

In this response to your topic areas, to the extent possible, I will attempt to address each of them in several inter-woven paragraphs.

Success in a prosecutor's office is measured by, ultimately, whether county residents feel safe in their homes, work, and in the community in general. It is measured by reductions in crime and recidivist offenders. It is measured by wide-spread respect for the law and those who administer it, from law enforcement, to prosecution and defense, and to the courts. I am a strong advocate for programs and educational efforts in the community to prevent crime. To some degree, this will likely engender cultural change. It isn't easy work. Prevention, however, is the ultimate victory: fewer victim(s); less economic losses, fewer persons in jail/prison, and fewer people travelling through the criminal justice system means that people are enjoying more freedom and better lives. All opportunities to partner with our other local, state, and federal counterparts simply increases the likelihood of our success.

Spokane County has been engaged since 2015 with the MacArthur Foundation to work diligently at reducing bias in the system, use risk and needs assessment tools to address pre-conviction incarceration while reducing the reliance on bail, and to better address those involved with the criminal justice system that have drug and mental health issues. The risk/need assessments are important as they do not mandate, but can guide a judge to a more informed pretrial release decision. I oppose automated decision-making. To do so would defeat the purpose of having courts in the first place. A "tool" should be another piece of information for the judge to consider in light of other information available for the court's consideration.

In the late spring of 2015, Spokane County was awarded a \$1.75 million-dollar grant. Though reduction of the jail population and reducing disparities has proven to be a challenge, the County has been asked to put forward an application for the next phase of funding, for up to that same amount. For the prosecutor's office, we have been looking at ways to expand diversion options for those with mental health issues, as well as instituting an evidence-based pre-filing diversion program modeled after Milwaukee Wisconsin's program.

Many of our staff have attended County-sponsored courses on implicit bias and we are also involved in the "train the trainer" program for future classes, as well. I have made it well-known that we do not and will not prosecute ANYONE except for violations of statutes. Though we do prosecute drug offenders (WA statutes proscribe a host of drug activities), we offer diversion programs and therapeutic court opportunities, as well as statutorily available programs for prison-based treatment, when the offender is eligible. Our goal is to afford offenders opportunities to address their drug addiction issues and lead productive lives. We plea bargain downward many drug offenses, as well. Diversion is also a key component of the juvenile justice system and we are working toward expanding our program to include new statutorily-eligible crimes, based on a recent change in legislation.

In the area of legal immigrants that commit crimes, I have held steadfast to the notion that prevention (as I indicated above) is essential for them to maintain their status in the country. I recognize that there are many immigrant populations in the community and that, many of them, come from nations that have completely different law and statutory schemes from our own. They likely have confusion over the differences. To that end, I am in the process of coordinating with my staff and a local immigrant organization to present educational briefings and power point presentations to various immigrant populations on how our legal system works and to answer questions on how to avoid coming into

contact with local criminal justice agencies. I always emphasize that the best way to avoid adverse legal consequences, as for anyone, is to respect and obey the law.