



Connect with your Neighbors.....Change the World

# 2024 PA Attorney General Questionnaire

Candidate Phone: (267) 203-4879 \_\_\_\_\_ Candidate email: info@joekhan.com \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared by: Martin Langer \_\_\_\_\_ Phone/Email: (215) 753-0606 / langer.marty@gmail.com

Campaign Manager: Jonathan Miller \_\_\_\_\_ Phone/Email: (818) 448-3075 / jonathan@joekhan.com

Committee Name: Friends of Joe Khan \_\_\_\_\_

Campaign Address: PO BOX 60601 Harrisburg, PA 17106 \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: info@joekhan.com \_\_\_\_\_ Website: www.joekhan.com \_\_\_\_\_

## CANDIDATE CERTIFICATION

Candidate Name: Joe Khan

Office Sought: 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: *Joe Khan*

Date: 2/22/2024

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:

**Philly Neighborhood Networks**  
c/o Gloria Gilman  
21 S Broad St, Suite 1710  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
215-601-2197  
gmgilman@gmail.com

# NN Attorney General Candidate Questionnaire

## I. BACKGROUND

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

County Solicitor, Bucks County Law Department

Assistant United States Attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office (Corruption, Tax & Civil Rights Unit)

Assistant District Attorney, Philadelphia District Attorney's Office (Family Violence and Sexual Assault Unit)

2. If you have previously held a government office:

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

As an Assistant District Attorney, I focused on sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse and hate crimes.

As an Assistant United States Attorney, I handled a wide variety of matters over ten years.

Towards the beginning of my tenure, I primarily focused on violent crime, with a particular focus on reducing gun violence as my office's coordinator for the Violent Crime Impact Team. I then focused on corporate and political corruption, including the widespread corruption that we uncovered in the City Halls of Allentown and Reading.

As County Solicitor, I served as general counsel for the county, overseeing a wide variety of matters. In litigation, I became most heavily involved in election cases, children and youth matters, and affirmative litigation against corporations. On policy, I was particularly involved in hiring issues. And as a supervisor, I built the Law Department and helped grow resources and staff for the Public Defender's Office and Consumer Protection Department.

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

I have served on the diversity committee of every government office I've ever worked on and I served on the hiring committees of the DA's Office and U.S. Attorney's Office. In the DA's Office, in addition to my duties in the Family Violence & Sexual Assault Unit, I served on both the Elder Justice Project and the hate crimes working group. In the U.S. Attorney's Office, in addition to my regular assignments, I served on the Southwest Detective Division anti-violence working group, the critical incident response team and the national security team.

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.)

N/A

4. Please provide copies of all your significant campaign materials, including position papers, and information on your campaign strategy, expected funding sources, and endorsements.

My New Vision for Justice policy platform can be viewed at [www.joekhan.com/justice](http://www.joekhan.com/justice).

Campaign strategy and expected funding sources:

My campaign will utilize a combination of paid communication, grassroots organizing, and institutional political support to get my message out and mobilize my supporters. In both the primary and general elections, I will mobilize my broad and diverse statewide support which is built on a strong foundation in places like Philadelphia (where my brother is an elected official), Bucks County (where I was endorsed with 68% of the Democratic Party's votes on the first ballot), and the Lehigh Valley (where I was endorsed by over 20 elected officials last summer).

In addition to a diverse network of individual donors that I will continue to raise funds from, we have a commitment for significant funding from IMPACT, the national organization that invests in South Asian American candidates running in competitive races.

Endorsements:

I am honored to have support from a broad and diverse coalition across and beyond the Commonwealth. An updated list can be found at [www.joekhan.com/endorsements](http://www.joekhan.com/endorsements).

On the national level, I have been endorsed by IMPACT, the organization that supports trailblazing South Asian American candidates, especially in races such as this where if elected I would be the first Asian American elected to any of Pennsylvania's nine statewide offices. Connecticut Attorney General William Tong has also announced his support.

In the Pennsylvania Senate, I have been endorsed by Senator Katie Muth (Berks, Chester, Montgomery), Senator Steve Santarsiero (Bucks), and Senator Nikil Saval (Philadelphia).

In the Pennsylvania House, I have been endorsed by Representative Tim Brennan (Bucks), Representative Melissa Cerrato (Montgomery), Representative Ismail Smith-Wade-El (Lancaster), Representative Paul Friel (Chester), Representative Matt Gergley (Allegheny), Representative Roni Green (Philadelphia), Representative Joe Hohenstein (Philadelphia), Representative Mary Isaacson (Philadelphia), my brother Representative Tarik Khan (Philadelphia), Representative Brian Munroe (Bucks), Representative Christopher Pielli (Chester), Representative Mark Rozzi (Berks), Representative Peter Schweyer (Lehigh), and Representative Joshua Siegel (Lehigh).

At the local level, I have received dozens of endorsements from county and municipal elected officials (including every Democrat on the Central Bucks School Board), the Philadelphia Metal Trades Council (which represents Philly Shipyard workers), and the Bucks County Democratic Committee (the largest Democratic committee to endorse a candidate in the Attorney General race).

5. What makes you think that you can win this election?

I will be a strong candidate with broad appeal in both the primary and general elections. At a time when many Pennsylvanians feel divided along religious and ethnic lines, my story of being raised by a Muslim immigrant and a Catholic nurse in a Jewish neighborhood resonates across the Commonwealth. My message on continuing a 24 year career of protecting us from crime, corruption and attacks on our rights is one that appeals to Pennsylvanians from all backgrounds, as evidenced by my diverse coalition of support.

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

As of 12/31/2023, my campaign had raised over \$650,000. I expect this campaign to cost \$1-2 million in the primary, depending on the size of the field. A successful campaign will need relatively less money to win this race because it is a large field with 5 candidates.

## II. ISSUES

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

I see Pennsylvania's Environmental Rights Amendment as a superpower for an Attorney General who wants to use the awesome power of the office to address a wide range of environmental dangers, including climate change, fracking, and threats to our water rights. That's why I think it's time to think more broadly than prosecuting environmental crimes and take on the broader issue of environmental justice. Whether that's taking on developers when they are at odds with the community or our own Department of Environmental Protection when it fails to do its job, I will be an Attorney General who is unafraid to use the power of my office to fight for a cleaner and healthier environment.

As Bucks County Solicitor, I was the only county solicitor in Pennsylvania to enforce the Environmental Rights Amendment, which I did twice. With bipartisan support, I launched a major lawsuit against manufacturing giants 3M, DuPont, and Tyco for polluting our water and soil with PFAS (forever chemicals). And I took legal action to prevent fracking in the Delaware River Basin, teaming up with my counterpart in Montgomery County when no Republicans (and only a small number of Democrats) wanted to join our effort. As Attorney General, I will be fearless in bringing Pennsylvania into the national litigation against fossil fuel companies to hold them accountable for their role in climate change.

With our Environmental Rights Amendment, Pennsylvania should be a global leader on protecting our Earth. But we're not. And our greatest challenge is a lack of urgency. We have lost too much time already and, frankly, there is not enough pressure or focus in our politics to force elected officials to take the bold and transformative action that is necessary to address the climate crisis we face. I'm running for this office for the sake of my kids, and this is the issue that I most need to address for their future.

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

I have the strongest experience in consumer advocacy of any candidate in the field. As both a private sector attorney and county solicitor, I brought major claims against corporations that harmed Pennsylvania communities, including the Big Pharma companies who fueled an opioid crisis, the Big Tech companies who fueled a youth mental health crisis, and the PFAS manufacturers who polluted our water with forever chemicals. While overseeing Bucks County's Consumer Protection Director, I helped enact reforms such as Pennsylvania's first used car Lemon Law.

I plan to bring transformative change to Pennsylvania on consumer protection by empowering county governments to become more responsive to local complaints of fraud and unfair and deceptive trade practices. I am the only candidate who has served at the county level in both a Solicitor's and a District Attorney's Office. In my experience, county District Attorneys often have good intentions on consumer protection but lack the resources, training, or personnel to unleash their potentially transformative power – while County Solicitors typically are not involved in these issues at all. In addition to continuing the AG's Office trend towards using this power on behalf of marginalized communities, I hope to help DAs and County Solicitors across the 67 counties better understand and use their powers to fight the abuse of consumers in a variety of areas. In my experience, these issues particularly impact marginalized communities, including immigrant communities where English is not spoken as a first language. Hearing the stories of immigrant communities being taken advantage of by user car dealers in Bucks County led me to write PA's first used car lemon law, which we enacted in Bucks on a bipartisan basis (and with the support of both the Republican DA and then Attorney General Shapiro's office). My record of protecting consumers, my history of fighting big corporations, and my commitment to marginalized communities all position me to lead this effort across Pennsylvania.

I will create in my office Pennsylvania's first-ever Housing Justice Unit which would use the office's available tools (like civil complaints, consumer protection actions, and criminal prosecutions) to address the housing crisis, which takes different forms through Pennsylvania's diverse communities. Urban areas need an Attorney General to stop predatory landlords from exploiting tenants and to abate lead contamination that endangers children. Suburban areas need the AG to take on overseas investors who prevent families from obtaining attainable housing by treating housing as another commodity instead of a human right. And rural areas need an AG who will address the power imbalance between mobile home areas and those who own the land on which their homes are located. These issues are complicated, interrelated, and require a holistic approach to solve.

In my response to your question on healthcare I also expand on my plans to go after insurance companies who enrich themselves by hiding behind arcane procedures and denying coverage for services that their clients need and deserve.

3. Describe your issue objectives in the financial enforcement arena.

Enforcement is the key to making sure workers are fairly paid and safe on the jobsite, which in turn assures that we have safe schools, workspaces, and health care facilities. I am thankful that when Governor Shapiro served as AG, he created the Fair Labor Section to enforce laws protecting workers. I am excited to bring new energy and leadership to the mission of rooting out wage theft, prosecuting

companies that misclassify workers and commit payroll fraud, charging companies that violate workplace safety and health code standards, and taking on companies that fail to pay unemployment insurance taxes or commit workers compensation insurance fraud. I would build on relationships with allies like Community Legal Services and the Public Interest Law Center to stop wage theft and to help empower county Solicitors and District Attorneys to successfully join this fight at the local level.

Beyond continuing the good work being done in the AG's Fair Labor Section, I plan to be a national leader in using antitrust enforcement to stop corporate collusion – not only when it cheats consumers, who deserve fair prices for quality goods and services, but also when it cheats workers who deserve fair pay and quality working conditions. Nongovernmental actors in Pennsylvania such as SEIU Healthcare are doing groundbreaking work in this arena, and we should have an Attorney General who takes a leadership role in this kind of litigation.

While Pennsylvania has lagged behind the rest of the country due to our lack of an antitrust law, there is still untapped opportunity to bring claims under federal law while demonstrating the need for our legislature to write an antitrust law that specifically contemplates workers' rights as a core priority. We can chart these new pathways to helping workers while continuing the mission of rooting out wage theft, prosecuting payroll fraud and worker misclassification, and charging companies that violate workplace safety and health code standards, fail to pay unemployment insurance taxes or commit workers compensation insurance fraud.

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

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

As detailed elsewhere in this questionnaire, I plan to use the AG's consumer protection enforcement power more broadly to take on unfair practices by developers and landlords, insurance companies, and rogue employers. And I also plan to expand language access for the intake of consumer complaints so that our Attorney General's Office does more to show up for communities who are not being heard.

b. What are your plans for civil rights enforcement?

As Attorney General, I will use every power at my disposal, from hate crimes prosecutions to fighting for our constitutional rights, to protect from discrimination the LGBTQ+ community, religious minorities, and others who are being demonized by extremists.

When it comes to policing there's a lot to do, but I'll offer three examples of work that I've done which I will continue as Attorney General. First, with white supremacists actively trying to infiltrate police departments across Pennsylvania, we need a strong AG who will root these people out of police departments. I have an unmatched record of working well with good police officers while holding bad cops accountable. I've prosecuted and proactively investigated police officers and will use the power of the Attorney General's Office to root out police corruption, especially where local DAs have failed to hold them accountable. Second, I will use my influence as Attorney General – as I did as County Solicitor – to promote best practices with body cameras and other techniques that will help us prevent

and prosecute racist policing in our communities. Finally, pardons can be a pathway to racial justice. After a 16 year career as a prosecutor, I went on to create a Pardons and Expungement Unit in Bucks County because I understand that empowering people to become productive members of society promotes our public safety. Through my role on the Board of Pardons, I will be fearless in using my power to right wrongs that occurred in the past, such as convictions that resulted from the unfair and unequal application of marijuana laws in communities of color.

When it comes to our voting rights, I'll fight with the same tenacity as when I was the Bucks County Solicitor. When Judicial Watch tried to bully Bucks with a bogus lawsuit in an effort to coerce us to conduct purges of the voter rolls, I not only refused to negotiate with them, I brought together the other impacted counties – Delaware and Chester counties – to form a united front. We aggressively fought their suit and won. This purge attempt was just a precursor to Trump's attempt to steal the 2020 election, when once again I continued to unite Pennsylvania counties in the legal fight to defend democracy. We fought Trump all the way to the United States Supreme Court, we won, and we did so with bipartisan support, with integrity, and with unflinching vigilance.

Attorney General Shapiro's office provided a firewall against all of these attacks, and the Republicans now want that firewall gone. I'm not going to let that happen. Only two Democrats have ever won the PA Attorney General's Office; as our party's nominee I will beat back the Republicans' attacks on crime to ensure that we keep this office so that as AG, I will lead Pennsylvania's defense of our voting rights at the state and federal levels. Whether through direct litigation, amicus brief, or advocacy with the legislature, I will ensure that Pennsylvania remains a beacon of democracy and a model for voter enfranchisement.

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

The top line is that we need to do more for the Pennsylvanians who are uninsured and underinsured - many of whom rely on emergency services. However, when it comes to insurance companies, I believe that my innovations in taking on corporate misconduct will provide a roadmap for other Attorneys General on issues like healthcare coverage. For too long, insurance companies have acted with impunity while making it difficult for patients to have transparency, fairness or equal access to services. By using Pennsylvania laws such as our RICO and consumer protection laws, I will be an Attorney General who leads the way for my peers across the country.

One particular area of focus for me is mental health care. As Attorney General, I will be a national leader in taking on the insurance companies, who have long profited by limiting real access to the mental health care that people sorely need and deserve. When I first made the shift from being a criminal prosecutor to suing companies who harmed the public, I learned how to work through the substantial challenges in taking on insurers. I've learned so much about this issue from my brother Tarik, who is also a nurse practitioner and lifelong advocate for eliminating the disparity in care for physical and mental health. As Attorney General, I will use the power of my office to force insurance companies to do better when it comes to making mental health care attainable for the insured.

Moreover, in Bucks County, after we sued Big Pharma for their role in the opioid epidemic, we used a portion of the money we recovered to invest in a "co-responder" program in Bensalem to ensure that

police officers responding to a mental health crisis would be supported by a trained mental health worker. This program has worked and has expanded to numerous municipalities in Bucks County. As Attorney General, I will continue to support investments like this to promote safer communities for everyone.

Any discussion of healthcare has to include a discussion of healthcare workers. In addition to the necessity of ensuring that healthcare workers are treated and compensated fairly, we also need to take special care to make sure that they have safe working conditions - there's a direct link between the safety of healthcare workers and the health and wellness of those they care for. An important part of this effort will be using antitrust enforcement to stop corporate collusion among healthcare providers who illegally keep wages and benefits for healthcare workers artificially low.

Finally, it bears emphasizing that reproductive care is an essential part of healthcare, and, as detailed elsewhere in this questionnaire, I will do everything in my power as Attorney General to safeguard reproductive rights.

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

There's a lot of work to do to improve our criminal courts, but bias is the throughline between all our most pressing issues in the criminal justice system. As AG, I'll continue my career of tackling these problems by leveraging my expertise and credibility as a prosecutor. First, as the most high profile prosecutor in Pennsylvania, I'll provide a model for best practices and priorities on issues like bail, forfeiture, and diversion, where my success will provide templates for legislative reform. Second, I'll root out police corruption across Pennsylvania and change the culture of cronyism that flourishes in too many District Attorneys' Offices. And just as I created Bucks County's Pardons & Expungements Unit, I will be fearless in using my role on the Board of Pardons to right wrongs that occurred in the past, such as convictions that resulted from the unfair and unequal application of marijuana laws in communities of color.

On the subject of bail in particular, we absolutely need to reform the bail system in Pennsylvania. As a former federal prosecutor, I will be an AG who will lead by example in how we seek bail and as an advocate for reform in our legislature. If you are a danger to the community or a flight risk, you should not be bailed out. Danger and flight risk, not the amount of cash in someone's pocket, should determine whether or not they stay in jail before trial.

6. What is your position on the death penalty?

I think it's time for the death penalty in Pennsylvania to be abolished. After decades' worth of evidence, it seems clear that the death penalty has been a failed experiment. Its strongest proponents cannot dispute the evidence of wrongful convictions nor the cruelty of subjecting families of murder victims to a futile process in a state that has not executed anyone in the 21st century. Our current governor, like his predecessor, has a moratorium on the death penalty and has gone further and said he will sign a bill to end the death penalty if the legislature passes it. I hope that he does.



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 reject Act 40 as a cynical political stunt by Republicans with no interest in protecting Philadelphians from crime. As both a career prosecutor and someone who lost an election to Larry Krasner, I am uniquely qualified to make the case that we need to accept the vote of the people and reject legislative theatrics that do nothing to keep us safe. The same people who have pushed legislation to limit Larry's powers have blocked Philadelphia's ability to pass sensible gun reforms or receive funds for public safety initiatives. I have the credibility to call these folks out while modeling best practices as an Attorney General who has built a career on keeping Pennsylvanians safe. As written, enforcing Act 40 would radically change the mission and scope of the Attorney General's Office while starving the offices of critical resources needed for key components of the AG's work.

Broadly speaking, I believe it's essential for our Attorney General to be both a collaborative partner with public safety officials in all 67 counties while also being an independent check on local law enforcement, especially when it comes to police corruption. I already have, and easily form, outstanding relationships with DAs and DA's Offices across Pennsylvania, which will make it easier to advance important work in the AG's Office, especially when referrals by a local DA are legally required. Reaching out as an ally – and rejecting cynical stunts like Act 40 – is the best way for me to work with, not against, our DAs.

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

9. victims of hate crimes

See below.

10. domestic violence victims?

My career prosecuting hate crimes, domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse has provided me with the experience necessary to protect our most vulnerable citizens and advocate vigorously for victims. No other candidate in this race can match my track record in this area. Domestic violence remains a pervasive problem, and the incidence of hate crimes continues to escalate with the rise extremists targeting of religious, racial, and ethnic minorities as well as the LGBTQ+ community.

In both of these areas, I know from experience that keeping guns out of the hands of bad actors is essential. For more than 20 years, I have been bringing people together to implement smart, team-focused solutions to keep our communities safe while ensuring fairness and accountability. Addressing these problems will require a 67-county strategy: I will provide statewide leadership while empowering county governments with the support that they need to protect the most vulnerable in their jurisdictions. As Attorney General, I will continue to be a champion for these communities not only in the criminal justice system but in all areas where the Attorney General can seek justice.

## 11. children?

Protecting kids has been the throughline throughout my 24-year legal career. As stated above, I spent 16 years protecting children as a prosecutor before coming to Bucks County and reforming the way legal services were provided to our Children & Youth Social Services Agency. I am running for this office to build a better world for my kids, and my commitment to protecting children will be evident in everything my office does, especially when it comes to reducing gun violence, which has become the #1 cause of death for our children.

For example, as Attorney General, my administration will take an expansive view of Pennsylvanian's constitutional right to an education to guarantee that every public school student in the Commonwealth gets the same opportunities to succeed. I owe everything to the outstanding education that I received in Philadelphia public schools K-12.

As the parent of two Central Bucks School District students, it was traumatic when right-wing extremists took over my kids' school board to implement their hateful agenda and target LGBTQ+ youth. They committed these injustices in the name of "liberty" while making our kids less safe. That's why I worked with concerned parents and neighbors throughout 2023 to vote out the "Moms for Liberty" school board directors. That's also why all of the Democrats on the Central Bucks School District Board have endorsed me as a champion for our kids. As Attorney General, my administration will use an expansive view of Pennsylvanians' constitutional right to an education to combat these kinds of policies and protect LGBTQ+ students.

When I found out that social media companies were manipulating their algorithms so that they would be more addicting to young and developing minds, like those of my two boys, I took action. As Bucks County Solicitor, I became the first county solicitor in America to take on Big Tech and sue the social media companies for targeting kids like mine with their algorithms. Now, over 40 states have joined a lawsuit suing them for this. I'm proud to have been a leader on this issue and as AG, I plan on using the office to ensure Pennsylvania is leading the nation in addressing our most pressing crises. I'm running for AG to fight for my kids and to keep families across the Commonwealth safe.

## 12. women seeking abortions?

My legal career was inspired by my mother, an ER nurse who told me haunting stories of women she cared for, including those who died because they lacked access to safe abortion care. I believe the Pennsylvania constitution protects reproductive rights – which extend to those who are seeking abortions while visiting our Commonwealth – and it will be my sworn duty as Attorney General to defend and enforce those rights. I didn't flinch when I was targeted for being the only county solicitor in Pennsylvania to defend access to the abortion pill before the U.S. Supreme Court. If Congress or the PA General Assembly were to pass new restrictions on abortion rights, I would use my authority to bring legal action to protect the rights of Pennsylvanians. Similarly, I would use the power of my office to fight outside "tracking" efforts by other states to punish women who come to Pennsylvania to exercise their reproductive rights here.

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

I support common sense gun safety reforms such as a ban on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines which would ban weapons of war that have no place on our streets. As Bucks County Solicitor, I led a coalition of county solicitors advocating for the rights of cities like Pittsburgh and Philadelphia to enact their own laws to address gun violence, and I will continue my advocacy where it's needed. As a federal prosecutor, I will take a holistic and data-driven approach to reducing gun violence across Pennsylvania. My credibility and experience will help me lead on this issue.

### **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?

We can't wait for regulators to catch up to the lightning-fast evolution of AI; I will take legal action to protect workers' rights, our privacy rights, and our most vulnerable citizens. I was the first county solicitor in America to take on Big Tech for targeting kids like mine with their social media algorithms. As Attorney General, I will stay ahead of the curve to keep us safe in a rapidly changing world.

2. Describe what, if any, training you would provide to your staff regarding EEO concerns.

I will ensure that the Attorney General's Office reflects the diversity of the Commonwealth and that our hiring process remedies any underrepresentation of the various communities that we serve. Having a diverse and representative workforce will make our office more effective at executing our mission and building trusted relationships with the communities we represent. To ensure a representative workforce, we will clearly define diversity goals for our office and set measurable objectives to track our progress. In order to ensure we are attracting a diverse and representative applicant pool, we will use inclusive job descriptions that emphasize our commitment to diversity and identify potential recruitment pools that match our hiring goals. We will provide regular DEI training for hiring managers to help us design a more inclusive hiring process and will regularly review our goals and performance to identify areas for improvement.

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

Based on the response that our campaign has received, I expect that people will be excited to apply to work in our office. I'm not sure what HR policies the current AG is following to recruit and support a diverse workforce, but I plan to make some changes. Having been raised in a multiracial, interfaith family in Philadelphia, advancing DEI has always been a centerpiece of my personal and professional life. That's why I defied all expectations for Bucks County, where we built a highly diverse county law department, mostly comprised of professionals who were women, people of color, or both, and set us on the path to becoming the first county law department in the country to receive Mansfield Certification for DEI best practices. And beyond my own department, I helped promote DEI in the County by helping create its New Americans Advisory Commission, serving on its Diversity and Inclusion Council, promoting underrepresented communities for appointments to Boards and Commissions and authoring the County's fair pay and ban-the-box hiring policies.

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?

To use the office's litigation powers in pioneering and transformative ways, the Attorney General needs to recruit and lead the best litigators, especially in the area of affirmative litigation. I am uniquely qualified to do this, not only because of my track record of building dynamic teams, but because I have done the work that I will be asking others to do. I have both the vision and the know how to lead the Office and will have the respect of litigators who will take our cases to court.

To be clear, I have the strongest prosecution experience of any candidate in the field. Over 16 years as a prosecutor - first as a Philadelphia Assistant District Attorney and then as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, I criminally prosecuted a wide variety of offenses, including sexual assault, political corruption, and economic crimes. While I built complex cases by working with excellent police officers, I also prosecuted bad cops and promoted best practices for rooting out corrupt police officers while I served as a federal prosecutor. When I became Bucks County Solicitor, I leveraged my credibility and experience as a former prosecutor to create a Pardon and Expungement Unit, enact a ban the box hiring policy, and increase funding for the Public Defender's Office (which I oversaw administratively). All of this will be invaluable.

But I also have the strongest experience in civil justice, consumer advocacy and defending democracy. As both a private sector attorney and county solicitor, I brought major claims against corporations that harmed Pennsylvania communities, including the Big Pharma companies who fueled an opioid crisis, the Big Tech companies who fueled a youth mental health crisis, and the PFAS manufacturers who polluted our water with forever chemicals. While overseeing Bucks County's Consumer Protection Director, I helped enact reforms such as Pennsylvania's first used car Lemon Law. And as County Solicitor, I took unprecedented steps to protect our fundamental rights when they came under attack, including the right to abortion, the right to a clean environment, and the right to vote.

This is why I will be able to bring top talent – from government, the private sector, and the nonprofit world – to join me in this mission. My strongest asset for this position is my years of leadership experience inspiring and leading attorneys under difficult circumstances. The law department that we built in Bucks County was not only exceptional for the outcomes we delivered, it was highly diverse and inclusive. In fact, Bucks County became a model for the entire country when ours became the first county law department to become Mansfield-certified for DEI best practices. Pennsylvania deserves that kind of leadership in its next Attorney General.