# Key Players in Trump’s Georgia Criminal Case Face Voters



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On May 21, 2024, voters in Georgia will decide the future of two figureheads prominently involved in former President Donald J. Trump’s criminal case. Fani T. Willis, the Fulton County district attorney prosecuting Trump, and Scott McAfee, the presiding judge, are both up for re-election.

Fani T. Willis has faced criticism linked to her personal relationship with Nathan J. Wade, a lawyer she hired for the Trump case. This relationship, revealed in January 2024, led to claims of a conflict of interest. Judge McAfee allowed Willis to remain on the case provided Wade stepped down, a decision currently under review by the Georgia Court of Appeals.

In the Democratic primary, Willis competes against Christian Wise Smith, a former prosecutor who has called for her resignation. Willis enjoys substantial support, particularly from notable Black preachers in the Atlanta area. The winner of this primary will face Courtney A. Kramer, a Republican, in the November general election.

Judge McAfee, a conservative, is in a nonpartisan race against civil rights lawyer Robert Patillo II. Despite criticism over his rulings, McAfee has significant endorsements and campaign contributions.

Additional races of note include a special election in California’s 20th Congressional District to fill the seat of former House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, and primary contests in Kentucky, Oregon, and Idaho.