

ACLU People Power Washington

2020 Police Reform

Candidate Questionnaire



Candidate Name	Brian Duthie	
Position Sought	State Representative, Position 2, 25 th LD	
Campaign Contact Information	Mailing address: P.O. Box 73816 Puyallup, WA 98373	Phone: (253)304-2159 Fax:
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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		
	Use of body cameras	Yes		
2	Do you support abolishing qualified immunity for police?	Yes		
3	Do you support de-escalation standards and accountability for police?	Yes		
4	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?	N/A		This would not fall under the CBA.

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6	Do you support decertification for serious misconduct by law enforcement officers?	Yes		
7	Do you support ending police use of and access to surplus military equipment?	Yes		

Part II – Free Response Questions

What is your idea of public safety?

As a firefighter, I am frequently called to situations where people are facing some of their most difficult times. I work closely with police and other public safety officials. The issue is that we continue to send those who have a lack of training to scenarios that they aren't meant to handle. We have to rethink our idea of public safety, because what we are doing is obviously not working. We need to invest in the right people for the right job. I see an approach to public safety that includes mental health professionals, social workers, and those that are trained to preserve life and improve the situation. Police have plenty to do with the actual criminals that are out there. I'd like to give them some relief from the stresses of their daily jobs and provide them the support of other professionals for specific scenarios. If we continue to use a hammer, everything will look like a nail.

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?

The way the pledge is written is vague with points 4 and 5. I wholeheartedly support de-escalation, and demilitarization. I would want to know more about who would appoint or elect the independent investigation board, I support the idea of independent investigations. They are essential. However, I need further clarification of who would be in charge of this board, and procedurally how it would impact the PD and community.

For the fifth item on the pledge, I fully support putting the right resources that the community needs in each department, but I cannot unilaterally say that every department in the State of Washington is overfunded and is detrimentally impacting their communities. The example given of Seattle is a good example of a police department whose funds have not been used for the community needs. Again, I think this blanket statement of defunding every police department is too broad to apply to some of the smaller departments with small budgets - each budget needs to be analyzed as to their responses to emergency calls to see if there are emergency needs in the community that are being met/not being met - or if police response to situations is causing harm to communities.

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

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other workers' rights?

Other worker's unions don't have perks like qualified immunity, the ability to use force, and access to military equipment. The fact is that these things have long been used against workers in the fight for workers rights. I would support better accountability through ending qualified immunity, promoting de-escalation training and certification, and ending the pipeline of military equipment to police forces.

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

None that I can think of currently.

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



Printed Name

Brian Dutchie

Date: 9/25/2020

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