

## 2022 Baltimore Jewish Council Candidate Questionnaire

**CANDIDATE NAME:** Dalya Attar

*Briefly tell your personal story and why you are seeking this elected public service position. (Please limit your answer to no more than 250 words)*

I am a mother of an 8 year-old son and 9 year-old daughter, and was elected to the House of Delegates in Baltimore City's 41st Legislative District on November 6, 2018. I was raised in a working-class Baltimore City family by immigrant parents who came here for greater opportunities and I witnessed them struggle to overcome hardships. I am a native of the 41<sup>st</sup> District's Park Heights community.

I obtained my undergraduate bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Baltimore, followed by my Juris Doctor degree from the University of Maryland. I serve as an Assistant State's Attorney in Baltimore City with a focus on prosecuting illegal guns.

My hands-on experience makes me a more effective legislator who represents all of my constituents in Annapolis. In my first term, I have brought a fresh voice to Annapolis with uncompromising boldness and enthusiasm, and i am unafraid to stand up and fight for what Baltimore needs and deserves.

*What are the 2 or 3 biggest challenges facing Maryland (or your district), and briefly describe how would you address those challenges over the next four years? (Please limit your answer to no more than 250 words)*

Providing a great education for our children is the most important issue in my district. We cannot neglect our children, and in order to create a strong future and reduce crime long-term, we need to ensure our children are being taken care of now- and that begins with education. A strong education is the best investment we can make for the future of our City.

Reducing violent crime and keeping our citizens safe is another top priority. I have passed laws that addresses this violence and will continue to do so while working with the community.

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*Baltimore and Maryland are blessed to have so many committed foundations and non-profits. How can government better support the work of these non-profits in providing the care and services needed by vulnerable Marylanders?*

*(Please limit your answer to no more than 100 words.)*

**Ensuring these non-profits have sufficient funding to help our communities, and appropriate transparency is in place, is crucial.**

*Over the past several years, we have seen a rise of hate and antisemitism in schools, college campuses, and the general community. What could you as an elected official do to help combat this alarming trend?*

*(Please limit your answer to no more than 100 words.)*

**We must make sure there are appropriate laws in place that address such harmful acts. In addition, we must be sure appropriate training to combat this is in place in schools and workplaces.**

*Do you support continuing the initiatives begun by the state over the past several years to provide security grants to faith institutions, schools, and other entities that are threatened by hate crimes?*

*(Please limit your answer to no more than 100 words.)*

**Absolutely.**

*For more than three decades, Maryland and the Jewish community have jointly invested in developing a flourishing business relationship between our state and Israel – creating jobs and economic activity both here and there. As part of that relationship, Governor Hogan signed an executive order in 2017 prohibiting all executive branch agencies from entering into contracts or conducting official state business with any entity unless they certify that they will not engage in a boycott of Israel during the duration of the contract.*

*<https://governor.maryland.gov/2017/10/23/governor-larry-hogan-signs-executive-order-strengthening-marylands-opposition-to-bds-movement-against-israel/>*

*Do you support maintaining and enforcing this executive order?*

*(Please limit your answer to no more than 100 words.)*

**Absolutely.**

*Over the past several years, Maryland has created the BOOST program – a scholarship opportunity to assist low-income families in attending non-public schools. Do you support continuing the BOOST program?  
(Please limit your answer to no more than 100 words.)*

**Absolutely.**

*What are your 2 or 3 biggest priorities to help protect the environment?  
(Please limit your answer to no more than 100 words.)*

**As a member of the General Assembly, we have been working on reducing carbon emissions and developing renewable energy sources for a long time. This session we passed the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022, and I believe the goals and deadlines set in this very robust legislation is appropriate. Ensuring these goals are met is a priority. In addition to this, ensuring our children are not living with lead paint poisoning and continuing to be poisoned is a top priority.**

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