

TEXAS

Voters in Texas will elect a Governor, Lt. Governor, and Attorney General this cycle. All 150 House seats will be on the ballot as well as half (15) the Senate seats. The gubernatorial and attorney general races are expected to be competitive. Republicans are expected to maintain control of the legislature.

Attorney General

Democratic Nominee

Rochelle Garza

Rochelle Garza (D) is a former American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) lawyer who had <u>originally</u> been running to succeed retiring U.S. Representative Filemon Vela (D), until the race was complicated by redistricting. Garza then announced her intention to run for the Office of Attorney General in late 2021 as a result.

Her campaign is <u>focused</u> on protecting civil rights and addressing the aftermath of the effects of the pandemic policies on Texans. She has pledged to dismantle the office's Election Integrity Unit and replace it with a Voting Rights Unit under a fully-funded Civil Rights Division. She hopes to create a Workers' Rights Bureau within the office as well.

She supports expanding Medicaid and ending lawsuits from the Attorney General's office against schools, cities, and counties that were related to COVID-19 safety precautions. She is stressing the need to lower drug prices and ensure that vision and dental benefits are included in health plans.

Garza pledged to investigate the power grid failure experienced by Texans during the catastrophic winter storm in February 2021.

Garza, a former immigration attorney, has promised to put an end to Governor Abbott's "Operation Lone Star" if elected. She has stated that the deployment of the Texas National Guard members to the border was unconstitutional.

She has stated that she will refuse to defend laws that infringe on Texans' reproductive rights and constitutional right to access abortion care.

She supports legalizing the sale and use of recreational cannabis and ending the prosecution of Texans on misdemeanor criminal possession charges.

In the first fundraising face off since the May primary election, Garza has reported nearly <u>\$520,000</u> in campaign donations, putting her in first place in terms of fundraising. Although she has outraised Attorney General Paxton this quarter, her cash on hand remains significantly smaller than Paxton's at \$450,000 compared to his \$3.5 million.

Trivia: Garza is the only woman and Latina running in the Democratic primary for attorney general.