

MARICOPA COUNTY SUPERVISORS DISTRICT 2

This document analyzes the race for Maricopa Board of Supervisors in District 2. Press reports have described the district as “conservative leaning.” As of April 2024, the race included three candidates: incumbent Republican Thomas Galvin, Republican primary challenger and former state representative and state senator Michelle Ugenti-Rita, and Democratic challenger Julie Cieniawski. Thomas was appointed to his position in 2021 when his predecessor, Steve Chucri (R), resigned after a recording of him emerged [criticizing his GOP colleagues for opposing a review of the 2020 election](#). (In 2020, [Chucri defeated](#) his Democratic opponent, Deedra Abboud, by nearly 20 percentage points.) Galvin won election to a two-year term in 2022, defeating a slate of election deniers in the primary and running unchallenged in the general. Galvin currently serves as vice chairman of the board of supervisors, which currently has a 4-1 Republican makeup and has taken unified stances in recent years on election integrity.

Primary Election Day [occurs](#) on July 30, 2024, with early voting running from July 3 to July 26.

Key findings:

Incumbent Republican Thomas Galvin has been criticized within his own party for his stands on behalf of voter integrity. Though Galvin identifies himself as a conservative and “political outsider,” his opponents have often attacked him for connections to the mainstream GOP, major money networks, and for statements supporting the integrity of the 2020 and 2022 elections. After the resignation of his predecessor, Galvin was appointed to his position at the end of 2021, winning a two-year term the next year. Galvin is a partner on the Rose Law Group where he has focused on land and water issues in Maricopa County. Galvin has emphasized his conservative principles on the Board of Supervisors, stating the county’s “most important issues are fighting Joe Biden’s inflation, fighting the rise of violent crime, (and) promoting economic development.” “I will always prioritize the Maricopa County taxpayer,” he has said. “My belief in the power of free market capitalism and honorable public service drive my campaign priorities.”

Republican primary challenger and former state representative and state senator Michelle Ugenti-Rita has led efforts to attack voting rights in Arizona. In 2017, the Arizona Capitol Times reported that Ugenti-Rita “has been in the vanguard of the fight against the Voter Protection Act for years.” She has sponsored legislation to strip the Maricopa County Recorder of power. In 2019, she introduced a bill to restrict early voting options for voters who received their ballot by mail. She also sponsored a bill to require voters to produce an ID to cast ballots at an in-person early voting site. Another bill would create uniform standard for all 15 counties in Arizona when allowing voters to “cure” their ballot and ensure it was counted. In 2021, the Arizona Capitol Times reported that she “has for years led her caucus on election policy, pushing bills that earned the ire of voting rights advocates...” The Arizona Republic reported in June 2021 that “Ugenti-Rita doesn’t run around spouting conspiracy theories. But she was one of 15 Republican senators who voted to hold the Maricopa County supervisors in contempt for refusing to hand over the county’s 2.1 million ballots, voter files and election machinery for the Senate audit. Had the resolution passed, the supervisors could have been arrested.” In 2021, AP reported that “Ugenti-Rita is chairwoman of the Senate Government Committee, a position she’s used to push for more restrictive voting laws even before... Trump and some of his supporters used unsupported theories of fraud in the 2020 election to press for sweeping changes to election law.” “I supported the audit, but I do not support the Trump audit any longer,” she said in July 2021. She has lashed out at the Senate’s “botched” election review, but noted that “I’ve been on the frontlines on the battle for election integrity...” The Arizona Republic reported that she is sponsored “some of the most high-profile changes to state election laws while serving in the Legislature.” She was the primary backer of a bill that outlawed ballot harvesting in the state. She has claimed she will restore public confidence in elections.

CANDIDATES

Thomas Galvin – Republican Party

Michelle Ugenti-Rita - Republican Party

Julie Cieniawski - Democratic Party

Campaign Finance

Candidate	Total Raised	Total Expenditures	Cash on Hand
Thomas Galvin	\$136,072	\$59,892	\$91,533
Michelle Ugenti-Rita	\$65,055	\$14,099	\$50,956
Julie Cieniawski	No Records	No Records	No Records

[Maricopa County Recorder, Accessed: 4/16/24]

Thomas Galvin

Galvin raised the majority of his funds from fellow attorneys, including those employed by Rose Law Group, from Q4 2023 to Q1 2024. [Maricopa County Campaign Finance Report – Galvin for Maricopa County, [Q4 2023](#) and [Q1 2024](#)]

Michell Ugenti-Rita

Ugenti-Rita donated \$1,005 to her own campaign in Q4 2023. [Maricopa County Campaign Finance Report – Friends of Ugenti Rita, [Q4 2023](#)]

David Mast, who filed a lawsuit seeking to overturn Arizona’s 2022 election results, donated \$6,650 to Ugenti-Rita’s campaign in Q1 2024. [Maricopa County Campaign Finance Report – Friends of Ugenti Rita, [Q1 2024](#); Democracy Docket, [8/17/23](#)]

THOMAS GALVIN

Background & Philosophy

Galvin’s “a conservative outsider who's not a career politician” whose top priority was “to protect the Maricopa County taxpayer.” “Thomas Galvin is a conservative outsider who's not a career politician. He's a land use and water attorney with a background in real estate development and consulting. His #1 priority is to protect the Maricopa County taxpayer. Thomas believes our most important issues are fighting Joe Biden’s inflation, fighting the rise of violent crime, promoting economic development, creating good jobs, and securing our water supply. A lifelong Republican, Thomas has volunteered on countless campaigns for Republican candidates. Thomas Galvin is pro-life and pro 2nd Amendment.” [Thomas Galvin – County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Galvin believed Maricopa’s “most important issues are fighting Joe Biden’s inflation, fighting the rise of violent crime, promoting economic development, creating good jobs, and securing our water supply.” “Thomas Galvin is a conservative outsider who's not a career politician. He's a land use and water attorney with a background in real estate development and consulting. His #1 priority is to protect the Maricopa County taxpayer. Thomas believes our most important issues are fighting Joe Biden’s inflation, fighting the rise of violent crime, promoting economic development, creating good jobs, and securing our water supply. A lifelong

Republican, Thomas has volunteered on countless campaigns for Republican candidates. Thomas Galvin is pro-life and pro 2nd Amendment.” [Thomas Galvin – County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Galvin: “I will always prioritize the Maricopa County taxpayer. My two biggest objectives are fighting inflation and promoting public safety.” “American conservatism honors family, tradition, and private property rights. As Maricopa County Supervisor for District 2, I will always prioritize the Maricopa County taxpayer. My two biggest objectives are fighting inflation and promoting public safety.” [Thomas Galvin – County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Galvin “fought for good jobs, low taxes, and the elimination of wasteful regulations” in the private sector. “Throughout my career in the private sector I have fought for good jobs, low taxes, and the elimination of wasteful regulations. My belief in the power of free market capitalism and honorable public service drive my campaign priorities, and as I often say: ‘Public service has never seemed more challenging. And it has never been more important.’” [Thomas Galvin – County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Galvin: “My belief in the power of free market capitalism and honorable public service drive my campaign priorities.” “Throughout my career in the private sector I have fought for good jobs, low taxes, and the elimination of wasteful regulations. My belief in the power of free market capitalism and honorable public service drive my campaign priorities, and as I often say: ‘Public service has never seemed more challenging. And it has never been more important.’” [Thomas Galvin – County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

1993: Galvin graduated from NYC’s Loyola School. [LinkedIn – Thomas Galvin, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

1997: Galvin graduated from College of the Holy Cross with an A.B. in History. [LinkedIn – Thomas Galvin, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2003: Galvin graduated from Notre Dame Law School with a Juris Doctorate. [LinkedIn – Thomas Galvin, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Galvin had been living in Arizona since at least 2007. “Galvin, 46, has lived in Maricopa County for 14 years. He is married and has a young son. In 2016, Galvin ran for a seat on the board of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District, and lost. Since 2015, he has worked at the Scottsdale-based Rose Law Group on business transactions, land use issues, litigation and renewable energy.” [AZ Central, [12/8/21](#)]

2011 – 2015: Galvin served as policy advisor to Arizona Corporation Commissioner Brenda Burns. [LinkedIn – Thomas Galvin, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

- **Galvin “advised Burns on pending electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water and wastewater rate cases.”** “Prior to joining the law firm, from 2011 to 2015, Galvin was a policy advisor to Arizona Corporation Commissioner Brenda Burns. He advised Burns on pending electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water and wastewater rate cases. Burns told The Arizona Republic that Galvin was able to balance the needs of utilities and residents. She said he is knowledgeable about many of the issues that come before the supervisors, and he can be trusted to keep his word. ‘I have nothing but wonderful things to say about him,’ Burns said. ‘He is a good man in every way.’” [AZ Central, [12/8/21](#)]
- **Burns called Galvin “a good man in every way.”** [AZ Central, [12/8/21](#)]

2015 – Present: Galvin worked for Rose Law Group, covering land use, real estate, and water law issues. [LinkedIn – Thomas Galvin, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

- **Many of the companies Rose Law Group represented qualified “under the category of water-reliant industries including horse breeding, real estate development, mining, and fossil fuels.”** “Of the dozens of companies represented by Rose Law Group, many fall under the category of water-reliant industries including horse breeding, real estate development, mining, and fossil fuels. The firm also lists conservative political clients including Romney for President, Senator Marco Rubio for President of the United States, and Build America’s Fence.” [The Intercept, [11/28/22](#)]
- **Rose Law Group listed “conservative political clients including Romney for President, Senator Marco Rubio for President of the United States, and Build America’s Fence.”** [The Intercept, [11/28/22](#)]
- **Galvin had “represented both developers and homeowners,” and “represented clients before state and local governments, and various administrative agencies and boards.”** “For local land use issues, which can often be controversial, Galvin has represented both developers and homeowners. He has represented clients before state and local governments, and various administrative agencies and boards. He works on issues for individual homeowners, such as helping them secure permits for building additions and also represents the firm in high-profile cases that come before city councils.” [AZ Central, [12/8/21](#)]
- **2018: Galvin “successfully represented the owner of a shopping complex to block a car wash from moving into the complex.”** “In 2018, Galvin, acting for Rose Law Group, successfully represented the owner of a shopping complex to block a car wash from moving into the complex. More than a hundred residents living nearby signed a petition opposing the car wash. ‘The proposed car wash that plans to display a giant duck does not evoke Tempe’s vision for ‘a city that is visually attractive,’“ Galvin wrote in a letter to the city at the time.” [AZ Central, [12/8/21](#)]
- **For Rose Law Group, Galvin once lobbied for Saudi alfalfa corporation Almarai, via its subsidiary Fondomonte, regarding its water use in Arizona.** “AN OFFICIAL RECENTLY elected to the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, where he holds sway over an ongoing water dispute, was also a lobbyist for a Saudi company looking to protect its extraction of precious groundwater. Thomas Galvin, elected in the midterms to the post he was first appointed to in 2021, lobbied on behalf of the Saudi-owned farming company, which is using Arizona’s most depleted natural resource for foreign exports. State lobbying disclosures show that Galvin is a partner at Rose Law Group, which lobbied on behalf of a subsidiary of the Saudi corporation Almarai currently tapping U.S. groundwater in drought-stricken Arizona and California to grow alfalfa. The animal feed, which is grown in harsh desert environments, is shipped overseas to support livestock on Saudi dairy farms. In 2014, Almarai bought almost 10,000 acres of farmland in Vicksburg, Arizona, through its wholly owned subsidiary Fondomonte, spending nearly \$50 million on the purchase. The near-nonexistent water regulations in La Paz County, where Vicksburg is located, mean that Fondomonte can pump vast amounts of water out of Arizona’s water table, which has declined by over 50 feet in the past two decades.” [The Intercept, [11/28/22](#)]
 - **2017: Galvin lobbied against AZ HB 2520 – a bill authorizing the Department of Water Resources to monitor the wells and water levels in the Upper Colorado River planning area.** “Before joining the board of supervisors, Galvin appeared at the Arizona state legislature to lobby against H.B. 2520, a bill instructing the Arizona Department of Water Resources to monitor the wells and water levels in the Upper Colorado River water planning area. At the hearing, Galvin told Land, Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee members, ‘I am not sure that this bill is right for this time right now. ... I’m afraid that, if this bill passes, what we’ll be doing is singling out farms and large agricultural users. You might actually be forcing farms to release proprietary data.’ The bill ultimately failed, but not before Galvin called residents

concerned about foreign capital draining their aquifers racist.” [The Intercept, [11/28/22](#)]

- **The Intercept: “The bill ultimately failed, but not before Galvin called residents concerned about foreign capital draining their aquifers racist.”** [The Intercept, [11/28/22](#)]
- **Galvin: “My law practice consists nearly entirely of practicing land use law...Lobbying is not a major aspect of my legal career and takes up little of my time in comparison to my core practice area.”** “My law practice consists nearly entirely of practicing land use law, and I am also a registered lobbyist with the state along with several other attorneys at Rose Law Group.’ Galvin wrote in an email to The Intercept. ‘Lobbying is not a major aspect of my legal career and takes up little of my time in comparison to my core practice area. Rose Law Group is a registered lobbyist for Fondomonte Arizona with the state of Arizona. I am one of several attorneys at Rose Law Group that are covered under that registration.’” [The Intercept, [11/28/22](#)]
- **Galvin: “Rose Law Group is a registered lobbyist for Fondomonte Arizona with the state of Arizona. I am one of several attorneys at Rose Law Group that are covered under that registration.”** [The Intercept, [11/28/22](#)]
- **Galvin claimed Fondomonte’s “farming operation is located outside of the County I represent – in fact it is more than 100 miles from my district.”** “In response to his role on behalf of Fondomonte and its intersection with the board of supervisors, Galvin wrote, ‘their farming operation is located outside of the County I represent – in fact it is more than 100 miles from my district. In addition, counties in Arizona have limited powers related to water policy and are not even a water provider. Maricopa County does not lease state land and does not have control over water charges or policies enacted by state agencies. I will continue to recuse myself in any case where a client of my law firm has business before Maricopa County.’” [The Intercept, [11/28/22](#)]
- **Galvin: “Maricopa County does not lease state land and does not have control over water charges or policies enacted by state agencies.”** [The Intercept, [11/28/22](#)]
- **Galvin: “I will continue to recuse myself in any case where a client of my law firm has business before Maricopa County.”** [The Intercept, [11/28/22](#)]
- **2022: Galvin made partner with Rose Law Group.** [Supervisor Thomas Galvin named Rose Law Group partner, [5/26/22](#)]
 - **Galvin: “Being a partner at a such a prominent firm with a great leader like Jordan Rose made for an easy decision to become a partner at RLG.”** “Thomas Galvin, a longtime land use and water attorney and current Maricopa County supervisor, was named partner at Rose Law Group, the firm announced. Galvin has practiced at Rose Law, the largest Arizona law firm founded by a woman, since 2015. Previously, Galvin was a policy adviser to Corporation Commissioner Brenda Burns and worked in the commercial real estate sector. Galvin graduated with an history degree from the College of the Holy Cross and received his law degree from Notre Dame. ‘Rose Law Group has allowed me to work on a wide range of issues and find success for clients,’ Galvin said. ‘Being a partner at a such a prominent firm with a great leader like Jordan Rose made for an easy decision to become a partner at RLG.’” [Supervisor Thomas Galvin named Rose Law Group partner, [5/26/22](#)]
 - **2024: Galvin “currently works as a land use attorney for Scottsdale-based Rose Law Group, a job he juggles alongside his board duties.”** “Thomas Galvin, District 2: He was first

appointed to the board in 2021. Galvin was previously a policy adviser for an Arizona Corporation commissioner. He currently works as a land use attorney for Scottsdale-based Rose Law Group, a job he juggles alongside his board duties. Galvin lives in east Phoenix and is running as a Republican.” [AZ Central, [4/8/24](#)]

- **Galvin was named Director of Rose Law Group’s Opportunity Zone Group.** “The Rose Law Group has named partner and Maricopa County Supervisor Thomas Galvin as director of its opportunity zone group. Rose Law Group was one of the first law firms in the county to get actively involved in Opportunity Zones, as soon as the economic development and tax benefit tool became effective in 2018. Galvin his background in the public and private sectors and his considerable knowledge in real estate, site selection and business consulting. ‘Tom has been working in the area of economic development both at Rose Law Group and in his roles in general community service, so being named director of our incredibly busy Opportunity Zone practice group is a perfect fit,’ Rose Law Group founder and president Jordan Rose said in a press release.” [Your Valley, [4/5/23](#)]
 - **The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 “created the opportunity zones program, which allows states to designate opportunity zones within their state lines wherein investment may provide significant tax incentives.”** “The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 created the opportunity zones program, which allows states to designate opportunity zones within their state lines wherein investment may provide significant tax incentives. Under this program, investors can delay paying tax on capital gains until as late as December 31, 2026 if those gains are invested in opportunity funds that invest in zones across the country.” [Your Valley, [4/5/23](#)]
 - **Your Valley: “Rose Law Group believes continued opportunity zone investment and development, raises the tide for not only opportunity zone stakeholders and the success of the program.”** “Rose Law Group believes continued opportunity zone investment and development, raises the tide for not only opportunity zone stakeholders and the success of the program, but also for the communities, businesses and people who reap the benefits of these projects.” [Your Valley, [4/5/23](#)]

2021: Galvin was appointed to the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors. [LinkedIn – Thomas Galvin, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

- **AZ Central described Galvin as being “armed with a decade of experience helping taxpayers, homeowners and developers in Maricopa County in high-profile public and private sector jobs.”** “Armed with a decade of experience helping taxpayers, homeowners and developers in Maricopa County in high-profile public and private sector jobs, Maricopa County's newest supervisor Thomas Galvin says he is ready to get to work. The Board of Supervisors voted unanimously Wednesday to appoint Galvin, a land use attorney for Rose Law Group who was previously a policy advisor for an Arizona Corporation Commissioner, to the District 2 spot vacated last month by Steve Chucuri. He was sworn in later in the afternoon. Among a field of 22 applicants for the vacancy, Galvin stood out for his sheer knowledge of what the supervisors do and the issues they will face, from development to water, according to Board Chairman Jack Sellers.” [AZ Central, [12/8/21](#)]
- **AZ Central: “Among a field of 22 applicants for the vacancy, Galvin stood out for his sheer knowledge of what the supervisors do and the issues they will face, from development to water, according to Board Chairman Jack Sellers.”** [AZ Central, [12/8/21](#)]
- **Galvin’s predecessor, Steve Chucuri, “resigned after secret recordings were released of him talking about his suspicions of voter fraud and slamming his colleagues after the November 2020 election.”** “Chucuri resigned after secret recordings were released of him talking about his suspicions of

voter fraud and slamming his colleagues after the November 2020 election. He has since apologized for his comments and said he doesn't believe fraud changed the outcome of the election. The supervisors were tasked to appoint another Republican who lives in the district, which covers the eastern side of the county including parts of Mesa and Scottsdale. Galvin lives in east Phoenix.” [AZ Central, [12/8/21](#)]

- **Galvin “plans to keep his job at the [Rose Law Group], which he admits will take some juggling as he works full-time, serves on the board and campaigns.”** [AZ Central, [12/8/21](#)]
- **AZ Central: “Among what the supervisors said they were looking for was someone who they could trust, after Sellers said Chucuri had broken the trust of some.”** “Galvin was selected from a field of 22 applicants after the supervisors interviewed seven finalists. Among what the supervisors said they were looking for was someone who they could trust, after Sellers said Chucuri had broken the trust of some. The supervisors faced nearly a year of intense scrutiny and harassment after saying the election was fair and taking a stand against the Senate's review. They said they needed to find someone who could take the heat.” [AZ Central, [12/8/21](#)]
- **Supervisor Bill Gates said Galvin was “not going to tell people what they want to hear. He is going to tell people what they need to hear. That's the type of public servant we need right now.”** “Supervisor Bill Gates said that Galvin is ready to take on tough issues. ‘He is ready to do what's right,’ he said. ‘He is not going to tell people what they want to hear. He is going to tell people what they need to hear. That's the type of public servant we need right now.’” [AZ Central, [12/8/21](#)]

2022: Galvin won his Maricopa County Supervisors seat. [AZ Central, [8/2/22](#); Ballotpedia, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

- **The District 2 race “to control conservative-leaning District 2 could disrupt the Board of Supervisors' unified stance on election integrity and foreshadow what other supervisors may face in 2024.”** “In the East Valley, a battle is underway over a Maricopa County supervisor position. Just one seat is up for grabs in the Aug. 2 election, but the race to control conservative-leaning District 2 could disrupt the Board of Supervisors' unified stance on election integrity and foreshadow what other supervisors may face in 2024. Four Republicans — and no Democrats — are running to represent the vast district, which encompasses Carefree, Cave Creek, Fountain Hills, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and much of Scottsdale and Mesa, as well as parts of Apache Junction, Gilbert, Paradise Valley and east Phoenix. Incumbent Tom Galvin of Phoenix, a land use attorney, is seeking to keep the spot he was appointed to last year.” [AZ Central, [7/8/22](#)]
 - **Four Republicans ran for the position.** [AZ Central, [7/8/22](#)]
 - **Doug Little challenged Galvin in the primary.** “Doug Little of Scottsdale, a former member of the Arizona Corporation Commission who recently spent time in Washington, DC, at the Department of Energy.” [AZ Central, [7/8/22](#)]
 - **2020 election denier Gail Golec challenged Galvin in the primary.** “Gail Golec of Scottsdale, a realtor who has spread election conspiracy theories and made numerous unproven allegations of widespread fraud in the 2020 presidential election.” [AZ Central, [7/8/22](#)]
 - **2020 election denier Thayer Verschoor challenged Galvin in the primary.** “Thayer Verschoor of Gilbert, a former state lawmaker who was appointed to the Department of Veterans' Affairs by former President Donald Trump. Verschoor has echoed false allegations that there was widespread fraud in Arizona during the 2020 presidential election.” [AZ Central,

[7/8/22](#)]

- **As of July 2022, Galvin had raised \$114,350, with \$111,750 coming from individuals – \$6,000 of which came from outside of Maricopa County, and \$4,200 from out of state.** “Galvin has the largest war chest, raising \$114,350. Of that, \$111,750 came from individuals, with about \$6,000 coming from outside the county, including several donations from Tucson, Yuma and Sedona and \$4,200 from contributors in Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Utah and Washington, DC.” [AZ Central, [7/8/22](#)]

- **Galvin won the GOP primary for Maricopa Supervisor – District 2 with 37.6-Percent of the vote, versus three challengers.** [AZ Central, [8/2/22](#); Maricopa County August Primary Election Canvass, [8/2/22](#)]
- **Galvin won the Maricopa Supervisor – District 2 election with 98.1-percent of the vote, having faced no challenger.** [Final Official Results - General Election Maricopa County, [11/21/22](#)]

2024: Galvin was named Vice Chairman of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors. [Instagram – Rose Law Group, [1/4/24](#)]

2022: Galvin on Arizona AG Mark Brnovich’s election denialism: “This is the same election that he certified, that he had no problem with until recently when he decided to run for another office...So when an Attorney General has gone rogue, I think it’s important to call him out on it.” “Maricopa County Supervisor Thomas Galvin said last week that Mark Brnovich has gone rogue after the Republican state attorney general released an interim report of his investigation of the 2020 election that raised concerns about procedures. The comments come after the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors on Wednesday published a nine-page letter rejecting claims made by Brnovich, who is also running for U.S. Senate. ‘This is the same election that he certified, that he had no problem with until recently when he decided to run for another office,’ Galvin, a Republican, told KTAR News 92.3 FM’s Gaydos and Chad Show on Thursday. ‘So when an attorney general has gone rogue, I think it’s important to call him out on it.’” [KTAR News-92.3, [5/9/22](#)]

- **Galvin reportedly said Brnovich was not acting like the candidate he once voted for.** “Galvin, who was appointed to the board in December after Steve Chuceri’s resignation went into effect a month prior, said this is not the Brnovich he voted for. ‘It’s just a sad thing to see over the last year or so that he’s going to risk his reputation and he’s going to risk everything that he’s done good in his office for absolutely nothing,’ he said. ‘If you’re going to open up a criminal investigation, you don’t do things like issue a quote-unquote interim report. You don’t go on Twitter and make these cheeky videos. You don’t go on a crazy podcast with conspiracy theorists. This is a serious job as attorney general of the state of Arizona, you’re the top law enforcement official of the state. So act like it.’” [KTAR News-92.3, [5/9/22](#)]
- **Galvin: “If you’re going to open up a criminal investigation, you don’t do things like issue a quote-unquote interim report. You don’t go on Twitter and make these cheeky videos. You don’t go on a crazy podcast with conspiracy theorists. This is a serious job as attorney general of the state of Arizona.”** “Galvin, who was appointed to the board in December after Steve Chuceri’s resignation went into effect a month prior, said this is not the Brnovich he voted for. ‘It’s just a sad thing to see over the last year or so that he’s going to risk his reputation and he’s going to risk everything that he’s done good in his office for absolutely nothing,’ he said. ‘If you’re going to open up a criminal investigation, you don’t do things like issue a quote-unquote interim report. You don’t go on Twitter and make these cheeky videos. You don’t go on a crazy podcast with conspiracy theorists. This is a serious job as attorney general of the state of Arizona, you’re the top law enforcement official of the state. So act like it.’” [KTAR News-92.3, [5/9/22](#)]

2022: Reacting to a potential water pump shut off, “citizens of Rio Verde attempted to garner Galvin’s support to designate a new water district that would allow pumping from Harquahala Valley.” “Four years after Galvin’s testimony, the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors finds itself adjudicating an increasingly tense situation that pits residents, politicians, and transporters against each other over who has a right to water and how each interest group should pay for access. In December 2021, Galvin was appointed to the board of supervisors by the sitting board in a unanimous vote. In January of this year, Galvin found himself in the middle of the standoff, with politicians and residents on all sides of the water divide demanding action on a water redistricting plan that would affect the price paid by hundreds of Maricopa residents, some of whom rely on water hauled for miles and distributed into tanks below their drought-stricken homes. After the federal Bureau of Reclamation declared a water shortage from the Colorado River last year, Scottsdale — where many Rio Verde Foothills residents draw their water from — declared that their own water supply would be off limits to the tenders who deliver water to individual resident tanks in Rio Verde. In light of the looming shut-off, citizens of Rio Verde attempted to garner Galvin’s support to designate a new water district that would allow pumping from Harquahala Valley.” [The Intercept, [11/28/22](#)]

- **The Intercept: “While Galvin was fast to support unlimited pumping by Fondomonte before he was appointed to the board, Rio Verde residents found a less sympathetic ear once he was on it.”** “While Galvin was fast to support unlimited pumping by Fondomonte before he was appointed to the board, Rio Verde residents found a less sympathetic ear once he was on it. Neither the residents who support the new water district nor the water haulers who oppose it were able to get Galvin to make a determination in the process for weeks.” [The Intercept, [11/28/22](#)]
- **The Intercept: “Galvin and the rest of the Maricopa supervisors have failed to secure a resolution to the water crisis, in part due to the complex and overlapping matrix of regulatory authorities that govern Arizona’s water use.”** “As the January 1 water shut-off for Rio Verde residents rapidly approaches, Galvin and the rest of the Maricopa supervisors have failed to secure a resolution to the water crisis, in part due to the complex and overlapping matrix of regulatory authorities that govern Arizona’s water use. In August, Maricopa supervisors unanimously voted down a proposal to create a new water district. Galvin endorsed the idea of a privately held water utility, like the Canadian-owned Epcor, supplying the water, but some residents are opposed to the construction burden and the multiyear timeline that the plan would necessitate. In 2021, Rose Law helped facilitate Epcor’s purchase of Johnson Utilities on behalf of land owners and home builders in and around the San Tan Valley south of Phoenix.” [The Intercept, [11/28/22](#)]
- **The Intercept: “Galvin endorsed the idea of a privately held water utility, like the Canadian-owned Epcor, supplying the water, but some residents are opposed to the construction burden and the multiyear timeline that the plan would necessitate.”** [The Intercept, [11/28/22](#)]
 - **The Intercept: “In 2021, Rose Law helped facilitate Epcor’s purchase of Johnson Utilities on behalf of land owners and home builders in and around the San Tan Valley south of Phoenix.”** [The Intercept, [11/28/22](#)]

2024: Galvin was attacked by Ugenti-Rita for supporting the appointment of Democrat Jevin Hodge to fill a vacancy left in the Arizona State House. “Maricopa County Supervisor Thomas Galvin was slammed by his Republican primary opponent for nominating Congressman David Schweikert’s 2022 opponent to fill a vacancy in the Arizona State House. Former State Sen. Michelle Ugenti-Rita, who is challenging Galvin, blasted Galvin on X.com: ‘Instead of appointing a placeholder, Democrat enabler @ThomasGalvin appoints Congressman David Schweikert’s 2022 Dem challenger to the Legislature. What a slap in the face! Yet another reason why we need a real conservative on the @maricopacounty Board of Supervisors.’ The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors announced on Wednesday the appointment of former congressional candidate and former

supervisor candidate Jevin Hodge to the Arizona House of Representatives. Hodge fills the vacancy in Legislative District 8 left by Athena Salman.” [AZ Independent Daily, [1/31/24](#)]

- **Galvin: Jevin Hodge has proven himself to be an independent thinker and business advocate who puts community wellbeing ahead of politics.** “‘Jevin Hodge has proven himself to be an independent thinker and business advocate who puts community wellbeing ahead of politics,’ Galvin said in a press release. ‘I appreciated his thoughtful answers to my questionnaire, and I believe he will be a voice of reason and a potential consensus builder at the State Capitol,’ said Galvin of Hodge, a seasoned political insider.” [AZ Independent Daily, [1/31/24](#)]

AZ Independent: Galvin’s own status as a political insider who was loyal to powerful interests in the County, was largely credited for his surprise appointment to the vacant Supervisor seat last year.”

“Galvin’s own status as a political insider who was loyal to powerful interests in the County, was largely credited for his surprise appointment to the vacant Supervisor seat last year. According to reporting from The Intercept, Galvin’s connections and loyalties extend all the way to Saudi Arabia, as he was outed as a lobbyist for the Saudi company buying up drought-stricken Arizona’s groundwater for use in producing agricultural crops for export back to Saudi Arabia.” [AZ Independent Daily, [1/31/24](#)]

- **Galvin’s “appointment to replace Chucuri made sense to observers who noted that he was a slavish supporter of Board policies and, as an attorney and lobbyist with a well-connected firm, he might be just the kind of loyalist the oft-under fire Board might be seeking.”** “Still, Galvin’s appointment to replace Chucuri made sense to observers who noted that he was a slavish supporter of Board policies and, as an attorney and lobbyist with a well-connected firm, he might be just the kind of loyalist the oft-under fire Board might be seeking.” [AZ Independent Daily, [1/31/24](#)]

2024: The Scottsdale City Council abandoned plans to develop a homeless shelter because Maricopa County did not provide them with \$6.6 million in funds, which Mayor David Ortega blamed on Galvin – saying he “ghosted” the city. “At its Feb. 20 meeting, Scottsdale City Council unanimously agreed to put off constructing ‘The Residence at Paiute,’ which was planned to shelter homeless people at the Paiute Community Center. The reason: no county funding. In September, City Council authorized a funding package of \$16 million – with 40% coming from American Rescue Plan funds controlled by the county – to build 28 affordable housing units at the Paiute Neighborhood Center, which currently provides family services and other day programs in south Scottsdale...Judy Doyle, of the city’s Community Services Department, said the city expected the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors to approve \$6.6 million to go to the project in September. It was taken off the county agenda at the last minute, she said, and never returned before the supervisors. ‘Without the \$6.6 million,’ Doyle said, ‘the project will not be feasible.’ Mayor David Ortega loaded his gums to spit fury at an old foe. ‘I became aware the county was dragging their feet,’ Ortega said, regarding Paiute funding. He said Galvin blew off the city and then ‘blocked the funds. ‘Supervisor Galvin actually ghosted us. He did not put it on the agenda. ‘The result was Supervisor Galvin basically defunded this effort. ‘We got shorted.’” [Scottsdale Progress, [2/29/24](#)]

- **Scottsdale Progress: “Ortega and Maricopa County Supervisor Thomas Galvin spent much of 2022 and 2023 trading barbs over the Rio Verde Foothills water situation.”** “Ortega and Maricopa County Supervisor Thomas Galvin spent much of 2022 and 2023 trading barbs over the Rio Verde Foothills water situation, with each blaming the other for leaving hundreds of residents of the county island – ironically, but fortunately not permanently – high and dry.” [Scottsdale Progress, [2/29/24](#)]

2024: Galvin and his colleagues were to pick a new Arizona State House appointee to replace Jevin Hodge, who resigned after sexual misconduct allegations were raised against him. “A Maricopa County official is taking steps to try to ensure that the next lawmakers appointed by the county to the Arizona Legislature won’t resign in scandal. His method takes a bit of a dig at current lawmakers. County boards of

supervisors are tasked with choosing replacements for lawmakers who leave their job early. Republican Maricopa County Supervisor Thomas Galvin says the board will pick a new lawmaker this week to replace Jevin Hodge, a recent House appointee who resigned after old allegations of sexual misconduct resurfaced. The board's vetting process was criticized by GOP lawmakers following Hodge's resignation. 'The County Supervisors have been patting themselves on the back heartily for their self-imposed 'vetting' process when making appointments. ... Clearly, their process is crap,' Rep. Jacqueline Parker (R-Mesa) posted on X at the time. Galvin is now asking candidates to fill out a questionnaire assuring him that they won't engage in a list of behaviors that other lawmakers have." [KJZZ 91.5, [4/3/24](#)]

- **Galvin "is now asking candidates to fill out a questionnaire assuring him that they won't engage in a list of behaviors that other lawmakers have."** [KJZZ 91.5, [4/3/24](#)]
- **Galvin's questionnaire sought to ensure potential appointees were not holocaust deniers, child abusers, or – in an alleged dig at Ugenti-Rita – aggressive sexual harassers.** "“Since the county had come under some criticism from some quarters over the previous appointment, I just want to make it a point that before you throw stones, check if you're living in a glass house,' he said. Galvin's list includes 'praising a white nationalist Holocaust denier,' which is partly what Republican Sen. Wendy Rogers (R-Flagstaff) was censured for in 2022, and 'molesting a minor,' which former Democratic Sen. Tony Navarrete was convicted of this year. The list also includes some things that former lawmakers (of both political parties) have done, or been accused of doing. 'Sexually harassing a lobbyist by sending explicit photos and text messages, and propositions for sexual encounters' is something former Sen. Michelle Ugenti-Rita was accused of in 2020. She's now running against Galvin for a spot on the board. The questionnaire states: 'The list above is not exhaustive. How can you assure the Board of Supervisors that, if appointed, you will not engage in disorderly behavior but will conduct yourself in a manner consistent with a proper code of ethics?'" [KJZZ 91.5, [4/3/24](#)]

On The Issues

Criminal Justice

Galvin: "Violent crime is on the rise and Maricopa County is no exception." "“Outside of election integrity, all of the candidates list supporting police and public safety as one of their main priorities. 'Violent crime is on the rise and Maricopa County is no exception,' Galvin said, adding that he has good working relationships with Maricopa County Attorney General Rachel Mitchell and Sheriff Paul Penzone." [AZ Central, [7/8/22](#)]

2024: Galvin's "priorities in office include fighting inflation and addressing the disturbing rise of violent crime." "“Thomas's priorities in office include fighting inflation and addressing the disturbing rise of violent crime. Thomas proposed and passed the largest property tax cut in Maricopa County history in June 2022. Thomas believes the Board must nurture Maricopa County's strong economic development but ensure that we properly plan for continued growth. He also believes that Maricopa County must continue to create jobs for a diverse and thriving economy. Thomas is a strong advocate for fixing our existing roads, especially Highway-60. Thomas also wants to prioritize proper investments in infrastructure, especially water resources. Securing our water supply is an urgent matter that needs an experienced water expert like Thomas." [Thomas Galvin – County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Galvin: "We must maintain law-and-order in Maricopa County. That is why I am proud that the County has provided additional resources to the Sheriff's office and the County Attorney's office so that they have the tools and resources they need to fight crime." [Thomas Galvin – County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Galvin: “Illegal drugs are a scourge in our community. Maricopa County has the highest drug overdose death rate in Arizona. We need to reverse that. We need to stem the rising tide of violent crime.” [Thomas Galvin – County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Development & Taxes

2022: Galvin’s campaign platform focused on job creation, tax cutting, cutting inflation, transportation funding, and improving Highway 60. “Galvin, Golec and Little also mention the importance of reliable water supply, and Little and Galvin both address economic development, pledging to create jobs and reduce taxes. But while the rest of Galvin’s campaign focuses around issues like inflation, transportation funding and improving Highway 60, his opponents pin their platforms on protecting gun rights and limiting school instruction about race.” [AZ Central, [7/8/22](#)]

2022: Galvin, on housing affordability: “One of the things I always say is that I’m not pro-developer, I’m pro-market...But I think we need to understand that more housing needs to be built.” “None of candidates directly mention housing affordability in their online platforms, a rapidly growing issue in Maricopa County. When asked about the issue, Verschuur said he doesn’t support subsidized housing and favors a free market approach to create a business-friendly environment that helps more homes be built. Galvin said he regularly talks about housing with his constituents and in his job as a land use attorney. He supports building more housing, but doing so with the concerns of the community in mind. ‘One of the things I always say is that I’m not pro-developer, I’m pro-market,’ Galvin said. ‘But I think we need to understand that more housing needs to be built.’” [AZ Central, [7/8/22](#)]

2023: AZ Corporation Commission Chair Jim O’Connor called on residents to vote out the GOP members of the Board of Supervisors for allegedly failing to approve a new water provider for Rio Verde Foothills. “The Republican chair of the Arizona Corporation Commission said the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors can’t be trusted to administer the county’s elections in 2024, when four of five supervisors could be on the ballot. Corporation Commission Chair Jim O’Connor made the comments after voting to approve a new water provider for the Rio Verde Foothills residents who lost access to their water supply earlier this year. He blamed the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors for not approving a solution to the community’s water woes sooner, alluding to a decision by the board earlier this year to deny a request by some residents to set up a domestic water improvement district to deal with its water needs. O’Connor called on voters to get rid of the current Maricopa County supervisors, four of whom are Republicans.” [KJZZ 91.5, [11/29/23](#)]

- **Galvin, “who represents the Rio Verde area, said the majority of affected residents didn’t support the domestic water improvement proposal and that’s why he preferred to find a water provider that could then go through the Corporation Commission.”** “As for O’Connor’s complaints about previous board water votes, Galvin, who represents the Rio Verde area, said the majority of affected residents didn’t support the domestic water improvement proposal and that’s why he preferred to find a water provider that could then go through the Corporation Commission to bring water to Rio Verde Foothills. ‘The Corporation Commission is the state branch to regulate utilities, to regulate water companies ... Maricopa County and all other counties in Arizona do not have that power,’ he said.” [KJZZ 91.5, [11/29/23](#)]

Galvin “proposed and passed the largest property tax cut in Maricopa County history in June 2022.” “Thomas’s priorities in office include fighting inflation and addressing the disturbing rise of violent crime. Thomas proposed and passed the largest property tax cut in Maricopa County history in June 2022. Thomas believes the Board must nurture Maricopa County’s strong economic development but ensure that we properly plan for continued growth. He also believes that Maricopa County must continue to create jobs for a diverse and thriving economy. Thomas is a strong advocate for fixing our existing roads, especially Highway-60. Thomas also wants to prioritize proper investments in infrastructure, especially water resources. Securing our water

supply is an urgent matter that needs an experienced water expert like Thomas.” [Thomas Galvin – County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2024: Galvin “believes the Board must nurture Maricopa County's strong economic development but ensure that we properly plan for continued growth. He also believes that Maricopa County must continue to create jobs for a diverse and thriving economy.” [Thomas Galvin – County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

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2024: Galvin “wants to prioritize proper investments in infrastructure, especially water resources. Securing our water supply is an urgent matter that needs an experienced water expert like [him].” [Thomas Galvin – County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Galvin: Joe Biden's economic policies are hurting Maricopa County. Families are unable to buy a decent home and renting an apartment has become increasingly difficult as inflation is out of control.” “Joe Biden's economic policies are hurting Maricopa County. Families are unable to buy a decent home and renting an apartment has become increasingly difficult as inflation is out of control. According to the Wall Street Journal, Maricopa County was hit the hardest by inflation. Even though I was only appointed in December, 2021, I advocated for and passed the largest property tax cut in Maricopa County history.” [Thomas Galvin – County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Elections

2021: Galvin affirmed Biden’s 2020 election win, and said: “I understand some people are never going to be satisfied with what they hear about the election...But I know the facts, and I trust the men who are standing behind me.” “Galvin joins the board at a time of intense scrutiny in the fallout of the Arizona Senate's review of the county's 2020 presidential election results. Galvin made one thing clear at a news conference after his appointment: He believes the county's election was fair, and he knows President Joe Biden won in the county, state and country. ‘I understand some people are never going to be satisfied with what they hear about the election,’ he said as he stood in front of other supervisors. ‘But I know the facts, and I trust the men who are standing behind me.’” [AZ Central, [12/8/21](#)]

2022: Galvin, on RNC legal claims Maricopa supervisors blocked their electoral activities: “Ronna Romney McDaniel is wasting GOP donor money &, more importantly @MaricopaCounty resources & tax dollars on a PR stunt that's using AZ’s court system as a political playground...I’m sick of grifters attacking AZ.” “The RNC and the Arizona GOP filed two lawsuits this week that seek to make the county shorten shifts for poll workers to make the jobs more accessible and force the release of records about who worked the polls in the primary. McDaniel mischaracterized the scope of the lawsuits in a tweet Wednesday, falsely claiming that Arizona Republicans have been ‘shut out of the process.’ The RNC did not respond to a request to explain how Republicans have been excluded. ‘This is a lie,’ responded Maricopa County Supervisor Thomas Galvin (R). ‘Ronna Romney McDaniel is wasting GOP donor money &, more importantly @MaricopaCounty resources & tax dollars on a PR stunt that’s using AZ’s court system as a political playground ... I’m sick of grifters attacking AZ.’” [Washington Post, [10/7/22](#)]

- **Commenting on threats to Maricopa supervisors in the context of the RNC lawsuit: “IT’S OPEN SEASON on honest election officials.”** “As the Justice Department arrested an Iowa man on Thursday on accusations of threatening a fellow Republican Maricopa County supervisor after the 2020 election, Galvin referenced the RNC lawsuit in another tweet: ‘IT’S OPEN SEASON on honest election officials.’” [Washington Post, [10/7/22](#)]

2023: AZ partisans questioned whether the Maricopa Board of Supervisors could be trusted to honestly administer the 2024 elections. “The Republican chair of the Arizona Corporation Commission said the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors can’t be trusted to administer the county’s elections in 2024, when four of five supervisors could be on the ballot. Corporation Commission Chair Jim O’Connor made the comments after voting to approve a new water provider for the Rio Verde Foothills residents who lost access to their water supply earlier this year. He blamed the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors for not approving a solution to the community’s water woes sooner, alluding to a decision by the board earlier this year to deny a request by some residents to set up a domestic water improvement district to deal with its water needs. O’Connor called on voters to get rid of the current Maricopa County supervisors, four of whom are Republicans. But he said he did not trust the supervisors to administer that election. Three of those Republican supervisors — Clint Hickman, Jack Sellers and Thomas Galvin — are up for reelection in 2024. Supervisor Bill Gates announced he will not seek re-election. ‘The good news is we have elections,’ O’Connor said. ‘The scary news is the elections are under the authority of that same Board of Supervisors.’ O’Connor did not answer directly when asked if he was implying the supervisors would attempt to fix their own elections. ‘I have no trust that the current Board of Supervisors will handle the administration of this election just as they botched up the ‘22 election and 2020 election and 2018 election,’ he said.” [KJZZ 91.5, [11/29/23](#)]

- **Galvin “acknowledged the board needs to fix the problems that occurred in 2022 but pointed out that Maricopa County has won multiple court cases challenging the validity of past elections.”** “Maricopa County Supervisor Thomas Galvin acknowledged the board needs to fix the problems that occurred in 2022 but pointed out that Maricopa County has won multiple court cases challenging the validity of past elections. ‘We’re really just looking forward to the next election, and we’re very proud of the processes that we’ve put in to improve next year,’ he said. But when it comes to allegations of fraud in the 2020 election, Galvin said ‘there is no there there.’” [KJZZ 91.5, [11/29/23](#)]
 - **An error with printed paper ballots had led to some being misread by tabulators, thereby triggering an audit, in the 2022 elections.** “The 38-page (Maricopa) report concludes that changes to the paper ballots were the main cause of the issue with tabulators reading the ballots. Over the last two months, the investigative team printed and tabulated more than 9,000 ballots, replicating the process to find out where the errors were and what caused them. The report, the judge says, proves this was not human error but equipment issues. The report reads, in part, ‘One of the most striking findings in our tests involved the considerable differences among printers. At the extremes, one printer (printer 406), printed 850 ballots at all settings with only one misread ballot. Printer 491 did almost as well, with only 13 misread ballots. In contrast, printer 404 produced 92 misread ballots and printer 323 produced 72.’” [FOX 10 – Phoenix, [4/10/23](#)]
 - **The board of supervisors had been accused of rigging the 2022 elections against Republicans after technical errors disrupted ballot counting.** “Critics — including Ms. Lake — accused [the board of supervisors], without evidence, of rigging the races against the Republicans, and blamed them for the technical problems that disrupted ballot counting in 2022.” [New York Times, [3/28/24](#)]
- **Galvin emphasized there was no truth to 2020 election fraud claims.** “Maricopa County Supervisor Thomas Galvin acknowledged the board needs to fix the problems that occurred in 2022 but pointed out that Maricopa County has won multiple court cases challenging the validity of past elections. ‘We’re really just looking forward to the next election, and we’re very proud of the processes that we’ve put in to improve next year,’ he said. But when it comes to allegations of fraud in the 2020 election, Galvin said ‘there is no there there.’” [KJZZ 91.5, [11/29/23](#)]

AZ Central: “Neither county supervisors or the county school superintendent have any power over school curriculums, according to Tim Sifert, a spokesperson at the Maricopa County Superintendent's Office.” “Neither county supervisors or the county school superintendent have any power over school curriculums, according to Tim Sifert, a spokesperson at the Maricopa County Superintendent's Office. Standards for education are set by the State Board of Education, and individual school boards are responsible for setting curriculums in line with those expectations, Sifert said. ‘They could pass a resolution; they could create a code,’ Sifert said. ‘They could do something in the future. But that's not how it's been in the past, and I'm not an attorney, but I don't know if the county would try to exert that kind of authority legally over school boards and its jurisdiction.’” [AZ Central, [7/8/22](#)]

Galvin, on accusations he supported allegedly inappropriate material in libraries: “It comes down to parental responsibility. That’s what conservative Republicans believe in...it’s up to the parents to be responsible on the material that our son accesses.” “Maricopa County Supervisor Thomas Galvin defended himself on Friday against accusations that he’s helping libraries stock their shelves with inappropriate books for children. The Republican official who is raising a young child said parents should be the ones who decide what their children have access to, not the government. ‘It comes down to parental responsibility. That’s what conservative Republicans believe in. We make sure that our son, whether it’s a library book, whether it’s a TV show, whether it’s something on the internet, whether it’s screen time, it’s up to the parents to be responsible on the material that our son accesses,’ Galvin said. Galvin, who was appointed to the five-member county board in 2021 and elected the following year, has not officially announced his campaign for his first four-year term. But former Republican state lawmaker Michell Ugenti-Rita announced her bid last week to challenge Galvin in next year’s primary. Last week, she accused Galvin of allowing libraries to promote books about sex and gender to kids that are not age-appropriate.” [AZ Family, [9/29/23](#)]

Second Amendment

Galvin “is pro-life and pro 2nd Amendment.” [Thomas Galvin – County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Abortion

Galvin “is pro-life and pro 2nd Amendment.” [Thomas Galvin – County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Trump

2020: Galvin praised Trump’s Middle East foreign policy achievements. “Trump’s Middle East foreign policy achievements, capped off by Morocco formally recognizing Israel, are stunning. They are virtually ignored now but will stand the test of time.” [Twitter, [12/11/20](#)]

2021: Galvin criticized Trump election denialism, arguing: “Unless the party has leaders who step up & tell the truth the AZGOP is doomed to not win statewide races for the next several cycles.” “Fascinating poll data on Arizona. Dems & Inds overwhelmingly say Biden won. But Republicans say Trump was the ‘rightful winner’ by a 2-1 margin. Unless the party has leaders who step up & tell the truth the AZGOP is doomed to not win statewide races for the next several cycles.” [Twitter, [2/4/21](#)]

2021: Galvin highlighted an AZ Mirror report “on how the so-called Arizona audit, ostensibly to salvage Trump’s dignity, has devolved into a theater of absurdity.” “Thread by AZ Mirror reporter Jeremy Duda on how the so-called Arizona audit, ostensibly to salvage Trump’s dignity, has devolved into a theater of absurdity. As the audit barrels towards an inevitable tragic denouement, watch for the finger-pointing & blame game.” [Twitter, [5/5/21](#)]

Galvin: “A house with the biggest Trump banner in my neighborhood until a few months ago now has a @KariLake yard sign on its lawn. Make of that what you will.” [Twitter, [7/15/21](#)]

Galvin: “This is how/why Trump lost Maricopa County. ‘According to White, 59,800 people did not vote for Trump even though they voted mostly for Republicans down-ballot.’” [Twitter, [7/16/21](#)]

Boards & Commissions

2011 – Present: Galvin claimed to have served as the Speaker Chair of the Phoenix Active 20 – 30 Club. [LinkedIn – Thomas Galvin, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2024: Galvin served on the Greater Phoenix Economic Council Board of Directors. “Thomas serves as a member of the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC) Board of Directors, PHX East Valley Partnership Board of Directors, the PHX East Valley Partnership’s Critical Infrastructure & Transportation Committee, and the Canada-Arizona Business Council.” [Supervisor Thomas Galvin Biography, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2024: Galvin served on the PHX East Valley Partnership Board of Directors. “Thomas serves as a member of the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC) Board of Directors, PHX East Valley Partnership Board of Directors, the PHX East Valley Partnership’s Critical Infrastructure & Transportation Committee, and the Canada-Arizona Business Council.” [Supervisor Thomas Galvin Biography, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

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MICHELLE UGENTI-RITA

Background & Philosophy

Ugenti-Rita was called the “queen of anti-voting laws.” “Most stunningly, though, was Ugenti-Rita’s fallout with Trump’s crowd. The Republican state senator and queen of anti-voting laws not only failed to capture the mood but was booted out unceremoniously. She seemed stunned herself, judging by her defense on Twitter touting all the voting legislation she has successfully pushed through in her quest to become Arizona’s secretary of state. ‘I’ve been on the frontlines of the battle for election integrity for the last 10 years,’ she lamented on Twitter after her disastrous appearance before the Trump’s crowd.” [AZ Central, [7/26/21](#)]

AZ Central profiled Ugenti-Rita as “a former state lawmaker and secretary of state candidate with a substantial track record of running election legislation.” “Michelle Ugenti-Rita, District 2: An Arizona native, she is a former state lawmaker and secretary of state candidate with a substantial track record of running election legislation. Before getting elected, Ugenti-Rita worked in commercial real estate. She lives in Scottsdale and is running as a Republican.” [AZ Central, [4/8/24](#)]

Ugenti-Rita “said people misread her, thinking she's tough — which she says she is — when what she's really asking is for people to make their case and defend it.” “Ugenti-Rita said people misread her, thinking she's tough — which she says she is — when what she's really asking is for people to make their case and defend it. ‘I also care very much about being consistent and doing what I say,’ she said. If that means she sometimes stands alone, she added, so be it.” [AZ Central, [7/13/22](#)]

2024: Ugenti-Rita argued the board of supervisors “regularly injected themselves in a significant way and often to the detriment of their own constituents. For far too long, they have been able to run amok, unchecked and without scrutiny.” “Maricopa County, with its population of 4.5 million people, is the fourth largest county in the United States. The current fiscal year budget is \$4.3 billion and is funded primarily by revenue from a property tax assessment rate (they set) of \$1.20 per \$100 of assessed value. This budget funds 61 departments ranging from elected offices such as the county sheriff, attorney, assessor, recorder and treasurer, the Maricopa County Department of Transportation, the county manager’s office, special taxing districts such as the library and flood control districts, and elections. The power and authority to govern the county is vested in five supervisors representing distinct geographical areas. For context, a member of the United States House of Representatives represents approximately 700,000 people while a Maricopa County Supervisor represents approximately 900,000 people. During my 12 years of service in the Arizona legislature, as both a Senator and a Representative, I witnessed firsthand the influence and impact of the Board of Supervisors and the bureaucracy of Maricopa County. It ranged from issues such as election reform, the extension of the Prop 400 transportation tax, regulatory reform for small businesses, the power and influence of special taxing districts, and the state’s budget. They regularly injected themselves in a significant way and often to the detriment of their own constituents. For far too long, they have been able to run amok, unchecked and without scrutiny.” [Michelle Ugenti-Rita – Conservative for County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

- **Ugenti-Rita accused the Board of Supervisors of liking “to tout a reduction in the tax rate they set when creating their budget while ignoring the fact they are generating additional revenue from property taxpayers.”** “It is now time to shine the light on the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors. They like to tout a reduction in the tax rate they set when creating their budget while ignoring the fact they are generating additional revenue from property taxpayers rather than actually reducing the amount each person pays. For the last several years, the Board has promoted their recklessly aggressive spending of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) monies that has significantly increased our federal debt when they could have returned it to Washington DC or provided direct financial relief to their residents in this time of skyrocketing inflation and crushing housing, gas and food prices.” [Michelle Ugenti-Rita – Conservative for County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]
- **Ugenti-Rita: “In addition to the rampant spending of Covid-19 dollars, they were quick to restrict our personal liberties and inflict significant harm to our families and children by declaring a public health emergency.”** “In addition to the rampant spending of Covid-19 dollars, they were quick to restrict our personal liberties and inflict significant harm to our families and children by declaring a public health emergency which led to mask mandates, restrictions on our businesses and economy and the closure of our schools. While they claim to be pro-business there are numerous examples of them vociferously opposing legislative efforts at regulatory reform to relieve the burden of excessive bureaucratic red tape.” [Michelle Ugenti-Rita – Conservative for County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]
- **Ugenti-Rita argued the board of supervisors having numerous public roles was “akin to the man behind the curtain in the Wizard of Oz.”** “What may be a surprise to many are the several roles Supervisors play by virtue of being a member of the Board. It is akin to the man behind the curtain in the Wizard of Oz. In addition to being members of the county board, they serve as board members of numerous special taxing districts that have the ability to increase taxes and impose financial penalties on property owners at will and often with little to no recourse for the taxpayer. Here too, the bureaucracy wields a heavy hand which is most often ceremoniously blessed by the board. This allows them to portray themselves one way to voters at election time while behaving another way while in office.” [Michelle Ugenti-Rita – Conservative for County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2004: After earning a degree in Business Administration from ASU, Ugenti-Rita worked in real-estate. “Ugenti-Rita earned her degree in business administration from Arizona State University in 2004. Her

professional experience includes working as a real estate agent for Marcus & Millichap and Russ Lyon Sotheby's International Realty.” [Arizona State Legislature – Michell Ugenti-Rita, Accessed: [4/17/24](#); Ballotpedia, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

- **Ugenti-Rita’s “professional experience includes working as a real estate agent for Marcus & Millichap and Russ Lyon Sotheby's International Realty.”** [Arizona State Legislature – Michell Ugenti-Rita, Accessed: [4/17/24](#); Ballotpedia, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]
- **Ugenti-Rita “worked as a commercial real estate agent at Levrose Real Estate Investments and Brokerage.”** [Arizona State Legislature – Michelle Ugenti-Rita, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]
- **2020: Ugenti-Rita’s commercial real estate license lapsed.** “An Arizona native, Ugenti-Rita, 42, attended Desert Mountain High School in Scottsdale and earned a degree in business administration from Arizona State University. At ASU, she signed up for a club rugby team, knowing nothing about the sport, but quickly took to the game, playing wing and developing a reputation for her stiff arm. She made a point to wear ribbons — pink, her favorite color — in her hair. She worked in commercial real estate, but let her license lapse in 2020, state records show. By then, legislative work had taken priority.” [AZ Central, [7/13/22](#)]

Ugenti-Rita was elected to the AZ legislature in 2010, and then re-elected in 2012, 2014, and 2016.

“Michelle Ugenti-Rita was first elected to the Arizona House of Representatives in 2010, and re-elected in 2012, 2014 and 2016. She serves as chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee while also serving on the Appropriations and Government committees. In addition to her legislative career, Michelle has worked as a commercial real estate agent at Levrose Real Estate Investments and Brokerage. The Representative has consistently been recognized as an advocate in the Arizona House for policies that encourage job growth, economic prosperity and government. She has been recognized as a ‘Hero of the Taxpayer’ by Americans for Prosperity, a ‘Guardian of Small Business’ by the National Federation of Independent Business, and was awarded ‘Legislator of the Year’ by the Arizona Humane Society. As the mother of three children, Representative Ugenti-Rita has been a strong supporter of improving education to ensure every child in Arizona gets the best education possible. Furthermore, she has been a leading proponent of policies that help Arizona remain a great place to live and raise a family.” [Arizona State Legislature – Michelle Ugenti-Rita, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

- **2010: Ugenti-Rita was elected to the second seat of the LD8 district with 38,055 votes – the second-highest rate – in the general election.** [State of Arizona Official Canvass – 2010 General Election, [11/29/10](#)]
- **2011 – 2012: Ugenti-Rita served on the House Appropriations and Government (vice-chair) committees.** [Arizona State Legislature – Michelle Ugenti-Rita, Accessed: [4/16/24](#); Ballotpedia, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]
- **2012: Ugenti-Rita was elected to the second seat of the LD23 district, with 66,827 votes in the general election.** [Arizona Memory Project – 2012 State of Arizona Official Canvass, [11/6/12](#)]
- **2013 – 2014: Ugenti-Rita served on the House Appropriations, Government (chair), and Budget committees.** [Arizona State Legislature – Michelle Ugenti-Rita, Accessed: [4/16/24](#); Ballotpedia, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]
- **2014: Ugenti-Rita was elected to the first seat in the LD23 district, with 51,124 votes in the general election.** [State of Arizona Official Canvass – 2014 General Election, [12/1/14](#)]

- **2015 – 2016: Ugenti-Rita served on the House Appropriations, Elections (chair), and Ways and Means committees.** [Arizona State Legislature – Michelle Ugenti-Rita, Accessed: [4/16/24](#); Ballotpedia, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]
- **2016: Ugenti-Rita was re-elected to the first seat in the LD23 district, with 69,758 votes in the general election.** [State of Arizona Official Canvass – 2016 General Election, [11/29/16](#)]
- **2017 – 2019: Ugenti-Rita served on the House Appropriations, Government and Higher Educations, and Ways and Means (chair) committees.** [Arizona State Legislature – Michelle Ugenti-Rita, Accessed: [4/16/24](#); Ballotpedia, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]
- **As a legislator, Ugenti-Rita had been “recognized as a ‘Hero of the Taxpayer’ by Americans for Prosperity, a ‘Guardian of Small Business’ by the National Federation of Independent Business, and was awarded ‘Legislator of the Year’ by the Arizona Humane Society.”** [Arizona State Legislature – Michelle Ugenti-Rita, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2018: Ugenti-Rita was elected to the AZ Senate. “Michelle Ugenti-Rita was first elected to the Arizona State Senate in 2018, previously she served in the Arizona House of Representatives being elected in 2010, 2012, 2014 and 2016. Senator Ugenti-Rita puts her constituents first and is a tireless crusader for the advancement of liberty. Whether she is taking on the status quo, legislative leadership or special interests’ she is unwavering in her commitment to make sure freedom from the suffocating restraints of government prevail.” [Arizona State Senate – Michelle Ugenti-Rita, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

- **Ugenti-Rita won her 2018 primary election with 41.4-percent of the vote, and her 2018 general election with 57.1-percent of the vote.** “Incumbent Michelle Ugenti-Rita faces just one challenger in the primary, since the withdrawal of Adam Kwasman from the Republican primary race. Ms. Ugenti-Rita defeated Democratic challenger Daria Lohman and Independent Christopher Leone after taking 57.1% of the vote in November 2018. She previously defeated two Republican challengers, taking 41.4% of the vote in the 2018 primary. Having formerly served in the Arizona House for LD23 from 2011-2019, she was not able to run for reelection to that body in 2018 due to term limits.” [Your Valley, [4/29/20](#)]
- **Ugenti-Rita won the 2020 LD23 general election with 59.1-percent of the vote to democrat Seth Blattman’s 40.9-percent.** [State of Arizona Official Canvass - 2020 General Election, [11/24/20](#); Ballotpedia, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]
 - **Ugenti Rita won the 2020 LD23 primary election with 60.4-percent of the vote to Alexander Kolodin’s 39.6-percent of the vote.** [State of Arizona Official Canvass - 2020 Primary Election, [9/15/20](#); Ballotpedia, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]
- **2019 – 2020: Ugenti-Rita served on the Senate Appropriations, Commerce (vice-chair), and Finance committees.** [Arizona State Senate – Michelle Ugenti-Rita, Accessed: [4/16/24](#); Ballotpedia, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]
- **2021 – 2022: Ugenti-Rita served on the Senate Appropriations, Commerce (vice-chair), Finance, and Government committees.** [Arizona State Senate – Michelle Ugenti-Rita, Accessed: [4/16/24](#); Ballotpedia, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2022: Ugenti-Rita, “who acknowledges Biden’s victory but has worked for a decade to tighten election laws,” lost in the GOP primary for Arizona Secretary of State. “An Arizona lawmaker who embraces election conspiracies and was endorsed by former President Donald Trump won the Republican primary

Tuesday for the top elections post in the presidential battleground. Mark Finchem beat out three other GOP candidates in the race for secretary of state. His challengers included another candidate who repeated Trump's false claims that he lost the 2020 presidential election because of fraud, a longtime state lawmaker and a businessman endorsed by Republican Gov. Doug Ducey. Democrats and election security advocates warned that a victory for Finchem in the November general election will be dangerous for democracy. Finchem, who attended Trump's Jan. 6, 2021, rally that preceded the violent assault on the U.S. Capitol, has said he only intends to ensure that election laws are followed to address concerns by many Republicans about how elections are run. Still, he tried to get the Legislature to overturn the 2020 election results and has spoken about making major changes to election rules that are written by the secretary...The other Republican who backed Trump's claims also is a member of the Arizona House. Rep. Shawna Bolick introduced a bill last year that would allow a simple majority of the Legislature to overturn presidential election results. The other Republicans on Arizona's ballot were state Sen. Michelle Ugenti-Rita, who acknowledges Biden's victory but has worked for a decade to tighten election laws, and businessman Beau Lane, who was backed by the governor." [Associated Press, [8/3/22](#)]

- **Ugenti-Rita came last in the primary with only 14.8-percent of the vote, to the second runner-up's 19.3-percent.** [New York Times, [8/2/22](#)]

Ugenti-Rita, "who became the face of Arizona's #MeToo movement when her claims led to a fellow lawmaker's expulsion, sexually harassed a female lobbyist so severely it took a toll on the woman's mental health and career, the lobbyist alleged in a sworn deposition." "Sen. Michelle Ugenti-Rita, the Scottsdale Republican who became the face of Arizona's #MeToo movement when her claims led to a fellow lawmaker's expulsion, sexually harassed a female lobbyist so severely it took a toll on the woman's mental health and career, the lobbyist alleged in a sworn deposition. The deposition was part of a motion filed in Maricopa County Superior Court on Jan. 31 in the defamation lawsuit and counter-lawsuit between Ugenti-Rita and former Rep. Don Shooter. The woman describes a pattern of harassment by Ugenti-Rita and her now-husband, former adviser to the governor Brian Townsend, over the summer of 2016 that led the lobbyist to believe the political power couple was trying to recruit her for a threesome. Repercussions from those unwanted advances led the woman to seek therapy, turn down job offers and miss work days, she said. A year later, as the #MeToo movement took root in statehouses around the country, Ugenti-Rita detailed sexual harassment she encountered as a lawmaker, including suggestive comments about her body and an exposing yank on her dress at a legislative reception. After several other women, including two more lawmakers, joined her in accusing Shooter of a pattern of inappropriate behavior, the House expelled him in February 2018." [AZ Capitol Times, [2/4/20](#)]

- **Ugenti-Rita and her husband, former Gubernatorial Policy Advisor Brian Townsend, allegedly tried to recruit the victim for a threesome.** "The woman describes a pattern of harassment by Ugenti-Rita and her now-husband, former adviser to the governor Brian Townsend, over the summer of 2016 that led the lobbyist to believe the political power couple was trying to recruit her for a threesome. Repercussions from those unwanted advances led the woman to seek therapy, turn down job offers and miss work days, she said. A year later, as the #MeToo movement took root in statehouses around the country, Ugenti-Rita detailed sexual harassment she encountered as a lawmaker, including suggestive comments about her body and an exposing yank on her dress at a legislative reception. After several other women, including two more lawmakers, joined her in accusing Shooter of a pattern of inappropriate behavior, the House expelled him in February 2018." [AZ Capitol Times, [2/4/20](#)]
- **The victim had struggled to balance her professional demands, forcing her to interact with Ugenti-Rita, with her personal discomfort.** "In more than three hours of testimony on Nov. 13, the woman describes her fear of Ugenti-Rita, and her struggles to balance her personal discomfort with her professional need to maintain a good relationship with Ugenti-Rita, who she said served as a 'prominent

vote' for her employer's interests and who 'had a reputation of seeking retribution.'" [AZ Capitol Times, [2/4/20](#)]

- **Ugenti-Rita “even followed [the victim] into a bathroom and threatened her in December of 2018, telling her ‘everyone was going to find out what a liar’ the woman was, she said in her deposition.”** “The woman describes being intimidated by Ugenti-Rita and Townsend, and telling her bosses that she did not want to be around either of them. Ugenti-Rita even followed her into a bathroom and threatened her in December of 2018, telling her ‘everyone was going to find out what a liar’ the woman was, she said in her deposition. ‘They are both powerful people in Arizona politics, and I didn’t want them to affect any future career opportunities or harm me in any other potential way,’ the woman said. ‘I was being strategic and I was trying to navigate the situation to the best of my ability in a time before the Me Too Movement and it was okay to come out about these sorts of things.’” [AZ Capitol Times, [2/4/20](#)]
- **The victim had not felt uncomfortable with Ugenti-Rita until she had invited her and her husband, Brian Townsend, out for drinks to establish a lobbying relationship.** “The lobbyist and former Capitol staffer, who is unnamed in court documents, worked with Ugenti-Rita in the House. She said she did not feel uncomfortable around the lawmaker until June 2016, several months after she left the Legislature for a lobbying job. The woman invited Ugenti-Rita and Townsend to drinks with her and her boyfriend, to celebrate Ugenti-Rita’s birthday and improve her relationship with Ugenti-Rita so she could better lobby for her employer, the woman said.” [AZ Capitol Times, [2/4/20](#)]
 - **Ugenti-Rita allegedly showed her victim photos of herself in lingerie, encouraged her to take a shot out of her belly button, before her husband followed up with nude photos of Ugenti-Rita the next day.** “Townsend didn’t join, and the woman’s boyfriend was late. Earlier in the night, before the woman’s boyfriend arrived, Ugenti-Rita swiped through images of herself in lingerie while showing the woman pictures from her phone, something the lobbyist didn’t think much of at the time. Ugenti-Rita also laid on a bar for body shots, having the lobbyist and another woman at the bar drink alcohol out of her belly button, lick salt from her stomach and suck a lime from her mouth, the woman said. Ugenti-Rita confirmed the body shots in her own sworn deposition, but said the woman asked to do them. The next morning, the woman woke up to a text message from Townsend, her former boss at the House of Representatives who is 21 years older than her, with a photo of a naked woman, with no message and the head cropped out of the frame. The lobbyist said there was no question in her mind that the woman in the photograph was Ugenti-Rita.” [AZ Capitol Times, [2/4/20](#)]
 - **Townsend sent photos of himself performing oral sex on Ugenti-Rita, to the victim, and pressured her to declare an interest in a threesome.** “Over the next several weeks, Townsend sent two more photos of himself performing oral sex on a woman, the lobbyist said. One of the messages said something along the lines of ‘she wants to be with you,’ the lobbyist said. The third text, sent while Townsend and Ugenti-Rita were attending a National Conference of State Legislatures meeting in Chicago, included a message telling the woman she should tell Townsend if she wasn’t interested. Scared but not wanting to ruin her relationship with the power couple, the lobbyist responded ‘something along the lines of, ‘Sorry, grandma goes to bed by 10:00, love you both but not like that, hope you’re having fun at NCSL,’’ she told attorneys. Ugenti-Rita confirmed in her own sworn deposition that she was the woman in the photos, and that either she or Townsend took them. But she said she didn’t know Townsend planned to send them, and she didn’t find out the woman had received those photos until after the House’s independent investigator showed them to her. ‘They are just something private between him and I,’ Ugenti-Rita said.” [AZ Capitol Times, [2/4/20](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita was booed off stage at a TPUSA / Trump rally in Phoenix. “She always wanted to run for public office. But when Michelle Ugenti-Rita won a seat in the Arizona Legislature, the job wasn’t what the

former high school student council member expected. The horse trading and deal cutting dismayed her as she waded into her first year as a Republican state representative from Scottsdale. ‘You kind of quickly find out it’s often times not merit-based,’ she said of the way policy is made. That lesson helped steel her resolve to rebuff pressure to go along just to get along. That determination was tested after she was booed off the stage last summer at a Trump rally in Phoenix hosted by Turning Point USA.” [AZ Central, [7/13/22](#)]

- **Ugenti-Rita “thinks some of the booing came from people who were trying to knock her down, knowing her record on election legislation.”** “A candidate for Arizona secretary of state, Ugenti-Rita had barely started to speak about two successful election bills she had sponsored when the boos started. She cut her talk short and walked off the stage, telling the audience she would win the race. ‘I wouldn’t change it for the world,’ she said nearly a year after the event. She’s still perplexed by the audience’s negative reaction, saying she’s since talked to attendees who can’t articulate why they booed. In hindsight, she thinks some of the booing came from people who were trying to knock her down, knowing her record on election legislation. Today, she calls that moment a gift.” [AZ Central, [7/13/22](#)]

June 2023: Ugenti-Rita’s lawsuit against AZ Rep. Don Shooter (R), whom she accused of sexual harassment in 2017 – leading to his expulsion – had been due for trial. “She was at the center of one of the Legislature’s darker chapters, when she accused then-state Rep. Don Shooter in 2017 of sexual harassment. An investigation turned up similar allegations from other women and led to Shooter’s expulsion. A resulting legal fight in which Ugenti-Rita and Shooter exchanged defamation and slander suits led to the disclosure of a female lobbyist’s deposition that Ugenti-Rita had harassed her in 2016, including making sexual overtures. The lawmaker declined to comment on the lobbyist’s deposition, which Shooter had subpoenaed. Her 2018 defamation lawsuit against Shooter is scheduled for trial in June 2023.” [AZ Central, [7/13/22](#)]

September 2023: Ugenti-Rita announced her bid for Maricopa District 2 Supervisor, saying “District 2 is a Republican district and the voters want and deserve a Supervisor who reflects those conservative principles.” “Republican Michelle Ugenti-Rita has announced her bid for a seat on the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors. Ugenti-Rita served in Arizona’s House of Representatives from 2011 to 2019 and in the state Senate from 2019 until this year. She is running in the county’s 2nd District, which covers the northeast portion of Maricopa County, including parts of Scottsdale, Paradise Valley, Mesa and Fountain Hills. Ugenti-Rita hopes to unseat Thomas Galvin, who has represented the district since 2021. Galvin is also a Republican, but Ugenti-Rita says she’ll bring more conservative priorities to the role. ‘District 2 is a Republican district and the voters want and deserve a Supervisor who reflects those conservative principles,’ Ugenti-Rita said in a statement. ‘They are tired of being sold out time and time again when politicians like Galvin who claim to be conservative in order to win their vote, then turn around and support, bloated budgets, tax increases and woke gender politics.’” [KJZZ 91.5, [9/20/23](#)]

- **Ugenti-Rita: “[Voters] are tired of being sold out time and time again when politicians like Galvin who claim to be conservative in order to win their vote, then turn around and support, bloated budgets, tax increases and woke gender politics.”** [KJZZ 91.5, [9/20/23](#)]

2024: Ugenti-Rita, on running for Maricopa Supervisor: “It is time for an experienced leader with a proven conservative record of fiscal management, real tax cuts, reducing government intrusion in our lives and businesses, and successfully championing real election reform that is making a difference.” “It is time for an experienced leader with a proven conservative record of fiscal management, real tax cuts, reducing government intrusion in our lives and businesses, and successfully championing real election reform that is making a difference. As I travel the district meeting with voters, I look forward to exposing my opponent’s RINO record. Originally appointed, my opponent continues to focus on doing the bidding of the members of the swamp who put him there while he ignores the real needs of his voters. I humbly ask that you support my candidacy for the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors by voting for me on August 6, 2024.” [Michelle Ugenti-Rita – Conservative for County Supervisor, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

On The Issues

Development & Taxes

2021: Ugenti-Rita “defied Gov. Doug Ducey's plan to award sports betting licenses to sports teams, calling it a giveaway to deep-pocketed sports owners when the state should have retained more of the revenue for its coffers.” “Last year, she defied Gov. Doug Ducey's plan to award sports betting licenses to sports teams, calling it a giveaway to deep-pocketed sports owners when the state should have retained more of the revenue for its coffers. That prompted a ‘very inappropriate letter’ from Randy Kendrick, wife of Arizona Diamondbacks owner Ken Kendrick, she said.” [AZ Central, [7/13/22](#)]

2024: Ugenti-Rita: “Real conservatives cut spending, rather than reducing a tax rate tied to rapidly increasing valuations.”

2024: Ugenti-Rita argued that Galvin “contributed to the problem by freely spending federal Covid-19 dollars,” and hiding “behind generalities and platitudes about the economy in Arizona that he cannot take any credit for.” “Despite all the evidence to the contrary, @ThomasGalvin still chooses to live in denial and gaslight his constituents about the current economic climate. It’s no wonder he continues to run and hide from voters, it’s not defensible. We are not fooled by his claims. The reality is he has contributed to the problem by freely spending federal Covid-19 dollars. He hides behind generalities and platitudes about the economy in Arizona that he cannot take any credit for. What is his record of *actually* doing anything to combat inflation? He supported a budget that grew 6% and has not opposed a \$23 billion transportation tax increase. Make no mistake, he is transporting his New York philosophies to Arizona. Real conservatives cut spending, rather than reducing a tax rate tied to rapidly increasing valuations. It seems his proudest accomplishments are growing budgets, bureaucracy with more employees, and fatter public pensions funded with our tax dollars. When I’m elected Supervisor for District 2, there will be a seismic philosophical shift to restore fiscal sanity to @MaricopaCounty.” [Twitter, [4/12/24](#)]

2024: Ugenti-Rita claimed Galvin “supported a budget that grew 6% and has not opposed a \$23 billion transportation tax increase. Make no mistake, he is transporting his New York philosophies to Arizona.” [Twitter, [4/12/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita was rated 100% by Americans for Prosperity on the issues of property and taxes. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Taxes, Accessed: [4/17/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita was rated 100% by the National Federation of Independent Businesses. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Taxes, Accessed: [4/17/24](#)]

2017: Ugenti-Rita was rated 45% by Americans for Prosperity on the issues of property and taxes. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Taxes, Accessed: [4/17/24](#)]

Elections

2017: Arizona Capitol Times: “Ugenti-Rita...Has Been in the Vanguard of the Fight against the Voter Protection act for Years.” “Republican Rep. Michelle Ugenti-Rita of Scottsdale has been in the vanguard of the fight against the Voter Protection Act for years. She said it hogties lawmakers, prohibiting them from making significant changes to voter-approved measures, including large chunks of the budget.” [Arizona Capitol Times, 2/3/17]

Ugenti-Rita, on the Voter Protection Act: “It’s been very difficult to manage our state priorities, budget priorities, when a decent amount of our statutes and our budget are voter-protected, or how I like to call it, legislatively restricted.” “But Ugenti-Rita thinks that the Voter Protection Act takes an important safety

valve and expands it into a massive breach. The 1998 amendment was passed in response to what she concedes was legislative overreach in reaction to a medical-marijuana initiative passed by voters, but said the unintended consequences have become a problem—as with initiatives overall. ‘It’s been very difficult to manage our state priorities, budget priorities, when a decent amount of our statutes and our budget are voter-protected, or how I like to call it, legislatively restricted,’ she said. ‘I don’t think that provides for good public policy, and [it] really hurts the voter.’ She said she just wants to bring Arizona’s ballot-initiative process closer more in line with those in most other states, which give legislators a little more leeway.” [The Atlantic: The Legislators Working to Thwart the Will of Voters, [3/27/17](#)]

- **Ugenti-Rita: “I don’t think that provides for good public policy, and [it] really hurts the voter.”** [The Atlantic: The Legislators Working to Thwart the Will of Voters, [3/27/17](#)]

2017: Ugenti-Rita was behind three proposals to limit voting rights in the AZ legislature, including a proposal to block campaigners from paying signature canvassers. “Another bill would require that the initiative language and any related pamphlets state that if passed, a proposition would be subject to the Voter Protection Act and difficult to overturn. The governor could sign this into law. Other proposals would make it harder to get initiatives onto the ballot. One would change the formula for the number of signatures required for placement. Current law sets a minimum based on the total voter population, but the bill would set minimums in each legislative district. This would require voter approval, but another, which would prevent campaigners from paying workers to gather signatures, could become law with the governor’s signature. Representative Michelle Ugenti-Rita, a Scottsdale Republican, is behind the first three proposals. She told me that while Proposition 206, the minimum-wage increase, is the hot issue at the moment, she has been trying to reform the process for years. ‘This is not taking away the initiative process,’ she said. ‘Half the states don’t have this process. They don’t even give this as an option. We are different in that regard, and we’re proud of that. That’s been something that’s been important to us.’” [The Atlantic: The Legislators Working to Thwart the Will of Voters, [3/27/17](#)]

2020: Ugenti-Rita affirmed Biden’s victory nine-days after the election had concluded. “This year, Ugenti-Rita drew bipartisan support for a bill that lowered the threshold for triggering an automatic recount. It was a reaction to President Joe Biden's narrow win in Arizona. If Senate Bill 1008 was in effect in 2020, the state would have had a recount. Ugenti-Rita acknowledged Biden's victory nine days after it was declared, she said. But the fixation on which candidates back Donald Trump's claims of a stolen election is mostly a media preoccupation, she added. ‘It’s not relevant to my campaign,’ she said, adding voters don't ask about the ‘Stop the Steal’ movement.” [AZ Central, [7/13/22](#)]

Arizona Capitol Times: “Ugenti-Rita has for years led her caucus on election policy, pushing bills that earned the ire of voting rights advocates...” “The showdown illustrated a point of contention among Republicans this year. Ugenti-Rita has for years led her caucus on election policy, pushing bills that earned the ire of voting rights advocates but that still pale in comparison to legislation introduced this year by others. Ugenti-Rita and her House counterpart, Rep. John Kavanagh, R-Fountain Hills, have reintroduced legislation from past years to remove some voters from the Permanent Early Voting List, add warning clauses to voter initiatives and limit future initiatives to a single subject.” [Arizona Capitol Times, 2/19/21]

2021: AZ Republicans approved a legislative measure to require voter ID with mail-in ballots – a policy Democrats accused of being racist. “Republicans in the Arizona Senate voted Monday to require voters to include identification paperwork with their mailed ballots, insisting their motives aren't racist as Democrats contended the measure would have an outsized impact on voters of color. The measure is one of the most controversial of dozens of election bills introduced this year in Arizona. It comes as Republican-controlled legislatures around the country add new voting requirements after President Donald Trump lost his re-election bid in November and his supporters tried to cast doubt on the outcome. The measure approved Monday would impose a new step in the process for mail voting, which now accounts for 80 percent of the ballots cast in Arizona. Voters would have to include an affidavit with their birthdate and the number from their driver’s license, state ID or tribal identification card.” [AZ Central, [3/9/21](#)]

- **Ugenti-Rita: “I don’t read in this bill that something’s going to be taken away from a voter...simply going to have to identify themselves in a different method.”** [AZ Central, [3/9/21](#)]

One of 15 Republican Senators who voted to hold Maricopa County Supervisors in contempt for refusing to hand over county’s 2.1 million ballots. “Unlike Finchem, Sen. Michelle Ugenti-Rita doesn't run around spouting conspiracy theories. But she was one of 15 Republican senators who voted to hold the Maricopa County supervisors in contempt for refusing to hand over the county's 2.1 million ballots, voter files and election machinery for the Senate audit. Had the resolution passed, the supervisors could have been arrested.” [Arizona Republic, 6/2/21]

- **Pushed a variety of bills aimed at suppressing the vote.** “She also has used Republican doubts about the election to push a variety of bills that appear aimed at suppressing the vote. She reasons that it's all about making elections more secure - never mind that top elections officials with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency have called the November election ‘the most secure in American history.’” [Arizona Republic, 6/2/21]
- **One bill would have purged more than 100,000 people from state’s early voting rolls.** “One of Ugenti-Rita's bills would bar county elections officials from going out into the community to register people to vote. That one never made it out of the Senate. Another will purge easily more than 100,000 people from the state's early voting rolls. The bill, which was signed into law earlier this month, will bar people from automatically getting early ballots if they haven't voted early in the last two election cycles, though they could submit a request in writing to remain on the list.” [Arizona Republic, 6/2/21]

2021: Ugenti-Rita: “I’ve been on the frontlines of the battle for election integrity for the last 10 years. I wrote the law banning ballot harvesting, cleaned-up our mail-in voter rolls, strengthened ID requirements just to name a few of my accomplishments.” “I’ve been on the frontlines of the battle for election integrity for the last 10 years. I wrote the law banning ballot harvesting, cleaned-up our mail-in voter rolls, strengthened ID requirements just to name a few of my accomplishments, (1of5)” [Twitter, [7/24/21](#)]

- **Ugenti-Rita:” I’ll put my record of fighting for election integrity up against anyone. What I won’t do is vote for ‘show’ legislation that does nothing to strengthen election integrity.”** “something every candidate on that stage praised. I’ll put my record of fighting for election integrity up against anyone. What I won’t do is vote for ‘show’ legislation that does nothing to strengthen election integrity and introduced for self-serving reasons. (2of5)” [Twitter, [7/24/21](#)]
- **Ugenti-Rita: “Our election system is under constant assault by the left, and I won’t support bills that fail to strengthen our election system.”** “There’s too much at stake. Our election system is under constant assault by the left, and I won’t support bills that fail to strengthen our election system. The same holds true for the audit. I supported the audit, but I do not support the Trump audit any longer. (3of5)” [Twitter, [7/24/21](#)]
- **Ugenti-Rita: “I supported the audit, but I do not support the Trump audit any longer.”** “There’s too much at stake. Our election system is under constant assault by the left, and I won’t support bills that fail to strengthen our election system. The same holds true for the audit. I supported the audit, but I do not support the Trump audit any longer. (3of5)” [Twitter, [7/24/21](#)]
- **Ugenti-Rita: “I wanted to review our election processes and see what, if anything, could be improved. Sadly, it’s now become clear that the audit has been botched.”** “I wanted to review our election processes and see what, if anything, could be improved. Sadly, it’s now become clear that the audit has been botched. The total lack of competence by @FannKfann over

the last 5 months has deprived the voters of Arizona a comprehensive...(4of5)” [Twitter, [7/24/21](#)]

- **Ugenti-Rita: “The total lack of competence by @FannKfann over the last 5 months has deprived the voters of Arizona a comprehensive...accounting of the 2020 election.”** “I wanted to review our election processes and see what, if anything, could be improved. Sadly, it’s now become clear that the audit has been botched. The total lack of competence by @FannKfann over the last 5 months has deprived the voters of Arizona a comprehensive...(4of5)...accounting of the 2020 election. That’s inexcusable, but it shows what can happen when Republicans do not take election integrity deadly serious. (5of5)” [Twitter, [7/24/21](#)]
 - **Ugenti-Rita: “That’s inexcusable, but it shows what can happen when Republicans do not take election integrity deadly serious.”** [Twitter, [7/24/21](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita came out in opposition to the Trump Arizona election audit after being booed off-stage at a TPUSA / Trump “Rally to Protect Our Elections.” “After being booed off the stage at a weekend rally headlined by former President Donald Trump, Republican state senator and secretary of state hopeful Michelle Ugenti-Rita publicly lashed out at the Senate’s ‘botched’ election review and defended her record on election integrity over criticism for voting against a fellow GOP senator’s election legislation. Ugenti-Rita, a Scottsdale Republican who’s long been one the legislature’s most prominent Arizona advocates for ‘election integrity’ legislation, was among the roster of candidates and political figures with speaking slots at the ‘Rally to Protect Our Elections,’ an event hosted by Turning Point Action, an arm of the conservative organization Turning Point USA. Boos filled the auditorium at Arizona Federal Theatre as soon as Ugenti-Rita began her remarks, rising in volume and intensity as she struggled to finish her speech.” [AZ Mirror, [7/26/21](#)]

- **AZ Mirror: “The hostile reception was the result of Ugenti-Rita’s ongoing feud with fellow Republican Sen. Kelly Townsend.”** “The hostile reception was the result of Ugenti-Rita’s ongoing feud with fellow Republican Sen. Kelly Townsend. As chair of the Senate Government Committee, Ugenti-Rita refused to give hearings to several of Townsend’s election-related bills. Townsend, R-Mesa, lashed out at Ugenti-Rita on social media and later voted against her bill to renovate inactive voters from the state’s Permanent Early Voting List, saying the Senate should wait until it sees the results of Fann’s election review before moving forward on such legislation. Townsend later voted for the bill and Gov. Doug Ducey signed it into law.” [AZ Mirror, [7/26/21](#)]
 - **AZ Mirror: “As chair of the Senate Government Committee, Ugenti-Rita refused to give hearings to several of Townsend’s election-related bills.”** [AZ Mirror, [7/26/21](#)]
- **Ugenti-Rita “was one of two Republican senators to vote against Townsend’s bill that would have made a number of changes to Arizona’s election system.”** “Later in the legislative session, Ugenti-Rita returned the favor when she was one of two Republican senators to vote against Townsend’s bill that would have made a number of changes to Arizona’s election system. A newly added provision would have required election officials to inform the attorney general when it found signatures on early ballot envelopes that didn’t match the voter’s signature on file. The bill would have also increased requirements for chain-of-custody documentation for election equipment and imposed new requirements for people who register to vote in Arizona to cancel previous voter registrations in other states, among other changes. Ugenti-Rita said the bill hadn’t been properly vetted in her committee before going to the Senate floor.” [AZ Mirror, [7/26/21](#)]
 - **Ugenti-Rita “said the bill hadn’t been properly vetted in her committee before going to the Senate floor.”** [AZ Mirror, [7/26/21](#)]

- **Townsend “retaliated by voting against a Ugenti-Rita bill that would have expanded the narrow circumstances in which election officials must recount a race, which kept the bill from passing out of the Senate.”** “Townsend retaliated by voting against a Ugenti-Rita bill that would have expanded the narrow circumstances in which election officials must recount a race, which kept the bill from passing out of the Senate. Trump’s defeat by 10,457 votes, for example, did not qualify for a recount under current state law, but would have under Ugenti-Rita’s proposed threshold. Republicans hold a 16-14 majority in the Senate, and any Republican defection on a party-line vote is enough to kill a piece of legislation.” [AZ Mirror, [7/26/21](#)]
- **AZ Mirror: “Trump’s defeat by 10,457 votes, for example, did not qualify for a recount under current state law, but would have under Ugenti-Rita’s proposed threshold.”** [AZ Mirror, [7/26/21](#)]
- **Conservative activists, such as the media outlet Gateway Pundit, lashed out at Ugenti-Rita for her decision not to support Townsend’s bill.** “Conservative activists have waged an online campaign against Ugenti-Rita over her opposition to Townsend’s bills. The conservative media outlet Gateway Pundit, for example, chastised her in June for voting against Townsend’s bill, writing, ‘She doesn’t support these critical election security measures but she wants to run Arizona’s elections?’ Gateway Pundit correspondent Jordan Conradson confronted Ugenti-Rita backstage after her speech, following and haranguing her about voting against the Townsend bill. Ugenti-Rita asked security to remove him for harassment. Conradson behaved similarly in following and haranguing Democratic Secretary of State Katie Hobbs in May.” [AZ Mirror, [7/26/21](#)]

Ugenti-Rita “noted that she sponsored a 2016 law, which was recently upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court, that banned third-party collection of early ballots, a practice that Republican critics refer to as ballot harvesting.” “Ugenti-Rita touted her record on election integrity matters as well. She noted that she sponsored a 2016 law, which was recently upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court, that banned third-party collection of early ballots, a practice that Republican critics refer to as ballot harvesting. She pointed to her legislation this year on the early voting list and bills to strengthen voter identification laws.” [AZ Mirror, [7/26/21](#)]

2021: Arizona Republic: “Running for Secretary of State after sponsoring some of the most high-profile changes to state election laws while serving in the Legislature.” “State Sen. Michelle Ugenti-Rita, R-Scottsdale, is running for secretary of state after sponsoring some of the most high-profile changes to state election laws while serving in the Legislature. Ugenti-Rita sponsored a controversial bill that would require county recorders to remove voters who haven't participated in early voting for two election cycles from the permanent early voting list. The bill was signed by Gov. Doug Ducey. Ugenti-Rita claims the new law will create a more accurate voter roll, but critics call it voter suppression. She also was the primary backer of a bill that outlawed ballot harvesting in the state, a law that was challenged in court and upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in July. Ugenti-Rita was elected to the state Senate in 2018. Prior to that, she served in the House of Representatives from 2011-2019...” [Arizona Republic, 11/12/21]

- **Said she would restore public confidence.** “Ugenti-Rita's campaign website states that she would attempt to restore public confidence in elections by holding county election officials accountable and hiring expert professionals to ‘field check and review electronic voting systems and issue recommendations of needed statutory and procedural changes.’ Ugenti-Rita openly criticized the Maricopa County audit. In a Twitter thread earlier this year, she stated, ‘I supported the audit, but I do not support the Trump audit any longer,’ adding that the audit had been ‘botched,’ saying Republicans did not take election integrity seriously.” [Arizona Republic, 11/12/21]

Ugenti-Rita “voted against a bill that would have required video cameras on ballot drop boxes because, she said, drop boxes should be banned, not monitored.” “A legislative veteran with 12 years of experience, Ugenti-Rita established a reputation as a sharp-tongued maverick within the Legislature's GOP caucus, ready to

charge into debates and stake out contrary positions, even on issues Republican leadership was pushing. She called teachers ‘educational terrorists’ when arguing against raising the spending cap on K-12 spending; she voted against a bill that would have required video cameras on ballot drop boxes because, she said, drop boxes should be banned, not monitored.” [AZ Central, [7/13/22](#)]

In the aftermath of the 2020 election, Ugenti-Rita “authored the two election-focused bills that actually became law.” “Last year, in the charged aftermath of the 2020 presidential election, she authored the two election-focused bills that actually became law. One created an election-night deadline for voters to verify their signatures on mail-in ballots if elections officials have a question. The second bill eliminated the Permanent Early Voting List, in which voters are mailed a ballot every election. Instead, her legislation converted the list to one for active voters only, purging voters who don't vote at least once in four years.” [AZ Central, [7/13/22](#)]

- **AZ Central: “One created an election-night deadline for voters to verify their signatures on mail-in ballots if elections officials have a question.”** [AZ Central, [7/13/22](#)]
- **AZ Central: “The second bill eliminated the Permanent Early Voting List, in which voters are mailed a ballot every election. Instead, her legislation converted the list to one for active voters only, purging voters who don't vote at least once in four years.”** [AZ Central, [7/13/22](#)]

2022: Ugenti-Rita “drew bipartisan support for a bill that lowered the threshold for triggering an automatic recount. It was a reaction to President Joe Biden's narrow win in Arizona.” “This year, Ugenti-Rita drew bipartisan support for a bill that lowered the threshold for triggering an automatic recount. It was a reaction to President Joe Biden's narrow win in Arizona. If Senate Bill 1008 was in effect in 2020, the state would have had a recount. Ugenti-Rita acknowledged Biden's victory nine days after it was declared, she said. But the fixation on which candidates back Donald Trump's claims of a stolen election is mostly a media preoccupation, she added. ‘It’s not relevant to my campaign,’ she said, adding voters don't ask about the ‘Stop the Steal’ movement.” [AZ Central, [7/13/22](#)]

- **Ugenti-Rita called “Stop the Steal” concerns mostly a media preoccupation, and claimed they weren’t “relevant” to her secretary of state campaign.** Ugenti-Rita acknowledged Biden's victory nine days after it was declared, she said. But the fixation on which candidates back Donald Trump's claims of a stolen election is mostly a media preoccupation, she added. ‘It’s not relevant to my campaign,’ she said, adding voters don't ask about the ‘Stop the Steal’ movement.” [AZ Central, [7/13/22](#)]

2022: Ugenti-Rita criticized AZ’s 2020 election audit as “botched,” and for costing the taxpayers too much money. “While she supported the creation of the state Senate's ballot review, or audit, of Maricopa County's 2020 election, she criticized its execution as ‘botched.’ She also criticized the audit's rising price tag. It has climbed to over \$1 million, despite assurances it would only cost \$150,000 from the Senate's budget.” [AZ Central, [7/13/22](#)]

Ugenti-Rita’s “record shows she understands the deliberative and cautious process that creates legislation that can get signed into law and withstand court challenges. Voting, she said, is simple. But elections are complicated.” “On the campaign trail, she plays up her successful record on election laws. She disdains what she calls ‘election bills in name only’ that get introduced mostly to make a splash, but don't advance. Her record shows she understands the deliberative and cautious process that creates legislation that can get signed into law and withstand court challenges. Voting, she said, is simple. But elections are complicated. ‘Because I've dealt with this issue for so long, I'm acutely aware of how complex it is,’ she said, adding that's why she should be the next secretary of state.” [AZ Central, [7/13/22](#)]

2022: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2492 – a bill requiring proof of citizenship for voters voting in a presidential election. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2022: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1008 – a bill, for which she was the primary sponsor, requiring an automatic recount of ballots in any jurisdiction where the election was won by 0.5% or less. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita was rated 5% by the Sierra Club, Grand Canyon Chapter, for her positions on elections and voting rights. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2905 – a bill to limit the distribution of early mail-in ballots to a window of 27 – 31 days before a primary or general election. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1835 – a bill to establish fines for individuals impersonating election officials. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1819 – a bill to require new security features, such as holograms or certifications detected by UV light, on ballots. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2794 – a bill to prohibit election officials from changing election-related deadlines. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on AZ HB 2359 – a bill to require all non-election-related electronic devices to be secured at a location before a voter entered the voting booth. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on AZ HB 2569 – a bill to prohibit election administrators from receiving any private funds for conduction elections. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HCR 2023 – a resolution to prohibit the federal government from intervening in the state’s election administration. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SCR 1034 – a resolution to limit the state’s Voter Protection Act. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1713 – a bill, which she cosponsored, to repeal the state’s early ballot laws. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1003 – a bill to establish guidelines for time voters had to fix their signature on ballots, to be no later than 7PM on election day. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1106 – a bill to establish out-of-state voters knowingly voting in a presidential election in Arizona as a Class 6 felony. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1793 – a bill to purge deceased voters from county voter registration databases, and to require counties to use new databases. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1485 – a bill, for which she was the primary sponsor, to remove voters who had not voted in one of four past state or county elections from the early voter rolls. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1069 – a bill, for which she was the primary sponsor, to remove voters who had not voted in two preceding primary or general elections from early voting rolls. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1002 – a bill, for which she was the primary sponsor, to prohibit the political party affiliation of voters submitting absentee ballots, from appearing on the returned ballot. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2020: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1434 – a bill to establish regulations for recall elections. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2019: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1072 – a bill to require identification for early voting. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2018: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2153 – a bill to prohibit localities from requiring campaign donation disclosures from non-profit organizations. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2016: Ugenti-Rita voted “Nay” on passage of AZ SB 1516 – a bill amending campaign finance laws to consolidate types of political committees and expanding contribution and distribution limits. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2016: Ugenti-Rita voted “Nay” on passage of AZ HB 2567 – a bill to repeal the state presidential primary process. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2015: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2608 – a bill to amend the signature requirements for political candidates, such that the number of signatures required was reduced. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2013: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2282 – a bill to require a primary during a recall election. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2013: Ugenti-Rita voted “Nay” on passage of AZ HB 2593 – a bill authorizing an increase in campaign contribution limits for individuals and political committees. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Elections, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Education

AZ Legislature: “As the mother of three children, Representative Ugenti-Rita has been a strong supporter of improving education to ensure every child in Arizona gets the best education possible.” [Arizona State Legislature – Michelle Ugenti-Rita, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

- **AZ Legislature: “Furthermore, she has been a leading proponent of policies that help Arizona remain a great place to live and raise a family.”** [Arizona State Legislature – Michelle Ugenti-Rita, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Ugenti-Rita once called teachers “educational terrorists” when arguing against raising AZ’s K-12 spending cap. “A legislative veteran with 12 years of experience, Ugenti-Rita established a reputation as a sharp-tongued maverick within the Legislature's GOP caucus, ready to charge into debates and stake out contrary positions, even on issues Republican leadership was pushing. She called teachers ‘educational terrorists’ when arguing against raising the spending cap on K-12 spending; she voted against a bill that would have required video cameras on ballot drop boxes because, she said, drop boxes should be banned, not monitored.” [AZ Central, [7/13/22](#)]

2023: Ugenti-Rita “accused Galvin of allowing libraries to promote books about sex and gender to kids that are not age-appropriate.” “Maricopa County Supervisor Thomas Galvin defended himself on Friday against accusations that he’s helping libraries stock their shelves with inappropriate books for children. The Republican official who is raising a young child said parents should be the ones who decide what their children have access to, not the government. ‘It comes down to parental responsibility. That’s what conservative Republicans believe in. We make sure that our son, whether it’s a library book, whether it’s a TV show, whether it’s something on the internet, whether it’s screen time, it’s up to the parents to be responsible on the material that our son accesses,’ Galvin said. Galvin, who was appointed to the five-member county board in 2021 and elected the following year, has not officially announced his campaign for his first four-year term. But former Republican state lawmaker Michell Ugenti-Rita announced her bid last week to challenge Galvin in next year’s primary. Last week, she accused Galvin of allowing libraries to promote books about sex and gender to kids that are not age-appropriate.” [AZ Family, [9/29/23](#)]

2022: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2439 – a bill to expand parental oversight over public school curricula. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Education, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2022: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1211 – a bill to require increased transparency from public schools on their curricula. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Education, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2906 – a bill to prohibit the teaching of “critical race theory.” [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Education, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita was rated 100% by Americans for Prosperity on the issue of education. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Education, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita was rated 21% by the Arizona Education Association. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Education, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2020: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1059 – a bill to establish a public referendum on authorizing \$900 million in K-12 education funding per year. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Education, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2018: Ugenti-Rita was rated 0% by the Arizona Education Association. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Education, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2017: Ugenti-Rita voted “Nay” on passage of AZ SB 1384 – a bill to prohibit censorship of student media. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Education, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2011: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1617 – a bill to reduce appropriations for state universities and community colleges. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Education, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Second Amendment

2023: Ugenti-Rita was rated 100% by the conservative “Arizona Citizens Defense League” for her position on the Second Amendment. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Guns, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2022: Ugenti-Rita was rated 2% by the gun-reform organization LEAP Forward. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Guns, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1382 – a bill to classify firearms retailers as “essential businesses.” [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Guns, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2020: Ugenti-Rita was rated 92% by the NRA. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Guns, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2019: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2693 – a bill to repeal the requirement that firearms be unloaded on school grounds. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Guns, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2017: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1122 – a bill to authorize the sale of firearms without a background check. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Guns, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2016: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1257 – a bill to authorize the concealed carry of firearms in public places. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Guns, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2016: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2524 – a bill to authorize compacts between Arizona and other states on the transfer of firearms. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Guns, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2016: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2338 – a bill to authorize concealed carry near schools. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Guns, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2015: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2320 – a bill to authorize individuals to carry concealed weapons in public buildings. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Guns, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2014: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2339 – a bill to authorize individuals with state firearms permits to carry weapons in public buildings. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Guns, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2014: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2517 – a bill, which she cosponsored, to establish penalties for violations of existing state firearms laws. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Guns, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2013: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2326 – a bill to prohibit the identifying information of gun owners or those participating in firearms transactions from being retained in state records. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Guns, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2012: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2729 – a bill to authorize carrying firearms in certain public buildings. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Criminal Justice, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Abortion

2022: Ugenti-Rita was rated 100% by the conservative “Center for Arizona Policy” on her abortion position. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Abortion, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2022: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1164 – a 15-week abortion ban. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Abortion, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1547 – a classification of aborting a fetus with a genetic abnormality as a Class 3 felony. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Abortion, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1022 – which changed the definition of a fetus to mean an “unborn child” in state code. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Abortion, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2016: Ugenti-Rita was rated 25% by Planned Parenthood Advocates of Arizona. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Abortion, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2016: Ugenti-Rita was rated 0% by NARAL/Arizona Right to Choose. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Abortion, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2015: Ugenti-Rita was rated 0% by Planned Parenthood Advocates of Arizona. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Abortion, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2015: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ SB 1318 – a bill to limit health insurance coverage for abortions. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Abortion, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2014: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2284 – a bill to authorize unannounced inspections of facilities which provided abortions. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Abortion, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2012: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2036 – a bill to prohibit abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Abortion, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

2012: Ugenti-Rita voted “Yea” on passage of AZ HB 2800 – a bill to prohibit state funding for providers of abortion. [Michelle Ugenti-Rita's Political Summary on Issue: Abortion, Accessed: [4/16/24](#)]

Trump

Ugenti-Rita: “From Reagan to Trump: #MakeAmericaGreatAgain a winning message! @amhistorymuseum @realDonaldTrump” [Twitter, [1/1/19](#)]

2020: Ugenti-Rita: “It’s hard to understand the calls for an all-mail-in election when the solution is simple...reach out to voters & encourage them to sign up for PEVL. Glad to see Trump defending the integrity of our elections. AZ is with you!” “It’s hard to understand the calls for an all-mail-in election when the solution is simple...reach out to voters & encourage them to sign up for PEVL. Glad to see Trump defending

the integrity of our elections. AZ is with you!@realDonaldTrump <https://politi.co/2JEpxMg> via @politico” [Twitter, [4/3/20](#)]

Ugenti-Rita: “President Trump, ‘America wants to be open....we must have a working economy.’ Amen!!” [Twitter, [4/17/20](#)]

2021: Ugenti-Rita was a featured speaker at Trump / TPUSA’s “Rally to Protect Our Elections.” “After being booed off the stage at a weekend rally headlined by former President Donald Trump, Republican state senator and secretary of state hopeful Michelle Ugenti-Rita publicly lashed out at the Senate’s ‘botched’ election review and defended her record on election integrity over criticism for voting against a fellow GOP senator’s election legislation. Ugenti-Rita, a Scottsdale Republican who’s long been one the legislature’s most prominent Arizona advocates for ‘election integrity’ legislation, was among the roster of candidates and political figures with speaking slots at the ‘Rally to Protect Our Elections,’ an event hosted by Turning Point Action, an arm of the conservative organization Turning Point USA. Boos filled the auditorium at Arizona Federal Theatre as soon as Ugenti-Rita began her remarks, rising in volume and intensity as she struggled to finish her speech.” [AZ Mirror, [7/26/21](#)]

2021: AZ Central qualified Ugenti-Rita’s fallout with the MAGA crowd as stunning, given her record on anti-voting legislation. “Most stunningly, though, was Ugenti-Rita’s fallout with Trump’s crowd. The Republican state senator and queen of anti-voting laws not only failed to capture the mood but was booted out unceremoniously. She seemed stunned herself, judging by her defense on Twitter touting all the voting legislation she has successfully pushed through in her quest to become Arizona’s secretary of state. ‘I’ve been on the frontlines of the battle for election integrity for the last 10 years,’ she lamented on Twitter after her disastrous appearance before the Trump’s crowd.” [AZ Central, [7/26/21](#)]

- **AZ Central: “Ugenti-Rita fallout appears to be directly tied to her apparent change of heart about the ballot review that has turned into a national embarrassment but which the Trump faithful still believe will somehow prove the election was rigged against him.”** “By election integrity, she of course means, the anti-voting bills like purging the early-voting list, banning the so-called practice of ‘harvesting ballots’ and initially supporting the Republican-led election audit. Ugenti-Rita fallout appears to be directly tied to her apparent change of heart about the ballot review that has turned into a national embarrassment but which the Trump faithful still believe will somehow prove the election was rigged against him.” [AZ Central, [7/26/21](#)]

2023: Ugenti-Rita argued a journalist’s “foaming hatred for Trump has made him lose all objectivity and cost @azcentral it’s [sic] credibility. There’s NO link between Trump and how wasteful light rail is.” “@boas_phil foaming hatred for Trump has made him lose all objectivity and cost @azcentral it’s credibility. There’s NO link between Trump and how wasteful light rail is. This article is just another weak attempt to deflect from the reality that light rail is a colossal failure.” [Twitter, [5/28/23](#)]