

General

- What is the biggest change that you would make to current police policies/programs?
- What policy/program do you think is most effective that you would be sure to continue/expand?
- The term "defunding the police" is obviously polarizing and in fact seems to have caused one of the candidates in this race to switch over to the Republican Party (Tony Cope). What concrete measures do you propose to address police brutality if it were to happen against any resident (of color or otherwise) and increase police accountability?
- How can we, as Democrats, positively engage the community and make progress on this issue in a very conservative county?
- What are your thoughts on the jail expansion project?

Justice Enforcement

- What are the primary issues related to crime and law enforcement in your view? What do you think are the solutions that are needed to address those issues?
- Will you work with Judge Letts to make the pretrial release program as effective as possible?
- How will the Sheriff's department bring in new and bright recruits during one of the most tumultuous labor shortages in recent history?
- What is your plan to decrease response times, reduce officer stress, and increase effectiveness?

Substance Abuse

- How would you define Harm Reduction? What are your views on Harm Reduction?
- How would you define holistic and humane law enforcement?

- What is your vision for a holistic and humane law enforcement approach to the substance abuse crisis in Haywood County? (i.e. How do we uphold the law while recognizing the disease that is substance use disorder?)
- What community partners should the police work with? What role should harm reduction play?

Mental Health

- Estimates of mental illness among people who are incarcerated range from 25-50%. What training and/or programs would you like to put into place to ensure that the police are equipped to respond appropriately to calls involving people with mental illness?

Homelessness

- What do you see as the role of law enforcement when it comes to addressing the county's crises related to: mental health, housing insecurity, and substance use?
- Is the Department partnered with any programs or organizations on reducing homelessness?
- As Sheriff, do you intend to continue working with these programs or supporting them?