



2014 QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CANDIDATES FOR NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE

Citizens Union appreciates your response to the following questionnaire related to policy issues facing New York State and our interest in reforming state government. Please return the questionnaire to us as soon as possible, and no later than July 11th. Responses to these questions will be one of several factors Citizens Union uses to evaluate candidates running for office in order to determine our "Preferred Candidates" for the September 9th Primary Election, and our "Endorsed Candidates" for the November 4th General Election.

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

We plan to make responses to this questionnaire public on our website, Voters Directory and other appropriate venues. We thank you very much for your response.

Candidate Name: Crystal Collins Age: 43

Campaign Address: 108 North Columbus Ave #3 Mt. Vernon NY 10553

Campaign Telephone Number: (914) 888-3362 Fax: (914) 237-2356

Party Affiliation(s): Democratic Campaign Manager Name: Kim Knotts

Website & Email: www.CrystalCollins4Senate.NYS.com Collins4SenateNY@gmail.com

Education: 36 credits (required) M.S. Bachelor in Science Business A.A.S in Accounting

Occupation/Employer (or years in currently held elected office): Branch Manager

Healthcare Services 11 yrs

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement: District leader

in the City of Mount Vernon, NY; Mount Vernon Overall

Economic Development member, PAST PTA President Middle School #370 in the Bronx

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

Have you completed requisite campaign finance filings? YES [X] NO

Signature of Candidate: [Signature] Date: 7/11/14

I. CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

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

ELECTION REFORM

1. What is your position on the redistricting proposition amending the constitution on the November ballot that would create an independent commission with appointees split evenly between the majority and minority parties?	? Support/Oppose
2. What is your position on restructuring the state Board of Elections and changing the administration of elections by amending the constitution to abolish the strict two-party division of governance and operation?	? Support/Oppose
3. What is your position on making it easier for candidates to appear on the ballot by lowering signature requirements and utilizing less burdensome witness signature requirements?	Support/Oppose
4. What is your position on amending 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/Oppose
5. What is your position on automatically granting New Yorkers on parole the ability to vote? Currently those on parole may obtain a Certificate of Good Conduct or Relief to have their right to vote restored, but few of these are granted, and they cannot be applied for immediately upon release.	Support/Oppose
6. What is your position on amending the constitution to allow for Election Day Voter Registration?	Support/Oppose
7. What is your position on amending the constitution to allow for no-excuse absentee voting?	Support/Oppose
8. What is your position on instituting early voting in New York State to allow voters to cast their votes at more convenient times over a period of several days?	Support/Oppose
9. What is your position on reforming the special election process, utilizing a nonpartisan special election for state legislative vacancies, as proposed by S.161/A.5290?	Support/Oppose
10. What is your position regarding automatic voter registration in which voter registration information of individuals who consent to be registered is provided electronically to the Board of Elections, and address information is updated automatically?	Support/Oppose
11. What is your position on consolidating the state and federal primary to the third week in June, while ensuring that the legislative session ends at least two weeks prior?	? Support/Oppose
12. What is your position on instituting Instant Runoff Voting (IRV) for primary elections in citywide election in New York City, effectively eliminating the need for a separate runoff election?	? Support/Oppose

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

13. What is your position on establishing a matching public financing system for state legislative and statewide races similar to the New York City model?	Support/Oppose
14. What is your position on lowering campaign contribution limits for legislative and statewide candidates for public office?	Support/Oppose
15. What is your position on restricting campaign contributions from registered lobbyists, placement agents and those who do business with the state?	Support/Oppose

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM (CONTINUED)

16. What is your position on limiting or banning campaign contributions from corporations, LLCs, and LLPs? (Note: such entities would have the constitutionally-protected right to form separate political action committees.)	Support/Oppose
17. What is your position on closing "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/Oppose
18. What is your position on requiring candidates to include the full name, home address, and employer/business name for each contribution and bundler?	Support/Oppose
19. What is your position on requiring that two periodic campaign finance reports be filed during the legislative session to reflect contributions given during the session?	Support/Oppose
20. What is your position on stricter requirements on the use of campaign contributions for non-campaign related activity, such as personal use?	Support/Oppose
21. What is your position on improving disclosure of independent expenditures such as requiring disclosure of electioneering activities?	Support/Oppose
22. What is your position on limiting the ability of candidates to accumulate "war chests" and then transferring funds raised in one race to another in which they run?	Support/Oppose
23. What is your position on clarifying the definition of coordination between candidates and political committees to ensure candidate contribution limits are not exceeded, and expenditures and contributions are properly reported?	Support/Oppose

JUDICIAL REFORM

24. What is your position on a merit-based appointment system through creation of a commission for the selection of judges in all of New York's trial courts?	? Support/Oppose
25. What is your position simplifying and modernizing the state's court system by consolidating the nine trial courts into a two-tiered system?	? Support/Oppose

ETHICS REFORM

26. What is your position on empowering the Attorney General to investigate and prosecute cases involving public corruption, including serious election law malfeasance?	? Support/Oppose
27. What is your position on amending the State Constitution to extend pension forfeiture, subject to due process safeguards, to all public officers and legislators who have been convicted of felonies?	? Support/Oppose

BUDGET REFORM

28. 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/Oppose
29. What is your position on establishing 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/Oppose
30. What is your position on the use of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) rather than cash accounting for the state budget?	Support/Oppose
31. What is your position on ensuring adequate disclosure and itemization of discretionary funds, including member items and lump sum funds, as well as reporting on their usage?	Support/Oppose
32. What is your position on incorporating the use of performance budgeting and outcome measurement to promote the more rational appropriation of state funds?	Support/Oppose
33. What is your position on instituting a later start date for the state fiscal year?	Support/Oppose
34. What is your position on limiting the ability of the governor to enact policy changes governing the use of resources in appropriation bills by requiring that such bills be consistent	Support/Oppose

II. CAMPAIGN PROMISES MADE TO VOTERS (PAST AND CURRENT)

As a candidate who presently does not hold elected office, CU is interested in knowing your top five campaign promises you are making to the voters during this campaign for this position.

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

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

TOP FIVE 2014 CAMPAIGN PROMISES OR GOALS

1. See attached.
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Please return to: Citizens Union, Local Candidates Committee
 299 Broadway, Suite 700 New York, NY 10007
 via fax to 212.227.0345 or via email to candidates@citizensunion.org
 Call us at 212-227-0342 with any questions.



Biography

Crystal Collins has over 20 years of experience in healthcare management and community service. Candidate Collins began her career in health care as a manager with Bronxwood Home for the Aged. Living in the Bronx Ms. Collins was awarded the opportunity to manage a senior care facility close to home. She is caring, giving and committed to her community. Ms. Collins has such compassion for the special needs, seniors and mentality disabled. She has worked closely with a mental health daycare facility in the Bronx, early intervention programs as well as assisted living facilities.

Continuing to strive for excellence professionally, Ms. Collins managed a Branch of a Home Health care agency overseeing the daily operations of the entire office.

In her leadership capacity, Ms. Collins offered continued employment and training opportunities to the youth and the community, on a whole, with her focus on Westchester County and the Northeast Section of the Bronx which included: Norwood, Eastchester, Baychester, Williambridge, Gunhill, Co-op city, Wakefield & Mt. Vernon.

Ms. Collins has a demonstrated commitment to her community. Her volunteering extends from advocacy for seniors and youth, as an elected official in the City of Mount Vernon as a District Leader and as a youth church director and youth advisor at Union Grove.

Ms. Collins has held past positions of PTA President of the school of diplomacy middle school 370, a past Vice -president of East 217th street condominiums and a 83rd assembly district leader candidate.

During Ms. Collins 20 years in the healthcare industry, she was recognized in the "Covington's who's who" professional magazine for her continued effort and commitment to her profession. Additionally the Bronx Branch NAACP recognized her at their annual freedom fund by awarding her with the community leader award of the year.

Ms. Collins was raised by a single mother and her 11 siblings in the Edenwald housing development for 25 years. Ms. Collins is a lifelong resident of the 36th district, and she is a proud parent, of four boys who all attend the public school system. Ms. Collins is truly committed to community with a desire to improve the quality of life for all.



CRYSTAL
Collins
DEMOCRAT
NEW YORK STATE SENATE
39TH SENATE DISTRICT
WWW.CRYSTALCOLLINS4SENATENYS.COM

SEPTEMBER
9TH

I WILL WORK FOR YOU

Many residents have express loss of faith, trust and hope in our system of democracy, in your elected officials.

Your desire to improve the quality of living in this district, your voice is heard by me.

As a mother, I know your family deserves access to quality health care. Our children deserve opportunity for educational success in schools. Our families deserve to be safe in public. This is the time for **New Leadership** and a **New Vision** for our community.

As your New York State Senator, My focus is on the success of you and your family in this district. As your neighbor, understanding what matters to you is important to me.

As a healthcare manager of over 20 years I've learned to understand the issues first, and then fix them. I am committed to understanding your concerns, then working for you to improve the quality of your living in the Bronx and Mt. Vernon.

Let's work together! Let's restore trust, faith and hope in this community.

Let's communicate, email me, contribute to my campaign, like me on Facebook and join the movement to improve life in this district.

Join the movement to improve life in this district.

Friends of Crystal Collins, PO Box 420, Mount Vernon, NY 10552 914-888-3362
www.crvstalcollins4senatenys.com



CRYSTAL
Collins

DEMOCRAT

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130 WEST 42ND STREET, 10TH FLOOR
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SEPTEMBER
9TH

I WILL WORK FOR YOU

Education

College of Mount Saint Vincent, MS HealthCare Systems & Policies
College of Mount Saint Vincent, BS Business
Interboro, AAS Accounting
P.S. 112, John Phillip Sousa JHS and Clinton H.S.

Work Experience

Regional Supervisor/Branch Manager
Home Health Care Agency/Community Base Employer
Regional Supervisor/Case Manager
Early Intervention Program/Special Needs/Manager for Adult/Assisted Living Facility/Customer Relations
Management/Supervisor Mental Health Facility

Awards

Bronx Branch NAACP Freedom Fund Community Leader Award

Community Involvement

Mount Vernon Overall Economic Development member
Mount Vernon, NY District Leader 37th
Westchester County Senior Program Speaker Member
Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church Bronx, NY Youth Church Director/Youth Advisor,
MV4U Active Volunteer, Bridging the Gap MV/BX, Founder
Bronx Middle School #370 Past PTA President, Bronx Condominium Past Vice President
83rd District Leader Candidate

Friends of Crystal Collins, PO Box 420, Mount Vernon, NY 10552 914-888-3362



Interested in learning more?

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Crystal Collins Platform for a Better 36th Senate District

New Leadership, New Vision

More than one in four families is living in poverty in the Bronx. Basic living needs including quality health care, educational success and public safety are impeded. If elected as your New York State Senator, my main focus would be you. My goal is to work for you and improve the quality of life in all areas.

Jobs and the Economy

I will work with small business communities and active business associations to promote and strengthen their relationship so that they will work collectively to enhance the quality of life for the business owners and residents within our area. I will fight for more funding to increase the economic growth in the district and increase job opportunities.

Education

Facts! The Bronx has a high school dropout rate of 31% which is more than double the national average of 15%. Programs are essential to tackle this issue. As your New York State Senator, I will diligently work for our community to bring resources and programs to this area. I am a parent of four and I have a vested interest in the improvement of our schools across the board for both Mount Vernon and the Bronx.

Seniors

I will fight for seniors. My goal is to achieve better access to senior services programs and benefits. Many of our seniors are struggling to make ends meet, suffering from hunger, physical, mental, health and financial hardships.

Housing

I will continue to fight for the availability of affordable housing in our district. I will work with our local officials to develop a plan to meet the tax cap initiative to bring some reprieve to homeowners.

Public Safety

I will work collectively with the community grassroots organizations and the local police to aide in repairing the mistrust and fear that has been imbedded into the minds of our district.

Public Health

Prevention. Prevention. Prevention...is the key. Our district has a high inference of childhood obesity, obesity, diabetes, hypertension and asthma. Preventative programs are imperative to fight the rise in these areas.

My goal is to work for you and improve the quality of life in all areas..



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