

NAME: Charlie Bailey
PARTY: Democratic
SEEKING: Lieutenant Governor

1. Why are you seeking your office?

Every day, the vast majority of Georgians wake up, go to work, and worry about if their kids are safe and doing well in school, if they can pay a hospital bill, and if they can save up money for an emergency. And instead of focusing on these issues, the Republican-led legislature is focused on political stunts and culture wars on the backs of our most vulnerable communities. I'm running to help build One Georgia, because we all deserve the same respect, dignity, and justice, and the same opportunity to build a better life for our kids.

2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

I am committed to passing Medicaid expansion so that over 600,000 Georgians can be insured. Raising teacher pay and bringing back tuition-free technical school so all Georgians have access to a quality education is a major priority for me. As a former prosecutor, I understand the need for paying law enforcement officers a living wage, funding training programs to keep us safe, and treating every Georgian equal dignity and respect. I will prioritize funding the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's crime lab so that sexual assault test kits are not put on hold for months or even years.

3. What distinguishes your candidacy?

As the Democratic Nominee for Attorney General in 2018, I received almost 49% - the highest voteshare of any downballot statewide Democrat, second only to Stacey Abrams. I'm a proven statewide nominee who understands the importance of taking my message to voters in every corner of Georgia. I worked for the last Democratic LG, Mark Taylor, and I know the power and responsibilities that come with the position, and how to maneuver both to achieve a goal. My candidacy is endorsed by people I respect and trust, including Representatives Hank Johnson and Lucy McBath, Governor Roy Barnes, and Mayor Shirley Franklin.

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

It is an abject moral failing that we haven't expanded Medicaid, a program Georgians are already paying for in federal taxes. Those tax dollars are getting redirected to states like Indiana and Ohio because Georgia is refusing billions in funds. This is not only keeping over 600,000 Georgians uninsured, but also wreaking havoc across rural Georgia where emergency services are now over an hour-long drive away. I will first work to persuade enough Republican legislators to pass the bill. If that fails, I will launch an aggressive and consistent voter outreach campaign to present the consequences of their representatives' stances.

5. What are your ideas on curbing all the many area-wide shooting?

As a former prosecutor for Fulton County, I have spent a considerable amount of my career getting justice for victims of gun violence. Our state policies are failing our communities. I support red flag laws that allow law enforcement and the judicial system to keep guns away from dangerous individuals. I will advocate for increased GBI funding. Currently, there is only one person in the entire state testing ballistics, and the ensuing 9-12 month wait for results delays the criminal justice process and jeopardizes public safety.

6. Please give a 100 word summary on your background .

I am an 8th generation Georgian who grew up on his family's cattle farm in rural Georgia. I received my undergraduate and law degrees from UGA, and upon graduating worked at the law firm founded by former Governor Roy Barnes. While working as a Senior Assistant District Attorney of Fulton County, I went up against the most dangerous criminals in the state by prosecuting gangs and organized crime. After the 2018 election where I was narrowly defeated by an incumbent, I joined the law firm founded by Bobby Lee Cook to continue his legacy of fighting for civil justice