

NONPARTISAN

Selma & Dallas County **2026 Special Primary** Election Guide

Election Day: **August 11, 2026**



Scan for digital election guide,
sources, and updates



PRODUCED BY:



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:

**ALABAMA
FORWARD**



About This Guide

This guide is focused on the August 11, 2026 special primary election as it affects voters in Selma and Dallas County. It provides verified ballot information, candidate backgrounds, and practical voting information. Foot Soldiers Park does not endorse any candidate. Candidate descriptions are summaries of publicly available information and campaign positions, presented so voters can make their own decisions.

ELECTION SNAPSHOT

Election Day: Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Polls: 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Election type: Federal special party primary for U.S. House; this is not a statewide, state-office, county, or municipal election.

Dallas County ballot: Special Republican Primary for U.S. Representative, 7th Congressional District

Candidates on the Dallas County Republican sample ballot:

Ammie Akin and David W. Perry

Democratic ballot status: Terri A. Sewell is the only certified Democratic candidate for District 7, so she is unopposed and advances as the Democratic nominee for the November 3 general election.

There is no August runoff. The candidate receiving the most votes in the Republican special primary becomes the party's nominee for the November 3, 2026 general election.

IMPORTANT DATES

- | | |
|---|---|
| ■ Monday, July 27, 2026: Last day to register to vote | ■ Monday, August 10, 2026: Last day to hand-deliver your completed absentee ballot, by close of business |
| ■ Tuesday, August 4, 2026: Last day for a mailed absentee-ballot application to be received | ■ Tuesday, August 11, 2026: Election Day and deadline for mailed absentee ballots to arrive, by noon |
| ■ Thursday, August 6, 2026: Last day for a hand-delivered absentee-ballot application to be received | ■ Tuesday, November 3, 2026: General Election |

Your Voting Plan

Check your registration status, polling location, and districts using official election resources provided via the QR code for the digital election guide, sources and updates at the end of this document. Then fill out this voting plan. Planning ahead increases the likelihood you'll vote!

VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

Am I registered at my current address and under my current name?

☐ YES ☐ NO

Is my voter registration status "active"?

☐ YES ☐ NO

I will use the required photo ID to vote:

☐ YES ☐ NO

ABSENTEE VOTING

See official election resources for criteria and instructions.

Do I want to vote absentee?

☐ YES ☐ NO

I will vote absentee:

☐ By mail ☐ In person (Absentee Election Manager's Office)

VOTING ON ELECTION DAY

Write your polling location here:

To get to the polls I will:

- ☐ Drive my vehicle
- ☐ Walk
- ☐ Use public transit
- ☐ Get a ride with a friend
- ☐ Use a rideshare service
- ☐ Contact Foot Soldiers Park to schedule a pick up

I will vote:

- ☐ In the morning
- ☐ At lunchtime
- ☐ In the afternoon
- ☐ In the evening



Scan to schedule
a free pickup from
Foot Soldiers Park

VOTER ELIGIBILITY

Are you a U.S. citizen?

☐ YES ☐ NO

Will you be at least 18 years old on Election Day?

☐ YES ☐ NO

Do you have a previous conviction you believe disqualifies you?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If you're voting for the first time or need to update your information, register to vote ahead of the voter registration deadline.

Register to Vote

Use official election resources to register, update your address, or confirm your registration.

**Email Foot Soldiers Park
Civic Education & Engagement Team:**
frances@footsoldierspark.org

Dallas County Board of Registrars:
(334) 874-2534

The Voting Process

Election processes vary by voting method (in-person or absentee). Follow instructions provided by poll workers and official election offices.

At the polls, you have the right to:

- ✓ Cast your vote if you're in line when the polls close (stay in line).
- ✓ Receive a new ballot if you make a mistake.
- ✓ Vote by provisional ballot if your registration or eligibility is challenged.
- ✓ Vote free from intimidation. Voter intimidation is illegal.
- ✓ Bring materials to help you decide how to vote.
- ✓ Receive assistance and accommodations for a disability.
- ✓ Bring a friend or interpreter to help you vote (per applicable rules).



Voting FAQs

“Who should I vote for?”

We can't answer that question for you, but we can offer tips:

- **Step 1:** Find out what races are on your ballot (districts vary by address).
- **Step 2:** Learn about candidates (read bios, attend forums, review public records).
- **Step 3:** Make note of your picks (bring this guide as reference).

“If I run into problems while voting, who can help?”

Use the hotlines listed in the Helpful Contacts section.

“What disability accommodations may I receive?”

Voters with disabilities have the right to vote in an accessible way and may request assistance and accommodations as allowed by law.

“I have a criminal conviction. Can I vote?”

Depending on the conviction, you may still be eligible or may be able to restore voting rights. Consult trustworthy legal aid or official election resources for guidance. Visit www.returnmyvote.org for more information.

How Government Works in Selma & Dallas County

State Legislature

(Alabama State Senate + House)

The Alabama Legislature (Senate + House) creates laws and establishes the state budget (with the Governor's input and possible veto). The Legislature passes bills on public policy, sets state spending, raises/lowers state taxes, and votes on veto overrides. Alabama's Constitution limits “home rule,” so the Legislature can significantly shape what local governments can do.

County Government (Dallas County)

Dallas County services are overseen through county government offices and elected county officials, including the Sheriff, Tax Collector, Tax Assessor, and Coroner. The county government also supports public facilities and services.

City Government (Selma)

Selma's Mayor and City Council oversee city policy and services for Selma residents. City Council sets policies, passes ordinances, and sets tax levels for municipal government.

What Is on the Dallas County Ballot?

OFFICE: UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE, 7TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

About this office:

The U.S. House of Representatives writes and votes on federal laws, approves federal spending, conducts oversight of federal agencies, and represents district residents in the federal government. Members serve two-year terms.

Republican Special Primary Candidates

☐ **Ammie Akin (R)**

Akin is an entrepreneur and educator with nearly 25 years of experience as a classroom teacher, principal, and college professor. She earned a doctorate in education from Samford University and has advocated for children and adults with disabilities. Her campaign highlights support for rural healthcare and hospitals, agriculture and timber, broadband and infrastructure, education partnerships, small businesses, public safety, and reducing federal spending and regulation. [Learn more.](#)

☐ **David W. Perry (R)**

Perry describes himself as a community-service advocate seeking to improve transparency, accountability, and responsiveness in government. His campaign priorities include economic development through Opportunity Zones and private investment, public safety, stronger public schools and educational opportunity, and expanded mental-health services for communities affected by crime, violence, poverty, and instability. Limited independent biographical information was publicly available as of July 15, 2026. [Learn more.](#)

Democratic Nominee - Not on the Dallas County Special Primary Ballot

☐ **Terri A. Sewell (D)**

Sewell, a Selma native, is serving her eighth term representing Alabama's 7th Congressional District. She is the first Black woman to serve in Alabama's congressional delegation. She is a former securities and public-finance attorney and a graduate of Princeton University, Oxford University, and Harvard Law School. Her congressional work includes voting rights, jobs and workforce development, education, healthcare, rural issues, and oversight. Sewell is the only certified Democratic candidate for District 7, so she does not appear on a contested Dallas County Democratic special-primary ballot. [Learn more.](#)

Voting Basics

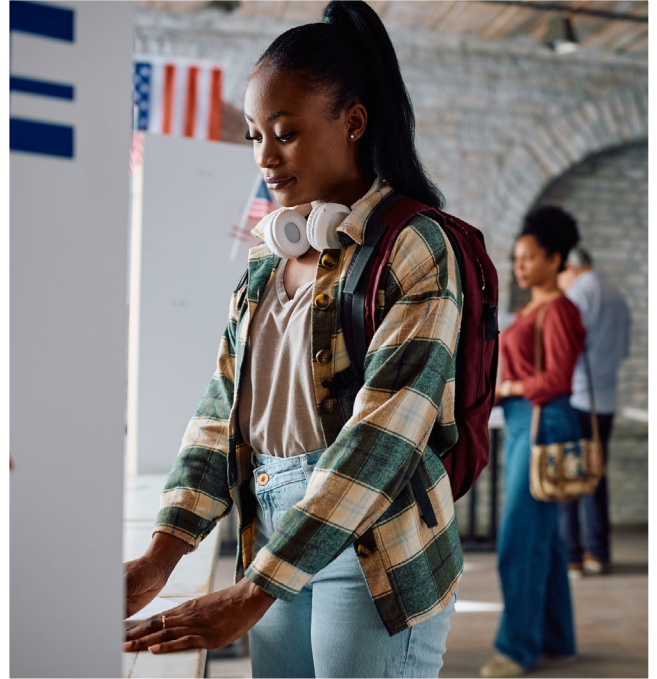
- Alabama does not require party registration. At a party primary, a voter chooses one party's ballot and may vote in only that party's primary.
- Bring an approved physical photo ID. Digital IDs are not accepted. Voters without acceptable ID may be able to cast a provisional ballot or obtain a free Alabama Photo Voter ID if eligible.
- Vote at your assigned polling place. Check your location shortly before Election Day in case it has changed.
- Accessible voting equipment is available at every polling place. Voters with disabilities or voters age 70 or older may ask to move to the front of the line.
- You may ask for voting assistance from anyone except your employer, an agent of your employer, or an officer or agent of your union. A poll worker may also assist you.
- If you make a mistake on your ballot, ask a poll worker for a replacement ballot. Do not erase.

Absentee Voting

- Alabama absentee voting is available only to voters who meet a statutory reason, such as being out of the county on Election Day, illness or disability, a qualifying work shift, caregiving responsibilities, or certain military, overseas, student, or incarceration circumstances.
- A copy of valid photo ID generally must accompany the application. In a primary, designate the party ballot requested.
- Your ballot affidavit must be notarized or signed by two witnesses age 18 or older.
- A voter generally must return their own ballot by mail, commercial carrier, or personal hand delivery to the absentee election manager, subject to limited emergency rules.
- For Dallas County, the Absentee Election Manager is Circuit Clerk Lynnethia Bennett. Physical address: 105 Lauderdale Street, Selma, AL 36701. Mailing address: P.O. Box 327, Selma, AL 36702. Phone: (334) 874-2536. Verify the current application and office hours through the official Alabama absentee-voting page before submitting materials.

Know Your Rights

- If your name is missing from the poll list, ask whether you are at the correct polling place and request a provisional ballot if the issue cannot be resolved.
- If your eligibility is challenged, you may ask a poll worker to explain the process and available provisional-ballot option.
- If polls close while you are in line, stay in line.
- Report intimidation, discrimination, inaccessible voting, misinformation, or improper denial of a ballot to an election-protection hotline.



Helpful Contacts

- Dallas County Board of Registrars:
(334) 874-2534
- Alabama Secretary of State Elections Division /
Voter Fraud Hotline: 1-800-274-VOTE (8683)
- Alabama Election Protection Network:
1-844-4ALVOTE
- National Election Protection - English:
866-OUR-VOTE (866-687-8683)
- National Election Protection - Spanish:
888-VE-Y-VOTA (888-839-8682)
- National Election Protection - Asian languages:
888-API-VOTE (888-274-8683)
- National Election Protection - Arabic:
844-YALLA-US (844-925-5287)
- American Sign Language video call:
301-818-VOTE (301-818-8683)



Editor/Project Lead: Foot Soldiers Park

Research Support: Alabama Forward

Special thanks to the volunteer researchers, reviewers, and community partners who contributed to this guide.

For printed guides or distribution support, contact Foot Soldiers Park:

Frances Cleveland

frances@footsoldierspark.org



Scan for digital election guide, sources, and updates

Official Web Resources

- [Alabama 2026 Election Information](http://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/voter/election-information/2026)
www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/voter/election-information/2026
- [Dallas County Republican Sample Ballot](http://www.sos.alabama.gov/sites/default/files/sample-ballots/2026/sprimary/Dallas%20-%20Rep%20.pdf)
www.sos.alabama.gov/sites/default/files/sample-ballots/2026/sprimary/Dallas%20-%20Rep%20.pdf
- [Alabama Special Primary Election Calendar](http://www.sos.alabama.gov/sites/default/files/election-2026/Amended2026SpecialPrimaryElectionCalendar_05.27.2026.pdf)
www.sos.alabama.gov/sites/default/files/election-2026/Amended2026SpecialPrimaryElectionCalendar_05.27.2026.pdf
- [Check Registration, Polling Place, and Absentee Status](https://myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/voterview)
<https://myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/voterview>
- [Alabama Absentee Voting Information](http://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/voter/absentee-voting)
www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/voter/absentee-voting
- [Alabama Photo Voter ID Information](http://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/photo-voter-id)
www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/photo-voter-id
- [Ballotpedia Alabama Election Calendar](https://ballotpedia.org/Alabama_election_calendar)
https://ballotpedia.org/Alabama_election_calendar
- [Dallas County Absentee Election Manager](http://www.sos.alabama.gov/city-county-lookup/absentee-election-manager)
www.sos.alabama.gov/city-county-lookup/absentee-election-manager
- [Foot Soldiers Park website](http://footsoldierspark.org/)
footsoldierspark.org/

Compliance Note: Foot Soldiers Park and Alabama Forward are 501(c)(3) organizations. This guide is nonpartisan and does not endorse or oppose any candidate for public office.