

★ **ACLU of Ohio
Positions**



Connie Pillich (D)
CHALLENGER

VS



Melissa Powers (R)
INCUMBENT

**ACLU of Ohio
Hamilton County Prosecutor
Candidate Profile**

2024 Primary Election

★ **ISSUE 2, MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION**

Supported Issue 2 and ending the War on Drugs.

“... our state has better things to do than lock up marijuana offenders. If legislature will deliver a thoughtfully worded bill to legalize marijuana in Ohio, I’ll sign it into law.”

- as quoted in her 2017 run for governor

No public stance as of February 13, 2024.

★ **DEATH PENALTY**

Supports death penalty abolition.

“The death penalty is the law in Ohio and, as the state’s chief executive, I’ll enforce the law.”

“Powers said the law will guide her decisions, including on the death penalty ...”

★ **CASH BAIL**

Seeks to reduce reliance on cash bail and our broken two-tiered system of justice.

No public stance as of February 12, 2024.

“Bail reform advocates like to claim that the only purpose of bail is ensuring the defendant returns to court. Don’t be fooled. Judges are required by law to consider the safety of our community when setting bonds on criminal offenses.”

★ **YOUTH BINDOVER**

Seeks to ensure Ohio’s youth remain in the youth justice system.

No public stance as of February 12, 2024.

“The violent offenders, anybody that’s using a gun to commit an offense, and I’m talking about an adult or juvenile, you cannot let them out into the community. It just can’t be done.”



**Connie
Pillich (D)**
CHALLENGER

Education

- University of Cincinnati College of Law, J.D.

Work Experience

Current role:

- CEO, The Pillich Group

Past experience:

- Clodfelter & Gutzwiller, Webb & Pillich LLC, Partner
- Ohio House of Representatives, 2009 – 2014
- United States Air Force

Publicly Available Endorsements (as of 2/14/24)

- [Full list of endorsements](#)



**Melissa
Powers (R)**
INCUMBENT

Education

- University of Cincinnati College of Law, J.D.

Work Experience

Current role:

- Hamilton County Prosecutor *(currently filling the term of Joe Deters)*

Past experience:

- Hamilton County Juvenile Court
- Hamilton County Municipal Court
- Private litigation practice
- Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in Hamilton County's Juvenile, Municipal, and Common Pleas Courts

Publicly Available Endorsements (as of 2/13/24)

- No Endorsements

Full methodology is viewable at [ACLUOhio.org/ProsecutorProfiles](https://acluohio.org/ProsecutorProfiles)