



PROGRESSIVE MASSACHUSETTS
2026 District Attorney
ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Candidate: Rachael Rollins

Office Sought: District Attorney, Suffolk County

Party: Democrat

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General Questions

1. Why are you running for office? And what would be your top 3 priorities if elected?

I am running for District Attorney because the job I started 8 years ago is not finished, and the threats to our community are urgent and serious. I accepted the nomination to become United States Attorney only after requesting and receiving repeated assurances that my successor would continue the innovations and reforms that 80.4% of Suffolk County voters demanded in 2018. Never in my life did I imagine that in 2022 an acting DA who had not yet received a single vote from Suffolk County would arrive and on Day One abandon nearly every single reform and innovation my team implemented. Ever since, the community has been asking me to return to the office, re-install all of our innovations and reforms, and finish the job we started. Suffolk County was arguably the most innovative DA's Office in the country during the time I had the pleasure of leading it from 2019 to 2022. We collected data and had multiple public private partnerships that analyzed our data in real time to inform our written policies. All of those relationships were severed within days of the new unelected DA taking office in January 2022.

My top 3 priorities will be:

1. Bringing back data analysis of charge-related decisions made by the office. Right now, crimes overall are up 1% to date. Shooting victims are up 13%. That is not an accident. It is what happens when an office throws away the data that guided it towards solutions that worked. Under my leadership, that data will inform new written policies. All staff will be trained on all new policies. For example, during my first term we published a groundbreaking research paper titled "Misdemeanor Prosecution," which proved that there is a causal relationship between prosecuting certain nonviolent misdemeanors and increased misdemeanors and felonies in the future. The current administration abandoned this data, and the relationships with the data scientists who published this research, and now, exactly as the research predicted, crime rates, and more seriously, shootings are beginning to rise. We cannot allow Suffolk County's record decreases in crime to be jeopardized by the current administration's foolish decisions to abandon data and innovation.
2. Currently, there are 1500 unsolved homicides in Suffolk County going back to 1960. Under the current DA, there is not one person in that office assigned specifically to solving these cases. Every single one of those files that is collecting dust, is a family that was told to wait. Luckily, until now, we have had a continued decline in homicides since 2019, when we experienced a 20-year low. As DA, I created [PUSH](#) and the current DA - while only appointed and unelected - ended the program with no explanation. If we are prosecuting fewer homicides and still have the same number of homicide prosecutors, we can and should absolutely have them - and others - working internally on unsolved homicides (which overwhelmingly impact poor, Black, and brown families).
3. Reducing and preventing upticks in gun violence through leadership and data usage. Specifically, I will call meetings with the Boston Police Department and community violence intervention leaders to work on strategy. [Violence is](#)

[starting to significantly increase](#) in the same exact neighborhood it always does and the chant by current leadership is still that Boston is the safest city in America. Not if you live in [Roxbury](#), Mattapan, and parts of Dorchester. Further, one of my favorite things to do is speak truth to power on structural problems, such as allocating public funding to reactive agencies, which arrive only after violence has occurred. As an advocate, I will relentlessly and publicly call upon Suffolk County's Mayors, city councils, and the Massachusetts Legislature, to increase funding and personnel for violence prevention and intervention workers and programs. Violence prevention and intervention should occur *before* shootings, homicides, and reprisal cycles occur. Likewise, I will also commit to using more of our office's funding, including the asset forfeiture funds I inherit, for violence prevention and intervention, prioritizing funding and resources for programs that employ credible messengers who were formerly incarcerated and/or system-involved.

2. What prepares you to serve in this capacity?

I have done the job before and under my leadership, Suffolk County experienced record successes both in reducing crime and becoming a nationwide leader on progressive reforms. When I left, I became the chief federal law enforcement officer for Massachusetts. I am now fluent in all that the federal government can and should do to assist local law enforcement. I also know the things that the DA can - and in certain circumstances, should - decline assistance from federal partners. I have successfully led the two largest prosecutors offices in New England.. I have also been investigated by the federal government while I was serving inside of it. I know what it feels like to have the full weight of that federal power aimed at you, to read about yourself, to have your family and friends read about you. I resigned and I am not going to relitigate it here. What I can say is that I now understand something that most prosecutors never will: what it costs someone to be on the receiving end of an investigation, and the devastating consequences for someone's life when that power is used with no checks on it. I have family members who have also been on the other side of criminal investigations and prosecutions, and who have been incarcerated. This lived experience, on both sides of the enormous power of the criminal legal system, has prepared me better than almost anyone. These experiences give me empathy, humility, and a true understanding of the power of prosecutors and our government.

3. Do you consider yourself progressive, and if so, how would you define "progressive"?

Yes. Progressives believe in equality, prosperity, and access. Most importantly, progressives believe in progress, by way of evidence, truth, and innovation. Those in government and elected positions should work to improve our lives and communities using all of the innovations and tools at our disposal.

4. Name two current or former DAs, anywhere in the U.S., whom you most admire for their approach to the office, and why?

Former SA Kim Foxx in Cook County, Illinois, and DA Larry Krasner in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Kim broke barriers, worked to undo over 250 wrongful convictions and facilitate mass exonerations tied to disgraced Chicago police detectives and eliminating cash bail. Larry was the original prosecutor that had a do not prosecute

list. They were and are embattled, but never wavered in following data and evidence which demanded a new way of doing things, and both are my dear friends to this day.

5. What is one specific policy or procedure instituted by another DA's office you would like to replicate, if elected?

First, I will need to reinstate the many data-driven policies and procedures that we instituted in Suffolk County, including our [PUSH](#) initiative and the [Discharge Integrity Team](#) we created to handle shootings by police, all of which were dismantled by the current administration. Once that work is finished, there are many innovative policies and procedures that other offices have instituted, which are supported by evidence, many of which I will seek to replicate when in office. One excellent procedure promulgated in a best practices scan by Conviction Integrity experts at the Quattrone Center, deploys recent advances in technology to automatically scan prosecution data for cases that involve misconduct, or mistake, so that we do not have to wait until people who are incarcerated, or their attorneys, bring their cases to us. Procedures like this will allow us to find wrongful conviction cases on our own, to be reviewed proactively by the Integrity Review Bureau, which under my administration overturned more than 400 years of wrongful incarceration, and which has since been dismantled and has stagnated under the current administration.

6. What is your view on the legacy of the War on Drugs, and how will you use your office to rectify the intergenerational impact of these policies and disrupt ongoing continuation of the War on Drugs?

The war on drugs was intentional and focused exclusively on poor, Black communities. The 100 to 1 disparities on crack and powder cocaine exacerbated the racial disparities and problems. Drug addiction was criminalized then. The care and empathy with which we now handle substance use once we tragically saw white kids and teens in the suburbs impacted by addiction and overdoses was never afforded to Black and brown people when we experienced the harms of addiction. We have seen the decriminalization of marijuana and the billion dollar cannabis industry thrive while miniscule percentages of impacted community members are benefiting from this booming industry that sent many of them to jail and prison. As DA I will be cognizant of this. I worked on undoing some of the unlawful convictions from the Hinton Drug Lab scandal. That initiative was undone by the incoming, unelected DA in 2022.

7. What is your view on mass incarceration and how a prosecutor can help disrupt this phenomenon?

Mass incarceration is real and its impacts remain. Although Massachusetts has worked hard to lower its prison population, our state continues to have significant racial disparities in its incarcerated population, and we have a [much higher share](#) of life sentences without parole compared to other states with low prison populations. Prison should be used as a last resort, only after all other viable, data-driven options have been ruled out. Importantly, DA's can use their power to make sure sentences

are not longer than they need to be and that individuals receive training, education, and mental health and substance use treatment while detained or incarcerated. Prosecutors can also lobby and argue for people to receive driver's licenses, professional licensure, housing, health insurance, and more, so that formerly incarcerated people – 95% of who eventually [return home](#) – are able to transition back into the community prepared to succeed and thrive upon the completion of their time behind bars. These types of interventions are proven by decades of research to decrease recidivism, which makes our communities healthier and safer, and reduces future victimizations.

Additionally, as mentioned briefly above, prosecutors can disrupt mass incarceration, and the racial disparities it engenders, by bringing in experts to look at prosecution data and publish their findings. In March 2021, three data scientists published one of the most important empirical research papers to ever come out of Massachusetts. Their findings, based exclusively upon data from SCDAO – data which prior administrations claimed for decades did not exist, and could not be used meaningfully – revealed that prosecuting low-level misdemeanors caused more future misdemeanors and felonies, rather than less. These findings turned the conventional wisdom about prosecution on its head, and our study formed the basis for a much larger national study by the same researchers, published in 2025, which found that decarceral policies adopted by reform prosecutors nationally were implemented safely and without any notable corresponding increases in crime in those jurisdictions.

In 2022, when Kevin Hayden arrived in an acting capacity and without a single vote from Suffolk County, our office had continuing relationships in place with these researchers (and many others), and we were building tools to help our staff make data-driven decisions about which cases were appropriate for prosecution, and which cases were not. Shockingly, without explanation, and without ever being pressed about it by the media, the current administration discontinued the office's relationships with these researchers (and all of the others), cut off access to the office's data, and now the current DA and the other candidate who worked for him are attempting to outcompete each other as the tough-on-crime candidate who will abandon this innovation and progress the fastest and put the most people in jail and prison. This reveals just how important it is to have a DA who is willing to commit in writing to following data and science and disrupting mass incarceration.

Alternatives to prosecution and incarceration

- 1. What specific types of programs will you implement or expand related to individuals with mental health issues? Please give examples of programs in other jurisdictions that you would seek to replicate or adapt.**

I intend to expand the Mental Health Court. Specifically, focusing on getting people appearing before this court trauma-informed care and the mental health treatment they require. Bucks County District Attorney's Office in Pennsylvania recently won a national award for being one of the Top 10 Mentor Courts in the Country. We will attempt to replicate its program.

2. **What steps will you take to minimize the involvement of youth in the criminal legal system? How will you address disparities among municipalities across the district in handling school-related incidents involving students?**

I currently teach at DYS Metro in the CSD ("Murder Unit") and the SCD (Suffolk County Detention) Units. I am awaiting approval to teach in the Mariposa (Statewide Female Detainees) Unit. I have probably met approximately 25 youth while teaching at DYS. not a single one of the young men is white or Asian. Over 80% are Black and the rest are Latino. With oversight and data collection, we can see and point directly to disparities. Then we can have the youth in Roxbury receive the same care and treatment of the youth in West Roxbury. But we also need to recognize that the Police have tremendous discretion when deciding whether to even make an arrest. As district attorney, I serve an important gatekeeping role, and I can ensure that kids are treated as kids, in line with decades of research, and make sure that juveniles and emerging adults do not unnecessarily enter the adult criminal legal system.

3. **What role, if any, do you think there is for SROs and the police in our schools?**

My policies have always required that any arrest of a student at a school (Elementary, Middle or High School) gets additional care and reflection. The students are likely juveniles and there will be thought put into determining whether the matter could have been handled administratively at the school or if the Courts needed to be involved.

4. **Under what circumstances would your office seek diversion and alternatives to incarceration?**

These remedies should always be contemplated for non-violent, non-serious crimes. Research shows that these options can be effective in more serious cases as well.

Charging/Pre-Trial:

1. **Do you support the elimination of cash bail? (Y/N) If not, under what circumstances do you think cash bail is appropriate?**

Yes.

2. **Under what circumstances would you move for dangerousness/58A?**

I intend to focus on violent serious crimes for dangerousness.

3. **Under what circumstances, if any, do you believe that adult sanctions should be sought against a juvenile?**

Minors charged as youthful offenders can be committed to DYS until their 21st birthday or can be sent to an adult HOC at 18 years old. I intend to have youth stay in DYS as long as they can. Brain science has made it clear that emerging adults are still developing.

4. **What steps will your office take to limit unnecessary criminal prosecution for those accused of minor non-dangerous offenses?**

I have implemented [policies](#) like this before and intend to be thoughtful and find as many solutions as possible - other than incarceration - for minor, non-dangerous offenses. We commissioned [groundbreaking research](#) establishing that a presumption of non-prosecution for 26 minor nonviolent criminal code sections led to less future contact with the system, meaning fewer future misdemeanors and felonies (and, thus, fewer victims). I plan to invite these and many other researchers back on Day One to update the data, and to issue new policies that are based upon the best science and evidence that we have in the field.

5. **In many cases a minor criminal charge can have devastating immigration consequences. What will you do to work with our immigrant populations to ensure they are not exposed to additional punitive consequences? Would your office commit to considering immigration consequences as part of the prosecution decision?**

I have [before](#) and I will [again](#).

6. **How will you take mandatory minimums into account in charging decisions? In what circumstances will your office avoid pressing charges that carry mandatory minimum sentences?**

In Massachusetts, considerable research over decades has established that Black and brown people, despite similar rates of drug use and other crimes, are disproportionately charged, prosecuted, and incarcerated under mandatory minimums and other sentencing enhancements. I have always said that incarceration should be used as a last resort, and that holds true in cases involving mandatory minimums. When elected, I will once again institute policies instructing staff to be mindful of racial disparities, requiring staff to tour and visit carceral facilities, and to use enhancements in mandatory minimums only as a last resort in appropriate cases.

Additionally, I have long advocated that Judges should have the discretion to determine sentences, but we also need a far more diverse bench. Currently, there are no Black, male Juvenile Judges in the entire Commonwealth. Over 90% of the young people in the Juvenile system in Suffolk County are Black boys. This is unacceptable. The Superior Court is not much better. I have often asked, "What do you do with your power?" As DA, I wrote to Governor Baker about the lack of diversity on the bench and as result, pushed to get a Black man on the SJC. I intend to push for a more diverse bench when I return to the DA's Office.

Goals, Access, and Transparency

1. **In many prosecutor's offices, prosecutor performance is measured by their conviction rates. How would you go about changing a culture where the focus is on achieving justice, not just 'winning'?**

By having actual written policies and being directly involved with training my staff. When I was the DA from 2019 to 2022, I trained my staff. I lived my values and we corrected when people strayed from those values - Help Heal, Be Brave, Serve Humbly, Respect Everyone, Work Smart. Further, we were in the process of creating tools to inform staff when the people whose cases they handled successfully completed their diversion programs, sentences, and programs, to determine which prosecutors had the best rates of success in helping people succeed and not return

into the system. The goal of these tools was to identify prosecutors with the highest success rates, and then use their performance as a goal for other staff. The team that was planning to build this dashboard, as part of their semester-long capstone project, was abandoned by the current administration, and never got to work on it.

2. **What efforts will you take to increase language access for immigrants beyond the right to a court interpreter? What will you do to reduce language barriers between your staff and the witnesses, victims, and others they serve or interact with?**

Language capacity is mandatory in the office and not just for the sake of having other languages (e.g., Latin). We need employees that speak the top 10 languages in our Boston Public Schools. We need employees that live in Suffolk County (Boston, Chelsea, Winthrop & Revere).

3. **Will you commit to collecting and sharing data with the public in multiple languages? (Y/N)**

Yes.

4. **Do you commit to bringing in academic research partners to evaluate new and old policies and to publishing results publicly? (Y/N)**

I was the person that [started this and did it!](#) They are all invited back on day one of my return to office.

Civil Forfeiture

1. **In what, if any, circumstances will your office seek civil forfeiture?**

I intend to look deeply into civil asset forfeiture when I return to office. There are currently no standards or guidelines that I know of in the office right now.

2. **Do you think it is appropriate for forfeited assets to be given to law enforcement? (Y/N) Why or why not?**

The problem with giving forfeited assets to law enforcement is that it incentivises law enforcement to seize assets.

3. **Do you agree to hold yourself to a higher standard for civil asset forfeiture than that required by law, i.e., to increase the standard of seeking forfeiture from a preponderance of evidence to beyond a reasonable doubt, and only after a conviction has occurred in the case in which the office is eligible to seek forfeiture?**

Yes.

Post-Conviction

1. **Lengthy terms of probation and supervised release can impede a person's successful reentry into society. What do you consider to be the role of probation in reentry?**

Probation should assist significantly in reentry. I believe they should be visiting the people prior to their release and/or communicating with the reentry coordinator in a

DYS, HOC, DOC or BOP facility. Even people doing federal time are returning to Suffolk County and likely have a probation officer in the Moakley Courthouse. Probation can/should help with IDs, MassHealth, mental health treatment, housing, and employment or training. They should have a database of people who hire employees with criminal histories.

2. **Prosecutors have a role in supporting or objecting to expungement petitions that otherwise meet all the eligibility criteria of the law. What standards/criteria will you use to support or oppose an otherwise eligible petition?**

I intend to support eligible petitions.

3. **What factors would you prioritize when deciding whether to support an application for parole or clemency?**

I will always speak to the victim's family. Always. And my office will review every request made for parole or clemency. I will consider the crime committed, the internal and external work done by the individual while incarcerated, any disciplinary reports or tickets will also be reviewed to determine the severity and recency of the alleged "infraction". We will hear about family and support systems for the individual when they return to the community.

4. **What will you do to ensure that medical and elder parole is made available to qualifying incarcerated people notwithstanding the opposition of victims' families?**

I actively supported medical and elder parole as DA, even writing letters in support. Additionally, I openly complained to the Governor about the lack of medical parole in our Commonwealth. I will continue to do so when I return to the office.

5. **Do you commit to creating a conviction and/or sentencing integrity unit to review past cases for misconduct, mistake, and consonance with justice? (Y/N)**

Yes. I [created one when I was the DA](#) before and will revamp that unit to start actually reviewing cases and doing case audits involving corrupt officers.

6. **In [Commonwealth v. Mattis](#), the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruled that mandatory life sentences without the possibility of parole are unconstitutional for "emerging adults" who were aged 18, 19, or 20 at the time of their offense. The decision is retroactive, giving hundreds of convicted individuals the opportunity for a parole hearing. What are your thoughts on the *Mattis* decision, and what would be your approach if one involving your office went before the Parole Board?**

I personally wrote the pleading - as DA - that supported the defendants position and resulted in the *Mattis* and *Robinson* decisions. *Mattis* and *Robinson* were both Suffolk County cases. Over the [strong objection of my male "colleagues"](#), I became the first DA in the country to file a pleading acknowledging the brain science and arguing in support of raising the age of eligibility for *Diatchenko* protections up to 20 years old.

Police/Government Actor Misconduct

1. **Do you commit to creating a Do Not Call List to keep track of police officers that commit misconduct, and that your office will no longer call to testify at trial or allow to initiate cases, write sworn police reports, testify at pre-trial hearings, etc.?**

I [created that list](#) as DA in Suffolk County, called the LEAD database. My predecessor - Dan Conley, who the current DA idolizes - had no such published list and rarely - if ever - called out police misconduct. Kevin Hayden abandoned the database on Day One.

We will absolutely publicly reinstate the LEAD Database when I return to office.

2. **Are there any other sanctions that you will commit to to attempt to prevent police officers from committing misconduct?**

In addition to putting them on the *Brady* list and in the LEAD database, I could refuse to call them as witnesses and/or refuse to prosecute cases they were involved in until they received specific training, or at all. Further, as we have seen with the failure to evaluate, interview, or discipline any of the Massachusetts State Police in the DA's Offices - with [horrific racist, anti-semetic, misogynistic and completely corrupt documented conduct](#) in Norfolk County (Trooper Michael Proctor and others) and [drunk, violence, idiocy](#) in Suffolk County (a Trooper knocking another Trooper out in a bar). And complete silence from the two DA's "running" those offices and "overseeing" the MSP Troopers in their Units.

3. **When it is determined that certain law enforcement officers have committed serious misconduct or criminal activity in past or present cases, do you commit to reviewing all cases previously or subsequently handled by those officers? What do you plan to do with the cases you identify, if anything? Would you initiate a sentinel event review?**

Absolutely. I have done this with the [Hinton Drug Lab Initiative](#) and with a [corrupt Boston Police Officer](#) that falsified evidence, lied under oath and engaged in other egregious acts of corruption to secure convictions in at least two known murder trials. Both the initiative and the investigation were cancelled as soon as the new DA was appointed as my replacement. Without having received a single Suffolk County vote.

I will do even more when I return as DA. For example, a police detective named William Dunn went on camera in a documentary titled "Murder in Boston" and bragged about committing decades of misconduct against Black and brown residents of Mission Hill. We will be looking into his misconduct, and that of many others, starting on Day One. The current DA is aware of this statement and misconduct and is doing nothing.

4. **Will your office commit to using independent prosecutors to investigate cases of alleged police misconduct and brutality?**

I started this trend in 2019 when [we created our country's first Discharge Integrity Team](#) ("DIT"). We had multiple external experts, attorneys, and a community member involved in reviewing evidence and making independent recommendations whether or not the evidence supported bringing criminal

charges. The current DA immediately stopped this process and has no written or expressed policies on police misconduct or brutality, which proved disastrous in a recent high-profile case the office has received [widespread criticism](#) about. The DIT will be reinstituted immediately when I return to the Office for obvious reasons, and it is honestly shocking that Kevin Hayden discontinued it without any notice or explanation.

Protecting Access to Reproductive Health Care

1. **Will you oppose any effort to criminalize, penalize, intimidate, or surveil people who seek, provide, or assist in accessing reproductive health care, including the criminalization of pregnancy outcomes? (Y/N)**

Yes. As United States Attorney, I investigated and prosecuted violations of the FACE (Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances) Act and I will continue the work on the state side when I return to the DA's Office.

2. **Will you support protecting patients, providers, and all those involved in facilitating access to reproductive health care services from out-of-state investigations, prosecutions, or civil actions related to legally-protected reproductive and gender-affirming health care service and commit to enforcing Massachusetts shield laws by declining to investigate or prosecute out-of-state subpoenas and arrest warrants related to legally-protected health care activity? (Y/N)**

Yes. As United States Attorney, I spoke out after the Dobbs leak - and received retribution for doing so - to let the people of Massachusetts know what the DOJ's position had been about reproductive rights PRIOR to the leak. I also stood behind and [protected](#) patients, providers, and others when bigots and terrorists threatened them.

White-Collar Crime

1. **Since the 1990s, prosecution of white-collar crime has [declined dramatically](#). How would you describe your approach to prosecuting financial crimes and other white-collar crimes? What principles, experiences, and priorities would you bring to this work?**

As the former United States Attorney, I have a wealth of experience investigating and prosecuting financial frauds and schemes aka economic crimes. In my mind, this also includes health care fraud, environmental frauds and pollution, predatory lending, redlining, development in our city that does not include Bostonians, women and Black, Latino and AAPI people in the workforce, boardroom or as the buyers. The same deliberation, thought, respect, care, and attention DOJ gives white collar criminals should be extended to all the accused. The DA's Office does not usually prosecute white collar crimes. That can and should change. I have already started that trend by [holding large corporations accountable for poor management of abusive and racist staff](#). I will continue this work when I return to the DA's Office.

Legislation & Advocacy

1. **Sentencing Reform.** The 2018 criminal justice reform bill was an important first step in reducing mass incarceration. However, in our “liberal” state, incarceration rates remain much higher than they are in other countries, and sentencing laws can be even more punitive than those in states viewed as conservative. Do you support the following reforms?

- a. Eliminating mandatory minimums for all drug offenses? (Y/N) **Yes.**

And we need more diversity - women, Black, and brown people, people of all abilities, LGBTQ+, AAPI - on the bench. If judges are now going to be able to use their discretion, we must have a bench that reflects the population overwhelmingly policed and prosecuted in Massachusetts. Currently, we do not.

- b. [Raising the age](#) of criminal majority from 18 to 21, in line with research that shows that young offenders served by a juvenile system are much less likely to reoffend and more likely to successfully transition to adulthood? (Y/N) **Yes.**

I was responsible for the *Mattis* and *Robinson* decisions from the Supreme Judicial Court in Massachusetts. Those were Suffolk County cases. As DA, I was the first and only DA in the country to ever argue in support of brain development science and emerging adults under 21 years old having the opportunity for parole with life sentences for first degree murder. I received extreme pushback for this position both internally and [externally](#).

- c. Decriminalizing consensual sexual activity between adolescents, by creating an exception to the statutory rape law for youth close in age? Massachusetts is one of only three states that criminalizes consensual sexual activity between two adolescents. (Y/N)

I want to discuss this more. How close in age? Emerging adults are now 20 in Massachusetts for some purposes. A 20 year old with a 14 year old is problematic. A 17 year old and a 16 year old is a different story. Can we discuss?

- d. Eliminating the sentence of life without parole, which is costly and has been shown to be racist in its application? (Y/N) **Yes.**

I would consider this with a discussion about the minimum amount of time someone must serve prior to being parole eligible. There are already laws on the books about this. I would like to discuss this further with you.

- e. Restructuring joint venture sentencing such that accomplices to murder are sentenced proportionally to their level of responsibility for a death rather than a minimum sentence of life without parole? (Y/N) **Yes.**

2. The 2020 police accountability law passed by the Massachusetts Legislature contained a number of steps forward, but important measures were left out. Would you support legislation to do the following?

- a. Eliminating qualified immunity for state and local police and correctional officers so that individuals whose constitutional rights are violated can have their fair day in court? (Y/N) **Yes.**
 - b. Enacting the recommendations from the special legislative commission on facial recognition, to implement privacy, civil rights, and due process protections to govern police use of the technology? (Y/N) **Yes. And I have already testified before our state legislature about this issue (as well as the disparate racial outcomes and recognition by technology) as the DA.**
3. **Solitary Confinement.** Would you support legislation to create universal access to productive out of cell time with programming, education and vocational training for all incarcerated people? (Y/N) **Yes. See answer to #5 *infra*.**
4. **Prison Moratorium.** Would you support a moratorium on the construction of new prisons and jails in the Commonwealth? (Y/N) **Yes.**
5. **DOC Oversight.** Would you support legislation to establish an inspector general for the Department of Correction? (Y/N) **Yes.**

And in fact, while I was the United States Attorney, I fought for a consent decree (The Massachusetts Attorney General negotiated it down to a Settlement Agreement) with the Department of Corrections for sustained, substantiated [constitutional violations of people's 8th Amendment Rights](#) while incarceration at DOC facilities across our commonwealth. People were harming themselves up to and including death by suicide.

6. **Keeping Families Connected.** Would you support eliminating the arbitrary, unnecessary restrictions on visitation rights in prisons and jails? (Y/N) **Yes.**
7. **Clean Slate.** The Massachusetts court system maintains a database of name-based court arraignment records, referred to as Massachusetts Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI). Many people are trapped in poverty and shut out of jobs and housing because of the difficult process to expunge their records, even for cases that did not end in a conviction or occurred when they were teenagers. Would you support...
 - a. Requiring the Commissioner of Probation to automatically seal criminal and juvenile records after the applicable waiting periods without requiring individuals to file a petition to do so? (Y/N) **Yes.**
 - b. Requiring the immediate sealing of a criminal offense if the charge did not end in a conviction? (Y/N) **Yes.**

Law enforcement can still see sealed records, but the public cannot. And sadly, if there was any media coverage prior to the dismissal, not guilty verdict, or other disposition that did not result in a conviction, that all remains public.

8. **Reentry.** The Department of Correction's stated mission is to "prepare [individuals in custody] for safe and successful reentry into the community," but regularly fails to live up to that. Do you support the following measures to strengthen reentry efforts...

- a. Mandating that correctional facilities in Massachusetts assist incarcerated individuals in acquiring valid Massachusetts identification cards before their release? (Y/N) **Yes. And have been vocal on this for years.**
 - b. Increasing funding for reentry-related programming? (Y/N) **Absolutely.**
9. **Gun Violence Prevention.** Will you vote YES to protect the 2024 gun safety bill on the ballot in November 2026? (Y/N) **Yes.**