

Ellis announces campaign for Broome County sheriff in 2018

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The position of Broome County Sheriff could be contested in a primary election next year.

Jason Ellis, a Republican law enforcement veteran of 23 years, announced Saturday his candidacy for sheriff. Incumbent Sheriff David Harder, also a Republican, is serving his fifth four-year term in the position.

Ellis joined the Broome County Sheriff's law enforcement division in 1993, and before that worked as a special deputy in the county jail. In 2015, he retired after working as a sergeant in the Broome County Sheriff's detective division. He is also a former deputy fire coordinator.

Most recently, Ellis was chief investigator in the Broome County District Attorney's Office.

In a campaign announcement speech, Ellis said he would focus on the opioid crisis and tackle crime rates in the county that are eroding at neighborhoods, among other issues, if elected.

Harder has not yet made an official announcement to seek re-election in 2018.

In the 2014 election, Harder won over Democratic challenger Chris Bracco by more than 9,000 votes. In 2010, Harder defeated Gary O'Neill by a margin of 47 percent to 44 percent.

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<http://www.pressconnects.com/story/news/public-safety/2017/11/20/ellis-announces-campaign-broome-county-sheriff-2018-primary/880077001/>