S. courts of appeals, 174 judges for the U.S. district courts and three judges for the U.S. Court of International Trade, which adjudicates U.S.

customs and international trade laws.

Trump took the stage for a speech asserting victory at his Mar-A-Lago watch party to chants from his supporters of “U-S-A.” He said he would work to change things for the country.

“We are going to help our country heal, fix our borders, we made history for a reason tonight,” Trump said. “We have achieved the most incredible political win. I want to thank the American people. I will fight for you and your family with every breath in my body.”

Harris, who had planned to speak at her alma mater Howard

University, canceled her speech.

Republicans also gained control of the United States Senate; Democrats previously had a 51-49 edge in the Senate.

Even with Republican control in the executive branch and the Senate, Trump will still need to work across the aisle as there is not enough of a majority in Congress to ignore Democrats, Husser said.

“The sort of policy outcomes will be tempered by needing to persuade eight to 10 Democratic senators to support whatever policy is going through,” Husser said.

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North Carolina Governor



Josh Stein

US House of Representatives District 9



Richard Hudson

North Carolina Senate District 25



Amy Galey

North Carolina House of Representatives District 63



Stephen Ross

North Carolina House of Representatives District 64



Dennis Riddell

THE PENDULUM

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Elon Votes expands efforts to close voter participation gap on campus

Elon Votes focused on getting people across campus to the polls, tried to improve 25% voting rate

Avery Sloan
Elon News Network

Senior Bo Dalrymple said this year he has felt a different, more positive energy on campus regarding politics and civic engagement. He has been involved with civic engagement on campus since he began at Elon University starting with living on the Paideia: Politics and Active Citizenship Living Learning Community his freshman year and is now a co-coordinator for Elon Votes.

“2022 midterm elections was the first major election that I helped, contributed to,” Dalrymple said. “Those were pretty disappointing results, being perfectly honest, the voter registration was pretty good, but the turnout was pretty disappointing.”

The midterm elections voter rate across all institutions was 30.6% and Elon’s was 25% — 3.3% less than in 2018, according to data from the National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement. Since then, Dalrymple said Elon Votes has been working to increase the voter rate on campus and reach students politically who might be less likely to seek out civic engagement.

Elon Votes’ main goal is to engage students politically, in a nonpartisan way. Elon took action for the first time to prepare for the election, including creating a committee focused on how to handle the election, having close to 20 election-related events in the fall and a appointing team of almost 35 civic engagement ambassadors for Elon Votes — over double what the team generally sees, according to Bob Frigo, director of the Kernodle Center for Civic Life.

But Frigo said Elon Votes and the Kernodle Center are still looking to improve — particularly on engaging students across different areas of campus. He said one of Elon Votes’ and the Kernodle Center’s main goals this election has been to encourage students across campus to participate in civic engagement. Data collected from the 2022 midterm elections showed that students in the liberal arts and sciences and humanities and business fields of study and the management and marketing fields of studies had the lowest voting rates at Elon of 15% and 16% respectively. The highest rate of civic engagement came from philosophy and religious studies students, who had a 40% voting rate.

“Once we saw that there was a significant gap in the percentage of students who were registered to vote and the percentage of students who actually cast their ballots, we started to create new energy and

infrastructure about absentee ballots, about an early voting site, because there was that gap between registered students and students that were not casting their ballots,” Frigo said.

One strategy Elon Votes employed this year was meeting people where they are. Elon Votes hosted voter registration drives at the Moseley Student Center, the Koury Business Center, the Innovation Quad and in the McEwen School of Communications. Elon Votes also collaborated with different organizations on campus, including Live Oak Communications and Elon’s Student Government Association and visited freshmen-level communication courses to help reach more students.



I THINK OUR HOPE IS TO BROADEN THE SCOPE OF POLITICS AND BROADEN THE SCOPE OF DEMOCRACY, TO SUGGEST TO STUDENTS AND PEOPLE ON CAMPUS THAT POLITICS IS EVERYWHERE.

JULIANNE LIEBENGUTH
ELON POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR

“Trying to not only be in the physical space, but also target these demographics by connecting with student organizations that might represent them or they might be included in,” Dalrymple said. “Not to say that that was generating huge amounts of turnout, but we considered that if your president or your friend in this organization is there, you might stop by or you might visit, or you might even just stop and say hello and, and that’ll generate the conversation.”

Another barrier considered — specifically for civic engagement events and discussions — was students not feeling like they know enough to participate politically, professor Julianne Liebenguth, a member of Elon’s Democracy Dialogue Collaborative, said.

The Democracy Dialogue Collaborative is a one-year group, created by the Election 2024 Planning Committee, spearheading discourse focused on civic engagement. Liebenguth is one of three faculty members in this group and is leading the post-election strategy in the spring semester, but the first upcoming event they have is Nov. 14. This event will focus on finding unity across differences with the goal of helping students learn how to facilitate conversations and disagree with one another respectfully, Liebenguth said.

While there have been close to 20 election-focused events this semester, Liebenguth said she wants to get more people involved across campus. She said students, particularly those who aren’t previously involved in politics, might be less likely to vote and attend political events because of perceived barriers of entry.

“I think there’s an expectation that people in politics watch the news 24/7 or are completely up to date with all current events and have read all of the headlines that morning, and are therefore well equipped to be involved or to discuss issues, political issues,” Liebenguth said.

Liebenguth said she is encouraged by students in her classes who choose to actively engage in political conversations. She said once students join a conversation and begin speaking on what can be contentious issues within politics, the conversations she has witnessed are respectful and productive — the main issue is still getting people who are not political science students or specifically in a class learning about the election to feel comfortable speaking with others on politics. She said making the post-election events cover a range of topics, including an art project event and other dialogues, can help a diversity of students engage.



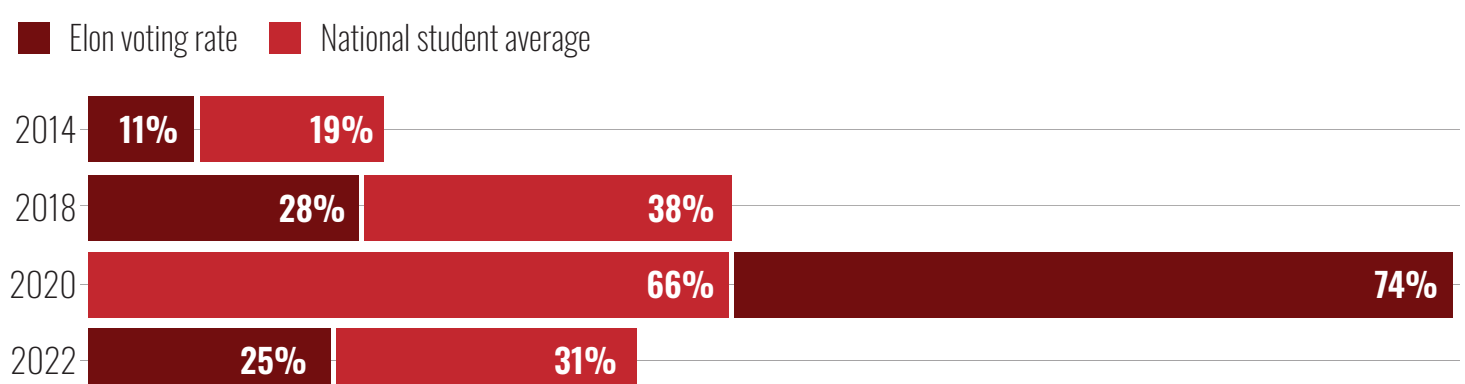
ONCE WE SAW THAT THERE WAS A SIGNIFICANT GAP IN THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO WERE REGISTERED TO VOTE AND THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO ACTUALLY CAST THEIR BALLOTS, WE STARTED TO CREATE NEW ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE ABOUT ABSENTEE BALLOTS, ABOUT AN EARLY VOTING SITE.

BOB FRIGO
KERNODLE CENTER DIRECTOR

“I think our hope is to broaden the scope of politics and broaden the scope of democracy, to suggest to students and people on campus that politics is everywhere,” Liebenguth said. “It’s about how we want to live. It’s about our communities. It’s about who gets us to decide how we live, who makes decisions. It’s about accountability, legitimacy, justice. So if you live in a society, then you are well equipped to engage in politics.”

Voting rates over time in Elon and nationwide

Data from the National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement



CORRECTIONS

In the last edition of The Pendulum, the article on ResFest states students can bring nonperishable food items to the Janice Ratliff Building. These items can be brought to neighborhood offices. Elon News Network regrets this error.



Lt. Gov. Mark Robinson shakes hands with poll workers at Mt. Zion Baptist Church on the morning of Nov. 5 in Liberty, North Carolina, in Alamance County.

NIA BEDARD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



MILES HAYFORD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Former member of the Maryland House of Delegates Gil Genn attends the North Carolina Democratic Party watch party on Nov. 5 after recently moving to North Carolina. The watch party was in Raleigh, and Gov. Roy Cooper and Attorney General and governor-elect Josh Stein spoke to constituents.



ETHAN WU | PHOTO EDITOR

From left, freshmen Lauren Dolman, Stella Navin, Hannah Nicholls and Jim Murawski attend the Elon Votes election night watch party on Nov. 5 in the Global Commons Great Hall. About 55 students gathered to watch the results come in after the polls closed in North Carolina.



ETHAN WU | PHOTO EDITOR

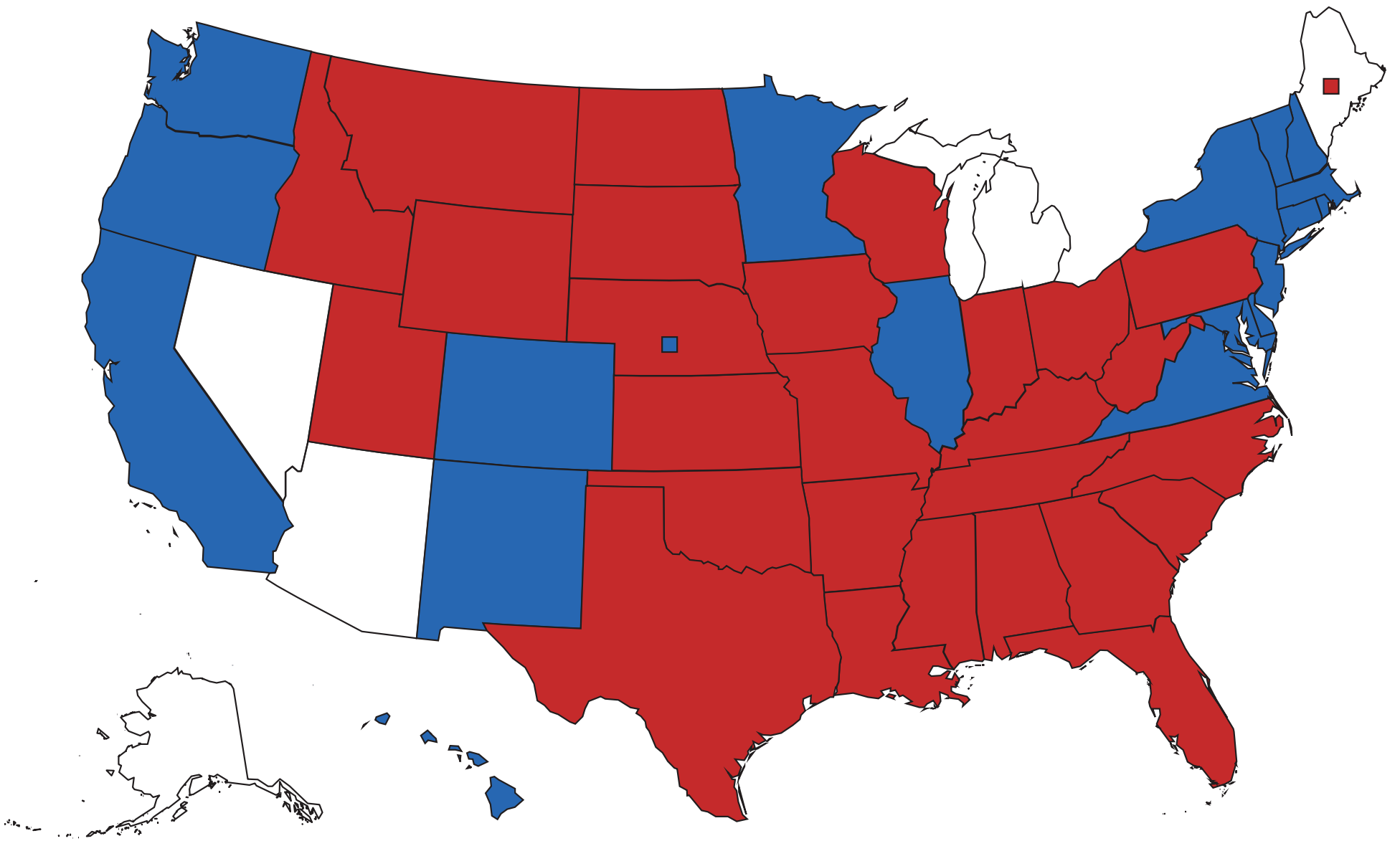
Alamance County Election official Chips Chapman talks with Elon Town Council member Quinn Ray on Nov. 5 as voters began to arrive at the First Baptist Church of Elon.



ETHAN WU | PHOTO EDITOR

Elon voter Catherine Edwards brings her grandson with her to vote at First Baptist Church of Elon to demonstrate the importance of voting on Nov. 5. "I promised my grandson, because we'd been talking a lot about voting and how important it is," Edwards said. "He can see and experience how voting actually works, and you can actually watch it on the TV and see the states fill in."

Remaining election results expected in coming days



2024 Electoral College projections, data from the Associated Press. As of 6 a.m. Nov. 6, former President Donald Trump had been awarded 277 Electoral College votes, and Vice President Kamala Harris had 224.

ERIN MARTIN | DESIGNER

NATIONAL | from cover

Control of the House is still undecided with 59 seats to be called, as of early Wednesday morning.

“Specific states could take a while to count, and if it’s razor-thin there’s 435 of those elections to count,” Husser said. “If it’s razor-thin, and there’s only two or three that either need a recount or some other, some other kind of delay, it could mean that we don’t know the outcome.”

Roughly 55 students gathered in the Global Commons Great Hall for an election night watch party. Sophomore Pearson Dyslin is president of Elon’s Politics, Philosophy and Economic Society and attended a watch party with the society. Later, she joined Global Commons to see what the energy was like in the room.

Politics, Philosophy and Economics Society, according to PhoenixConnect, “aims to create an academic community outside of the classroom where students can come

as they are to engage in conversation and fellowship while evaluating the questions that loom over today’s society.”

This is Dyslin’s first time voting in a presidential election, but she said she has voted in previous elections. She voted with her Elon address, but is from Fulton County, Georgia — another swing state in this election.

Before results were announced, she said she was looking forward to hearing who would be elected — but either way was hoping that Elon as a student body would remain friendly regardless of the outcome.

“I hope that the energy on campus stays amicable,” Dyslin said. “I want everybody to stay civil and respectful. I like being the president of our club, because we have people from both sides, all different beliefs, all different parties and stuff. I like being able to civilly discuss issues, instead of only hearing one side. I think it’s cool to mix it into beliefs. I hope that people can do that respectfully, following the results.”

Audrey Geib contributed to the reporting of this story.



ENN FILE PHOTO

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JOSH STEIN ELECTED GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA



MILES HAYFORD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Josh Stein takes the stage at his watch party Nov. 5 at the Raleigh Marriott City Center after AP News called the race for Stein with only 30% of North Carolina votes counted.

Attorney general, Democratic candidate wins by 54.82% of vote in one of most heated races in nation

Miles Hayford
Elon News Network

Democratic candidate and Attorney General Josh Stein has been elected as governor of North Carolina. With 100% of the votes counted, Stein won with 54.82% of the vote, while Robinson had 40.18%.

Stein beat Lt. Gov. and Republican candidate Mark Robinson with a steady lead in a race defined by starkly opposed campaigns. Projected ahead of Robinson in the last three Elon Poll surveys, Stein's victory maintains the divide between North Carolina's Republican-majority General Assembly.

In North Carolina's two-horse race for governor, Stein also beat Libertarian Mike Ross, the Green Party's Wayne Turner and the Constitution Party's Vinny Smith. Stein served as a lawyer before he was elected as the state's attorney general in 2016. He also previously served as a state senator.

In six of the last eight election years, candidates from opposing parties have won in North Carolina's presidential and gubernatorial elections. While Trump won the state with 49.9% of the vote in 2020, Democrats have won seven gubernatorial elections and Republicans have won seven presidential elections since 1992.

In the months leading up to Election Day, Stein campaigned across North Carolina and Alamance County on a variety of platforms, such as lowering costs, increasing minimum wage and cutting taxes for working families. He has also campaigned on funding public education and defending LGBTQ+ communities' rights.

After the results came in, Gov. Roy Cooper introduced Stein onto the main stage of a Raleigh Marriott City Center ballroom. Stein began by thanking his supporters. As he walked onto the stage, the crowd erupted into applause and its energy reverberated across the room.

"Tonight, the people of North Carolina resoundingly embraced a vision that's optimistic, forward-looking and welcoming," Stein said during the event. "A vision that's about creating opportunities for every North Carolinian. We chose hope over hate. Competence over chaos. Decency over division. That's who we are as

North Carolinians."

Stein promised to provide aid to those in western North Carolina who are recovering from the aftermath of Hurricane Helene.

"As we celebrate tonight, our hearts are with the folks of western North Carolina who are still struggling," Stein said to the crowd. "We will show up for the people of western North Carolina to help them rebuild safer and stronger than ever before."

Stein also promised to cut taxes, increase teacher pay and expand career and technical education, while also emphasizing that these are North Carolinian issues, not partisan ones.

"We will go forward — not as Republicans, not as Democrats, not as independents — but as North Carolinians," Stein said.

While Stein expressed his gratitude to everyone he met on the campaign trail and his most devoted supporters, he also reached out to voters who didn't vote for him.

"If I didn't earn your vote in this election, I hope to earn your trust by working hard for you as your governor," Stein said. "I pledge to listen and work across party lines to do what's right for North Carolina because no person or party has a monopoly on good ideas."

Robinson said following his time as lieutenant governor, he will be taking time for his family and hopes his campaign has inspired his supporters.

"That is the message that we deliver to the people of this state: a true message, a real hope, a real future," Robinson said. "Where every single solitary North Carolinian, you can make a breakthrough."

Before Stein came onto the stage, Cooper expressed his gratitude for being able to serve North Carolina. He acknowledged that many results have yet to come in, but emphasized the importance of Stein's victory.

"We have done something important here with this victory in the governor's race," Cooper said. "Every election gives us choices and there's never been a wider gulf between the choices in this race."

Cooper also praised Stein and said he is confident he will succeed as governor.

"We needed a person who will blaze his own trails, and we got that tonight," Stein said. "He is ready to do this job and do it right. He has the steady hand, the clear-eyed vision and the servant's heart to make North Carolina stronger than ever."

Anderson Clayton, North Carolina Democratic Party chair, also spoke to the Raleigh

crowd. She thanked supporters, campaign staff members and organizers.

"We have helped make a year-round organizing vision for this party possible, one that has led to momentous successes across this state, and you all have had such a huge part of that," Clayton said.

Clayton also emphasized that the work of the party isn't over.

"I hope you won't stop, because we've got municipal races in 2025 and we're looking to make sure that North Carolina stays the direction that we're going to make it so tonight," Clayton said.

Droves of people piled in to see Stein and other Democratic politicians speak. Gil Genn, a former member of the Maryland House of Delegates who now lives in North Carolina, was at the event and said he is most excited to see a transition from the old to the new tonight.

"I'm most excited about turning the page from going down the path of an autocracy with

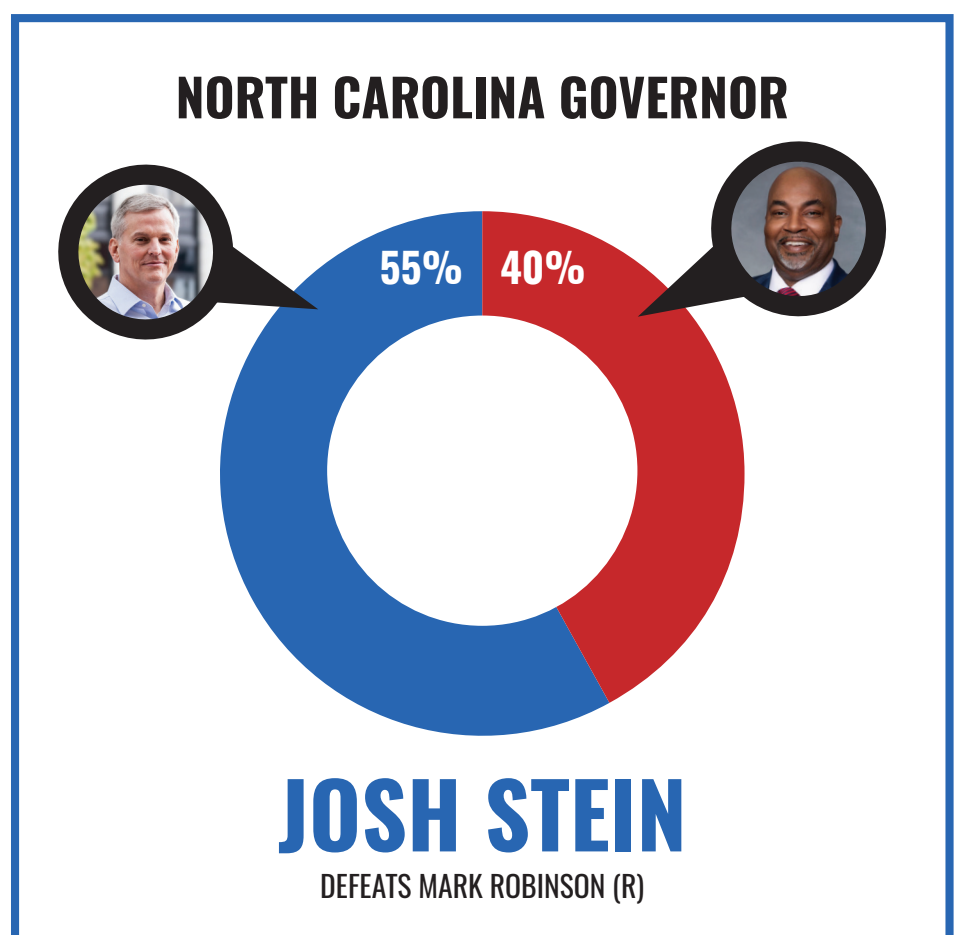
dictatorial tendencies and turning the page forward for a new vision for rule of law, for saving democracy and changing our economic opportunities for all," Genn told Elon News Network.

Genn said he believes Stein will protect the rights of North Carolinians, along with improving the economy.

"In terms of economic development and business, he will know how to prosecute those who are abusing the system, and he's going to do a heck of a lot, I think, for our public school system and try to increase teacher pay," Genn said.

Former Burlington Mayor Ian Baltutis, who attended the watch party, said he believes Stein will be accessible to members of any county, even Alamance County.

"We were delighted that he spent so much time in Alamance County," Baltutis said. "We used to be this little flyover county where all the Democrats running for office didn't think they could get folks to vote."



NORTH CAROLINA ELECTION RESULTS

FOR DETAILED RESULTS VISIT ELONNEWSNEWSNETWORK.COM

North Carolina State Sen. Republican Amy Galey won her reelection campaign for District 25's state senate seat.

Galey won against Democrat Donna Vanhook with 60.34% and Vanhook received 39.66% of the votes.

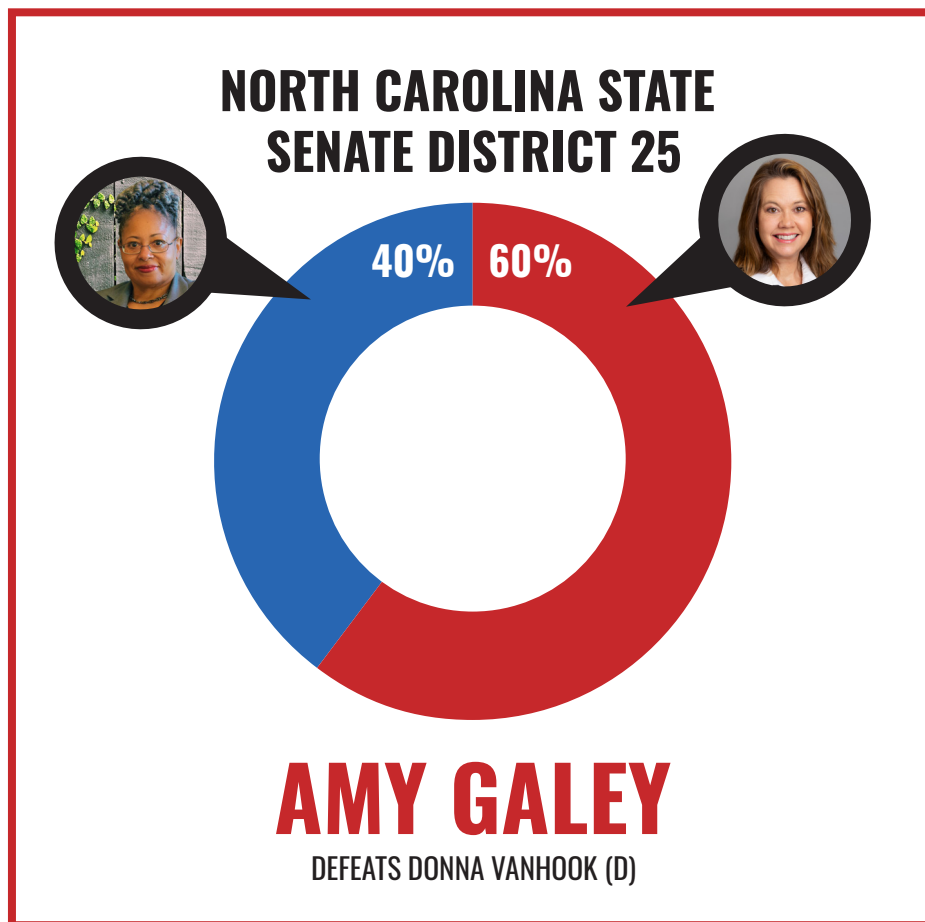
Galey was raised in Alamance County and was elected as an Alamance County commissioner in 2016, where she served as chair of the board from 2017-20.

During her time as state senator, Galey secured funding for the district for the 2021-22 budget, including \$15 million for an emergency services facility in Alamance County, \$15.8 million for water and sewer projects in Burlington and more.

She also sponsored the Parent's Bill of Rights — a law that expanded right for North Carolina parents to be notified if their child changes pronouns at school, creates policies for parents to review, allows for parents to challenge school material, prohibits instruction on "gender identify, sexual activity, or sexuality" for students in kindergarten through fourth grade — which passed in 2023.

Galey previously told Elon News Network she works to serve all of her constituents — even those who did not vote for her.

"I represent all the people in my district, no matter whether they voted for me or not, and it's very important to me that the people of my district know that they can contact me if they have a concern or a problem, and they will be listened to," Galey said. "That's why we're here. We're here to help people break through the bureaucracy and make the bureaucracy work for the people that work hard to pay the taxes that support it."



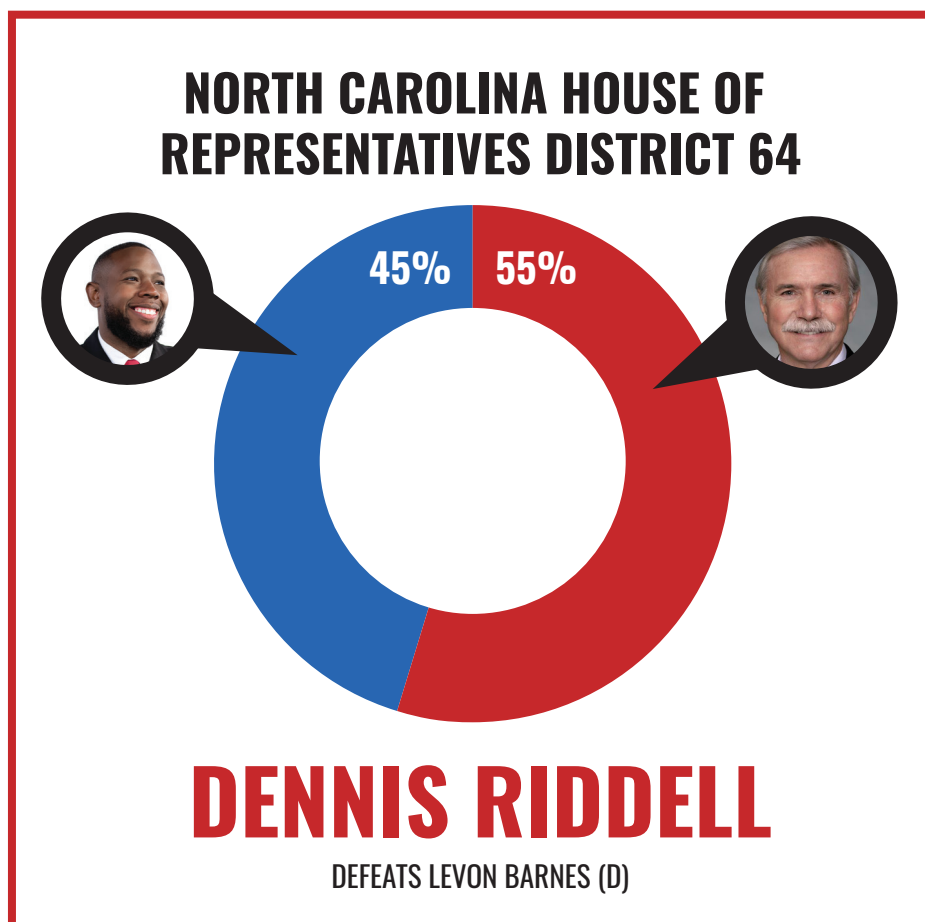
Republican Dennis Riddell won the North Carolina House of Representatives District 64 seat by 54.95% of the votes. Democrat LeVon Barnes received 45.05% of the votes. This will be Riddell's seventh term in office.

Riddell previously told Elon News Network he is focused on organizing a convention of states. A convention of states focuses on Article V of the Constitution, which details the two ways that amendments to the Constitution can be proposed, through Congress or if two-thirds of state legislatures call for what's called a convention of states. The convention allows for states to propose amendments that can then be added to the constitution if ratified by 38 of the 50 states.

Riddell thinks a convention of states is necessary to approve a balanced budget plan for the federal government. The balanced budget would reduce the size and cost of the federal government, by cutting the budgets of federally funded things.

When running for office, Riddell campaigned on lowering income tax rates and protecting the Second Amendment. He also said that he is comfortable with the current 12-week abortion ban and supports exceptions up to 20 weeks for rape and incest. He said he cares about the environment, but is skeptical of claims of rising sea levels. His main platform is focused on maintaining a strong economy.

"We have done far more good for North Carolina over the last 12 years than I even imagined possible," Riddell said.



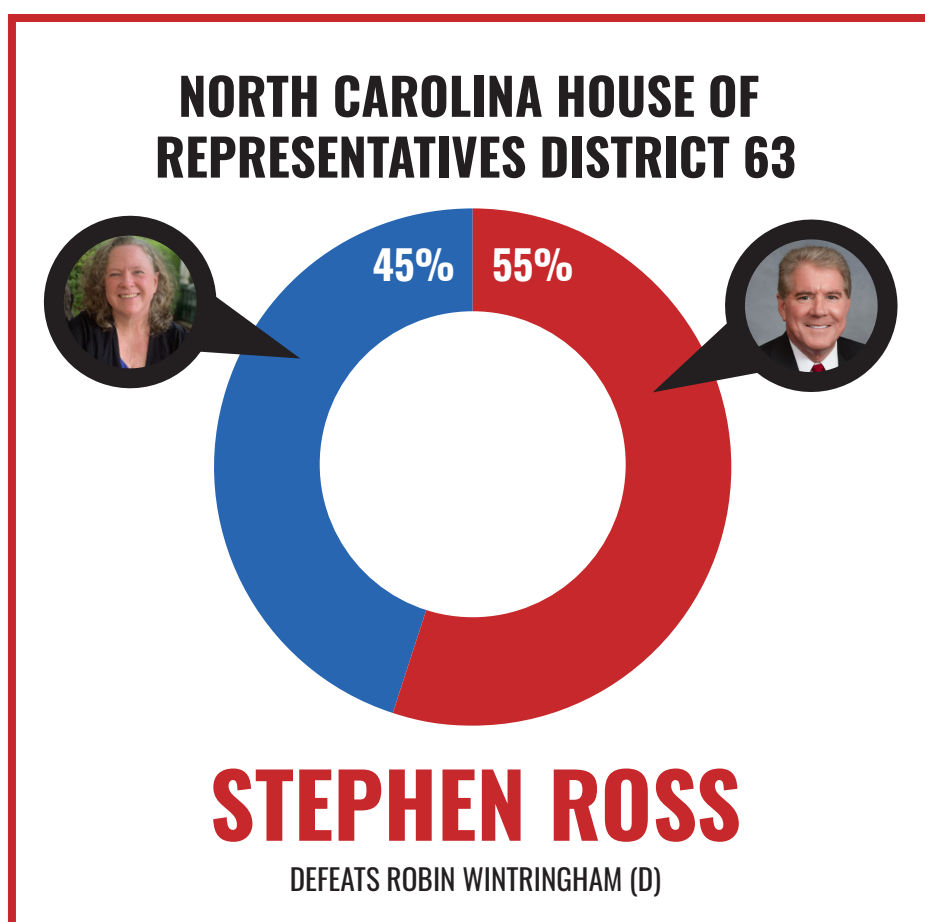
Republican Stephen Ross won the North Carolina House of Representatives District 63 seat by 55.13% of the votes. Democrat Robin Wintringham received 44.87% of the votes.

Ross previously served as the state house representative for District 63 from 2013 to 2021, he lost his election in 2020 to Ricky Hurtado, but he won in 2022.

Ross did not respond to any interview requests from Elon News Network, but according to his biography on the North Carolina General Assembly website, he is the chair of the commerce, house select committee on substance abuse and finance committees and is a member of the pensions and retirement, state government, and transportation committees.

According to his website, "Steve Ross has always been committed to conservative common sense policy-making which benefits all North Carolinians."

He has introduced bills related to protecting domestic violence victims, preventing rioting and civil disorder and term limits for Congress.



ALAMANCE COUNTY ELECTION RESULTS

FOR DETAILED RESULTS VISIT ELONNEWSNETWORK.COM

Four candidates — Sandy Ellington-Graves, Avery Wagoner, Seneca Rogers and Tameka Harvey — were elected to the Alamance County Board of Education. Ellington-Graves received 15.35% of the votes, Wagoner received 14.71%, Rogers received 14.65% and Harvey received 13.67%. In total, eight candidates ran for the four spots on the board.

Last fall, mold was found in 32 of the 36 ABSS schools, leading to a late start for the school year and an estimated recovery plan totaling \$225 million over five years. The board chair declared the school district was in financial crisis in November 2023 and since then, the chief financial officer, deputy superintendent, superintendent and public information officer all resigned or were fired. This year, candidates running focused on ways to rebuild financially and academically from this crisis.

Wagoner has not previously been on the board but has run before. He previously told Elon News Network that he was running to ensure students wouldn't be left behind.

"I saw children being left behind that I wanted to help and support," Wagoner said. "My goal here is to make Alamance County better for all students in this county, not just a few."

Rogers currently serves on the board after being appointed in 2023 and previously told Elon News Network he ran to give back to the public school system he has benefited from.

"In any way that I can always advocate for our next generation, advocate for our public education, advocate for our educators. I'm willing to do that," Rogers said. "I'll step up seven days of the week."

Ellington-Graves, the current board chair, previously told Elon News Network she ran for reelection to help address both financial and academic challenges of the school system.

"We've really got to focus on academic performance," Ellington-Graves said. "Really get back to the basics, which is teaching and learning and that's what's really gonna drive the success for our students."

Harvey ran for the first time this election cycle and previously told Elon News Network she ran to try and prioritize both students and parents — from all parts of the county.

"There are 38 schools within our district but it seems like on one side they might get more than the other," Harvey said. "I don't want that, I want us to feel like one as one family, one ABSS."

Three candidates — Republicans Pamela Thompson, John Paisley Jr. and Ed Priola — were elected to the Alamance County Board of Commissioners. They respectively received 18.13% of the votes, 17.89% and 17.37%.

Thompson was first elected to the Alamance County Board of Commissioners in 2020. She ran for reelection on the platform of supporting veterans. Thompson previously told Elon News Network both her son and father are veterans, making the issue more personal.

Thompson said she also wants to help people with drug addiction and was on the committee at The Alamance Behavioral Health Center, which offers mental health services, substance use recovery support and support for people with disabilities.

Paisley was appointed to the Alamance County Board of Commissioners in 2014, then ran later that year for a two-year term — but lost by eight points. Paisley has now served a total of five years on the board.

Paisley previously told Elon News Network he wants to increase spending for the school system, sheriff's department and emergency services — but said doing it carefully is important.

"Just throwing money at it is not helpful

but doing it and overseeing some of the spending is extremely important," Paisley said. "We had previously a school board and school system that was throwing, in my opinion, throwing money away, not spending it wisely, not completing projects in a timely fashion."

Throughout his campaign, Priola cited high property taxes and high inflation as reasons preventing people from paying their bills. He said overspending within the school system is another issue facing Alamance County.

Priola previously told Elon News Network across the board he wants to look over every line item on the budget and ensure everything being paid for makes sense.

"We got to look at every nickel we spend, every penny we spend, turn it over till they scream, pinch them till they scream," Priola said.

ALAMANCE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

SANDY ELLINGTON-GRAVES



15.35%

AVERY WAGONER



14.71%

SENECA ROGERS



14.65%

TAMEKA HARVEY



13.67%

DEFEATS CORRIE SHEPHERD, PETER MORCOMBE, DONNA DAVIS WESTBROOKS, TARA RAGGETT

ALAMANCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

PAMELA TYLER THOMPSON



18.13%

ED PRIOLA



17.37%

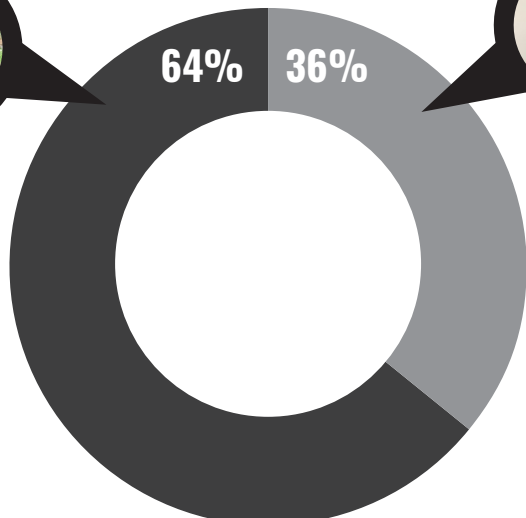
JOHN PAISLEY JR.



17.89%

DEFEATS CARISSA GRAVES, ANTHONY PIERCE, CHRIS SMITH

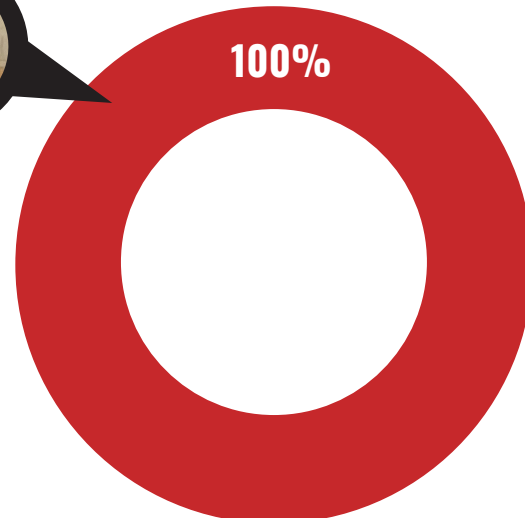
ALAMANCE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUPERVISOR



DAVID SPRUILL

DEFEATS ANDREW CARROLL

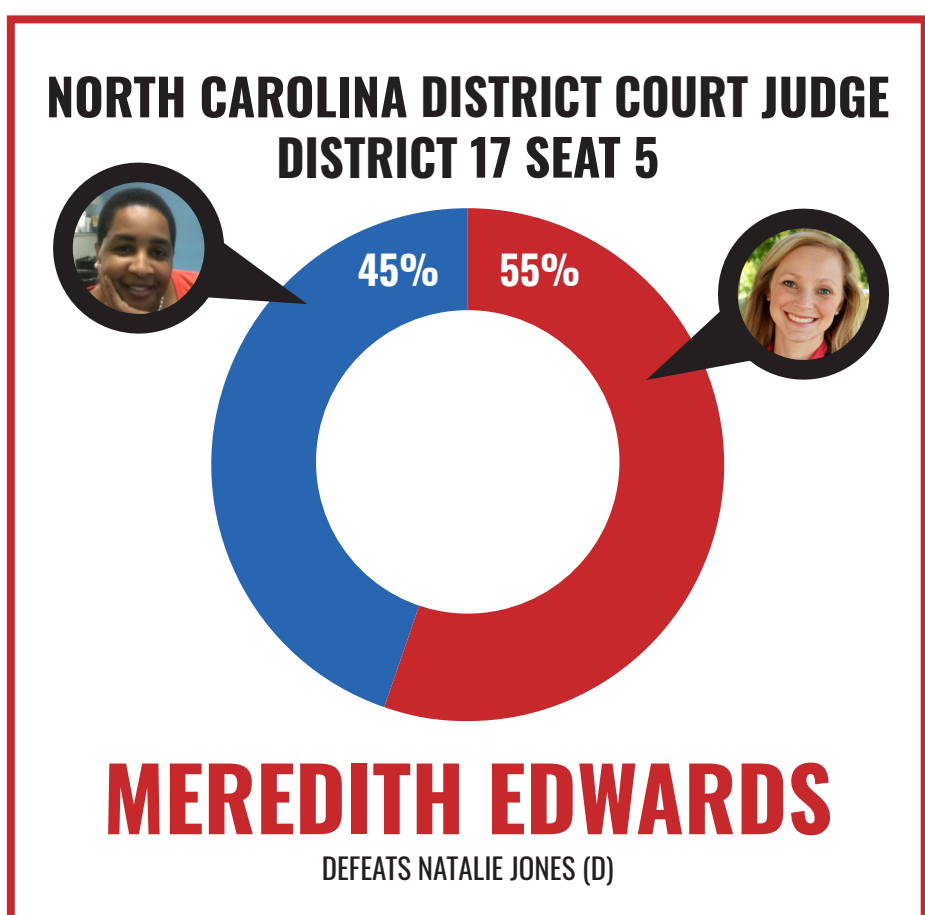
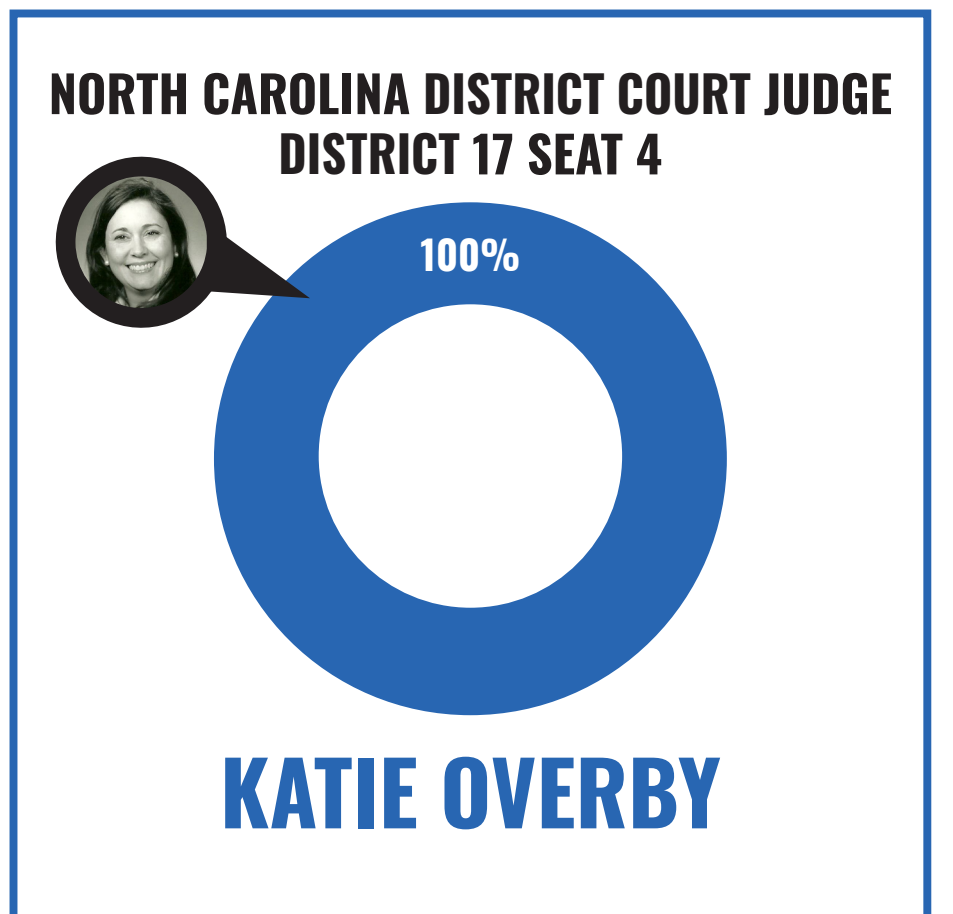
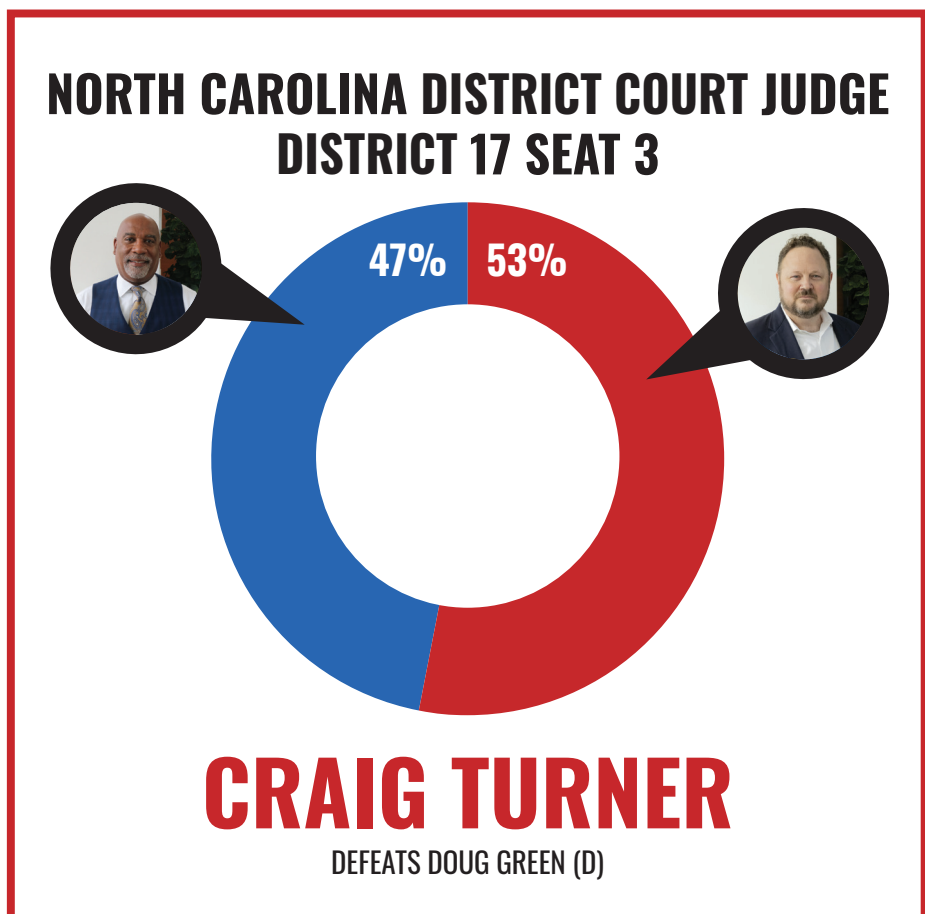
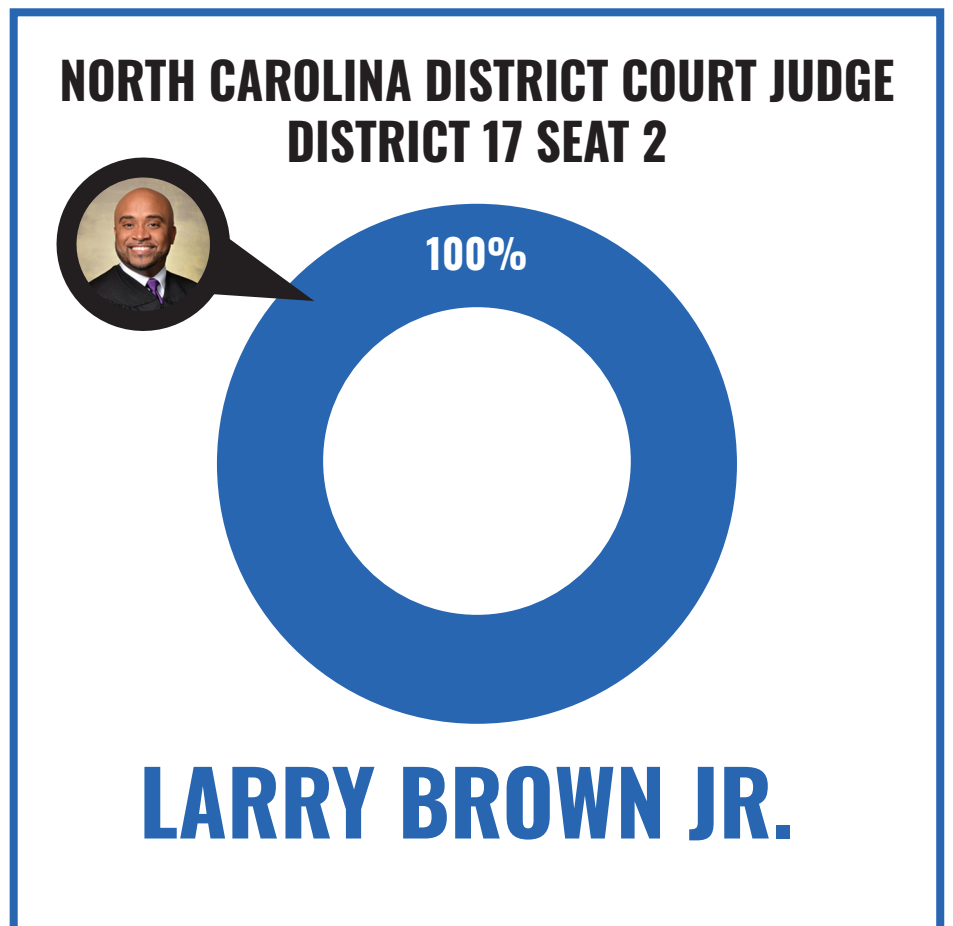
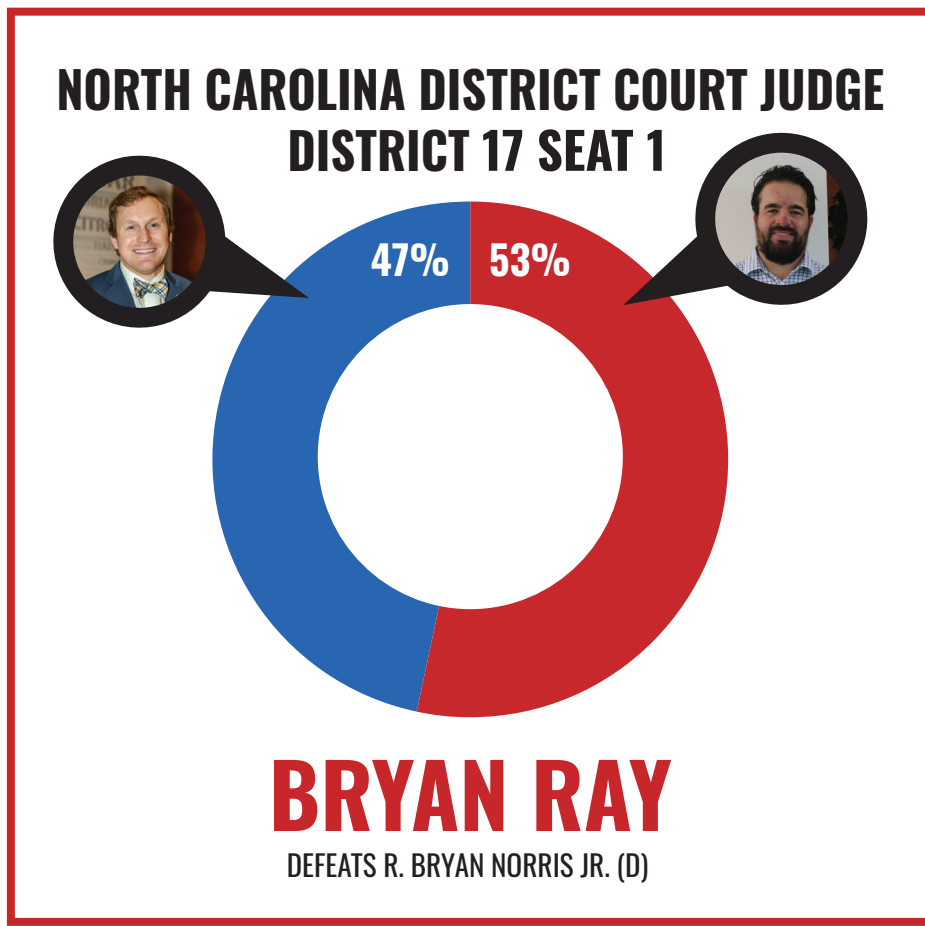
ALAMANCE COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS



DAVID BARBER

NORTH CAROLINA ELECTION RESULTS

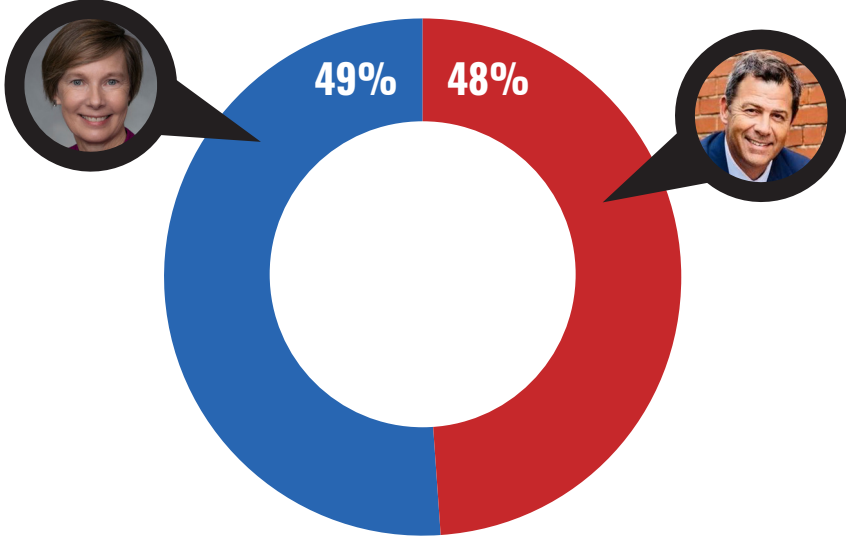
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NORTH CAROLINA ELECTION RESULTS

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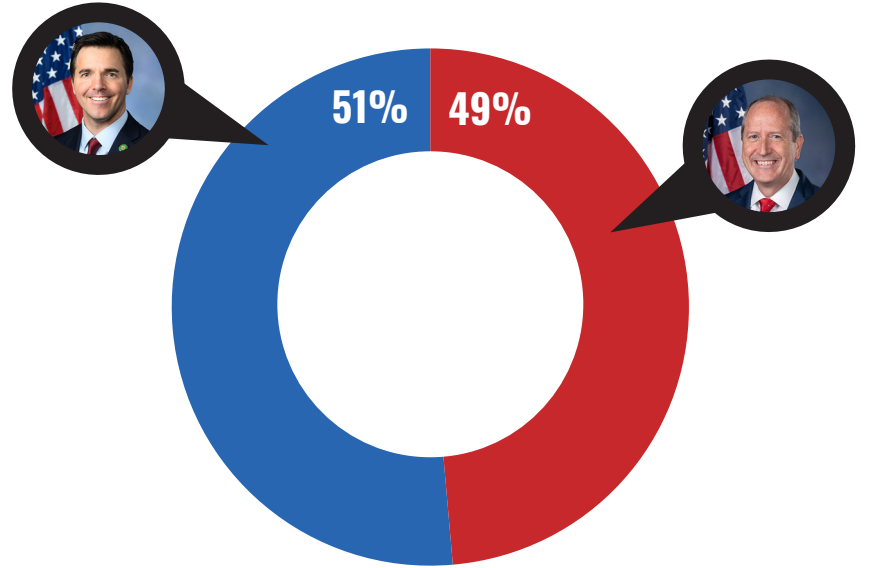
NORTH CAROLINA LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



RACHEL HUNT

DEFEATS HAL WEATHERMAN (R)

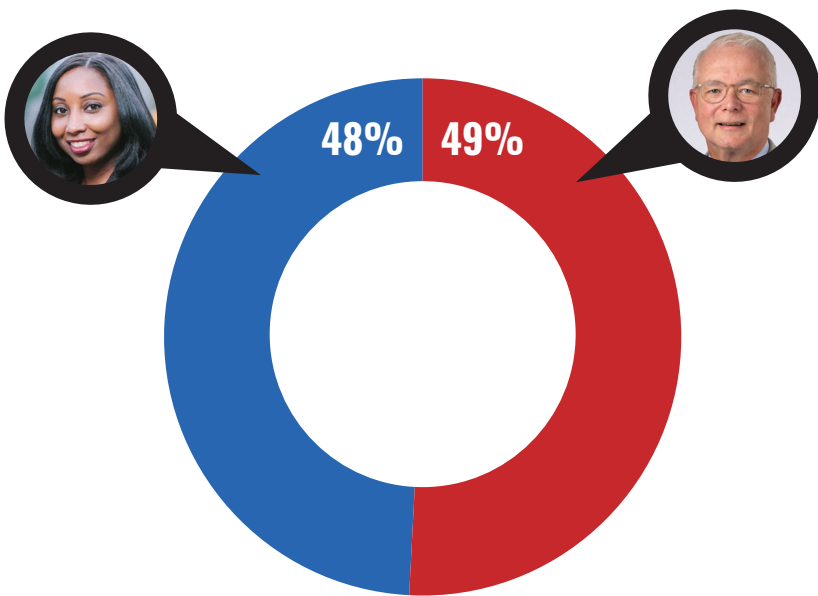
NORTH CAROLINA ATTORNEY GENERAL



JEFF JACKSON

DEFEATS DAN BISHOP (R)

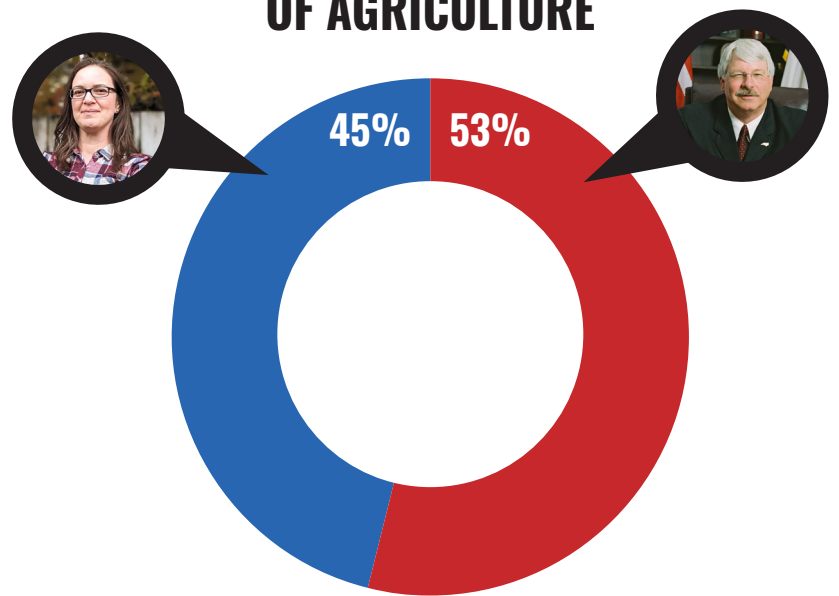
NORTH CAROLINA AUDITOR



DAVE BOLIEK

DEFEATS JESSICA HOLMES (D)

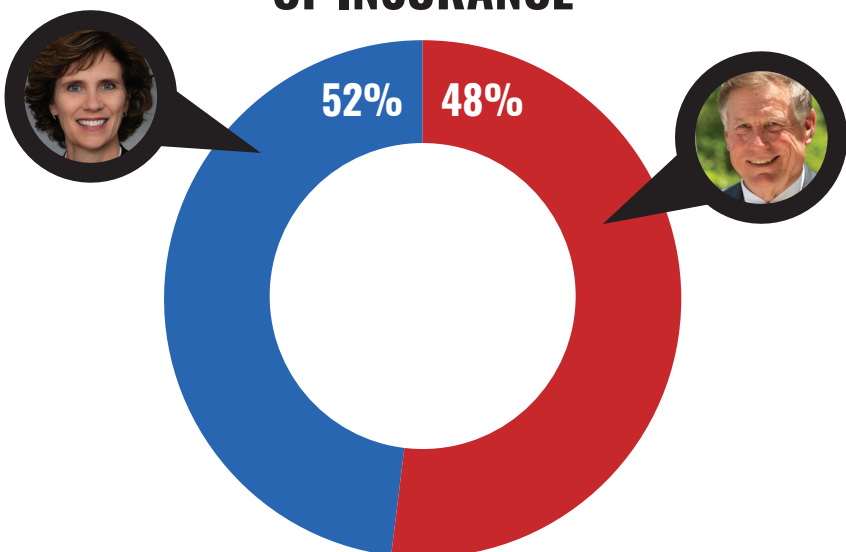
NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE



STEVE TROXLER

DEFEATS SARAH TABER (D)

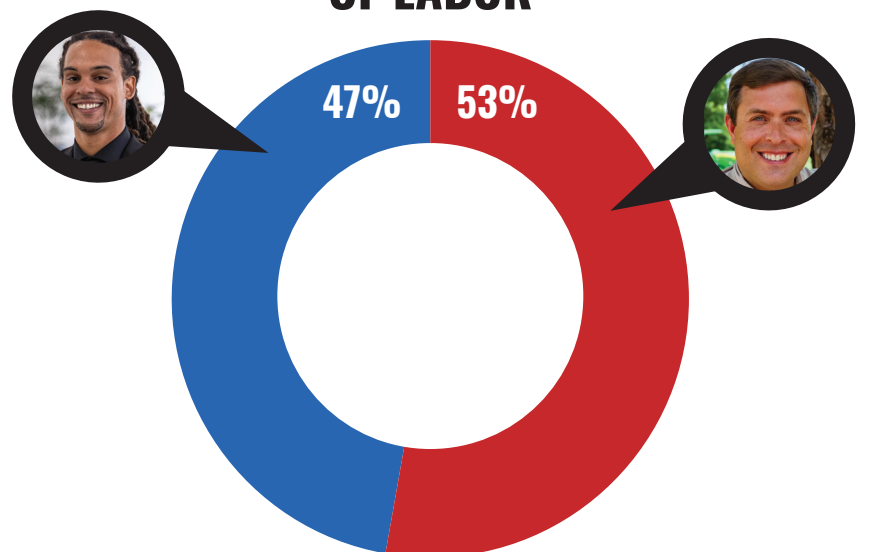
NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE



MIKE CAUSEY

DEFEATS NATASHA MARCUS (D)

NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSIONER OF LABOR



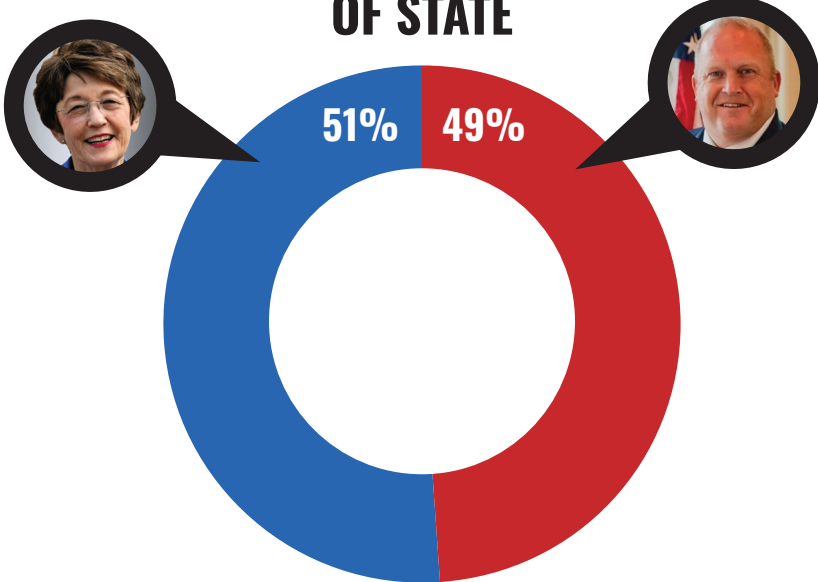
LUKE FARLEY

DEFEATS BRAXTON WINSTON II (D)

NORTH CAROLINA ELECTION RESULTS

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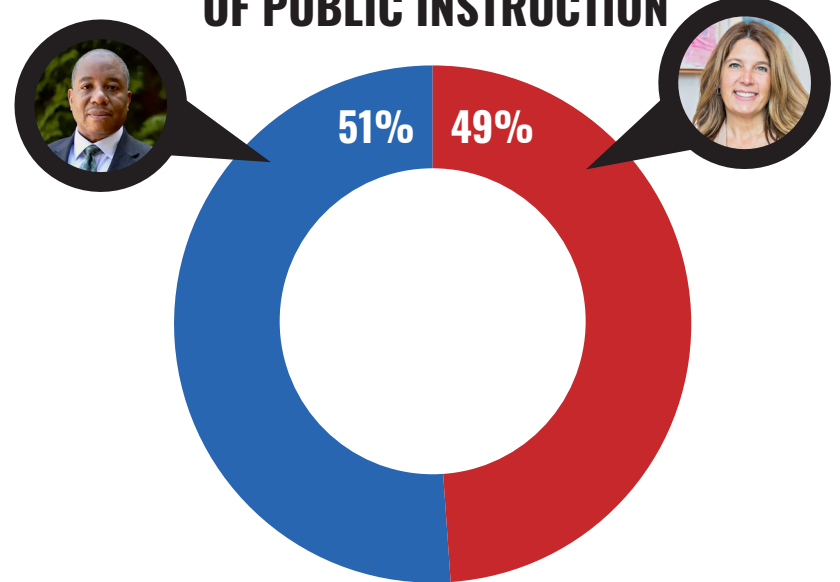
NORTH CAROLINA SECRETARY OF STATE



ELAINE MARSHALL

DEFEATS CHAD BROWN (R)

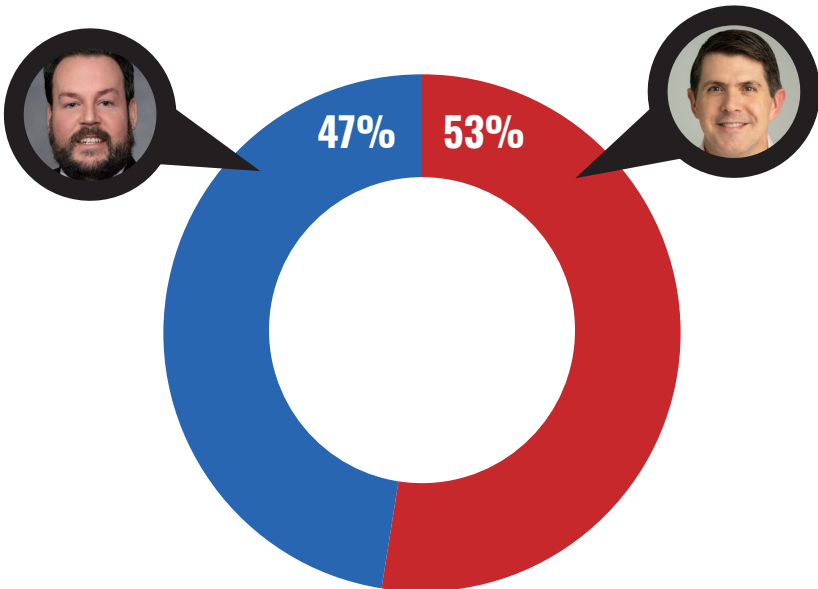
NORTH CAROLINA SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION



MO GREEN

DEFEATS MICHELE MORROW (R)

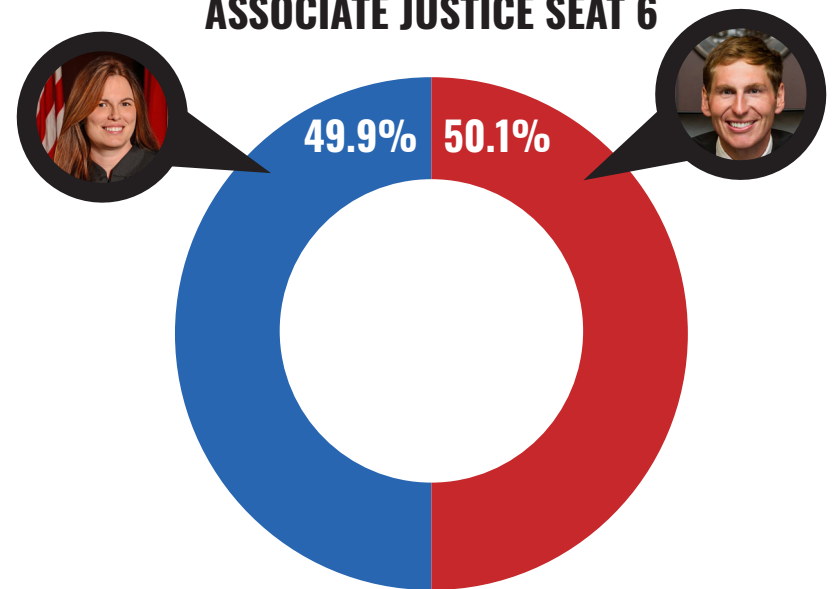
NORTH CAROLINA TREASURER



BRAD BRINER

DEFEATS WESLEY HARRIS (D)

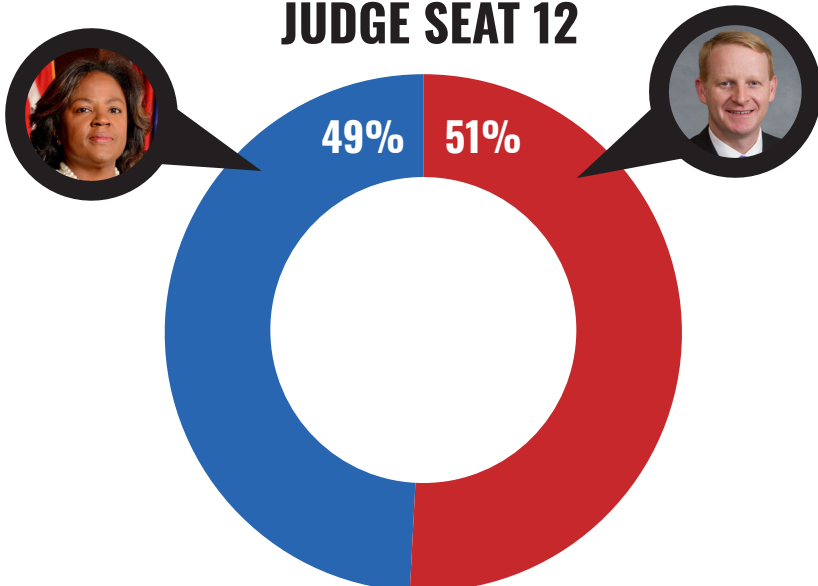
NORTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT ASSOCIATE JUSTICE SEAT 6



JEFFERSON G. GRIFFIN

DEFEATS ALLISON RIGGS (D)

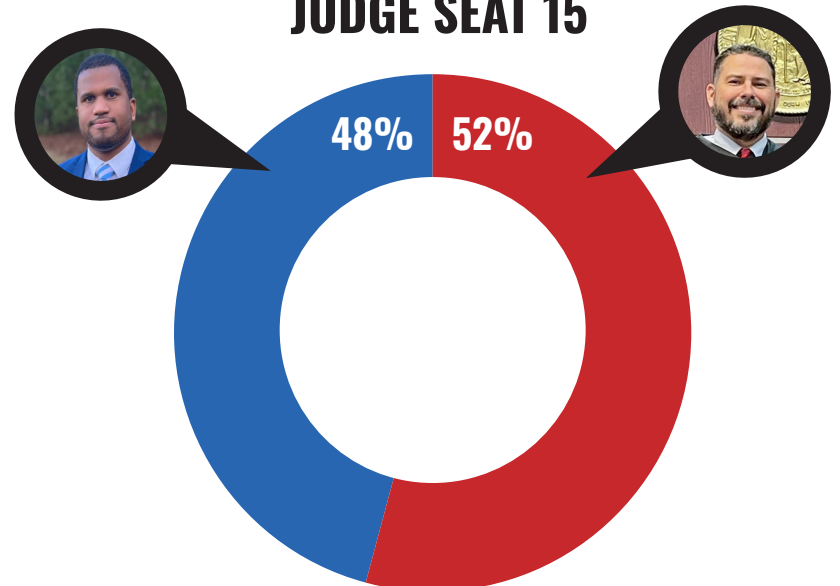
NORTH CAROLINA COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE SEAT 12



TOM MURRY

DEFEATS CAROLYN JENNINGS THOMPSON (D)

NORTH CAROLINA COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE SEAT 15



CHRIS FREEMAN

DEFEATS MARTIN E. MOORE (D)

First-time voters cast ballots in 2024 election

Young voters went to the polls during early voting, engaging in politics

Ruby Burckle
Elon News Network

First-time voter Ana Lara-Tolentino said she came out to vote simply because she finally can.

“I feel like a lot of people don’t really take into account that every vote literally does count, it could change more than people think, so it’s nice to be able to finally do it,” Lara-Tolentino said.

This year there are approximately 8.3 million newly eligible voters, according to the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement analysis of 2021 Census American Community Survey data. These new voters had an easy experience casting their ballots, with a short line and wait time of around five to ten minutes at 11 a.m. Oct. 30 in the South Gym on Elon’s campus, which was one of five early voting sites.

However, this was not the case for everyone. According to CBS17, many polling sites in North Carolina had wait times of over an hour.

By the time early voting ended, approximately 54% of registered voters in North Carolina had cast their ballots in person, which broke the 2020 record for ballots cast in person before election day, according to the North Carolina State Board of Elections.

Senior Alex Frame is also a first-time voter who was ineligible to vote during the 2020 presidential election because he had not yet turned 18.

“I’ve seen a lot of things saying this is the most important election of our lives and there’s a lot of hot topic issues that I feel like this election could help solve,” Frame said.

Alamance County community member and first-time voter Grayson Holt said the economy is one of her top priorities.

“I just want to be able to afford everyday life,” Holt said.

Lara-Tolentino did not mention a specific issue but said her decision was influenced by who she believes would focus on creating a greater good for everyone in America — not just a handful of people.

“

IT WAS A GOOD WAY TO START CONVERSATIONS, AND IT WAS ONE OF THE MOMENTS WHEN I REALIZED THAT PEOPLE WERE BEING REALLY ACTIVE THIS YEAR AND DEFINITELY GOING TO GO VOTE AND USE THEIR VOICE.

ADDY REESE
ELON FRESHMAN

“Kind of just making sure that policies protect people instead of kind of cornering them,” Lara-Tolentino said on what a greater good for everyone would look like.

Elon University freshman Addy Reese has been keeping up with the presidential race for a while now and had a presidential debate watch party with her friends on Sept. 10.

“It was a good way to start conversations, and it was one of the moments when I realized that people were being really active this year and definitely going to go vote and use their



ETHAN WU | PHOTO EDITOR

Candidate campaign signs line Elon University’s South Gym — one of five Alamance County’s early voting locations.

voice,” Reese said.

Holt described casting her ballot as being a part of her civic duty and said she believes it’s important for everyone eligible to vote in this election.

“I don’t think you have a right to complain about anything if you didn’t do your part and vote,” Holt said.

Holt described the voting process as being quick and easy and said she believes more people would be encouraged to vote if they knew just how easy it is.

“I just think it’s really important for our generation to vote and that every little vote makes a difference,” Reese said. “It’s really empowering to use your voice in government.”

Frame said he hopes new voters like himself will recognize what a privilege it is to be able to use their voices by voting.

“It’s beautiful here that we’re able to elect our leaders and I don’t think we should take that for granted,” Frame said. “I think if you have a voice you should take advantage of it and use it.”

“

I THINK IF YOU HAVE A VOICE YOU SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT AND USE IT.

ALEX FRAME
ELON SENIOR

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