


# PPS



NOV / 2015

**YOUR  
GUIDE  
TO  
VOTING**

PA STUDENT POWER NETWORK  
VOTERGUIDE:  
DA, RETENTION VOTE, CITY &  
COUNTY COUNCIL



**A**  
All About  
Steve:  
What does  
the  
District  
Attorney  
do?

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

**C**  
Candidates,  
do they  
care about  
what  
effects my  
life?

# THE DATA

DEMOCRAT:  
STEVE  
ZAPALLA

## — 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."

<https://stevezappala.com>

"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."

<https://stevezappala.com>

"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."

# THE DA

INDEPENDENT:  
LISA MIDDLEMAN



## — Candidates & Issues

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.

PGH City Paper. Oct 22, 2019

## 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

**Big Ballot Questions**

# RETENTION VOTE



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.

## COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Shall Judge Jeffrey Manning be retained in office?

YES.

NO.

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**Big Ballot  
Questions**

# JUDGE THE JUDGES

## 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."

Pittsburgh Post Gazette, Nov 21, 2013.



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## Big Ballot Questions

# COUNTY COUNCIL

— Issues:

	Police review board?	Ban Conversion Therapy?	Fight Air & Water Pollution?
At Large Seat			
Bethany Hallam (Dem)	✓	✓	✓
vs.			
Samuel DeMarco III (Rep) At Large Seat	✗	✗	Unclear
District 2			
Christine Allen (Dem)	Unclear	✓	✓
vs.			
Cindy Kirk (Rep)	✗	✗	Unclear
District 5			
Thomas Duerr (Dem)	✓	✓	✓
vs.			
Sue Means (Rep)	✗	✗	Unclear
District 6			
John Palmiere (Dem)	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear
vs.			
Michael Freedman (Rep)	✗	✗	Unclear



# NEED TO KNOW WHERE TO VOTE?



Point Phone  
Camera Here!

PASTUDENTPOWER.ORG



# GET TO KNOW PSPN

## 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



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