

# STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 25 - GREENVILLE

## EXPANDING/ENHANCING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REPORTING EFFORTS

Would you support efforts to enhance/expand methods for reporting in South Carolina?

**YES**

Darath Mackie, Republican

**NO RESPONSE**

Tony Boyce, Independence  
Leola Simpson, Democratic

*"I would support enhancing and expanding methods for reporting abuse in South Carolina. Simultaneously I would be interested in learning more about how the statistics/ research that shows domestic violence rose during COVID-19 lockdown was obtained especially if the number of victims reporting these crimes has decreased.*

*First I will say that I believe that education, awareness and firm repercussion is the key to reducing and eliminating violence. We need to educate our young woman and men on signs of early abuse. We need to provide them with the tools they need to identify abuse, a safe way to report the abuse and then a healthy way for them to mentally heal from what they have witnessed or experienced. I would further want to research what we are already doing for reporting efforts and identify our strengths and weaknesses. We need to know exactly where we are and what efforts work and what doesn't before adding additional programs." – D. Mackie*

## SUPPORT FOR GOING BEYOND CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESPONSE

Would you support the creation of a statewide plan to effectively address the issues of domestic and sexual violence beyond the criminal justice response?

**YES and NO**

Darath Mackie, Republican

**NO RESPONSE**

Tony Boyce, Independence  
Leola Simpson, Democratic

*"Before I would advocate for yet another plan/program/ agency/ organization group.... I would want to make sure we are not being repetitive. I would thoroughly research to see what the existing plans are and what existing groups/organizations/programs there already are and work within them to eliminate repetitiveness. Taking proactive steps like this may eliminate ineffective or repetitive programs and open up additional funding. I believe we need to start with what we have and perfect it before adding anything else to the mix." – D. Mackie*

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## INCREASED FOCUS ON PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Do you believe our state needs to increase its focus on the prevention of domestic and sexual violence?

**YES**

Darath Mackie, Republican

**NO RESPONSE**

Tony Boyce, Independence  
Leola Simpson, Democratic

*“Absolutely. This is a multilevel problem with an abundance of steps that could be taken for prevention. I believe that patterns of abuse start in the home and feaster. We need stronger education programs and advocacy groups for young girls and boys to identify abuse, a safe way to report the abuse and then a healthy way for them to mentally heal from what they have witnessed. If we don’t educate our children on domestic and sexual violence early, we stand a greater chance of them repeating the cycle they saw at home.” – D. Mackie*

## SUPPORT ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE SERVICE PROVIDERS

Would you support additional state funding be allocated to victim service providers?

**MORE THAN LIKELY YES**

Darath Mackie, Republican

**NO RESPONSE**

Tony Boyce, Independence  
Leola Simpson, Democratic

*“However, I would like to see a full report of how your current funding is being allocated. We have a transparency issue with funding programs in SC and I owe it to every taxpayer to be as thorough as possible before spending their money.” D. Mackie*

Do you believe additional federal funding should be allocated to victim service providers?

**MORE THAN LIKELY YES**

Darath Mackie, Republican

**NO RESPONSE**

Tony Boyce, Independence  
Leola Simpson, Democratic

*“However, I would like to see a full report of how your current funding is being allocated. Transparency issues are not just a South Carolina problem. Lawmakers owe it to every tax payer to make sure their money is being used as advertised. As with any secondary funding source you must show your relevance to keep it and or expand it. Perhaps using partial funds on programs that help end the violence all together there would be less need for additional fund requests for victim services. We need to start focusing on the root of the problem instead of making a bigger band aid.” – D. Mackie*