

Steven Kraus

Steven Kraus



Ohio House of Representatives,
District 89

Former member

Tenure

[January 1, 2015](#) - July 27, 2015

Party

[Republican](#)

[Report an officeholder change](#)

Elections and appointments

Last election

[November 4, 2014](#)

First elected

[November 4,
2014](#)

Term limits

[4 terms \(8
years\)](#)

Education

High school

Sandusky
High School

Bachelor's

Troy State
University

Other

Auctioneering
License at

Walton
School of
Auctioneering
, Real Estate
License from
Ohio
Business
College.

Military service

Service/branch

United States
Air Force

Personal

Profession

Real estate
agent,
auctioneer

Steven Kraus was a 2016 [Republican](#) candidate who sought election to the [U.S. House](#) to represent [the 9th Congressional District](#) of [Ohio](#).^[1] Kraus was defeated in the Republican primary by [Donald Philip Larson](#).

Kraus is a former [Republican](#) member of the [Ohio House of Representatives](#), representing [District 89](#) from 2014 to July 27, 2015. He was removed from office after he was convicted of theft.^[2] More information on his conviction can be found [here](#).

Committee assignments

2015 legislative session

At the beginning of the 2015 legislative session, Kraus served on the following committees:

Ohio Committee Assignments, 2015

- [Agriculture and Rural Development](#)
- [Armed Services, Veterans Affairs and Public Safety](#)
- [Economic and Workforce Development](#)

Issues

Campaign themes

2012

Kraus' website highlighted the following campaign themes:^[3]

- "Steve is a fiscal conservative who believes that the taxpayers know best how to spend their money. He is a strong advocate for accountability, and would champion the call for Congress to live under the same laws it passes. Steve believes in a common, no nonsense approach to spending; live within your means attitude. As a liaison working between contractors and the government, Steve saw firsthand the fraud, waste, and misuse of taxpayer dollars. He believes that government must be limited in the money they are allowed to spend."

Debates

February 4, 2012



- On Saturday, February 4, candidates Kaptur, Kucinich, Veysey and Kraus participated in a debate held at Sandusky's Ebenezer Baptist Church. The debate was hosted by the NAACP. Coverage of the debate can be found [here](#).

Elections

2016

See also: [Ohio's 9th Congressional District election, 2016](#)

Heading into the election, Ballotpedia rated this race as safely Democratic. Incumbent [Marcy Kaptur](#) (D) defeated [Donald Philip Larson](#) (R) in the general election. Kaptur was unopposed in the Democratic primary. Larson defeated **Steven Kraus** and [Joel Lieske](#) in the Republican primary on March 15, 2016.^[1]

[hide]U.S. House, Ohio District 9 General Election, 2016				
	Democratic	✓ Marcy Kaptur <i>Incumbent</i>	68.7%	193,966
	Republican	Donald Philip Larson	31.3%	88,427
	N/A	Write-in	0%	5
Total Votes				282,398
Source: Ohio Secretary of State				



[hide]U.S. House, Ohio District 9 Republican Primary, 2016

✓ Donald Philip Larson	44.3%	20,859
Steven Kraus	36%	16,966
Joel Lieske	19.7%	9,262
Total Votes		47,087
<i>Source: Ohio Secretary of State</i>		

2014

See also: [Ohio House of Representatives elections, 2014](#)

Elections for the office of [Ohio House of Representatives](#) took place in 2014. A primary election took place on May 6, 2014. The general election was held on [November 4, 2014](#). The [signature filing deadline for candidates](#) wishing to run in this election was February 5, 2014. Incumbent [Chris Redfern](#) was unopposed in the Democratic primary, while **Steven Kraus** was unopposed in the Republican primary. Redfern was defeated by Kraus in the general election.^[4]

[hide]Ohio House of Representatives, District 89 General Election, 2014				
	Republican	✓ Steven Kraus	51.2%	19,386
	Democratic	Chris Redfern <i>Incumbent</i>	48.8%	18,446
Total Votes				37,832

2012

See also: [Ohio's 9th Congressional District elections, 2012](#)

Kraus lost in the [2012 election](#) for the [U.S. House](#), representing [Ohio's 9th District](#). He was defeated by [Samuel Wurzelbacher](#) in the March 6, 2012, Republican primary.

U.S. House, Ohio's 9th Congressional District Republican Primary, 2012		
✓ Samuel Wurzelbacher	51.4%	15,166
Steven Kraus	48.6%	14,323
Total Votes		29,489

Campaign donors

Note: The finance data shown here comes from the disclosures required of candidates and parties. Depending on the election or state, this may represent only a portion of all the funds spent on their behalf.

Why is that? While candidates and parties must file detailed expenditure reports, independent organizations and unions are not required to file reports in every case. [Outside groups](#) may or may not have expended funds related to the candidate or politician on whose page you are reading this disclaimer.

Comprehensive donor information for Kraus is available dating back to 2014. Based on available campaign finance records, Kraus raised a total of **\$66,017** during that time period. This information was last updated on July 17, 2015. [\[5\]\[6\]](#)

[hide]Steven Kraus Campaign Contribution History			
Year	Office	Result	Contributions
2014	Ohio State House, District 89	✓	\$66,017
Grand Total Raised			\$66,017

2014

Kraus won election to the Ohio State House in 2014. During that election cycle, Kraus raised a total of **\$66,017**.

[hide]Ohio State House 2014 election - Campaign Contributions	
Top contributors to Steven Kraus's campaign in 2014	
<i>Ohio House Republican Campaign Cmte</i>	\$19,373
<i>Reitzel, Jeffrey L</i>	\$6,555
<i>Ortner, Courtney M</i>	\$5,000
<i>Hunsicker, James A</i>	\$4,800
<i>Parker, Ruth F</i>	\$3,000
Total Raised in 2014	\$66,017
Source: Follow the Money	

Scorecards

See also: [State legislative scorecards](#) and [State legislative scorecards in Ohio](#)

Legislative scorecards are used to evaluate elected public officials based on voting record. Some scorecards are created by political advocacy groups with a focus on specific issues; others are developed by newspapers and are broad in scope. Scorecards are meant to be used as a tool for voters to have a quick picture of whether their views align with a particular legislator's record.



Because scorecards can be specific to particular issues or general to a state's legislative term, each report should be considered on its own merits. Each entity that publishes these reports uses different methodologies and definitions for the terms used.

An overview for scorecards in all 50 states can be found on [this page](#). To contribute to the list of Ohio scorecards, email suggestions to editor@ballotpedia.org.

2015-2016

In 2015, the 131st [Ohio General Assembly](#) was in session from January 5 through December 31.

- [Ohio Chamber on Commerce](#): 2015 Scorecard
 - Legislators are scored based on their votes on bills impacting Ohio's business community.
- [The American Conservative Union](#)

Legislators are scored on their votes on key conservative issues.

Controversies

Stolen goods

On November 19, 2014, Kraus was indicted by a grand jury on one felony count each of burglary, breaking and entering and theft. Kraus, an auctioneer, was charged with removing antiques, a shotgun and other items from a home on April 7, 2014. James Hart, the attorney for Kraus, said that the situation was a misunderstanding, and that Kraus removed the items from the house, but at the request of the real estate agent selling the home. Kraus said he only removed the items to inventory them for auction and had no intention in keeping them. When the house was sold, Kraus returned the items, but the former homeowner claimed that not all of her items were returned. The real estate agent, Jenine Porter, claimed that she did not give Kraus permission to remove items from the home: she only gave permission for him to take pictures of an antique car in the garage.^[7]

On December 11, 2014, Kraus pleaded not guilty to burglary and two other felonies in the Ottawa County Common Pleas Court. His trial was expected to begin on April 15, but was rescheduled for July 22.^{[8][9]}

On July 27, 2015, Kraus was convicted on one count of felony theft and was immediately removed from office. He was found not guilty of criminal trespassing and breaking and entering.^{[2][10]} Kraus was sentenced on August 21 to two years of community control.^[11]

Recent news

This section displays the most recent stories in a Google news search for the term **Steven + Kraus + Ohio + House**

[Steven Kraus News Feed](#)

Some of the results may not be relevant to this page due to the nature of Google's news search engine. Read about Ballotpedia's inclusion of these search results [here](#).

See also



- [Ohio House of Representatives](#)
- [House Committees](#)
- [Ohio General Assembly](#)
- [Joint Committees](#)
- [Ohio state legislative districts](#)
- [Ohio House of Representatives elections, 2014](#)
- [United States House of Representatives](#)
- [Ohio's 9th Congressional District election, 2016](#)
- [Ohio's 9th Congressional District](#)

External links

- [Profile from Open States](#)
- Campaign contributions via [Follow the Money](#)

Footnotes

- 1.

- [Ohio Secretary of State, "Ohio 2016 March Primary Candidate List,"](#) accessed March 11, 2016
 - • [Cleveland.com, "Ohio lawmaker Steve Kraus convicted of felony, loses House seat,"](#) July 27, 2015
 - • [teamkraus.us, "About Steve \(Archived\),"](#) accessed August 27, 2014
 - • [Ohio Secretary of State, "Official primary election results for May 6, 2014,"](#) accessed July 3, 2014
 - • [Follow the Money, "Contributions to Kraus, Steven,"](#) accessed July 17, 2015
 - • *The finance data shown here comes from the disclosures required of candidates and parties, likely representing only a portion of all the funds spent on their behalf. See this [page](#) for more details.*
 - • [Times-Recorder, "State. Rep.-elect Kraus indicted on 3 felony counts,"](#) November 20, 2014
 - • [Toledo Blade, "Ohio Rep. Steven Kraus has jury trial delayed until July,"](#) accessed April 23, 2015
 - • [Toledo Blade, "Kraus pleads not guilty to theft ,"](#) December 12, 2014
 - • [nbc24.com, "Rep. Steven Kraus found guilty on theft charges,"](#) accessed July 27, 2015
11. • [sanduskyregister.com, "VIDEO: Kraus sentenced,"](#) accessed August 21, 2015

Political offices

Preceded by
[Chris Redfern](#) (D)

[Ohio House of Representatives](#) -
District 89
January 1, 2015-July 27, 2015

Succeeded by
[Steven Arndt](#) (R)

Source: https://ballotpedia.org/Steven_Kraus