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Contact: Karen Kim  
Director of Marketing & Communications  
Office: (972) 335-9522 | Cell: (972) 900-9651  
[kkim@friscochamber.com](mailto:kkim@friscochamber.com)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Frisco Chamber of Commerce Governmental Affairs to Host  
2018 State and County Primary Election Candidate Forum**

The Frisco Chamber of Commerce Governmental Affairs division will host a State and County Primary Election Candidate Forum. The forum will be held on Monday, February 12, 2018 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM, at Grace Church, located in Frisco Square at 8440 Grace Street in Frisco, Texas. The event is free and open to all guests.

Candidates from both parties have been invited to participate in the State and County Primary Election Candidate Forum which will be moderated by Tony Felker, President and CEO of the Frisco Chamber of Commerce, and Lindsey Juarez, Editor of Community Impact Newspaper Frisco. The forum will be split into Democratic Primary and Republican Primary portions and candidates will be participating alongside the candidates running in their specific primary to allow the best comparison of candidates within a primary election.

Participants in the forum will include House District 106 from the Denton County side of Frisco and Senate District 8 from the Collin County side, and candidates running for County Judge in both counties. “Frisco sits in both Collin and Denton Counties, meaning we have several primary elections for many different offices. Candidates not participating are still welcome to attend and meet voters,” stated Shona Huffman, Director of Governmental Affairs at the Frisco Chamber of Commerce.

Candidates confirmed to attend the forum include:

**House District 106**

Clint Bedsole – Republican  
Jared Patterson – Republican  
Michael Rhea – Democrat  
Ramona Thompson – Democrat

**Senate District 8**

Angela Paxton – Republican  
Phillip Huffines – Republican  
Mark Phariss – Democrat

**Collin County Judge**

Chris Hill – Republican  
Scott Johnson – Republican  
Danyell Lanier – Democrat

**Denton County Judge**

Andy Eads – Republican

Unable to attend are Brian Chaput – Democrat (Texas Senate District 8); Danyell Lanier – Democrat (Collin County Judge); Willie Hudspeth – Democrat and Diana Leggett – Democrat (Denton County Judge).

“Many don’t realize the importance of primary elections in Texas,” shared Shona Huffman, Director of Governmental Affairs at the Frisco Chamber of Commerce. “This is an opportunity for voters to hear from the candidates directly and gain insight on where the candidates stand on issues important to the future of Frisco and surrounding communities. Voters should seek to become educated and discover which candidates truly understand the issues and needs.”

Voters should be aware that the primary voting is done by political party and that voters may only vote in one party's primary election. Shona Huffman advises it is best to confirm your voting location as both parties do not always vote in the same location together. Please visit [FriscoChamber.com](http://FriscoChamber.com) to find links to your voting location both during early voting and on Election Day.

"The Frisco Chamber believes that our business community has a huge stake in how our state and local governments are led. As the Voice of Business, we want to make sure that we are at the forefront of developing that relationship between our elected leaders and candidates and the business community," said Tony Felker.

The Primary Election will be held March 6, 2018. Early voting begins February 20, 2018 and goes through March 2, 2018. This single party ballot will determine which candidates will be on the general election ballot in November.

A Municipal Candidate Forum for the May 2018 Municipal Election will be held in April.

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### **About the Frisco Chamber of Commerce**

The Frisco Chamber of Commerce is a 4-Star Accredited Chamber of Commerce that consists of more than 1,300 member businesses who provide goods and services to the growing, bustling economy in Frisco and the surrounding area. The Frisco Chamber of Commerce is the Voice of Business for Frisco and North Texas. The mission of the Frisco Chamber of Commerce is to protect and promote commerce, thru advocacy, resources, and connections. For more information, visit [www.FriscoChamber.com](http://www.FriscoChamber.com).

### **About the Frisco Chamber of Commerce**

Frisco Chamber of Commerce Governmental Affairs is committed to inform and educate the businesses of Frisco regarding relevant legislative and regulatory issues. The fundamental role of Governmental Affairs includes advocating the views of the business community to elected officials on public policy and legislation on the local, state, and federal levels that might have an impact on the business community. For more information, visit [www.FriscoChamber.com](http://www.FriscoChamber.com).