YOUR GUIDE TO VOTING

PA STUDENT POWER NETWORK VOTERGUIDE:
DA, RETENTION VOTE, CITY & COUNTY COUNCIL
All About Steve: What does the District Attorney do?

Big Ballot Questions. Can you judge the judges? What is a retention vote?

Candidates, do they care about what effects my life?
Candidates & Issues

Zapalla's Statements:

"The goal of our criminal justice system should be to guarantee public safety, not to lock people up & throw away the key."

"District judges are detaining people prior to trial & setting monetary bond that often keeps low risk defendants behind bars. Most people in jail have not been arrested for violent crimes: more than 80 percent of those held in the Allegheny County Jail had a nonviolent offense as their highest convicted or pending charge."

Pitt, Criminal Justice Task Force.

"Since I took office, I've placed a premium on making sure we're using the best technologies available to keep our county safe."

"Zapalla outsourced this monitoring to a private company & purchased cameras that are so vulnerable to domestic & foreign hacking that the Department of Defense considers them a national security threat."

Aug 18, 2019. Caucus reporter, Mike Wereschagin. Lancaster Online

https://stevezappala.com

https://stevezappala.com
Middleman's Beliefs:

- Treat mental illness as a health issue.

- Advocate with police agencies to end over-policing for drug crimes in communities of color.

- Release data on past civil asset forfeiture acquisition and distribution.

- Civil Asset forfeiture is a legal tool that allows law enforcement officials to seize property that they assert has been involved in certain criminal activity.

Lisa Middlemen is running as an independent candidate. If you want to vote for Middlemen, you'll have to specifically vote for the Independent Candidate.  
https://www.lisamiddleman.com/platform
Big Ballot Questions

Marsy's Law Amendment:

A Vote Yes

Adds Marsy's Law to the PA Constitution. If passed, this will make multiple changes to the PA Constitution. While some changes may help achieve justice for crime victims, these changes risk potentially violating a person's right to be considered innocent until guilty.

A Vote No:

To this legislation would provide potential for
* separate legislation for
* strong representation for
* victims & *the accused.

Home Rule Charter:

A Vote Yes:

A yes vote is a vote to bring back the Frick Park Trust fund. Which is privately controlled. The fund will be supported by an increase in real estate taxes & matching funds from the Pittsburgh Conservancy.

A Vote No:

A no vote is a vote against amending the Pittsburgh Home Rule Charter to establish a Parks Trust Fund. This would prevent this charter from taking & privatizing monies which could go to affordable housing & other public resources.

Pittsburgh Post Gazette. Aug 4, 2019

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Big Ballot Questions

PGH City Paper. Oct 22, 2019
What is "Retention?"
Can we elect our Judges?

Judges are elected every 10 years. Voters have the option of deciding if an elected judge should keep their job. For example, Judge Manning is up for a Retention Vote.
Judge Jeffrey Manning:

provided a $250,000 ***unsecured bond to Mike Rosfeld, who killed the child, Antwon Rose the Second. Unsecure bond means Rosfeld just had to promise not to miss his court date in order to avoid having to stay at the Allegheny County Jail.

90.5 WESA. July 12, 2018

At a 2012 bench trial overseen by Allegheny County Common Pleas Judge Jeffrey Manning, two young, black, Pittsburgh rappers were convicted of making terroristic threats & witness intimidation for writing & performing

"Fuck the Police."

Big Ballot Questions

Pittsburgh Post Gazette, Nov 21, 2013.
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<th>Police review</th>
<th>Ban Conversion Therapy?</th>
<th>Fight Air &amp; Water Pollution?</th>
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<td>At Large Seat</td>
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<td>Bethany Hallam (Dem) vs. Samuel DeMarco III (Rep)</td>
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<td>John Palmiere (Dem) vs. Michael Freedman (Rep)</td>
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NEED TO KNOW WHERE TO VOTE?

Point Phone Camera Here!
PA STUDENT POWER NETWORK

PA STUDENT POWER NETWORK is a student-lead organization that works all over the state to fight for and support student's and young people