

McLennan County Judge



Rick Tullis

My name is Rick Tullis, and I'm running for McLennan County Judge. I'm a follower of Jesus, husband to a beautiful wife of 31 years, father to four incredible young men, entrepreneur and business owner, community volunteer, school board trustee, advocate for career and technology education, problem solving engineer, and leader who leaves things better than I found them. I love investing in others and watching them succeed. I'm a sixth generation Texan, team builder and collaborator, and visionary who can make things happen. I love McLennan County, and I've been investing in this community since I arrived in 1987.

McLennan County is at a historical inflection point. Things have never been this dynamic, and the opportunity for success has never been so great. We need to make wise decisions and we cannot afford to be passive. Let's steward the "Texas/McLennan County Miracle" well, and position the next generation for continued success. Let's nurture growth and a prosperous economy that will protect and expand our quality of life. I'll work hard to maintain Responsible Governance, Strong Economic Growth, Forward-Thinking Infrastructure, and Community Well-Being.

Judge, 414th District



Ryan Luna

Judge Ryan Luna was appointed to the 414th Judicial District Court by Governor Greg Abbott in December, 2023.

Judge Luna previously served as judge of McLennan County Court at Law #3. Before joining the bench, Judge Luna was in private practice where he represented plaintiffs and defendants in state and federal court.

Judge Luna graduated from Baylor University with a B.B.A. and earned his law degree from Baylor Law School. During law school, Judge Luna interned at the Texas Supreme Court for Justice Eva Guzman, clerked at the Texas Attorney General's office, and worked for a legislator in the Texas House of Representatives. Judge Luna is a member of the State Bar of Texas, the Texas Bar College, and the Judge Abner V. McCall Inn of Court.

Judge Luna is also involved in the community. He serves on the McLennan County Juvenile Board, the Adult Probation Board, the McLennan Bar Association Board, and the Waco Symphony Board. He has also served as the pro bono legal clinic director at Mission Waco, served on the Waco Transit Advisory Board, the McLennan County Young Lawyers Association Board, and the Care Net Pregnancy Center of Central Texas Board. Judge Luna is also a proud graduate of Leadership Waco. He and his wife, Genesis, have four children.

Judge, County Court of Law 1



Vikram “Vik” Deivanayagam

I graduated from Memphis State University with a B.B.A. in Finance in 1993, and from Baylor University School of Law with a J.D. in 1996.

I entered private practice with the Law Offices of Rod Goble becoming a partner in 2000. My practice consisted mainly of criminal defense work, representing juveniles and adults in both the State and Federal systems. I became board certified in criminal law in 2007 by the State Board of Legal Specialization.

On February 2, 2017, I assumed the bench of County Court at Law #1 and held the position since. My docket consists of criminal (both felony and misdemeanor) cases and general civil cases (except for family law) and contested probate matters. I also serve as the administrative judge for the County Courts at Law for McLennan County.

I also serve as an adjunct professor at the Baylor School of Law, teaching Juvenile Justice and coaching a Client Counseling Team.

Judge, County Court of Law 2



Thomas Bradley “Brad” Cates

Judge Brad Cates was elected to the McLennan County Court at Law No. Two in 2010, and has served on the bench from 2011 to the present. He was a member of the Baylor University Class of '77, where he earned a B.B.A., and received his law degree from Baylor Law School in 1980. He was licensed by the Texas Supreme Court in May, 1981.

Judge Cates created standardized criminal and civil digital forms which can be completed on computer and printed, assuring a consistent and reliable forms practice for attorneys. Judge Cates was also instrumental in developing an electronic monitoring program in 2012, which has both alleviated jail overcrowding and saved McLennan County multiple millions of dollars in jail housing expenses.

Judge Cates was recognized as “Outstanding Mentor” in 2018 and served as a member of the Board of the Judicial Section of the State Bar of Texas from 2012 to 2015, and from 2016 to 2018. He is married to Linda Bates Cates, a Waco native, and is the proud father of two and the proud grandfather of six. He performs with his church orchestra, loves all forms of music, and, occasionally, performs professionally. He is also an avid woodworker, outdoorsman, reader, and handyman.

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4



Brian Richardson

I have been blessed to serve McLennan County / Precinct 4 as your Justice of the Peace for 12 years now. It is an honor to work in this community, and my motto has always been to treat people like you want to be treated. I would appreciate your vote of confidence in the upcoming election. God Bless.