



CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

CANDIDATE PROFILE

Candidate Name: Jonathan Clayton

Position/Office on the Ballot: Town of Matthews Commissioner

Party Affiliation: Republican

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE + MATERNAL HEALTH:

1. As federal policies threaten to widen health and economic disparities — particularly through cuts to Medicaid and SNAP — what strategies would you advance at the local level to build a more equitable and cost-effective system of care that ensures all residents can access the services they need, regardless of income or insurance status?

This is outside the bounds of the position I am running for.

2. With rural hospitals in North Carolina already under threat of closure due to rising uncompensated care resulting from cuts to Medicaid, what investments or partnerships would you support at the local level to expand access to primary care, mental health services, and maternal and child health — especially in underserved areas within your municipality?

I am unsure of how my position could help with this.

3. How would you ensure that community voices — particularly those most impacted by health disparities and barriers to care — are meaningfully included and elevated in shaping local policies and programs aimed at expanding access to healthcare and addressing systemic inequities?

This is outside the bounds of the position I am running for

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

1. Do you support ordinances that penalize people for sleeping in public spaces, panhandling, or living in their vehicles? Why or why not?

Yes

2. What is your plan to address homelessness without resorting to criminalization or displacement?

I believe that there needs to be some sort of institution to help those that are homeless. Most are affected by mental health issues, and more still, are substance abusers. These people do not need to live on the street, they need to be cared for. I believe more churches need to be involved in helping the homeless, but also believe there needs to be some initiative to bring back facilities to help them. Living on the street is not a solution.

3. What policies will you support to ensure law enforcement officers in our town are held accountable for the use of deadly force, especially when it results in the injury or death of unarmed individuals?

If they are outside the bounds of the law, then they need to be prosecuted.

DEMOCRACY

1. How will you address underrepresentation in North Carolina's voters—especially among Black communities and young voters ages 18-29?

At some point, people need to grow up. If a person is 18 and doesn't know how to go about registering to vote it is a direct failure of the education system. But with everyone's access to information, there is not excuse an 18+ adult can not figure this out on their own.

2. How will you ensure that state and local district maps reflect fair representation across party, race, and geography?

This is outside the bounds of the position I am running for.

3. Would you support legislation to establish a truly independent, non-partisan commission for redistricting, free from legislative influence?

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ECONOMIC JUSTICE

1. What policies will you support to foster innovation and encourage an equitable entrepreneurial environment in the state?

This is outside the bounds of the position I am running for.

2. The NC workforce is dealing with cooling hiring markets and ongoing labor shortages across education, transit, health care, public service and more. What specific initiatives — such as apprenticeships, skills-based hiring, or public-sector retention programs would you support?

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3. Current state legislative budget proposals aim to reduce personal and corporate income tax rates tremendously by 2030. Do you believe such cuts are fiscally responsible given projected revenue shortfalls, or would you oppose accelerating them?

I believe people should keep all of the money they have worked hard for. I would be in favor of cutting personal income tax rates. That would put more money in the pocket of those that are working.

EDUCATION:

1. Considering the consistent defunding of public education that we have seen over the past several years as a result of poor policy decisions, what is your plan of action to ensure that you are coordinating with the school board to provide the best quality education feasible for students?

This is outside the bounds of the position I am running for.

2. Do you support increasing educator pay to meet the national average and reinstating master's and related advanced degree pay?

Sure, as long as that increase is budgeted appropriately and isn't passed down to the taxpayer.

3. What is your stance on private school vouchers? Do you support using public funds to fund private school voucher programs?

Yes.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

1. North Carolina faces various water quality challenges, including contamination caused by PFAS, CAFOs, and other forms of industrial and commercial pollution. How do you plan to ensure communities across the state, particularly yours, will have access to clean, safe drinking water?

All should have access to clean drinking water.

2. With recent federal limitations of the IRA and the continual removal of environmentally sound initiatives, as well as the impacts of defunding Medicare and Medicaid, how do you plan to ensure readily and equitable access to healthcare and other resources to ensure community needs are met?

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3. Greensboro: What is your stance on the toxic waste site, Bingham Park. located in a predominantly Black neighborhood in Greensboro? Do you support the community's request for full remediation?

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