

Campaign Prospectus 2025-2026





SHERIFF CHRIS SWANSONA Lifetime of Service to Michiganders

Sheriff Swanson has built a career centered on service to his community, combining his background in public service, emergency medicine, and education. **Growing up in Grand Blanc, he was shaped by a working-class family who emphasized hard work and taking care of others**. He attended Mott Community College and the University of Michigan, where he earned a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Public Administration.

For over three decades, Sheriff Swanson has dedicated himself to his community in various roles, including as a **police officer, paramedic, business owner, and professor**. His strong ties to Genesee County have deepened as

a result of his election as Sheriff in 2020—a position he was re-elected to in 2024. Today, he oversees the fifth largest Sheriff's Office in Michigan, leading with experience and a deep connection to the people he serves. As Sheriff, he launched the internationally recognized IGNITE program to end generational incarceration, which has been proven to reduce recidivism, costs, and jail violence, while giving inmates the skills to rebuild their lives.

His national profile grew in 2020. In the wake of the death of George Floyd he boldly told police officers to put down their riot gear and walk with protestors. **His actions united a community in crisis and inspired thousands**.

The Only Democrat Who Can Build a WINNING COALITION

The open Michigan gubernatorial race will be one of the most closely-watched, competitive races in the country. Especially with the entrance of Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan as an Independent, winning statewide in 2026 for a Democrat will require broader appeal, especially to working-class voters who have been leaving the party. Sheriff Swanson is the only candidate in the Democratic primary who can build the coalition to win. In 2024, he ran 14 points ahead of Kamala Harris in Genesee County.

2024 Election Results

Kamala Harris: 51.4%

Chris Swanson: 64.8%

66 He's the real deal. He's the anti-politician.

And right now there's a premium on that in our politics nationally and I think in the state.

People want that authenticity."

Virg Bernero Former Lansing Mayor & 2010 Democratic Gubernatorial Nominee

- 66 An agenda written by people, not interest groups. They want to be together. They're tired of division. They want people to solve problems."
 John Cherry Former Democratic Lt. Governor
- **66** The sheriff's appeal as a non-traditional candidate could resonate in a battleground state like Michigan, where winning requires broad, cross-party support." **AP News** 2/6/25
- **66** He's going to be a serious contender, and I think he's going to bring some energy we haven't seen in many political races in a long time."

Paul Rozycki

retired Mott Community College Professor

Sheriff Swanson is already building his winning coalition with the support of early endorsers, including:

- Teamsters Local 332
- Ironworkers Local 25
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 948
- International Union of Operating Engineers Local 324
- Dan Glass, Teamsters Local 332
- Dan Gaudet, Plumbers and Pipefitters UA Local 370
- Greg Remington, IBEW Local 948
- Dani Hourani, Executive Board Member of the National Sheriff Association
- Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton
- Washtenaw County Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Victoria Burton-Harris
- Washtenaw County Sheriff Alyshia Dyer
- Kalamazoo County Sheriff Richard Fuller
- Presque Isle County Sheriff Joe Brewbaker
- Marquette County Sheriff Greg Zvburt
- Apena County Sheriff Erik Smith