1. **What is the number one priority in the area of law enforcement/criminal justice that you hope to accomplish if elected?**

   The Trump administration will be focused on restoring the rule of law in the United States. Selective enforcement of laws has led to a more dangerous society and the vilification of local law enforcement must come to an end. Law enforcement, for the most part, is a local or state issue. Those who govern at those levels know what is best for their respective jurisdictions. The federal government should provide assistance to state and local law enforcement, but should not dictate to state and local law enforcement or interfere unless invited in by appropriate authorities or when verifiably improper behavior is clearly demonstrated. Similarly, federal jurisdiction and law enforcement should be supported and enhanced through partnerships with state and local authorities.

   _____

2. **What are your plans to lower crime? What will the roles of state and local law enforcement be in that effort?**

   The Trump administration will ensure that the law of the land will be enforced, starting with federal statutes that encompass illegal immigration, drug trafficking and human trafficking. To that end, we will reach out to state and local authorities to form the partnerships that will be necessary to make our neighborhoods, cities and villages safer places to live. Cooperation, not dictation, will be the way ahead for all who swear to defend the people.

3. **What are your foreign policy priorities as they relate to criminal justice or transnational crime issues?**

   We will pursue criminals who commit crimes in the United States to the far corners of the earth. We will work with foreign countries on exchanges of intelligence and mutually supportive efforts to ensure that those who break the law are brought to justice in the land where those crimes were committed.

4. **The federal government is an important partner to state and local law enforcement agencies. What, if anything, would you do differently from the current administration?**

   Currently, there is no noticeable partnership between the federal government and state and local law enforcement. That will dramatically change in a Trump administration. We will partner with state and local authorities to ensure that we are all on the same page in dealing with those who dare violate the law. This partnership will ensure local and state integrity that is supported by the resources available to the federal government. Of course, this will be a two way street.

5. **In some areas, there exist tensions between law enforcement and communities, particularly in regards to legitimacy and procedural justice. How would you work to repair and strengthen community-police relations?**

   Most law enforcement is local in nature and should be dealt with accordingly. If the federal government can provide assistance in facilitating stronger community relationships, then the Trump administration will be there to assist. Otherwise, state and local authorities must answer to their own constituencies.

6. **Given the demands of the job and decreasing state and local budgets, what type of assistance and resources do you believe the federal government should provide to ensure that law enforcement is able to do its job effectively and efficiently?**

   Public budgets are a reflection of the desires and demands of the constituents. Law enforcement is a state and local issue for the most part and should be dealt with at the appropriate level. The federal government can provide grants to assist departments or may be able to provide surplus equipment. However, the burden for local law enforcement is local, after all. That said, my tax, trade and immigration reforms will decrease the burdens on state and local governments and will make more revenue available for first responders at all levels of government. It is by taking the burden off state and local governments that the federal government can best assist.

7. **What legislative proposals related to law enforcement do you plan to make a priority? How would you encourage Congress to move that legislation forward?**

   As was stated above, I will work to get tax, trade and immigration reform through Congress. If my proposals are adopted, law enforcement will benefit by having more revenue available at the state and local level. We will also be addressing mental health reform as part of the revisions we will be advancing in health care reform. Mental health reform will greatly assist in reducing the number of individuals who should be receiving treatment who end up incarcerated.

8. **What are your views on the following issues confronting law enforcement and what solutions do you plan to provide? Please provide a response for each issue listed.**

   a. **Gang/drug-related violent crime**
   The federal government can help facilitate the sharing of intelligence and can provide the first line of defense in making sure that drugs and gangs have greater barriers to overcome if they want to do business in America. Through cooperation, we can all Make America Safer Again.

   b. **Firearms-related violence**
   I have been clear in my support for the 2nd Amendment. That will not change. There have been programs in the past that imposed severe penalties on those who use guns in committing crimes. Gun violations should be treated harshly as such behavior is contrary to the intent of the Constitution and good public order.

   c. **Homegrown violent extremism**
   This is an area where cooperation between local, state and federal law enforcement officials must take place. We must use all the tools available to us to ensure we are penetrating circles that will provide better intelligence and we must provide local and state law enforcement all the tools they need to build stronger relationships in communities and neighborhoods that might be problematic.

   d. **Barriers to law enforcement investigations, such as encryption**
   Encryption is a tool to provide safety and security to law abiding citizens who have a right to privacy. When probable cause exists, and crimes have been committed, law enforcement should be able to access information to further those investigations. This also raises the requirements for law enforcement to protect that information if it does not contribute to the pursuit of the case.

   e. **States who have already legalized or plan to legalize marijuana, (medical or recreational)?**
   This is a state issue. However, Congress should work to make compatible the laws of the land with the laws of the states.

   f. **Increase in opioid and heroin use**
   This is an epidemic that must be addressed. No community or demographic is immune from the ravages of these drugs. Stronger border enforcement, more cooperation and intelligence sharing and better treatment options will help state and local law enforcement in dealing with these issues.

g. **Backlog in DNA evidence processing (rape kits)**
   Congress should appropriate funds to help clear this backlog. The entire country benefits from this type investment so the federal government should step up to help.

h. **Collection of police data (officer-involved shooting database)**
   It should be in the interest of all police officers and departments to make sure that operations are done according to appropriate protocols. However, the federal government should not be in the habit of demanding data from local or state law enforcement organizations. Crime reporting should take place, but the management of local and state law enforcement should be left to those jurisdictions.

9. **Lack of adequate mental health services have resulted in a large portion of law enforcement's calls for service involving individuals with mental illness. What steps will you take to alleviate law enforcement's role in mental health intervention?**
   Unfortunately, law enforcement will have to continue to play a role in how we proceed as a nation with mental health reform. I will work with Congress to see that mental health reform is a top priority in my administration. As we move toward solving these problems, perhaps law enforcement's role can be diminished and community services and family involvement might be fundamental to fixing a very broke system.

10. **As president, how would you respond to an incident involving law enforcement, such as a police-involved shooting or use-of-force incident that has gained national attention?**
    National attention does not mean national involvement of the federal government. If a state or local jurisdiction asks for help from the Department of Justice or other federal agency, then my administration will assist. Otherwise, local issues should remain local.

Candidate Name: Donald J. Trump

Candidate's Party Affiliation: Republican

STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY:

I, Donald J. Trump, a candidate for the office of President of the United States, certify that all the answers in this questionnaire represent my own views.

Signature: _____   Date: 8/10/16