

Here are Chief State's Attorney finalists' views on



STATE'S ATTORNEY ACCOUNTABILITY

Do you support ...	Patrick Griffin	Sharmese Walcott	ACLU-CT Position
1. Biennial, data-driven, independent performance check-ins?	NO	Unclear	YES
2. Standard policies for all State's Attorney offices, based "Blueprint to Move Justice Forward" grant results?	Unclear	Unclear	YES
3. Reducing State's Attorney term length from 8 years to 4?	NO	NO	YES
11. Standard for criminal discovery which mandates a) disclosing all evidence to defendant before they're required to accept/reject a plea b) disclosing all evidence to defense no later than 30 days before trial c) filing with the court an itemized list of information disclosed to the defense, d) mandating dismissal upon the defense's request if the prosecution fails to provide required evidence w/in prescribed time period?	YES to a, b, and c, NO to d	Unclear	YES to a, b, c, and d
12. Codifying a Division of Criminal Justice code of ethics that meets or exceeds the National District Attorneys Association's National Prosecution Standards?	Unclear	NO	YES

Answers and question numbers reflect responses to the ACLU-CT Smart Justice survey, available at www.acluct.org

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DECARCERATION

Do you support ...	Patrick Griffin	Sharmese Walcott	ACLU-CT Position
4. Overhauling sentence modification process to a) consider only the rehabilitation & character of a person while incarcerated & victim input b) eliminate possibility of sentence increase c) eliminate requirement of initial agreement by State's Attorneys for a sentence modification application to be processed?	NO to a, YES to b and c	NO to a, Unclear to b and c	YES to a, b, and c
5. a) eliminating duplicative criminal penalties b) eliminating mandatory minimums & sentence enhancements c) reducing the maximum penalty of incarceration on all offenses by 25% d) capping all prison sentences to 20 years?	NO to a, b, c, and d	Unclear to a, b and c	YES to a, b, c, and d
6. Permanent closure of Manson Youth Institution?	NO	Unclear	YES
7. Dedicating 50% of the Division of Criminal Justice budget, by 2028, to community wellness programs that divert people out of the criminal legal system, such as rehabilitation programs or nonjudicial sanctions?	NO	NO	YES

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POLICING

Do you support ...	Patrick Griffin	Sharmese Walcott	ACLU-CT Position
<p>9. a) creating a statewide “Brady List” of police officers excluded from testifying in criminal cases because of a proven history of lying or other professional or criminal misconduct b) making the “Brady List” available to the public on request?</p>	<p>YES to a and b</p>	<p>YES to a, Unclear to b</p>	<p>YES to a and b</p>
<p>10. a) assigning prosecutors in every judicial district to ensure that every charge is supported by probable cause before filing with the court, as required by Practice Book § 36-12 b) ensuring cases are dismissed when insufficient evidence exists to support prosecution c) refusing to prosecute cases involving police officers who have a proven record of false testimony, evidence tampering, or have otherwise proven unreliable in meeting ethical or professional standards?</p>	<p>YES to a and b, NO to c</p>	<p>YES to a, b, and c</p>	<p>YES to a, b, and c</p>

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ACLU OF CONNECTICUT SMART JUSTICE CHIEF STATE'S ATTORNEY SURVEY RESPONSE GUIDE

Connecticut will pick a new Chief State's Attorney on May 12, 2022.

Smart Justice asked both finalists to complete our survey about their views on incarceration and racism.

Our survey consisted of 12 Yes/No questions, each with the opportunity to provide comment. Where neither “Yes” nor “No” is selected, the response is recorded as “unclear.”

Visit www.acluct.org to see the full survey questions and candidates' complete responses.

We are not endorsing or opposing any Chief State's Attorney applicant. We believe in educating people about the issues at stake in the selection of a new Chief State's Attorney and in holding the next Chief State's Attorney accountable for their role in ending mass incarceration.