



## 2022 Carroll County State's Attorney Questionnaire

CANDIDATE : David Ellin

OFFICE SOUGHT : Carroll County State's Attorney

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS: Friends of David Ellin 5835 Monroe Ave Eldersburg MD 21784

PHONE NUMBER(S): 410-375-8525 David (cell) or 410-375-8403 (Kim – Campaign Treasurer)

EMAIL: david@davidellin.com or kim@davidellin.com

WEBSITE: www.davidellin.com

*I confirm that the responses provided here are my official positions in seeking local office and I understand that CCEA reserves the right to share my responses with members and interested parties.*

**CANDIDATE SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE SUBMITTED:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Candidates: To be considered for a recommendation, you must indicate your response to each of the questions. Clarifications, explanations, and other information may be attached, but please be certain to clearly indicate the question(s) to which you refer.*

Please return your completed and signed questionnaire no later than \_\_\_\_\_ to Nathan Curtis at [ncurtis@mseanea.org](mailto:ncurtis@mseanea.org) or to our office at 60 Aileron Court, Suite 6, Westminster, MD 21157.

- 1) How does the office of State's Attorney relate or interact with the Carroll County Public School system in your opinion? What, if anything, might you change about that?

The SA's office should interact with CCPS on a regular basis.

A few of the items the office should be addressing are:

Truancy prevention and the implementation of a TPP program. Right now, the school system takes punitive measures which can push students farther away rather than encourage attendance.

Addressing the opioid epidemic and educating students on the Good Samaritan Law.

Community outreach to address and prevent petty crime before it starts and/or progresses.

Educating students on how the judicial system works including visits to the jail and court.

- 2) What role/s do you believe a School Resource Officer (SRO) ought (or ought not) to play within the school system?

When evaluating the relationship between the school community and Student Resource Officers (SROs) we should focus more on "Resource" rather than "Officer". These programs are vital in building positive relationships between students and law enforcement officers not just preventing harmful behaviors.

SROs often function as informal mentors, engaging with students and staff. This benefits both students, who get to work with an officer who knows them and their school, and administrators who receive assistance in dealing with student transgressions.

Vetting the right LEO for the position falls to the Sheriff. An SRO must be dedicated to helping youth and adhere to the highest standards of the profession.

- 3) What do you know about Restorative Practices and how would this be used if you were elected in this position?

Restorative Practices focuses on proactively building relationships and a sense of community to prevent conflict and wrongdoing. A partnership between the SA's office and the local school system implementing Restorative practices would offer an alternative to traditional disciplinary actions that center on punishment for misbehavior and breaking

rules. These punishments push kids out of their school community. students who are pushed out become chronic truants or may drop out of school altogether.

In contrast, restorative practices focus on resolving conflict, repairing harm, and healing relationships. They support a positive and safe school climate, prevent bullying, and reduce disciplinary incidents. A restorative culture can mitigate the negative effects of punitive discipline policies that exacerbate inequity.

This form of conflict resolution is a win -win for the students and law enforcement.

4) How would you handle offenses (include varying levels of offenses) committed by minors?

Education! Education! Education! A positive relationship between law enforcement and young adults can be a good basis for crime prevention. We must remove the stigma of criminality when youngsters commit certain crimes if/when appropriate. It is important to provide care and positive development for children who do enter the justice system. Reworking the juvenile system to be less punitive and more employ more positive rehabilitation is first step.

5) Every child, regardless of background or zip code, deserves justice and equitable access to opportunities, resources, and supports. How would you, in the capacity of State's Attorney, ensure that all people are treated equitably and with respect and dignity? How will you ensure that equity policies are implemented appropriately?

**Equity is the realization that each person has a unique set of circumstances, however, the world of law enforcement leans more towards equality where "justice" is one size fits all process. We need to do a better job of understanding the inherent bias in the judicial system in order to correct it. Hiring a racially and culturally diverse staff at the states attorney's office to keep pace with our changing county population would be one step. The SA's office must actively reach out to the underrepresented in the community. I would encourage staff to prioritize treatment for drug addiction and mental illness as well as promote job training. I would invest in youth after school programs. This could be done in partnership with some of the local groups such as Boys and Girls Clubs.**

- 6) What experiences and/or skills make you the best candidate for this position?  
Why should our members support your candidacy?

It's simple. I am the only candidate with prosecutorial experience. You would not allow your car mechanic to perform your brain surgery. It would be a disservice to the citizens of Carroll County to elect a criminal defense attorney to be the top law enforcement officer in the county.

- 7) What are your top three priorities if you are elected to the office of Carroll County State's Attorney (short term and long term)?

Implementing the first Veterans Court in Carroll County.  
Continuing the fight against opioid addiction. I plan to keep the programs that work but look for new and innovative ways to address this fight.  
Continue to protect the victims of domestic/family violence.

- 8) While we understand that you are running a partisan campaign, please explain how you will ensure that the work you would do if elected would be non-partisan.

While the law and politics are forever intertwined, I never confuse people with politics. While I might disagree with a person's political leanings, I treat all people with respect. I have represented people from all walks of life, races, and cultures in my practice. I have traveled extensively. I enjoy learning about our differences. However, in the end we are more alike than not.