Indianapolis Star Interview with Jefferson Shreve, August 10, 2023:
https://www.indystar.com/story/news/local/indianapolis/2023/08/10/indianapolis-mayor-candidate-jefferson-shreve-guns-abortion-broken-windows-policing-election-2023/70553081007/

Q: Do you think of yourself as the kind of Republican who can appeal to a progressive voter?

A: I am a man with moderate views that I believe are attuned to Marion County. We've got a very diverse city, the most diverse county in the state and my views fall somewhere in the middle. And I do think that people will listen have listened, are interested, are tuning in, are engaged in this election because they see that.

Q: Since you've announced your gun control plan, some in your base have since said they feel betrayed by you, angered. Why have you decided to take such a big risk to take a stand on an issue that, while is important, isn't something that the mayor's office has direct control over, which is gun regulation?

A: I announced a public safety plan that's an important element of leading the city. There are a number of elements or planks to the public safety plan. Not everyone's going to agree with every element of that plan. To be successful in being hired by the citizens of Indianapolis, the majority, a plurality, needs to agree with most of the elements of what I'm articulating from a public safety standpoint because the results of the past seven and a half years are self-evident. Our murder rate, our homicides are up by 52%.

Q: What would you say to the people for whom the Second Amendment is one of the biggest issues for them?

A: I'm for the lawful, legal ownership of guns. I'm a handgun owner myself. I support the lawful ownership of guns, and it's not in the purview of the mayor to determine that policy anyway. But as the person seeking the job that is responsible for the delivery of a safe and civil city, there are some tools that I believe our city needs as I listen to the police leadership, both in the city, chief Randal Taylor specifically, and (Indiana State Police) Superintendent Doug Carter. I have campaigned on a message, in part, of being attuned to and supportive of our police.

Q: What would you say to people who think it's relevant for them as they're making the decision that they want to know what your stance is on abortion?

A: "My stance is that as mayor, I would take no role in abortion policy and allocate no resources of the city of Indianapolis to abortion policy enforcement or changes one way or the other. That's not where my focus will be. And that's not what our citizens are hiring a mayor to do."

Q: What is your stance on Indiana's current abortion laws, which amounts to a near-total abortion ban?

A: My position simply is that I'm running for mayor. I'm not asking to be hired for a policy-making position. The mayor has no authority over abortion policy. As mayor, I wouldn't allocate any city resources toward abortion policy matters. Zero.

Q: Your opponent has spoken at length about abortion issues.

A: Mayor Hogsett is trying to nationalize this election when it's about broken windows and mass transit and our convention business and things that matter to the citizens that the mayor can influence. And abortion policy is outside the purview of the mayor's job. I feel like the mayor is trying to make this competitive race about an issue such as that because he chooses not to run on the issues that are germane to running the city of Indianapolis better than he's doing.