



The R.A.V.E Report:
2018 Community Listening Forums for Suffolk
County District Attorney



About R.A.V.E: A new initiative known as RAVE (Resist, Advocate, Vote, *and* Educate) came out of CSNDC's Community Organizing Committee efforts in 2018. RAVE is a collective of active and engaged Dorchester residents working in coordination with Codman Square Neighborhood Development (CSNDC) staff and board members. The goal of this initiative is to host community civic education events and perform voter education and registration. RAVE has a goal of registering 250 new voters by the close of summer 2018, and another 250 by the end of the year. The initiative's inaugural community education event was the Community Listening Forum for Suffolk County District Attorney which took place in June and July 2018 at the CSNDC community space located at 86 Southern Ave in Codman Square.

About CORR: The Community Organizing and Resident Resources Department (CORR) believes that strong, healthy, and stable communities are built from the ground up and with the help of all stakeholders in the community. CORR exists to tap, engage, and develop the leadership of residents living in and around NDC-owned properties, and to support resident-led efforts to create stronger communities by helping to build the community's voice and by creating opportunities to exercise and engage that voice.

About the NDC: (We strive) to build a cohesive and resilient community in Codman Square and South Dorchester, develop affordable housing and commercial spaces that are safe and sustainable, and promote economic stability for low and moderate income residents of all ages.



Universal Listening Forum Questions

The community listening forums took place on the following dates: Wednesday, June 27th, Monday July 9th, Thursday, July 12th, Monday July 16th, and Thursday, July 26th. All five participating candidates were asked the same eight questions which were not provided ahead of time. Resident participants in attendance and RAVE members asked follow-up questions to the universal eight questions however this report will only provide the transcript to the specific eight listed below.

RAVE does not endorse any candidate or provide any analysis of their responses in this report. Our intention was to develop questions that we deemed relevant to the community in which we live and work and share candidate responses widely in order to contribute to community members making informed decisions in the ballot booth. Candidate responses have been edited for brevity and clarity. We have made our best effort in transcribing this series of dynamic dialogues into a concise and easily digested report. We have been thoughtful in creating this report as to not misrepresent any of the candidates' responses or positions.

Question #1

What is your plan to hold police accountable for misconduct/abuse of power?

- a. Do you have a plan to put in place particular policies that addresses community concerns when these incidents occur?
- b. Is there a plan for communicating this and any other reforms/policy changes to the residents of Suffolk County?

Question #2

How will you work towards insuring the law is applied in an equitable fashion, given the recent ACLU report and the Boston Globe series on race that both highlighted vast inequality that not only exists in the City of Boston generally but in particular in the Criminal Justice System?

Question #3

Quoting from the recent report entitled "The Prosecutor's Role in the Current Immigration Landscape" (Hillary Blout, Rose Cahn, and Miriam Aroni Krinsky)

"Prosecutors have an obligation to ensure fairness in the administration of the criminal justice process (Brady v Maryland, 373 US 83 (1963)). As aptly noted by Justice

Anthony Kennedy, "[a]s a profession...[lawyers] should know what happens after the prisoner is taken away" to better understand the "hidden world of punishment"
(Anthony M. Kennedy, Assoc. Justice, Supreme Court of the United States, Address at the



A.B.A Annual Meeting (Aug. 9, 2003). In today's climate, the impact of criminal conviction is no longer "hidden" from prosecutors or from immigrant communities.

Prosecutors have an obligation and an opportunity to consider immigration consequences of convictions, charges, or event arrests for immigrant defendants because, as the Supreme Court has long recognized, lifelong banishment is among the harshest punishments imaginable. Being aware of, and adopting policies that take into account, the immigration consequences that are triggered by the criminal justice system is integral to the prosecutor's duty to promote public safety as well as the interests of justice"

How will you support Boston being a sanctuary city in relation to immigration consequences for convictions?

Question #4

Within the D.A's office there is the Appellate Division. This division makes sure cases are strong and fair enough to withstand review by higher courts. Part of what they do is help to draft legislation. How would you leverage, if at all, the Appellate Division and your platform as D.A to help draft legislation?

Question #5

Referencing the recent ACLU report: "Voters see a commitment to racial justice as a more important quality in a DA than experience as a prosecutor". Do you intend to bring a racial justice lens to your work if elected and if so do you have any examples of what that would look like?

Question #6

What will be your position on rehabilitation versus incarceration for residents of Suffolk County who are arrested for illegal substance use?

Question #7

How, if at all, do you see the Suffolk County DA's office and the Suffolk County Sherriff's office collaborating to yield better outcomes for public safety, equity for all residents, and fairness in how the law is applied?

Question #8

If elected, what will be your three top priority areas on the proverbial "day one on the job"?



Question #1

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Candidate Shannon McAullife

I am the only candidate in the democratic primary who was a defense attorney and was not a prosecutor. What I can tell you is that I am not part of a go along to get along culture. I have been holding police officers accountable in my role as defense attorney for over 15 years ago. I do that through motion to suppress, cross examining officers and really insuring that they are held to high standards. I will hold them accountable. That means if a police officer commits a crime, my office is charging them for it and going to a grand jury. Oft times there is a culture of familiarity between prosecutors and officers. We all have a lane to work in. Police have theirs and prosecutors have theirs. A DA's job is to hold police accountable and I will do that at every turn. For example. The Shawn Elise case is something that should not happen the way it did.

Candidate Linda Champion

I have worked in Roxbury, Dorchester, and Juvenile District courts. We have good people and we have bad people. It is very obvious when I am meeting a cop that is just too edgy for me. I don't need that officer to engage directly in misconduct with a constituent or resident; by the time it gets to that level, we know it's a problem. There are two different pieces to your question. I do not employ the police officer. They don't work for me, they work for the City of Boston. Anything they do that rises to the level of misconduct is more, in my opinion, an administrative personnel issue. It is my place to file a complaint so I can keep track of things they are doing like excessive overtime or being disrespectful to witnesses. I don't tolerate misconduct. I know how the officers can be. I know they can be bullies. They see young prosecutors and feel they can tell you how to do your job. I will address the misconduct. I don't want the community acting on retaliation. The answer is we have to create a data base. We have to make note of that stuff. Things like racism are not in your face, they are subtle. It's the way they talk to you. It's the way you let one person get away with it and the other doesn't. It is something we have to watch. Monitor, understand



and track it. I will tell you guys one more thing, we need more boundaries on relationship between police and the prosecutor.

Candidate Evandro Carvalho

That question, bar none, comes up in every forum in our neighborhood. We understand the role the police have in our community and we also know there has been tension. We know that the community-police relationship has not been good. We listen to our young people. We see them stopped by the police. We drive by and wonder what is at the root of the stop. These questions don't come out of nowhere. There is a history of police brutality in our nation, particularly in communities of color, throughout American history. More recently what we have seen throughout the country has pushed that tension to a new high. It is imperative that we rebuild the relationship with the police that serve us.

As a state rep., at the beginning of the incidents we saw happen such as Michael Brown in Ferguson and Freddie Gray in Baltimore, one of the first bills I filed in 2014 was for a special prosecutor to handle certain cases. The bill states if a police officer kills someone in Massachusetts in the line of duty that it would be a special prosecutor, not the DA who works with them on an ongoing basis, who will investigate and prosecute if need be. We need accountability. What we are seeing for one reason or another is that no one has been found guilty for doing all these things. We see those (videos) and we want to know why no one was charged. I filed the bill 4 years ago. I have shown that I can speak on issues against police. I spoke on a Field's Corner police incident. The plan for serious misconduct is to investigate and prosecute this person, the second plan for murder cases is to have a special prosecutor or a judge. The judge can make this happen through rules of the law that allows a judge to do an investigation. The second component of this is that I would make sure it was publicized so the public knows what the steps are. As a state rep I have a monthly letter and I will continue that. There is some building and rebuilding of trust that needs to happen. This a topic that comes up too often, Bromley Heath is a recent example of this. Training and diversifying of the staff needs to happen.

Candidate Greg Henning

I started in the office in 2006 as a line prosecutor, then ran the gun prosecution task force. I left the office for personal reasons. I wanted to get connected to the community in a more direct way. I moved to Dorchester and worked at College Bound Dorchester. I am fluent in Spanish, taught English as a second language for folks who were becoming citizens, and became a mentor and a coach. One of my first cases was a young man that I had prosecuted. It changed our view of each other. Changed my perspective. I started to think differently about my job and wanted to do more. I became an 8th grade teacher. I began to see the prosecutor's office differently. I



brought that new awareness when I returned to the office. I saw the role we could play in our community beyond being a prosecutor.

The first thing about police misconduct and abuse of power is transparency, which is a buzz word that gets thrown out a lot but is actually something we need to be specific about. Body cameras is something I supported long before it became an issue on the campaign and the police don't like it. They don't like that I have been focal about it. Unfortunately we have incidents like what happened in Chicago with the shooting or you have incidents like Baltimore where the body cam caught officers planting drugs. I support body cams even with what people have said in the forums based on union reasons. I think body cams are going to happen. Transparency is something that is needed and body cams will do that.

Second, prosecuting people who break the law. A police officer on the job or off the job is not above the law and they should know it. Prosecution of such incidents is what we are there to do. I have never been shy about holding police accountable by using our tools to prosecute like any other case. The worst thing is for the community to think that people are above the law may it be police or prosecutor. In terms of specifics, the Boston police department and the DA office in Boston has been leading in the message of getting video and investigation out early. This is important for transparency. We should continue our implicit bias training. I would encourage and recommend more trainings of the DA's office and police.

Candidate Rachael Rollins

To start out the DA's office and the police operate everyday together hand in hand. They arrest people and bring them to court and we stand up and prosecute those people. I have been one of the only candidates since the beginning that said I want to have, if there is an officer involved in a shooting or excessive use of force or misconduct allegations. Right now today an assistant district attorney investigates an office that she or he has worked with and might have had many cases with and knows personally and I believe that that does not instill confidence in our communities. They believe we are inherently biased because we know these individuals and work with them every day. I have said this from the beginning. I will remove that function from the office. I'm going to find former prosecutors, defense attorneys, civil rights attorneys, retired judges and retired prosecutors. I will find those people. There will be women and there will be people of color in that group and they will be conducting that investigation and reporting it to me as the DA. I want to remove it from inside the office to an outside group of selected people that are qualified who can do that investigation and can report back to me if its reasonable and that is the standard if an officer was reasonable or unreasonable whether there will be charges filed there. I have been focal about that in all of the forums. I will have a policy that I will share



with the community. I will be having something akin to state of the unions to inform the community on what the DA office does. I will be leaving my office quarterly and going into the community to report out what it is we're doing, how many cases we have had, how many cases we have diverted, how many officer involved shootings not just in Boston but also Chelsea, Winthrop and Revere. I will go to them and in the communities where other languages are spoken we will make sure that we have translators so that we can be held accountable for what we are responsible for. So I have a plan, I've said it out loud and I will put it in writing. I have held the police accountable before. I am the only candidate that has filed a law suit against the police. I stand up and still have good relationship with them but I can call them to the mat when they need to be called to the mat. I will also be creating a conviction integrity unit. I want the conviction integrity unit to be almost like internal affairs.

Question #2

How will you work towards insuring the law is applied in an equitable fashion, given the recent ACLU report and the Boston Globe series on race that both highlighted vast inequality that not only exists in the City of Boston generally but in particular in the Criminal Justice System?

Candidate Shannon McAullife

We are steeped in disparities. What I wanted to say initially is that I am not new to this party. I was a federal defender from 1996- 1998 then from 1998 to 2000. I was a public defender in Dorchester. Superior court and then again from 2000-2012. I saw it day in and day out. This system is steeped in deep racial inequities. What we have in the DA's office now is a system that refuses to measure anything. So what the current DA is saying is, "prosecute the people that come before me." I will be the DA that says, "there are racial and class inequities that exist in the world. We cannot allow them to invade our court rooms and to exasperate our court room because that is where the rubber meets the road. That is where people lose their freedom. First, I think you have to have some data. Who is getting charged with what and who is getting offered the pleas? This will enable us to see that practices have been systematically racist. We have to change this. We need a different outcome which means we have to set new benchmarks then we train against, push against it and teach against it to ensure that it does not keep happening. The second is that there is this notion that something that happens in Back Bay, if it can slide there if there is not a case there, then there should not be a case anywhere. There was a case recently reported in the paper about a 37 year old African American man who went into a Burger King with a \$10 bill was accused of it being counterfeit. He said it was not. They said leave and kept his money. He said, "I want my \$10" and when he wouldn't leave they called the police. The police came, he had was hauled off to court and they got him for violating his probation. He is held without bail for 3 months. It took this DA office three months to find out that this bill was real. That is the system we are dealing with. If we take a white man living in the Back Bay area,



they probably would not scrutinize. What do you think would happen? You've been duped. This happens and I say this happens every day. It's really important that this next district attorney have a fundamentally different lens. The next district attorney will need to do fundamentally different things to fight against injustice. It's easy to come now and say I agree but what did you do for your entire career. For my entire career I have been fighting against injustice. Evaluate if it's worth our time or is it based on racist policies or is it actually a crime that we need to be prosecuting.

Candidate Linda Champion

It is two parts. It is the judge and the prosecutor. I really don't want to make a mistake on my watch. What I would do is look at things more closely (*Candidate Champion offered narratives of cases to illustrate her point*) It is about case by case. I came to this community when I was 18 and homeless. I know how easy it is to have a confrontation with an officer. I know how people can escalate and deescalate things. A lot depends on the officer too. Some of them are nice and some aren't. When we are dealing with folks who are not professional I have to take what they say with a grain of salt. Prosecutors also have to be trained to understand racism and discrimination. We need more staff of color in our courts. There is a lack of culture and diversity. One of the reasons for that is that we do not make enough money. I will have to do is go in there and break down that budget, increase the living wage so that I can track minority candidates so they can afford to cover their cost of living. Cover their student loans then also have the ability to give back to the community by being a public servant. I cannot do it offering \$40,000. Our families don't have the money to pay for this historically so for me to attract the diversity that I need a lot needs to happen. I have to increase the living wage. Young people need to know their rights. Maybe these police officers who are jerks would approach community and our youth differently. If we are going to do criminal justice reform. If it's not applied properly it's not going to work properly. So for me we can't continue to prosecute people, I don't care who the person is without looking at the conditions they are living in. As a prosecutor I don't get to hear the history of the child. Police officers need more education on community. It goes both ways and their needs to be an equal level of respect.



Candidate Evandro Carvalho

Bar none this is the most important reason I ran for state rep; before that I was an assistant district attorney in Roxbury, West Roxbury and Downtown. I noticed that the people coming in the courts were people from the same community, young people from specific spaces that were going to jail. I saw the cycle of incarceration first hand. I saw misconduct first hand. 20% of the people in Mass are brown and black yet 52% of the population in prison are brown and black. The reality as to why I want to run for office is to change the criminal justice system. I want to decrease that disparity. As DA, eliminating mandatory minimum is a priority, 70- 80% of black and brown people are racially impacted by mandatory minimums. I filed a bill to eliminate all nonviolent drug offenses. Why? Because of those numbers that shows that it is only being applied to us. For some reason or another it is not applied to other communities. Another bill I filed, is the school to prison pipeline, which deals with juvenile justice. We need to make sure our young people are not going to jail from school. Do we know what the prison pipeline is? There is data that shows that we are more likely to be suspended 4 times more than white. Students that are being suspended are also the ones dropping out of school. Those students are also the ones arrested in school. A disproportionate number for black and brown students. Target what is happening in school. Raise the age of criminal responsibility. We need more people that look like the community that serve in the DA office. So we increase diversity. The second component is that we train ADA's particularly on implicit biases. One of the things of the new criminal justice bill is that police get trained on implicit bias but we also need it for the DA's office. Finally, the data collection. We gather information on crimes, the people, their background, their race, and their age. That way we will be able to see a few years from now how the outcomes are coming out. What gender and race are impacted in a particular way? Then we can say, look at the cases we are filing. What can we do more to address the racial disparities? We need more data and we need to report it.

Candidate Greg Henning

This question could take up the rest of the evening. First, thing is that the office needs to have proper funding to address these issues. Right now the office has a budget that goes more to overhead. Even with that we still have some of the lowest paid assistant district attorney's in the country. That is important to highlight. For us to address the issue of inequality that is both the perception and the reality we need to have people that reflect the community. We have done a poor job at hiring people who reflect the community both in culture and language. The way we can do that is to attract candidates that would come on board. The problem is, if you come out of law school as a person of color, particularly African American. They are less than 5 % of the graduates. If you then apply you will offer from law firms paying 100,000, we pay 46,000. That is not competitive. In the other forums we have been discussing this with other candidates. I want to have an office that attracts the best candidates that represent our communities of color. The problem is we do not have the people or the budget to do it. I personally have done work with young men and women of color to get them careers in law.



I want to offer people the jobs to serve the office and the community but it is impossible to do it under the current structure. Financially we have to do it in a way that is legitimate.

With an increased budget we can do community outreach. We are not out there enough. We need to connect. That would take more active outreach.

Candidate Rachael Rollins

The office does not reflect the community it serves. 275 – 150 are lawyers 131 are white. If you walk up to Dorchester court the majority of the defendants that you see does not reflect the people who are prosecuting them. There is a massive disconnect between law enforcement, which I include the DA's office in, and the community they are supposed to serve. So what I think needs to happen. We need to adequately represent the community that it serves. So what we are going to do? We are not walking in and firing everyone. What I will do is make sure that people are trained. I do believe if Greg is not successful in his bid, there will be a lot of turnover in his office because they are a lot of people who do not want change to happen. The legislature has already spoken with the new criminal reform bill. They are a lot changes that have been signed into law by the governor making pretty large changes in our criminal justice system. Greg opposed that on the record. Dan Conley did not support many of the changes in the law. I think it will be a high turnover rate if I or another progressive candidate is successful. I am going to make sure that everyone receives training, new training.

Lots of ADA's have good hearts but do not live in the community. My training will take them through an implicit bias training also trauma and violence, opioid addiction. I also want my DA's to spend a day in jail. Important if you ever visit anyone in jail for you to see the small inconvenience you have to go through to visit someone in jail yourself. Then to have to increase that to what really happens. We have immense power. It is incredibly important that the people that have that power know what it is so I will say that we will train our staff, when we have an opportunity to replace people and not just ADA's but witness advocates, admins, investigators we will have people that speak the language of the community. We are going to meet people where they are. They are victims from all spaces.

I am biracial but fully identify as a black woman. I am fluent in Irish male speak and will work well and closely with the department but I will say to you that there is not a lot of diversity in the office. Dan Conley right now has 10 lawyers and they are excellent I can tell you that for sure but they are all men. I think it shows a blind spot where he is not making it his priority, not connecting. Like the Globe series the disparities on health care, housing all of these other things, the criminal justice system are even more staggering. What I want to make sure I am doing is being deliberate in my hiring so that we can reach a point where we have really qualified people.

I want to replace people that are leaving. Look at the FTE and see if we could break it into two.



It is important to me to speak out loud on things that make us uncomfortable. Those racial stories we hear about, it is upsetting because it is our community. Dorchester has overwhelming violence here but the bodies on the streets are overwhelmingly black and brown men. I want to speak out loud about this, put my money where my mouth is. Hiring that have CORI's in my office. I can't talk about criminal justice reform and not say to myself why can't my admin assistant who helps me get to my meetings on time but have had some trouble to work with me. I will work hard that the office will reflect the community we serve. We are duty bound but I will also be collecting data from each of my courthouses whether it's East Boston or Dorchester, all the district court houses. I want to know how many diversions did you do today. How many restorative justice programs did you send people to? How many diversion cases did you do because someone is addicted or mentally ill? What was the race, age, gender? We need all that information because if West Roxbury is doing well with diversion programs and Roxbury isn't that is not fair. Because of where you live you will get a criminal record, it's not fair and it is happening all the time.

Question #3

Quoting from the recent report entitled "The Prosecutor's Role in the Current Immigration Landscape" (Hillary Blout, Rose Cahn, and Miriam Aroni Krinsky)

"Prosecutors have an obligation to ensure fairness in the administration of the criminal justice process (Brady v Maryland, 373 US 83 (1963)). As aptly noted by Justice

Anthony Kennedy, "[a]s a profession....[lawyers] should know what happens after the prisoner is taken away" to better understand the "hidden world of punishment"

(Anthony M. Kennedy, Assoc. Justice, Supreme Court of the United States, Address at the A.B.A Annual Meeting (Aug. 9, 2003). In today's climate, the impact of criminal conviction is no longer "hidden" from prosecutors or from immigrant communities.

Prosecutors have an obligation and an opportunity to consider immigration consequences of convictions, charges, or event arrests for immigrant defendants because, as the Supreme Court has long recognized, lifelong banishment is among the harshest punishments imaginable. Being aware of, and adopting policies that take into account, the immigration consequences that are triggered by the criminal justice system is integral to the prosecutor's duty to promote public safety as well as the interests of justice"

How will you support Boston being a sanctuary city in relation to immigration consequences for convictions?

Candidate Shannon McAuliffe

This is something that is very dear and near to my heart. I was a federal prosecutor in San Diego. Most of my clients were undocumented. In Suffolk County I spent many hours begging and pleading with this DA, "could you charge something differently so it's not an aggravated felony, so it's not a triggering offense that could get someone deported" because as you say, lifelong



banishment for something like possession of marijuana could potentially launch you into deportation. I have seen the system not work and ignore and turn away from the actual consequences by saying, you have to do the time.

I believe you have to take the person before you and you have to look at the entire person before you and respond. That means there is going to be unnecessary human suffering because we are either lazy, we don't care or we don't want to know about it and that is what I have seen in the system day in and day out for the last 12 years. Really educating the DA's on what gets you deported and what doesn't. It is called an aggravated felony or anything that has a tone of violence even if there is not violence in the specific crime. Like assault and battery or assault with a weapon that could actually end up deporting you. One, its educating and two if you know someone is undocumented and a conviction could really have a serious action on their immigration. Having supervisor that we must go through it before any offer is made. It is about building community and not destroying community. Building community.

Ask all the candidates what is their position on immigration or reporting to ICE, homeland security. I would never represent homeland security of ICE.

Candidate Linda Champion

For me, I'm sensitive because my mother is an immigrant. One of the things I said since I started my campaign is that the district attorney's office has to have an immigration lawyer retained for the purpose of training the prosecutors on immigration consequences and specifically collateral/federal consequences. Often time's people don't understand that there is a matrix that you can use with immigration law. Something that you might think is not a deportable offense on the federal side is a deportable offense. I also want people in the community to understand. So we have to have some balance. What I want the immigration attorney to do and what I want the prosecutors trained and understanding to be is that you may have one intended consequence but your action can have an unintended outcome. Sometimes the defense attorneys are flawed too. What is true, I knew immigration because I was working in the community doing immigration handling other aspects of immigration that had more to do with fraudulent stuff. If we are truly going to be a sanctuary city then I will invested interest in making sure that for those victims of crime that I have to make them safe. I have to make them safe if they feel I would answer to an

ICE detainer. But they are not going to feel safe. I need for anyone in our community coming to our office to feel safe. I need everyone to feel safe coming into the DA office.



Candidate Evandro Carvalho

I'll start by saying this, I will have a zero tolerance policy for ICE and for ICE detainees unless they have probable cause such as a warrant. I need to uphold the law. My office will not be communicating with ICE. What happens is that the ADA's or police can call ICE and say hold this person. I was one of the reps who signed the bill two sessions ago. I understand this issue. I have personally seen the consequences of what the report says. I have many examples. Now with the current President it is a whole different ball game. How does this translate in the role of the DA? Zero tolerance means my office would not be allowed to call ICE on anyone. I will also make sure that the ADA's are trained in immigration law. Speaking on collateral consequences, immigration is one of those consequences. Families are getting ripped apart permanently.

Candidate Greg Henning

The first thing that I want to convey to everyone when they ask this question. We are like the statue of liberty quote. We don't want anyone to not show up because they are worried of immigration status. We want people to show up victims, family, community etc. And we will not be part of anyone participating because of the status. It is the right thing to do and it is safer. Prior to 2013 in Mass we were not taking into account the immigration consequences. This report says this is what you should happen. Now judges take into account collateral consequences. The current status is that it is still a bit unclear. We should be taking into account all about the person background to have an overall perspective.

We need use our discretion and looking at it case by case. I am willing to push back on the tone of current times. We need to go more into the community. We need to educate people in the community around issues. We need more diversity in language in the office.

Candidate Rachael Rollins

I am the only candidate that has stated out loud that my office will be instructed that if they see a federal agent whether ICE or otherwise questioning or detaining somebody in the Suffolk County Court House or in their field of view when they are leaving or coming, that they will be calling me alerting personally on that. I will be calling United States Attorney requiring that he return them back, if not, I will file an injunction. ICE is in Chelsea daily picking people up. We need to know about the data bases and who has access to them. I will let it be known to the community that when you come to court as a witness to a crime and or have information of a crime, if ICE picks you up there folks will not come to court. My job is to keep the community safe and justice for victims. When ICE comes and deports people and I don't do anything, people will not feel safe. If we are really a sanctuary city we need to be so. I will do the most humane thing. I think



prosecutors and defense attorneys should be talking about what they believe the consequences will be. I would have an immigration attorney on retainer.

Question #4

Within the D.A's office there is the Appellate Division. This division makes sure cases are strong and fair enough to withstand review by higher courts. Part of what they do is help to draft legislation. How would you leverage, if at all, the Appellate Division and your platform as D.A to help draft legislation?

Candidate Shannon McAuliffe

So it would be drastically different to what DA's have done. In the crime bill that just passed this DA joined on the letter against the crime bill. This letter was very closed minded. I think we need legislation that addresses wage theft. If someone invested in a company.

These kind of cases are dealt with in the AG office I think these are the cases that the DA should go after. You know if you keep going after the low hanging fruit or the kind on the corner with drugs in his pocket. It affects the community. It is taking money out of the resident's pocket. The other is, is using the position of the bully pulpit that it is using the state security act that speaks to government not being complicit in enforcing ICE laws so I would be opponent of that. In regards to legislation. I would need to think more about it. I guess it would mean pushing outer limits to think that we can actually build the community and to think that people in it and not only punish.

Candidate Linda Champion

We need to track and monitor these incidents. Things like racism are not in your face, they are subtle. It is the undertone, the way you talk to someone. We have incidents that someone can be charged with the same crime but the outcome is different depending on the community. Officers and the prosecutor's office should have ongoing training on racism. Many of them in the office have no experience with communities of color. This touches again on the importance of diversifying the office.



Candidate Evandro Carvalho

As you eluded to, I am the only candidate who is currently a law maker. I have drafted laws and bills that have become laws and I have relationships with leaders at the state house, speakers, and the governor. The good news for us, is that I am a representative and have relationships on Beacon Hill. I will continue to draft laws and also be involved in issues beyond just the criminal justice system. Going to speak on education, transportation, housing particular now. I will make sure the office speaks on issues that are affecting our community. DA's do come down to the hill. They have a powerful voice. For once you will have a DA who will say, let's change this, let's do restorative justice let's advocate and work with the state.

Candidate Greg Henning

The first piece of legislation that I would like to put forward would fund policies and programs that the criminal justice reform bill mandated but are not funded right now. For example the criminal justice reform bill mandates diversion programs but there is not funding to do that.

We need a piece of legislation that would support and fund. City councilor Andrea Campbell has been asking what we are going to do now. We have a program JAR- Juvenile Alternative Resolution program in the DA's office but in order to get it up out of a pilot program we need funding. Putting the money towards this would cost less on how much we spend on incarceration. We would benefit if we put the money towards this.

Other than funding for programs like that I think the DA's office should weigh in on pending legislation. We can weigh in on pending legislation with practical consequences.

School prison pipeline is something important to me. I have a proposal for a program. LEED- law enforcement early diversion- it combines questions 1 and others. There is a lack of trust between community and law enforcement. If we have LEED in place we could change that and we could have mentoring for young adults. There is staff that want to do this. I have done it personally.

If they are able to do this in a formal way they are three things that could happen.

First, there is data that proves that if young people have adults in their lives, they do better. The second thing, is that it steers them away from the school to prison pipeline because they have that extra adult in their lives. The third and one of the most important is that it changes the perception of that police officer and the law enforcement community in general. If you change the interaction in one young man's life it trickles out. They are some bad apples but it changes that perception and it has us communicating with community in a more productive way.



Candidate Rachael Rollins

I have been a clerk for the mass appeal court. The appellate division is incredible important in the office. I have drafted legislation before when I was at MassPort. I want to be influential in writing legislation myself and then legislation that is proposed is turning us back from reform we need to address it. There are laws on the book that are not enforced. Texting is one. No one is enforcing that law. They are many laws on the book that are not enforced. DA's report to no one but the voters. I get to decide as a DA to decide what we will enforce and what our policies will be. I want more reforms. I want jail to be only for violent people. I want to speak about other legislation that files but continue to speak on new ones.

Question #5

Referencing the recent ACLU report: "Voters see a commitment to racial justice as a more important quality in a DA than experience as a prosecutor". Do you intend to bring a racial justice lens to your work if elected and if so do you have any examples of what that would look like?

Candidate Shannon McAullife

Sure, one, if a case looks like it is discriminatory motivated or based on being brought because of skin or income, that would not be a case in my prosecutor office. With regard to, mandatory minimum of? Criminal act. So if you have a gun and you have a prior kind of violence you are facing a three or 10 year 15 year mandatory minimum and what I see happening someone gets charged with the gun and they are looking very far back at somebody's record at something minimal like assault and battery or my favorite is assault and battery and where nobody is hurt I mean that tends to be a charge that comes out of an arrest and even after someone has been hurt by a police officer then tend to charge with ADPO? What is prosecutors office doing is going back many times 20 years to find these three priors to then launch the person for 15 years. There is no statute of limitations on the prior.

Again nobody is going to look at somebody in Back Bay if they have a gun and looking at these 15 years mandatory. It is really having this lens of fairness and not allowing somebody's situation or zip code dictate how people look and we are overcharging.

I think there can be legislation to hold police accountable is kind of tricky because they do have some immunity because they are state agents so again, I want to be really honest I just don't know because of their immunity if we can do it or not. If you violate somebody's civil rights cause of somebody's race that is a crime and that is a crime that certainly can be charged. Like I said, I



think the district attorney needs to push the limit. If something is clear like that and we have a problem testing the case and charging someone for violating someone's civil rights.

I also believe like these ADPO charges, stop bringing them to me. They don't preserve evidence that makes them loose. The DA's office not is only about winning. Your value has to be more about justice.

As a prosecutor you have to hold people accountable that's what the job is. What I have seen is a system that when they are victims of any age or when the victim is unwilling to work with or unwilling to work with what happens is the DA office does nothing. You are basically no longer a victim and I believe you are a victim when victimized. Whether you cooperate or know who it is or a poor card mentality. There is blame as oppose to figuring out what to do....

The community wants to talk to prosecutors but I also believe if you commit something that cannot be taken back and you are prosecuted fairly but then held accountable and go to prison I also believe that there is this group from 18-24 old that should be treated differently. All the evidence show that your brain is still developing and that punishment doesn't actually so if you are a sponge and you are put in a dark place of jail and you're going to get out in two years or whatever it is, you are then going to soak it in and when you get out it will be worst. I think, I believe especially with my work at ROCA to holding people accountable but doing it in a developmentally appropriate way. You can absolutely ruin the rest of somebodies life and they will keep committing crimes or we can be really smart about this by saying, how can we give you what you need while also holding you accountable and you can be lifted up by the system.

Bringing the community in is important. Change happens with proximity. If we have more and more proximity. Every day should have to go to one of the circles at ROCA and not just one day. It should be required. You would walk out with a different lens.

Candidate Linda Champion

(Ms. Champion touched on this topic in her response to Question #2). We need to track and monitor these incidents. Things like racism are not in your face, they are subtle. It is the undertone, the way you talk to someone. We have incidents that someone can be charged with the same crime but the outcome is different depending on the community. Officers and the prosecutor's office should have ongoing training on racism. Many of them in the office have no experience with communities of color. This touches again on the importance of diversifying the office.



Candidate Evandro Carvalho

We kind of answered this question, make sure we increase the diversity in the office. Making sure we have more ADA's that are making the decisions on a daily basis to look like the community. Implicit bias training. That's about racial justice, data collection. Particularly with looking at it from a racial lens. How are decisions being made? Evaluate and reevaluate all decisions on how we are charging, how are we asking for bail. Bail is a major issue. Criminalization of poverty. We have folks serving longer time because they are not able to pay the bail. Implementation of the new law that states need to look at income to see if the person can afford the bail. Income becomes a part of the decision making.

Candidate Greg Henning

I think it is important especially for someone as you stated to own their whiteness that to know your limitations that I can't go in with the same perspective as someone who could from a community of color. One is surrounding yourself and creating a structure of leadership with other ADA's in the office that come from a different perspective, culturally, linguistically and socio economically. It is something especially hard when we have the salary structure that we have. Two, there is no opportunity too small and no organization too remote for the people in our office to go out and be educated. Whether it's 5 people sitting around a room or whether Hibernian Hall. It is about always going out and making sure that when people want to talk about a topic that we send people and listen to the feedback. Three, when you are taking hiring as a general concept of our office one of the things we have done poorly is that we have hired in a very reactive way. We wait for people to send resumes and then in a few months we sort it out then we offer 1st, 2nd and 3rd round interviews. Our process is long. The proactive approach would be, send me who you think should be coming. We want the community to engage in who should be hired. By doing that we can get new people in the door. Spaces of color will give feedback for these positions.

Candidate Rachael Rollins

For sure, as a person of color as a black woman as a sister to incarcerated siblings this is really important to me. Very big part of the reason I am running. Racial justice when we see all of the disparities that we have in all the areas we have talked about I believe that we need to train our lawyers about their implicit and explicit bias.

The FBI reported in 2015 that Mass was the highest in the country on hate crimes. The gang unit isn't looking at pare they looking at people of the alt right as gang members. I have not seen any significant hate crimes come out of the office. If mass is number 1 in the country on hate crimes why is it that I can only think of one case, (uber driver) Black market in Dudley someone wrote 'white lives matter' I have not seen the office respond to this. To your point mam, if we do not value, everyone deserves to be treated equally. By the way, just because I am a black woman



does not mean I will only be looking at those cases. Many are LGBTQ and Muslim cases or abuse of the elderly. I need to make sure I am inclusive. I have implicit bias myself and we all have it. I need to champion all the issues that the community needs. There needs to be more male victim witness advocates and I need to hire more and create more balance. I want a community advisory committees.

Question #6

What will be your position on rehabilitation versus incarceration for residents of Suffolk County who are arrested for illegal substance use?

Candidate Shannon McAullife

I don't believe in charging people for drug use. I think it is something that should be absolutely diverted. There is something called police assisted diversion. It is something they can use. If you see somebody using instead of bringing them to court you bring them to a program. Any community based facility. It is literally just a touch. Like, go and talk to this person for an hour, which gets the person in touch with part of their recovery so that later on when they want to seek that out. They have actually done it. It shows that it reduces future arrest by something like 40%.

Candidate Linda Champion

We can't arrest people for drug use, we just can't. I talk to Suffolk county and people in the community and why do we have people sleeping in the streets. Recovery road?

Something is wrong in our community that we are not properly giving people the support they need to recover from an addiction. Pharmaceutical companies play a role in this. I have been saying this on the campaign trail. When you see someone who is addicted to an opioid don't look at them as an addict. Incident's such as on the job injury could be the cause. They are things that people are going through and not everyone you see is an addict in that sense. We have to figure out a way to treat this, not with me a district attorney because that is a medical issue and we have to treat it as a medical issue so I am not prosecuting.

I will not prosecute for possession case. We should not be detoxing people by force. And that's the other thing I have been saying, you cannot detox someone by force. Give them more therapeutic remedies or options like a cannabis oil or treatment. We have to give them something to alleviate the pain. Detoxing is very painful on a person body.



Candidate Evandro Carvalho

That is one the responsibility of the chief of diversion and restorative justice that people are dealing with substance abuse. 70% of those incarcerated in Suffolk County are dealing with substance abuse issues. We have to give them the treatment they need. You will see it in their record. We need to find ways to put them in programs. We do not have enough programs. They need not go to jail. It does not mean that I will not prosecute depending on the case because there is still an issue of accountability and the record. I can tell you I have a strong commitment to making sure that people are getting the accurate treatment that they need versus just putting them in jail.

Candidate Greg Henning

This is one where it depends on the circumstances of what kinds of cases we are talking about. For illegal substance use for people who are dealing with addiction, incarceration does not work. And one of the things that I have supported and I would continue to support is diverting people into treatment programs instead of incarceration. It is not always a one size fits all approach. Prosecutors should have the discretion in those very rare cases to address alternatives. By enlarge though substance abuse and addiction is not something that we should use or treat with the criminal justice system. There is a program in the office called Road to Recovery only in one court room. I would expand it to all. It basically gives a ticket to someone who is arrested for drug possession. That ticket brings them into court and they immediately go into diversion and the case is dismissed. Diversion does not show up we can still ask for a warrant after consultation if we think the person is out there and not safe. That's something we can try to use the system to get them in but that is something when we are not seeking an arrest. There is so much attention on fentanyl? That is something we need to take seriously. That is something dangerous.

Candidate Rachael Rollins

The other point you need to know that the services in Boston are not been filled by people in Boston. They are racial disparities in who is getting it. I have said this over and over again, we should not be criminalizing poverty, mental health and drug addiction. They are people sitting in the house of corrections with under 500 dollars bail. They are many collateral consequences. For me there is a difference in violent crimes and non-violent crimes. I want to know what is going on in this persons lives. If this is unusual for this person I want to know what it is. If we keep you too long, we need to give you skills to reenter the community. I believe in rehabilitation before incarceration. I believe in redirecting if you are mentally ill. You need to be somewhere getting services not pulled into jail.

**Question #7**

How, if at all, do you see the Suffolk County DA's office and the Suffolk County Sherriff's office collaborating to yield better outcomes for public safety, equity for all residents, and fairness in how the law is applied?

Candidate Shannon McAullife

Sherriff Thompson has endorsed me. DA's go to parole hearings and tend to say no. It takes away from people looking forward. One of the major things about prison reform is going in and not just saying no to parole but looking at the person in front of you and advocating if that makes sense. Bringing the community in is important. Change happens with proximity. Every DA should spend time in programs like ROCA to change the lens on how we see those serving time.

Candidate Linda Champion

So, if we are going to be true about it we have to do a couple things. As a district attorney I don't think that anyone who can prove that they are gainfully employed and it is a nonviolence offense we should be putting them in jail. The only reason for that is because when you do that you lose a job and you lose housing combined that with the gender issue if it's a woman. Woman tend to be the primary caretakers in our community. Children don't understand when mothers are detained. They are ways to do things differently. My challenge to the community is 50 put me out of business. We can spend our money on other things. To do that we have to make sure that when people are incarcerated that they are deserving of a second chance. That the sheriff's office needs to get better about giving people a skill set. So one of the questions I have been asking is why are you releasing people without a form of identification. Why are we releasing people with 50 dollars to their name? Why are they not given a Charlie card for them to begin the process of rebuilding their lives? Why are they so many forms? You know who they are, give them an ID.

Candidate Evandro Carvalho

That is simple enough. The sheriff and I have worked together. Not only the Sherriff but we also need better community partnerships, the churches who have an influence on the community. I would sit down with the sheriff and discuss particularly reentry. I would make sure to be part of it. Strategy, data and what program we have and what kind of cases are coming out of the courts and what we can do to increase treatment.



Candidate Greg Henning

Statistics are all a part of this. The house of corrections releases statistics and data. We need to have a better system ourselves at the DA's office in tracking data. It becomes a budget issue also. Our system is outdated. When we share data we can talk about what the outcomes are.

House of corrections has kicked around an idea of youthful offenders unit. Young folks are not placed in the same space with adults and long terms. I support that. The young offender's session 18- 25 where you treat them differently than the adults. And that is something that can be treated without a lot of money. Bringing resources that are available that want to do intervention and can capture literally those young adults in the room and using the session to address diversion programs. Restorative justice can play a role. It is more difficult in short term cases. There is a program for lifers. They do long term planning. Short term need to get forced into it. I do work in the South Bay. I go in and talk to guys and share information. If we continue to show up then they know that we are part of the process of positivity. I have been doing it for 8 or 9 years.

Candidate Rachael Rollins

We will be collaborating. Part of this new law speaks to what happens when you are in custody. I am going to make sure I know this criminal reform bill. All departments have requirements. We need to hold each other accountable. I want to make sure the sheriff is in compliance.

Question #8

If elected, what will be your three top priority areas on the proverbial "day one on the job"?

Candidate Shannon McAullife

1. Before day 1, I would assemble a transition team that would go in and study all the different parts of the DA office so when I walk in I would have a great deal of information around what is working and what is not. But really looking at it so you can hit the ground running.

2. Reforming cash bail and changing that immediately. They are far too many people in jail because they simply cannot pay the bail. I believe that there should not be cash bail for misdemeanors, nonviolent crimes or any case that the DA would not be seeking jail time.

3. Increasing juvenile diversion. The DA's office tight now have a program that started a year ago and they have had 45 people in it and 12 graduates. It is one court and only happens on Monday and Friday. I think it should be in court every single day. This is the entry point, this is where we can actually say, what we do right now so we don't have a bigger problem later. If I could just add something. It is how we treat victims. If they are treated differently based on skin color and zip code they are treated differently and I have seen it over and over again. In my DA's office all my victims would be valued equally.



Candidate Linda Champion

1. Clean up the docket. I have to keep up the docket in order to invest in the human capital in that office. The community has to know the prosecutor and the prosecutor has to know the community. Get rid of the possession cases in the system. They need to be somewhere but not there. We can be a pathway to detox or supportive services

2 /3. Lightening the work load and increase and change the living wage so that folks do not have to do second jobs while carrying such a heavy case load. Address the gender pay difference. Fair equal pay. Give everyone a raise. We should be coming in at 80% AMI. We want more hands on deck. It allows me to attract the diversity I need. We need prosecutors that are able to listen.

Candidate Evandro Carvalho

1. Be a voice for the victims. Making sure that people who have been wronged and terrorized in the community for whatever that I focus on them. Focus on prosecuting serious crime.

2. Focus on diversion and restorative justice. To focus on our youth, mental issues, veterans are these often are combined.

3. Increase the diversity and the accountability of the office. For instance, making sure to create a diversity committee that not only includes people from the office but that would partner with the community. Whether its lawyers, pastors and so on. And then at the same time to collect data collection policies.

Candidate Greg Henning

1. To start the unsolved shooting team. In 2017 I was working with the gang unit. Our incidents are being underreported. More about who is hit and not about all who are affected. The numbers change based on the traumas in the community. All of that means is that we need to put money into solving shootings and finding the people.

2. Educating the public in forums of listening sessions like this but more importantly is structuring so that on day one you are reaching out to community groups saying when you want people to come there to educate you on how the system works but to update you on what is happening.

3. Being public about wanting to restructure the office. Both in how the units are run and how we do hiring. Diversifying the hiring process and making sure the office is using his resources and its pulpit to say, all these groups want to pay attention to the DA's race. I hope that after people still keep paying attention. This is an important position.



Candidate Rachael Rollins

1. Unsolved homicides- we have 1000 solved homicides. I think our community is being blamed. Our politicians making statements that places blame on community. Putting money and resources to that. Allocate resources to solve those. With a new community relationship people would feel safe coming forward.

2. Cash bail- work on trying to eliminate the system which I think overwhelming impacts communities of color.

3. Diversifying the office and involving the community. Task forces, advisory and coming into the community like this. Who wants to be involved in what?

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