



## **Carrollton Police Officer' Association**

### **Candidate Questions**

### **Young Sung**

Below are a list of questions that the Carrollton Police Officers' Association (CPOA) believes your answers will be important for both the citizens of Carrollton and the CPOA's membership to know.

**1. What do you bring to the table that qualifies you to be a member of the Carrollton City Council?**

I have a deep commitment to our community, and a passion for improving the lives of everyone who lives here. I have spent many years working and volunteering in our city, and I understand the challenges and opportunities that we face. As a former city councilor, I have also built strong relationships with community leaders, businesses, and residents across our city.

**2. List and briefly explain your top three priorities for the City of Carrollton, and how you plan to accomplish these priorities.**

Public Safety - To improve public safety, I will advocate for more support to our police and fire departments, while also investing in programs that address the root causes of crime, such as poverty, substance abuse, and mental health issues.

Economic development - To promote economic development, I will focus on attracting new businesses to our city while also supporting existing businesses. I would like to also bring more international businesses to increase the tax base and lower the tax rate.

Improve infrastructure - I will prioritize investments in our roads, bridges, and public transportation systems.

**3. Considering that the City of Carrollton has almost been built out and is land locked, how do you plan on managing and increasing the abilities of the Police Department to safely and efficiently service the citizens of Carrollton ?**

To effectively manage and enhance the capabilities of our Police Department, I will strive to foster stronger relationships between our police officers and the community. Creating that environment to promote public safety by encouraging regular community meetings, open channels of communication, and encouraging citizens to be active participants in maintaining a safe environment will be beneficial to everyone. Also to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of our police force, I plan on investing more in the latest technology, training, and professional development within the department.

**4. What are your thoughts on the types of crimes that should be aggressively investigated and what crimes should the Carrollton Police Department not be proactive in confronting?**

The rise in fentanyl cases and other drug-related issues is a pressing concern for our community. I believe that it is crucial for the Carrollton Police Department to prioritize and allocate its resources to ensure the safety and well-being of our citizens. With that in mind, here are my thoughts on the types of crimes that should be aggressively investigated and those that should be approached differently:

Aggressively Investigate:

1. Drug trafficking and distribution
2. Violent crimes such as homicide, sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault
3. Human trafficking and exploitation

Approach Differently:

1. Low-level drug possession
2. Non-violent property crimes
3. Mental health-related incidents

**5. Do you believe that 2 police officers per 1000 citizens should be the standard that you would like to set to staff the Carrollton Police Department? If not, what should be the staffing level?**

My primary goal is to ensure the safety and well-being of our citizens. While the benchmark of 2 police officers per 1,000 citizens is a commonly referenced standard, I believe that staffing levels should be determined based on the unique needs and circumstances of our community. I propose a more comprehensive approach to evaluating the appropriate staffing level for the Carrollton Police Department:

1. Crime Rates and Trends: We should analyze local crime rates and trends to determine the extent of our public safety needs.
2. Community Demographics: The size, population density, and demographic makeup of our city can influence the demand for police services. A thorough understanding of our community's unique characteristics will enable us to better tailor our staffing levels to meet specific needs.
3. Response Times: Monitoring response times for emergency and non-emergency calls can help us identify any gaps in our police coverage and adjust staffing levels.

4. Workload Assessments: By regularly evaluating the workload of our police officers, we can identify areas where additional personnel may be needed.
5. Input from Police Department and Community: Engaging in open communication with the Police Department and the community members will provide valuable insights into the public's perception of safety and areas of concern.

6. **In light of the above question, do you believe that City Management, the Police Chief, and the CPOA need to work together and select an outside organization that can conduct a full staffing study that will consider call volume, call duration, investigative needs, community involvement, relief factors, training requirements and other factors to determine what the staffing level should be?**

I support the idea of City Management, the Police Chief, and the CPOA working together to select a reputable outside organization to conduct a full staffing study. By commissioning an independent, unbiased assessment, we can obtain a clearer picture of the current situation and identify areas for improvement.

7. **What would be your strategy to recruit in a very competitive job market? Not only in the competitive field of Law Enforcement, but also in the highly challenging North Texas market? What standards, if any, would you support lowering to obtain more applications?**

To recruit top talent in a competitive job market, I would work with local businesses and community organizations to promote Carrollton's unique offerings and highlight the many benefits of working and living here. I would ensure that our city offers competitive compensation and benefits packages, including tuition reimbursements, to attract the best candidates. Regarding the field of law enforcement, higher compensation is a must and I believe that maintaining high standards for our police force is essential to ensure the safety and well-being of our citizens. Therefore, I would not support lowering any standards for recruiting law enforcement personnel.

8. **Do you support holding city management, at all levels, accountable for the cities' recruitment and retention issues, employee morale challenges and equipment difficulties?**

I believe that all levels of city management, from department heads to the city manager, must be held accountable for the city's recruitment and retention issues, employee morale challenges, and equipment difficulties. Employee morale is critical to the success of our city. Therefore, I would support initiatives to increase employee morale, such as creating a positive work environment, providing opportunities for professional development, and recognizing the contributions of our city's employees.

9. **How often do you believe the City Manager should meet with the CPOA? Should there only be meetings when issues come up, or should there be an open dialogue between them?**

I believe that the City Manager should meet with the CPOA on a regular basis to discuss issues and concerns. The frequency of these meetings would depend on the specific needs and circumstances, but I would propose that the City Manager and the CPOA meet at least once a quarter to discuss ongoing issues and concerns. I would also encourage the City Manager and the CPOA to maintain an open-door policy, meaning that they should be available to each other on an as-needed basis. This would ensure that issues and concerns could be addressed in a timely and efficient manner, without waiting for the next scheduled meeting.

**10. Is there anything else that you would like to tell us that would be important for us to consider for an endorsement?**

As a proud member of the Korean community, I am truly honored to contribute to our diverse neighborhood. During my tenure as a councilman, I facilitated the provision of scholarships from the Korean Society of Dallas to the families of police officers and firefighters. Additionally, I have worked to strengthen the engagement between Korean churches and our public safety personnel, further solidifying our collaborative community spirit.