



2026 Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name: Scott Shellenberger

Position: State's Attorney

What unique strengths do you have for this position and what do you hope to accomplish if (re)elected?

"I have been the State's Attorney in Baltimore County for 19 years. I believe my knowledge and experience in running this office makes me uniquely qualified to continue as the State's Attorney.

I oversee 65 attorneys and another 80 plus support staff. That is not an easy job. I come with experience. As State's Attorney I hope to continue to keep the citizens safe by keeping crime down. I will continue to do that with the utmost honesty and making sure my staff understand the importance of fair, open discovery in all cases. "

How should juvenile offenders be treated in the criminal justice system and what age limits should determine their treatment as adults?

Maryland's current system is appropriate for age requirements of charging as adults. Most of those juveniles who are charged as adults have the ability to request and prove they can be transferred back to juvenile court. This is decided by a judge. If an independent judge decides you should be treated as an adult, then that is fair. How should you treat 15 year old Nicholas Browning who murdered 4 people other than as an adult. Even he had a transfer hearing that was denied by a judge.

What stance will you take regarding undocumented persons living in the County? Please address how would you act regarding current federal policies' impacts and expectations that law enforcement bodies in local jurisdictions cooperate with ICE.

I do not support the undue and unnecessary pursuit of individuals who are law abiding citizens who contribute to our communities. I do however commit to doing nothing to inhibit the federal authorities from removing individuals from our community who pose a danger to our citizens and are illegally in this country. This is especially true if convicted of a crime.

How should the office's Domestic Violence Unit handle cases of domestic violence that include undocumented victims and/or perpetrators?



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I am a strong supporter and active participant in the U Visa program which strives to provide protection from deportation for victims of certain crimes including domestic violence. Nothing is more important than to try to make it clear to victims of domestic violence that we are here to help and protect them. I will take no action contrary to the interests of a victim of crime which could in any way prevent them from coming forward.

What do you see as the biggest law enforcement issues in Baltimore County?

Continue to assist in keeping my office and the police department fully staffed. Continue to push Department of Juvenile services to offer help to young low level offenders so we don't see them again with violent crimes.