

STEVE CARTER / ALAMANCE COUNTY COMMISSION AT LARGE INCUMBENT (R)

<u>POTENTIAL HITS FROM THE LEFT</u>	<u>POTENTIAL HITS FROM THE RIGHT</u>
• <u>WORKED TO SUPPRESS VOTERS IN 2016</u> • <u>FAR-RIGHT CONSERVATIVE</u>	• <u>VOTED TO RAISE PROPERTY TAXES REPEATEDLY</u> • <u>VOTED TO FUND SCHOOLS REPEATEDLY AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHER BUDGET ITEMS</u>

Key Findings Include:

Prominent Conservative Figure and Potentially anti-Democratic Actor: Carter is a prominent conservative figure in Alamance County, founding a local tea party group in 2010 and helping the McCrory campaign with voter suppression tactics in 2016.

Potentially divisive votes on recent issues: Carter has voted to raise property taxes several times, and also voted against the county manager’s recommendations in a budget move that pulled funding from savings without replacing it

Social media posts: Carter’s posts on social media, particularly his personal Facebook, lean towards far-right issues, bigotry and racism

Alamance County, part of the Burlington metro area and within the greater Greensboro–Winston-Salem–High Point region, covers about 434 sq mi and had approximately 174,286 residents in 2023, up from around 171 k in 2020. The population is roughly 60% non-Hispanic White, 19.6% Black, and 14.8% Hispanic or Latino [[Wikipedia](#), 7/29/2025]. In 2023, the county’s median household income was about \$64,445, with a poverty rate around 14%, and homeownership near 65.6% [[Data USA](#), 7/29/2025].

In the 2024 presidential election, Alamance County favored Donald Trump (R) with 53.36% to Kamala Harris (D) with 45.22%, similar to Biden’s result in 2020 but overperforming Clinton in 2016 [[NCSBE](#), 7/29/2025]. However, in the 2024 gubernatorial race, Democrat Josh Stein carried the county as part of his statewide win, reflecting competitive ticket-splitting: Stein flipped Alamance County Democratic, the first time since 2004 [[Wikipedia](#), 7/29/2025]. Despite these results, Republicans swept the County Commission elections in 2022 and 2024 and all five County Commissioners are Republicans.

BACKGROUND

Personal Life

Carter is married to Judy Carter, with 2 children and 6 grandchildren. [[Steven Carter](#), accessed 7/1/2026]

PROFESSIONAL, CIVIC, & PUBLIC SECTOR BACKGROUND

Carter is a retired commercial banker with over 35 years of experience in commercial and construction lending and commercial real estate development. [Times-News, 5/12/2022][[Steven Carter](#), accessed 7/1/2026]

Carter has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Government from East Carolina University. [[Steve Carter LinkedIn](#), accessed 7/1/2026]

INTEGRITY & ACCOUNTABILITY
No findings of note

CAMPAIGN BACKGROUND

Steve Carter was first elected to the Alamance County Board of Commissioners in 2018 and elected in 2022. [[NCSBE](#), 7/29/2025]

IDEOLOGY & POLITICS

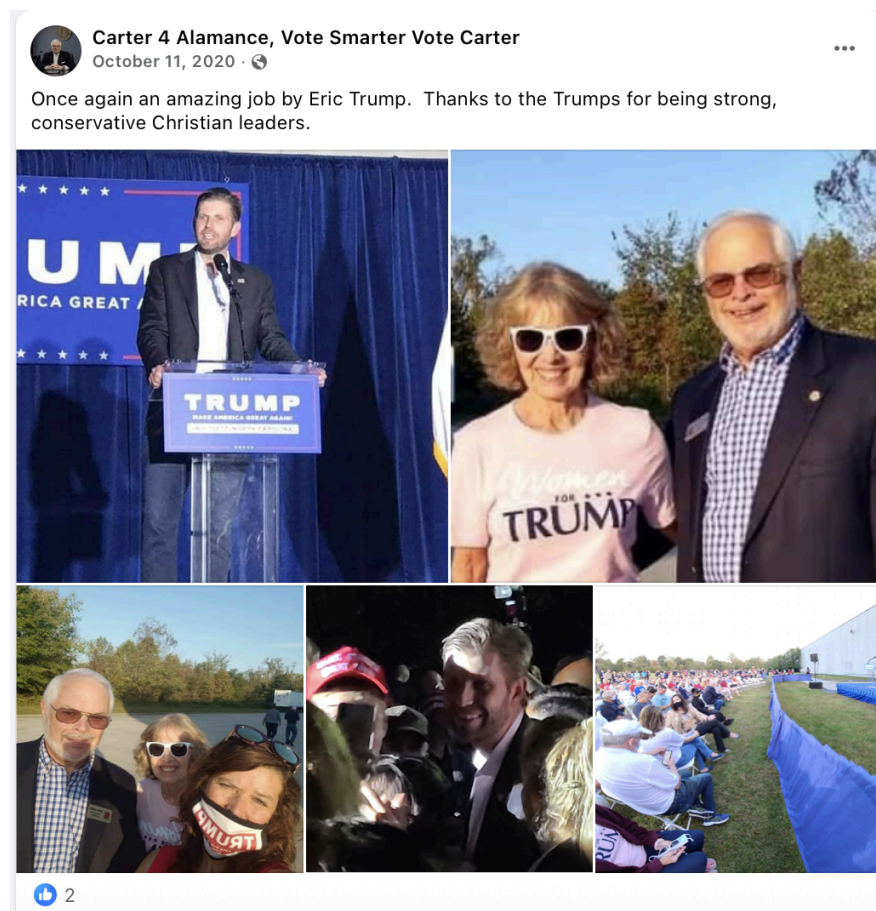
Carter describes himself as a lifelong Republican, Christian Conservative, Hunter, NRA member and Ordained Deacon. [[Steven Carter](#), accessed 7/1/2026]

AFFILIATION WITH POLITICAL FIGURES/ORGANIZATIONS:

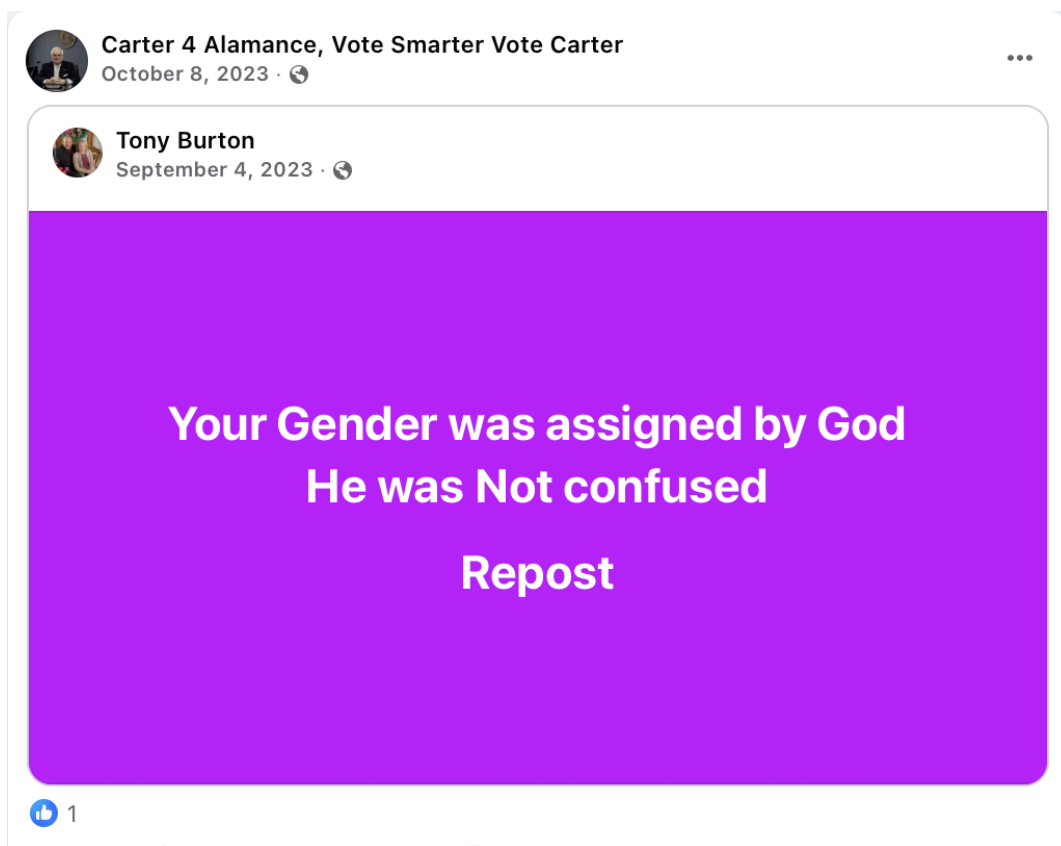
Carter founded a local Tea Party group (“Alamance Conservative”) and has served as finance chair of the county GOP. [[Elon News Network](#), 7/29/2025]

PARTISAN POSTS

Carter posted in support of the Trump family on his campaign Facebook. [[Facebook](#), 10/11/2020]



Carter posted about gender identity on his campaign Facebook. [[Facebook](#), 10/8/2023]



Carter posted about illegal aliens on his personal Facebook. [[Steve Carter Facebook](#), 2/6/2024]



Carter posted about election fraud on his personal Facebook. [[Steve Carter Facebook](#), 2/10/2024]



CAMPAIGN INFRASTRUCTURE
No findings of note

ENDORSEMENTS

Carter is endorsed by several current and former county and state elected officials. [[Steve Carter](#), accessed 7/1/2026]

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Carter does not have any campaign finance reports on file with NCSBE. [[NCSBE](#), accessed 7/2/2026]

Carter has \$6,352.32 cash on hand, received \$18,186.16 in contributions and had \$12,609.88 in expenses. The entirety of the contributions came from local business owners and residents. There were no immediate vulnerabilities assessed in these contributions. [[Alamance BOE](#), 7/10/2026]

PERSONAL POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Carter does not have any FEC contributions. [[FEC](#), accessed 7/2/2026]

Allen does not have any Alamance County contributions. [[Alamance County](#), accessed 7/2/2026]

Carter has made \$20,850.62 in NCSBE contributions mostly to his own campaign. There are no immediate vulnerabilities assessed in these contributions. [[NCSBE](#), accessed 7/15/2026]

TABLE: Carter NC Contributions

Contributor	Employer	Recipient	Date	Amount	Type of Payment
STEVE CARTER	SELF	PARKER FOR NC HOUSE 63	03/18/2010	50	Monetary
STEVE CARTER	BANKER	CATAWBA REC	06/09/2018	10	Monetary
STEVE CARTER	BBT	ALAMANCE REC	01/30/2020	100	Monetary
STEVE CARTER	BBT	ALAMANCE REC	01/30/2020	100	Monetary
STEVE CARTER	BBT	ALAMANCE REC	10/18/2020	15	Monetary
STEVE CARTER	RETIRED	ALAMANCE RW	09/01/2021	60	Monetary
STEVE CARTER	ALAMANCE COUNTY	FRIENDS OF CRAIG TURNER	01/25/2023	500	Monetary
STEVE CARTER	UNEMPLOYED	9TH CONG DIST REC	04/24/2026	15.62	Monetary
STEVE CARTER	NOT EMPLOYED	CARTER 4 ALAMANCE	08/30/2021	5000	Monetary
STEVE CARTER	NOT EMPLOYED	CARTER 4 ALAMANCE	08/30/2021	5000	Monetary

STEVE CARTER	NOT EMPLOYED	CARTER 4 ALAMANCE	08/30/2021	5000	Monetary
STEVE CARTER	NOT EMPLOYED	CARTER 4 ALAMANCE	08/30/2021	5000	Monetary

Carter does not have any Alamance County contributions. [[Alamance County](#), accessed 7/2/2026]

ISSUES

Taxes / Controversial Budget Cuts

Carter voted to approve a package of \$600,000 in county incentives for Lotus Bakeries in 2021.

This package was in addition to the millions in incentives and grants the company already received from the local, county and state government as well as other entities. The package ultimately failed on a tie vote, and Lotus Bakeries did move forward with other funding for the project. [Times-News, 4/21/2021]

Carter voted to approve a 3.66-cent increase to the property tax rate for FY 2024-2025. The budget also diverted \$7.35 million from the county's fund balance, while still not increasing the local school district's budget to account for operational expenses. [The News of Orange County, 6/28/2024]

Carter introduced the budget change and voted to approve a 2.5-cent increase to the property tax rate for FY 2025-2026. The controversial budget also provided roughly \$11 million from the county's fund balance for the local school district, which still left the school district approximately \$4.4 million short of the requested budget increase. [The News of Orange County, 6/19/2025]

Carter voted to approve a controversial budget for FY 2026-2027 that does not increase property taxes but pulls more money from the county reserve fund, without providing any new source of revenue to replace the money being removed each year. The commissioners are hoping the property revaluation currently underway will increase property taxes indirectly instead: "Right now, our tax office is telling us that we're seeing increases in commercial property values of 200 to 300 percent," he said. "If we get where we think we'll be next year, we should see a considerable increase in our fund balance." The budget also included many spending reductions such as eliminating 50 vacant positions in the county and reducing the library system's operating hours. [Times-News, 6/16/2026][[Alamance News](#), 6/15/2026]

Carter publicly spoke out against the proposed property tax cap the NC General Assembly is considering: "The only dependable source of revenue for the county is the property tax." The commissioners are considering voting on a resolution opposing the proposed legislation. [Times-News, 5/6/2026]

Carter calls himself a fiscal conservative and says "it is the duty of elected officials to manage public finances in a responsible manner", however an opinion piece in a local paper claims he voted for every tax increase during his time on the board. [[The Alamance News](#), 7/29/2025] [[Steven Carter](#), accessed 7/1/2026]

Good Government/Ethics

No findings of note

Public Safety

Carter lists “support of public safety, law enforcement, fire service and emergency medical service as primary responsibilities of municipal and county government” under the Belief & Objectives section of his campaign site. [[Steven Carter](#), accessed 7/1/2026]

Healthcare

No findings of note

Economic development

Carter was involved in bringing Buc-ees to Mebane, in Alamance County, after Orange County officials rejected the proposal. The proposed travel center will be 64,000 square feet with 120 gas pumps. Neighboring Orange County rejected the proposal due to concerns about the size of the site as well as potential environmental impacts. Alamance County reached out to Buc-ee’s after hearing they were looking for a new site. [The Herald Sun, 6/10/2026][The News & Observer, 6/10/2026]

Housing & Development (affordable housing, zoning, data centers)

No findings of note

Environment / Land Management

Carter was the only no vote against a proposed debris landfill that faced opposition from the community. The community cited narrow, curved roads and the increased truck traffic as a key concern. Commissioners directed the county manager to look into the issue further, but ultimately voted 4-1 to approve the construction permits for the landfill. [Times-News, 2/17/2026][Times-News, 3/18/2026][Times-News, 4/22/2026]

Infrastructure (roads, parks, water and utilities, bike paths)

No findings of note

Education

Carter lists support of providing quality education and acquiring and retaining teachers under the Belief & Objectives section of his campaign site. [[Steven Carter](#), accessed 7/1/2026]

Elections/Voting Access

Carter has drawn criticism for far-right associations and anti-democratic actions. In 2016, he participated in organized challenges to voters’ eligibility as part of North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory’s campaign’s efforts to contest election results [[Democracy NC](#), 7/29/2025]

Affordability / Cost of Living

No findings of note

Ideology, Rhetoric & Extremism Signals

In 2020, Alamance County faced civil rights scrutiny over crackdowns on Confederate monument protests; as a commissioner, Carter was named in lawsuits related to protest restrictions, though he made no public statements distancing himself from the county’s hard line. [[My Fox 8](#), 7/29/2025][[ABC 11](#), 6/29/2020]

Carter introduced a resolution to display “In God We Trust” on all county vehicles in 2019. The decals were paid for with private funds, and only went on non-police vehicles. “[For deputies] it felt to

me like if they had that phrase on their patrol car - it might give them a different level of comfort when they step into that job,” said Carter”. [[WRAL News](#), 2/19/2019]

Variable

No findings of note

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

[Campaign Website](#)

[Campaign Facebook](#)

[Personal Facebook](#)

[LinkedIn](#)