

2026 Bradley County Republican Primary Election

Voter Guide

501(c)(3) - compliant
and nonpartisan

County Mayor

County Primary Election | 5/5/2026



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[BradleyTNvoterGuide.com](https://www.BradleyTNvoterGuide.com)

Online Voter Registration/Record Updating available until 4/6/2026 at: <https://sos.tn.gov/elections>

Contact us at: advocates@bradleytnvoterguide.com | Updated 4/20/2026

For other Voter Guides and more information, please go to our website: www.BradleyTNvoterGuide.com

Church Voter Guides does not endorse or oppose any candidates for public office or any political party.

The Voter Guide Information contained in this document is provided for informational purposes only. It was obtained directly from candidates and other sources, and we have done our best to convey it to you accurately, but nothing herein has been "fact checked". Utilize this Voter Guide at your own discretion. We take no responsibility for the factual nature of the content, or for publishing errors, etc. To the best of our knowledge, this Voter Guide is 501(c)(3) and officially nonpartisan. Thereby it does not support or oppose any candidate.

Bradley County 2026 Republican Primary Election Voter Guide for County Mayor

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Introduction to the Voter Guide

This Guide is brought to you by Advocates for Bradley County in partnership with Church Voter Guides.

Church Voter Guides is an independent 501(c)(3) faith-based nonprofit organization. We serve the public by providing objective research and education on matters specifically of interest to Christians, primarily through the production and distribution of 501 (c)(3)-compliant, nonpartisan voter guides.

Church Voter Guides does not endorse or oppose any candidates for public office or any political party.

Church Voter Guides, a Tennessee nonprofit, initially started in Colorado Springs in April of 2021. This new Voter Guide for the 2026 Republican Primary is being distributed electronically only, both through our interactive website and by downloadable and printable PDF files. We have produced one Voter Guide for each seat that is: (1) conducting a contested election this year, and (2) for which at least one candidate in that election answered our Questionnaire. Our Voter Guides are being promoted through a wide-ranging network of area churches, faith-based non-profit organizations, mainstream and social media, and other means.

The purpose of our Voter Guides is to educate and inform voters of each candidate's positions on a variety of policy issues that they are likely to address if elected. As a Voter Guide designed to be distributed through Churches, we ask the candidates questions on topics that are of utmost interest to the Christian voter

How to Get the Most Benefit from this Voter Guide

The core information in this Voter Guide comes directly from the County Primary Elections candidates themselves. We asked them questions, they answered (with a 120 word limit), and we have published their responses here. In order to understand and utilize this information to the fullest, so that you may vote in the most informed way, we suggest the following:

1. Pray and ask the Almighty for discernment. The Kingdom of God is all about truth, while politics is a system fraught with compromise. Make sure you consider the candidates' answers with a Heavenly mindset.
2. Ask yourself, "Did the candidate actually answer the question, or rather side-step it, or give a fluff, wishy-washy, and/or 'political' type answer that leaves you not really knowing where he/she truly stands on the issue?"
3. Learn more about the candidates running for County Mayor including their positions on issues we did not cover in our questionnaire, by visiting their official campaign websites (if they have one.) The website URL for each candidate is listed in the Voter Guide.
4. Educate yourself more about the Christian/Biblical perspective regarding many of the subjects covered in our Voter Guide.
5. Use search engines to find additional information about each candidate, including written articles and videos, other voter guides, and even voting records for those who have served in public office before. You may even want to watch online recordings of the local County Mayor meetings to see how incumbents conduct themselves and vote.
6. Reach out to the candidates themselves through the provided email addresses and other means, in order to ask them questions of personal importance to you. Please make sure to show great respect toward each candidate and his/her time, especially to those with whom you disagree. Running for office is hard, stressful, time consuming work, and these are your fellow citizens who have lives, families, jobs...and feelings (just like you!)

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What makes a Voter Guide 501(c)(3) - Compliant and Nonpartisan?

Federal tax law permits nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations to develop and distribute materials about political candidates' positions on issues, in order to educate voters impartially and on a nonpartisan basis; meaning that it is free from party affiliation, bias, or designation. The IRS states that 501(c)(3) organizations may conduct any range of activities to promote voter participation and educate voters so long as it is nonpartisan. But, 501(c)(3) organizations are explicitly prohibited from supporting or opposing candidates for public office.

Some of the activities 501(c)(3) nonprofits *MAY* perform: Conduct or promote voter registration; educate voters on the voting process; distribute nonpartisan sample ballots, candidate questionnaires, and **voter guides**; organize "get-out-the-vote" activities; encourage and help people to vote; educate the candidates on issues important to their organization; and continue to do issue advocacy during an election.

So, first and foremost: **Church Voter Guides** does **NOT** endorse or oppose any candidates for public office or any political party.

Second, all of our staff and volunteers are required to act in a nonpartisan manner when working for or representing the organization and the creation of the Voter Guide.

Third, we do not edit, revise, or editorialize candidate responses to our Questionnaire. We do not even correct typos. **Candidate answers are published verbatim**, ensuring that their responses accurately represent their positions and perspectives on these issues. We then simply share this information through the Voter Guide, and you decide whom you believe to be the best candidate.

To be fair and impartial, we reached out by email, text, and phone when determined necessary, to all registered candidates running for County Mayor throughout Bradley County for their 2026 elections, inviting them to answer our questionnaire. Candidate information is presented in alphabetical order by **last name**. If a Candidate did not respond at all, or did not choose to participate, or did not choose to respond to certain answers in the questionnaire, then it is noted where applicable. If there were not enough candidates running, then we did not produce a Voter Guide for that seat.

Join Our Growing Grassroots Coalition of Citizens, Churches/Nonprofit Organizations, and Media Partners Committed to Promoting the Voter Guide throughout Our Region

Let's get the word out!

It's simple. Just share our website URL all around the Bradley County region:

www.BradleyTNvoterGuide.com

Tell your friends and neighbors, post on social media, and ask your Pastors to promote it to your congregation (we'll even provide you /them with the announcement info and the slide deck.)

Please contact us for any reason, we'd love to collaborate with you:

advocates@bradleytnvoterguide.com

The "Small Print": The information contained in this document is being provided for informational purposes only. It was obtained directly from candidates and other sources, and we have done our best to convey it to you accurately, but nothing herein has been "fact checked". Utilize this Voter Guide at your own discretion. We take no responsibility for the factual nature of the content, or for publishing errors, etc. To the best of our knowledge, this Voter Guide is 501(c)(3)-compliant and officially nonpartisan, and thereby it does not support or oppose any candidate

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Key Dates for the 2026 Election Cycle

Tuesday, May 5, 2026 - State and County Primary Election

Primary elections may be held for **state judicial offices and applicable county offices**, subject to the call by political parties.

Deadline to Call Primary	Monday, August 25, 2025
Deadline to Rescind Call for Primary	Friday, November 21, 2025
First Day to Pick Up Petitions	Monday, December 22, 2025
Qualifying Deadline*	Thursday, February 19, 2026, 12:00 Noon
	* This qualifying deadline applies to primary candidates, candidates nominated by caucus, and independent candidates for the offices on the May primary ballot.
Withdrawal Deadline	Thursday, February 26, 2026, 12:00 Noon
Voter Registration Deadline	Monday, April 6, 2026
Early Voting Period	Wednesday, April 15 – Thursday, April 30, 2026
Absentee Ballot Request Deadline	Saturday, April 25, 2026

Thursday, August 6, 2026 - Primary and General Election

Primary elections will be held for **Governor, U.S. Senate, U.S. House, Tennessee Senate (odd-numbered districts), Tennessee House, and Republican and Democratic State Executive Committees**. General elections will be held for **vacant state judicial offices and applicable county offices**.

First Day to Pick Up Petitions	Friday, January 9, 2026
Qualifying Deadline*	Tuesday, March 10, 2026, 12:00 Noon
	* This qualifying deadline applies to primary and independent candidates for the offices on the August primary ballot.
Withdrawal Deadline	Tuesday, March 17, 2026, 12:00 Noon
Voter Registration Deadline	Tuesday, July 7, 2026
Early Voting	Friday, July 17 – Saturday, August 1, 2026
Absentee Ballot Request Deadline	Monday, July 27, 2026

Tuesday, November 3, 2026 - State and Federal General Election

All candidates (including independents) for **Governor, U.S. Senate, U.S. House, Tennessee Senate (odd-numbered districts), and Tennessee House** must follow the qualifying dates for the August election. For **municipal elections** held with the November election, the qualifying dates below apply.

First Day to Pick Up Petitions	Monday, June 22, 2026
Qualifying Deadline	Thursday, August 20, 2026, 12:00 Noon
Withdrawal Deadline	Thursday, August 27, 2026, 12:00 Noon
Voter Registration Deadline	Monday, October 5, 2026
Early Voting	Wednesday, October 14 – Thursday, October 29, 2026
Absentee Ballot Request Deadline	Saturday, October 24, 2026

Where is my Voting District or Precinct?

Precincts and Commissioner Districts

The 18 Bradley County Precincts



The 7 Commissioner Districts



The New 2022 Senate and House Districts

Tennessee Senate District 1 and 2



Tennessee House Districts 22 and 24



Map Resources: [Enter Your Address](#) to see your New Voting Districts • [Bradley County GIS Maps](#) • [Voting Maps](#)

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**Bradley County
2026 Republican Primary Election
Voter Guide
for County Mayor**

County Mayor

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County Mayor | Survey Questions Index

- 1) **Purpose:** What do you view as the purpose and role of the County Mayor?
- 2) **Candidate's Focus/Initiatives:** What are your areas of special focus and/or expertise and what initiatives would you undertake as County Mayor?
- 3) **Budget:** What would be your top three spending, savings, and economic development priorities?
- 4) **Budget:** What are your qualifications and experience in preparing and balancing a budget as required by state law?
- 5) **Constitutional Liberties:** As the County Mayor, what measures will you champion to protect the individual Constitutional liberties of all Bradley County residents, such as freedom of speech, peaceable assembly and exercise of religion?
- 6) **Protecting Life:** What legal means, if any, would you support, to protect the most vulnerable in our county, including the lives of the unborn, the trafficked, the poor and homeless, and the elderly?
- 7) **Moral Values:** Should government laws, ordinances, regulations, etc. follow the moral principles of the Ten Commandments? Why, or why not?
- 8) **Zoning/Planning:** What policies would you support to prevent and disclose potential conflicts of interest between developers and members of Bradley County's zoning and planning committees, and how would you ensure that land-use decisions are made transparently, ethically, and in the best interest of residents rather than private interests?
- 9) **Immigration:** What role, if any, do you believe the Mayor's office should have in guiding Bradley County's cooperation with ICE and federal immigration enforcement?
- 10) **Adult Entertainment:** The Adult Entertainment Act (AEA) in Tennessee restricts certain adult performances, such as drag shows, in front of minors. Do you personally support the AEA, and regardless of your personal views, how would your office ensure its enforcement?
- 11) **Quality and fairness in the Workplace:** How would you ensure that government employees in Bradley County are treated fairly, hired on merit and qualifications, and not based on any factors not related to the performance of the position?

County Mayor

(In alphabetical order)



D. Gary Davis



Scott 'Donut' Gilbert



D. Gary Davis

Candidate Information

Email Address: gdavis@bradleycountyttn.gov
Occupation/Vocation: Bradley County Mayor
Years as a resident of Bradley County: Lifelong resident
Campaign Website: votegarydavis.com

1) Purpose: What do you view as the purpose and role of the County Mayor?

The County Mayor's role is to lead the day-to-day administration of county government with integrity, vision, and accountability. That means managing the budget responsibly, overseeing county departments, working with the County Commission, and making sure taxpayer dollars are used wisely. It also means planning for the future, supporting public safety, improving infrastructure, and helping create opportunities for responsible growth. Just as important, the County Mayor should be accessible to the people, transparent in decision-making, and focused on serving the entire county, not politics or special interests. At its core, the job is about steady leadership, solving problems, and making county government work well for the people it serves.

2) Candidate's Focus/Initiatives: What are your areas of special focus and/or expertise and what initiatives would you undertake as County Mayor?

My areas of focus are responsible growth, financial stewardship, infrastructure planning, and strong public services. I bring experience in budgeting, economic development, public safety, and the day-to-day operations of county government. As County Mayor, I would focus on managing growth in a way that protects quality of life, improving roads and infrastructure, supporting first responders, and keeping county government transparent, efficient, and accountable. I would also continue working to strengthen economic development, expand broadband access, and make sure we are planning ahead instead of reacting late. My goal would be simple: deliver steady leadership, practical solutions, and results that benefit the people of Bradley County.

3) Budget: What would be your top three spending, savings, and economic development priorities?

My top spending priorities would be public safety, infrastructure, and essential county services. That means supporting law enforcement, fire, EMS, and schools, while also investing in roads, facilities, and the services people rely on every day. My top savings priorities would be responsible budgeting, controlling unnecessary spending, and making sure every tax dollar is tied to a real need and measurable result. On economic development, my focus would be on recruiting quality jobs, supporting existing industry, and preparing for growth through infrastructure, workforce development, and long-range planning. The goal is simple: spend wisely, save where we can, and grow the local economy in a way that benefits families across Bradley County.

4) Budget: What are your qualifications and experience in preparing and balancing a budget as required by state law?

I have real, hands-on experience working through the county budget process and understanding what it takes to meet the requirements of state law. That includes reviewing department requests, weighing priorities, matching needs against available revenue, and helping build a balanced budget that is both responsible and realistic. I understand that budgeting is not just about numbers on paper. It is about making tough decisions, setting priorities, and ensuring county government can meet its obligations without losing sight of the taxpayers who fund it. My experience in county government has given me a clear understanding of the process, the pressures, and the discipline required to prepare and present a balanced budget.

5) Constitutional Liberties: As the County Mayor, what measures will you champion to protect the individual Constitutional liberties of all Bradley County residents, such as freedom of speech, peaceable assembly and exercise of religion?

As County Mayor, I would champion a county government that respects and protects the freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment and the Tennessee Constitution: free speech, peaceful assembly, and the free exercise of religion. That means making sure county government remains viewpoint-neutral, open to the public, and careful not to burden those rights through unnecessary rules or uneven enforcement. I would support transparent public meetings, equal treatment for all residents, and policies that protect both public safety and individual liberty. My job would not be to decide which voices, beliefs, or viewpoints are acceptable, but to ensure county government honors the rights of every citizen under the law.

6) Protecting Life: What legal means, if any, would you support, to protect the most vulnerable in our county, including the lives of the unborn, the trafficked, the poor and homeless, and the elderly?

I would support every lawful tool available to protect vulnerable people: enforcing Tennessee's pro-life laws, strengthening cooperation with law enforcement and nonprofits to fight human trafficking, supporting Adult Protective Services and tougher action against elder abuse and exploitation, and expanding practical partnerships that connect the poor and homeless to shelter, treatment, mental health care, and long-term stability. Tennessee provides statewide trafficking and adult abuse reporting resources that local government should actively support and coordinate with. As County Mayor, I would focus on protecting life, defending the vulnerable, and making sure county government is a serious partner in prevention, rescue, and support.

7) Moral Values: Should government laws, ordinances, regulations, etc. follow the moral principles of the Ten Commandments? Why, or why not?

Moral principles like honesty, personal responsibility, respect for life, and justice have long influenced good laws, and I believe those values should continue to guide public service. But government should not simply try to codify religion or favor one denomination's doctrine. The U.S. and Tennessee Constitutions protect both the free exercise of religion and freedom from government-established religion. So my view is this: our laws should reflect strong moral principles that promote order, dignity, and accountability, while still respecting the constitutional rights and freedoms of every citizen. That balance matters in a free society.

8) Zoning/Planning: What policies would you support to prevent and disclose potential conflicts of interest between developers and members of Bradley County's zoning and planning committees, and how would you ensure that land-use decisions are made transparently, ethically, and in the best interest of residents rather than private interests?

I would support clear disclosure requirements, recusal rules, and strong ethics standards for anyone serving on zoning or planning bodies. If a member has a financial interest, business relationship, or personal connection that could influence a decision, that should be disclosed publicly and that person should step aside. I also support open meetings, public notice, clear agendas, recorded votes, and easy public access to applications and supporting documents before a vote. Land-use decisions should be based on the facts, the county's plans and regulations, and the long-term best interest of residents, not private pressure or insider relationships. Public trust depends on transparency, consistency, and accountability.

9) Immigration: What role, if any, do you believe the Mayor's office should have in guiding Bradley County's cooperation with ICE and federal immigration enforcement?

The Mayor's office should support lawful cooperation with ICE and federal authorities when it involves criminal enforcement, public safety, and compliance with state and federal law. Programs like ICE's 287(g) framework operate through formal agreements, training, and federal oversight, so any cooperation should be clear, legal, and accountable. At the same time, the Mayor should make sure county resources are used responsibly, constitutional rights are respected, and local government stays focused on its core duty to keep Bradley County safe. My approach would be simple: follow the law, cooperate where appropriate, insist on transparency, and make public safety the priority.

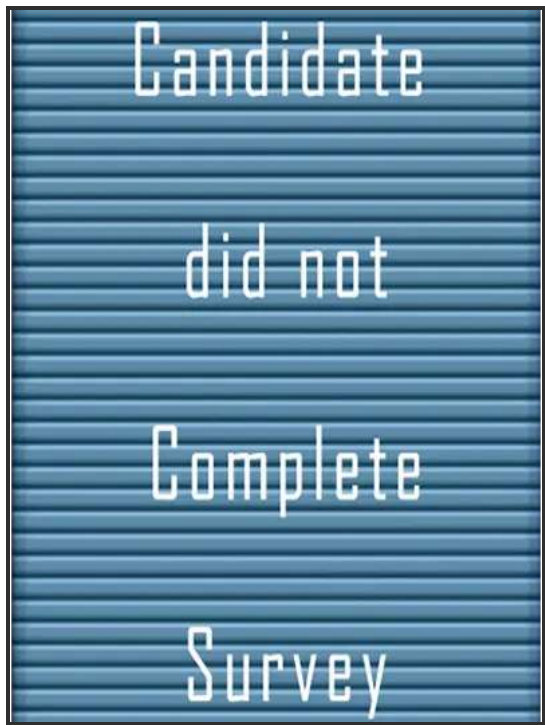
10) Adult Entertainment: The Adult Entertainment Act (AEA) in Tennessee restricts certain adult performances, such as drag shows, in front of minors. Do you personally support the AEA, and regardless of your personal views, how would your office ensure its enforcement?

Yes. I support laws that keep minors from being exposed to sexually explicit adult performances. Tennessee's AEA was enacted in 2023 to prohibit "adult cabaret entertainment" on public property or where it can be viewed by minors, and after litigation, the Sixth Circuit allowed the law to take effect; the U.S. Supreme Court later declined review. As County Mayor, my office would not play politics with enforcement. We would support lawful enforcement by the appropriate authorities, make sure county departments cooperate as required, and insist that enforcement be consistent, constitutional, and focused on protecting children.

11) Quality and fairness in the Workplace: How would you ensure that government employees in Bradley County are treated fairly, hired on merit and qualifications, and not based on any factors not related to the performance of the position?

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Scott 'Donut' Gilbert

We made multiple attempts to communicate with Scott 'Donut' Gilbert; however, the Candidate did not complete the survey by the submission deadline.

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