Candidate: Jared Solomon

**Position:** State Attorney General

Party Affiliation: Democrat

The statements below required a response using the following scale:

1. Strongly Agree

- 2. Somewhat Agree
- 3. Somewhat Disagree
- 4. Strongly Disagree

#### 1. Greater Than Hate Pledge

If elected, I will support the Greater Than Hate Parents Week Action Pledge

I pledge to defend our kids and families from the hateful actions of extremist groups and hostile politicians.

In 2023 the NAACP, the Human Rights Campaign, Everytown for Gun Safety, the National Education Association, the National Women's Law Center, Equality Federation, Asians Fighting Injustice, and the National Center for Transgender Equality have launched the **Greater Than Hate Coalition**, a collective, multi-racial, multi-cultural movement with the aim of fighting back against extremist politicians and their growing and loud campaign of hate.

# Response: Strongly Agree

As Co-Chair of the Black-Jewish Caucus in Harrisburg, Jared has centered multi-ethnic, interfaith collaboration in all of his work. The purpose of the Black-Jewish Caucus is to build upon the historic work of Black and Jewish people who have come together since the Civil Rights movement to fight antisemitism, racism, and hatred of all forms. Jared will ensure that local and state law enforcement partners have the resources they need to criminally prosecute ethnic intimidation and institutional vandalism cases where the crime is motivated by hatred toward the race, color, religion, or national origin of a person or group.

#### 2. Protecting voter rights (<u>commoncause.org</u>)

If elected, I will support legislation to lower barriers to voting, including: 1. making improvements to our vote-by-mail system (such as allowing counties to process mail and absentee ballots before Election Day and removing barriers that invalidate ballots for

immaterial reasons, such as requiring the use of secrecy envelopes or that ballots are dated); 2. providing sufficient state-level election funding to all poll workers, increase of penalties for those who harass or threaten election workers; and 3. implementing risk-limiting post-election audits (as mandated by the courts).

## **Response**: Strongly Agree

The right to vote is the fundamental right from which all other rights flow. That's why, as Attorney General, Jared will work tirelessly to ensure that all Pennsylvanians can exercise their Constitutional right to the ballot box in free and fair elections. Jared will prosecute anyone who tries to illegally interfere with Pennsylvania's elections, be it through voter intimidation or other efforts to disenfranchise voters. Jared is not afraid to prosecute public officials for illegal election activities. Under Jared's leadership, the Office of the Attorney General will work to ensure voters continue to have the ability to safely and reliably vote by mail, and Jared will provide legal guidance to voters on potential voting issues ahead of each election.

#### 3. Redistricting (<u>fairdistrictspa.com</u>)

One of the NAACP Bucks County's priorities is equitable academic and educational access in Bucks County.

If elected, I will support legislation to create a single independent citizen redistricting commission, insulated from legislative influence, responsible for Congressional, House, and Senate maps, with redistricting criteria that are clear, enforceable, and prioritized in a way that gives commissioners guidance as they balance conflicting demands. Potential criteria for fairness include population equality, geographic compactness, community integrity, partisan fairness, and minimal efficiency gap.

# Response: Strongly Agree

Jared is the co-author of redistricting reform legislation with Malcolm Kenyatta that would establish an independent commission led by everyday Pennsylvanian citizens where Pennsylvania residents can have full faith and confidence that our Commonwealth's Congressional lines are drawn fairly.

## 4. Policing reform ("A Roadmap to a New Pennsylvania")

If elected, I will support legislation for policing reforms including: 1. prohibiting local governments from relying on police departments to generate revenues; 2. funding police training in de-escalation techniques; 3. funding mandatory video monitoring of

police-community interactions; 4. creating a process that allows victims and their families to request a special prosecutor (rather than a local prosecutor) to investigate police shootings on the part of local police; 5. require the collecting and reporting of basic data on police shootings and other forms of police violence to a state database; 6. require the collecting and reporting of demographic information on use of force incidents, traffic stops, and investigative stops to a state database.

## **Response**: Strongly Agree

As Attorney General, Jared would support investment in training and a return of policing in our cities to pre-pandemic engagement with communities so that officers have sectional integrity in all they do and get to know the schools, churches, and businesses within their sector. Each officer needs to build connections within the community they are policing, helping with investigative work and doing preventive policing instead of reactive policing. Similarly, we must rebrand what it means to be a member of the police force in Pennsylvania with a massive public-service campaign that calls for the best and brightest of this generation to uplift our communities from within our communities. This campaign must resonate with this new generation of young people and should include incentive sign-on pay to attract the best candidates.

#### 5. Preventing gun violence (ceasefirepa.org)

If elected, I will support legislation to prevent gun violence including: 1. requiring background checks on the private sales of long guns; 2. requiring secure storage of weapons in the home when not in use; 3. requiring the reporting of the loss or theft of a firearm within three days of discovery; and 4. establishing "Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs)" which allows family members and law enforcement to petition a judge to temporarily remove guns from individuals in crisis (without subjecting them to an involuntary mental-health commitment).

## Response: Strongly Agree

You don't have to take Jared's word for it — he has voted for each of those. And as the chief law enforcement officer in Pennsylvania, Jared would work with the legislature to finally bring commonsense gun reforms to Pennsylvania, including stronger red-flag laws, a ban on assault weapons, expanded background checks, and shutting the ghost gun loophole. Jared will take on the gun lobby, reckless gun retailers, and ghost gun manufacturers.

**6.** Improving working conditions ("A Roadmap to a New Pennsylvania" and krc-pbpc.org) If elected, I will support legislation to: 1. raise the minimum wage to \$15 by 2025, and thereafter making annual adjustments to maintain the purchasing power of the minimum relative to the median wage; 2. phase out "tipped minimum wage," raising it to the minimum wage by 2026, and 3. enact comprehensive fair scheduling legislation to protect employees from erratic schedules and unpredictable wages.

## Response: Strongly Agree

As Attorney General, Jared will fight to protect Pennsylvania workers from wage theft and uphold their right to bargain collectively. Jared will prosecute bad apple-employers who cheat their workers, including those who fail to carry workman's compensation insurance or intentionally misclassify workers as independent contractors. These bad apple employers hurt not only their workers but also make it harder for law-abiding employers to compete, which is why Jared will aggressively pursue them to benefit all Pennsylvanians.

#### 7. Protecting abortion rights (reproductive rights.org):

If elected, I will support legislation to: 1. protect abortion rights; 2. eliminate Targeted Regulation of Abortion Providers (TRAP) requirements, such as providers reporting and facility requirements; and 3. eliminate requirements for biased counseling, waiting periods, and parental consent.

# Response: Strongly Agree

Abortion and personal health care decisions are between a woman and her doctor, not politicians. As Attorney General, Jared will always protect and defend women's access to abortion in Pennsylvania. In the State Legislature, Jared introduced legislation to preserve a woman's right to choose by providing a framework to work with neighboring states to prevent investigations of reproductive health care services, disclosure of records, and negative licensing actions. Throughout his entire tenure in the State House, Jared has maintained a lifetime 100% voting scorecard from Planned Parenthood Pennsylvania Advocates based on votes on key legislation related to sexual and reproductive health and rights. As Attorney General, Jared will work to expand access to care — and ensure that it is women making their own healthcare decisions, not politicians. Jared will

ensure that his office provides the public with the information they need to seek safe abortion services, including Mifepristone providers and services through telehealth. Jared will, where legally appropriate, prosecute individuals or groups who criminally trespass abortion facilities or barricade clinic entrances to block access to abortion services.

# **8. Improving maternal health care** (<u>health.pa.gov</u> and <u>Pennsylvania Maternal Mortality</u> <u>Review: 2021 Report</u>)

If elected, I will support legislation to decrease maternal mortality, such as building infrastructure to: 1. provide more comprehensive medical care for all pregnant and postpartum individuals; and 2. identify and support pregnant and postpartum individuals with additional risk factors such as mental health concerns, substance use, and/or a history of intimate partner violence.

Response: Strongly Agree

**9. Fair funding for K-12 public schools** ("<u>A Roadmap to a New Pennsylvania</u>" and <u>fundourschoolspa.org</u>)

If elected, I will vote to Increase basic education funding from the state through a fair funding formula to ensure equal access to a quality education for all students.

Response: Strongly Agree

**10. Fair funding for higher education** ("<u>A Roadmap to a New Pennsylvania</u>" and <u>krc-pbpc.org</u>)

If elected, I will support legislation to decrease costs of attending Pennsylvania's community and state system colleges and state-related universities and provide grants to qualified adults seeking in-demand skills and industry-recognized credentials.

Response: Strongly Agree

11. Protecting our air and water ("A Roadmap to a New Pennsylvania")

If elected, I will support legislation to: 1. adequately fund the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to ensure protection of our land, air, and water; 2. enforce and strengthen rules that limit air pollution; and 3. protect and restore Pennsylvania watersheds; and 3. adopt clean energy policies like eliminating fossil fuel subsidies, protecting net metering, permitting community-shared solar power generation, restarting and expanding the state's renewable energy incentives, removing the investment cap on energy efficiency projects in PA Act 129, and raising our Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards (AEPS).

## Response: Strongly Agree

Pennsylvanians have a state constitutional right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic, and aesthetic values of the environment. As Attorney General, Jared will conserve and maintain our environment by holding corporate polluters, frackers, or illegal dumpers accountable when they commit environmental crimes. Jared believes that Pennsylvania's existing environmental regulations do not do nearly enough to protect our state's air, water, and health, and he will work with the legislature to pass stronger environmental protections. In the meantime, Jared will pursue polluters with civil fines and restitution, plus criminal charges where appropriate, no matter how well-connected they may be.

#### Final note:

Jared was raised on the second floor of his great-grandparents' butcher shop in Northeast Philadelphia by his single mother, who was a public school teacher. While his family didn't have much, Jared Solomon learned from his mother that if you create a better future for your community, everybody can prosper. He worked and borrowed his way through Swarthmore College and Villanova Law School. Jared fought corporate abuse for a Philadelphia law firm and decided to serve his country by joining the Army Reserves as a JAG officer and currently serves in the Pennsylvania National Guard. In 2016, Jared ran for the State House because it was clear that the neighborhood he loved wasn't getting the representation it deserved, so he took on a 42-year career politician — and WON. In Harrisburg, Jared is fighting to reduce gun violence and against corruption. He votes to invest in our public schools and defend abortion access. And he's tackling crime in his neighborhood head-on with simple and effective solutions like better street lighting, converting abandoned properties to public parks, and investing in youth programs — and it is

WORKING. Now Jared is running to bring that same approach to the Attorney General's office by focusing on protecting your right to vote, standing up to corruption, and using proven commonsense tactics to make our communities safer. In addition to Jared's legislative record in Harrisburg, he is the leading voice against corruption in Philadelphia. In 2019, after the sweeping 116-count federal indictment that ensnared many of the political power brokers in Philadelphia, Jared stood up and spoke out against corruption. He was the first elected official to speak out in 2019, and continues to be one of the only elected officials in Harrisburg publicly advocating for truly transparent, ethical, and good government. Jared lives with his wife, Tiffani, and their daughter, Charlotte, around the corner from his mom's house in the same Northeast Philadelphia neighborhood where he was raised.