



## Lassen County Candidate Statements

# Statewide Direct Primary Election Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Lassen County Elections Department  
Located Behind the Historic Courthouse  
220 South Lassen Street, Annex  
Susanville, CA 96130

Open Regular business hours:  
Monday through Friday, 9AM to 12PM and  
1PM to 4:30 PM

Open Election Day from 7AM to 8PM

- [LassenCounty.org](http://LassenCounty.org)
- [Icclerk@co.lassen.ca.us](mailto:Icclerk@co.lassen.ca.us)
- 530-251-8217
- Toll Free: 886-742-8445
- FAX: 530-257-3480

## **Candidate's Statement of Qualifications**

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## **Candidate Statements**

### **THE FOLLOWING PAGES CONTAIN CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS**

Each statement in this voter information guide is volunteered and paid for by the candidate. This pamphlet may not contain a complete list of all the candidates.

A complete list of candidates appears on the Sample Ballot.

Each Statement of Qualifications is printed exactly as submitted by the candidate. Statements have not been checked for accuracy by any public agency.

You will also receive a state Voter Information Guide in the mail from the Secretary of State.



## Paid Candidate Statements

### STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR: US REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS, DISTRICT 1

**Max Steiner      Age: 36      Occupation: Army Reservist/Researcher**

I am a combat veteran and a political moderate. I want to solve problems, not complain about them. Our political system is broken and it's time for new blood in Washington.

I was born and raised in Northern California. I currently live in Chico with my wife - the daughter of refugees who fled communism in China and Cambodia. My younger brother lives in Redding, where he lost his house to the Carr Fire in 2018.

At 19, I joined the Army and served two years in Iraq as an infantryman with the 10th Mountain Division. It was an honor to fight for my country. In 2009 I transferred to the U.S. Army Reserves, and I am currently the First Sergeant of a Civil Affairs Company.

After community college, I used my G.I. Bill to put myself through university. I then served eight years as a U.S. diplomat: working on agriculture in Honduras, immigration in Mexico, peacekeeping in Egypt, and Food Security policy in Washington, D.C.

My legislative priorities as your Representative will be defending our constitutional rights, forest management, fire risks, and water. We need to protect the fundamentals of our democracy. We need a strong timber industry to reduce fire risk. We need to hire more firefighters and pay them better. We need more dams to manage the effects of climate change.

Visit my website at <http://www.maxsteinerforcongress.com> to learn more about me.

On June 7th, I would appreciate your vote. Thank you.

s/Max Steiner

### STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR: US REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS, DISTRICT 1

**Doug LaMalfa      Occupation: Farmer/Member, United State House of Representatives**

The challenges we face in Northern California keep growing. Drought, major fires, as well as inflation stealing savings from retirees and making the basics unaffordable for young families.

As your Congressman, I have fought for the North State; delivering billions in aid for disaster recovery, changed water law to protect our most valuable resource from being lost to frivolous use as well as federally authorized and funded the construction of Sites Reservoir. I am the leading voice on changing federal forest policy, so we thin our overgrown forests and reduce the risk of major fires.

I have fought against the out-of-control waste in Washington DC and to return our nation to common sense. I have voted against the bloated budgets and inflation causing policies that have hurt so many. And, I have stood up firmly for securing our border.

Our nation's security is a top priority. I have consistently worked for American energy independence, including domestic oil and natural gas as well as renewables such as biomass power and clean, cheap hydroelectric. I have voted to keep our military strong and ensure our veterans get the care they need.

It's an honor to serve you and to be your voice. Know that I will keep fighting to protect your individual rights and personal liberty. During this pandemic I have fought against the extreme mandates and shutdowns that harmed so many while backing plans that helped keep us all healthy.

I'd be honored to receive your vote.

Thank you.

[www.DougLaMalfa.com](http://www.DougLaMalfa.com) or 530-712-3675.



## Paid Candidate Statements Continued

### STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR: US REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS, DISTRICT 1

Rose Penelope Yee                      Occupation: Business Leader, Finance Professional, Investor

Like you, I'm a proud American, blessed to live in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

And yet, many of us fear seeking medical help because of lack of health insurance. Some of us are afraid to leave abusive employers or have to work 2 or 3 jobs to make ends meet. Many of our youth are foregoing college or are drowning in student debt. A number of us want to work but can't find jobs.

What if we can go to a doctor without having to worry about paying for it? What if there's a safety net so that you're free to quit that soul destroying job and seek greener pastures? What if college were free to those who want it? What if there's a Jobs Guarantee so that all can be productive citizens of this great country?

This is why, fellow citizens, I answered the call to run as your Congressional representative. I vow to fight so that none of us would bear the crushing burden of medical or student debt, or do drugs to escape lives of quiet desperation. True freedom requires economic freedom.

I vow to be a thorn on the side of the political establishment so that laws passed benefit us all.

President Roosevelt said we need these 4 freedoms: Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Worship, Freedom from Want, and Freedom from Fear. Let's let freedom ring!

Together, we can. Thank you for your vote.

[www.yeeforyou.com](http://www.yeeforyou.com)

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## Voting in the June 7, 2022 Direct Primary Election



Some new state laws are in effect for this election. Vote by mail ballots are now permanent, and a ballot will be mailed to every active registered voter in California.

In Lassen County you can vote your ballot at home and return it to the election office, by mail (no postage required) or to any official county drop box. There is a list of available drop box locations in this book. You can also take that ballot to the polls on Election Day.

If you want to vote in person, you must turn in your ballot or vote a provisional ballot.



## Paid Candidate Statements

### STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR: STATE ASSEMBLY, DISTRICT 1

**Kelly Tanner**

**Occupation: Emergency Management/Mother/Wife**

My name is Kelly Tanner, and I am a candidate for California Assembly. We deserve an elected representative that engages, advocates, and responds to the needs of this district. California politicians have unwittingly paved the way to disaster with poor policy decisions, while our serious problems remain unresolved. Our district faces threats to our way of life from wildfires, unemployment accompanied by rising energy costs, and an unacceptable rise in crime.

It is time for our voices to be heard. Our forests, watersheds, and wildfire threats need proper management and preparedness. Addressing the mismanagement of our forests and the threat of wildfire is critical.

I have a BS in Political Science from BYU and an MA in Disaster and Emergency Management and wrote my thesis on wildfire. I fought and defeated a large-scale utility project that posed a serious fire danger to an underrepresented rural community. I will take this level of determination with me to Sacramento.

My husband and I have one son, the 6th generation of our family, to live at our ranch. Let's build a better future for our children and grandchildren together.

I would be honored to earn your vote.

[electkellytanner.com](http://electkellytanner.com)

### STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR: STATE ASSEMBLY, DISTRICT 1

**Megan Dahle**

**Occupation: Assemblywoman/Farmer/Businesswoman**

My home is in Lassen County and I fight for our people every day at the State Capitol.

To reduce the high cost of living and slow down inflation, I fought to protect Prop 13, lower taxes, get gas prices down and make healthcare more affordable.

Crime is out of control. That's why I'm pushing to repeal liberal laws that released criminals and reduced penalties, allowing thieves to steal almost \$950 without being prosecuted for a felony.

The learning loss and mental health impacts our students have experienced are devastating. I'll continue to advocate for our students and families to have the resources they need to ensure our students have the bright futures they deserve.

Needless regulations waste time and drive up the cost of the products we buy. I'm using my small business experience to cut red tape and make government more efficient.

I'm a farmer who is working to increase above ground water storage to help farms and families get the water they deserve.

As a taxpayer, I'm disgusted by the billions the State wasted on fraudulent EDD claims and am leading the fight to enact reforms so that never happens again.

By working to improve forestry management, clear out excess fuel and properly maintain power lines, I hope to prevent more catastrophic wildfires and keep the power on.

The California Association of Highway Patrolmen supports my campaign to move California forward. Please join them and visit [www.votemegandahle.com](http://www.votemegandahle.com)

I'd be honored to have your vote.



## Paid Candidate Statements

### STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR: COUNTY SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 3

**Tom Neely                      Age: 61                      Occupation: Retired Maintenance Mechanic**

Hello, my name is Tom Neely and I am running for District 3 Supervisor. I have been married to my wife, Becky, for 39 years and we have three adult children. My family has been in Lassen County since the 1800s. I am recently retired from the State of California. Throughout my life I have been active in serving my community through volunteer firefighting, coaching youth sports, 4-H leader, Levitt Lake Water Board member, deacon at my local church, and Lassen County Advisory Fair Board member. As a supervisor I plan on having set office hours for residents of Lassen County to come voice their concerns. I want to hear and advocate for the people of Lassen County. I plan on promoting local business and encouraging growth in Lassen County. I believe Lassen County is a beautiful place that has many attractions such as trails, lakes, and natural beauty that need to be promoted. I want to work with different government agencies including the city and the tribe. I would like to thank everyone for their support. If I get elected, I look forward to serving the residents of Lassen County as District 3 Supervisor.

Thank you,

Tom Neely

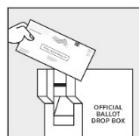


### Vote Early

#### Tally your own vote before Election Day

Make your ballot one of the first to be counted! Bring your ballot to the Elections Office beginning May 9, 2022, and cast your vote in an early vote scanner.

#### Use a Drop Box



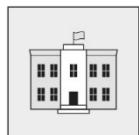
You can help save local tax dollars by returning your ballot to any of the Lassen County Official Ballot Drop Box locations. 24 Hour Drop Box locations are listed in this booklet.

#### Mail Your Ballot



Mail your ballot so that it is postmarked on or before Election Day and received by county elections no later than 7 days after Election Day.

#### Vote in Person - Election Day June 7, 2022



On Election Day, take your ballot and envelope to your polling place. If you wish to vote in person, you will need to surrender the ballot that was mailed to you.

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR: COUNTY SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 5****JoAnn Sterling****Occupation: Gate Keeper**

My name is JoAnn Sterling. I live in Doyle, CA. I work at the Herlong Transfer Station.

I am the Hospitality Chairman for the Reno KC Dog Show. I was on the Board of Directors for the Reno Kennel Club for 4 years.

I can make a difference. Instead of waiting for changes which never occur, it's time to make improvements. We have been ignored long enough. Having lived here for the last 14 years, I've found the residents here, feel ignored. Let's work to change that. I know the value of being connected. That's why I'm running for this position.

Besides the basic job description, we need a representative who will support your ideas, fight for the needs of our communities and your respect. Change only happens when we work together.

Let's actually get some things started in our communities, such as repairing our secondary roads; cleaning up our neighborhoods; a medical clinic in South County and let's grow businesses in our communities. Hardware, lumber and feed are needed. Cafes and similar eating establishments would be a benefit.

Let's start a food growing operation. Green houses, co-op, farmers market with community involvement.

It's time to stop accepting the unacceptable!

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR: COUNTY SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 5****Jason Ingram****Age: 44****Occupation: Property Manager**

Hi, I'm Jason Ingram. Currently, I'm the District Five member/Vice-chairman of the Lassen County Planning Commission. I'm also a volunteer firefighter with the Doyle Fire Protection District, a member of the Long Valley Charter School Board, and the proud father of two young daughters.

I'm running for District Five County Supervisor because this is the most critical time in our county's history. As a planning commissioner, I've seen that we need effective strategies for attracting economic growth and job opportunities. As a firefighter, I've experienced firsthand the need for better wildfire preparations.

If elected, I'll work to complete the 395 expansion project. I'll make being accessible to our residents and seniors a priority and build on the example set by our current retiring supervisor. I'll host regular town hall meetings, listen directly to you, and will always try to lend a hand and reflect your concerns with my vote. I'll advocate for our agricultural community and preserving our traditions and support funding the Sheriff's Office so they can fight crime and illegal marijuana grows.

I'll push to make county government more transparent and honest. My priority will always be achieving results on your behalf and working hard for you.

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR: COUNTY SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 5****Thomas T. Traphagan****Age: 53****Occupation: Farmer/Business Owner**

Thomas is a husband, father and grandfather. He has over 30 years of real world experience as a small business owner. He has 26 years experience fighting wildland fires as a hired equipment contractor, and has been farming alfalfa and cereal grains 23 years as a first generation farmer in Lassen County. He started the first on-farm certified organic flour mill in California during this time. He holds a California A contractor license for 17 years. RV Park owner in Lassen County 9 years. Inventor of fire equipment and patent holder for emergency fire systems. He's served as past president of the Ravendale School Board and he's currently a board member of the California Wheat Commission. He's dedicated to his family, loves his community and is committed to building infrastructure-(businesses) and representing Lassen County.

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR: Member Susanville City Council – Full Term****Mendy Schuster****Occupation: Retired / Mayor of Susanville**

Serving my hometown as a councilmember and mayor has been an honor. I am humbled by the privilege. I believe I have proven my ability to confront difficult issues and act in the best interest of our community.

I am the only councilmember who voted against firing two police officers, a decision that would have saved the city from outrageous legal fees and compensation. As mayor, I have led our community during Covid, catastrophic wildfires, and the proposed closure of California Correctional Center.

I was born and raised in Susanville. At 18 years-old, I was diagnosed with cancer. The prayers and support from the Susanville community were overwhelming. I am forever grateful.

Prior to retiring, I worked in education. I am the Vice Chairperson of the Local Agency Formation Commission, Chairperson of Honey Lake Valley Recreation Authority, Vice Chairperson of Lassen County Transportation Commission, and Susanville's representative for League of California Cities.

My grandchildren are the sixth generation of my family to have a Susanville address.

I value strength in leadership, fiscal responsibility, and transparency in government. The protection of our citizens, preserving the integrity of our neighborhoods, and Susanville's successful future are my priorities.

Your vote is appreciated. [www.schuster4susanville.com](http://www.schuster4susanville.com)

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR: Member Susanville City Council – Full Term****Curtis Bortle      Age: 35      Occupation: Businessman**

I was raised in Susanville, after serving in the Army with tours in Iraq and Jordan, I returned home to serve my community. I am a business owner and member of several boards including the Lassen Chamber of Commerce.

My priority for the City of Susanville is to create stable infrastructure which supports and invites businesses and industry to our community.

I would take measures to balance the City's budget, expand broadband access, market our community, and reduce bureaucracy that dissuades businesses.

I ask for your support in creating a thriving community we are all proud of. /s/ Curtis Bortle

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR: Member Susanville City Council – Full Term****Tony Ardito****Occupation: Retired Peace Officer**

I have been a resident of Lassen County since 1996 and a resident of the City of Susanville since 2015. I have two daughters that graduated high school here and my youngest is a student in Meadow View School. I have been married to my wife Heidi since 2018. I am a retired Correctional Sergeant and former Reserve Deputy Sheriff in Nevada County. I currently work as a Construction Estimator and Project Manager. I have been active in our community and have served on various boards over the years.

I am dedicated to seeing our city thrive and be a wonderful place to live and raise our families. I believe we must have a strong bedrock of strong police and fire departments to build a community where families feel safe and are safe!

From this strong bedrock: I will work hard to bring new business to our city through less regulations and restrictions.

Address the homeless issues with both services and enforcement.

Through my management background, bring qualified experts together to resolve the budget issues that our community is facing.

Transparency is a priority! It's your city and your tax money and you should know how it is being managed.



## CITY OF SUSANVILLE MEASURES P & Q IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS

### IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE P BY CITY OF SUSANVILLE CITY ATTORNEY OF AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING ONE-CENT SALES TAX

#### **City Attorney's Impartial Analysis:**

This ballot measure will establish an additional sales tax within the City of Susanville. The sales tax imposed would be an additional one cent.

This ballot measure will also establish a five-member standing oversight committee composed of Susanville residents. These members will serve as the independent Sales Tax Oversight Board to review the expenditure of funds collected pursuant to the tax imposed by this Ordinance.

A "YES" vote on this measure would allow the City of Susanville to impose an additional one-cent sales and use tax to provide more funding to local law enforcement.

A "NO" vote on this measure is a vote against an additional half-cent sales tax.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure P. If you desire a copy of the measure, please call the City of Susanville Election Official's office at (530) 252-5103 and a copy will be faxed or mailed at no cost to you.

By: /s/  
Margaret Long, City Attorney

### IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS BY CITY OF SUSANVILLE CITY ATTORNEY OF THE ADVISORY ONE-CENT SALES TAX

This ballot measure is advisory to the Susanville City Council on the use of the one-cent sales tax, should it be passed. The ballot measure shall recommend the use of the tax revenue to enhance existing public safety services (police and fire); provide funding to support street infrastructure improvements; and provide funding to support economic development efforts designed to increase businesses, jobs, and visitors to Susanville.

A "YES" vote on this measure would advise the Susanville City Council to use the revenue from a one-cent sales tax, to enhance existing public safety services (police and fire); provide funding to support street infrastructure improvements; and provide funding to support economic development efforts designed to increase businesses, jobs, and visitors to Susanville.

A "NO" vote on this measure is a vote to not recommend use of this tax.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure Q. If you desire a copy of the measure, please call the City of Susanville Elections Official's office at (530) 252-5103 and a copy will be faxed or mailed at no cost to you.

By: /s/  
Margaret Long, City Attorney