

Return survey by October 9, 2026 to: andvsa@andvsa.org
Complete each answer box and select one response where choices are provided.

Name: Calvin Schrage

Office/District Representation You Are Seeking - State House, District 12 (Abbott Loop - Lower Hillside)

Please indicate whether you view domestic violence and sexual assault as an area of primary concern for you.

- ☒ Primary concern
- ☐ Secondary concern
- ☐ Not on my radar

Are you familiar with local programs that provide domestic violence and sexual assault services to victims across Alaska?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ Somewhat
- ☐ No

If yes, how often do you interact with the domestic violence/sexual assault shelter or victim services program in your area?

- ☐ Quarterly
- ☒ Annually
- ☐ Other

If other, please specify

1. The Alaska Victimization Survey (AVS) found 57.7% of Alaskan women have experienced intimate partner violence (domestic violence), sexual violence, or both. What is your vision for Alaska when it comes to reducing sexual assault and domestic violence? What steps are you prepared to take to get there?

I will continue working to support survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, which requires a comprehensive approach centered on safety, healing, and accountability. I am committed to strengthening and expanding the services survivors rely on, including crisis response, legal assistance, counseling, and long-term recovery resources. This work must go hand in hand with ensuring our public safety and legal systems have the tools and capacity to hold perpetrators accountable.

I am also committed to advocating for upstream investments that address addiction and mental illness, factors that contribute to these crimes, and to supporting interventions that reduce harm before it occurs.

2. What responsibilities do you believe the Legislature and other elected officials hold in advancing efforts to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault?

The Legislature, as well as the Executive and Judicial Branch, has a responsibility to ensure Alaskans are safe in their homes and communities. Addressing, and ultimately helping to eliminate domestic violence and sexual assault, is an essential responsibility of our state government and elected officials. I will continue to fight and do all that I can as a legislator to do so.

What efforts have you made at the local, state, and federal level to address domestic violence and sexual assault?

During my time in the Legislature, I have consistently advocated for investing in programs that support victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, including restoring roughly \$5 million in this year's capital budget for the Homelessness Assistance Program, which provides funding to emergency shelters across Alaska. I have also been a strong supporter of efforts to modernize Alaska's sexual assault testing kit system which has seen significant backlogs, delays, and errors.

3. Would you be willing to increase the current level of funding for victims' services?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Maybe

4. Would you be willing to increase the current level of funding for domestic violence/sexual assault prevention work?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Maybe

5. Would you be willing to increase the current level of funding for legal services for victims?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Maybe

6. Currently, the domestic violence response is largely a criminal justice response. Do you have ideas for other types of responses? What are they?

Fully addressing Alaska's domestic violence and sexual assault crisis requires not only a strong law enforcement and criminal justice response, but a holistic strategy that addresses

underlying causes, expands education and awareness, and strengthens support systems for survivors. I have and will continue to support programs like AWAIC, which provides emergency shelter, safety planning, and critical services for individuals and families escaping dangerous situations. These community-based resources are essential in protecting victims and helping them rebuild their lives.

7. Do you think the penalties for sexual violence crimes in Alaska are:

- ☐ Too harsh
- ☒ Too soft
- ☐ Just right

What are your reasons?

Generally, Alaska has some of the strictest penalties for sexual assault and domestic violence in the nation. Yet in practice, many offenders serve far shorter sentences than the law envisions, and some face no jail time at all. This gap is driven by multiple factors, including significant barriers to reporting, cases never reaching trial, plea agreements shaped by court backlogs, and limited law enforcement capacity, particularly in rural communities.

8. Do you think the penalties for domestic violence crimes in Alaska are:

- ☐ Too harsh
- ☒ Too soft
- ☐ Just right

What are your reasons?
Same answer as above

9. Would you support funding through the Department of Corrections to engage individuals who choose to harm their partners/families through batterers intervention programming (BIPs)?

I am certainly open to the idea, especially if it is proven to be effective, and look forward to working with ANDVSA and partners on any such proposals.

Do you think this is the responsibility of the government? Why or why not?

The goal of our criminal justice system is both to hold criminals accountable and provide rehabilitation, so these individuals have a path to becoming law abiding and contributing members of our society.

What would be your ideas for providing services to people who choose to cause harm to their partners?

This is an area I would welcome input from ANDVSA and partners on what could be most effective.

10. Do you believe abortion access should be legally protected for survivors of rape or incest?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

11. The state of Alaska is experiencing a housing shortage statewide. This is impacting domestic and sexual violence survivors' ability to move forward with their lives. What would be your ideas to address this?

While many of the levers to promote additional housing are held at the local level, there are actions the state can take, such as cutting red tape to expedite and bring down regulatory costs associated with construction, providing direct state investments in housing, including basic infrastructure that brings down the ancillary costs, such as water, sewer, and electrical access, as well as continuing and bolstering the good work the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation is doing.

12. Children are a particularly vulnerable population and may be traumatized by living with an abusive person and witnessing violence perpetrated against a parent or caretaker. What remedies might you suggest to provide protection for these children?

Ensuring our children and families are safe has and will always be a top priority. Ensuring emergency support is essential and allows families the short-term support they may need to escape abusive relationships. A dire reality is that too many children are put in positions such as these and our schools have become the frontline of identifying and reporting instances of abuse in the home. We should continue to educate our educators and staff who work with youth about the warning signs of domestic violence at home, as well as protocols to address and report such instances while providing the resources and education necessary to do so. Additionally, providing adequate funding for OCS to ensure they are staffed and have the resources to ensure children in dangerous situations are identified early and transitioned to a safe home.

13. A sunset review is a mandatory, periodic evaluation of an executive board or commission to determine if its public benefit justifies its continued existence, funding, and legal authority. The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA) in the Department of Public Safety is scheduled to sunset June 30, 2028, and will be reviewed during the next Legislature. Would you support a bill to extend the Council?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Maybe

What are your reasons?

CDVSA does important work, which should be continued by extending the board.

14. Please explain any solutions you would propose to support victims and hold offenders accountable for their actions.

Many of my priorities are noted in the answers above, which include investing in resources and effective programs for victims, ensuring our criminal justice system is equipped to hold offenders accountable, expanding access to stable housing, and strengthening the community partners already doing critical work in these areas.

Thank you for taking the time to respond to this survey.

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