

ACLU People Power Washington

2020 Police Reform

Candidate Questionnaire



Candidate Name	Angie Homola	
Position Sought	Washington State House of Representatives Position (1) 10th LD (D)	
Campaign Contact Information	Mailing address: Angie For All P.O. Box 955 Oak Harbor WA 98277	Phone: (360) 632-3016 Fax:
	Website: angieforall.com Email: angieforall10LD@gmail.com Twitter: twitter.com/angieforall Facebook: facebook.com/angieforall	

Part I – Yes/No Questions

Please answer the following questions		Yes	No	Additional Comments
1	Do you support statewide policy for:			
	Banning chokeholds	Yes		
	Banning tear gas	Yes		Poisonous gases are far too indiscriminate a weapon for effective crowd control.
	Use of body cameras	Maybe		Only under controlled and regulated circumstances where privacy and facial recognition software has been improved to eliminate false results especially with regard to people of color who are vulnerable to misreads. Cameras tend to encourage officers to behave more civilly.

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2	Do you support abolishing qualified immunity for police?	Yes		Otherwise there is no accountability for misconduct
3	Do you support de-escalation standards and accountability for police?	Yes		
q	Do you support independent, civilian review of complaints of police use of force?	Yes		
5	Do you support eliminating investigation and discipline of use of force against civilians as topics for collective bargaining by law enforcement unions?	Yes ?		I am confused by this question - I think we must allow investigation of, and discipline against, police who use force against civilians. I do not think union agreements and bargaining can eliminate these civil protections
6	Do you support decertification for serious misconduct by law enforcement officers?	Yes		Serious cases of misconduct must be met with serious consequences
7	Do you support ending police use of and access to surplus military equipment?	In some cases		I would support reenacting the Obama administration restrictions on surplus military equipment (specifically weapons and combat equipment) available to US Police. Some military surplus supplies and equipment, such as clothing and office supplies, are appropriate for use by Police and should continue to be made available to departments.

Part II – Free Response Questions

What is your idea of public safety?

My idea of public safety is one where the entire community is committed to improving the welfare of its citizens and preventing problems before they arise. This means a comprehensive approach to improving public health as a direct means of increasing public safety. As your representative in Olympia I will support the following measures to address public safety concerns:

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- Support Washington’s Foundational Public Health Services, a fundamental responsibility of Washington State government.
- End the COVID-19 pandemic through state supported and widespread access to testing, tracing, monitoring, treatment, and protection for essential workers. Invest in vaccination and antivirus medicines. Establish a program for personal protective equipment produced, warehoused and distributed in Washington State.
- Alleviate the burden placed on police, and the criminal justice system by increasing emergency and crisis intervention resources that appropriately address first response and equity protocols.
- Promote smart land use planning, affordable housing, low income housing, and resources for the homeless.
- Adopt and establish a state supported public health and mental health care system and facilities that serve all Washington residents.
- Follow strict constitutional guidelines that call for a hard line between civilian policing and military defense.

Have you taken the [#ElectedsForJustice pledge](#)? If so, what actions do you intend to take to support the 5-part plan? If not, what points are barriers to your support, and why?

Yes, I have already taken the [#ElectedsForJustice pledge](#)!
Here is how I would help support the 5-part plan:

De-militarize the police. We can restrict acquisition of weapons and combat equipment from military surplus and reduce the deadliness of police departments without compromising their ability to keep the peace.

Further restrict the use of excessive or deadly force by police. We need better training for officers to prevent the use of force from being standard; the use of force and deadly force by police is reserved as a last resort and should be mandated that way by departmental restrictions.

Increase accountability and transparency in police union contracts. The profession of law enforcement is unique even among the emergency services due to their authority to arrest or detain citizens. Their employee unions must also be treated as unique under the law to prevent conflicts of interest where the rights of an employee(officer) and the rights of the people that employee(officer) has arrested or detained collide.

Give subpoena and other investigative powers to independent oversight boards. The internal review of complaints by police departments is not sufficient to prevent repeated misconduct. We need independent oversight of policing by outside reviewers to keep our police accountable.

Redirect police department funding to community-based alternatives. Alleviate the burden placed on police, and the criminal justice system by increasing emergency and crisis intervention resources that appropriately address first response and equity protocols.

Under current state labor law, Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs) with law enforcement unions are often a barrier for meaningful police reform. What efforts do you support that differentiate police unions from other labor unions so that change can happen without eroding other workers' rights?

As a tradeworker's union member for many years I understand the importance of Collective Bargaining Agreements for the establishment and protection of workers rights and safety. Specifically in the case of police unions we need to balance the rights of police workers with the rights of the citizens they are authorized to arrest, detain, and prosecute. Abusers of that authority must be held accountable while at the same time good cops deserve the protection that employee unions can provide. We need to differentiate between police unions and other employee unions to appropriately reform policing in the US. The purpose of curtailing CBA's with law enforcement unions is to prevent repeatedly violent and abusive behaviour by officers from escaping disciplinary action by overseers. This is a vital and precise reform necessary to rebuild public trust in our responsible officers who place their lives in harm's way to keep us safe.

Are there police reform/accountability measures that are not addressed here that you think would be productive to pursue?

We need civil servants to protect citizens and uphold society's laws, and these must be individuals who have the trust of the public. Our current policing system is hamstrung by corruption, racism, and violence within its members and its methods. If our policing system is to be saved I believe it needs comprehensive reform. This moment has sparked some fantastic discussion about serious problems in core functions of our democracy, and policing appears salient.

I would prefer extensive reforms to our current police system rather than outright abolishment. I envision a criminal justice system where police departments and their officers are embedded within the communities in which they serve, are made up of trusted members of that community, and are dedicated to the protection of all citizens. I hope to see officers responding to most routine and emergency service calls while not carrying deadly weapons on their person. I look to see highly integrated and diverse police forces that complete mandated training designed to end discrimination and focus on conflict resolution based on deescalation rather than use of force. I want an America where the people are not afraid of their police.

I affirm that all the information provided in response to this questionnaire is true, complete, and correct to the best of my ability, and that no relevant matter has been omitted.

Signature



Date: 10-7-20

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Printed Name	Angie Homola	
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