

Maricopa County Attorney

Please record a video to answer the following questions:

- 1. Why are you running for Maricopa County Attorney and what are your qualifications?
- 2. Name an Arizona leader, either current or past, whose approach to public policy you align with. From a policy perspective, please explain why you chose this leader.
- 3. What is most important to Arizona's economic future and what steps would you take to meet those needs?

Please answer the following questions in writing:

1. What is the biggest challenge facing the County Attorney's Office, and what do you plan to do to address it?

The biggest challenge facing the office is the erosion of public trust, the lack of support for law enforcement, and the shortage of qualified prosecutors. Since taking office, I've worked to establish partnerships with local law enforcement to ensure open lines of communication and initiated an aggressive hiring/retention campaign to ensure we have qualified prosecutors to justly apply the law and protect victims. I have communicated to the office my vision of having the highest ethical standards and the concept that justice embodies more than punishment and vengeance: its greater meaning includes doing right by individuals.

2. How can the legal system be equitable and accessible to all?

The very nature of our legal system enables all Arizonans and County residents to have equal access and protections under the law. The success of this is dependent on a chief prosecutor who fairly applies the existing law to all. This does not preclude considering the circumstances of individuals. It does, however, require a prosecutor to set aside personal beliefs and biases to enforce the law to ensure accountability and predictability, so that every business and individual that interfaces with law enforcement and the legal system will receive fair treatment.

3. What role do you see the County Attorney's office having in keeping businesses and business owners protected?

As County Attorney, I understand the impact crime can have on businesses. Business failure diminishes the community and the quality of life for residents. Since taking office, I have worked with local retailers to establish a specialized organized retail theft task force to ensure business owners have a dedicated and specialized team to identify habitual and/or organized thieves and to gather information of their cumulative impact so that prosecution is effective. It is important that retailers have meaningful recourse, that perpetrators are held accountable, and restitution is obtained.