



# DENISE W. MERRILL

SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
CONNECTICUT

For Immediate Release:  
February 5, 2015

For more information:  
Av Harris: (860) 509-6255  
Cell: (860) 463-5939

-PRESS RELEASE-

## SECRETARY MERRILL RELEASES LISTS OF CANDIDATES FOR FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup> SPECIAL ELECTIONS

VOTERS IN 107<sup>TH</sup> AND 129<sup>TH</sup> HOUSE DISTRICTS AND 23<sup>RD</sup> STATE SENATE  
DISTRICT GO TO THE POLLS TO FILL LEGISLATIVE VACANCIES

**HARTFORD:** Secretary of the State Denise Merrill today is releasing a comprehensive list of candidates running in three legislative special elections taking place Tuesday February 24, 2015. Special elections will be taking place in the 107<sup>th</sup> State House district in Brookfield and parts of Bethel and Danbury, the 129<sup>th</sup> State House district in part of Bridgeport, and the 23<sup>rd</sup> State Senate district in parts of Bridgeport and Stratford. Voters in the 107<sup>th</sup> State House District will be going to the polls to fill vacancies created by the resignations of former state representatives David Scribner of Brookfield and Auden Grogins of Bridgeport, and the resignation of former state senator Andres Ayala. There are two candidates on the ballot in the 107<sup>th</sup> House District, while a total of five candidates are on the ballot competing for the 129<sup>th</sup> House District and another five candidates on the ballot in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Senate District. (A full listing of candidates on the special election ballots follows at the bottom of this news release).

“We are early into the new year, yet there are already three special elections for legislative seats fast approaching,” said Secretary Merrill, Connecticut’s chief elections official. “I encourage every eligible voter in these three districts to go online and register to vote as soon as possible in order to have a say in who is your next representative in Hartford. For a special election, voters can register up until the day before which is Monday February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Don’t sit on the sidelines, important decisions need to be made by the General Assembly so make sure your voice is heard so you can have good representation in the legislature.”

Candidates on the ballot for the special elections on Tuesday February 23<sup>rd</sup> are as follows:

<u>District</u>	<u>Party/Petitioning</u>	<u>Candidate</u>
House 107	Democratic	Howard Lasser
House 107	Republican	Stephen G. Harding

House 107	Independent	Stephen G. Harding
House 129	Democratic	Steven Stafstrom
House 129	Republican	Enrique Torres
House 129	Petitioning	Robert T. Keeley, Jr.
House 129	Petitioning	Robert E. Halstead
House 129	Petitioning	Hector A. Diaz
Senate 23	Democratic	Richard DeJesus
Senate 23	Republican	Quentin Dreher
Senate 23	Working Families	Edwin A. Gomes
Senate 23	Petitioning	Charles E. Hare
Senate 23	Petitioning	Kenneth H. Moales. Jr.

Secretary Merrill encourages any eligible voter to go online at [www.sots.ct.gov](http://www.sots.ct.gov) to see if they are registered to vote, find out about absentee ballots, register online to vote, see where their polling place might be located, and seek other relevant voting information. Eligible voters have until Tuesday February 10<sup>th</sup> to register to vote by mail or online for the special elections, or they can register in-person at town/city registrars' offices by Monday February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. for registered voters in the 107<sup>th</sup> and 129<sup>th</sup> House Districts and the 23<sup>rd</sup> Senate District for the special elections.