

TX-35 District Primer

In 2024, Democrat Greg Casar won this reliably Democratic seat by a commanding margin. **But a recent gerrymander favoring the GOP has made the district a lot harder for Dems to win.** With your help, we're going to **HOLD** this key seat and secure a Democratic House majority in 2026.

Key dates

Primary: March 3

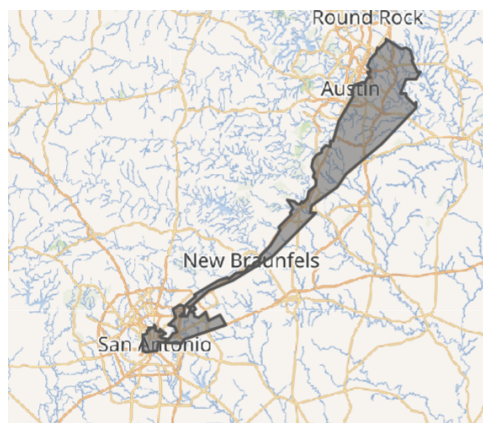
Primary Runoff (D): May 26

Midterms: November 3

Recent Election Results (before 2025 redistricting)

2024 Presidential Election	2024 House Election	2022 House Election
Kamala Harris: (66%) Donald Trump: (32%)	Greg Casar (D): 170,509 (67%) Steven Wright (R): 82,610 (33%)	Greg Casar (D): 129,599 (72%) Dan McQueen (R): 48,969 (27%)

District Facts & Stats



Largest Cities

- Schertz, pop. 42,002
- Seguin, 29,433

Geography

In the 2025 gerrymander, all of Austin was cut out of the district, shifting the balance to SE Bexar County and smaller bits of rural Guadalupe, Wilson, and Karnes counties. The formerly urban/suburban district is now more rural, including only a small part of southeast San Antonio and the city of Schertz, and the smaller cities of Seguin and Karnes to the east and south.

Citizenry

Before the 2025 gerrymander this district was more than 50% Latino, and though the district is still largely Latino, it is less so. The largest cities are now Schertz and Seguin, with a combined population of about 71,000. Schertz is more affluent, with a median household income of \$99,948. Schertz also has the lowest Hispanic population and the highest white population of the towns in the district. The rural areas are mainly Latino.

The Local Vibe

TX-35 has been completely transformed by the 2025 Trump-ordered gerrymandering. The current representative, Democrat Greg Casar, was drawn out of the district, so there is no incumbent. The redistricting was intended to help the GOP, but recently the district appears more favorable to Dems.

ICE has arrested 1500 people near San Antonio since 2025; most have no criminal history. An ICE detention center is underway over the objections of the San Antonio mayor. Another ICE detention center, in Karnes City, holds families with children in deplorable conditions.

On July 10, San Antonio residents gathered outside City Hall to hold a vigil for Lorenzo Salgado Araujo, a Mexican national fatally shot by an ICE agent in Houston on July 8.

Texans will also vote for a new senator in November.

Sign up for another event: mobilize.us/swingleft

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Key Issues

- **Immigration:** Many district residents are appalled by ICE tactics and fear Trump's immigration policies as they are revealed not to be directed at only those with criminal histories.
 - **Health Care:** More than 250,000 families in Bexar County alone will have their Affordable Care Act premiums go up as much as \$15,000 for a family of four, because Congress did not renew ACA subsidies.
 - **Rising Prices and Job Losses:** Trump's tariffs have caused food and gas prices to rise, and threaten jobs at San Antonio construction, auto and farm equipment factories.
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About the Candidates

Johnny Garcia | Democratic Candidate

Born and raised in San Antonio, **Johnny Garcia** grew up in a working class household. He worked in construction while attending St. Phillips Community College. At 21 he joined the Bexar County Sheriff's Office where he led the Inmate Worker program, a second-chance initiative providing job training and assistance to inmates ahead of their release. After promotion to patrol, he was selected to join the elite SWAT Crisis Negotiation Team as a hostage negotiator, learning to handle high-pressure situations calmly and compassionately. Since 2019, he has served as Public Information Officer for Sheriff Javier Salazar, helping to transform the Bexar County Sheriff's Office into one of the most transparent and community-oriented law enforcement agencies in the nation. He has worked to re-elect Sheriff Javier Salazar and is endorsed by him, along with former Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg, Rep. Greg Casar, and Rep. Joaquin Castro.

Garcia sees himself as an "old-school Democrat" focused on the needs of working families, especially affordable and accessible healthcare, a reasonable cost of living, and safe neighborhoods. He believes that Congress must strengthen the Affordable Care Act, not weaken it, and expand Medicaid coverage in Texas. Garcia believes in sensible gun violence prevention: legislation to ensure children are protected from senseless deaths and police aren't out-gunned by gangs. He states he will work for comprehensive immigration reform which includes border security measures as well as the provision of work visas and orderly pathways to citizenship.

Carlos De La Cruz | Republican Candidate

Carlos De La Cruz spent 20 years in the US Air Force in Afghanistan, Iraq, and at the Mexican border. He is the founder and owner of a kickboxing gym in San Antonio and is the brother of Representative Monica de la Cruz (TX-15, also a Republican).

Styling himself a Texas Trump Conservative, De La Cruz emphasizes his endorsement by Trump and asserts that he will be "Trump's wingman in Congress." He opposes what he calls the "woke left" but has little to say about any plans he might have to improve the lives of the district's residents. He recommends strengthening the Border Patrol. As for the weak economy, he says only that will fight alongside President Trump to bring back jobs.

The contrast: Johnny Garcia has thoughtful positions on the ways to provide better lives for the residents of this district. Carlos De La Cruz has very little to say beyond engaging in the culture wars that gain Trump's approval, as if they have anything to do with the problems faced by the residents of TX-35.