

1. The State Attorney General's office represents the state agency Texas Department of Criminal Justice in lawsuits. A good attorney helps clients "calculate the odds" of various positions. Over the past several years, the state has paid out many millions of dollars in lawsuits related to the need for climate control in Texas prison living areas. While some of the plaintiffs sought relief from temperature extremes because of current health issues, others sought relief on the grounds of basic humane treatment. Still other plaintiffs have been state employees who have to work in inhospitable temperatures and in a dangerous environment made still more dangerous by the violence and despair incited by torturous conditions of inhumane temperatures. Other lawsuits against TDCJ have dealt with healthcare for inmates, including the need for dentures, inadequate care for kidney disease, and other chronic illnesses. In the case of one lawsuit, seeking humane temperature control for the Wallace Pack Unit, published accounts show that costs to fight the case were almost double the amount finally spent to provide climate control for the unit. *

Yes

No

a. The AG's office plays a role not only in defending TDCJ but in defending the best interests of the state as a whole. Will you commit to doing research to compare costs of lawsuits against TDCJ with costs to provide relief to plaintiffs, and offer fiscal guidance that benefits the state treasury?



b. Will you consider the "human costs" from dehumanizing the persons in the care and employment of TDCJ when advising the agency on lawsuits related to climate control, safety, and health care?



c. Have you read the document "Humane Temperatures Potential Cost Savings Report," available at https://www.tpcadvocates.org/_files/ugd/488024_fcacf58a857f4830bad47bb1cddf6197.pdf?



d. If you have not yet read "Humane Temperatures Potential Cost Savings Report, will you commit to reading the report within the next five days?

