



**Chatham County Democratic Party
News You Can Use
January 13, 2025**

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Upcoming Local Events

Virtual Town Hall With Rep. Robert Reives and Sen. Natalie Murdock, January 28, 7 p.m. Sponsored by Fearington Democratic Club (Zoom Event)

The Fearington Democratic Club's first meeting of 2025 will be a friendly 'Town Hall' with Chatham County's wonderful Democratic legislators in the NC General Assembly, Rep. Robert Reives II and Sen. Natalie Murdock. They are coming to listen to our thoughts and concerns, and they will also brief us on what has been happening in Raleigh. Whether you are relatively new to Chatham County or a longtime resident, this meeting will be both informative and enjoyable.

The meeting will be live streamed via Zoom. To register for Zoom click [here](#) by 5 p.m. on the day of the event—and earlier is better.

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List of Chatham Voters Challenged by Judge Jefferson Griffin

As you are likely aware, Republican Judge Jefferson Griffin has challenged the validity of more than 60,000 votes cast in the 2024 General Election race for the seat on the NC Supreme Court on the grounds that their voter registration information was incomplete. To find out if you or any of your friends or family are among the nearly 800 Chatham voters being challenged, click [here](#) and then download and open the pdf file. You can use Ctrl+F to search the pdf for a specific name.

###

News from the North Carolina Democratic Party

Jefferson Griffin Still Actively Trying to Throw Out Ballots and Overthrow Election Results

Justice Allison Riggs has won the 2024 election for NC Supreme Court Associate Justice, Seat Six. Her victory has been confirmed by two recounts. Her opponent, Judge Jefferson Griffin, refuses to accept the results. He is trying to overturn the will of the voters by seeking to toss 60,000 ballots cast by eligible, registered NC voters. After his efforts were rejected by the NC State Board of Elections, he took the astonishing step of appealing directly to the North Carolina Supreme Court, and that suit was removed to federal court.

On Jan. 6, the suit was remanded (sent back) to state court and on Jan. 7, the North Carolina Supreme Court issued a stay, halting the certification of Justice Riggs' election. The remand is currently being appealed by both the NC State Board of Elections and Justice Riggs to the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals. Absent a stay from the Fourth Circuit, the NC Supreme Court is set to receive expedited briefing in the case. **Editor's Note: See [here](#) for the latest updates. On Sunday, January 12, NCDP held a virtual briefing on the state of the race with Chair Anderson Clayton, Justice Riggs, and others. You can view a replay of the briefing [here](#).**

Key Messaging Points

- North Carolina voters elected Justice Riggs in November. Her win has been confirmed by two recounts.
- Voters decide elections. Not candidates and not judges. No candidate may retroactively pick their voters.
- Judge Griffin has spent the past nearly two months attempting to engineer a new outcome in this election by challenging more than 60,000 voters, including active duty members of the military and Republican and Democratic elected officials.

- North Carolinians are entitled to have confidence in the decisions they make in elections and that their elected officials will respect the will of voters. They are entitled to know that when they cast a vote, they will be heard, and that the will of the voters will be upheld, not overturned by courts.
- This case is not just about the race for the North Carolina Supreme Court. It is about the future of free and fair elections in our state and across the United States.
- Justice Riggs will prevail, and will continue to serve all North Carolinians without fear or favor.

Statement from Chair Clayton:

Following the NC state Supreme Court blocking Justice Allison Riggs from receiving her certificate of election, North Carolina Democratic Party Chair Anderson Clayton released the following statement on January 7:

“Justice Allison Riggs won her seat fair and square and that will continue to be demonstrated before the courts. Justice Riggs deserves her certificate of election and we are only in this position due to Jefferson Griffin refusing to accept the will of the people. He is hellbent on finding new ways to overthrow this election but we are confident that the evidence will show, like they did throughout multiple recounts, that she is the rightful winner in this race. The NCDP will continue to fight for justice and ensure that the will of North Carolinians will be heard.”

Statement from DNC Chair Jaime Harrison:

“In what has become a monthslong, anti-democratic campaign at taxpayers’ expense against Justice Allison Riggs – who was found to be the clear winner of North Carolina’s November state Supreme Court election by two separate recounts – the Republican-led North Carolina Supreme Court is now attempting to give itself sole power to decide its next member rather than the North Carolina voters who unquestionably elected Justice Riggs. Make no mistake – these craven attacks on North Carolina voters are an affront to this country’s foundational values of democracy and the rule of law. One day after the four-year anniversary of January 6, Republicans are once again attempting to overturn an election in plain sight.”

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District 20 Updates from State Senator Natalie Murdock

Remembering Dr. E. Lavonia Allison

As some of you may have heard, on Tuesday, January 7th, we lost a dedicated Durham native, Dr. E. Lavonia Allison. Dr. Allison was the first woman and longest-serving chair of the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People (DCABP). She was a passionate advocate for justice and equality, fighting tirelessly to improve social justice,

voting rights, and housing and economic development in Durham. Dr. Allison was also well-known for her work in nonpartisan civic engagement, particularly at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). She was a member of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and worked on the legendary Shirley Chisholm campaign.

She will be deeply missed, but her legacy of dedication to the people of North Carolina will be forever felt.

Opening Day at the Legislature!

On Wednesday, I once again took the oath of office and was sworn in as the senator for District 20. I am deeply honored and excited to continue to represent the people of Chatham and Durham Counties!

I was assigned to the following Committees:

- Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
- Appropriations/Base Budget
- Finance
- Health Care
- Transportation
- Appropriations on Department of Transportation

We're officially getting started on bill filing and budget negotiations. I'm also looking forward to working alongside my colleague Senator Sophia Chitlik, the newly elected senator for the northern part of Durham County!

This session I will continue to focus on improving access and affordability of health care for all North Carolinians, lessening the economic burden on middle- and working-class families, and protecting the rights of vulnerable and disenfranchised communities. There's a lot of work to be done, and I can't list every priority here, but I am always open to hearing from constituents about what issues they'd like to see addressed through legislation, so don't hesitate to reach out to me at natalie.murdock@ncleg.gov!

Evening of Reflection and Remembrance, January 20, 6 – 7:30 p.m., The Plant, 220 Lorax Lane, Pittsboro

"Come together in community to reflect and remember grounding principles and actions during challenging times – non-violence, mindful awareness, courageous speech, respect, kindness, and compassion."

Featuring Speakers:

- Stephanie Terry, Executive Director – WEBB Squared (Empowering Black & Brown Entrepreneurs).
- Frank Phoenix, President – Fenwick Foundation.
- Karen Howard, Chair – Chatham County Board of Commissioners.
- Brittany Partridge, Rising up Yoga Teacher and Medicine Woman.

Learn more and RSVP: [Evening of Reflection and Remembrance - Pittsboro-Siler City Convention & Visitors Bureau](#)

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Links to Events, Trainings, and Actions by Affiliate Organizations

[Common Cause North Carolina](#) and [Common Cause](#)

[Community Organizing for Racial Equity \(CORE\)](#)

[County-to-County; Volunteer Opportunities, Events, and Petitions Near Me](#)

[Democracy North Carolina](#)

[MegaphoneNC](#)

[NC Counts Coalition](#)

[Neighbors on Call; Upcoming Events, Canvasses, NC Policy Update.](#)

[New North Carolina Project](#)

[Red, Wine, and Blue; https://redwine.blue/events/](#)

[Swing Left Durham/Chapel Hill/Chatham](#)

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Selected News and Opinion Stories

America, America: [The Power of Propaganda](#)

Axios: [Trump previews 100 executive orders, including immigration crackdown](#)

Carolina Forward: [The Convention of States Scam](#)

Carolina Forward: [A Choice of Democracy](#)

Carolina Public Press: [Election boards in NC could flip to GOP if court challenge fails](#)

Carolina Public Press: [Supreme Court election certification in NC blocked](#)

Carolina Public Press: [Elections lawsuits persist into 2025 long after 2024 NC voting ends](#)

Chapelboro: [New North Carolina Governor Issues Orders on Private Road Repairs, Housing After Helene](#)

CNN: [Meta gets rid of fact checkers and says it will reduce 'censorship'](#)

DLCC: [RELEASE: Nearly Half of the New Congress is Made Up of Former State Legislators](#)

Heather Cox Richardson: Letters from an American: [January 5](#); [January 6](#); [January 7](#); [January 8](#); [January 9](#); [January 10](#);

Hopium Chronicles: [January 6th - Another Day That Will Live In Infamy](#); [Dem Party And Our Electeds](#); [Dems Win Important Specials In Virginia](#); [Raising Our Game, Building The Next Thing, Going 24/7/365](#); [Another Strong Jobs Report](#); [3 DNC Candidate Forums This Week](#); [Battling Fires and Disinfo in California, Fighting the Unacceptable 4, Trump is Already Raising Prices Here and Around the World](#)

Inside Climate News: [With Trump's Second Term Looming, the Climate Movement Is Putting Class Issues Center Stage](#)

Lucid: [In the Face of Disaster, A New Age of Solidarity](#)

NBC News: [Biden bans new offshore drilling along most of the U.S. coastline](#)

NC Health News: [As AI advances in NC health care, state leaders call for oversight](#)

NC Newsline: [Nonprofit led by Mark Robinson's wife wins reduction in disallowed expenses • NC Newsline](#)

NC Newsline: [New team in NC governor's office will spearhead Helene relief](#)

NC Newsline: [Josh Stein Pledges Long-term Helene Support, Urges GOP Cooperation in First Address](#)

NC Newsline: [A Federal Appeals Court Will Hear the NC Supreme Court Elections Case](#)

News & Observer: [NC General Assembly session starts in Jan. What to watch for](#)

News & Observer: [NC Supreme Court Justice Riggs fights for victory in NC race](#)

NY Times: [On Politics: A face of Jan. 6; On Politics: Dignified rituals before the 'hot mess'; On Politics: Trump, the blamer in chief](#)

NY Times: [Trump on Trial alert: Judge temporarily blocks special counsel report on documents case; Trump on Trial alert: Trump sentenced to no jail time in criminal case](#)

Politico: ['A little heartburn': Jobs blowout stokes inflation concern with Trump poised to return](#)

Politico: [Trump receives no punishment for hush money conviction](#)

Politico: [Medicaid, ACA, climate measures on GOP chopping block](#)

Politico: [Son of the South: How Jimmy Carter Ended the Civil War](#)

Politico: [Cannon temporarily blocks release of Jack Smith report](#)

PoliticsNC: [An assault on our democracy and our institutions](#)

PoliticsNC: [The day accountability died](#)

Popular Information: [UPDATE: Republicans on North Carolina Supreme Court block certification of Democratic justice's election victory](#)

Popular Information: [Meta goes MAGA](#)

Popular Information: [10 corporations that kept their promises after January 6, 2021](#)

ProPublica: [North Carolina Supreme Court Blocks Certification in Allison Riggs-Jefferson Griffin Race](#)

Public Notice: [North Carolina Republicans restart the steal](#)

Public Notice: [No, Trump wasn't "confused" about the New Orleans attack](#)

The Assembly NC: [Investigation: N.C. Judicial Candidates Violated Ban on Political Donations](#)

The Assembly NC: [How the N.C. Legislature Bankrolls Crisis Pregnancy Centers](#)

The Assembly NC: [How a Disaster-Relief Package Constrains NC's New Governor](#)

The Assembly NC: [N.C. Gov. Josh Stein Is Stepping Into 'The Best Job in Politics'](#)

The Assembly NC: [Where Did the General Assembly Go to College?](#)

The Bulwark: [Zuckerberg vs. Democracy](#)

The Bulwark: [The Media Isn't Ready for Trump's Mass Deportation Moment](#)

The Bulwark: [I Was Nearly Killed on Jan. 6th. Four Years Later, I Feel Betrayed All Over Again.](#)

The Message Box: [Zuck's Gift to Trump is an Opportunity for Democrats](#)

Time: [At Carter's Funeral, 5 Presidents Shaped By His Example](#)

Time: [How Democrats Are Prepping For Trump Confirmation Hearings](#)

USA Today: [Biden says he could have defeated Trump; talks Hunter and regrets](#)

Washington Post: [The Campaign Moment](#)

WRAL: [NC Supreme Court Race FAQ: Breaking Down the Legal Battle Between Griffin and Riggs](#)

WUNC: [New beginnings in NC politics](#)

WUNC: [Riggs Griffin race](#)

WUNC: [NC Attorney General Jeff Jackson sues landlords over rent-fixing allegations](#)

WUNC: [Attorney Went Around Opposing Counsel for Order Blocking Certification of a Disputed State Supreme Court Election](#)