

Kootenai County Sheriff

	Justin Nagel	Robert "Bob" Norris	Dan Wilson	Kyle Woodward
<p>1. What is your name, what office are you running for and why are you running for this position?</p>	<p>Justin Nagel Kootenai County Sheriff. Our current Sheriff has failed to protect two individuals that I told him about being stalked by the same gang that murdered Officer Greg Moore. He refuses to confront the missing KCSO investigative files requested by the ATF. He refuses to protect juveniles from off-duty cops stalking them with the help of the leadership of ISP. He refuses to protect the public from dispatchers who maintain roughly 250 pages of "investigative" documents with no authority. He refuses to provide public information equally. Our "Law and Order Canadates" refuses to fire a rapist after he admits his guilt. He refuses to confront and protect the public from judges who give legal advice to friends and then hear those cases. He refuses to acknowledge human trafficking in our community. He does this while wanting more secret cameras that will be monitored by the honor of KCSO. The public needs to wake up! The government we're about in the government in our county and our state.</p>	<p>My name is Robert "Bob" Norris and I'm running for the office of Sheriff. I have and will continue to uphold the rule of law, protect individual liberties and serve our community with integrity and dedication.</p>	<p>My name is Dan "DW" Wilson, and I am running for Kootenai County Sheriff. In 2020, after the attempted end run around the Bill of Rights which happened during the Covid scam-demic, there were several alarming things that took place which were an erosion of our personal liberties. There was an unequal dispersion of justice, the stealing of an election, the detainment and suspension of Due Process for Americans (January 6, 2021), and the invasion of our country that ramped up in 2021. I saw nothing being done in Kootenai County by the current Sheriff that indicated he was preparing our county for the next attempt by the neo-Marxist to destroy the Bill of Rights. I will be the Sheriff to protect all of Kootenai County citizen's rights with leadership, enthusiasm, innovation, and extreme ownership. I will become the buffer between an out-of-control Federal government and the people.</p>	<p>My name is Kyle Woodward, and I am currently running for the position of sheriff in Kootenai County. I grew up in this community, and recently, I have noticed an increasing divide between law enforcement and the people they are sworn to protect. This divide and lack of trust is unacceptable to me, and I believe we deserve better. My goal is to bring the change we need.</p>

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2. Define your role as Sheriff.	<p>The role of the Sheriff is defined by law. My priorities center around protecting people from the government. This is why corruption tops the list of priorities. Bias policing will be eradicated in the 4 years in Sheriff by eliminating nepotism. Each officer is a representative of the Sheriff and will have equal representation by me to the command staff. Honest mistakes are made and are easily corrected. The public safety is the direct responsibility of the Sheriff. Liars will be immediately terminated. This one policy will change everything. KCSO will not participate with any agency that employs liars. It's morally degrading to employees. This puts the tax burden back on municipalities having primary jurisdiction. If they can't protect their citizens then KCSO will take the PD over. The government will answer to the public as respectful employees should.</p>	<p>As sheriff, I am the foremost defender of the constitution within the county. I am an official who can interpose himself in a situation to prevent, mitigate, or eliminate government overreach. My primary responsibilities are to uphold the peace, preserve constitutional rights and safeguard the safety of our community. As the Sheriff, I am accountable to the citizens of our country, regardless of political affiliation, socioeconomic status or any other factor. I am the sheriff for everyone!</p>	<p>The Sheriff is the Chief Law Enforcement Officer of the County (CLEO), and per Idaho Code 31-2202 his duties include preserving the peace. Historically, the Sheriff, being the CLEO of the county (Printz v. US) is the first and last line of defense for the citizens of his county, and to be the interposition between the county and an out of control and unaccountable Federal Government. His ultimate job is to protect the citizens' rights as defined in the Bill of Rights to Life, Liberty and Property.</p>	<p>The role of a sheriff is to be a shining example of law enforcement in the county, serving as a bridge between the people and law enforcement. Our fundamental mission is to uphold the Constitution, protect everyone in the county, and enforce the law equally. It is key that the sheriff prioritizes the safety of the people above all else.</p>

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<p>3. The 10th amendment states: The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people. What does this mean to you?</p>	<p>As a 3rd generation Kootenai County resident I strongly believe that the rights of Kootenai County citizens and travelers are the only rights that exist. I don't care what outside governments think. I don't care because they are clearly failures. If they hadn't people would flee their homelands for Idaho.</p>	<p>It means that the federal government has limitations. It also means that local and state governments, including the sheriff's office, have significant autonomy in governing and enforcing laws within their jurisdiction, ensuring that decisions affecting the community are made at the most local level possible, in line with principles of limited government.</p>	<p>The framers of the Constitution and Bill of Rights did not want an all-powerful domineering centralized government because they knew it would eventually lead to Executive/Legislative tyranny. The original powers granted to the federal government were limited in scope and the intent of the framers was to ensure that each state was able to govern themselves individually per the consent of the governed (the Constitution being the supreme law of the land). This put restrictions on the Federal government to only those enumerated items found in the Constitution. States (through the legislature) should nullify any federal law or Executive Order that violates the US Constitution. Hamilton in Federalist 85 said "We can rely safely in the disposition of the state legislature to erect a barrier against a national (federal) government" meaning that the states would keep the Federal government in check.</p>	<p>To me, this mean that any powers not delegated to the federal government or expressly prohibited fall to the individual states or the people for them to legislate and enforce how they see fit. This is why states have their own constitution, codes, and statutes. This helps to limit the reach of the federal government and preserve a level of autonomy within the union.</p>

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<p>4. What do you see as the top issues facing the Sheriff's Office? What are your proposed solutions?</p>	<p>The top issues are corruption, nepotism, fraud. My solution is to terminate the employment status of individuals committing these acts and everyone participating in them. The next step is to arrest and refer to prosecution as many of these offenders as possible. We have an officer who picked up a prostitute, cuffed, and brutalized her. She was later found dead with her 2 children in Fernan Lake still bruised around her ankles. The officer who recovered her body wrote his report 2 weeks later stating that she had wedged her legs under the seat of her Ford Focus and he pulled on her so hard that he bruised her corpse. He then claimed that the experience was so traumatic to him that he had to seek counseling before writing his report. There is no claim filed on the county insurance for this counseling. I'd noted in the police report because I had interviewed people around the victim about someone trying to murder her. Despite this fact, her death was ruled as a suicide double murder.</p>	<p>Under Funding Public Safety: Adequate funding is crucial for maintaining essential services, upgrading necessary equipment and ensuring the highest level of public safety within our community. This is not just a Sheriff's Office issue, public safety also includes our Prosecutor's Office, Juvenile Justice, Probation, etc.</p> <p>Proposed Solution: I will work diligently to secure necessary funding through conversations with our commissioners, legislators and Governor. Additionally, I will explore alternative sources of revenue, such as a resort and sales tax revenue to support law enforcement efforts.</p> <p>Recruiting and retaining qualified personnel: The county has lost too many qualified employees to other agencies. You can get more done with high performing employees, which ultimately saves taxpayer dollars.</p> <p>Proposed Solution: Offer competitive pay and foster a positive, leadership oriented culture within the office.</p> <p>More legislative engagement: It is important to have ongoing dialogue with legislators to address pertinent issues affecting law enforcement and to advocate for policies that strengthen public safety and uphold constitutional rights.</p> <p>Proposed solution: I will actively engage with legislators to discuss and propose legislation that strengthens state laws, enhance law enforcement capabilities and ensures the protection of citizens' rights.</p>	<p>Continual overreach by federal law enforcement into local communities to persecute political opponents of the current administration. These federal agencies are inserting themselves into communities where they have no lawful business in which to be. As Sheriff, Dan Wilson will not tolerate any abuse by federal law enforcement against the citizens of Kootenai County and will use all available means to hold these agencies accountable for such violations to the fullest extent of the law.</p>	<p>Trust is the biggest issue and the root cause of many problems facing modern policing. Issues such as a lack of accountability, excessive force complaints, derogatory remarks towards abused and battered women, long response times, and a lack of transparency have all contributed to an environment where people no longer trust the police to protect them. As a result, some may choose to handle problems on their own rather than involving law enforcement. The perception is that police are purely reactionary and only show up to worsen the situation is commonplace. The solution begins with transparency and a thorough evaluation of each officer's actions to ensure they are fit to serve our community. I propose implementing a weekly summary report detailing all interactions involving a level 3 or higher on the use-of-force continuum, as well as all arrests. Additionally, making body camera footage of events available on the Sheriff's Department website.</p>

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5. What should the State of Idaho's policy be regarding the prosecution of Fentanyl dealers?	I'm a firm believer that we don't use the death penalty nearly enough. However, we would need an absolute working justice system which we don't have. We have prosecutors who lie to judges about having subpoenas, and judges who give legal advice to their friends and then hear the cases. Law enforcement can't produce investigative records and no protection for the public from our overbearing government. When these conditions exist we can not allow them to have more power such as secret cameras.	I lobbied legislators in passing House Bill No. 406 that implements mandatory sentences for fentanyl traffickers. I support harsh sentences for offenders that distribute this deadly substance. Fentanyl is a highly potent opioid that poses a significant threat to our community. Drugs, as a whole, is a scourge in our country. I am for tougher laws as long as the community is willing to support more enforcement and incarceration.	Any person caught in the act of illegal distribution of Fentanyl for monetary gain should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. We must, however, be cautious when proposing and enacting laws regarding illegal Fentanyl distribution from unintended consequences due to poorly written or understood policy/laws.	I am opposed to the use of plea bargains in sentencing, especially concerning serious offenses related to substances like fentanyl. Given the lethal nature of fentanyl, I believe we must hold individuals fully accountable to effectively combat its distribution and impact. Additionally, I advocate for reclassifying fentanyl from a Schedule II narcotic to a chemical weapon. Fentanyl is increasingly being weaponized, and treating it as such would reflect its dangerous potential.
6. If a federal, state, local government entity, and/or the United Nations were to implement a policy of door-to-door gun confiscation in your jurisdiction, what would you do?	I would advise the public to shoot them. We need to stop discussing this topic. It's not a discussion. If the government comes to our house to confiscate law-abiding citizens' guns then we need to kill the government. Plain and simple. We can't draw a line in the sand and continually walk over it no matter what the subject is.	I would stop it.	As Sheriff, I will deputize any number of citizens needed to prevent federal agents from attempting to carry out a violation of the people's 2ND Amendment Rights in Kootenai County. "Shall Not Be Infringed" is very clear and comprehensible with no room for misunderstanding or alternate interpretation. Any Federal or State law enforcement agents attempting to or participating in such violations of the Bill of Rights will be arrested and charged with their crimes.	The 2nd amendment clearly states that "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed", this is a basic right that applies to everyone and cannot be taken away. If a right could be taken away, it would not truly be a right. Under my leadership, any law enforcement or governing body attempting to infringe upon this right in Kootenai County will be subject to arrest and prosecution under 18 U.S.C. § 242.

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7. In your opinion, if elected, who do you see yourself accountable to and why?	The public, because it's called public service for a reason. My answer is simple for a reason.	First and foremost, I am accountable to the residents of Kootenai County. They are the ones who have entrusted me to uphold the law, protect their rights, and serve their best interests. I represent the people of this county, and it is my duty to listen to their concerns, respond to their needs, and ensure their voices are heard in all matters related to law enforcement and public safety. I am also accountable to the principles and values outlined in the constitution of the United States and the laws of the state of Idaho. Upholding these foundational documents and adhering to the oath of office I have sworn are essential aspects of my accountability as Sheriff. I am committed to continue serving with Integrity, transparency and dedication.	Our government is a constitutional representative Republic and a nation of laws. As Americans, we choose our representatives from among us. All men are equal in worth under God and all men/women who hold elected offices are accountable to their local community. It is The People who consent to electing their representatives. As Sheriff, I will maintain transparency, impartiality, respect and dignity for all citizens as I uphold the law. I will be accountable to the people of this community not to a political party, religion or special interest. I will ultimately always do what I believe is right for The People. It is the people's choice to support me, recall my election, or vote me out of office if they do not believe I am adequately representing them and providing Equal Protection Under the Law.	As a lifelong member of this community who calls it home, I care deeply about my community and I am accountable to the community, the Constitution, and the law. My personal integrity and adherence to my own values and principles as well. I would hold myself accountable to the commitments I made during my campaign and while in office. This accountability ensures that I remain focused on serving the public effectively, upholding the law, and maintaining a highest standards of integrity, accountability, and professionalism.

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8. Would your agency cooperate with legal requests made by Immigration and Customs Enforcement?	Yes, I would have to. This battle is in with legislature and the public need directed to the correct office. The manipulation of public sentiment and legislative power has historically been a tool for consolidating authority, as exemplified by the tactics employed by Adolf Hitler and the Nazi regime.	It depends on the request. I support the enforcement of immigration laws and deportation of individuals who have entered or remained in the country illegally.	I will absolutely work with Border Patrol (BP) and Immigration Control and Enforcement (ICE) to ensure that illegal invaders are not allowed to maintain residence in Kootenai County in violation of US Code. I have also publicly advocated (since May 2024) for the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) to participate in the ICE 287(g) program which would allow KCSO deputies to be cross deputized as ICE agents with the authority to perform specified immigration officer functions under the agency's direction and oversight. The current KCSO was not even aware of this program until August 27 of 2024 after local citizens publicly requested that the sheriff participate in the program.	Yes, I would be open to participating in the ICE 287(g) program, which would enable the Sheriff's Department to assist with immigration law enforcement functions that are typically under federal jurisdiction.

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9. Do you believe that North Idaho should implement a traffic control center? Why or why not?	<p>No, The current state of our government demands a critical reevaluation. History has shown us that allowing ineffective leadership to persist leads to further mismanagement and corruption. The cycle of hiring family members and friends for key positions, often referred to as nepotism, undermines the integrity of public service. This pattern not only squanders taxpayer money but also perpetuates a culture of incompetence and favoritism. As citizens, we have the responsibility to demand better governance. It is time for us to take action against our current government's shortcomings. We must push for change before the cycle of mismanagement continues unchecked. By demanding accountability and reform now, we can prevent history from repeating itself in detrimental ways.</p>	<p>No, there are too many concerns/issues with our freedoms and possible abuse.</p>	<p>I am adamantly opposed to all Traffic Control centers and believe these programs are assisting in the implementation of a total surveillance state to include 15 minute "Smart Cities", the control of free movement, and the restriction of property rights. I am also opposed to mass surveillance via programs such as Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR's) and recently spoke out against this technology at a Kootenai County Board of Commissioners meeting. These ALPR's implement an invasion of privacy and recording of people's movement. This surveillance state is being sold to the public erroneously as being for "officer safety" and for "public safety". As American's we accept a certain amount of risk and do NOT consent to trade our Dangerous Liberty for a certain security.</p>	<p>At our current stage I believe that the costs outweigh the benefits however due to our growth major change will need to be made to our traffic systems. I have noticed personally my drive times can sometimes be tripled when visiting Hayden or CDA due to excessive traffic and poor intersection design.</p>

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10. What is your opinion of Red-light cameras?	They are a useful tool as long as they are not abused. This question has a lot to do with the transportation department.	Municipalities have turned them into a revenue source. I am against automated enforcement to generate fines and penalties.	I am absolutely opposed to them. It is my belief that these devices are nothing more than another tax imposed on the people. In fact, in most if not all cases, the vendors who provide the RLC devices and software are not local and receive a large share of the funds received through the fines imposed due to the violations. If a peace officer cannot witness the civil infraction in person at the time of the offense, the government should not be able to fine such infractions.	I am generally against the use of red light cameras however, every time I drive I witness someone running the red light. I believe that improving intersection design and traffic light setups could help address this issue more effectively.
11. What does religious freedom mean to you?	I understand that this country recognizes religion which is far from the intentions of the founding fathers. This battle is lost.	Ability to worship without government interference, I issued a press release on 1/11/2021, I will never interfere in religious gatherings.	It is the individual's right to worship or not worship as they are convicted to do. It means that the government cannot establish a federal/state religion nor prohibit the free exercise thereof. The individual is free to worship in any manner they choose so long as their actions do not cause harm to someone else, i.e. depriving someone else's right to Life, Liberty and Property/Pursuit of Happiness. This includes The People's rights to take or not take vaccinations, to gather despite epidemics, and to make medical and educational decisions within their family units.	It's straightforward the government is prohibited from imposing any religion or belief. You are free to express yourself however you wish also there should be a clear separation between government and religious institutions to prevent any one religion from being imposed or favored over another.

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12. When do you believe life begins and how will that belief affect your role as Sheriff?	I believe life begins at conception. As people we should protect all human life as best we can. The parameters for this topic are set by law. One again this is a conversation for legislature.	Life begins at conception and my job is to enforce the law.	I believe that life begins at conception. I will uphold everyones right to Life, Liberty and Property.	I believe that life begins when a baby starts emitting its own brain waves, which typically occurs around the 20th week of pregnancy. While this perspective may not directly impact my role as sheriff, I share the sentiment of many others that abortion should be both legal and rare.
13. Do you support or oppose the legalization of marijuana? Why or why not?	I don't care. I will change the focus of the Sheriff Officer to a larger focus on more leadership targets. One of the excuses for focusing on this type of low-hanging fruit is to support the system. This practice is also to gather intel. However, we know that KCSO is a failed Office at retaining records there for it is pointless to continue this practice.	I oppose the legalization of marijuana. Today's marijuana is much stronger than yester years marijuana, today's marijuana has additive properties to it.	I am not personally for the legalization of marijuana. I was a peace officer in a state that did legalize/decriminalize marijuana and in my firsthand experience, I did not observe any benefits to this legalization and in fact observed more deterrents to the local community.	I am deeply concerned about the increasing prevalence of illegal drug dealing, particularly the alarming reports of children as young as 10 being exposed to marijuana. I plan to enforce strict penalties for anyone involved in supplying drugs to minors. This issue is not only illegal but also poses significant risks to the developing minds of our youth. Addressing this problem with firm action is essential to protect our children and ensure a safer community.

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<p>14. What is your background and why do you feel it qualifies you for this position?</p>	<p>I've spent my adult life investigating organized crime leaders after being a victim. I've seen their community grow while law enforcement silences victims like me. I know their leadership and our citizens. Over 26 years, I've gained extensive knowledge about law enforcement agencies, the Sheriff position, internal practices, law, constitutional rights, and local law enforcement's activities. I have more knowledge about Kootenai County than my competitors combined.</p>	<p>I am a 33-year law enforcement veteran, and I am the current sheriff. My record of protecting citizens' rights and community engagement should speak for itself.</p>	<p>In Idaho, the office of Sheriff does not require decades of full-time law enforcement experience. I have not only over a decade of law enforcement service, I also have been a business owner for 25 years, bringing both law enforcement and corporate leadership experience to the position. This blend of law enforcement and private sector business expertise is crucial for the competent operation of the Sheriff's office.</p> <p>I have been endorsed by the Constitutional Sheriff and Peace Officers Association founder Richard Mack as the ONLY Constitutional Sheriff candidate in this race. I have had personal lifelong pursuit to study the founders and to understand their intents concerning our form of government. This means that as the first and last line of defense between the government and people, I truly understand the importance of the Bill of Rights and the responsibility of being the interposition between the Government and the people.</p>	<p>I understand that not having a police background might be seen as a drawback by some, but I view it as a unique advantage. We have repeatedly elected former police officers, yet we continue to see rising crime rates. It's clear that a new approach is needed. I bring an unbiased perspective and fresh insights to the Sheriff's Department, which could be crucial in addressing current issues. Additionally, I lack the "loyalty to the badge" mindset that can sometimes shield bad officers and perpetuate problems. My goal is to bring transparency and reform, ensuring that all officers are held accountable and that we foster a department focused on serving and protecting our community effectively.</p>