Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Candidate for Florida 20th

1) What is the one policy issue or area that you are most passionate about?

Economic justice is something I am very passionate about given the long term slow
down on income growth and the wage gap. That is why I am proposing my People’s
Prosperity Plan, which gives $1,000 a month to every American who is 18 and older
and makes less than 75 thousand a year. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, after the
United States provided a number of stimulus checks, poverty was reduced 9.1% from
11.8%. Nearly 8.5 million people were lifted from poverty, we need to continue this and
my plan will continue the progress.

2) Which organizations or leaders do you consult with for advice on policy? Are there
any whose views particularly align with yours?

3) Recent statistics from the FBI indicate that Jews are the victims of more than half of
all religiously motivated hate crimes in the U.S. This uptick in antisemitism coincides
with a robust debate about the role of policing in American society, with some arguing
for abolishing or defunding the police, while others advocate for limited reforms or
preserving the status quo. What is your position on police reform and — in light of that
— how do you believe the government should address violent antisemitism?

The United States government must play a more active role in combating the increase
in antisemitic violence. We must focus on targeting white supremacists domestic
terrorist organizations from within the United States that include groups like the
Boogaloo Boys and Patriot Prayer. We cannot allow these groups to conduct acts of
terror like the storming of the US Capital.

Optional: Describe any efforts you’ve made to combat antisemitism within your
own party, and how you’ve held your political allies accountable for any
instances of antisemitism.

4) Do you believe that Israel’s role and location in the Middle East is a strategic asset to
the United States? Why or why not.
Yes, given the complexity of the political environment in the Middle East, having Israel, as a military, intelligence, and political allies assist greatly in the greater achievement

5) On September 23, 2021, the United States House of Representatives voted 420-9, with two members voting present, to provide $1 billion to Israel to replenish the Iron Dome missile defense system. If you were in Congress, how would you have voted and why?

I would have voted yes to replenish the Iron Dome, simply because Israel has the right to defend itself and they are one of our closest allies. Should the U.S. increase, maintain or decrease the amount of foreign aid to Israel and other countries in the Middle East? Should the U.S. condition its foreign aid based on specific results?

The United States should continue to have a strong relationship with Israel in the Middle East, security, safety, and peace in the Middle East is the result we are looking for.

6) Should the U.S. increase, maintain or decrease the amount of foreign aid to Israel and other countries in the Middle East? Should the U.S. condition its foreign aid based on specific results?

While I support the Abraham Accords, and it does bring a level of peace in the Middle East, it is not enough. The way to continue to achieve peace in the Middle East will come when there is less dangerous rhetoric through state actors and non-state actors who are funded by states, a renewed focus to human rights including women’s rights and freedom of speech and religion, and mutually agreed projects while they agree to the first two.

7) What is your view of the Abraham Accords, which has brought Arab countries including the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Morocco and Sudan into a warm peace with Israel? Do you believe there will be more peace in the Middle East? If so, what will it take?

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8) Do you support or oppose a return to the 2015 nuclear deal with Iran? In your view, what is the role of ‘leverage’ in these negotiations and is the U.S. using its leverage effectively?

I support a return to the 2015 Nuclear Deal with Iran, however, some stronger measures need to be added to the deal. Iran’s economy has been in ruin for years before joining the deal and has been after President Trump left the deal. This is because of the strong financial sanctions that were placed on Iran’s economy. We need stronger sanction against Iran if they continue to fund terrorist organizations like Hezbollah and Hamas. While it is understandable that Iran wants a nuclear weapon to protect its existence, they need social and political stability for its basic functions. The economic power of the United States and its allies can leverage strongly against a country’s darkest act. In addition, Iran must ask for members of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard who have committed acts of terror abroad to resign and stand trial for their crimes. We cannot continue to provide economic relief to one weapon, while turning a blind eye to another.

9) Government entities should not have to do business with entities that engage in immoral practices or espouse values that are inconsistent with society’s

   Strongly agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | Other

10) I support public efforts to divest from companies that engage in BDS

   Strongly agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | Other

11) Anti-Zionism is a form of antisemitism

   Strongly agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | Other

12) The United States should use all means available to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon

   Strongly agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | Other