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## 2024 PA Attorney General Questionnaire

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### CANDIDATE CERTIFICATION

Candidate Name: Keir Bradford-Grey

Office Sought: PA Attorney General

I have read the attached questionnaire responses and certify that the information provided is accurate and the opinions stated accurately reflect my own positions.

Candidate Signature: *Keir Bradford-Grey*

Date: 2/20/24

Please complete, sign and return this form via email in PDF format to [info@phillynn.org](mailto:info@phillynn.org) and mail or email the signature page to:

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# NN Attorney General Candidate Questionnaire

## I. BACKGROUND

1. What, if any, elected or appointed government office(s) have you held?

Assistant Public Defender - Defender Association of Philadelphia Assistant Federal Defender-District of Delaware Chief Defender of Montgomery County, Chief Defender of Philadelphia, Commissioner, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Chair of Racial and Ethnic Disparities subcommittee Commissioner, Pennsylvania State Law Enforcement Community Advisory Commission Commissioner, Commission on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency

2. If you have previously held a government office:

- a. What are the primary issue areas in which you were involved?

Throughout my career, I have dedicated myself to promoting fairness, equity, and justice for all. The qualification I've developed is a unique ability to bring context to problem-solving, facilitating the creation of comprehensive solutions. This skill enables me to take a panoramic view, crucial for high-stakes decision-making in government. As a public defender, I went beyond client representation, collaborating with stakeholders to improve the efficiency and fairness of our justice system. I worked with the District Attorney's Office and the courts to enhance pretrial procedures, ensuring a more just process. Additionally, my work with coalitions and justice stakeholders on probation cases allowed me to advocate for individuals who were navigating the complexities of the court system. My ground-level understanding of these issues equipped me to contribute valuable insights to solution-oriented discussions. Building strong relationships, I fostered collaboration between the Defender Association and City Council, ensuring effective communication, legal insight, and partnership on public events. I have leveraged my extensive experience to engage with state and national stakeholders, sharing insights to develop policies that enhance outcomes and advance public safety. My commitment to justice, collaborative approach, and ability to bring a comprehensive perspective uniquely qualify me to serve effectively in government, advocating for the well-being of all citizens.

- b. What committees, caucuses or working groups have you served on?

3. If you have not previously held a government office, what community or policy issues have you worked on, and in what capacity? (Please provide the names of two or three individuals who can provide information about your previous work.)
4. Please provide copies of all your significant campaign materials, including position papers, and information on your campaign strategy, expected funding sources, and endorsements.
5. What makes you think that you can win this election?

With 5 candidates in the race, one needs about 31% of the vote to win the primary. I am the only woman in the race and the only African American, while the men will split votes amongst the same pool of voters, I am actually building a base all to myself that will allow me to add to the general pool of voters. I am also very strong with support in Philadelphia which is a large voting pool of people. I also have been galvanizing support in key areas with women and grass roots activist. In the NEPA area, Central PA, Pittsburgh, Erie and more. This will only add to the base of support that I

have in the 5 large counties. I have been actively seeking the support of all counties both large and rural and I am gaining momentum. My message is resonating with the general public. They are not interested in the law and order candidate that does not bring the right context to address our problems. My vantage point allows me to speak to more people who understand the context of our problems and wants a leader who will work with them to bring better solutions.

6. Describe your fundraising goals and how much money you have raised to date.

I have raised over \$400K with mostly small donors. I have had to work harder but I have connected with more people. I need to raise about another \$300K between now and election day to execute a serious field operation and some paid media. The others will focus on television and I will invest in a serious ground and mailing operation with some cable media. I am continuing to raise money through rigorous call time and fundraisers.

## II. ISSUES

1. Describe your issue objectives in the environmental protection area.

Here are my key objectives:

- I will work to deal with environmental justice at its core. Many of the urban neighborhoods have poor environments that have been overlooked for far too long. We need to enforce illegal dumping laws, we need to ensure that inner city neighborhoods aren't the dumping ground for contaminants and ensure children have quality drinking water and air.
- Tackling Air Quality Challenges: Pennsylvania faces air quality issues, especially in urban areas. I will advocate for stricter regulations on industrial emissions, collaborate with environmental agencies to monitor air quality, and work towards implementing policies that promote cleaner energy sources.
- Protecting Water Resources: The contamination of water sources, including rivers and groundwater, poses a significant threat. I will support and enforce regulations to prevent toxic runoff from industrial sites and agricultural activities.
- Addressing Climate Change Resilience: Pennsylvania is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including extreme weather events. I will support initiatives to enhance climate resilience, promote sustainable practices, and advocate for clean energy alternatives.

2. Describe your issue objectives in the consumer protection area.

I will advocate for strong consumer protections and work to ensure that consumers are treated fairly and have access to the resources they need to make informed decisions.

Here are my key objectives:

- I will ensure that vulnerable communities are not taken advantage of by deceptive business practices that prey on their needs such as:
- Financial institutions that prey on those who need cash and place them in untenable loans that are illegal.
- Ensuring greater financial protections from not only predatory lenders, but those who fraudulently sell products to people and not give them what they bargain

for. ie contractors and others who sell products and misrepresent the value of the product and who deny access of the product to the consumer.

- Ensuring financial institutions are giving fair access to wealth to those who qualify.
- aggressively going after scammers who exploit vulnerable communities
- Making sure insurance companies are not denying access to health care coverage discriminatorily or overcharge people for services.
- I will work with communities to educate the public on consumer rights, warn about scams, and collaborate with state and federal agencies for effective consumer protection.

3. Describe your issue objectives in the financial enforcement arena

I will go after any financial institution that denies access to wealth, those who engage in predatory practices and those who overcharge communities for basic services illegally.

My top priorities will include protecting access to vital services like healthcare and housing, ensuring financial stability by holding accountable those engaging in predatory practices, and tackling crimes committed in boardrooms, and pharmaceutical companies' false advertising. I am committed to being the people's lawyer, advocating for fairness, justice, and the well-being of all.

4. What are your other goals in the civil litigation area?

My goals in civil litigation include promoting access to justice, ensuring fair and efficient resolution of disputes, and upholding the rule of law. I aim to streamline legal processes, advocate for alternative dispute resolution methods, and enhance the overall effectiveness of civil litigation within the state.

a. What goals do you have concerning fraudulent and deceptive business practices?

I am committed to combating fraudulent and deceptive business practices. My goals involve strengthening enforcement mechanisms, increasing penalties for offenders, and enhancing consumer education to prevent such practices. I will collaborate with relevant agencies and enact policies that deter and punish those engaged in dishonest business practices.

b. What are your plans for civil rights enforcement?

In civil rights enforcement, my plans include vigorous advocacy for equal protection under the law. I will work to address systemic discrimination, promote diversity and inclusion, and ensure that the rights of all individuals are protected. This involves proactive measures to eliminate discriminatory practices and robustly defending civil rights cases.

c. What, if anything would you do regarding the healthcare industry?

Regarding the healthcare industry, my focus is on ensuring accessibility, and quality of healthcare services for all Pennsylvanians. I will make sure people know they can reach out if they are denied access to care. They will know that the Attorney General will step in if they are discriminated against by health care organizations, by failure to cover essential health services in accordance with the law. I will ensure people who need mental wellness care will not be denied because of a pre-existing condition or because of their race gender or age.

I will advocate for policies that address healthcare disparities, protect patients from fraudulent practices, and collaborate with stakeholders to improve overall healthcare outcomes.

5. Describe your concerns about the criminal justice litigation area.

My concerns in criminal justice litigation include addressing systemic issues such as racial disparities, wrongful convictions, and inadequate legal representation. I aim to reform the criminal justice system, emphasizing creating a justice system that meets 3 metrics,

- 1) Use taxpayer dollars wisely
- 2) provide a fair process to individuals
- 3) one that actually promotes public safety and does not make people more desperate.

6. What is your position on the death penalty?

I believe our legal system is too flawed to advance the death penalty. The finality of the decision is not an option for a system that has many being freed after scientific evidence exposed the flawed trial or process for an individual.

7. Would you ever pre-empt the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office from exercising their duties anywhere in Philadelphia? Do you think Act 40 is constitutional and would you enforce it?

I am vehemently opposed to usurping the authority of the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office to prosecute cases within its jurisdiction. Doing so would set a dangerous precedent, undermining the principles of local autonomy and prosecutorial discretion, which are essential pillars of our legal system. I believe in fostering collaboration and maintaining open communication channels with local authorities.

Regarding Act 40, I would carefully assess its constitutionality. If, after thorough examination, it is determined that Act 40 infringes upon the constitutional rights of local jurisdictions or undermines their legal authority, I would be compelled to consider it unconstitutional.

Upholding the constitutional rights and autonomy of local offices is paramount in ensuring a fair and just legal system for all.

8. What, if any, goals do you have regarding protecting the rights of:

9. victims of hate crimes?

Strengthening hate crime legislation, improving reporting mechanisms, and providing support services for victims.

10. domestic violence victims?

Enhancing protective measures, ensuring legal remedies, and expanding resources for victims of domestic violence.

11. children?

Advocating for child welfare reforms, improving access to education and healthcare, and protecting children's rights within the legal system.

12. women seeking abortions?

As a Woman, a mother, Defending reproductive rights is not only a hallmark of my campaign it is personal, advocating for comprehensive healthcare access, and ensuring that women have the right to make informed choices about their reproductive health.

13. What, if any, policies would you have regarding gun control?

I support responsible gun control measures, including comprehensive background checks, restrictions on high-capacity magazines, and efforts to address the illegal gun trade. My goal is to balance individual rights with public safety, promoting policies that reduce gun violence and protect communities.

### **III. ADMINISTRATIVE**

1. How, if at all, do you think AI will affect the duties of your office? Are there uses by others that might raise legal concerns that would be within your jurisdiction to address?

AI is poised to significantly impact the duties of my office, particularly in streamlining processes, data analysis, and legal research. I would explore incorporating AI tools to enhance efficiency and effectiveness. However, I am aware of potential legal concerns, especially in areas like privacy and bias. It would be within my jurisdiction to address any legal issues arising from the use of AI by others, ensuring that ethical and legal standards are upheld.

2. Describe what, if any, training you would provide to your staff regarding EEO concerns. EEO concerns are of paramount importance. I would implement comprehensive training programs for my staff to foster a workplace that is inclusive, free from discrimination, and values diversity. This training would cover not only legal requirements but also emphasize the importance of promoting a culture that respects and upholds equal employment opportunities for everyone.

3. What, if any, changes would you make in the hiring and appointment of staff?

In the hiring and appointment of staff, I would prioritize diversity, equity, and inclusion. Implementing fair and transparent hiring processes, considering diverse candidate pools, and ensuring that appointments are made based on merit and qualifications are key priorities. I would also emphasize ongoing professional development to enhance skills and adaptability among the team.

4. Describe the role of the attorney general in litigation. How important do you think it is for the attorney general to have a background in one or more of the litigation areas within the office's purview?

The Attorney General plays a crucial role in litigation, representing the state's legal interests in various matters. It is vital for the Attorney General to have a background in one or more areas within the office's purview, such as criminal law, environmental law, or consumer protection. A deep understanding of these areas ensures effective leadership, strategic decision-making, and the ability to navigate complex legal issues on behalf of the state. While broader legal acumen is essential, specialized knowledge enhances the Attorney General's capacity to address the diverse legal challenges faced by the office. I will look to hire people to oversee key areas of our work who are well traversed in the subject matter area. This will be the key to streamlining processes when you have a trained eye who can immediately recognize the issues.

