



The What A Difference a DA Makes (WADADAM) voter education campaign is a network of more than 600 Massachusetts organizations and individuals dedicated to highlighting the life-changing impact district attorneys (DAs) have on our communities and our entire Commonwealth.

Voters have spoken loud and clear: our criminal legal system is not working. Instead of focusing on rehabilitation and helping our neighbors become productive members of our communities, our criminal legal system measures success by how many people are behind bars.

As a network, we are committed to ensuring that all Massachusetts voters have the information they need to decide which DA candidate will best help build a criminal legal system that promotes safety, fairness, and justice.

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GENERAL

1.) Please describe your qualifications and experience that make you the best candidate to reform the role of district attorney.

There are currently 250+ employees working at the SCDAO who are going to have to be re-trained and led to the reform and change of culture needed in the office. Part of that culture shift starts with a move away from rewarding wins and losses, and toward rewarding fair and just outcomes, one case at a time. As the next DA, I will keep and get communities safe and seek justice for victims. Under my leadership, prosecution will be only one of the many tools we will use to make this happen.

My lived, legal, and leadership experiences uniquely prepare me to be the most qualified and best equipped candidate to shift the culture within the SCDAO.

Unique Lived Experience: I am a 47 year old, black woman. I am a mother and the oldest of five siblings. I have family members that have been incarcerated. I have legal custody of 2 of my nieces due to the opioid crisis and mental health issues. All of these lived experiences directly impact my life on a daily basis. I will bring these experiences to the DA's Office.

Additionally, some of the communities within Suffolk County that feel over-policed and over-prosecuted, while at the same time neglected, ignored and/or blamed with respect to violence in their communities, will now have a voice within, and access to, the SCDAO under my leadership. Their (as well as everyone else's) comments, complaints and suggestions will be heard and addressed.

Relevant Legal Experience: I have been a practicing lawyer for 20+ years. Over half of that time, 11 years, has been spent as both a prosecutor and as a criminal defense attorney.

a. **Prosecutorial Experience:** I have 7 years of experience being a prosecutor. The majority of the time was in the federal system prosecuting and defending civil cases. Throughout my legal career, I have handled virtually every type of case that the SCDAO prosecutes (death investigations, appeals, sexual assault and child protection, domestic violence, narcotics, firearms, trespass, civil rights violations, restraining orders, OUI, ABDW, etc.) and have personally presented cases to the grand jury. I have prosecuted both civil and criminal cases, including asset forfeiture matters. And, while I was at the US Attorney's Office, I served in the Civil Rights Unit.

b. **Criminal Defense Attorney Experience:** During the 4+ years that I was an associate at the law firm of Bingham McCutchen, I defended clients charged with crimes in state and federal courts throughout Massachusetts, from representing individuals and entities that received subpoenas from the state and federal government, to representing individuals charged with federal firearm and narcotics charges.

Actual Leadership Experience: As the General Counsel of the MBTA and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, I supervised 150+ people (lawyers, professionals, para-professionals, and administrators) in over 6 departments (legal, audit, labor, HR, diversity and civil rights). I managed these employees through large cultural and systemic shifts, like going from independent to shared services between the two agencies in the HR, IT and Legal functions.

I also managed and oversaw the (then) largest procurement in the history of the Commonwealth (the Commuter Rail Procurement) and had to supervise large internal and external groups through that complicated and difficult process. As the General Counsel of the MBTA, I personally oversaw

and managed thousands of matters and cases per year.

I have also served as the Chief Legal Counsel of Massport. In that role, I handled incredibly high stakes transactions (nearly \$1 billion real estate transaction) and crisis oversight, investigation and management involving deaths (oversaw the NTSB investigation into a plane crash at Massport that instantly killed 7 people). The DA needs to have real experience overseeing an incredibly large caseload involving high stakes matters. I do.

2.) What is your current assessment of your local District Attorney's Office? What are the issues that need the most improvement or transformation?

The current SCDAO has several shortcomings, the most important of which are that it: has over 1000 unsolved homicides; refuses to acknowledge or take any responsibility for the racial and economic disparities in the criminal justice system; operates in complete secrecy; and does not reflect the rich and varied diversity of Suffolk County. I believe these four things are related and intend to focus the majority of my attention on changing them when I am elected. Once we acknowledge our roll in the flawed process, we can start changing it.

One concrete example of another improvement I intend to implement that will change outcomes is requiring that a seasoned ADA review each application for criminal complaint the police file in the Clerk's office BEFORE any probable cause hearing occurs. This way, a lawyer will determine if the police report actually contains facts necessary to supporting the charges alleged in the application. As we all know, police are often not lawyers, and Clerks are not required to be lawyers. By implementing this process, an ADA can reject and dismiss any charges not supported by facts in the police report and the Clerk can then determine if there is probable cause for any remaining, factually supported charges. We will also capture all of the data surrounding any rejected and dismissed charges from any application.

I intend to have full transparency and release data, like State's Attorney Kim Foxx recently did in Cook County, Chicago. I also intend to have quarterly meetings inside of the communities of Suffolk County to report out on what we are focusing on and then listening to the community about what we need to focus on and the things we need to continue to do and to change.

Finally, as a black woman, who has been committed to hiring qualified, diverse people throughout my entire management career (and not just in administrative, entry or "field" positions), I will utilize my many resources - as the former President of the Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association, a Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly Top Women in the Law recipient, a Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce 40-Under-40 Award recipient, a Boston Business Journal Ten Outstanding Young Leader Award recipient, a member of Attorney General Healey's Advisory Committee on Racial Justice and Equity - each of which has introduced me to exceptional business and community leaders that I remain in contact with today, to recruit, hire, train and support the exceptional employees currently in, and that will be joining or re-joining, the SCDAO.

3.) Since the 1980s, the population of incarcerated people in Massachusetts has quadrupled. While the incarcerated population is decreasing, the Commonwealth still faces over-incarceration and a high recidivism rate. If elected, what policies or initiatives do you plan to introduce to further decrease the number of people who are incarcerated and reduce recidivism while keeping the public safe?

We need to end mass incarceration and restore justice in our communities. More black and brown men are being sent to prison than any other population. I will re-evaluate how all crimes are prosecuted, including evaluating all mandatory minimum cases, plea agreements, and bail requests. I will focus on prosecuting serious crimes, but also divert people from the criminal justice system and implement restorative justice practices. To that end, I will create a senior level position that will report directly to me to oversee and lead this effort. We need to use evidence based diversion programs that will focus on keeping individuals from entering the criminal justice system, that too often leads to unnecessary lengthy jail or prison sentences, including diversion prior to court arraignment. We will particularly focus on the juveniles and young adults, those dealing with mental health and substance abuse, and our veterans.

4.) Recent Massachusetts data shows that people who suffer from substance use disorder are 120 times more likely to die of an overdose upon release from incarceration than others who are not incarcerated. How do you plan to deal with defendants living with substance use disorder?

According to the 2015 Annual Report from the Massachusetts Department of Corrections, the DOC population declined for a fourth straight year, dropping 15% between January 1, 2012 and January 1, 2016. As DA, I intend to continue this downward trend by setting and fostering a culture where addiction, mental illness and poverty are no longer criminalized. Diversion, restorative justice and creative solutions that result in the community being made whole and remaining safe will be rewarded and modeled. Of the current female population in DOC, 70% had open mental health cases, 13% had a serious mental illness and 56% were on psychotropic medication. Mental illness is a real problem and we need to get people services, not sentences.

But we can't exclusively focus on non-violent offenders. We need to start having hard conversations about violent offenders and what we are doing to make sure that when they return to the community they have the tools necessary to re-enter successfully. Every month, the DOC releases an average of 277 individuals back into communities across the Commonwealth.

REDUCING INCARCERATION: With respect to reducing the number of people that are incarcerated, I intend to decline prosecuting minor offenses, which make up a large portion of the approximately 35,000 cases the SCDAO handles per year. We have seen this happening around the country, DA Cy Vance in Manhattan, New York has stopped prosecuting subway turnstile jumping and DA Kim Ogg in Houston, Texas has stopped prosecuting low-level marijuana offenses. We can and will certainly follow suit.

I also intend to clear existing bench warrants for minor offenses (e.g., drinking in public, traffic tickets). Several DA's in New York did this recently and eliminated approximately 664,000 warrants that were over 10 years old for misdemeanors and petty crimes.

According to FBI data from 2016 regarding the cities within Suffolk County, the overwhelming majority of the approximately 35,000 crimes committed would be characterized as non-violent. With non-violent crimes, we need to think about the cost benefit analysis of incarcerating someone for their behavior as opposed to diverting them into a program or having them participate in a restorative justice process while making the victim whole.

REDUCING RECIDIVISM: With respect to reducing the recidivism rate, I am proud of the research I did with Masshousing and MassINC on Re-entry Housing. There are currently 11 housing authorities in the United States that allow re-entering residents with felonies to live in public housing. As DA, I want to work on having Boston, Chelsea, Winthrop and Revere start pilot programs to increase that

number.

When people returning from incarceration cannot get a job with a living wage, or find housing, we cannot be surprised when they revert back to old behaviors.

We need a DA that understands she must speak out and educate the public about these issues. We need a DA that has strong connections and ties with business and industry leaders to get the right people in a room to make necessary changes. Jobs for people with CORIs don't just happen without people working to make it happen. We need to be deliberate about talking to CEOs and business leaders in Suffolk County about hiring people with CORIs. In my previous roles within the Commonwealth, I have strong ties to both the democratic and republican leadership and have already started some of these hard conversations. I have volunteered and worked with the CARE and RESTART programs in the federal system and have held job fairs and job interview skills workshops for returning citizens. We need to start implementing these practices on the state side as well.

I have been speaking to Kevin Sibley in the City of Boston's Office of Returning Citizens to think creatively about how we better transition individuals so they are successful when they return to and re-enter the community. Success to me is defined by getting housing, employment, and wrap-around services in place to make sure that these individuals are supported and succeed, rather than abandoned and left to go back to bad practices.

Over the last few years I have worked with Pauline Quirion at GBLS on CORI reform and Re-Entry Issues. After I was appointed to Attorney General Maura Healey's Advisory Council on Racial Justice and Equity, Pauline and I started working more closely together. Over the last several months we have had numerous discussions on CORI and III (Interstate Identification Index) reform and our conversations continue.

.5) With the decline in funding and placements for mental health services, our jails and prisons have become de facto treatment facilities for people living with mental health issues and mental illness. What is your understanding of how district attorneys can improve public safety through mental health treatment? What would you do to increase opportunities for treatment?

Commissioners, Mayors and Police Chiefs love telling us that crime is down. If that is in fact true, we need to shine a bright light on how much money the Sheriffs are spending on there workforce. According to several well researched MassINC articles, labor costs for Sheriff's Departments are on the rise, while crime and incarceration rates are trending downward. If we reduce labor costs in the Sheriff's Departments we can capture those savings and hopefully put them toward much needed mental health treatment.

I am also a big proponent of having specialty courts and believe a mental health court should be considered.

6) Public safety has historically relied on outdated language and "tough-on-crime" policies. There is, however, significant research and examples that show restorative justice, diversion, education, and treatment increase public safety. As district attorney, how will you work to change the public's understanding of how public safety can be achieved?

I intend to speak frequently to the public about the fact that public safety can be achieved by being “smart” on crime. With an active, educated and involved community, we can discuss the pros and cons of restorative justice, we can learn about or create other diversionary opportunities for disruptive individuals within the community. As DA, I can work with Probation, CPCS and the Judiciary to think about and increase some of the diversionary programs currently offered.

In addition to speaking to the community - in the community - during my quarterly State of the SCDAO meetings, I will also be speaking to elementary, middle and high schools about the office and what we do, job opportunities and expectations for safety within our communities.

RACIAL JUSTICE

1) Despite having the lowest incarceration rate in the nation, Massachusetts has one of the highest racial disparities in incarceration rates. Do you believe the District Attorney's Office contributes to racial disparities in the criminal legal system?

Yes No

If yes, please identify the ways in which the policies and practices have contributed, and what you would do as DA to reduce or eliminate them.

We need to end mass incarceration and racial disparities and the DA's Office plays a critical role in that process. The incarceration rate in America is the highest in world. While the US represents approximately 5% of the world's population, we house approximately 25% of the world's prisoners.

In Massachusetts, black and brown residents make up approximately 17% of the overall population, but account for approximately 50% of those currently incarcerated. Unfortunately, in Massachusetts we have historically criminalized poverty, mental illness and addiction. With the recent passing of the criminal justice reform bill, important steps have been taken to divert many of those individuals out of the criminal justice system and into the social services they so desperately need.

We currently have very little racial diversity within the SCDAO. One of the units that incarcerates the most black and brown men, is the Gang Unit. It is second only to the Homicide Unit for longest sentences imposed. A tactic I have repeatedly been told that the Gang Unit utilizes to extract plea deals from these (often) young black and brown men, is to subpoena the women in their lives (girlfriends, mothers, sisters, wives) and when they do not cooperate or show up, issue a warrant and incarcerate them, if necessary. Under the guise of “keeping a community safe” the Gang Unit's behavior has generational impacts on families. If that girlfriend, sister, mother or wife is detained and they have children, DCF may become involved in the families life. If she is detained for more than a day, she may lose her job. The collateral consequences are enormous.

I intend to have the SCDAO begin focusing on economic crimes and employers that are targeting, misusing and mistreating their employees (wage theft), or individuals that are targeting our elders and committing hate crimes. When communities start seeing a fair and equitable distribution of assets and intel on all types of matters that impact them every day (violence, theft, fraud, racism, hatred) they will know that the SCDAO is working for them.

If no, why not?

2) People of color and language minorities are significantly underrepresented in district attorneys' offices. What do you plan to do to increase the diversity of the staff to better reflect the demographics of the community?

I envision a SCDAO where the approximately 275 employees, the interns, the various consultants and the vendors across every unit and function, adequately reflect the rich, varied and multi-lingual populations of Suffolk County. Some of the ways we will value inclusion is by having employees, interns, consultants and vendors that represent the various age ranges and generations, abilities, spoken languages, nationalities, orientations, genders, races, veteran and service statuses, cultures, levels of formerly or currently incarcerated statuses, skills and life experiences of the people of Suffolk County.

As previously stated, I am a black woman who has been committed to hiring qualified, diverse people throughout my entire management career. I will utilize my many resources - as the former President of the Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association, and the recipient of numerous awards due to my decades of community service within Suffolk County - each of which has introduced me to exceptional business and community leaders that I remain in contact with today, to recruit, hire, train and support exceptional, diverse, multi-lingual employees throughout the SCDAO.

3) Will you commit to collecting, analyzing and reporting data on the race of the people your office prosecutes or advocates for including but not limited to: bail request, recommendations for diversion, charging decisions, sentencing recommendations, motions for civil asset forfeiture, and victim witness assistance funds?

Yes No

If no, why not?

TRANSPARENCY

1) The annual reports from the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association (MDAA) to the Legislature have been quite low in substance, suggesting differing data collection across Massachusetts and a lack of attention on data quality. What would you do to improve data collection?

My understanding of the office is that data collection in the early and initiation phase of a criminal case is currently lacking and data collection at the end of the criminal process is more robust. I heard a rumor that during Aaron Hernandez's double homicide trial, the current DA spent approximately \$50,000 on computers for jurors to see exhibits and documents during the trial. As we all know, that trial resulted in acquittals. Irrespective of the result, that money could have been better spent procuring hand held devices that ADA's can enter demographic and relevant procedural data into regarding their cases while sitting in court.

Further, when I become DA, I want work toward having a uniform data collection model for all of the 11 DAs throughout Massachusetts.

2) Will you agree to consistently collect and make charge and disposition data publicly available - including demographic data such as race, age, and gender?

Yes No

If no, why not?

3) Will you regularly share and make available reports on the collection, retention and use of civil asset forfeiture funds?

Yes No

If no, why not?

ACCOUNTABILITY

1) From signing police overtime slips for court appearances to investigating police-involved shootings, district attorneys have an important role to play with respect to police accountability. What will you do to ensure that the District Attorney's Office holds police accountable for misconduct?

With respect to signing overtime slips, we need look no further than the scandals involving the State Police. ADA's will be reminded that any phantom slip that they sign will have administrative, reporting, disciplinary and potentially prosecutable impacts.

With respect to officer involved shootings, I am the first candidate that has spoken on having an external and diverse groups of former prosecutors, criminal defense attorneys, retired judges and retired law enforcement officers that will be investigating those cases and reporting their findings directly to me, the DA. Having that function handled in-house, by the same ADAs that work hand in hand with the police on all the criminal matters we handle results in an assumption of bias in favor of the police and further solidifies strained relationships with several communities throughout Suffolk County.

2) According to the National Registry of Exonerations, more than 50 percent of known wrongful convictions involve official misconduct, including the withholding of exculpatory evidence from people charged with crimes. What steps will you take to reform current discovery practices so that people charged with crimes actually have all the information they need to defend themselves?

I believe in Open File Discovery. We need to investigate cases early in the process and turn over information to the defense as soon as we have it. I am strongly in favor of having a criminal defense attorney in charge of all Brady related issues in our office. Further, our policy will be that in order to

remove records or documents from the file, ADAs must get sign-off from a supervisor.

3. The four nationally recognized principles to ensuring an effective Conviction Integrity Unit are independence, flexibility, transparency, and prevention. If elected, what steps will you take to bring the Office's Conviction Integrity Unit's practices in line with these best practices?

I am fortunate to have the endorsements of Harvard Law School Professor and Director of the Harvard Criminal Justice Institute Ronald Sullivan, former Suffolk County ADA and Founder of Prosecutor Impact Adam Foss, Criminal Justice Activist Shaun King and the Real Justice PAC, and Democracy for America. With these endorsements come access to DA's across the country that are currently changing the system as we know it. I have spoke to DA Larry Krasner and State's Attorney Kim Foxx about their policies and their positions on all of the issues we are addressing within this questionnaire.

Professor Sullivan has created Conviction Integrity Units across the country and I have already spoken to him about working on the one in the SCDAO. I believe that the individuals in that Unit are separate and apart from an Appeals Unit. Those are two completely different functions. And, I also believe that the Conviction Integrity Unit should and could operate very similarly to the Officer Involved Shooting group that I have discussed - with reporting structure directly to me.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

1) Do you support the creation of a community advisory board that would regularly engage with the District Attorney's Office on prosecution priorities, victim needs, community based alternatives to incarceration and other training and office policies?

Yes No

If no, why not?

2) Please list five community based organizations that you have worked with and/or plan to work with to increase diversion, lower recidivism and/or provide education, training, and treatment as an alternative to incarceration.

1. Prosecutor Impact
2. College Bound Dorchester
3. Community Resources for Justice
4. Operation ExitCommunity Resources for Justice
5. Roca

3) Please list five community based organizations that you have worked with and/or plan to work with to increase support to victims of crimes including but not limited to counseling, relocation or other financial services, and restorative justice opportunities.

1. Victims Compensation & Assistance Division, Attorney General's Office
2. Casa Myrna
3. Louise D. Brown Peace Institute
4. Arbour Counseling Services
5. Children's Advocacy Center of Suffolk County

4) Reform movements tend to make lofty assertions about how society or a particular institution must change. Those leading the move for reform, however, often leave out the people most directly impacted. What role do you see formerly incarcerated people playing in your administration and any reforms it will make?

I have said since the beginning, I have family members that have been incarcerated. I have family members that struggle with opioid addiction. I am the guardian of my two nieces as a result of these very issues and mental illness. The people closest to the problem are often the same people that can come up with the best solutions. I intend to hire people with CORIs and also have them serve on my various Advisory Committees in leadership roles, if they will have them.

IMMIGRATION

1) Recently, low-level criminal offenses have been used as the basis for deportation proceedings against individuals who, in most instances, have made meaningful contributions to their communities and families. These offenses, which could be dealt with through non-criminal proceedings or diversion, result in disrupted lives and families being torn apart. If elected, what will you do to interrupt the use of the criminal justice system to deport people charged with minor offenses?

Deportation is a federal function. However, often times, criminal activity at the state or local level triggers or results in federal involvement, which could have the devastating impact of initiating deportation proceedings or enforcing a deportation order.

I have said from the beginning, I will instruct every ADA and staff member that if they see ICE or any federal agent detaining or arresting someone in or near a Suffolk County Courthouse, they are to call me, the DA, immediately. I will go to the federal courthouse and speak to the US Attorney about having that Suffolk County resident returned to Suffolk County. If Suffolk County residents think they will be deported if they show up to court, it does not keep our community safe. This will result in people refusing to report crimes that they are the victim of, witnessed, or have information regarding. The DA is responsible for keeping communities safe and getting justice for victims. I pledge to do so.

PRIVACY

1) Electronic surveillance techniques give law enforcement significant power to obtain extremely sensitive information about people. In a free society, people must know

what their government is doing behind closed doors. If elected, will you release annual transparency reports, detailing how many times your office issued surveillance demands on companies or applied for warrants or other court orders to conduct electronic surveillance? Will you disclose the type of investigation (e.g. drugs, assault, larceny, etc.) and the type of legal demand (e.g. subpoena, court order, warrant, wiretap order) your office sought?

Yes No

If no, why not?

2) Technology moves much faster than the law - and historically, prosecutors in Massachusetts have pushed back against efforts to update privacy law. Other states have passed privacy laws dealing with license plate readers, drones, stingrays, and demands to companies like Google and Facebook for user information, but Massachusetts has not. If elected, will you support privacy legislation to require warrants for electronic surveillance?

Yes No

If no, why not?

3) Law enforcement can obtain huge quantities of information about people in Massachusetts without obtaining a court order, using an administrative subpoena that merely requires the signature of a district attorney. The state of California has passed privacy legislation to require a warrant for law enforcement access to sensitive metadata like call records, IP addresses, and credit card and banking information. If elected, will you support similar legislation in Massachusetts?

Yes No

If no, why not?

4) In the last several legislative sessions, DAs have pushed for a broad expansion of Massachusetts' wiretap statute. The justification for some of this expansion has been to solve gang-related homicides; currently, gang activity is not considered organized crime for purposes of the statute. Would you support an expansion limited to homicide only?

Yes No

If no, why not?

BAIL

1) In light of the recent Commonwealth v. Brangan decision, the practice of requesting bail out of concern for public safety - but not pursuant to a 58A dangerousness hearing under - should no longer happen. Will you commit to ensuring that assistant district attorneys will not misuse the dangerousness hearing?

Yes No

If yes, how?

To assure that the Dangerousness Hearing will not be misused, I will require ADAs to receive sign-off from a superior when they are seeking a Dangerousness Hearing. This data will be captured and the reason for the hearing will be in writing and will require supervisory sign-off. If we implement policies and procedures whereby on certain offense will require a Dangerousness Hearing, those will supersede this written answer.

If no, why not?

2) We know that, too often, innocent people plead guilty to crimes they did not commit. One reason for this: they cannot afford bail amounts and would rather plead guilty than suffer pre-trial detention to fight the charges against them. What are the top three policies you would implement to change bail practices so that they do not force people to plead guilty to crimes they did not commit?

Priority #1. Cash bail should not be requested for any offenses that are at the state sentencing guideline 3 or below. This way, we are borrowing from the sentencing guidelines which were designed by a highly qualified mix of practitioners and judges from across the state. This is consistent with my running theme of having a body of practitioners from across criminal law advising me on particular issues.

Priority #2. In the circumstances where cash bail is appropriate for a low level offense because of the specific circumstances of the case, cash bail can still be sought but through a process that allows for input from experienced ADAs. Line ADAs will be required to obtain supervisory permission to request a cash bail for any offense that is at sentencing guideline 3 or below. This will come closer to ensuring that pre-sentencing incarceration is only sought where the ADAs would actually intend to ask for jail time at sentencing.

Priority #3. Mandatory training for all of my ADAs and staff of the collateral consequences of poverty, the racial disparities in the system, and an actual day spent inside of the HOCs, DOCs and other facilities that people are sent to when we make our decisions.

PAROLE

1) The Massachusetts Parole Board has a reputation of granting relatively low rate of parole. The DA plays an important role in parole hearings, including in new juvenile life without parole cases now constitutionally required to go in front of the board, If elected, would you consider an individual review of cases coming in front of parole such that your office would only ask the parole board to deny parole in cases where remorse is clearly not shown?

Yes

JUVENILE JUSTICE

1) DAs have a major gatekeeper role in who enters and who is excluded from the justice system. Most DAs have diversion programs for young people, but there is no information available to show if these diversionary programs are offered fairly and do not contribute to racial and ethnic disparities. Will you commit to publicly releasing non-identifying prosecution and diversion data to address this gap in transparency?

Yes No

If no, why not?

2) Young adults, including those in their late teens, have the worst outcomes of any age group in the criminal justice system. What reforms do you support that would improve how young people are better situated to mature into more positive adults?

I believe in the brain science proving that young people mature and develop until they are 24 to 25 years old. I like the idea of a Young Adult Court. I prefer alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenses. I support Sheriffs that have separate units for young adults and will be vocal about making sure those promised changes are in fact implemented. I also want to be vocal about getting the young people of Suffolk County employment and training opportunities, as well as access to all of the green spaces and beautiful places across our County. It is heart wrenching that there are young people in Suffolk County that haven't had access to or visited our State House, the ocean, the Aquarium, the Museum of Science, Fenway Park, the Franklin Park Zoo. We need to commit resources to our youth while they are alive and free. Our HOCs and DOCs run and are staffed better than our schools. That is a serious problem.

MANDATORY MINIMUMS

1) An overwhelming number of cases are resolved by guilty plea, driving the rates of

incarceration and racial disparities in sentencing. Too often, guilty pleas are leveraged through the threat of facing lengthy mandatory minimum sentences. If elected, will you reform this practice?

Yes No

If yes, how so?

Luckily, the new Criminal Justice Laws speak to this very issue and have repealed several mandatory minimums. Unfortunately, the laws added new mandatory minimums for additional offenses.

Mandatory minimums are attached to the crimes that people are charged with. In the overwhelming majority of cases in District Courts, police or a clerk magistrate are proposing the charges and ADAs are falling in line with what they are proposing.

I am interested in my ADAs investigating prior to moving for a case to be formally arraigned. This actually happens all the time in juvenile court. Arraignments get continued for weeks in order for the ADA to learn more about the offense and victim's cooperation (understand family dynamics, or contact ELMO to see if GPS would show client was present, etc.) All an ADA needs is probable cause to arraign, but the DA's office should do more than what is minimally required; because arraigning someone, putting an entry on their record and entering them into the CJS can have very serious ramifications in the person's life - even if no conviction is ever entered. This stage of the process, which routinely happens so casually and all too quickly, should be slowed down. ADAs should be making thoughtful decisions about whether to arraign a case, rather than automatically moving to arraign every thing that comes before them. Further, if there is a mandatory minimum attached to the charge, they need to think about all of the collateral consequences that attach based on the crime charged.

Victims would benefit by new process because they will feel heard by the DA's office at the very outset of the case. Defendants would benefit from being able to avoid unnecessary arraignments (i.e., arraignments that eventually hit a DWOP at trial). This would help reduce case loads for everyone. It may also have the long term effect of officers not arresting individuals for certain offenses because they know it won't get arraigned. The impact could be system-wide. .

If no, why not?

CRIMINAL LAW REFORM

1) As a member of the MDAA, will you advocate for the support of policies that will reduce mass incarceration and racial disparity in the criminal legal system?

Yes No

If no, why not?

2) Although some mandatory minimum offenses were repealed, new ones were created and others stayed on the books. Do you support the repeal of all mandatory mini-

mum sentences for any drug offense?

Yes No

If no, why not?

3) The Commonwealth v. Brangan decision and the recent bill changing the bail statute will hopefully reduce the number of people being detained pre-trial merely because they are too poor to afford bail. Despite these recent reforms, there are still significant numbers of people held on cash bail. Do you support ending cash bail?

Yes No

If no, why not?