



2013 QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CANDIDATES FOR CITY COUNCIL

Citizens Union would appreciate your response to the following questions related to policy issues facing the City of New York that are of concern to Citizens Union and residents of the City. We plan to make public your responses to this questionnaire in our Voters Directory, on our website, and in other appropriate venues. Responses to these questions will be one of several factors Citizens Union will use to evaluate candidates who are running for office in order to determine our "Preferred Candidates" for the primary election and "Endorsed Candidates" for the general election.

If you seek our support, we would also need to schedule an interview with you as part of the evaluation process. We will not automatically schedule an interview with you if you return this questionnaire, as we prioritize competitive races and resources constrain us from evaluating all races. Please contact us if you wish to be interviewed. We thank you very much for your response.

Candidate Name: ALBERT ALVAREZ Age: 45

Campaign Address: P.O. Box 342, West Farms Station, Bronx, N.Y. 10460

Campaign Telephone Number: 347 427-8822 Fax: () _____

Party Affiliation(s): Democrat Campaign Manager Name: _____

Website & Email: www.Albert2013.com vote@Albert2013.com

Education: Juris Doctorate from Syracuse College of Law ALSO A Certificate in Law Technology & Management B.S. from St. John's University in Criminal Justice and A minor in Business Administration

Occupation/Employer (or years in currently held elected office): Chief of Staff in District 15 for Councilman Joel Rivera 12 years+

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement:

Please see Attached

Are you willing to be interviewed by CU's Local Candidates Committee? YES NO

(Please note: Citizens Union can only grant its support to candidates we have interviewed. If you would like to be interviewed, please follow up with Citizens Union staff, as resources constrain us from interviewing every candidate.)

Have you completed requisite campaign finance filings? YES NO

Signature of Candidate: Albert Alvarez Date: 8-5-13

I. CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

Please state your position on the following issues by indicating whether you support or oppose each. You may elaborate in the space provided at the end or on additional paper.

VOTING AND ELECTIONS REFORM

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| 1. What is your position with respect to eliminating party primaries and establishing a non-partisan election system in which all candidates and all voters participate in the first round and the top two candidates advance to the second round? | Support/ <u>Oppose</u> |
| 2. What is your position on instituting Instant Runoff Voting for all citywide offices and for all special elections for city offices? (Int. No. 1066) | Support/ <u>Oppose</u> |
| 3. What is your position on creating a voluntary municipal poll worker program to supplement poll worker recruitment by district leaders? (Int. No. 721) | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| 4. What is your position on requiring city agencies to report the number of applicants that they register to vote as required by current law (Int. No. 760)? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| 5. What is your position on transmitting electronically voter registration information collected by city agencies to the Board of Elections in the City of New York? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| 6. What is your position on requiring the Board of Elections to report performance metrics to the City Council that conform to the Mayor's Management Report? (Int. No. 778) | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| 7. What is your position on modifying the City Charter to require that laws enacted by referendum only be changed through approval by the voters? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| 8. What is your position on expanding the Voter Guide published by the Campaign Finance Board to cover all races occurring in New York City, such as state and federal contests, and providing the opportunity for voters to receive the guide electronically rather than in print form? (Int. No. 769) | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

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| 9. What is your position on eliminating matching funds for contributions bundled by lobbying organizations or lobbyists? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| 10. What is your position on banning placement agents from bundling contributions for any elected official who influences the selection of pension investors? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| 11. What is your position on prohibiting participants in the city's campaign finance program from using public matching funds to purchase strategic campaign consulting services from firms that also provide lobbying services? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |

CITY COUNCIL REFORM

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| 12. What is your position on creating a bill drafting service independent of the Speaker's Office, similar to the New York State Legislature's bill drafting commission? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| 13. What is your position on the following proposals enabling Council committees to function more effectively and independently of the speaker : | |
| a. Should committee chairs have the ability to hire at least one committee staffer? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| b. Should committee hearings and votes be scheduled at the direction of the chairs? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| c. Should committees be able to issue subpoenas by a vote of their members? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| d. Should the number of overall committees be reduced so members can participate more meaningfully in fewer issues? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| 14. What is your position on greater disclosure of councilmembers' outside income? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| 15. What is your position on limiting stipends or "lulus" to only members holding majority or minority leadership positions? <i>⇒ doesn't think anyone should get a lulu</i> | Support/ <u>Oppose</u> |
| 16. When the Quadrennial Compensation Commission is reconvened, what is your position on requiring that any future increase in councilmember compensation only apply prospectively to the following term? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |

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| 17. What is your position on ensuring a more equitable and needs-based distribution of discretionary funding? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| 18. What is your position on increasing transparency of discretionary funding by requiring the list of capital and expense funds and their sponsors be provided to councilmembers and the public three days in advance of any vote, and expanding the online searchable database of expense funds to include all capital fund recipients and applicants? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |

PUBLIC SAFETY AND OVERSIGHT OF POLICE MISCONDUCT

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| 19. What is your position on reducing the frequency of stop, question and frisks by conducting stops more judiciously? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| 20. What is your position on establishing the Commission to Combat Police Corruption (CCPC) as a permanent commission in the City Charter while empowering the CCPC to issue subpoenas? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| 21. What is your position on enhancing the Civilian Complaint Review Board's (CCRB) authority to initiate an investigation into reported or known incidents of police misconduct without receipt of a formal complaint? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| 22. What is your position on granting the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) with the authority to prosecute officers found guilty of lying during CCRB investigations? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| 23. What is your position on reinstating the zero tolerance penalty for false official statements by public officers? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |

BUDGET REFORM

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| 24. What is your position on establishing independent budgeting for: | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| a. the borough presidents? | |
| b. Conflicts of Interest Board? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| c. the public advocate ? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| d. community boards? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |
| 25. What is your position on making the budget process more transparent by clearly defining units of appropriation and limiting their size? | <u>Support</u> /Oppose |

II. CANDIDATE ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONNAIRE

Citizens Union is adding a new element to its evaluation of candidates running for office. As a candidate who presently does not hold elected office, CU is interested in knowing your top five campaign promises you are making to the voters during this campaign for this position.

If elected, Citizens Union will use these promises to evaluate your performance while in office, as well as, to evaluate your candidacy in the future.

We thank you very much for your response. Please feel free to use additional paper if the space provided is not sufficient.

TOP FIVE 2013 CAMPAIGN PROMISES

1. Maintain and Create more Affordable Housing
2. Fight for Economic and Job Development
3. Sustain & Increase Educational Opportunities & After School Programs
4. Support & Protect our Senior Programs
5. Advocate for Public Safety & Community input
6. Improve and Increase Access to Health Care

Please return to: Citizens Union, Local Candidates Committee
via fax to 212.227.0345 or via email to candidates@citizensunion.org
Call us at 212-227-0342 with any questions.

Additional Comments:

I am proud to be a product of the Head Start program. Additionally, I am proud of my father who is a 1199 Retiree & my mother a former Ladies Garment Worker, Home Health Aide & Child Care Provider because they taught me first-hand the values of hard work, the importance of unions, education and family values. Through my scholarship from 1199 I was able to attend college and interned at the Department Of Investigation, Inspector General's Office for Environmental Protection & the Public Service Commission. While attending college, I also worked as a cashier and in the kitchen at Columbia University. I graduated from St. John's University with a B.S. in Criminal Justice and a minor in Business Administration.

As a community activist, I worked as a Re-Housing Assistant Program Coordinator and Community Organizer for Aquinas Housing Corp. I earned a Certificate from the Neighborhood Leadership Institute – Citizen's Committee for New York, established several tenant associations and helped develop their By-laws. I was also involved with the "Not in My Neighborhood You Don't" Anti-drug Campaign and was a member of Community Board #6, member of the Executive Committee, Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Committee, member of the Law Enforcement Committee, the First President of the Friends of Crotona Park, member of the Con Edison Advisory Board Council, member of the 48th Precinct Community Council and attended District #12 School Board monthly meetings.

In addition, I also earned a Juris Doctorate from Syracuse University and completed a certificate program in Law, Technology and Management; Interned at the Technology Transfer Center. A scholarship in Law school allowed me to study and earn a certificate for Technology Transfers in China and Hong Kong. After returning and upon graduating I worked as a temporary publication editor with the International Trademark Association and then worked at the Wall Street law firm of Pacheco & Lugo, PLLC.

For 45 years I have experienced everyday life in our community. I was born, raised, educated & served our community during my non-profit days. For the past 12 years I have served the community as Chief of Staff in our 15th Council District. I have been instrumental in redeveloping our community by advocating for improved parks; day care centers; schools; after-school programs; senior programs; housing; health; economic opportunities & public safety issues, which has only been possible by listening & working with the community.

I am currently the Chief of Staff to the Majority Leader of the New York City Council, Council Member Joel Rivera of the 15th District. Together Joel & I have worked on some pretty amazing projects. I still reside in the West Farms Section of the Bronx and am member of the St. Thomas Aquinas Parish.

Some Organizational Affiliations: (Past & Present) Bronx Veteran's Parade Committee; V.P. Latin American Law Students Assoc. & more

Prior Public Experience: Former positions: Pres. of Friends of Crotona Park; General Advisor & Asst. Treasurer for Not In My Neighborhood You Don't Anti-Drug & Violence Campaign; Community Board #6 Executive Committee Chairperson of Parks & Recreation, Member of Law Enforcement Committee; Con Edison Advisory Council; Crotona Neighborhood Improvement Committee & more.