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## POLITICAL SCENE

# McKee faces dim reelection prospects

### Foulkes builds sizable lead ahead of primary

**Patrick Anderson**  
Providence Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK

If the 2026 election were held today, Gov. Dan McKee would be in deep trouble.

He's trailed former CVS executive Helena Foulkes in every head-to-head poll since she challenged him to a Democratic primary rematch last fall.

And as the campaign has simmered, the snow melted and temperature rose, his position hasn't improved. For whatever reason, it's gotten worse.

Foulkes led McKee by 20 points in the Emerson College/WPRI-TV poll released May 19, which followed leads of 26 points in a poll from the League of Charter Public Schools in late April and 34 points from the University of New Hampshire a few days later.

McKee is no longer arguing that polls showing him behind are inaccurate or outliers, as he did last year and through the winter.

Hours before the Emerson poll published, his campaign said his internal polling showed that negative messaging against Foulkes is hurting her with voters.

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# Transcript details payout to ex-Brown police chief

**Mark Reynolds**  
Providence Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Brown University promised a payment of money as part of a settlement agreement that helped finalize the "amicable" departure of its controversial campus police chief, Rodney Chatman.

The settlement deal resolved an injury claim Chatman had filed in Workers' Compensation Court in March — months after Brown put him on administrative leave following December's mass shooting on campus.

In late March, Judge Robert M. Ferrieri rejected that claim, records show, issuing a decree that said Chatman "failed to prove that he sustained an injury arising out of and in the course of his employment."

Then, lawyers on both sides negotiated a proposed settlement, presented it to Ferrieri at an April 7 hearing and received the court's approval.

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Volume 197 | No. 265  
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