Manhattan DA Candidates Forum: Harlem's Fair Share

Thursday, February 4th 7 - 9 PM - Zoom Webinar

The Candidates



Tahanie Aboushi



Alvin Bragg



Liz Crotty



Diana Florence



Tali Farhadian Weinstein



Lucy Lang



Liza Orlins



Dan Quart

The Moderators

Please register in advance for this event.

Registration LINK

Question Submission Form



Michael Hardy Esq. EVP and General Counsel to the National Action Network (NAN)



Magee Hickey Emmy Award-winning reporter

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting



Tahanie Aboushi is a civil rights attorney who is running for Manhattan DA to fundamentally transform the prosecution system from one that tears communities apart to one that restores them. Born and raised in New York City, Tahanie has spent the last decade fighting against discrimination, the use of excessive force by law enforcement, and representing minors who are bullied, harassed, and sexually assaulted in schools. Through her work, Tahanie has changed policies within the FDNY and NYPD to protect New Yorkers. During Trump's Muslim Ban, Tahanie co-led the legal team at JFK Airport where she spent four straight days securing the release of persons detained by CBP. She is a board member of the Manhattan Community Board 10 and serves on the St. John's University Legal Studies Advisory Board.



Alvin Bragg's life has been about the fight for justice, standing up to the powerful, and demanding that all people be treated equally before the law. A son of Central Harlem, he graduated from Harvard and Harvard Law School. He served as a civil rights lawyer, fought corruption with Preet Bharara in the US Attorney's office, and became the Chief Deputy Attorney General of New York State, overseeing 1,200 people and some of the office's biggest cases – prevailing against the Trump administration over the census, successfully suing Trump and the Trump Foundation, and bringing significant criminal charges in bribery, securities fraud, and Medicaid fraud matters.



Liz Crotty: Growing up in Manhattan in the '70s and '80s, and having lived through some of the most tumultuous times in New York City, Liz understands the impact crime and civil unrest has on the city and its residents. From running into Safe Haven Program stores to escaping predatory men to knowing a local stabbing victim, Liz's life —like all New Yorkers—had and has been intertwined with day-to-day crime in the city.



Diana Florence began her career as a prosecutor 25 years ago in the Manhattan District Attorney's Office, focusing on domestic violence cases, then complex frauds and corruption in the Special Prosecutions Bureau and Labor Racketeering Unit, and later becoming the head of the first of its kind Construction Fraud Task Force. She won landmark convictions against companies and individuals for defrauding 9/11 charities, corruption, domestic violence, wage theft, and deadly work conditions. She has taught trial advocacy for over two decades to lawyers in the DA's Office and has lectured investigators and lawyers from around the world on topics ranging from inter-agency cooperation to prosecuting fraud, racketeering and workplace homicide.



Tali Farhadian Weinstein came to America as a child on Christmas Eve 1979, having fled the violence and anti-Semitism of revolutionary Iran. Inturn she has dedicated her career to fighting for safety, fairness, and justice for all. A Rhodes Scholar, Tali was a Law Clerk for Judge Merrick B. Garland at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, and at the U.S. Supreme Court for Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. Throughout Barack Obama's presidency, Tali worked at the U.S. Department of Justice, first as Counsel to Attorney General Eric Holder, and then as a federal prosecutor.



Lucy Lang is a candidate for Manhattan DA in the June 2021 primary. Lucy is a nationally recognized criminal justice reform leader and most recently served as the Director of the Institute for Innovation in Prosecution at John Jay College, a leading criminal justice think tank, where she worked with communities and progressive DAs across the country. Prior to that, she was an assistant district attorney in Manhattan, where she prosecuted homicide and domestic violence cases and served as Special Counsel for Policy and Projects. In that role, Lucy created a first of its kind, semester-long college-in-prison course, bringing together assistant district attorneys and incarcerated students to study criminal justice side by side inside New York State prisons



Liza Orlins is a Manhattan public defender and outspoken advocate for our city's most vulnerable. For more than a decade, she has represented over 3,000 New Yorkers who otherwise would not have been able to afford a lawyer. During this time, Eliza has developed a reputation as a relentless champion for the underdog. She has taken on the toughest of fights for the very people our system is rigged against, including our Black and Brown neighbors and those in lower-income communities. In 2020, Eliza announced her candidacy for Manhattan DA, with a platform designed to transform criminal justice and make New York safer for everyone.



Dan Quart serves as the Assemblymember for the seventy-third district of New York, an area which encompasses the Upper East Side, Midtown East, Turtle Bay and Sutton Place. Since being elected in 2011, Dan has been a staunch advocate for criminal justice reform and fighting for working families. Guided by his experience as a pro-bono and 18-b criminal defense attorney, Dan has made criminal justice reform a central goal of his legislative agenda. After witnessing the harmful effects the failings of our justice system had on New Yorkers, particularly poor people and people of color, he introduced legislation that would end cash bail, fairly compensate exonerees, and create a statewide Conviction Review Commission.