

2010 candidate questionnaire

NAME: **Sam Olens**

PARTY: Republican

SEEKING: State Attorney General



1. Why are you seeking your office?

I am running for the office of Georgia Attorney General to be able to serve and protect all Georgians. The office of attorney general allows me to combine my 27 years of legal experience and 12 years as an elected public servant in order to serve the entire state.

I endured the loss of both of my parents as a child. My aunt, who took me in and raised me, taught me the value of service and giving back. I believe as Attorney General, I can truly make Georgia a safer, better place to live.

2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

On day one I will focus on these five goals:

- Pursue all legal avenues to fight President Obama's takeover of health care
- Fight to ensure that all Georgians have sufficient water supply
- Strengthen current ethics laws and prosecute elected officials who violate their oaths of office
- Create statewide grand juries to strengthen and expedite the current criminal justice system
- Prepare the legal defense for the 2011 redistricting efforts to ensure our proper representation in the U.S. Congress.

3. What distinguishes your candidacy?

I am the only, current candidate with elected experience, private legal experience and executive management experience. As chairman of the third largest county in Georgia, I managed and balanced an annual budget of \$820 million and supervised 4,500 employees. The Georgia Attorney General's office is one tenth of this size. As Chairman of the Atlanta Regional Commission, I have been on the forefront of Georgia's water and transportation problems. As a 27-year top rated attorney and mediator, I have the constitutional background to fight all of Georgia's legal battles. I am ready to lead from day one.

What are the key issues in your race?

1. Federal health care bill challenge- I will join the other state attorneys general and sue the federal government to “opt out” of the federal health care mandate.
2. Water: I do what is legally necessary to ensure all Georgians have sufficient water supplies.
3. Redistricting: I will prepare for and fight the Department of Justice’s lawsuits regarding 2011 redistricting.
4. Gang and drug violence: I will create statewide grand juries to assist prosecutors to more efficiently prosecute criminals for crimes in multiple jurisdictions.

4. Pick one issue. Expand on how you will address it.

The Georgia Constitution allows the attorney general almost no criminal prosecutorial authority. There is one area where I believe I can effectively fight the growing problem of drug and gang violence. When criminals commit crimes in multiple jurisdictions, the local district attorneys have no mechanism to work cooperatively to prosecute.

I will create a statewide grand jury system that will allow a jury to indict a criminal for crimes in multiple jurisdictions. This will take a burden off of the local D.A., expedite the justice system and put criminals in jail faster and longer than the current system.

5. Give a 100 word summary of your background.

I am a 30-year Georgia resident with 27 years of legal experience and 12 years in elected office. I have been married for 25 years and we have two wonderful children. I have been at the forefront of Georgia’s legal and quality of life issues, and I have a reputation as a no-nonsense consensus builder. I will bring honesty, integrity and transparency not only to the office of AG, but I will strengthen current ethics laws for elected officials and prosecute when public officials don’t uphold the public’s trust. I ask for your vote July 20th in the Republican primary.