



Keith Ellison
DEMOCRAT

ATTORNEY GENERAL



Doug Wardlow
REPUBLICAN

Ellison has long been against the Trump administration. Ellison said the reason he is running for the statewide office is to take on the president in court, saying Trump [“has no respect for the rule of law, he wants to do what he wants to do.”](#)

ON PRESIDENT TRUMP

Although Wardlow said he would take politics out of the attorney general’s office, he has declared himself as a strong supporter of President Trump, saying the president [“has delivered on his promises and is making America great again.”](#)

Ellison defends the Affordable Care Act and its coverage for preexisting conditions. He has criticized Republican attorneys suing to repeal it and said the Republicans try to “strip away health care protections that over 2 million Minnesotans rely upon.”

HEALTH CARE

Wardlow puts [prosecuting illegal practices](#) that may be occurring between insurers and providers as one of his top priorities in the health care issue. He also opposes the Affordable Care Act, saying it’s “an unconscionable law” that “eviscerates the structure of our constitutional form of government.”

Ellison claims pharmaceutical companies have made millions of dollars as the opioid crisis rages and they should be held accountable for their “deceptive and aggressive marketing tactics.” He wants to [sue big pharmaceutical companies](#) including Purdue Pharma, a manufacturer of opioid OxyContin.

OPIOIDS

Wardlow has expressed his intention to [rebuild the criminal law division](#) in the attorney general’s office to tackle several statewide problems such as the opioid crisis. Through the division, he hopes to collaborate with local law enforcement and county attorneys and provide them resources they need to combat the opioid epidemic.

Ellison says he “will defend every worker’s right to collectively bargain for better working conditions, benefits, and incomes for all.” Ellison hopes to hold employers accountable if they engage in wage theft.

WORKPLACE UNIONS

During his term in the state House, Wardlow supported a [constitutional amendment](#), which would have lifted the requirements that workers join unions and pay dues in union shops.

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Ellison has called for immigration reform that provides a pathway to citizenship and permanent protections for DREAMers during his campaign. He also opposes the Trump administration's family separation policy at the border.

IMMIGRATION

He has [opposed](#) sanctuary cities in Minnesota and wants local police departments to [work with federal law enforcement](#) to enforce the immigration laws, calling sanctuary cities "[dangerous](#)."

Ellison, who is a gun owner, supports universal background checks for gun sales and a ban on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines. If elected, he plans to join 17 other states' attorneys general to fight federal legislation that would diminish Minnesota's gun safety measures.

GUN CONTROL

He has expressed his interest in defending [the right to keep and bear arms](#), citing it as a fundamental freedoms.

As a state and national politician, Ellison said he has seen how the government tends to stand with big corporations and the wealthy, which he claims "scam consumers, cheat workers and ignore environmental protections." He wants to enforce the law to hold those in power accountable to enhance the government performance.

GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE

Wardlow has argued that [Minnesota is overregulated](#) and that most of those regulations are made by unelected bureaucrats. He mentioned the state's buffer law as an example. Under the law, counties and watershed districts can fine landowners [up to \\$500 per parcel](#) if they fail to build the buffers.

Fighting human and sex trafficking is one of Ellison's top priorities in his campaign. He wants to convene a task force with county attorneys, local law enforcement and community representatives and advocates to ensure they have the resources, training, and support they need to resolve the issue.

HUMAN/SEX TRAFFICKING

Similar to his Democrat opponent, Wardlow also plans to fight human and sex trafficking happening by [collaborating](#) with state and local law enforcement and county attorneys. He believes establishing the office's criminal law division would build the statewide leadership to [prosecute and end the trafficking](#) and make sure that they have the training the local agencies need.

Ellison's campaign also prioritizes holding student loan providers accountable for high rates and fees, fighting for women's equal pay, defending abortion rights, and protecting elderly and vulnerable adults from fraud and abuse.

OTHER ISSUES

One of the main issues Wardlow has focused on during his campaign is [taking politics](#) out of the attorney general's office. He also wants to bring [more attorneys into the criminal law division](#) to prosecute welfare fraud and protect public safety.

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She supports tax reform that would simplify the tax code, fund infrastructure and give incentives for businesses to keep jobs in the U.S.

TAXES AND GOVERNMENT SPENDING

He wants to simplify the tax code so everyone can understand and complete their taxes faster. He supports limiting the powers of the IRS.

She supports the current medical marijuana laws in Minnesota and opposes attempts by the federal government to interfere with the state's authority to make laws surrounding marijuana.

MARIJUANA

He does not support the legalization of marijuana for recreational purposes.