

Scaife campaign: Current mayor and three former mayors of West Bend endorse Grant Scaife for Washington County Circuit Court Judge

Posted on Thursday, Mar 5, 2026

>> **WisPolitics is now on the State Affairs network. Get custom keyword notifications, bill tracking and all WisPolitics content. [Get the app or access via desktop.](#)**

GERMANTOWN – The Grant Scaife for Judge campaign today proudly announced endorsements from the current mayor and three former mayors of West Bend, Wisconsin’s largest city and the Washington County seat. Current Mayor Joel Ongert, along with former Mayors Kris Deiss, Kraig Sadownikow, and Chris. Jenkins, have thrown their support behind Assistant District Attorney Grant Scaife in his campaign for Washington County Circuit Court Judge, Branch 2.

These respected community leaders, who have guided West Bend through periods of growth, economic development, and civic challenges, emphasized Scaife’s proven prosecutorial record, integrity, and dedication to constitutional principles and public safety.

Mayor Joel Ongert stated: “I am proud to endorse Grant Scaife for Washington County Circuit Court Judge Branch 2. As Mayor of the City of West Bend, I care deeply about the well-being of our local residents and businesses. Grant is a dedicated prosecutor who has spent his career protecting our families and making sure our community safe. His professionalism, experience, integrity, and dedication to justice make him the right choice for both the City of West Bend and for our greater Washington County community. I encourage others to join me in voting for Grant Scaife on April 7th.”

Former Mayor Kraig Sadownikow added: “As the former Mayor of the City of West Bend and as a local business owner, I have had the opportunity to talk to many

residents about the type of judge that they would like to see on our bench. Our residents, including myself, want a rule of law judge. We want a judicial conservative – one who stands for the Constitution, stands for public safety, and rejects judicial activism. Grant will be just that kind of judge in Washington County. I fully endorse him, and encourage others to vote for Grant on April 7, 2026.”

Scaife, a Germantown resident and Assistant District Attorney in Washington County for over six years, has prosecuted serious crimes including homicides, sexual assaults, drug trafficking, and domestic violence cases. A University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School graduate, he has previously earned endorsements from Wisconsin Supreme Court Justices Annette Ziegler and Rebecca Bradley, Washington County Sheriff Marty Schulteis, District Attorney Barry Braatz, multiple law enforcement associations including the Washington County Deputy Sheriffs Association, Hartford Police Association, and Jackson Professional Police Association, as well as other judicial and community leaders.

“I am deeply honored and grateful for the strong support from Mayor Ongert and former Mayors Deiss, Sadownikow, and Jenkins,” Scaife said. “Their endorsements, along with the support of County Executive Josh Schoemann, Attorney General Barry Braatz, and Sheriff Marty Schulteis, reflect the widespread trust in my record of protecting families, upholding the rule of law without bias or activism, and delivering fair justice. Together with this exceptional coalition of leaders, we are building momentum for a safer, stronger county.”

The nonpartisan election for Washington County Circuit Court Branch 2 is scheduled for April 7, 2026, with the winner assuming a six-year term beginning August 1, 2026.