

State's Attorney Candidate Questionnaire

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MARYLAND ALLIANCE FOR JUSTICE REFORM

Working to end unnecessary incarceration and build strong, safe communities



The Maryland Alliance for Justice Reform, which represents over forty community organizations and churches with members in every part of the state, views the current political season as an opportunity to educate voters on important issues related to our system of justice.

Our members want to know what positions you have taken on critical issues and how you intend to wield the power of your position if elected.

We have prepared a short list of questions reflecting our concerns. All forty-four candidates for State's Attorney identified by the State Board of Elections have received this survey. MAJR will tabulate and report on your answers, which will be accessible on our website and shared widely.

Please email your answers to survey@ma4jr.org by June 15, or call me with any questions at 240-512-0118. For more information on these and other issues see our website at: <http://www.ma4jr.org/>

Sincerely,
Jim Rose for
The Maryland Alliance for Justice Reform

1. In your opinion is there a difference between being "tough on crime" and being "smart on crime"? Please explain.
2. Should minor offenses be decriminalized, resulting in fines instead of jail time?
3. Do you favor using pretrial risk assessment? Will you recommend pretrial supervision?
4. Would you work to expand criminal diversions in which willing victims and offenders are offered mediation?
5. Would you support reentry programs to improve employment opportunities for inmates returning from state prison sentences?
6. Would you support mental health screening and treatment of pretrial detainees?

MAJR is a nonpartisan association of over forty community organizations and churches with members in every part of the state, formed to support justice reinvestment. Individual supporters include judges, attorneys, corrections professionals, as well as returning citizens, victims, and service providers.

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