

MARYLAND

Voters in Maryland will elect a governor, attorney general, and Lt. governor in 2026. All 47 Senate seats are on the ballot along with all 141 House seats. Democrats are expected to retain control of the state executive offices and both legislative chambers.

Attorney General

Republican Nominee

Jim Rutledge

Jim Rutledge (R) is a longtime Maryland attorney, former Bel Air Town Commissioner, and former Maryland Republican National Committeeman. He is running for Maryland Attorney General in 2026, campaigning on restoring public confidence in the justice system, defending constitutional rights, and combating violent crime.

Rutledge's platform centers on the rule of law, public safety, constitutional protections, and independent legal judgment. He says the Attorney General should focus on prosecuting crime, protecting victims, supporting law enforcement, and ensuring equal application of the law. He also cites free speech, religious liberty, election integrity, and Second Amendment rights among his priorities.

Public safety is central to his campaign. Rutledge calls for stronger responses to violent crime, gang activity, drug trafficking, cybercrime, and repeat offenders, and says the Attorney General's Office should work more closely with local prosecutors and law enforcement to improve community safety and support crime victims.

He also emphasizes constitutional government and legal independence, stating that the Attorney General must defend both the U.S. and Maryland Constitutions, provide independent legal advice to state government, and avoid using the office for partisan purposes. His campaign additionally stresses transparency, accountability, and ethical leadership.

Given Maryland's statewide voting history, most political observers consider the race favorable to Democrats. Rutledge's legal background, political experience, and standing within Maryland Republican circles nonetheless provide a foundation for his statewide campaign.

Trivia: Rutledge has been a Maryland attorney for nearly four decades.