3. The MA Attorney-General's office has proposed a [substantial expansion](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/188/Senate/S654) of the state's electronic wiretapping powers. Does the candidate support or oppose this expansion?

**I understand the need to revisit our wiretapping laws in an effort to preserve public safety. As is the case with issues on the federal level when it comes to these issues, it’s critically important that these laws are tailored to reduce crime, not infringe on our civil liberties. It’s important that we strike an appropriate balance to ensure public safety in our communities, but not at the cost of our privacy rights.**

*NOTE FROM DIGITAL FOURTH:*

*This is a somewhat non-specific answer from Sheriff Koutoujian. Insofar as he speaks to the question of the Attorney-General’s proposal, he says that he “understand[s] the need to revisit” the state’s wiretapping laws. We therefore code this as a No (that he does not oppose the Attorney-General’s proposal), and will update this assessment if clarification is received.*

*We have strongly opposed this proposal from the Attorney-General’s office. It is not clear to us that Massachusetts, where crime is at historically low levels, has a public safety problem so severe that it is worth making electronic wiretaps of relatively more minor crimes legal here in the state.*

*For our further reporting on the proposed expansion of electronic wiretapping, see:*

<http://warrantless.org/2013/07/tavares_update/>

<http://warrantless.org/2013/06/ago-response/>

<http://warrantless.org/2013/03/clowncarlaw/>

<http://warrantless.org/2013/01/coakley-analysi/>