



Democrat Amy Kennedy, left, and Republican Rep. Jeff Van Drew of New Jersey are pictured. | Getty Images

Van Drew opponent Amy Kennedy cancels in-person events after possible Covid exposure

By KATHERINE LANDERGAN | 11/02/2020 12:15 PM EST

Democrat congressional candidate Amy Kennedy said Monday that she is canceling all of her in-person campaign events after interacting with someone during an event on Saturday who has since tested positive for the coronavirus.

Kennedy, who is running against Democrat-turned-Republican Rep. Jeff Van Drew in New Jersey's 2nd Congressional District, tested negative Monday morning and is not showing any symptoms, according to her campaign. Both Kennedy and the person who tested positive were wearing masks throughout the event, her campaign said.

"However, out of an abundance of caution, and in line with both Amy's desire to lead by example and her commitment to protecting public health, she will be canceling all of her in-person events and following state quarantine protocols," said Josh Roesch, Kennedy's campaign manager, in a statement.

"Amy will continue to reach out to voters across the district through virtual events for the remainder of the campaign," Roesch said. "In accordance with public health and scientific guidelines, she will get tested again later this week."

Kennedy, a former school teacher, is married to former U.S. Rep. Patrick Kennedy (D-R.I.), the son of the late U.S. Sen. Ted Kennedy.

A recent Stockton University poll of 676 likely voters shows Kennedy leading Van Drew by a statistically insignificant 1 percentage point, 46 percent to 45 percent — well within the poll's margin of error of plus or minus 3.7 percentage points.

That poll is only the second public survey conducted of the South Jersey district. A Monmouth University poll earlier this month showed Kennedy leading by 6 percentage points among likely voters, which was still within its margin of error. POLITICO's election forecasters rate the race as a "toss up."

The match-up between Van Drew and Kennedy has become one of the most hotly contested races in the country and has drawn national attention, with outside resources pouring in. Democrats are not only eager to win back a seat they thought they had already seized in 2018, but also seek revenge for Van Drew's high-profile defection.

Kennedy, who has notched endorsements from former President Barack Obama and Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden, has outraised and outspent Van Drew.