

## **Representative Briefing for the State of Maine**

### **Introduction: Time to Choose Reform and a Direct Democracy Revolution?**

Hello Maine!

I have created the briefing to ask for your vote as Governor of Maine. I have included as many details as possible so Mainers can make a more informed decision in the 2026 elections. I know this method of communicating has fallen out of fashion but given the well-deserved lack of trust in the political system and media outlets, I wanted to provide as much information about my background and position on issues as possible.

You will likely not recognize my name as I am fairly new to the Maine political arena. I did run in the Maine 2024 election for the U.S. Senate, knowing my odds were very low. However, under the Rank Choice Voting ("RCV" rules), I decided I would stop complaining about government and try to represent the working class who can no longer afford the "middle class" lifestyle.

Whatever happens in this 2026 election, we CANNOT keep doing the same thing and expect a different result. We have a Constitutional Crisis on our hands in the state and in the nation. To avoid this reality is to doom the next generations to similar or worse fates than what is transpiring now and has been spiraling downward for decades. As owners of government, we need to seize the reins of power from those whose only goal is to profit off closed-government and to encourage global interference in our ability to obtain representation from local, state, and federal officials.

As an attorney, I have also endeavored to add citations and facts to this briefing. While I know this document is likely overly long, it seemed fitting in comparison to what other candidates have offered in terms of visibility on their opinions, decision-making process, and plans for the future of ourselves, our livelihoods, and our families and friends.

In the prior election, I ran as an independent as the establishment Democrats and Republicans did not have my full trust and respect (See, "Why a Democrat?" below). I have since realized I cannot hold out on building a coalition to push back against the federal government's open corrupt, incompetent, and callous policies. I am done "Ted-talking" this issue out and hope to

serve as a representative of the State of Maine and as a democrat<sup>1</sup>. I want to protect and serve Maine, not as someone who governs over fully grown adults, but simply as an administrator with the desire to establish greater transparency, competence, efficiency, and accountability to the owners of government: the public.

Our political system works only for the richest member of our society, which now includes foreign nations and global private equity companies. Open treason and bribery apparently are the order of the day. We are told that our patriotic duty is to follow the law, but the laws favor liars, fraudsters, and cheats, allowing our system of government to become incredibly corrupt and immutable.

Given the sheer arrogance of politicians and elite classes who have taken over our local, state, and federal governments, the only questions are Reform or Revolution for those who can accept the time has come for one or the other. We cannot afford a “middle-class” lifestyle and appear to be set to have all of our children and grandchildren be 70 years old to even receive social security benefits.<sup>2</sup> If a majority of people are expected to die around age 74<sup>3</sup> before they receive any benefits, raising the age once more is the equivalent of “Taxation without Representation”. In a government that allows the Billionaires and Robber Barons to avoid taxes and purchase power and influence, we now must work until near death.

These same types of people spend hundreds of millions across the nation to own the government in our name. There is no “We the People” when global private equity companies own government so they can purchase single family homes in a housing crisis.<sup>4</sup> They promote

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<sup>1</sup> **Democrat** – In this context means someone who is in favor of democratic principles, such as mandatory townhalls for candidates, open-forum legislation, and RCV-eligible voting for all local, state, and federal positions with the publication of polling for all rounds of voting (See Reforms).

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.cnbc.com/2025/05/31/denmark-raises-retirement-age-to-70-us-might-follow.html;https://imgur.com/gallery/sen-graham-wants-to-raise-age-of-qualifying-social-security-to-70-this-is-equivalent-to-cutting-social-security-by-21-lets-remind-lindsey-graham-that-social-security-is-money-3i6oKrz#/t/social\\_security](https://www.cnbc.com/2025/05/31/denmark-raises-retirement-age-to-70-us-might-follow.html;https://imgur.com/gallery/sen-graham-wants-to-raise-age-of-qualifying-social-security-to-70-this-is-equivalent-to-cutting-social-security-by-21-lets-remind-lindsey-graham-that-social-security-is-money-3i6oKrz#/t/social_security)

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.visualcapitalist.com/charted-how-much-time-americans-have-left-to-live-by-age/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.cnbc.com/2023/02/21/how-wall-street-bought-single-family-homes-and-put-them-up-for-rent.html>

fossil fuels while they claim to care about the environment.<sup>5</sup> If global private equity firms can lobby our officials and government, how can Mainers obtain any honest representatives?<sup>6</sup>

Globalism is the inevitable future of our national economy, but to have foreign nations and multinational private equity companies hold sway over our local, state, and federal government is the exact opposite of what our founders sought in this nation: Freedom from Oppression.

I acknowledge that the lands in this nation were stolen and the native people severely mistreated. Although my public-school education covered up many facts about U.S. history, I know that Andrew Jackson and James K. Polk were tyrants who divided the spoils in their favor, as does the current administration and its allies. Such people care nothing for morality or ethics. As a nation and people, we must attempt to hold the union together through open-government along with fair, reasonable, and mutually-respectful debates as to how this nation moves forward after a series of disastrous and uninspiring elections among the top one percent's chosen politicians. There is a glaring lack of transparency, competence, efficiency, and accountability thanks to such people and those unquestioningly devoted-followers who adore parties and politicians over facts, objective analysis, and rational thinking.

As State Administrator, I would call on Mainers to reform our constitution to defend against the corruptive influence of foreign nations and multinational private equity companies from continuing to dominate our lives and livelihoods. We welcome foreign investment but if our government is so heavily influenced by such powers, then we will have no rights left except to work and die for groups of multinational investors who care nothing about us, our families, and neighbors.

Please find the Table of Contents for this briefing below. The hyperlinks will allow you to skip to any section of your choice. I know the briefing is unusual, but we live in a very concerning time where closed-government is the norm and not the exception. Maine needs to stand against this trend of shutting its citizens out of government and election townhalls.

Thank you for the time spent reading these materials. I hope to attend meetings, debates, and townhalls to discuss your questions and concerns in person. It is what well-meaning and

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<sup>5</sup> <https://www.newscentermaine.com/article/news/regional/the-maine-monitor/trumps-big-beautiful-bill-maine-clean-energy/97-0999bcaa-8a9e-4a2c-bf2b-e4ad0c905255>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2024/oct/10/slash-and-burn-is-private-equity-out-of-control>

honest people do when they offer to hold governmental powers that greatly affect the lives and livelihoods of their neighbors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jason S. Cherry", is positioned above the printed name. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jason" being more prominent.

Jason S. Cherry

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# Reform

## Transparent, Competent, Efficient, and Accountable Candidates

As with any organization, a society or government can operate only as well as its components. If voters are continuously presented with a limited choice of candidates, then competition to improve government become restricted as well. Maine has enacted provisions to ensure voters have more candidates under the Rank Choice Voting ("RCV") rules, which allows independent candidates to challenge dominant political parties. As a democrat, the freedom of choice in candidates takes precedence over party-lines, especially when the public can obtain better representation in terms of transparency, competency, efficiency, and accountability.

For example, if Mainers vote for a candidate to represent them in the U.S. Congress that person should ideally have a background in law and hopefully economics to represent citizens in a competent manner. Voting for the most popular candidate in terms of ideological views or social causes is inevitable. However, if candidates do not have the basic threshold of competency then how can they achieve any of their supporters' goals and objectives?

For Reform to take root in Maine, we need the best and brightest candidates.

## Rank Choice Voting Improvements

- **Expansion of RCV:** RCV positions should be extended beyond federal positions to all state and local offices. There is no reason why the Legislature should limit the array of choices for its citizens and limit competition in government services.
- **Full Counting of All Rounds of Voting:** Currently, the State of Maine only counts the first round of votes. Voters should have access to all rounds of voting even if the winning candidate received over 50% of the vote. Access to this voting data informs the public of candidates who are possibly electable in the future but just not in the current election. This voter data also provides RCV candidates with incentives to continue running for public offices if they ranked high in the second or third rounds.
- **Mandatory State-Sponsored Townhalls:** In the 2024 election, the Democrat Party ran David Costello, who published a request for five townhalls to debate the issues. Senator Angus King declined the offer and advised that Mainers were not asking for a

“constant campaign”.<sup>7</sup> While it is understood Senator King was the well-deserved forerunner in the election, his sentiments may not be shared by all Mainers. For democracy to succeed, we must establish better and mandatory townhalls in Maine for all candidates. This demand has been voiced by both parties for many of the candidates. Senator Susan Collins has allegedly not had a town hall in 25 years!<sup>8</sup> I want to moderate my criticisms here, but if Mainers cannot get two-way communications from candidates, we need to ensure it is built into our electoral framework. If five townhall debates across the state are too much visibility, then what does that say about our electoral system?

### Citizens’ Online Forum:

As a technologist, the ability for the government to set up a secured platform to invite registered voter’s feedback and input on bills to be debated or actions to be taken by the Legislature should be a reality in this modern century. A more Direct Democracy allows people to verify their identities online and participate in government decision-making. Ranking commentary and keeping an eye on the institution that has such a massive impact on our lives and livelihoods is just common sense.

The platform would be tested for security and used for online services such as ballot registration for public initiatives and referendums. Maine could utilize the same identity-vetting protocols as the U.S. Government, which processes important paperwork and benefits.<sup>9</sup> Using this proven identification process, Maine can register users for ballot support of public initiatives and referendum votes, thereby empowering the citizens to combat potential corruption, inefficiencies, and focus on the needs of residents.

### An Independent Attorney General:

As a democrat who believes in freedom of choices and the expression of voices, I strongly support the efforts to join the vast majority of states and create an independent Attorney

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.bangordailynews.com/2024/06/24/politics/angus-king-david-costello-demi-kouzounas-debates-xoasq129i/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://mainemorningstar.com/2025/06/05/eyeing-a-sixth-term-collins-facing-pressure-from-both-sides/#:~:text=Accessibility,less%2ocomfortable%2ospeaking%2oin%2opublic.%E2%80%9D>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.id.me/government>

General position electable and answerable to the public. The citizens of 43 U.S. States are able to vote personally for their Attorney General, a person who is often the focal point of civil and criminal issues in the state. The Attorney General is a very important position and should be answerable to the people.<sup>10</sup>

For those who are concerned the Attorney General would be subject to the same buy-a-vote scene as made famous nation-wide, the alternative is to have the Attorney General remain in the control of selected group of people over the public. As someone who has investigated public corruption in places like American Samoa, where the Attorney General is appointed by powerful legislators, the ability for powerful figures to place undue influence or to corruption criminal and civil matters was a constant concern. The Attorney Generals in American Samoa were sometimes suspected of being in the conspiracies or attempted to dissuade the FBI from investigating. I make no allegations, expressed or implied, against any current or former Attorney Generals in Maine. I simply want to emphasize that an electable independent Attorney General is something the majority of state citizens have as a right and a means to compartmentalize power. The Maine Legislature also has a number of states rules and laws to review before choosing the right checks and balances of power between the executive and legislative branch to ensure the independent Attorney General has the proper authority but is limited by oversight and budget concerns.

### An Independent Chief Election Official:

Thirteen states utilize a bipartisan board of legislators and thirty-three states elect their "Chief Election Official"<sup>11</sup>. Again, as a democrat who believes in freedom of choices and the expression of voices, I strongly support the efforts to join the vast majority of states and create an independent Chief Election Official. Ethically, this legislative action adheres to the Principles of *Bell, Book, and Candle*.

*Bell:*

If it sounds "bad" (*Bell*), then the ethical decision is to do the other thing. Does it sound right that a person can be appointed by legislators, who want to win their elections and may (or may not) influence those elections, by the selection of a "Chief Election Official"? Does it sound

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<sup>10</sup> See treatise at: <https://scholarship.law.ufl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1159&context=jlpp> ; [https://digitalcommons.law.mercer.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2506&context=jour\\_mlr](https://digitalcommons.law.mercer.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2506&context=jour_mlr)

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/election-administration-at-state-and-local-levels>

reasonable that the same “Chief Election Official” can run for an election and not resign? Does that meet the *Bell* requirements? Not for me, especially as a democrat. What happens when the lack of checks and balances creates a potential abuse of power? What happens if the Chief Election Official is someone who does not represent you or your ideas? We can engineer a better compartmentalization of power.

#### *Book & Candle:*

As an owner of government, it also appears that Maine is again in the minority of states keeping with a nostalgic arrangement of government that is not reflected in a modern democracy. The majority (46 states) have a bipartisan board that works together on hiring a Chief Election Official or the position is elected by the majority of voters. Either way, it appears the ethical decision is already written and adopted by the majority of states (*Book* requirement). Maine needs to join them.

For the *candle* ethical requirement, we have greater transparency when both sides of the legislative body have oversight of our elections or if the Chief Election Official’s job is on the line and directly accountable every election year, thereby creating an incentive for that electable official to adhere to public demands for visibility and fairness in our election processes.

### Modernize State Government Operations:

I am in fact one of those dread technologists who talks in languages like “endpoint detection and response software” and “Is that VMware or Hyper-V?” Yes, it is detestable but very helpful for modernizing state operations. My intention with the Citizen’s Online Forum is to provide better services and alleviate waste and abuse. I have no Discord channel, so my reform measures and budgetary reviews will look nothing like Elon Musk’s DOGE Disaster. I am also an advocate for data privacy. I am often not a supporter of tracking personal information unless it is absolutely necessary, and the information is well-protected.

As a State Administrator, I would collect feedback from community members and staff prior to enacting any changes. When I was an FBI Supervisor, I received an Outstanding rating and award as I listen first, then planned and acted accordingly. I tend to place people where they can succeed and seek those who have initiative to strengthen an organization or unit.

As an Assistant Section Chief for the FBI, I was responsible for the day-to-day operations of over 430 people and a budget of over \$180 million dollars. My daily routine consisted of

balancing the budget, fixing a new crisis in the field, and generally keeping the section afloat and running well. During my tenure as someone who exercised executive powers like a Governor or State Administrator, I was challenged by many aspects of the job and maintained the highest rating for my performance: outstanding. Below are just a few examples of the restricting and modernization planned for Maine's state government. My intention is to collect additional input from Mainers on operations or departments that may need a review for improvements or the establishment of new services.

## *State Government Operations*

### State Budget

As an Assistant Section Chief for the FBI, I was responsible for what is called Zero-Day budgeting in January of the new year. This month-long process was designed to challenge each unit or department to list out its services and personnel, then assign budgets for both. My job was to ensure the rational of supervisors, budget forecasts, and priority of services were balanced to ensure the section was running efficiently. The Zero-Day budget process is a great method to collect data and target inefficiencies.

### Virtualization & Portal Design Services with Ticketing

While at the FBI's Operational technology Division ("OTD"), it became apparent that the old system of loading programs to workstation and individuals working in "silo-like" cyber environments were subject to security concerns and did not provide a one-stop servicing platform for personnel at headquarters and in the field. The OTD underwent a massive restructuring and reorganizing period in which separate units and departments offered their services on a single virtualized portal that included a ticketing system so field and HQ staff could track their requests.

From an example of services provided by the State of Maine and experience with the Maine Freedom of Access Act ("FOAA") services, a request for services can go unanswered or under-answered, meaning that there is room for improvement. A single portal for services and ticketing would ensure the State of Maine's dedicated supervisors have the metrics they need to assign resources and personnel appropriately as well as track performances of employees.

The portal would also provide a secured environment for the Citizen's Online Forum to add commentary on Legislature actions or proposals, hold mandatory townhalls with candidates, and post questions to the candidates along with a number of other direct-to-government access for public owners.

## Revolution

The "Revolution" in this context has two meanings. The first is to enact reform to establish greater transparency, competency, efficiency, and accountability in government through a more Direct Democracy means. As owners of government is it apparent our system of elections is not producing enough competent officials. We have very little transparency beyond what the government chooses to provide along with media outlets and social media, which are constantly spewing overt and covert biases and undue influence that mangles truths. As seen with the Epstein Debacle, the Sackler Family leniencies, and a host of other clemency actions, accountability is also something missing from the government meant for "We the People". The same holds true for confronting abuse, waste, and fraud by officials and their allies. We need a more direct hold on government; something that cannot be done when we are "in the dark" on our government operations.

The second meaning of Revolution may also arise during the tenure of the new Maine Governor if faced with an unconstitutional attempt by the current administration to remain in power despite potential impeachment proceedings or the closure of the four-year term. While some may call this latter type of concern an overreaction, it is difficult if not impossible to take Trump at his word on such an important matter. From an investigative perspective and opinion, he appears unable to distinguish a true from a lie in many of his statements.

Should the current president attempt to extend his term beyond four-years or engage in unconstitutional behavior threatening the future of our democracy, I will be ready to undertake whatever actions necessary to thwart such efforts. I would only do so with the advice and consent of the majority of Mainers. Such actions may include a federal tax revolt, organizing a peaceful march on D.C. to demand action, or other defensive measures as needed. If we are sworn to protect and serve the public, then no kings, queens, or tyrants shall have unopposed power in this nation.

# Why a Democrat now?

Growing up, I was taught to be a Reaganite by my father. As I got older, I read about Ronald Reagan's treatment of the LGBT+ community, weakening of social security benefits, and ties to shady businessmen like Lee Iacocca, who received subsidies and bail-outs from the federal government<sup>12</sup>. Ironically, I was a young passenger in the wonderful Ford Pinto in the early 1970's, where a faulty plastic fuel piece would have triggered an explosion capable of consuming me and my sister in a fireball. The news channels at that time made me think that people like Ralph Nader were just "hippies" who caused trouble to legitimate businesses. I now know better than to trust the vast amounts of propaganda being spun then and now. For any of his faults, Nader was a far more ethical person than many in Washington, D.C. and the media in the 1970's.

Wary of the lies, I started voting for Democrats when I was older, even though I greatly disliked Bill Clinton's history of womanizing. In 2004, as an FBI Special Agent ("FBI SA"), I also heard the stories of how he and other powerful politicians, celebrities, and businesspeople were frequent visitors at Epstein's island.

The hundreds of Epstein videos, so apathetically discussed by the current U.S. Attorney General, Pam Bondi<sup>13</sup>, were collected in either 2005 or 2019<sup>14</sup>. So, you can see it is reasonable to believe there's more than one executive administration be keeping quiet on the issue that used to be covered up by the excuse it was simply an "intelligence" matter<sup>15</sup>.

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<sup>12</sup> <https://www.thenation.com/article/archive/september-7-1979-chrysler-asks-the-us-government-for-a-bailout/>; <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/opinions/1984/05/13/when-the-taxpayers-saved-lee-iacoccas-bacon-what-did-they-get-out-of-it/b55c6d11-2503-4e16-8e0b-54bdo6866fa1/>; [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ronald\\_Reagan\\_and\\_AIDS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ronald_Reagan_and_AIDS) ; <https://www.fedsmith.com/2013/10/11/ronald-reagan-and-the-great-social-security-heist/> ; <https://www.telegram.com/story/news/local/north/2012/04/07/reagan-bush-robbed-social-security/49678078007/>; <https://www.nytimes.com/1985/11/04/us/how-us-manipulated-social-security-funds.html>.

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UQAOwgjZdHg&list=PLowfNKhfAujHhjCc2vOq5VvcLAY29sOP&index=23>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/aug/13/fbi-raids-jeffrey-epsteins-private-caribbean-island>.

<sup>15</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander\\_Acosta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_Acosta)

The rumors also flew around in the FBI as to who approved the vile sentence. The likely names were Vice-President Dick Cheney, U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft, and FBI Director Robert Mueller as the officials who would have met with U.S. Attorney (“USAO”) Alex Acosta to protect and serve the wealthy and influential. Any member of the federal “justice” system knows USAO Acosta, as a beholden political animal, would not have the authority to plead the matter down to a misdemeanor-level sentence without the White House’s backing.

When Epstein received the most lenient and corrupt sentence in the history of human trafficking in the U.S., I knew my nation was truly speaking lies to protect the wealthy and powerful. Even young women and girls, some as young as 12 years old, were victims in the federal system. I learned to place air quotes around the words U.S. Department of “Justice”.

Years later, former USAO Acosta received his reward from Trump in the form of an appointment as the U.S. Department of Labor head<sup>16</sup>. Mueller, a life-long Republican, would be hired as a high-tiered attorney at the law firm of WilmerHale, which is apparently a democrat-controlled entity according to Trump<sup>17</sup>. How people interpret that move is a matter of opinion.<sup>18</sup> Dick Cheney, after years of taking in profits from his investment such as Halliburton, obviously has no need for further rewards.

While Trump’s administration acts as if they are so honorable and independent, we know he will never become truly investigated and prosecuted. How much intelligence and investigative skill would the Top FBI Agent in the U.S., Kash Patel (“K\$H” – actually his self-assigned acronym) be willing to spend on arresting his “king’s” arrest?<sup>19</sup>

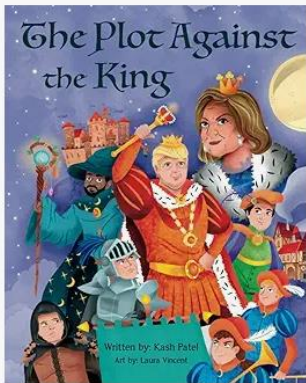
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<sup>16</sup> <https://www.npr.org/2019/07/09/739903033/trump-defends-labor-secretary-acosta-over-epstein-plea-deal>;

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/03/addressing-risks-from-wilmerhale/>; <https://www.wilmerhale.com/en/insights/news/20201203-robert-s-mueller-iii-discusses-his-remarkable-life-and-career-in-a-rare-interview>

<sup>18</sup> Motion 11 FRCP (see “opinions” versus “defamation” law).

<sup>19</sup> The “book” appeared to have been removed by K\$H in the Spring of 2025. I have saved screenshots for posterity. <https://slate.com/culture/2025/01/kash-patel-confirmation-hearing-donald-trump-fbi.html>



### The Plot Against the King

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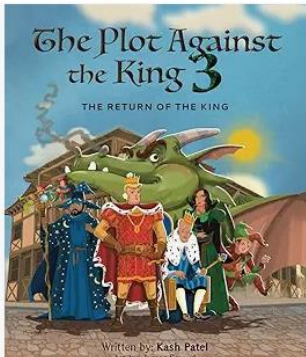
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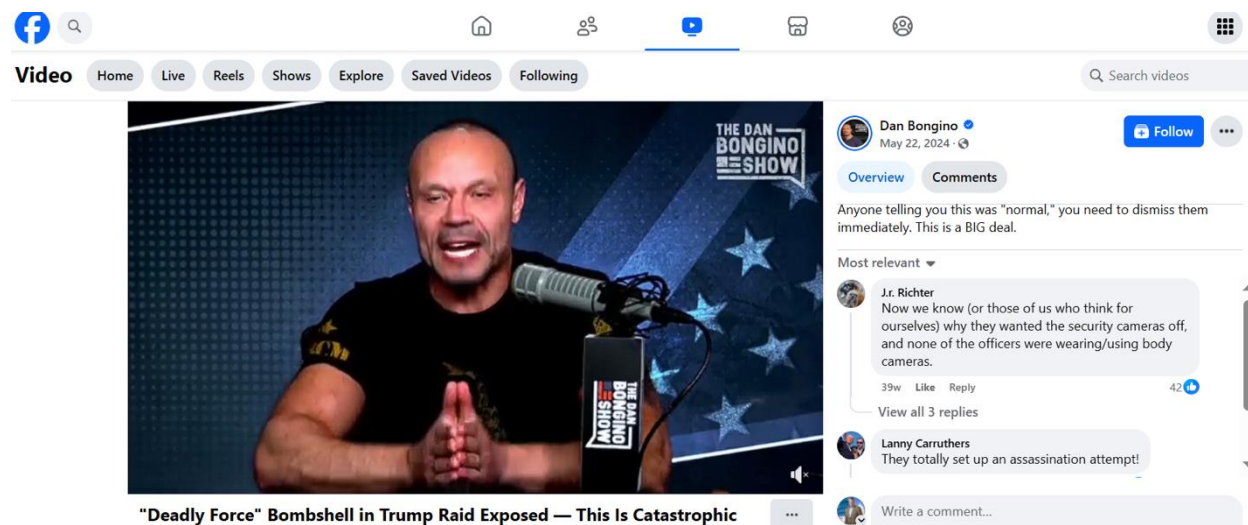
**Full of fake heralds and keeper Komey's spying slugs, this is a story of daring and danger. But never fear! Kash the Distinguished Discoverer will win the day.**

Or maybe we can hold our breath for the Number Two Trump dumped on us at the FBI<sup>20</sup> - to jump in and wrestle this Epstein Debacle to the mat. He is the same Dan Bongino that shamelessly alleged the FBI Agents, who conducted a search of Trump's Mar-a-Lago residence, were setting up a possible assassination of Trump (a lie spread by many of the right-side pundits as the truth is that the FBI's Deadly Force Policy is administratively required in

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<sup>20</sup> Yes, this is worded correctly in the order of most important to least.

every search warrant operations plan, even when a search is at a safe place, such as a storage shed with no one present).



Now, this very same person, who literally placed FBI Agents' lives in greater peril by inciting a false narrative on the dangers to his beloved patron, has a team of 20 Agents protecting him.<sup>21</sup> He fills the seat that was once reserved for those Agents who earned that position in the bureau by respect and hard work, rather than sycophancy. Also, leaders of the FBI often shy away from increasing the threats to them. Dan brings shame to himself and the FBI.

However, this current situation at the FBI is nothing new. The bureau operates under the instructions of each Attorney General, some of whom were very likely aware of the Epstein cover-up. How this nation can continue dispensing "justice" at the federal level is often a topic of debate within the bureau. Both of the Establishment sides have their favorite people they protect from investigation and prosecution (see Bill Clinton's and Donald Trump's grants of clemency to business owners)<sup>22</sup>.

When confronted with the realities that both Establishment Democrats and Republicans conspire to conceal the facts and thwart real justice, I became an independent and ran in the 2024 U.S. Senate for Maine to represent those of us who are disgusted with the Elite's dominance of the two-party system. I wanted to represent the public, not party lines or adored politicians. Politicians are public servants and should be treated as such and with respect, if

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/justice-department/fbi-creates-multiagent-bodyguard-team-protect-dan-bongino-rcna199861>

<sup>22</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill\\_Clinton\\_pardon\\_controversy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Clinton_pardon_controversy) & [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_people\\_granted\\_executive\\_clemency\\_in\\_the\\_second\\_presidency\\_of\\_Donald\\_Trump](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_people_granted_executive_clemency_in_the_second_presidency_of_Donald_Trump).

they deserve it, but not brainless admiration and obedience. Public servants should also have age and term limits. Instead of politicians deferring to the public, too many rule over us like “ants”. There is no “We the People”. And, from a reading of John Adam’s notes on the Constitutional Convention, there really was no desire for democracy in the early days of our nation. Nothing has changed and the government remains immutably corrupt, incompetent, and inefficient.

During the campaign, I found it difficult to choose a side between Democrats and Republicans. Even though I sympathized with the more liberal and non-Establishment members of the Democratic Party, I was still not a fan of the manner in which too many like-minded people treated law enforcement several years ago. After George Floyd was murdered by a police officer, it is understandable that many minorities and liberal Democrats would be extremely angry at the local, state, and federal justice system. Watching the violence, property destruction, and looting unfold across the nation, I just did not know where “the line” would be drawn in preventing a similar tragedy as Floyd’s murder or sharing perspectives on the real opponents to the idea of “justice for all”.

In Quantico, at the FBI Academy, where I taught Constitutional Law to FBI students, I was exposed to the ugly side of the “riots” or “protest” (depending upon the media source). I met with many members of the law enforcement community. Some had broken teeth, broken bones, and burn scars. Other officers cried when they spoke about fellow officers who committed suicide believing they were hated and failed their communities. I heard about politicians and community members who demonized entire police departments instead of focusing on the specific officers who violate human rights. I heard about the attempted mass murder of a whole department in Portland, Oregon, where the local media covered only the attempt and never felt the need to inform the public about any follow-up investigations.<sup>23</sup> Imagine being police officers or personnel in the department and no one cares about your attempted murder because it is an election year<sup>24</sup>. The perpetrator(s) actually blocked the doors to the police department to burn up everyone inside it.

For those of you reading this that think I am unduly unfair, then all I can say is try and convince me of my errors in reasoning. Yelling, violence, and pure hatred does not win the day for any

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<sup>23</sup> <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/police/news/read.cfm?id=261151;>

<sup>24</sup> <https://apnews.com/article/ted-wheeler-race-and-ethnicity-police-id-state-wire-or-state-wire-fb31ec6945645730baddd5d67bbfcea1f>

social causes. No one won those BLM “protests” or “riots”. As a nation, too many people spiraled out of control.

While I grieved for the losses in the law enforcement community, I also sought perspective on how Blacks view the United States and its “justice” system as well as the lack of opportunities. I studied MLK’s book, *Letters from a Birmingham Jail*, and discovered how little I understood how it was like to be born Black in the 1970’s and try to struggle for prosperity and respect. I realized that there was more than just the massacre at Kent State.<sup>25</sup> I learned about the Tulsa Massacre<sup>26</sup> and the vile testing of placebos on Black men diagnosed with syphilis in Tuskegee, Alabama<sup>27</sup>. “Woke” is too simplistic a word to describe my growing perspective, it is about reading history, studying evolution, the neurological and physiological realities associated with the LGBT+, and understanding more than your own viewpoints.

I now know that my nation has hidden many facts about our history and treatment of the LGBT+ community, females, and minority groups. The recent slate of peaceful protest by democrat organizations is far more of an inspiration than what occurred five years ago. However, as someone who values the principles of a democracy over blind party loyalties, I will not trust anything but facts and rationale thinking to clear my mind of propaganda that our Founding Fathers and subsequent administrations were perfect examples of humanity. I have much to learn still.

Given the turmoil of the BLM protests/riots, the factual lessons in U.S. history (and not propaganda), I tried to keep from “choosing sides” in the 2024 election. I now know this choice cannot be made with the extremists and coup-like administration of Trump and his allies. I will not stand by and allow the nation, state, or local governments to be purchased for profit so groups of investors here and overseas can extract the maximum amount of profit by artificially raising prices, deteriorating working conditions, and generally drive the working class into a state of constant poverty until we die with no pensions or social security benefits. I will join the coalition of democrats in Maine and work toward a better future for the working class. I am done listening to pundits who change loyalties and positions as they lie to grow their influence and wealth. I want to work directly with the people of Maine. I also want the public, as owners

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<sup>25</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jackson\\_State\\_killings](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jackson_State_killings) ;  
<https://www.cnn.com/2017/05/03/us/soundtracks-kent-state-jackson-state-orangeburg>

<sup>26</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tulsa\\_race\\_massacre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tulsa_race_massacre)

<sup>27</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tuskegee\\_Syphilis\\_Study](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tuskegee_Syphilis_Study)

of government, to have greater access to candidates and their positions, two-way communications between citizens and their government, and mandatory townhalls for elections.

I look forward to the actions taken by fellow-democrats who want more open-government and cleaner elections. Perhaps, some “democrats” will help arrange for townhall debates this election year.