

GLI 2019 Statewide Candidate Survey

Daniel Cameron for Attorney General

1. As Attorney General, what would be your office's top legislative priorities in Frankfort?

I have said that my top priority is to restore the office to its proper place as the Chief Law Enforcement Office of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. I believe people are frustrated by what they see as an office that has been used to advance a political agenda and to position the person who holds it for a run for higher office. I believe philosophically that the role of the Attorney General's Office should be to enforce the laws that are passed by the General Assembly. That being said, we are facing a drug crisis that I believe is the public safety challenge of our lifetime. As a result, I would request additional funding for Attorney General's investigators to dedicate to narcotics investigators, a pay raise for law enforcement, and funding to help alleviate overcrowding in our jails and prisons.

2. What steps would you take as Attorney General to address the opioid crisis in Kentucky?

I believe this is the public safety challenge of our lifetime and that tackling it should be top priority of the Attorney General's office. As I said before, there is a unique opportunity to use the office to bring together law enforcement and prosecutors which I would do regularly to formalize the sharing of intelligence. I would also dedicate prosecutors and investigators from the office to assist our drug task forces in the handling of complex, multijurisdictional drug investigations. I am also proud to have been on the board of a treatment facility in Louisville and would work to bring the voice of that community into the conversation as well, and help raise awareness of the many programs that rehabilitate and help people struggling with addiction return to the workforce and to self-sufficiency.

3. How would you work to protect Kentucky businesses and citizens from cyber security threats?

Every day we become more dependent on the internet for vital communications and commerce and cyber security threats become more dangerous. The challenge is that savvy criminals often know more about the internet than most law enforcement, prosecutors, judges and the public. It is why it is critically important that we pool resources and work together. There are great investigators in the Attorney General's Office who are already working on crimes on the internet. I would ensure that they work closely with the State Police and federal investigators to ensure that our resources are being used as efficiently as possible to keep our communities safe. I have always found that if you do not care who gets the credit there is much that can be accomplished and I am confident that working with our law enforcement partners we can take on sex

trafficking, scammers, and narcotics trafficking. Additionally, I would work to make resources about how individuals, businesses, and local governments can proactively protect themselves on the internet more readily available from law enforcement and cyber security experts.

4. What steps do you believe Kentucky needs to take to reform its criminal justice system?

I believe we need to begin with a conversation that includes law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, activists, and the community at large. These groups often talk past each other when discussing the issue of criminal justice reform, but I believe there are areas of common ground. The reality is that our jails and prisons are overcrowded. It leads to unsafe conditions for our corrections officers, criminals being released onto the streets because of lack of space, and deplorable conditions for inmates. I think we can all agree that reforms are needed to reduce overcrowding in our jails and prisons. I would suggest increased funding to increase capacity in our jails and prisons, an honest conversation with all the stakeholders about sentencing, and funding and support for treatment and recovery programs to end the cycle of addiction that often leads to crime.

5. What steps would your administration take to improve Kentucky's legal liability climate for employers?

I will focus the office on enforcing the laws passed by the General Assembly and standing up for the rights of all Kentuckians. I believe in a smaller government that empowers individuals and strongly support reforms to our legal liability climate. That may mean standing up to the well-funded attorneys lobby that benefits from the status quo and that is okay with me. Growing up, I learned valuable lessons about a hard day's work at my parent's small coffee shop in Elizabethtown. They sold a product, employed people, and were a staple in our community. If I am elected, I will fight every day for businesses, large and small, that provide opportunity to Kentuckians. I know all that goes into running a successful business and I will always be a voice to make sure that government does not take it for granted.