



PRIMARY ELECTION  
VOTE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

# 2016

## CITIZENS UNION VOTERS DIRECTORY

A NONPARTISAN GUIDE TO INFORMED VOTING



VISIT [WWW.CITIZENSUNION.ORG](http://WWW.CITIZENSUNION.ORG)  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION



## **CITIZENS UNION PREFERRED CANDIDATES – 2016 PRIMARY ELECTION**

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### **BRONX**

Senate District 33	Gustavo Rivera (D)
Senate District 36	Jamaal Bailey (D)
Assembly District 87	Luis Sepúlveda (D)

### **BROOKLYN**

Assembly District 44	Robert Carroll (D)
Assembly District 56	Tremaine Wright (D)

### **MANHATTAN**

Senate District 31	Micah Lasher (D)
Assembly District 65	Jenifer Rajkumar (D)
Assembly District 72	Guillermo Linares (D)

### **QUEENS**

Senate District 10	James Sanders, Jr. (D)
Assembly District 33	Nantasha Williams (D)

### **STATEN ISLAND**

Assembly District 62	Janine Materna (R)
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Can't find your polling site? Visit [nyc.pollsitelocator.com](http://nyc.pollsitelocator.com) to enter your address and find your site and ballot information, or call the Board of Elections at 1-866-VOTE-NYC. Visit the website, [www.GothamGazette.com](http://www.GothamGazette.com) or [www.whosontheballot.org](http://www.whosontheballot.org) for complete information about all contests on the ballot.

The Citizens Union Voter Directory Online has all this information and more. Browse the online directory, candidates' questionnaires, and CU position statements at [www.citizensunion.org](http://www.citizensunion.org)

Stay up to date with the latest happenings of the CU team and our work by liking our Facebook Page ([facebook.com/citizensunion](https://www.facebook.com/citizensunion)) and following us on Twitter ([@citizensunionny](https://twitter.com/citizensunionny))



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**ABOUT CITIZENS UNION**

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**MISSION**

Citizens Union (CU) is a nonpartisan good government group dedicated to making democracy work for all New Yorkers. Citizens Union serves as a civic watchdog, combating corruption and fighting for political reform. We work to ensure fair and open elections, honest and efficient government, and a civically-engaged public.

We are New Yorkers from diverse backgrounds and political beliefs, connected to our communities and united in our commitment to put the city’s long-term interest ahead of all special interests. Principled and pragmatic, Citizens Union is an independent force for constructive reform, driving policy and educating the public to achieve accountable government in the City and State of New York.

In keeping with our mission, CU aims to promote a competitive and diverse political culture, a fair and open political process, and accountable and responsible governance.

**2016 MID-YEAR REVIEW**

Over the past year, Citizens Union has made notable progress in making our city and state government more open and accountable, our politics cleaner, and our elections fairer. Highlights of our successful efforts to “Make Democracy Work for All New Yorkers” include:

- **City Elected Official Compensation Reform:** CU pushed for and achieved an end to stipends or lulus; a limit on outside income (the Council went further with a complete ban); make the recommendations of the quadrennial commissions occur during the third, rather than second year of the Council’s four-year term; and requiring public online access of the financial disclosure forms for the city’s elected officials.
- **Lump Sum Appropriations Report:** CU released the fourth iteration of our watershed watchdog report on discretionary state spending, Spending in the Shadows – FY 2017. The report finds the executive state budget contains \$2.4 billion in opaque “lump sum funds” that allow spending decisions to be made after budget bills are passed – behind closed doors, with no scrutiny – a formula ripe for corruption.
- **Policy Recommendation on City Elected Official Nonprofits:** CU has called for nonprofits formed and affiliated with city elected officials to be subject to the jurisdiction of the campaign finance laws with disclosure of activity and contribution limits for those who do business with the city.
- **Police Accountability:** In August, CU released a policy position statement seeking to increase police accountability to the public by calling for: clarity and consistency in police oversight; heightened independent oversight of the NYPD by strengthening the CCRB; and enhancing the NYPD’s internal oversight of officer misconduct.



**ABOUT CITIZENS UNION**

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- Constitutional Convention: CU is gearing up for a state-wide campaign for a YES vote in November, 2017, on whether or not New Yorkers should hold a Constitutional Convention.

## **ABOUT THE VOTERS DIRECTORY**

### **PURPOSE**

This Tuesday, September 13th, New Yorkers will vote in the state primary to select party candidates for State Senate and Assembly.

To help our Citizens Union members prepare to vote in the upcoming primary election, we bring you our 2016 Primary Election Voters Directory. The Voters Directory provides:

- An overview of the 2016 elections, including voting and registration information and listings of every contest for all races that will be on the ballot in New York City on September 13th, 2016.
- A roster of Citizens Union's preferred candidates in several key districts, and information about the rigorous evaluation process and assessments of candidates.

We caution voters that there may be last minute elimination or reinstatement of candidates on the ballot, so the list contained in this directory may have changed since this document was printed.

Please also note that this directory does not contain candidates for Delegate to the Judicial Convention, district leaders, or committee positions. To obtain this information, visit the NYC Board of Elections website at <http://vote.nyc.ny.us> or call (866)VOTE-NYC.

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

This Voters Directory would not be possible without the hard work of members of the Citizens Union Board of Directors, Local Candidates Committee (LCC), staff and our summer interns.

42 Volunteer LCC members, 7 interns, and 6 staff members formed nonpartisan interview teams and evaluated 35 candidates in 15 races for State Senate and Assembly races. We also secured the answers to our questionnaire from many more candidates. We thank them for contributing their time, energy, expertise and commitment this summer to interviewing and evaluating candidates.

We thank you for your support, and hope you enjoy the latest edition of the Voters Directory.



## PRIMARY ELECTION SNAPSHOT

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Please note that this section lists races in which party primary elections will take place on September 13th, and does not include elections where candidates are unopposed for their party nomination.

In the 2016 primary elections for State Legislature, while several Democratic races and one Republican race are competitive, a majority of New York City's 91 State Senate and Assembly seats are held by incumbents who are running uncontested.

The borough primary ballots also list candidates running for Civil Court Judge (in Brooklyn and Manhattan) and candidates for City Council (in the Bronx). Not included in this section are: districts where candidates are unopposed for their party nominations, and races for Delegates to the Judicial Convention, party district leader, or committee positions.

^ denotes that the candidate submitted the Citizens Union questionnaire, which can be found on page X.

**Bold denotes that the candidate is preferred by Citizens Union.**

To obtain that information, visit the NYC Board of Elections website at <http://vote.nyc.ny.us> or call (866) VOTE-NYC.

For information about the races in which incumbents face no primary opposition, please turn to page 10.



PRIMARY ELECTION SNAPSHOT  
**THE BRONX BALLOT**

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Please turn to page 26 for Citizens Union’s evaluations of primary candidates in the Bronx.

NEW YORK STATE SENATE  
Democratic Primaries

*District 32* Ruben Diaz, Sr. (Incumbent)  
Jason McNeil  
Elliot Quinones

*District 33* Fernando Cabrera^  
**Gustavo Rivera^** (Incumbent)

*District 36* **Jamaal Bailey^**  
Que English^  
Pamela Hamilton-Johnson^  
Edward Mulraine^

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY  
Democratic Primaries

*District 78* Ischia Bravo  
Jose Rivera (Incumbent)

*District 85* Marcos A. Crespo (Incumbent)  
William Moore

*District 80* Irene Estrada  
Mark Gjonaj (Incumbent)

*District 86* Victor Pichardo^ (Incumbent)  
Hector Ramirez

*District 84* Carmen Arroyo (Incumbent)  
Carmen Muniz  
Jackson Strong^

*District 87* **Luis Sepúlveda^** (Incumbent)  
Pamela Stewart-Martinez^

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL  
Democratic Primary

*District 17* Helen Hines  
Rafael Salamanca (Incumbent)







PRIMARY ELECTION SNAPSHOT  
THE MANHATTAN BALLOT

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Please turn to page 34 for Citizens Union’s evaluations of primary candidates in Manhattan.

NEW YORK STATE SENATE  
Democratic Primaries

<i>District 30</i>	Brian Benjamin Bill Perkins^ (Incumbent) Raphael Pierre	<i>District 31</i>	Marisol Alcantara^ Robert Jackson^ <b>Micah Lasher^</b> Luis Tejada^
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NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY  
Democratic Primaries

<i>District 65</i>	Alice Cancel^ (Incumbent) Don Lee^ Gigi Li^ Paul Newell^ Yuh-Line Niou^ <b>Jenifer Rajkumar^</b>	<i>District 68</i>	Tamika Mapp^ Robert J. Rodriguez^ (Incumbent)
<i>District 67</i>	Eugene Byrne Linda B. Rosenthal (Incumbent)	<i>District 69</i>	Steven M. Appel^ Daniel J. O’Donnel (Incumbent)
		<i>District 72</i>	Carmen De La Rosa^ George Fernandez^ <b>Guillermo Linares^</b> (Incumbent)

JUDGE OF THE CIVIL COURT – DISTRICT  
Democratic Primary

<i>6th Municipal Court District</i>	Susan F. Avery Sabrina B. Kraus
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PRIMARY ELECTION SNAPSHOT  
**THE QUEENS BALLOT**

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Please turn to page 40 for Citizens Union’s evaluations of primary candidates in Queens.

NEW YORK STATE SENATE  
Democratic Primaries

- District 10*    Adrienne Adams^  
                  **James Sanders, Jr.^** (Incumbent)
- District 13*    Jesus Gonzalez  
                  Jose Peralta^ (Incumbent)
- District 16*    S.J. Jung^  
                  Toby Ann Stavisky^ (Incumbent)

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY  
Democratic Primaries

- District 29*    Lorraine Gittens-Bridges  
                  Linda Guillebeaux  
                  Alicia Hyndman (Incumbent)
- District 30*    Brian Barnwell^  
                  Margaret Markey (Incumbent)  
                  David Rosasco
- District 31*    Nigel Loncke  
                  Michele Titus (Incumbent)
- District 32*    Vivian E. Cook (Incumbent)  
                  Rodney Reid^
- District 33*    Bryan J. Block  
                  Sabine French  
                  Leroy Gadsen  
                  Roy Paul^  
                  Clyde Vanel^  
                  **Nantasha Williams^**



PRIMARY ELECTION SNAPSHOT  
**THE STATEN ISLAND BALLOT**

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Please turn to page 42 for Citizens Union's evaluations of primary candidates in Staten Island.

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY  
Democratic Primaries

*District 62* Ron Castorina, Jr.^ (Incumbent)  
**Janine Materna^**



PRIMARY ELECTION SNAPSHOT  
**NO CONTEST: THE INCUMBENT INDEX**

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Below is a list of incumbents who are uncontested in the 2016 Primary Election.

Of the 91 seats in the NYS Legislature (the State Senate and Assembly combined) representing New York City residents:

- 51 incumbents are uncontested in the primaries. That means that 56% of all of NYC’s seats in the State Legislature are held by incumbents who do not face any competition in their parties.
- In the State Senate, 14 of NYC’s 26 seats – or 54% - are held by incumbents who are running for re-election without primary challengers.
- In the Assembly, 37 of NYC’s 64 seats – or 58% - are held by incumbents who are running for re-election without primary challengers.

**BRONX – UNCONTESTED**

Assembly District 77	Latoya Joyner (D)
Assembly District 79	Michael Blake (D)
Assembly District 81	Jeffrey Dinowitz (D)
Assembly District 82	Michael Benedetto (D)
Assembly District 83	Carl E. Heastie (D)

**BROOKLYN – UNCONTESTED**

Senate District 17	Simcha Felder (D)
Senate District 20	Jesse Hamilton (D)
Senate District 21	Kevin S. Parker (D)
Senate District 22	Martin J. Golden (R)
Senate District 26	Daniel Squadron (D)
Assembly District 41	Helene E. Weinstein (D)
Assembly District 47	William Colton (D)
Assembly District 48	Dov Hikind (D)
Assembly District 49	Peter J. Abbate (D)
Assembly District 50	Joseph R. Lentol (D)
Assembly District 51	Felix W. Ortiz (D)
Assembly District 52	Jo Anne Simon (D)
Assembly District 57	Walter T Mosley (D)
Assembly District 58	N. Nick Perry (D)
Assembly District 59	Jaime Williams (D)
Assembly District 60	Charles Barron (D)



PRIMARY ELECTION SNAPSHOT  
**NO CONTEST: THE INCUMBENT INDEX**

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**MANHATTAN – UNCONTESTED**

SSenate District 27	Brad Hoylman (D)
Senate District 28	Liz Krueger (D)
Senate District 29	Jose M. Serrano (D)
Assembly District 66	Deborah J. Glick (D)
Assembly District 71	Herman D. Farrell (D)
Assembly District 73	Dan Quart (D)
Assembly District 74	Brian Kavanagh (D)
Assembly District 75	Richard Gottfried (D)
Assembly District 76	Rebecca Seawright (D)

**QUEENS – UNCONTESTED**

Senate District 11	Tony Avella (D)
Senate District 12	Michael Gianaris (D)
Senate District 14	Leroy Comrie (D)
Senate District 15	Joe Addabbo
Assembly District 24	David I. Weprin (D)
Assembly District 25	Nily Rozic (D)
Assembly District 26	Edward C. Braunstein (D)
Assembly District 27	Michael Simanowitz (D)
Assembly District 28	Andrew Hevesi
Assembly District 34	Michael G. DenDekker (D)
Assembly District 35	Jeffrion L. Aubry (D)
Assembly District 36	Aravella Simotas (D)
Assembly District 37	Catherine Nolan (D)
Assembly District 38	Michael Miller (D)
Assembly District 39	Francisco P. Moya (D)
Assembly District 40	Ron Kim (D)

**STATEN ISLAND – UNCONTESTED**

Senate District 23	Diane J. Savino (D)
Senate District 24	Andrew Lanza (R)
Assembly District 61	Matthew Titone (D)
Assembly District 63	Michael Cusick (D)
Assembly District 64	Nicole Malliotakis (D)



## PRIMARY ELECTION SNAPSHOT REPORT ON SPECIAL ELECTIONS AND OPEN SEATS

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New York State suffers from having a high number of legislative seats filled through special election. A special election is an election that is held at an irregular time for that particular office, in order to fill a vacancy caused by the unexpected departure of the current office holder. Candidates for the vacant legislative seat are first chosen by the leadership of their respective political parties in a committee meeting, rather than by the voters registered in that political party during a primary election. The winners of almost all special election contests are determined prior to the special election because the legislative districts are drawn to favor one major political party over another. Due to these partisan dynamics in the drawing of state legislative districts, this means that in almost all special elections, the candidate chosen by the leaders of the dominant party always wins, rendering useless the ballots of the voters since they are simply approving the predetermined candidate choices. The result is that voters do not have a meaningful say in who represents them in the State Legislature until they stand for re-election as incumbents. Special elections are not really elections but coronations.

In New York City, 22 out of 65 NYS Assembly seats are held by incumbents who were first elected to office in special elections, amounting to 34%. Of the State Senate seats in New York City, 3 out of 26 seats, or about 12%, are held by incumbents first elected in special elections. Keeping in mind that incumbency is the strongest factor in a New York City elected official's election to office, this means that 28% of New York City's state lawmakers were first elected in a special election where they were chosen first by the party leaders and not by the party's primary voters.



PRIMARY ELECTION SNAPSHOT  
**OPEN AND VACANT SEATS IN NEW YORK CITY**

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In this primary election cycle in New York City, there are 5 open seats in which incumbents are not seeking re-election. There are an additional 2 seats that are vacant with no official currently representing the district. Without incumbents running for re-election, these seats have the potential to be far more competitive in the primary. However, sometimes they are not, as in the case of Assembly District 70, where the Democratic incumbent who has represented the district for 24 years is not standing for re-election. In that race, there is only one candidate running from each party. Astonishingly, there is no Democratic party contest for a seat that has been a Democratic stronghold, so the party nominee chosen by the party leaders will win facing only token opposition in the general election.

**BRONX**

*Senate District 36*          Vacant

**BROOKLYN**

*Assembly District 44*          Currently held by James Brennan (D)  
*Assembly District 56*          Currently held by Annette Robinson (D)

**MANHATTAN**

*Senate District 31*          Currently held by Adriano Espaillat (D)  
*Assembly District 70*          Currently held by Keith L.T. Wright (D)

**QUEENS**

*Assembly District 23*          Currently held by Phillip Goldfeder (D)  
*Assembly District 33*          Vacant



PRIMARY ELECTION SNAPSHOT  
**SALARIES AND TERMS OF ELECTED OFFICIALS**

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**STATE SENATOR**

*Salary:* \$79,500 + per diem + stipends ranging from \$0 to \$41,500.

*Term:* 2 years, no term limit.

**ASSEMBLY MEMBER**

*Salary:* \$79,500 + per diem + stipends ranging from \$0 to \$41,500.

*Term:* 2 years, no term limit.

**CIVIL COURT JUDGE**

*Salary:* \$179,500.

*Term:* 14 years, no term limit, mandatory retirement age of 70.

**NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL**

*Salary:* \$148,500 (increased from \$112,500 this year).

*Term:* 4 years, 2 term limit.





CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS  
**EVALUATION PRINCIPLES AND PROCESS**

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In this packed election cycle, Citizens Union has evaluated 15 races and 35 candidates for office in the State Legislature, to determine who strongly supports our issues, can advance a reform agenda, and best represent their district.

Interview teams of the Local Candidates Committee volunteers assess the candidates based on their responses to the following: CU's questionnaire (a pre-requisite for interviews), our own research, first-hand knowledge of the candidates, and interviews with the candidates, which are approximately 30 minutes each. The volunteer CU member interview teams then make advisory recommendations to the full Local Candidates Committee, which deliberates and makes recommendations to the Citizens Union Board, which makes the final decision.

A "Preferred" rating reflects a candidate that Citizens Union deems not only qualified for the office with a viable candidacy, but also committed to an agenda of positive reform. Please note that candidates not preferred may nevertheless be highly regarded, which is generally reflected in the commentary. Citizens Union issues a "Preferred" rating during the Primary Election, and an "Endorsed" rating applies only to General Election contests. A "No Preference" rating may result when there is insufficient information available, it is believed that the candidates are of equal merit, or if no candidate interviewed by Citizens Union is believed to be effective or capable of representing the district.

### **OUR CRITERIA**

The following guidelines are used by the Local Candidates Committee and Citizens Union Board of Directors in the evaluation of candidates:

- Support for Citizens Union's reform agenda shall be the primary criteria used in deciding its support for a candidate.
- Evidence of ability to wage an effective and competitive campaign shall be considered, but not be determinative.
- Ability to advance CU's goals, if elected, shall be considered, but not determinative. Incumbents will be held accountable for their record of reform in office and shall be judged accordingly on the basis of their demonstrated support for CU's issues.
- State, local, or community issues specific to the race's jurisdiction shall be considered as will candidates' ability to grasp these issues and propose thoughtful solutions to represent their constituents' interests.
- Evaluation of the candidates and the decision to support a particular candidate shall be made without regard to political party and in a nonpartisan manner.



## CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016 QUESTIONNAIRE: LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES

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Below each question, please find a tabulation of answers from all 78 primary candidates who responded to the questionnaire – and not only from those candidates whom CU interviewed.

### ETHICS

1. Limit outside income earned by state legislators up to 25 percent, while enacting a salary increase and eliminating stipends.  
*Support:62 Conditional Support:2 Undecided or No Answer:6 Oppose:8*
2. Reform the Joint Commission on Public Ethics, giving it greater jurisdiction over investigations and hearings, reforming its voting procedures, and increasing disclosure of its decision-making.  
*Support:78 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:0 Oppose:0*
3. Empower the attorney general to investigate and prosecute cases involving public corruption, including serious election law malfeasance.  
*Support:76 Conditional Support:1 Undecided or No Answer:0 Oppose:1*
4. Amend the state constitution to extend pension forfeiture, subject to due process safeguards, to public officers and elected officials who have been convicted of felonies.  
*Support:73 Conditional Support:1 Undecided or No Answer:0 Oppose:4*

### ELECTIONS AND VOTING

5. Amend the constitution to allow for same-day voter registration on Election Day.  
*Support:68 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:0 Oppose:9*
6. Institute automatic, electronic voter registration, in which an individual's voter information is provided electronically to the Board of Elections unless they opt out, and address information is updated automatically.  
*Support:72 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:3 Oppose:2*
7. Remove barriers to voter participation by allowing for no-excuse absentee voting and for voters to cast their votes at more convenient times over a period of several days, otherwise known as early voting  
*Support:72 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:0 Oppose:6*
8. Grant New Yorkers on parole the ability to vote automatically, without the need to obtain a Certificate of Good Conduct or Relief.  
*Support:69 Conditional Support:1 Undecided or No Answer:1 Oppose:7*
9. Consolidate the state and federal primary to the third week in June, while ensuring that the legislative session ends at least two weeks prior.  
*Support:60 Conditional Support:2 Undecided or No Answer:3 Oppose:13*
10. Institute Instant Runoff Voting (IRV) for primary elections in citywide election in New York City, effectively eliminating the need for a separate runoff election.  
*Support:67 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:7 Oppose:4*



## CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016 QUESTIONNAIRE: LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES

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11. Reform the special election process, utilizing a nonpartisan special election for state legislative seats, eliminating delays for filling vacancies, and increasing voter choice.  
*Support:71 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:4 Oppose:3*
12. Allow primary winners to decline party nominations, ending use of judicial appointments to lure candidates off the ballot.  
*Support:68 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:7 Oppose:3*
13. Restructure the state Board of Elections and change election administration by amending the constitution to abolish the strict two-party division of governance and operation and putting in place professional, nonpartisan administration.  
*Support:66 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:7 Oppose:5*

### **CAMPAIGN FINANCE**

14. Establish matching public financing system for state legislative and statewide races similar to the New York City model, and lower campaign contribution limits for legislative and statewide candidates for public office.  
*Support:70 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:1 Oppose:7*
15. Close the LLC loophole to ensure that limited liability companies have the same contribution limits as other corporations, rather than the higher limit for individuals.  
*Support:72 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:5 Oppose:1*
16. Close “soft money” loopholes such as: limiting transfers from party committees to candidates or other committees to twice the limit set on individual contributors; and limiting contributions to party committees, including housekeeping accounts, to the same ceiling placed on candidates.  
*Support:73 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:2 Oppose:3*
17. Restrict campaign contributions from registered lobbyists, placement agents, and those who do business with the state.  
*Support:75 Conditional Support:75 Undecided or No Answer:0 Oppose:2*
18. Improve disclosure of independent expenditures such as requiring disclosure of electioneering activities.  
*Support:76 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:1 Oppose:1*
19. Require candidates to include the full name, home address, and employer/business name for each contribution and bundler.  
*Support:73 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:2 Oppose:3*
20. Require that two periodic campaign finance reports be filed during the legislative session to reflect contributions given during the session.  
*Support:71 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:2 Oppose:5*

### **LEGISLATIVE RULES AND PROCEDURES**

21. Reorganize the committee system to encourage greater and use conference committees, particularly during the budget process, and improve public disclosure of committee proceedings via webcasting all legislative proceedings for both



## CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016 QUESTIONNAIRE: LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES

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houses of the legislature, including committee meetings, hearings and session proceedings.

*Support:77 Conditional Support:1 Undecided or No Answer:0 Oppose:0*

22. Enact legislative rules reform to strengthen rank-and-file members' roles in the legislative process, create more equity between members, and establish equitable distribution of funds to legislators for staffing and resources regardless of party affiliation, and increase opportunities for public testimony at legislative committee proceedings.

*Support:78 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:0 Oppose:0*

### **BUDGET PROCESS**

23. Require state use of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles rather than cash accounting.

*Support:71 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:6 Oppose:1*

24. Provide for adequate disclosure and itemization of elected officials' lump sum appropriations and member items to eliminate vague placeholders in budget legislation, report on their usage, address conflicts of interest, and report all spending online.

*Support:75 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:2 Oppose:1*

25. Establish an independent nonpartisan budget office to provide revenue projections, display economic and policy analysis and require that the state engage in long term, multi-year budget planning.

*Support:76 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:2 Oppose:0*

26. What is your position on requiring the governor's budget submission to present the full scope of the state's financial obligations, including its public authorities?

*Support:75 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:3 Oppose:0*

27. Limit governor's ability to change policy via appropriation bills, by requiring that such bills be consistent with existing law or proposed changes in separate legislation.

*Support:76 Conditional Support:1 Undecided or No Answer:1 Oppose:*

28. Establish a later start date for the fiscal year.

*Support:53 Conditional Support:1 Undecided or No Answer:13 Oppose:11*

29. Incorporate performance budgeting with outcome measurement, to promote the more rational appropriation of state funds

*Support:76 Conditional Support:1 Undecided or No Answer:1 Oppose:0*

### **JUDICIARY**

30. Ensure that proposals to increase the retirement age of judges include all of the state's trial court judges.

*Support:65 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:7 Oppose:6*

31. Simplify the state's court system by consolidating the nine trial courts into a two-tiered system.

*Support:55 Conditional Support:1 Undecided or No Answer:16 Oppose:6*



CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
QUESTIONNAIRE: LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES

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32. Create a merit appointment system for all state judges.  
*Support:65 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:5 Oppose:8*

**MUNICIPAL HOME RULE**

33. Make mayoral control of city schools permanent, with a governance system that provides for accountability, transparency, parent engagement, and democratic participation.  
*Support:51 Conditional Support:2 Undecided or No Answer:8 Oppose:17*
34. Amend the Municipal Home Rule Law to limit the ability of a mayor-appointed charter revision commission to “bump” other local charter amendments from appearing on the ballot.  
*Support:68 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:5 Oppose:5*

**CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION**

35. Vote “yes” on the 2017 ballot question: whether to hold a state constitutional convention.  
*Support:40 Conditional Support:2 Undecided or No Answer:10 Oppose :26*
36. Eliminate “double dipping” by requiring state legislators to vacate their seats if elected as delegates and limit accruing of pensions for all government officials.  
*Support:61 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:9 Oppose:8*
37. Improve delegate elections by simplifying voting for delegates by allowing voters to cast one vote for district delegates and eliminating slate voting for at-large delegates, and by reducing barriers for delegate candidates by lowering petition signature requirements and provide public financing.  
*Support:66 Conditional Support:1 Undecided or No Answer:7 Oppose:4*

**ADDITIONAL STATE GOVERNMENT ISSUES**

38. Reform the governance structure of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to have the Executive Director appointed directly by the Board of Commissioners, rotate the position of Chair of the Board between representatives of NY and NJ, place tighter rules on the Board, and extend the open meetings law to the Port Authority.  
*Support:75 Conditional Support:1 Undecided or No Answer:1 Oppose:1*
39. Ensure continued posting of data on NYS open data portal, and improve transparency of lobbying, campaign finance, and budget.  
*Support:78 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:0 Oppose:0*
40. Enact legislation that expands upon the Governor’s Executive Order on faster appeals for Freedom of Information Law requests for all government bodies and allows for greater judicial consideration of payment of attorneys’ fees.  
*Support:75 Conditional Support:0 Undecided or No Answer:2 Oppose:1*



## CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016 QUESTIONNAIRE QUICKSTATES

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**11 out of 78 candidates support or conditionally support the entire agenda.**

**The average candidate supports 89% of the reform positions listed in the questionnaire.**

**22 out of 78 candidates do not oppose any of our reforms.**

### ON ELECTION REFORM



- 39 candidates (50%) support all election reform measures
- The average candidate supports 8 (87%) of our election reform measures

### ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM



- 63 candidates (81%) support all campaign finance reform measures
- The average candidate supports 7 (93%) of our election reform measures



### ON JUDICIAL REFORM

- 47 candidates (60%) support all three judicial reform measures



### ON ETHICS REFORM

- 62 candidates (79%) support all four ethics reform measures
- There was unanimous support for reforming the Joint Commission on Public Ethics, giving it greater jurisdiction over investigations and hearings, reforming its voting procedures, and increasing disclosure of its decision-making.

### ON BUDGET REFORM



- 50 candidates (64%) support all budget reform measures
- The average candidate supports 6.5 (93%) of budget reform measures



## CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016 CITIZENS UNION PREFERRED CANDIDATES

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### BRONX

*Senate District 33* Gustavo Rivera (D)

*Senate District 36* Jamaal Bailey (D)

*Assembly District 87* Luis Sepúlveda (D)

### BROOKLYN

*Assembly District 44* Robert Carroll (D)

*Assembly District 56* Tremaine Wright (D)

### MANHATTAN

*Senate District 31* Micah Lasher (D)

*Assembly District 65* Jenifer Rajkumar (D)

*Assembly District 72* Guillermo Linares (D)

### QUEENS

*Senate District 10* James Sanders, Jr. (D)

*Assembly District 33* Nantasha Williams (D)

### STATEN ISLAND

*Assembly District 62* Janine Materna (R)

Can't find your polling site? Visit [nyc.pollsitelocator.com](http://nyc.pollsitelocator.com) to enter your address and find your site and ballot information, or call the Board of Elections at **1-866-VOTE-NYC**. Visit the website, [www.GothamGazette.com](http://www.GothamGazette.com) or [www.whosontheballot.org](http://www.whosontheballot.org) for complete information about all contests on the ballot.

The Citizens Union Voter Directory Online has all this information and more. Browse the online directory, candidates' questionnaires, and CU position statements at [www.citizensunion.org](http://www.citizensunion.org).

Stay up to date with the latest happenings of the CU team and our work by liking our Facebook Page ([facebook.com/citizensunion](https://www.facebook.com/citizensunion)) and following us on Twitter ([@citizensunionny](https://twitter.com/citizensunionny)).

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016**  
**QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES**

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**CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016**  
**QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES**

		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34	Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40			
<b>BRONX</b>																																												
S33/Rivera	D, WF	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O*	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	O	S	S	S	S	S		
S33/Cabrera	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
S34/Klein	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S		
S34/Lundgren	G	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	O	S	S	S	S	O	S	S			
S36/English	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S*	S	S	S	S	S		
S36/Mulrairie	D	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S			
S36/Bailey	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
S36/Hamilton-Johnson	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A79/Evans	C	S	S	S	S	O	S	O	O	S	S	S	S	S	O	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	O	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A80/Goodman	C	O	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S		
A81/Reed	C	S	S	S	S	O	O	S	S	O	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O		
A84/Strong	D	S	S	S*	S	S	S	S	S	S*	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S*	S	S		
A86/Pichardo	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	N/A	S	O	S*	S	O	O	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A87/Sepúlveda	D	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S		
A87/Stewart-Martinez	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	N/A	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	N/A	S	S	N/A	O	S	N/A	N/A	N/A	S	S	N/A	N/A	S*	S	S	S	S	S		
<b>BROOKLYN</b>																																												
S18/Medina	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
S19/Narcisse	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
S21/Parker	D, WF	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	N/A	N/A	S	S	S	S	S		
S21/Kelly	C, R	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A42/Jordan	D	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	O	S	S	O	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A42/Bichotte	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	O*	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S*	S	S	S	O	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S		
A44/Carrroll	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S		
A44/Odendhal	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	O	O	O	O	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A44/Curry-Smithson	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S*	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	N/A	N/A	N/A	O*	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
A45/Cymbrowitz	R, C	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
A46/Cucco	D, WF	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
A46/Dwyer	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	
A46/Harris	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	
A47/Colton	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S*	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
A51/Ortiz	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
A52/Simon	D	O	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	N/A	N/A	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	N/A	N/A	S	S	S	N/A	N/A	S	N/A	S	N/A	S	N/A	S	O	N/A	N/A	S	S	N/A	S	S	
A56/Wright	D	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	N/A	O	S	N/A	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	O	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
A57/Mosley	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
<b>MANHATTAN</b>																																												
S27/Hoylman	D, WF	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
S27/Roberts	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	N/A	S	N/A	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
S28/Krueger	D, WF	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
S30/Perkins	D, WF	S	S	S	S*	S	S	S	S	N/A	N/A	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	N/A	O	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
S31/Lasher	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	

**KEY:** Citizens Union preferred candidates in bold. ^ Incumbent legislator S = Support

O = Oppose N/A = No answer or undecided \* = Nuanced answer



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**CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016**  
**QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES**

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**CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016**  
**QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES**

		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34	Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40					
S31/Jackson	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S				
S31/Willebrand	G	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S			
S31/Tejada	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S			
S31/Alcantara	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S			
A65/Cancel	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S			
A65/Newell	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S			
A65/Lee	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S			
A65/Li	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A65/Niou	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A65/Rajkumar	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A65/ B. Jung	R	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	O	O	S	O	S	S	S	O	O	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	N/A	S	S	N/A	
68/Rodriguez	D	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	O	N/A	S	S	S	S	N/A	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A68/Mapp	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	N/A	S	N/A	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A69/Appel	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
A70/Dickins	D	O	S	O	O	O	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	O	O	O	O	O	S	S	N/A	O	S*	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	N/A	S	S	N/A	O	N/A	S	N/A	O	O	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A72/Linares	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A72/De La Rosa	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A72/Fernandez	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A73/Quart	D, WF	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A73/Butterfield	G	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
A74/Hutchins	G	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O*	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	N/A	N/A	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
A75/Maffia	R, RF	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S		
<b>QUEENS</b>																																														
S10/Adams	D, WE	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
S10/Sanders Jr.	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
S11/Avella	D,	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	O	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	N/A	S	O	S	S	N/A	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	
S13/Peralta	D, WF	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S*	S	S*	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
S14/Freeman	R	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	O	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	O	O	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
S15/Addabbo	D	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
S16/Stavisky	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
S16/S.J. Jung	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
S16/Giron	R	O	S	S	S	O	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
A25/Rozic	D	S*	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	
A30/Barnwell	D	S*	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	N/A	N/A	S	N/A	N/A	S	N/A	N/A	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
A32/Reid	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	N/A	N/A	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
A33/Paul	D	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	O	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	N/A	S	S	S	O	S	S	N/A	S	S	N/A	O	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
A33/Williams	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	N/A	N/A	O	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
A33/Vanel	D	N/A	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	N/A	N/A	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	N/A	N/A	S	S	N/A	S	S	S	S	S	S	
<b>STATEN ISLAND</b>																																														
SD 23/ Savino	D	O	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
A62/ Castorina	R	O	S	S	S	O	O	O	O	O	S	O	S	O	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
A 62/ Materna	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N/A	S	S	O	S	O	O	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S

**KEY: Citizens Union preferred candidates in bold.** ^ Incumbent legislator S = Support O = Oppose N/A = No answer or undecided \* = Nuanced answer



CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
BRONX EVALUATIONS

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**NYS SENATE DISTRICT 33**  
**Democratic Primary**

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE - GUSTAVO RIVERA – DEM ★

*Has returned questionnaire, responses on p. 22*

*Age: 40 Occupation: NYS Senate*

*Education: University of Puerto Rico, B.A.; CUNY Graduate Center,  
Ph.D in Political Science (in progress)*

Gustavo Rivera was elected to the State Senate in 2010, and is currently seeking a fourth term. His top democratic reform priorities include creating a state-level system of public financing for elections, closing the LLC loophole, and codifying the Attorney General's power to investigate and prosecute police misconduct. His other legislative reform priorities are to pass the DREAM Act and GENDA. Rivera expressed support for most of Citizens Union's reform goals, however, he opposes holding a Constitutional Convention because of the impact it could have on labor unions. He also opposes a nonpartisan primary election system, but admits that he dislikes the current system as well. In his tenure in the State Senate, Rivera has demonstrated his commitment to reform when he co-sponsored legislation to make elections publicly financed. He has also worked to raise the minimum wage and for workforce and economic development. Citizens Union appreciates Rivera's commitment to key reform issues and his demonstrated ability to be an effective legislator, and therefore prefers him in this race as we have previously been proud to do so.

**FERNANDO CABRERA – DEM**

*Has returned questionnaire – responses on p. 22*

*Age: 52 Occupation: NYC City Council*

*Education: Southern California College, B.A.; Liberty College, M.A.; Argosy University, Ph.D.  
Candidate declined an interview*

**NYS SENATE DISTRICT 36**  
**Democratic Primary**

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE – JAMAAL BAILEY-- DEM ★

*Has returned questionnaire, responses on p. 22*

*Age: 33, Occupation: Community Relations Director for Assembly Speaker Heastie*

*Education: SUNY Albany, B.A.; CUNY School of Law, JD*

Jamaal Bailey is the current Democratic District Leader for AD 87, and serves as Community Relations Director to Speaker of the Assembly Carl Heastie. He is running for office because he has a vested interest in his community and because he believes his experience in government will allow him to be an effective legislator. His top priorities are criminal justice reform, youth services, senior services, and supporting working co-operatives in the district. On reform issues, Bailey supports pension forfeiture for elected public officials, closing the LLC loophole and limiting outside income, though he does not necessarily



CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
**BRONX EVALUATIONS (CONTINUED)**

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support implementing a blanket cap at 25%. He does not support holding a Constitutional Convention because he fears that it might jeopardize labor protections. Bailey is endorsed by a number of state and city leaders, unions, and Democratic clubs. Citizens Union prefers Bailey because of his government experience, knowledge of legislative process and keen understanding of state government issues, and support for Citizens Union's platform.

**QUE ENGLISH -- DEM**

*Has returned questionnaire, responses on p. 22*

*Age: 52, Occupation: Senior Pastor, Bronx Christian Fellowship and President, Bronx Clergy Criminal Justice Roundtable*

*Education: New York Theological Seminary, MDiv*

Rev. Que English is the Senior Pastor of the Bronx Christian Fellowship, and has a long record of community activism. She chairs the New York City Faith-Based Coalition Against Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence, and is the co-founder of the New York City Clergy Roundtable and the Bronx Clergy Roundtable. She is running for office to bring much needed reform to state government. Her top legislative priorities are job creation, participatory budgeting, criminal justice reform, and increased funding for public schools. Her top reform priorities include closing the LLC loophole and limiting independent expenditure committees. At this time, English neither supports nor opposes a Constitutional Convention, and she told CU that while she fears it may result in lost worker protections and unforeseen consequences, she is open to considering the possibility of supporting a Convention. Citizens Union has concerns about the viability of English's campaign, but greatly values her active involvement in her community and commitment to reform.

**PAMELA HAMILTON-JOHNSON -- DEM**

*Has returned questionnaire, responses on p. 22*

*Age: 51, Occupation: Executive Director at Urban Neighborhood & Executive Director at Eastchester heights Community Center*

*Education: Pace University, B.S.*

Pamela Hamilton-Johnson is the founder and Executive Director of Urban Neighborhood, a community and technology center, and serves on the local school board. She is running because she feels that her experience and commitment to the community will help her be an effective legislator. Hamilton-Johnson's top legislative priorities are education, better funding for and access to technology education, and more parental involvement in the school system. Her top reform goals are campaign finance reform, pension forfeiture, and limiting outside income. On her questionnaire, she only expressed opposition to one reform goal – consolidating state and federal primaries. She did not take a position on several issues, including holding a Constitutional Convention. Citizens Union feels that Hamilton-Johnson has not established a viable campaign, but values her contributions to her community and her commitment to public service.



CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
BRONX EVALUATIONS (CONTINUED)

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EDWARD MULRAINE -- DEM

*Has returned questionnaire, responses on p. 22*

*Age: 47, Occupation: pastor at Unity Baptist Tabernacle*

*Education: Manhattanville College, B.A.; New York Theological Seminary, MDiv*

Rev. Edward Mulraine is a pastor at Unity Baptist Tabernacle, and has previously served as President of the Williamsbridge NAACP and as a member of his community school board. Mulraine's top priorities are urban development and job creation, infrastructural improvements, affordable housing, and voter participation. On reform issues, his top priority is increased transparency of outside income, but he did not say whether he supports the cap proposed by Citizens Union. Mulraine also supports closing the LLC loophole and enacting campaign finance reform. He did not take a definitive position on the Constitutional Convention, indicating his concern about losing workers' rights and minority rights, but acknowledged that it presents an opportunity to strengthen government ethics and public benefits. He expressed opposition to a number of Citizens Union's goals, including nonpartisanship in special elections and in the state Board of Elections, as well as mayoral control of city schools. Citizens Union does not prefer Mulraine in this election because of his disagreements on several issues, but respects his work as a community advocate and spiritual leader.

DR. ALVIN PONDER – DEM

*Has not returned questionnaire*

*Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview*

**NYS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 84**  
**Democartic Primary**  
**No Preference**

CARMEN ARROYO – DEM

*Has not returned questionnaire*

*Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview*

CARMEN MUNIZ – DEM

*Has not returned questionnaire*

*Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview*

JACKSON STRONG -- DEM

*Has returned questionnaire, responses on p. 22*

*Age: 29, Occupation: Vice President of Operations, Titan Realty Partners*

*Education: City College & New York City College of Technology*

Jackson Strong is the vice-president and co-founder of Titan Realty Partners and has served on Bronx Community Board 4 for six years. His main legislative priorities include education



CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
BRONX EVALUATIONS (CONTINUED)

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reform, improving police-community relations, creating sustainable housing, and reforming the MTA. He expressed strong distaste for corruption in Albany, and indicated his support for every item of Citizens Union's reform agenda. He also wants to make it easier for challengers to get on the ballot by reducing the number of signatures necessary to secure a spot. Citizens Union appreciates Strong's enthusiastic support for reform, but feels that he has not established a viable campaign operation. However, Citizens Union believes that Strong is an asset to his community and hopes that he continues to pursue reform and community engagement.

**NYS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 87**  
**Democratic Primary**

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE – LUIS SEPÚLVEDA -- DEM ★

*Has returned questionnaire, responses on p. 22*

*Age: 52, Occupation: NYS Assembly & Attorney*

*Education: Hofstra University, BA; Hofstra's Maurice A. Deane School of Law, JD*

Luis Sepúlveda was elected to the State Assembly in 2012, and is currently seeking a third term. Sepúlveda's top priorities are to increase supportive and affordable housing, criminal justice reform, to bring back the New York State Lottery Scholarship, and to fight inequality in city-wide infrastructural assessments. Sepúlveda expressed support for many of Citizens Union good government positions. However, he opposes income caps for state legislators, believing that they are part-time legislators and should be allowed to continue to earn outside income. He strongly stated his desire to move money out of politics and thinks that legislation has not gone far enough to counter the issue. He would also like to see term limits for the Assembly Speaker and community chair. Sepúlveda is supportive of a Constitutional Convention, but believes it is unlikely to occur as there is not enough financial backing or support from political leaders. If there is a Constitutional Convention, he believes legislators shouldn't run as delegates, but if they are already elected they should be allowed to remain in this position. Sepúlveda does not support nonpartisan primaries, but does believe they should be heavily simplified. He is a member of the Assembly reform caucus and was an instrumental figure in pushing the issue when former Assembly Speaker Sheldon was indicted and pushed for Silver's removal from his post. He nevertheless demonstrated his willingness and ability to push for reform, even when it necessitates challenging the party establishment. Citizens Union prefers Sepúlveda in this race because of his demonstrated effectiveness as an independent voice and legislator and his support for much of Citizens Union's reform agenda.

**PAMELA STEWART-MARTINEZ – DEM**

*Has returned questionnaire, responses on p. 22*

*Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview*



CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
BROOKLYN EVALUATIONS

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**NYS SENATE DISTRICT 19**  
**Democratic Primary**  
**No Preference**

MERCEDES NARCISSE – DEM

*Has returned questionnaire – responses on p. 22*

*Occupation: Business owner, registered nurse*

*Education: Unknown*

Mercedes Narcisse has worked as a registered nurse for over 25 years and served as the CEO of Statewide Medical Supplies. An active member of multiple boards and organizations, including Community Board 18, The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, Brooklyn by Choice, among others, Narcisse believes that her community is often overlooked and underrepresented. Her top legislative priorities are education, increasing affordable housing, and partial support of mayoral control of public schools, believing that one person must not have complete control over the entire school system and that a regulatory system must be put in place in order to keep a system of checks and balances. Narcisse believes heavily in the importance of voter education in the election process, and advocated for allowing for more questions to be asked of elected officials and for the government to become more transparent. Citizens Union appreciates Narcisse's support of reform issues and her continuous commitment to serving her community.

ROXANNE PERSAUD – DEM

*Has not returned questionnaire*

*Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview*

**NYS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 44**  
**Democratic Primary**

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE -- ROBERT CARROLL – DEM ★

*Has returned questionnaire, response p. 22*

*Age: 29 Occupation: Attorney*

*Education: Binghamton University, B.A.; New York Law School, J.D.*

Robert Carroll is the former president of the Central Brooklyn Independent Democrats and currently works as an attorney at Wolfson & Carroll in Manhattan and as the development director of an NYC theater company. He had been campaigning for the District Leader position until James Brennan announced his retirement, at which point he began to campaign for the available NYS Assembly seat. He is running for office in the Assembly because he views it as an avenue to enact political reform. His top reform priorities include limiting outside income of legislators, requiring legislators to serve full-time, establishing a conflicts of interest board, closing the LLC and "housekeeping" loopholes, and independent redistricting reform. His other goals include stronger and better funding for the MTA, strengthening rent laws, and increasing taxes on super-luxury real estate in order to fund public housing. He expressed support for most of Citizens Union's reform goals, but opposed



CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
**BROOKLYN EVALUATIONS (CONTINUED)**

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holding a Constitutional Convention because he believes that the legislative mechanism to change the State Constitution is safer and he worries about the risks that a Convention may pose to environmental regulations and workers' protections. Citizens Union prefers Carroll because of his detailed understanding of city and state issues his strong alignment with Citizens Union's reform agenda, and his promise as an effective state legislator.

**ROB CURRY-SMITHSON -- DEM**

*Has returned questionnaire, response p. 22*

*Age: 33 Occupation: Teacher*

*Education: Oberlin College, B.A.; Keene State College, M.Ed.*

Rob Curry-Smithson is a history teacher in the New York City public school system. He is running for office because he feels inspired by progressive campaigns and wants to nobly "take up the call" for active citizens to participate in government. He has also cited the need to address corruption in Albany as a reason for his campaign. His top priorities include campaign finance reform, reforms in the education system, and single-payer healthcare. He also recognizes the need to limit outside income and make voting easier. To this end, he has indicated his support for open or nonpartisan primary elections. Based on his experience as a public school teacher and as elected UFT chapter leader for his school, Curry-Smithson opposes mayoral control of city schools, and instead believes that more power should be given to parents and teachers. He is a supporter of a Constitutional Convention, and believes that the State Constitution should be revisited more often. He believes that the State Constitution is arcane, and expressed a belief that the bicameral State Legislature is unnecessary because of the way Senate and Assembly districts are constructed. Citizens Union appreciates Curry-Smithson's enthusiasm and strong commitment to progressive reform.

**TROY ODENDHAL -- DEM**

*Has returned questionnaire, response p. 22*

*Age: 45 Occupation: Attorney*

*Education: City College, B.A.; Baruch College, MPA in process*

Troy Odendhal is a long-time community activist and former freelance radio producer. He is running for NYS Assembly because of his desire to provide honest public service that is not rooted in party politics. His top priority issues include affordable housing, healthcare, and education, and his main reform goal is to limit outside income for legislators. He does not support the creation of a merit appointment system for judges, one of Citizens Union's goals, because he feels that merit appointment systems are easily corrupted and he believes that an electorate is more likely to come to a fair decision. He also does not support mayoral control of city schools due to his experience in the school system, where he felt he was more accountable to vendors and contractors than to parents and children, and he instead prefers a return to the school board system. Odendhal supports a Constitutional Convention, and believes that it is an opportunity to pursue initiatives such as state-funded higher education. He is a firm believer that a legislative position should be a full-time job, and pledged to leave his position as a CUNY educator if elected so that he has time to focus on serving as a legislator. As a former member of the press, he plans to rely on the media to help him push his reform goals if he is elected. Citizens Union commends Odendhal on his commitment to advocacy and service in his community.

  
CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
**BROOKLYN EVALUATIONS (CONTINUED)**

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**NYS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 46**  
**Democratic Primary**  
**No Preference**

PAMELA HARRIS - DEM

*Has returned questionnaire; responses on page p.22*

*Age: 55 Occupation: NYS Assembly*

*Education: John Jay College, A.A.; St. Joseph's College, B.A.; Capella University, M.A.*

Pamela Harris was elected to the Assembly in 2015, in a special election to replace former Assemblymember Alec Brook-Krasny. She is a retired corrections officer, and is the founder of Coney Island Generation Gap, a non-profit that seeks to keep at-risk youth off the streets through after school activities. She is running for re-election because she wants to continue to serve her community. Her top legislative priorities include preventing illegal housing conversions and securing funding for the Summer Youth Employment Program. She also expressed her commitment to seniors, and described her success in passing a bill benefitting naturally-occurring retirement communities through the Assembly. Her top reform priority is to implement Generally Accepted Accounting Procedures. Like her opponent, Harris opposes holding a Constitutional Convention and she also expressed reluctance to amend the State Constitution through legislative channels. Citizens Union cannot prefer Harris because she has not prioritized ethics reform in her short tenure thus far and has not adequately addressed concerns publicly raised about her continuing ties to the former nonprofit she founded and once ran. However, Citizens Union believes that if re-elected she will continue to be an asset to her community.

KATIE CUCCO - DEM

*Has returned questionnaire; responses on page p.22*

*Age:31 Occupation: Former Chief of Staff to Former Assemblyperson Alec Brook-Krasny*

*Education: Ohio State University, B.A.*

Katie Cucco served as Chief of Staff under former Assemblymember Alec Brook-Krasny from 2008 until his resignation in 2015. She stated that she is seeking this seat because she believes that her knowledge of the district and of legislative issues will enable her to be a productive legislator. Among her top priorities are election reform and creating a tax credit for family caregivers to elderly or disabled relatives. She spoke passionately about the need for election reform, arguing that empowering voters will make it easier to hold legislators accountable and will therefore help to prevent corruption. She also spoke candidly about how she would differ from her predecessor, saying that he was more focused on constituent service and that she would seek a balance between legislative and constituent matters. Cucco opposes holding a Constitutional Convention, referencing worries that special interests would dominate the process. She also supports a complete ban on outside income for legislators, rather than the cap supported by Citizens Union. Citizens Union appreciates Cucco's understanding of legislative issues and her alignment with CU's reform agenda, but has concerns about her viability as a candidate.



★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
**BROOKLYN EVALUATIONS (CONTINUED)**

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**NYS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 56  
Democratic Primary**

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE -- TREMAINE WRIGHT -- DEM ★

*Has returned questionnaire – responses on p.22*

*Age: 43 Occupation: N/A*

*Education: Duke University, B.A.; University of Chicago Law School, J.D.*

Tremaine Wright is the chairperson of Community Board 3, having served on the Board for the past 12 years. Wright’s top legislative priorities are education reform, healthcare reform and ethics reform, with an emphasis on elected officials being more accessible and transparent to their constituents. Wright is opposed to same-day voter registration, citing concerns about false registrations and potential corruption. When asked about limiting outside income and pension forfeiture for convicted elected officials, Wright answered that by limiting outside income, allowing pension forfeiture and closing the LCC loophole, it would put pressure on elected officials to think twice before attempting to commit a crime. Although Wright is not totally aligned with Citizens Union’s reform agenda, her willingness to listen and to see an argument from both sides in relation to how the constituents in her district will be affected leads us to prefer her in the primary.

**KAREN CHERRY – DEM**

*Has not returned questionnaire*

*Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
MANHATTAN EVALUATIONS

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**NYS SENATE DISTRICT 31**  
**Democratic Primary**

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE -- MICAH LASHER – DEM ★

*Has Returned questionnaire, response p. 22*

*Age: 34 Occupation: Former Chief of Staff to Attorney General Eric Schneiderman*

*Education: B.A., New York University*

Micah Lasher is the former Chief of Staff to Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, and previously served as Director of Legislative Affairs under Mayor Michael Bloomberg. Lasher stated that he is running for office to address the corruption in New York State government, which he has observed throughout his career. His top priorities include reform of campaign finance rules, voting rights, promoting affordable housing and criminal justice reform. In line with Citizens Union's positions, Lasher is especially enthusiastic about limiting outside income, closing the LLC and "housekeeping" loopholes, and reforming campaign finances. He also spoke passionately about the need to reform the Joint Commission on Public Ethics so that the State Legislature does not control its own ethics laws. Lasher addressed concerns about his ability to represent a majority-minority district, by arguing that the district is so diverse that any candidate would have to reach beyond their own demographic constituency. He stated that his goal is to work hard to represent all the people of this district who are most intimately impacted by government decisions. He expressed support for most of Citizens Union's reform agenda, but does not support holding a Constitutional Convention because he believes that changes to the State Constitution can be best made through the legislative process. Citizens Union prefers Lasher because of his detailed and nuanced understanding of state and city issues, his experience in the State Legislature, and his strong commitment to democratic reform.

**MARISOL ALCANTARA -- DEM**

*Has Returned questionnaire, response p. 24*

*Age: 43 Occupation: Political Organizer for the New York State Nurses Association*

*Education: Manhattan College, B.A.; Murphy Institute of Labor, CUNY, M.A.*

Marisol Alcantara is a political organizer for the New York State Nurses Association. She has served on Community Board 9 and was elected Democratic District Leader for Assembly District 70 in 2010. She stated that she is running for office in the State Senate because she believes that government should reflect the population that it serves and that as a Latina, a woman of color, a trade unionist, and an immigrant in a predominantly Hispanic district, she would bring a valuable perspective to Albany. Her top priorities include passing the DREAM act, strengthening rent regulations, and maintaining the public health system. Alcantara supports much of Citizens Union's reform agenda, especially campaign finance reform and securing mayoral control of public schools. However, she opposes holding a Constitutional Convention because she worries that it would threaten workers' rights. Citizens Union appreciates Alcantara's support of key reform issues and values her commitment to serving her community. If elected, she would be a capable state legislator.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016**  
**MANHATTAN EVALUATIONS (CONTINUED)**

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**ROBERT JACKSON -- DEM**

*Has returned questionnaire, response p. 24*

*Age: 65 Occupation: candidate*

*Education: SUNY New Paltz, B.A.*

Robert Jackson previously served as the representative for New York City Council District 7 from 2002 to 2013, and was elected District Leader in 2015. He is running for office in the 31st Senate District because he feels that, as a legislator, he can provide much needed services in the district, and he expressed his desire to clean up corruption in Albany. He highlighted his commitment to education, having served as the New York City Council Education Committee chair and as lead plaintiff in the Campaign for Fiscal Equity lawsuit, which successfully sued New York State for failing to provide students with the quality education that is their right under the State Constitution. His other top goals include criminal justice reform and promoting affordable housing, starting with giving New York City home rule over rent regulations. Jackson has significant experience with the legislative process, having lobbied the State Senate to restore funding to New York City, and has established relationships with legislators through his work in the City Council and the Campaign for Fiscal Equity. He supports most of Citizens Union's reform agenda, but does not support holding a Constitutional Convention because of his fears that special interests will dominate the process. He also opposes extending mayoral control of city schools - another Citizens Union platform - because he would prefer the school board system. Despite preferring his opponent, Citizens Union appreciates Jackson's passionate support of reform issues, his commitment to his community, and his track record of advocacy and service, and believes that he would be an effective legislator if elected.

**LUIS TEJADA – DEM**

*Has returned questionnaire – responses on p. 24*

*Age: 57 Occupation: Executive Director, Mirabal Sisters Cultural and Community Center*

*Education: M.A. in Mathematics and Post-Doctoral Degree in Spanish Linguistics; degree-granting institution unknown*

*Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview*

**NYS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 65**  
**Democratic Primary**

★ **PREFERRED CANDIDATE - JENIFER RAJKUMAR - DEM** ★

*Has returned questionnaire - responses on page p. 24*

*Age: 33 Occupation: Lawyer at Sanford Heisler LLP*

*Education: University of Pennsylvania, B.A.; Stanford Law School, J.D.*

Jenifer Rajkumar is the Democratic District Leader for lower Manhattan. She is a lawyer at Sanford Heisler LLP, where she litigates in the areas of tenants' rights, gender discrimination, and in whistleblower cases. She stated that she is seeking election because of her lifelong commitment to social justice, and because she feels that her skillset as a lawyer and community organizer will help her be effective in office. Her top priorities include removing

  
CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
**MANHATTAN EVALUATIONS (CONTINUED)**

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barriers to voting, campaign finance reform, and ethics reform, including limiting outside income. When asked how she would achieve her goals, she referenced her skills as a coalition builder and the connections she has built as a District Leader, as well as her plans to work with the Democratic Reform Caucus. Rajkumar supports holding a Constitutional Convention, and discussed the need to reform the delegate selection process in order to limit undue influence from special interests. Citizens Union is impressed by Rajkumar's detailed understanding of reform issues and commitment to reform, and prefers her in this race.

**ALICE CANCEL - DEM**

*Has returned questionnaire - responses on page p.24*

*Occupation: NYS Assembly*

*Education: Unknown*

Alice Cancel was elected to the Assembly in a special election to replace Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver in April 2016. She states that she sought the seat because she wants to pursue reform in the Assembly. Her top priority issues are affordable housing, senior housing, and education. To address corruption, she mentioned the need to limit outside income and enact pension forfeiture, and she expressed support for a Constitutional Convention. Citizens Union had hoped Cancel would demonstrate a more detailed understanding of legislative and reform issues given her limited experience which still is more than the other candidates in the race, and, as a result, did not prefer her for this race.

**DON LEE - DEM**

*Has returned questionnaire - responses on page p. 24*

*Age: 57 Occupation: CIO at Coalition of Asian American IPA*

*Education: New York University, B.S.*

Don Lee is the Chief Information Officer for the Coalition of Asian American IPA and the Asian American Accountable Care Association. He has worked for previous mayoral administrations in auditing, community affairs, economic development, and health-care capacities, and has led community organizing projects. He is seeking office because he believes that the government is out of touch with community needs, and believes that his experience as a community organizer and his professional experience will help him serve the district. His top priorities include health care and affordable housing, and he discussed the need for affordable housing initiatives to take concerns such as availability of community resources into account. Lee supports holding a Constitutional Convention, wants to prioritize ethics reform and budget reform, and says that his experience in IT will help him bring transparency to the budget process. He expressed concerns about the future of constituent services in the district, given that, with a freshman legislator, they will only get \$125,000 for constituent service rather than the \$2 million the district received under Sheldon Silver. Lee stated that he would be committed to constituent service nonetheless. Citizens Union appreciates Don Lee's dedication to good government and highly regards the asset he is to his community.



CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
MANHATTAN EVALUATIONS (CONTINUED)

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GIGI LI - DEM

*Has returned questionnaire - responses on page p. 24*

*Age: 33 Occupation: Social Worker*

*Education: Smith College, B.A.; Columbia University, M.S.W.*

Gigi Li is the former chair of Manhattan Community Board 3 and is also the director of the Neighborhood Family Services coalition. She is running for office because she feels a deep connection to the district and wants to continue to support her community on a larger scale. Her top priorities are increasing access to social services, affordable housing, and encouraging smart development, wherein issues such as housing, transit, accessibility, schools, and other services are considered in conjunction. Her top reform priority is budget reform, and she discussed the need for transparency in the budget process. She also wants to pursue diversity in the State Legislature by encouraging women and people of color to run for office. In order to accomplish her goals, Li expressed interest in building alliances with representatives from across the state whose districts may have similar concerns. Li is hesitant to support a Constitutional Convention because of the risks posed to unions and especially to immigrant union workers, but she does believe that a Convention would present an opportunity for necessary change. Despite preferring her opponent, Citizens Union appreciates Li's detailed understanding of her district's needs and her support of key reform issues.

PAUL NEWELL - DEM

*Has returned questionnaire - responses on page p. 24*

*Age: 41 Occupation: Writer/Researcher*

*Education: Whitman College, B.A.*

Paul Newell is the former Democratic District Leader for lower Manhattan, and is a founding member of coalitions such as New York Neighbors for American Values and the Coalition for a New Village Hospital. He is seeking election because he is disturbed by the corruption in Albany and he wants to send a message that the district previously represented by Sheldon Silver is seeking reform. His top priorities include limiting outside income, campaign finance reform, and legislative rules reform. He agrees with Citizens Union that efforts to combat corruption must include prevention alongside punishment, and he highlighted limiting outside income and campaign finance reform as mechanisms through which to prevent corruption. Newell spoke passionately about his support for a Constitutional Convention, despite having lost the support of unions because of this opinion, and expressed optimism that a pro-labor majority of delegates would not threaten workers' rights. Like many of his competitors, he plans to work with the Democratic Reform Caucus in order to achieve his reform goals. Newell has made strides as a District Leader, establishing a panel system for judicial selection in his district and showing his ability to form coalitions. Despite preferring his opponent, Citizens Union appreciates Newell's passionate support of reform and believes he would be an effective legislator should he win election.



CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
MANHATTAN EVALUATIONS (CONTINUED)

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**YUH-LINE NIOU - DEM**

*Has returned questionnaire - responses on page p. 24*

*Age:33 Occupation: Chief of Staff for Assemblymember Ron Kim*

*Education: Evergreen State College, B.A.; Baruch College, M.P.A.*

Yuh-Line Niou is the former Chief of Staff for Assemblymember Ron Kim. She ran in the April 2016 special election, but lost to Alice Cancel. She feels compelled to seek office because she is disturbed by the corruption that this district has experienced, and because she feels that it is an opportunity to change laws to prevent injustice. Her top priorities include preventing predatory lending and business practices, and targeting redlining practices. She spoke passionately about the need to restrict or ban outside income, reform campaign finance laws, and close the LLC loophole. Like several of her competitors, she plans on working with the Democratic Reform Caucus to achieve her goals. As Chief of Staff, she had formed relationships in the State Legislature, which she feels are potential avenues through which to push for reform. She is hesitant about a Constitutional Convention because she is concerned about how delegates would be elected and because she fears that workers' rights would be endangered. However, she is optimistic that the State Constitution can be successfully amended through legislative channels. Niou is dedicated to constituent service and is sensitive to the diverse needs of her district, such as language access in navigating public services. She is concerned about the reduction in funds for constituent services that will be allocated to the district, and she wants to change the system through which funds are allocated to prevent this in the future. Despite preferring her opponent, Citizens Union appreciates Niou's knowledge of constituent needs and her support of key reform issues.

**NYS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 72**  
**Democratic Primary**

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE- GUILLERMO LINARES- DEM ★

*Has returned questionnaire, responses on p. 24*

*Age: 65 Occupation: Member, NYS Assembly*

*Education: City College, B.A.; Fordham University, Professional Diploma in Administration and Supervision; Columbia University, Teachers College, Ph.D.*

Guillermo Linares has represented Assembly District 72 in Albany since 2011. Linares served as a member of the New York City Council from 1992 to 2001, served as Commissioner of the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs from 2004 to 2009, and was a member of the White House Initiative for Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans. His priorities for the next legislative session include protecting tenants' rights, affordable housing reform, and increasing funding for challenged schools. As an Assemblymember, Linares helped secure \$2 million to support NYCHA housing in his district. He was also part of a team that secured an additional \$1.4 billion increase in state education funding, and has fought to renew and strengthen rent regulation laws. In line with Citizens Union's ethics agenda, Linares has made efforts to close the LLC loophole, limit outside income of state legislators, and reform campaign finance rules to fight special interest money. He expressed that closing the LLC loophole must be a priority in the upcoming legislative session because the loophole undermines voter participation, which he sees as the core of democracy.



CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
MANHATTAN EVALUATIONS (CONTINUED)

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While in support of many CU positions, Linares does not support a Constitutional Convention because he fears that workers' rights may be put at risk. Despite this, Citizens Union believes that his public service experience and political smarts demonstrate that he will continue to be an effective legislator and a strong representative of his constituents. Citizens Union prefers Linares for this reason and for his support of many of the issues that CU prioritizes.

**CARMEN DE LA ROSA -- DEM**

*Has returned questionnaire, response on p. 24*

*Age: 30 Occupation: Chief of Staff, New York City Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez*

*Education: Fordham University, B.A.*

A lifelong resident of Inwood, Carmen De la Rosa has a long history of community involvement and has worked for members of the NYC Council and NYS Assembly. Her top priorities include affordable housing, an expanded women's rights agenda, more funding for education in order to create a level playing field, and ethics reform. De la Rosa is a strong supporter of limiting outside income and making legislative positions full-time. She also feels that stronger checks and balances are necessary to prevent corruption because she feels the budget process is opaque and misleading. In addition, she stated that she will push to close the LLC loophole and enact public campaign financing at the state level. Lastly, De la Rosa spoke strongly about the need to reform the Board of Elections to make voting easier, and plans to achieve this through increased language access and allowing absentee and online voting. Like her opponents, De la Rosa opposes holding a Constitutional Convention because of the potential threat to workers' rights. Nevertheless, Citizens Union was impressed with De la Rosa's experience, dedication to her community, and understanding of the power structure in Albany, and feels she would make an excellent legislator in the future.

**GEORGE FERNANDEZ-- DEM**

*Has returned questionnaire, responses on p. 24*

*Age: 44 Occupation: New York State Education Department*

*Education: M.S.W., degree-granting institution unknown*

Fernandez is the current council leader of Division 376, representing more than 200 union members. He is also a social worker for the New York State Education Department for ACCES-VR, and he previously served for three terms as Chairman of Community Board 12. Fernandez's legislative priorities include tenants' rights, enfranchising voters, protecting unions and workers' rights, and making the education system more equitable. On reform issues, Fernandez believes that there should be a cap on outside income of state legislators, combined with a salary increase, in order to limit corruption. Fernandez is a supporter of campaign finance reform, believing it is necessary to increase the competitiveness of elections. Like his opponents, Fernandez does not support a Constitutional Convention because of the potential threat it poses to workers' rights and because he does not believe that voters are informed enough on the referendum. Fernandez is dedicated to his constituents and has a strong sense of community. Citizens Union appreciated his open honesty, and believes that in the future he will have the ability to be an effective and caring legislator.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
QUEENS EVALUATIONS

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**NYS SENATE DISTRICT 10**  
**Democratic Primary**

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE -- JAMES SANDERS, JR.-- DEM ★

*Has returned questionnaire, responses on p. 24*

*Age: 59 Occupation: Member, NYS Senate, Former Marine*

*Education: Brooklyn College*

James Sanders, Jr. is the incumbent running for re-election in Senate District 10. Sanders has served in the State Senate for nearly four years, and previously served in the New York City Council for twelve years. Sanders legislative priorities for the coming session include increasing affordable housing; creating more jobs by supporting Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises and establishing a WPA-styled work program; and promoting programs for future generations such as the DREAM Act, the NY Promise, and free community college. Sanders spoke of the need to stop corporate welfare and reallocate government funding in order to facilitate his priorities. He also expressed the need to rebuild the infrastructure in his district and throughout NYC. Sanders does not support a Constitutional Convention because of concerns that union pensions and other labor statutes could be endangered. Sanders believes that although it might be difficult, all changes that need to be done can be accomplished through legislation. Regarding corruption Sanders takes a clear stance that everyone who is involved, including those who give money, should be punished. He views donors as the common factor in most corruption cases and thinks if donors can be limited it will be possible to decrease and prevent corruption in Albany. In the vein of ending corruption, Sanders supports a 25% cap on outside income and making state legislative positions full-time. Though Citizens Union has concerns over an investigation involving a nonprofit's use of discretionary funds provided by Sanders, there has not been significant proof of his involvement. Despite these allegations, Sanders has proven himself to be a person of his word, taking positions even when they go against the party establishment. Citizens Union prefers Sanders because of his ability to stick to his principles regardless of outside pressure, which makes him a reliable and strong voice in Albany.

**ADRIENNE ADAMS -- DEM**

*Has returned questionnaire, response p. 24*

*Age: 55 Occupation: Retired, Chair of Queens Community Board 12*

*Education: Spelman College, B.A., Psychology*

Adrienne Adams has served as Chair of Queens Community Board 12 since 2009 and is running to bring integrity to Queens politics. Adams's top priorities include improving schools, Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises, and passing legislation for more affordable housing and economic development. Adams strongly believes that each school deserves its own building and would put an end to co-locating schools. Adams believes that it is only through cooperation among the various branches that any real legislation can be passed, and she believes that the skills she gained working as a corporate trainer will allow her to work efficiently despite potential obstacles as a first-time legislator. On reform issues, Adams said that her main priorities would be fighting voter suppression, campaign finance reform, and limiting or eliminating outside income. Adams does not



  
CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
QUEENS EVALUATIONS (CONTINUED)

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support the Constitutional Convention, her primary concerns being that there would not be fair representation between upstate and downstate, which could lead to losing workers' rights. Although preferring her opponent, Citizens Union believes that Adams would be a passionate, well informed, and driven legislator given her community involvement and knowledge.

**NYS SENATE DISTRICT 16**  
**Democratic Primary**  
**No Preference**

S.J. JUNG – DEM

*Has returned questionnaire – responses on page p. 24*

*Age: 52 Occupation: Small business owner*

*Education: Korean University, B.A.*

S. J. Jung is a longtime community activist who has served as Democratic District Leader and is the former leader of the MinKwon Center, an Asian American community advocacy group. If elected, his top priority will be equitable budgeting, and he hopes to secure funding for constituent services, education, and infrastructure. He also hopes to close the LLC loophole and expand voting access through same-day voter registration. He expressed support for all of Citizens Union's reform goals, including holding a Constitutional Convention. Citizens Union appreciates Jung's support for reform and his community engagement and believes that if elected he is capable of being an effective legislator.

TOBY ANN STAVISKY – DEM

*Has returned questionnaire – responses on page p. 24*

*Occupation: NY State Senate*

*Education: Syracuse University, A.B., Hunter and Queens Colleges, M.A.*

Toby Ann Stavisky was first elected to the State Senate in 1999, and currently serves as Assistant Democratic Leader and Ranking Minority Member on the Senate's Committee on Higher Education. If re-elected, her main priorities include gun control, securing funding to implement the DREAM Act, and raising the minimum wage. Her top reform priority is limiting outside income. She also highlighted the need to close the LLC loophole and consolidate state and federal primaries. Stavisky does not support holding a Constitutional Convention due to potential risks to Adirondack protections and aid to non-public schools, but she does support changing the State Constitution through the legislative process. Citizens Union appreciates Stavisky's demonstrated commitment to the needs of her district, effectiveness as a legislator, and support for reform.

  
CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
QUEENS EVALUATIONS

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**NYS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 33**  
**Democratic Primary**

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE – NANTASHA WILLIAMS – DEM ★

*Has returned questionnaire – results on page p. 24*

*Age: 28 Occupation: Former Chief of Staff in the NYS Assembly*

*Education: Virginia Commonwealth University, B.A.; Rockefeller College of Public Affairs, M.P.A*

Nantasha Williams is the former Chief of Staff for Assemblymember Diana Richardson. She has also served as interim Executive Director at the New York State Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic, and Asian Caucus, and was a Legislative Director and Caucus Liaison for New York State Assemblymember Karim Camara. She is running for office because she wants to apply her knowledge of Albany to help fix a political system that she sees as broken. Williams's top legislative priorities include education, youth development, and homeowner protection. She is especially concerned with accountability and transparency in government, and wants to create a state campaign finance system similar to that of NYC. She also wants to expand community engagement through neighborhood councils and town hall meetings. Like her competitors, Williams opposes holding a Constitutional Convention because she fears that it will threaten labor regulations. She did not take a position on consolidating the court system or consolidating state and federal primaries. Citizens Union has some concerns about her viability, given her relatively sparse financing and limited endorsements. Nevertheless, Citizens Union prefers Williams because of her legislative experience and enthusiastic support for reform.

**BRYAN BLOCK – DEM**

*Has not returned questionnaire*

*Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview*

**SABINE FRENCH – DEM**

*Has not returned questionnaire*

*Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview*

**LEROY GADSDEN**

*Has not returned questionnaire*

*Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview*

**ROY PAUL – DEM**

*Has returned questionnaire – responses on page p. 24*

*Age: 29 Occupation: CEO, RP Media Inc*

*Education: Queens College, B.A.; The New School, M.A.*

Roy Paul is the CEO of RP Media Inc., and is a founding member of the Southeast Queens Young Democrats and Southeast Queens for Community Action. He has stated that he was also the youngest African-American to be elected to public office in New York State, having served on a school board at the age of 19. He is running for office to pursue what he views as necessary reforms in state government. His top legislative priorities include education,

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
QUEENS EVALUATIONS (CONTINUED)

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securing state funding for senior programs, and reforming the campaign finance system. Like his competitors, Paul opposes holding a Constitutional Convention because of concerns about how workers' rights would be impacted. Paul also opposes consolidating state and federal primaries, and establishing a later start date for the fiscal year. He did not take a position on four other Citizens Union reform goals. Citizens Union appreciates Paul's enthusiastic support of some reform issues, and believes that he is a valuable community advocate.

**CLYDE VANEL – DEM**

*Has returned questionnaire – responses on page p. 24*

*Age:42 Occupation: Owner and Lawyer at Vanel Law Firm*

*Education: SUNY Farmingdale, B.A.; Boston University, J.D.*

Clyde Vanel is the owner of Vanel Law Firm, an intellectual property and business law firm, and is seeking office because he wants to increase employment in his district. Vanel's top legislative priorities include increasing economic activity and quality of life, funding public schools, and protecting small businesses. Vanel wants to increase transparency of outside income, but does not support a general cap on outside income. Like his competitors, he opposes holding a Constitutional Convention because of the impact it may have on unions. He did not take a position on several of Citizens Union's other policy areas. Citizens Union has preferred Vanel in a past City Council election and values his commitment to his district, but does not prefer him in this election because of his opposition to several of Citizens Union's primary goals.



CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
STATEN ISLAND EVALUATIONS

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**NYS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 62**  
**Republican Primary**

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE-- JANINE MATERNA-- REP ★

*Has returned questionnaire, responses on p. 24*

*Age: 32 Occupation: Management Consultant at Deloitte*

*Education: Columbia University, St John's University, and New York Law School*

Janine Materna has served the South Shore Civic Association representing Pleasant Plains, Princes Bay, and Richmond Valley. She is running for office because she feels that her district needs to be fairly represented by someone elected by the people, and because as a third generation Staten Islander who is an active member of the community, she feels that she can best represent the needs of her district. Materna's main legislative priorities include fighting the opioid epidemic, improving roads and transportation, and providing greater funding for special needs programs in schools. In order to better prevent corruption in New York, Materna believes that there needs to be more transparency around outside income and campaign finance. Materna emphasized that outside income should be limited to at most 25%, and that being a legislator should be a full-time job. She also stated that the Board of Elections must be restructured in order to give everyone a fair chance of winning and that a system of matching funds for state-level campaign finance should be established. Materna opposes holding a Constitutional Convention because of uncertainty as to what will happen to labor rights and workers' pensions, but supports the concept of New Yorkers deciding for themselves whether to hold a Convention. In her questionnaire she indicated that she did not support mayoral control over city schools, and during her interview she stated that parents should have more control in their child's education, especially for children with special needs. Citizens Union believes that Materna has the drive, determination, and ability to be a capable legislator. Despite not agreeing with all of CU's positions, she shows vast knowledge of the needs of her district and has proven her dedication to represent them.

**RONALD CASTORINA JR -- REP**

*Has returned questionnaire, responses on p. 24*

*Age: 37 Occupation: Attorney, NYS Assembly*

*Education: St. Francis College; SUNY Buffalo School of Law*

Ronald Castorina was elected to the State Senate in an April 2016 special election. Prior to becoming a State Senator, he had a private law practice for 10 years, served as counsel to former NYC Councilmember Vincent Ignizio, was a Lieutenant in the New York Guard Army Division, and served for two years as Attorney Commissioner of the Board of Elections on Staten Island. Castorina's legislative priorities include targeting the opioid epidemic in Staten Island, addressing the borough's traffic problem, and cracking down on "quality of life" crimes. On ethics reform, Castorina believes that more education and training is necessary for people in positions of power and blames the lack of ethics reform on the limited power of the Republican Party in the Assembly. He does not support a Constitutional Convention because he fears that it will put the pension system at risk. He feels that corruption in Albany is the result of the State Constitution being circumvented by the Legislature, and does not see what can be gained from holding a Convention. He also



CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS 2016  
**STATEN ISLAND EVALUATIONS (CONTINUED)**

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does not believe in an outside income cap, because he believes this entices people to treat the position as a career and allows for greater opportunities for corruption. For this reason he also believes in term limits, which will limit the amount of power a legislator can accumulate over time. Citizens Union does not prefer Castorina in this race because of his significant disagreements with our reform goals. Nevertheless, Citizens Union believes that Castorina's experience as an attorney and a public advocate will assist him as a legislator.



## VOTING AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION REGISTERING TO VOTE

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### REGISTERING TO VOTE

You are eligible to vote in municipal, federal and state elections if you are:

- 18 years of age (on the date of the election. You can register at 17 if you will be 18 before the election – Send your voter registration card in the year you turn 18 and it will be filed on your 18th birthday);
- United States citizen; AND
- Registered to vote 25 days before the election.

To vote in a party primary:

- You must be a registered member of that party.
- You cannot change your party registration to vote in a primary during that same year.
- Party registration changes must be filed 25 days before the previous year's General Election.

### APPLYING FOR AN ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION

You may vote by absentee ballot if you are:

- absent from New York City (or your county, if you live outside of New York City) on Election Day;
- ill or disabled, or serve as primary caregiver for an ill or disabled individual;
- a patient or inmate in a Veterans' Administration Hospital; OR
- detained in jail awaiting Grand Jury action or are confined in prison for an offense other than a felony.

Deadlines for absentee ballot applications and submissions are as follows:

- Mail your Absentee Ballot Application or Letter of Application by Saturday, September 6th.
- Apply for an Absentee Ballot in Person at your local county board of elections office by Monday, September 12th.
- Mail in your Absentee Ballot with a postmark by Monday, September 12th – it also must be received by the local board of elections no later than September 20th.
- Drop off your Absentee Ballot by Tuesday, September 13th to your local board of elections office – a friend or relative can drop it off.

### TO OBTAIN A VOTER REGISTRATION FORM OR ABSENTEE BALLOT:

- Go in person to your local county Board of Elections office;
- Call the Board of Elections at 1.866.VOTE-NYC; OR
- Visit the Board of Elections website at <http://www.vote.nyc.ny.us/html/voters/voters.shtml>



## VOTING AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### REGISTERING TO VOTE

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#### VOTING ON PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

The Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, September 13th. Polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. If you have general questions regarding eligibility or the location of your polling place, please call 1-866-VOTE-NYC. You can also locate your polling place online, including handicap entrances, at <https://nyc.pollsitelocator.com/search>

Under federal law, if you are disabled and choose to vote in person rather than by absentee ballot, you are entitled to assistance. You can rely on the election employees for help.

At the polls, if you are not on the voter registration list, it may be because your registration form was not received in time or was filled out incorrectly. If you believe that you are eligible to vote, you can still vote by requesting an affidavit ballot. After the election, the Board of Elections will check its records and your vote will be counted if you are indeed eligible.

#### **Casting your ballot:**

Paper ballots will be used for casting votes, which can be marked using either a pen or a ballot marking device (BMD) as described below. Ballots are counted after they are inserted into an electronic scanner. The scanner will then be used to count the votes after the polling place has closed at the end of Election Day. A bin attached to the scanner will capture and keep the paper ballots as a record of all votes. This new process began in 2010 with New York's adoption of a new voting system to meet federal accessibility requirements.

The new process works as follows:

- Enter the poll site, sign in, and receive your paper ballot from the poll worker.
- Mark your ballot through one of two means:
  - Go to a privacy booth and fill out your ballot with a pen by marking the appropriate ovals; or
  - Use a Ballot Marking Device (BMD), which is available for those who are in need of assistance (see below for more information).
- Once done, place your ballot in the privacy sleeve, proceed to the scanner area, and insert the marked ballot into the scanner to cast your vote. Your ballot can be inserted in any direction.
- If you make a mistake you can request a new ballot. If you mark your ballot incorrectly by marking more choices for one contest than you are supposed to, the scanner will notify you of an "overvote." To have your vote count, you must obtain a new ballot and mark your choices correctly before submitting your ballot.



## VOTING AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION REGISTERING TO VOTE

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### BALLOT MARKING DEVICE

Voters will be able to use the Election Systems & Software (ES&S) AutoMARK ballot marking device (BMD), which is mandated to be available at each polling location. Any voter, including voters with disabilities, may use the BMD to view or listen to the ballot in any of the required languages for that poll site (English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean or Bengali). Voters may use the BMD to complete a paper ballot independently and privately on Election Day by using its ATM-style touch screen, Braille-enhanced keypad, sip and puff device or its rocker paddle. More information on the new process is available at the New York City Board of Elections website: <http://vote.nyc.ny.us/html/voters/voters.shtml>





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