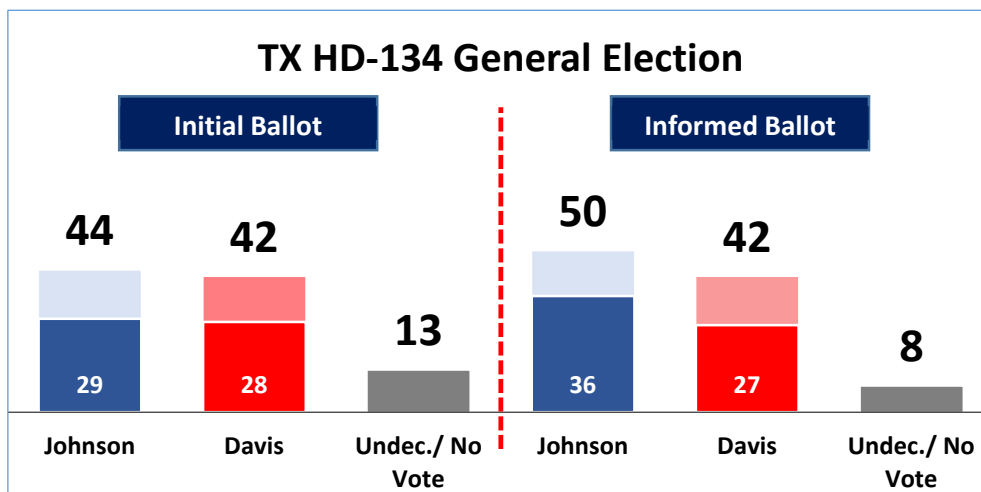To: Interested Parties

From: Lake Research Partners

RE: Democrat Ann Johnson Leading Incumbent Republican Sarah Davis in TX HD-134

Date: August 11, 2020

A recent poll of likely voters in Texas' 134th State House District shows challenger Ann Johnson already posting a narrow lead over incumbent Republican Sarah Davis today.[1] Moreover, when the survey simulates equal spending on behalf of both campaigns, Johnson's support surges— even reaching fifty percent of the vote—while Davis fails to add anything to her existing levels of support. **Of course, in order to take advantage of Johnson's early lead as well as to turn the positive movement demonstrated in this data into tangible gains on the ground, it will be necessary to mount a robust effort that communicates Johnson's message to the voters.**

- **In an initial trial heat, former Chief Human Trafficking Prosecutor, current teacher, and small business owner, Ann Johnson starts out in the lead, 44% to Sarah Davis' 42%.** Just 13% percent of voters are undecided at this stage of the race.

- **After simulating equal levels of media from the two campaigns, Johnson increases her lead, even hitting the 50% threshold of support, while Davis' support stagnates at 42%.** The complete lack of movement toward Davis underscores the incumbent's vulnerability in this election. (The text of both statements is included on the following page.)

TX HD-134 General Election

Initial Ballot / Informed Ballot

	Johnson	Davis	Undec./ No Vote	Johnson	Davis	Undec./ No Vote
Total	44	42	13	50	42	8
Hard	29	28		36	27	

- District voters are ready for a change in leadership. **At just 27%, Sarah Davis registers one of the lowest "hard re-elect" ratings we have seen this cycle.** The vast majority of voters are open to an alternative with one-in-four voters expressing a desire to replace her (25%), 13% saying they would consider someone else, and 35% unsure.

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[1] Lake Research Partners designed and administered this survey of 400 likely voters in Texas' 134th House District. The survey was conducted by professional interviewers via phone on a representative mix of mobiles and landlines. The survey fielded between August 3-6, 2020 and has a margin of error of +/-4.9%.

- **Voters' assessments of Davis' job performance are underwhelming at best.** Just 32% rate the job Davis is doing as excellent or good while 32% rate her performance as just fair or poor. Fully 36% of the district's voters are unable to offer any judgment of Davis in this regard.

- **The top of the ticket should provide the Johnson campaign some additional tailwinds as Election Day nears.** Currently, Joe Biden is leading Donald Trump in this district by a commanding 18-point margin, 57% to 39%.

In sum, voters in Texas' 134th State House District are dissatisfed with Sarah Davis and in search of alternative representation in Austin. Davis starts out behind Ann Johnson today and falls further back as voters learn more about both candidates. Provided the Johnson campaign has the resources to mount strong voter contact and communications efforts, she is very well positioned to win this November.

TEXT OF INFORMED TRIAL HEAT
(ORDER OF CANDIDATE PROFILES RANDOMIZED)

Democrat Ann Johnson is a former Chief Human Trafficking Prosecutor, current teacher, and small business owner who works as an attorney in our criminal justice system for victims of sexual exploitation and those who cannot afford an attorney. In Austin, she'll fight for working families, investments in schools, long overdue gun safety reforms, and to expand Medicaid, which would provide healthcare access for over one million uninsured Texans. Ann will work with Republicans and Democrats to ensure we're investing in ordinary Texans and small businesses during this pandemic, so our communities can build back from this economic recession stronger. **(50%)**	*Republican Sarah Davis was first elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 2010. Her time in the House has been marked with consistent victories to expand access to healthcare and cancer screenings, improve public education, and protect women and children from violence and abuse. Throughout her time in the Texas Legislature, Sarah has a proven record as being a champion for women, children, and ethics in government. Davis is even endorsed by Planned Parenthood. She has the rare ability to work with members of both parties and other organizations to find practical and responsible solutions to the problems that Texans face.* **(42%)**

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