

# Board of Regents

[Official Results of the  
May 3 Regents Election](#)



**Gilbert Santana, Chair — [gsantana@lee.edu](mailto:gsantana@lee.edu)**

Gilbert Santana is a native Baytonian who has lived and worked in Baytown all his life. He attended St. Joseph Catholic School, where his foundation and principles were formed. He graduated from Robert E. Lee High School and received an associate degree from Lee College. Gilbert has worked in the petrochemical industry since 1978, owns BDI Resources, Staffing Connection, and Executive Classic Cars. Gilbert was elected to the Lee College Board of Regents in May 2017. Gilbert serves on the Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital Board, Lee College Foundation Board, GCCISD Education Foundation Board, Baytown Chamber of Commerce Board, Baytown West Chambers County Economic Development Foundation Board, and is a member of the Rotary Club of Baytown. He is married to Sherrill Adcock Santana and they have two sons: Terrill (Courtney) Pitkin, and Bryant (Leah) Pitkin; and four grandchildren: Falley, Kaitlynn, Tinley and Cale. *Position 3 — Term expires May 2029.*



**Pam Warford, Vice Chair — [pwarford@lee.edu](mailto:pwarford@lee.edu)**

Pam Warford is a native Baytonian, a Lee College alumna, and a graduate of Baylor University, where she earned a BBA in Accounting. She has served on boards of Rotary Club, United Way, Baytown Chamber of Commerce, Bay Area Homeless Services, and a number of others. She is a 50+ year member of Memorial Baptist Church and serves on the Finance Committee and the Operation Christmas Child project. Prior to retiring from Lee College, Pam was a 21-year member of the college's Institutional Advancement team. During that time, she served in many capacities, all of which substantially impacted student learning and student support. During the 10 years she served as Executive Director of the Lee College Foundation, she grew the Foundation's investment portfolio, its scholarship funds, program gifts, and donor base, and achieved her Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) distinction. Through this work, life-

changing opportunities were provided to Lee College students. Pam and her husband, Dr. Chris Warford, have two children, Brandon (Kristen) Warford and Lauren (Bob) Williams and three beautiful grandgirls: Kylah, Kinsley, and Kate. *Position 4 — Term expires May 2031.*



**Mark Himsel, Secretary — [mhimsel@lee.edu](mailto:mhimsel@lee.edu)**

A resident of Baytown since 1971, Mark Himsel is a graduate of Robert E. Lee High School, Lee College, and Sam Houston State University. Mr. Himsel worked for Amegy Bank more than 25 years while serving on various community boards and organizations. He currently continues his career in banking with Fiserv Bank Solutions. Mr. Himsel and his wife, Debbie, both attended Lee College, as well as his three children, Sarah, Amanda, and Andrew, who all graduated from Lee College before continuing to complete additional degree work. *Position 7 — Term expires May 2027.*



**Gina Guillory, Assistant Secretary — [gguillory@lee.edu](mailto:gguillory@lee.edu)**

Gina Guillory is a lifelong resident of Baytown. She is a proud product of the Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District and Lee College. She is a graduate of Ross S. Sterling High School, Lee College, and the University of Phoenix, earning an associate degree in office administration, and a bachelor's degree in business administration. She has served the community as an employee of the City of Baytown for 29 years. She is a member of several committees, including Communities in Schools-Baytown. Gina is married to Peter Guillory. She is the daughter of John and Roberta Roberson. She has four siblings, three children (Meia, Morris, and Shaila), and six grandchildren. She is a proud member of the Puffer Love Fellowship Church, where she serves as the Praise Team Leader and Finance Officer. She loves Jesus, family time, laughter, seafood, and the Dallas Cowboys! *Position 1 — Term expires May 2029.*



**Weston Cotten — [wcotten@lee.edu](mailto:wcotten@lee.edu)**

Weston Cotten is a lifelong resident of this area. He attended Goose Creek schools and graduated from Robert E. Lee High School. He graduated from Lee College and then earned a degree in political science and economics from Stephen F. Austin State University. He received his law degree in 1981 and was admitted to the State Bar in 1982. He continues to practice law in the Baytown/Highlands area. Mr. Cotten is active in Highlands Rotary Club and other community organizations and served 18 years on the Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District board. His father, mother, wife, and two of his children have attended Lee College. He and his wife, Delene, have three children: Chet, Chrissa, and Nathan. *Position 9 — Term expires May 2027.*



**Daryl Fontenot — [dfontenot@lee.edu](mailto:dfontenot@lee.edu)**

Daryl Fontenot is a native of Baytown and a graduate of Ross S. Sterling High School. He received his Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance from The University of Texas at Austin and his Master of Business Administration from the University of Houston – Clear Lake. Daryl is a Wealth Management Advisor with Merrill Lynch and holds the Certified Financial Planner™ designation. He has been with Merrill Lynch since 2000. Daryl is an active volunteer in Baytown, where he has served with the United Way of Greater Baytown and Chambers County, the Bay Area Homeless Services, the Rotary Club of Baytown, and the GCCISD Citizens Bond Advisory Committee. Daryl is also a lector and a member of the Finance Committee of Holy Family Catholic Church. Daryl is married to Bridgette, and they have three sons: Andy, Nicholas, and Adam, all of whom have attended Lee College. *Position 6 — Term expires May 2031.*



**Mark Hall — [mhall@lee.edu](mailto:mhall@lee.edu)**

Mark Hall, a longtime resident of Baytown, was elected to the Board of Regents in 2002. A graduate of Sterling High School, Mr. Hall attended Lee College for two years before transferring to Sam Houston State University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration. Mr. Hall is the former and now retired owner of Hall's Carpet Haus. He has been a Baytown Kiwanian for 43 years, serving as club President. He also is past Board Chairman of Baytown Christian Academy. Mr. Hall and his wife, Nancy, have three children: Whitney, Hunter, and Garrett, and two granddaughters, Elowyn and Ana. *Position 8 — Term expires May 2027.*



**Judy Jirrels — [jjirrels@lee.edu](mailto:jjirrels@lee.edu)**

A longtime resident of Baytown, Judy Jirrels was elected to the Lee College Board of Regents in 2004. Mrs. Jirrels is a Lee College graduate. She also is a graduate of the University of North Texas, where she majored in fashion merchandising. Retired from Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District as a second-grade teacher, Mrs. Jirrels now works part-time for GCCISD as a tester for the Special Education department. She is a member of Second Baptist Church Baytown, serving in several ministries within the church, and a member of the Kiwanis Club of Baytown. Mrs. Jirrels has been married to her husband, Dave, for more than 38 years. She has three sons — Andrew, Timothy, and Daniel; a stepson, Matthew; a stepdaughter, Emilie; and 12 grandchildren. *Position 2 — Term expires May 2029.*



**Heron Thomas — [hthomas@lee.edu](mailto:hthomas@lee.edu)**

Heron Thomas, a lifelong resident of Baytown, is a dedicated educator and community leader with a passion for empowering youth. He brings a wealth of experience to the Board of Regents, having served as a teacher, coach, and administrator in both Goose Creek and Barbers Hill ISDs. As the current principal of Barbers Hill EPIC campus, Heron focuses on building meaningful relationships with students and fostering a culture of excellence. Heron is deeply committed to giving back to his community. He serves on the Junior Board for Bay Area Homeless Services, where he actively supports those in need. He is also a board member for Bay Area Rehabilitation Center, dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with disabilities. Through his own non-profit organization, The Thomas Institute of Excellence (TIE) Program, Heron mentors young men, emphasizing service and a strong work ethic. He is also a proud member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Heron is the son of Hank and Wonda Thomas, husband to Kausha Thomas, and father to three beautiful children, Jaylon, Jacie, and Jada. *Position 5 — Term expires May 2031.*

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