



CD 15 BALLOT GUIDE

NYC JUNE 2026

CD 15 FEDERAL BALLOT GUIDE

JUNE 23, 2026 PRIMARY

CD-15 • Bronx • New York City

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This guide provides factual information about the candidates on the June 23 Democratic primary ballot in CD-15. It is intended to help voters have informed and accurate information regarding who is on the ballot.



Please Note: This is not an exhaustive guide. All voters are encouraged to research candidates thoroughly via online research and community conversation before voting. This guide does not endorse or oppose any candidate.

U.S. CONGRESS — NY-15 — DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

Voters in CD-15 will choose their Democratic candidate for U.S. Congress on June 23. The following candidates are on the ballot. Torres and Blake are the leading candidates by endorsements and fundraising.

RITCHIE TORRES | U.S. Congress NY-15 • Bronx / CD-15

INCUMBENT | DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

Ritchie Torres is the three-term incumbent Congressman representing NY-15. Born in the Bronx, Torres became the youngest elected official in New York City after his election to the New York City Council in 2013. He won his first election for Congress in 2020 and lists affordability, gun violence prevention, and quality health care among his top priorities in Congress.¹ Torres is widely considered one of the most outspoken pro-Israel voices in Congress.² He has been awarded the Nita M. Lowey Congressional Leadership Award for his “fearless advocacy for the Jewish people and the State of Israel”³ and the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials’ Legislator of the Year award for his advocacy for affordable housing.⁴

¹ <https://torres.nyc/about>

² <https://www.politico.com/news/2023/10/27/rep-ritchie-torres-is-israels-loudest-house-supporter-00123969>

³ <https://www.ajc.org/news/ajc-honors-congressman-ritchie-torres-with-nita-m-lowey-congressional-leaders-hip-award>

⁴ <https://www.nahro.org/news/nahro-names-rep-ritchie-torres-legislator-of-the-year/>

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(continued) Torres is the first openly LGBTQ+ Afro-Latino Member of Congress, where he is a member of the House Committee on Financial Services, the Congressional Black Caucus, and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. He has received endorsements from former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Borough President Vanessa Gibson, and House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries.⁵

MICHAEL BLAKE | U.S. Congress NY-15 • Bronx / CD-15

CHALLENGER | DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

Michael Blake is a reverend, former New York State Assemblyman, former aide in the Obama Administration, and former Vice Chair of the Democratic National Committee who is challenging Torres in the June 23 primary. Despite his history of support for Israel,⁶ Blake has centered his campaign largely around opposition to Torres's support for Israel, accusing Torres of caring more about Israel than the Bronx and claiming in his announcement video that Torres has prioritized "genocide" over the district's economic struggles.⁷ Blake has an ambitious housing policy agenda, including a rent freeze for rent-stabilized tenants, eliminating credit checks for affordable housing renters and first-time homeowners, and a range of tenant protection measures to prevent displacement and eviction.⁸

Blake's endorsements include former NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio, Newark Mayor Ras J. Baraka, a few local labor unions, and several progressive advocacy groups including Citizen Action of New York, Track AIPAC, the Jim Owles Liberal Democratic Club, and New York Communities for Change.⁹

⁵ <https://torres.nyc/endorsements>

⁶ image.jewishinsider.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/06214407/Michael_Blake_AIPAC_Policy_Paper_2020-With-Watermark.pdf

⁷ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ta2upcA-d_4

⁸ <https://www.michaelblakeforcongress.com/platform>

⁹ <https://www.michaelblakeforcongress.com/endorsements>

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JON LATONA | U.S. Congress NY-15 • Bronx / CD-15

CHALLENGER | DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

Jon LaTona is on the June 23 Democratic primary ballot. He has no prior political experience and has made no meaningful public statements about his candidacy or positions on any issue. He has not disclosed any campaign funds raised or spent.¹⁰

JOSE VEGA | U.S. Congress NY-15 • Bronx / CD-15

CHALLENGER | DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

Jose Vega is a 27-year-old political organizer and longtime member of the LaRouche Movement,¹¹ which seeks to emulate the late Lyndon H. LaRouche Jr.¹²

Vega has made Torres's support for Israel a focal point of his campaign and stated publicly that Torres is "bought and controlled by Zionist influencers and millionaires who all live in Riverdale."¹³ Vega was endorsed by the "Anti-Zionist America PAC."¹³ He received 2.3% of the vote in the 2024 general election, when he ran as an Independent. Vega's campaign website describes him as a fighter against the two-party system and an opponent of political figures ranging from Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez to Mike Pompeo.¹⁴

¹⁰ https://www.fec.gov/data/candidate/H6NY15159/?cycle=2026&election_full=true;
<https://www.fec.gov/data/committee/C00894014/?cycle=2026&tab=filings>

¹¹ <https://votevega.nyc>

¹² <https://newrepublic.com/article/170290/lyndon-larouche-godfather-political-paranoia-cult-still-alive-unwell>

¹³ <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-885098>

¹⁴ <https://votevega.nyc/>

STATE BALLOT GUIDE

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NY STATE ASSEMBLY — AD-81 — DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

AD-81 covers Riverdale, Kingsbridge, Norwood, Spuyten Duyvil, Van Cortlandt Village, and surrounding neighborhoods.



Note: AD-81 straddles CD-15 and CD-13. Only the portions covering Norwood, Riverdale, and Spuyten Duyvil fall within CD-15. Voters can confirm their Assembly District online by visiting: [vote.nyc](https://vote.nyc.gov).

JEFFREY DINOWITZ

NY State Assembly AD-81 • Riverdale,
Kingsbridge, Norwood

INCUMBENT

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

Jeffrey Dinowitz is one of the longest-serving members of the New York State Assembly, having held the AD-81 seat since 1994. The district comprises Kingsbridge, Marble Hill, Norwood, Riverdale, Van Cortlandt Village, Wakefield, and Woodlawn Heights. His legislative accomplishments include the Anti-Human Trafficking Act, which was signed into law in 2007 and established statewide criminal penalties for human trafficking, and the COVID-era Emergency Eviction and Foreclosure Prevention Act, which helped struggling New Yorkers keep their homes during COVID.¹⁵

A former member of District Council 37 and Public Employees Federation, Dinowitz states that he is a “is a strong partner to unions, workers, and working families” and has been endorsed by the New York State AFL-CIO.^{16,17}

Dinowitz has forcefully spoken out against antisemitism throughout his career,¹⁸ including when he faced anti-vaccine protestors with swastikas and other antisemitic imagery at his office.¹⁹ Dinowitz has longstanding relationships with Bronx elected officials, including Congressman Ritchie Torres²⁰ and Congressman Adriano Espaillat.²¹

¹⁵ <https://www.assemblymanjeffreydinowitz.com>

¹⁶ <https://nysaflcio.org/endorsements>

¹⁷ <https://www.assemblymanjeffreydinowitz.com>

¹⁸ <https://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Jeffrey-Dinowitz/story/86150>

¹⁹ <https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2021/alessandra-biaggi/senator-biaggi-issues-statement-condemnation>

²⁰ <https://www.riverdalepress.com/stories/torres-endorse-assembleman-dinowitz,79093>

²¹ <https://www.cityandstateny.com/politics/2022/09/how-rep-adriano-espaillat-built-squadriano/376969>

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MORGAN EVERS

NY State Assembly AD-81 • Riverdale,
Kingsbridge, Norwood

CHALLENGER

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

Morgan Evers is a New York City public school teacher of 20 years and disability rights advocate.²² She previously served as New York State Committee member for the 81st Assembly District.²³ If elected, she would be the first blind woman to serve in the New York State Legislature. She is an active member of the Jewish caucus of the New York Democrats and a founding member of the Unity Democratic Club in the Bronx.²⁴ Her endorsements include the Working Families Party, State Senators Gustavo Rivera and Robert Jackson,²⁵ former New York Attorney General and former Assemblymember from Riverdale Oliver Koppell,²⁶ and she has received Everytown for Gun Safety's Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense Candidate Distinction.²⁷ Her platform includes promoting tenant rights and cracking down on unscrupulous landlords, expanding NYC's universal childcare program to include 2K and 3K programs, and expelling ICE from New York.²⁸

ADDITIONAL RACES



Note: The following races may appear on some voters' ballots depending on their registered address. These races are provided for context only. No primary challengers have been identified in SD-33 or SD-31 for 2026.

SD-33 SEN. GUSTAVO RIVERA (INCUMBENT)

SD-33 covers much of the same geography as AD-81, including Riverdale, Fieldston, Spuyten Duyvil, and Norwood. **Gustavo Rivera** was elected to SD-33 in 2010 and currently serves as Chair of the Senate Health Committee. *Continued on next page.*

²² <https://www.morganeversforny.com>

²³ <https://www.norwoodnews.org/teacher-a-d-81-candidate-morgan-evers-endorsed-by-new-york-working-families-party>

²⁴ <https://www.norwoodnews.org/update-primaries-2024-morgan-evers-aaron-stayman-announce-run-as-state-democratic-committee-candidates>

²⁵ <https://www.morganeversforny.com>

²⁶ https://www.morganeversforny.com/_files/ugd/b27256_66d07265c4b349a8908d561267f291cf.pdf

²⁷ <https://www.instagram.com/p/DYsVzLmGrpP/>

²⁸ <https://www.morganeversforny.com/issues>

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(continued) He previously served as the ranking member of the Senate Health Committee and the Crime Victims, Crime and Correction Committee. Before becoming a state senator, Rivera worked as a community organizer.²⁹ Rivera endorsed Zohran Mamdani in the 2025 New York City Democratic mayoral primary and has endorsed Morgan Evers in the AD-81 race.³⁰ Rivera does not currently face a Democratic primary challenger.

SD-31 SEN. ROBERT JACKSON (INCUMBENT)

SD-31 covers northern Manhattan neighborhoods including Washington Heights and Inwood, along with limited portions of the northwest Bronx.

Robert Jackson was first elected to SD-31 in 2018 and serves as the Chair of the Civil Service Pensions Committee.

Jackson does not currently face a Democratic primary challenger. He is a named sponsor of Senate Bill S.606, titled the “Not on Our Dime!: Ending New York Funding of Israeli Settler Violence Act,”³¹ which seeks to restrict certain nonprofit support connected to Israeli settlement activity. He has also endorsed Morgan Evers in the AD-81 race.³²

AD-84 OPEN SEAT — COMPETITIVE RACE

Covers South Bronx neighborhoods including Mott Haven, Port Morris, and Hunts Point. This district does not overlap with Riverdale and the northwest Bronx.

Amanda Septimo is running for reelection to this Assembly seat after suspending her congressional campaign. She currently faces a primary challenge from tenant advocate Courtland Hankins.³³

²⁹ <https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/gustavo-rivera/about>

³⁰ <https://www.norwoodnews.org/a-d-81-candidate-morgan-evers-endorsed-by-rivera-jackson-jim-owles-liberal-democratic-club/>

³¹ <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/S606>

³² <https://www.norwoodnews.org/a-d-81-candidate-morgan-evers-endorsed-by-rivera-jackson-jim-owles-liberal-democratic-club/>

³³ https://bluevoterguide.org/NY/candidate_Courtland_Hankins/760498

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