



## Upholding Democratic Values: The Battle for an Independent Judiciary in Pennsylvania

The significance of halting the unparalleled attack on our courts by the Republican Party cannot be emphasized enough. Our collective efforts are dedicated to securing the election of Judge McCaffery, Jill Beck, Judge Lane, and Judge Wolf.

Their roles are pivotal in safeguarding our constitutional and statutory rights as proud Pennsylvanians.

## The Campaign Trail



### Chairman's Letter

Chairman Sharif Street shares his thoughts and analysis on where we are headed into the election and some recent party news.

### Know The Caucus

The PA Dems are proud to announce the formation of a Teacher's Caucus as part of the State Committee.

### Our Events

The 2023 PA Independence Dinner is taking place Saturday, September 30, 2023 at the Valley Forge Casino Resort.



# A Letter from Chairman Sharif Street



Dear Pennsylvania Democrats:

With great pride, I am reaching out to all of you to share the fantastic work done across the Commonwealth this summer. After an incredible and historic primary election this past May, Democrats stepped up when the state House majority was on the line. Congratulations to Heather Boyd on her victory in HD-163's special election. This effort was made possible by so many groups and individuals across the Commonwealth, and while there are too many to name here, please know how much we appreciate you all.

Our statewide judicial slate, Dan McCaffery, at the top of the ticket as our Pennsylvania Supreme Court nominee, Jill Beck and Timika Lane, our Superior Court nominees, and Matt Wolf, our nominee for the Commonwealth Court, have been crisscrossing the state, meeting with voters all across the Commonwealth while also picking up one important statewide endorsement after another building the momentum we need for successful results in November. With women's reproductive rights and the continuation of election integrity in Pennsylvania on the ballot in this year's elections, we all must work together to bring additional strong Democratic voices to our statewide appellate courts.

On the municipal level, Councilwoman Cherelle Parker is poised to become the first African-American woman to be mayor of Philadelphia. She deserves immense credit for her historic win and work on our Commonwealth's behalf. She is an inspiration to generations of women. We're excited to get her across the finish line in November, making her Philadelphia's 100th mayor, and we can't wait to work with her to create a better Philadelphia.

In Allegheny County, State Representative Sara Innamorato is also on the precipice of history as the first woman County Executive in Allegheny County history with a successful fall election. Let's all work together to help break another glass ceiling.

In times when MAGA extremists are threatening our freedoms and democracy, the eyes of the nation are going to be on our Pennsylvania judicial races. The PA Dems know the importance of a robust democratic court and are committed to winning up and down the ballot this November. As we close out an incredible summer of activism, The Pennsylvania Democratic Party has made a historic investment in grassroots organizing by securing funding to hire 20 field staffers to support our municipal targeted races and our statewide judicial candidates. We're also providing essential tools and materials, such as slate card collateral for all 67 counties, to help our statewide and local candidates. As your Chairman, I believe these investments into year-round organizing are crucial and will be a decisive factor in our victory in November and lay a solid foundation for 2024.

We are excited to announce that our 2023 PA Dems Independence Dinner, **a Tribute to former DNC Chairman and PA Governor Ed Rendell**, will be held at the Valley Forge Casino Resort, 1160 1st Avenue, King of Prussia, PA on Saturday, September 30, 2023. Doors open at 5:00 PM, with cocktails and then dinner beginning at 6:00 PM.

Sincerely,

*Sharif Street*

Chairman Sharif Street



# Governor Josh Shapiro Signs Historic Budget



Last month, Governor Shapiro signed into law a 2023-2024 commonsense budget that reflects his commitment to building a strong economy, making Pennsylvania safer for all residents, and doubling down on education for families throughout the Commonwealth.

“The people of Pennsylvania have entrusted me with the responsibility to bring people together in a divided legislature and to get things done for them – and with this commonsense budget, that’s exactly what we’ve done,” **said Governor Josh Shapiro.**

“Throughout my campaign and in my first budget address, I laid out a vision for how the Commonwealth could create real opportunity and advance real freedom for all Pennsylvanians. With this budget and the expansion of the Property Tax/Rent Rebate, we’re making good on that promise by delivering the largest targeted tax cut for our seniors in nearly two decades, creating real opportunity for our workers by expanding vo-tech and apprenticeship programs, supporting our state troopers and local first responders, and making historic investments in our kids and their schools. This is what it looks like when government works together to make Pennsylvanians’ lives better.”

Increasing investments in education was one of Governor Shapiro’s promises when he campaigned, and as detailed below – he delivered for all of us.

## **Largest Increase in Basic Education Funding Ever and Historic Investments in Our Schools**

This budget makes historic investments in K-12 public schools, including the largest increase in basic education funding (BEF) in Pennsylvania history and universal free breakfast for our public school students. Thanks to this budget, Pennsylvania will spend over \$10 billion on K-12 public education funding. This budget includes:

- **\$567 million increase** in basic education funding for Pennsylvania school districts to be distributed through the BEF Formula, enabling all school districts to have the basic resources they need to provide a high-quality education for Pennsylvania students. This is the largest BEF increase in history.
- **\$100 million** for school-based mental health counselors and resources for students.
- **\$100 million** for Level Up to ensure more resources go to Pennsylvania’s most underfunded schools.
- **\$50 million increase** in special education funding, reinforcing Pennsylvania’s commitment to equitable education for all students.
- A **\$46.5 million** increase in funding to provide universal free breakfast to Pennsylvania’s 1.7 million public school students regardless of income and free lunch to all 22,000 Pennsylvania students who are eligible for reduced-price lunches through the National School Lunch Program.
- **\$10 million** to provide Pennsylvania’s student teachers with stipends so the Commonwealth can get more well-trained teachers into our classrooms.
- **\$7 million** to support dual enrollment opportunities for high school students allowing them to take advanced courses for college credit and chart their own course.



# PA Dems Launch County Campaign Initiative

Under Chairman Street's Leadership, the Pennsylvania Democratic Party is making significant investments in grassroots organizing across the state. We're proud to report that we've bolstered our team with the recruitment of 17 dedicated field staff members working in counties across the commonwealth, with 18 more soon to be on-boarded. These grassroots organizers will knock on doors, make calls, and turnout voters with a special focus on turning out Black and Brown voters, and young people with the goal of bolstering support for our statewide judicial ticket as well as important local races all over Pennsylvania.

## PA Dems Supply all 67 Counties with Campaign Literature

As part of our County Campaign Initiative, the PA Dems have officially launched our unique Vote Local campaign field collateral program, providing all 67 counties with detailed campaign literature featuring our statewide judicial ticket along with countywide candidates specific to each county. All literature includes a direct link to the PA Dem's website giving voters who visit a "digital slate card" of their entire Democratic slate of candidates with direct access to each candidate's digital footprints along with important voting instructions.

We kicked off the distribution at the 5th Annual Demstock event, where we provided collateral for 30 counties in Western, PA totaling over 130,000 pieces. We are currently in the process of distributing another 240,000 pieces to the remaining 37 counties in Eastern PA.



**Our Political Director distributes literature to county chairs at Demstock 2023.**



# PA Dems Launch County Campaign Initiative

## PA Dems Hire Program Director for County Campaigns



We are thrilled to introduce Noëlle Coulter-Daniels as the newest addition to our team, taking on the role of Program Director for County Campaigns within the Pennsylvania Democratic Party. With an impressive history of political organization and campaign management, Noëlle is primed to elevate and propel our county-level campaign initiatives to unprecedented heights.

Noëlle's recent stint as Field Director at Rhyhart for Philadelphia underscored her exceptional prowess in leadership. Under her guidance, the campaign achieved an outstanding nine-fold surplus of petition signatures, a testament to her adept organizational skills. Facilitating over 170,000 direct voter contacts further showcased her ability to deftly navigate the intricacies of campaigning, enabling her to make well-informed decisions.

With Noëlle Coulter-Daniels leading our county campaign effort and our resolute approach to grassroots organizing, we're setting the stage for a dynamic and impactful electoral season.

## Investing in our Rural Counties

Recognizing the vital importance of rural areas, the Pennsylvania Democratic Party has taken proactive measures to bolster rural outreach and support the development of rural Democratic infrastructure. To this end, a Rural Organizing Director has been hired to spearhead these efforts. In collaboration with Rural Power Lab, the Pennsylvania Democratic Party initiated a comprehensive training program in August, aimed at equipping 15 rural counties with essential skills in utilizing VAN (Voter Activation Network), G Suite, and implementing best practices for county operations.

Recognizing the financial challenges faced by local county parties, the Pennsylvania Democratic Party will also provide quarterly Infrastructure Grants to assist in building and strengthening their party infrastructure.

By investing in rural outreach, training, and support, the Pennsylvania Democratic Party is poised to expand its voter base and enhance its prospects in both statewide and national elections.

The PA Rural Power Lab provides skills trainings, coaching, technical and financial support to our rural counties. The inaugural class of 15 counties filed their first reports on activities meeting the program goals. Here are some examples from across PA.

# PADEMS

## PA Dems Launch County Campaign Initiative

### Investing in our Rural Counties (Continued)



Union County took their donkey mascot in the New Berlin parade.



Clinton County's summer picnic drew statewide candidates and visitors from adjoining counties.



Lunch crew for Demstock from Mercer County Pa raised approximately \$900 at our fundraiser for August.



Mifflin worked at their county's Youth Fair to form a Young Dems Club.

# PA DEMS

## Latest News

### Introducing the PA Dems Teacher's Caucus

The PA Dems are proud to announce the formation of an official Teacher's Caucus as part of the State Committee, making us one of the only State Parties in the country to do so. Teachers are the bedrock of our education system and their voices are crucial in our fight for progress. As we face constant attacks on our public schools, it's vital that we stand with our teachers. We need to support their advocacy for better resources for our children and our schools.

**Luigi Borda and his team of educators exemplify this commitment.** They've been tirelessly working to become an official caucus of the PA Dems. Their efforts have sparked excitement among teachers across our commonwealth, who are eager to join the Teacher's Caucus.





# Our Big Return to Pittsburgh

## The June Summer State Committee Meeting in The Burgh

In early June the Pennsylvania Democratic Party held our Summer State Committee meeting in Pittsburgh for the first time in over 20 years at the historic Omni William Penn Hotel. In celebration of our big return to The Steel City, the PA Dems went BIG putting on a one-for-the-ages event weekend!

Among the many highlights of the weekend, there was...

The launch of our "Humanitarian Hall of Fame" with the goal of honoring members of the Pittsburgh community who went above and beyond to make this world a better place. For our inaugural class, we honored Pittsburgh legendary figures Franco Harris, Roberto Clemente, Dan Rooney, and the "mother of the Civil Rights movement in Pittsburgh" Alma Speed Fox. Those who attended the Friday night dinner, where these legends were honored, witnessed an emotional and inspiring event that no one will ever forget.

With State Committee members gathering from all 67 counties throughout Pennsylvania to Pittsburgh, we couldn't think of a more appropriate topic for our Democratic Leadership Forum than "The Future of Organized Labor." In this standing-room-only session, we gathered a powerhouse group of panelists representing Labor from the local, statewide, and International levels. This meeting only lasted an hour (because of our jam-packed schedule) but there isn't a person in the room who wouldn't have stayed for HOURS to hear and exchange ideas on this incredibly important topic.

Taking advantage of the perfect summertime weather and scenic downtown Pittsburgh, we decided to provide lunch outside offering food from a few local minority-owned businesses from various neighborhoods around the Burgh in the park across the street from the hotel. We don't know who enjoyed it more, our State Committee members who were able to feast on an assortment of tasty treats or those of us helping and watching the reaction of our members as they got to the very long table of food- and then hearing their feedback (there were a lot of "WOW!")

The timing of our summer meeting couldn't have been more perfect because Pittsburgh was chock-full of outdoor activities and events- from the annual Pittsburgh Pride event (that many of our members were able to participate in) to the Three Rivers Art Festival and a "PA Dems Day at PNC Park" to take in a Pirates home game those who were there had a lot of great experiences to take away from the Steel City.

And a big thanks to the PA Young Democrats, and our LGBTQ+ and Black Caucuses for hosting an epic after-dinner party that had folks singing and dancing well into the early hours of the morning!



# PADEMS

## Latest News

### Photo Recap of the Summer State Committee Meeting



### Member Spotlight

Earlier in the summer our very own Angie Gialloreto, the longest-serving State Committee Member in Pennsylvania history, was honored by the Pittsburgh Pirates who celebrated her by having Angie throw out the ceremonial First Pitch before a home game. As many of you know, in addition to Angie's many years fighting for Democrats (well over 55 years as a member of the State Committee) she has also been a lifelong Pittsburgh sports fan- especially the Pittsburgh Pirates- and is an honorary member of the Roberto Clemente family.

So our Angie, who is still fighting the good fight for her Democratic candidates and root, root, rooting for her hometown Pirates at 94 years young, threw out the first pitch to her catcher- Roberto Clemente Jr.

Way to go Angie!



### Job Opportunities

#### Field Director

The Pennsylvania Democratic Party is seeking a highly motivated and talented Field Director passionate about expanding State Party support. As the Field Director, you will play a critical role in expanding party influence throughout the commonwealth and supporting Democratic candidates up and down the ballot.

This is a key leadership position that requires a strong ability to develop and manage a team of organizers, establish regional organizing plans, and support the overall statewide organizing plan. If you are passionate about political organizing and committed to electing Democrats, we encourage you to apply!

Those interested, apply online at: <http://padems.hrmdirect.com/employment/job-opening.php?req=2643023&&#job>

#### County Organizer

The Pennsylvania Democratic Party is seeking a highly motivated, passionate, and talented County Organizer for our 2023 County Organizing program. As a County Organizer, you will play a critical role in electing Democrats across the Commonwealth. This position reports to the Field Director.

#### Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Recruit, train, and manage fellows and volunteers to participate in direct voter contact.
- Coordinate volunteer events including canvasses, phone banks, and text banks.
- Amplify the message, recruit volunteers, and create online communities using social media platforms.
- Engage local Democratic committees, progressive organizations, and community leaders.
- Develop volunteer leadership and grow volunteer teams to execute a successful Get Out the Vote (GOTV) campaign.

Those interested, apply online at: <http://padems.hrmdirect.com/employment/job-opening.php?req=2643023&&#job>

# PADEMS

## Latest News

### News from Around the Commonwealth with our Judicial Candidates

Judge McCaffery has been campaigning across the state going to county fairs, picnics, forums, and more. ICYMI, the stakes of this race could not be more clear - this could be the next battleground to defend women's reproductive rights. Stay up to date with the campaign by following him on Twitter (@judgemccaffery) or on Instagram (judgemccaffery).

Jill Beck has spent the summer crisscrossing the state and meeting voters in every corner of the Commonwealth, bringing her total mileage to over 37,500 miles on the campaign trail. Additionally, Jill has hosted a number of non-traditional fundraising events, including "Drag Show for Justice" and "Jokes for Jill" comedy shows. Her next event is the "Court is in Session" 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament on Saturday, September 30th. [Sign up today to bring your best to the court!](#)

Judge Lane has been hard at work this summer traveling every stretch of the Commonwealth, and our message rings loud and clear in every community: Now more than ever, Pennsylvanians know that we need and deserve to be represented by judges who will defend and protect our rights. Judge Lane is uniquely qualified for the Superior Court, and voters relate to and see the value in the diversity of her professional and lived experiences.

Judge Matt Wolf has been working hard to gain support across the state since winning his open Primary. He has been making his way around the counties for events and has picked up endorsements from Pennsylvania AFL-CIO, Pennsylvania Building Trades, Philadelphia Building Trades, Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters, AFSCME 13, Communication Workers of America 13000, and Planned Parenthood PA. If the Primary is any indication, his opponent will be well funded by Commonwealth Partners, who contributed a \$250K in-kind mail program in the Primary!





# Latest News

## It's Time for the 2023 PA Independence Dinner!

Don't miss out on the best of the year! Join us and prepare for the 2023 PA Independence Dinner - A tribute to former DNC Chairman and PA Governor Ed Rendell. **The Humanitarian Award will be presented to everyone's favorite senator, Senator Vincent Hughes, and his wife Sheryl Lee Ralph for their unwavering commitment to the community.**

- > Tickets are on sale now: <https://bit.ly/independence2023>
- > To make a room reservation at the Valley Forge Casino Resort, please visit: <https://bit.ly/padems23dinner>

**PADEMS**  
**CHAIRMAN SHARIF STREET**  
**& The PA Democratic Party**  
*cordially invites you to the*  
**2023 PA Independence Dinner**  
*A Tribute to Former DNC Chairman & PA Governor Ed Rendell*  
*with Special Guests (to be announced)*  
**Saturday, September 30, 2023**  
Doors Open 5:00 PM - Dinner 6:00 PM  
**Valley Forge Casino Resort**  
1160 1st Avenue - King of Prussia, PA

**TO PURCHASE TICKETS, AND TO VIEW SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES  
PLEASE VISIT: <https://bit.ly/independence2023> or Scan below**

Please mail check(s) to: **PA Democratic Party**  
**PO Box 22356, Philadelphia, PA 19110- 2356**

Kindly RSVP for this event by Monday, September 18, 2023  
to 862-206-9166, or [rsvp@scorpionconsultingllc.com](mailto:rsvp@scorpionconsultingllc.com)

**To make a room reservation at the Valley Forge Casino Resort,  
please visit: <https://bit.ly/pademsind2023>**

Paid for and authorized by the Pennsylvania Democratic Party.  
Not Authorized by any Candidate or Candidate's Committee.



# Upcoming Events

## **Venango County Candidate Meet and Greet**

Wednesday, September 6th, 5:30PM

237 Seneca St., Oil City

For information, contact Chair, John Kluck at (814) 657-3108

## **Perry & Juniata Dems Picnic**

Saturday, September 9th, 11:30 AM

Little Buffalo State Park in Newport, PA

Tickets available

[HERE](#)

## **Potter County Dems**

Sunday, September 10th, 3:00PM

Moon's Big Red Barn, Ulysses, PA

For information, contact Chair, Linda Klingaman at (724)388-6601

## **Butler County Annual Dinner**

Thursday, September 21st, 5:30 PM

Butler County Country Club, 310 Country Club Rd, Butler, 16002

Tickets here:

<https://www.butlerpadems.org/>

## **Washington County Annual Fall Banquet**

Thursday, September 21st, 5:30 PM Social Hour, 6:30 PM, Dinner

Hilton Garden Inn, Southpointe

Tickets here:

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/fallbanquet2023>

## **Mercer County Dems Dinner**

Friday, September 22nd, 6:00 PM Cocktail, 7:00 PM Dinner

The Corinthian Banquet Hall and Event Center, 47 Vine Avenue, Sharon, PA

Tickets here:

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/2023fall>

## **Crawford County Dems Luncheon**

Saturday, September 23rd, 12:00 PM

Italian Civic Club, 869 Water St. Meadville, PA, 16335

Tickets here:

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/crawforddems-luncheon>



# Upcoming Events

## **Clarion County and Venango County Fall Dinner**

Saturday, September 23rd, 5:30 PM

Clarion VFW, 603 Liberty St., Clarion, PA 16214

Tickets here:

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/ClarionVenango23?mibextid=Zxz2cZ>

## **PA Dems Fall State Committee Dinner**

Friday, September 29th, 6:00 PM

Valley Forge Casino Resort, 1160 1st Ave., King of Prussia, PA

Tickets here:

<https://bit.ly/septdinner23>

## **Allegheny County Dems Kennedy Lawrence Dinner**

Saturday, October 7th 6:00 PM, Wyndham Grand Downtown Pittsburgh

Tickets here:

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/kldinner23>

## **Westmoreland County Democratic Committee Appreciation Breakfast**

Sunday, October 8th, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM

The Lamplighter Restaurant, Delmont, PA

Tickets here and sponsorship here:

[https://secure.actblue.com/donate/wcdc\\_breakfast](https://secure.actblue.com/donate/wcdc_breakfast)

## **Center County Dinner**

Sunday, October 8th, 5:00 PM

Ramada Inn Hotel, 1450 S Atherton St., State College, PA, 16801

Tickets here:

[https://www.centrecountydems.com/2023\\_fall\\_dinner.html](https://www.centrecountydems.com/2023_fall_dinner.html)

## **Somerset County Democratic Dinner**

Sunday, October 15th, 5:00 PM

Somerset Masonic Temple

145 Masonic Temple Road Somerset, PA 15501

Tickets here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/somerset-county-democratic-committee-fall-dinner-tickets-707834480987?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl>

# Our 2023 Judicial Slate



Judge Dan McCaffery, Jill Beck, Judge Timika Lane, and Judge Matt Wolf

## Voting on Election Day

Polls will be open 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM on Tuesday, November 7th. Be sure to [confirm your voter registration and polling location by October 23rd](#) as you make your plan to vote on Election Day!

## Voting Early In-Person

Through October 31st at 5:00 PM, you can vote early by going to your county elections office in person, requesting a ballot, completing it, and handing it back on the spot!

## Voting by Mail

Voting by mail is an easy three-step process! Request your ballot [online](#) or with a [paper application](#), complete the ballot as instructed, and return the completed ballot by mail or drop it off at the right place by 8:00 PM on Election Day.

## Pennsylvania Democratic Party

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Harrisburg, PA 17101  
(717) 920-8470  
[padems.com](http://padems.com)



@padems

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