



## **Public Policy Meeting**

Speaker(s): Will Lathrop, Candidate for Attorney General; Jay Jones, North Clackamas County Chamber

### **Candidate Will Lathrop:**

- Prosecutor from Joseph, Oregon
  - Recruited to DC to become international prosecutor for war torn countries.
  - Worked in Africa & Uganda, working on abuse of women & minors and helping families reclaim property.
- Stance:
  - Working to protect kids through the state of Oregon
  - Dealing with drug use and trafficking
    - Fentanyl importation and distribution
  - Corruption and unaccounted funding at the state level

How would you make changes to help with exploitation of children?

- Oregon has the lowest number of investigators tracking child exploitation.
- Children are being placed in hotels to accommodate for housing, against court decree

If you were appointed what would your first steps be?

- Dealing with the Fentanyl crisis by pushing it out of the state.

How will you help protect small business owners from retail theft and organized crime?

- By building an umbrella force that will help handle illegal and criminal activity that spread over several counties.

How do you plan to work with the Governor to deal with organized crime?

- As Attorney General you have the omnipotent power to deal with organized crime

What are we to do about the \$35B over 2 years that are being given to private owned companies for helping the homeless?

- A failure to investigate public corruption is a direct result of the lack in leadership by the state.
- The first job of the Attorney General will be to track down the negligence of the state and understand where the funding is going.

Who are your opponents and those who would like to see you not succeed?

- Opponents include Dan Rayfield, & George Sorros

### **Chamber Legislative Priorities:**

- Vote for renewal of recommendation for endorsement for bond measure 3-163 for Clackamas Community College.
  - To make an informed decision the committee would like to have the representatives come to speak with the committee to elaborate further into the bond specifics, and how CCC plans to use the funding.
- The committee, considering time restraints, agreed to recommit and dive into the Legislative Priorities during the next meeting. Where we will be presenting all the changes for the committee vote.
  - The NCCC will pull the Oregon State Chamber LPs to help with explanation of certain priorities.

### **Upcoming:**

- Overview of chamber Legislative Priorities for the coming year (2024-2025).

### **Extended Minutes for Candidate Will Lathrop:**

Candidate Will Lathrop, a former prosecutor with a background in protecting children from abuse and trafficking, expressed his concerns about Oregon's declining reputation for victim protection and public safety. Candidate Lathrop also addressed the state's drug problem, emphasizing the need to tackle the supply side of drug trafficking, including methamphetamine and fentanyl. He pointed out the high levels of organized crime, human trafficking, and retail theft in the state, which he intends to address as Attorney General. Corruption was also identified as a key issue, with Candidate Lathrop urging for investigations to ensure the misuse of public funds is addressed. He emphasized his dedication to protecting children and creating a safer environment in the state and criticized the current handling of the Child Protective Services division.

Candidate Lathrop discussed the complexities of drug trafficking, emphasizing the need for a comprehensive approach involving partnerships between governments and law enforcement agencies. He shared his success in reducing child trafficking by 36% in five years through aggressive prosecution and highlighted the challenges of narco tracking in the southern US and the shift in cartel activity from Mexico to China. Candidate Lathrop also discussed the struggles of retailers in preventing theft and the need for a solution to keep honest people honest. He proposed a public-private partnership to combat the rise of Fentanyl in Portland and the need for an oversight system to tackle transnational crime. He also suggested the need for laws to protect loss prevention officers and stores, and for a more proactive approach to intercepting and prosecuting criminals.

Candidate Lathrop expressed concerns about the lengthy process of passing laws, particularly those related to drug enforcement, and suggested a partnership between the newly elected official and the governor to address the issue. He also highlighted the significant amount of money being spent on the homeless industrial complex and socialized housing, which he believed was being laundered and stolen, and called for accountability. Candidate Lathrop emphasized his commitment to addressing public corruption and holding individuals accountable for fraud or theft. He also discussed his opponent, Dan Rayfield, and his background in public safety.