

PHILADELPHIA CRIMINAL INN OF COURT PENNSYLVANIA ATTORNEY GENERAL CANDIDATES FORUM



On Thursday, February 22, 2024, the Philadelphia Criminal Inn of Court hosted its first ever Pennsylvania Attorney General Candidates Forum at Drexel University Kline School of Law. The Inn invited all 2024 Pennsylvania Attorney General candidates to present their own strategies on dealing with criminal justice issues including their perspectives on the Attorney General's Gun Violence Task Force, straw purchaser enforcement initiatives, state wide narcotics enforcement initiatives through the Attorney General's Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement (BNI),



and on prosecuting crimes in and around Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) property in cities of the first class (Philadelphia) through the controversial Act 40 which empowers the Attorney General's Office to appoint a special prosecutor to investigate and prosecute crimes that occur on SEPTA property through 2026 — a date that coincides with the end of Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner's term. The Act 40 legislation signed by the Pennsylvania Governor has been considered

controversial since it appeared to be an attack on the elected District Attorney of Philadelphia and his progressive policies on criminal justice. Act 40 specifically allows the Pennsylvania

Attorney General to investigate and prosecute crime in only Philadelphia through the end of the Philadelphia District Attorney's current term.

Attorney General Candidates Jack Stollsteimer (Delaware County District Attorney), Keir Bradford-Grey (former Chief Defender of Philadelphia and Montgomery Counties), Joe Khan (Bucks County Solicitor and former Assistant United States Attorney), Eugene DePasquale (former Pennsylvania Auditor General) & Craig Williams (State Representative and former Assistant United States Attorney) discussed topics that included: gun violence, straw purchasing of guns, the Opioid Epidemic, narcotics enforcement, and the controversial Act 40. Each candidate provided a unique prospective on tackling these tough issues. Members of the Inn were able to ask tough questions and the candidates were on the spot to provide real time answers.



The event was hosted by members of the Inn's executive team which included Scott Sigman, Ron Greenblatt, Liam Riley, Richard Lopez, Matthew Hagarty, and Becca Conlon. This Inn is a combination of Assistant District Attorneys, Public Defenders, Private Criminal Defense Attorneys, and First Judicial District Criminal Division Judges all working in the Philadelphia Criminal Courts along with students from Drexel University Kline School of Law.