

Response from Jeff Rumbaugh (D), Candidate for U.S. House of Representatives

(Candidate's response is in bolded red.)

Hi Paula -

Our campaign has recently made a difficult decision and have stepped down from the race. We are proudly endorsing Tom Nelson (D-WI) for U.S. Senate. While I won't be completing your survey, I will say a few things regarding the issues revolving around policing and our state of affairs. I have been serving Wisconsin's Developmentally Disabled community for over 20 years, and the last several have been primarily focused on serving those experiencing mental health crises.

- Here in Madison, our team has been working increasingly closer with the police department, as they now have a special unit dedicated to meet these needs. I believe that cooperation between police officers and people trained in the field of mental health should work in tandem to help ensure a safe and positive interaction.**
- Our platform included a push for all on-duty police officers to wear body cameras that cannot be turned off. We believe this would help ensure that justice prevails for all parties involved. We also believe that footage obtained from these cameras could be used in training for new cadets.**
- Personally, I find great irony in what seemed to be a growing conservative "back the blue" movement, but that support suddenly became obsolete when the rioting and attempted coup took place in D.C., where many Capitol Police faced great odds fighting injury or death.**
- I do not believe in "defunding the police", but I do think change is needed. Decades of tv shows like "COPS", which became hugely popular - where it wasn't footage of police helping in the community, but viewers wanted to see brutality and aggression. I realize that definitely not all police are like that, but that show and others shaped the image and role of the police in the eyes of many Americans.**
- There are many underlying social issues where I see public education helping to mediate conflict systemically by teaching understanding and empathy to our youth.**
- Finally, and I could go on - I clearly remember my visit to Liverpool, England, and seeing the unarmed police officers (except for billy clubs) casually patrolling about. It was a life-changing sight.**

Again, thank you for contacting us, it is truly appreciated. Hope all is well.

In Solidarity,

Jeff Rumbaugh

My reply:

Thanks for your reply. Wishing you all the best.