

HILLSBOROUGH

Dennis Hogan (R) (*Incumbent*)

1. I only know about Hillsborough County which has applied the facts in each case to the law.
2. Each case will be prosecuted on its own merit. No weight is or will be given to political issues of the day or the opinions of politicians or political activists.
3. We presently support and participate in drug and mental health courts to promote an alternative to incarceration.
4. The beauty of having an elected County Attorney is that there is always a plan to constantly personally engage all of the community regarding the work of the office. If I have missed any voters it is not from lack of introducing myself at events, knocking on doors throughout the county, and making my personal telephone number available in mailings and handouts. Anyone who wants to discuss what we do is welcome to call me. The office's function is to prosecute cases alleging violations of the criminal statute. The investigative agencies of the state and the local police departments determine what cases we receive. Those cases are determined by what the legislature writes in the statutes. Therefore, the office's priorities are determined by the legislature. I can assure you that we believe in the importance of, and we actually practice, treating every individual without regard to their politics, how long they have lived in Hillsborough County, their skin color, or any number of other factors that have no bearing on their chances of recidivism. The focus of prosecution is to make the community safe. We insist on programming for those who need it and can change their behavior. We argue for incarcerating those who will not change

Michael Conlon (D)

1. A prosecutor's duty is to deliver justice to the accused and the victims of crime. In some jurisdictions, prosecutors and judges are held to incarceration mandates under law, such as three-strikes and minimum sentencing laws. In such situations a prosecutor is bound to follow the law, which can result in undesired levels of increased incarceration, when probation or other supervisory solutions would have been reasonable to pursue. Absent those requirements a prosecutor has discretion to pursue incarceration over supervision but will need to find alleviating factors to distinguish violators and apply consistent consequences. A prosecutor that ignores such factors and uses their discretion to always pursue incarceration will contribute to increased incarceration. It is an incredibly important criterion of an effective prosecutor to analyze a violator's character and remain cognizant of potential alleviating factors in order to decide between incarceration and supervision.
2. The reduction of jail and prison populations has the potential to deliver significant benefits to Hillsborough County. First, it can reduce taxpayer costs related to incarceration, and individuals released; presumably to a probationary type of supervision. Second, it positively contributes to the economy by adding to the labor force and consumer marketplace. People in jail are an expense; people living and working in our community are an economic benefit. Reducing incarceration can also create a potential risk by granting violators the privilege to re-enter our community. One of my goals is to review the data of Hillsborough County Attorney's Office in order to identify categories of violators and their potential for rehabilitation into our community and ensure that we are making the best prosecutorial decisions that balance our economic and security interests.

their behavior otherwise. Skin color and national origin are irrelevant to that calculation.

3. Thousands of families across NH and our country have been devastated by the opioid epidemic. For years we have been trying to find our way forward for a solution, with law enforcement, incarceration, health care, counseling, jobs, and many other aspects of our community coming together. The Hillsborough County Attorney's office is an important factor in the way forward to continue working towards a solution to prevent these unnecessary deaths and all the related harm that arises from a household suffering from addiction.

Drug courts use a system of investigation and supervision not solely on crimes committed, but on the person themselves, and seek to be more cooperative than purely punitive. Drug courts use their authority and the threat of incarceration to persuade individuals to find success in diversion and/or treatment programs to rehabilitate themselves out of addiction. NH has seen success with a substantial number of offenders and using the screening process by the County Attorney's office. I would continue this program and look for opportunities to expand its use in the overall pursuit of balancing economic and security interests of the community. It is important that offenders have hope and can see an opportunity for a better life if they rehabilitate so they are motivated to stay committed, reduce recidivism, and contribute positively to Hillsborough County.

<http://www.unionleader.com/For-some,-drug-court-is-last,-best-chance>

4. An important role of the County Attorney, as an elected official, is to engage with the people of Hillsborough County. The County Attorney should demonstrate that the resources of the Office are here to contribute to the economic vitality and security of the public. It will take effective leadership to achieve this goal and will take more than efficient use of budgeted

resources and prosecuting and enforcing the law.

As Hillsborough County Attorney, I will engage with community leaders that are on the vanguard of the opioid epidemic, including the Governor's Commission which meets in Bow, the Mayor's Opioid Task Force in Nashua, and those responding to the crisis in Manchester, such as Fire Chief Goonan, Police Chief Capano, Mayor Craig, and the many other services and stakeholders in the fight against opioids. Additionally, with fentanyl now overtaking heroin as the overdose opioid of choice, we need to engage with our neighbors to the south in Essex and Middlesex counties of Massachusetts, where we know there are hubs of fentanyl production. The Hillsborough County Attorney's office is desperately in need of leadership that can effectively reach across these borders and engage with peers there who are fighting the same fight there, to coordinate and work towards reduction and prevention.

<https://manchesterinklink.com/nh-top-cops-cant-arrest-way-oxy-heroin-epidemic/>

<http://www.nhpr.org/post/largest-fentanyl-bust-nh-traced-lawrence-drug-ring>

Another aspect of community involvement is regarding domestic and sexual assault. This crime destroys households in a different manner and can also involve mental health concerns. Reducing incidents of domestic violence could save the lives of both the victim and responding police officers as well. A recently published report shows that although NH has low incidents of violent crime compared with the rest of the country, it is higher than average incidents of rape.

<http://www.unionleader.com/crime/nh-has-3rd-lowest-rate-of-violent-crime-according-to-fbi-statistics-20180926>

As County Attorney I would coordinate with leaders in the battle to prevent domestic and sexual assault, support victims, and do what I can to ensure the justice system is effectively working towards solutions on this issue. I will also coordinate with city and town prosecutors across Hillsborough County to provide supervision and support to ensure that misdemeanor offenses are being addressed appropriately to avoid errors and omissions in prosecution that may lead to a miscarriage of justice.

<http://www.unionleader.com/County-Attorney-Hogan:-We-didnt-know-there-was-mishandling-of-Manchester-domestic-violence-cases>

Less frequent in our headlines are issues involving communities of color and immigrant communities, however, as County Attorney I will ensure that there is an open channel of communication and involvement by the County Attorney's Office. Should there be a way forward on an issue that ensures justice is delivered while balancing the interests of the community and its security, I will do what I can to take those steps forward.