

# Delaware Insurance Commissioner election, 2016

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Delaware will hold an election for [insurance commissioner](#) on **November 8, 2016**.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Incumbent [Karen Weldin Stewart \(D\)](#) was seeking election to a third term but was defeated in the primary election by [Trinidad Navarro \(D\)](#).
- [Jeff Cragg](#) won the [Republican](#) nomination and will compete with Navarro in the general election.
  - Democrats have held the office since 2005.

## Overview

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Insurance commissioners regulate Delaware's insurance industry, track insurance companies' financial well-being, and investigate and prosecute insurance fraud complaints. Incumbent [Karen Weldin Stewart \(D\)](#) was first elected in 2008 and is seeking election to a third term in 2016. She again faced a primary challenger in 2016—in 2012, the state [Democratic](#) Party endorsed her primary challenger Mitch Crane ([D](#)) despite Stewart's incumbency, though she defeated him in the primary and went on to win the general election.

[New Castle County](#) sheriff [Trinidad Navarro](#) challenged Stewart in the September 13 Democratic primary election. Heading into the election, Stewart led in fundraising while Navarro had picked up a few [key endorsements](#). Navarro won the nomination, meaning Stewart's tenure as insurance commissioner will end in January 2017 when the winner of the general election is sworn in.

Former [Sussex County](#) clerk of the peace [George Parish](#) and businessman [Jeff Cragg](#) competed for the Republican nomination. As of August 2016, Parish had a slight fundraising lead over Cragg. Cragg won the nomination on September 13. Cragg and Navarro will compete in the general election.

Delaware has been under [Democratic](#) trifecta control since 2009. Democrats have held the office of insurance commissioner since 2005; the office had previously changed party hands every eight to twelve years since the 1970s.

## Candidates

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### **Trinidad Navarro (D)**

**Most recent position:** [New Castle County](#) sheriff since 2011

**Past experience:** Police officer, insurance agent



### **Jeff Cragg (R)**

**Most recent position:** Consultant, small business owner

**Past experience:** Insurance executive

## Defeated



### **Karen Weldin Stewart (D)**

**Most recent position:** Delaware insurance commissioner since 2009

**Past experience:** Insurance consultant



### **George Parish (R)**

**Most recent position:** Sussex County clerk of the peace, 2005-2013

**Past experience:** Retired federal employee

## Results

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### Primary elections

Trinidad Navarro defeated incumbent Karen Weldin Stewart in the Delaware Democratic primary for insurance commissioner.

#### [hide]Delaware Democratic primary for insurance commissioner, 2016

✓ <b>Trinidad Navarro</b>	54.85%	32,787
Karen Weldin Stewart <i>Incumbent</i>	45.15%	26,993
<b>Total Votes (351 of 354 precincts reporting)</b>		<b>59,780</b>

Source: Delaware Department of Elections

Jeff Cragg defeated George Parish in the Delaware Republican primary for insurance commissioner.

#### [hide]Delaware Republican primary for insurance commissioner, 2016

✓ <b>Jeff Cragg</b>	51.58%	14,913
George Parish	48.42%	13,999
<b>Total Votes (351 of 354 precincts reporting)</b>		<b>28,912</b>

Source: Delaware Department of Elections