

Citizens Union

2008 PRIMARY VOTERS DIRECTORY

A Non-Partisan Guide to Informed Voting

"VOTING BOOTH"
NEW YORK CITY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS


CITIZENS UNION
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

VOTE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

VISIT WWW.CITIZENSUNION.ORG FOR UPDATED INFORMATION



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Peter J.W. Sherwin, Chair

Peter J.W. Sherwin, <i>Chair</i>	John P. Avlon	Esther Fuchs, Ph.D.	Malcolm MacKay
Richard Briffault, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Joel Berger	Sally Goodgold	Anthony Mattia
Lucy Cabrera, Ph.D., <i>Vice Chair</i>	Nancy Bowe	Gail H. Hilson	Miguel Melendez
Gail Erickson, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Gerrard P. Bushell	Chung-Wha Hong	Tom Osterman
Gena Lovett, <i>Treasurer</i>	John Crotty	John R. Horan	John Proudfit
Robert Abrams	Christina R. Davis	Robert M. Kaufman	Anusha Rasalingam
	Richard J. Davis	Ian L. Kelley	Luis O. Reyes, Ph.D.
	Allan H. Dobrin	Eric S. Lee	Torrance Robinson
	Helena Rose Durst	Harold Levy	Lillian Rodríguez López
	Edythe W. First	Ogden N. Lewis	Alan Rothstein
	John L. Flateau, Ph.D.	Mark Lieberman	Edward C. Swenson

LOCAL CANDIDATES COMMITTEE

John Horan, Chair

Tim Abraham	Sally Goodgold	Peter Killen	Howard Mendes
Miriam Adelman	Katherine Gray	Patricia Killen	John T. Moran
Scott Avidon	William M. Herrlich	Adam Kurtz	Peter J.W. Sherwin
Thomas H. Bach	Tracie Holder	Sandra Lespinasse	Frances Scanlon
Josephine Barnes	Haris Hromic	Matthew Levison	Anthony R. Smith
David A. Brauner	Seth Hufford	Mark Lieberman	Edward M. Strauss, III
John Delmar	Doug Israel	Alan Lubliner	William I. Weisberg
Patricia Dolan	Yvette Jackson	Stephen Maresca	David Westerman
Gail Erickson	Dan Jacoby	Anthony Mattia	Dominic Williams
Arthur Galub	Jonathan Judge	Kerry McCarthy	
Joseph Gapper	Rita Kardeman	Melissa McNamara	
Rona Goldwitz	Daniel Kasell	Bill Meehan	

STAFF

Dick Dadey, Executive Director

Rachael Fauss, <i>Policy & Research Associate</i>	Sara Stuart, <i>Director of Development & Communications</i>
Beth Goffe, <i>Executive Assistant & Office Coordinator</i>	Ya-Hsuan Huang, <i>Web Producer & Graphic Designer</i>
Sally McCullough, <i>Office & Finance Manager</i>	Vera Willensky, <i>Volunteer Coordinator</i>
Andrea Senteno, <i>Program Associate & Local Candidates Staff Coordinator</i>	

INTERNS AND VOLUNTEERS

Danny Berger	Ryan Fukumori	King Leung
Rebecca Dell	Jenna Hovel	Joe Lormel



TABLE OF CONTENTS

VOTERS DIRECTORY PRIMARY ELECTION 2008

*“A Union of Citizens, without regard to party,
for the purpose of securing the honest and efficient
government of the City of New York”*

Letter from Citizens Union	4
About this Directory	6
Primary Election Candidate Preferences	7
Contested Elections	8
Local Candidate Evaluation and Support Principles	13
Citizens Union Candidate Questionnaire	15
Candidate Questionnaire Responses	18
Bronx State Senate and Assembly Maps	20
Bronx State Senate and Assembly Evaluations	22
Brooklyn State Senate and Assembly Maps	24
Brooklyn State Senate and Assembly Evaluations	26
Manhattan State Senate and Assembly Maps	34
Manhattan State Senate and Assembly Evaluations	36
Queens State Senate and Assembly Maps	41
Queens State Senate and Assembly Evaluations	43
Staten Island State Senate and Assembly Maps	47
Staten Island State Senate and Assembly Evaluations	49
Further Resources	50



LETTER FROM CITIZENS UNION

Dear Fellow New York Voter,

This year New York enters a time of change for the way in which elections are conducted. With new voting machines making their way to voters over the next year, the act of voting will undoubtedly change. If New Yorkers could only benefit by having more competitive local races in which to vote. However, what this year's primary season demonstrates is that even with changes in voting technology, without meaningful reform, we may change how vote, but not what we vote for. This year almost all local elections for state legislature remain non-competitive.

When voters go to their poll sites this September, they will find new machines, but also a striking lack of competitive primaries across the city. With few open seats, and the annual routine of ballot challenges knocking off dozens of challengers, few opponents have been left standing as we approach Primary Election Day on September 9th.

In two state legislative races in particular, one in the Bronx and one in Queens, the process for filling vacancies on the ballot epitomize the need for reform. In both cases, the incumbent legislator withdrew from his race for re-election after he had filed ballot petitions, securing his spot on the ballot. Party rules allow candidate designated local party leaders to select his replacement on the ballot should he vacate the office after the petitions have been filed and before the election is held. Assemblymembers Luis Diaz and Ivan Lafayette resigned their seats during this period of time, resulting in their replacements being selected by a five-person vacancy committee. Those replacements will not only receive the support of the party in races, making their wins almost guaranteed, but they also will win seats without having to collect one signature. With no way to vet these candidates with the involvement of voters, and with the restrictive voting policies in place that often result in the disenfranchisement of voters, the political parties in New York have again have used the current structure to maintain their power and control over candidates they support.

Ending this horrible practice is but one of the many election reform issues that Citizens Union is trying to change. This state will have more competitive elections when it implements such reforms as Election-Day voter registration, campaign finance reform, independent redistricting, and election administration reform. The day when these reforms are realized will mark an important change for voters.

Regarding the new machines, the national Help America Vote Act (HAVA) requires New York State to update its voting systems. This year, ballot marking devices (BMDs) will be in every poll site across the city, and they will allow disabled voters to cast private and independent ballots at their polling locations, something they could not before do. They pave the way for an entire new voting system in 2009 that will replace all of New York's now famous lever voting machines. New Yorkers, some voting on the same machine their entire life, will suddenly be faced with big changes, but with public



LETTER FROM CITIZENS UNION

education and quality poll workers, we hope for a less than rocky transition. This year in September and November, we will be voting on our lever machines for the last time.

So to help prepare you, we bring you our annual voters directory, which is not possible without the hard work of the members of the Citizens Union Local Candidates Committee. They contributed their time, energy and expertise this summer to interview candidates, analyze races, and meet together to make these important decisions. In our candidate evaluation process, we rely on information from many sources, including the candidate's responses to our questionnaire, previous track record on reform, and ability to represent their district well. We thank everyone involved for your participation and commitment to Citizens Union.

We will do this all again in the coming months for our November General Election directory. Meanwhile, with the momentum of a presidential election, we will watch closely with all of you this exciting election season.

Sincerely,

Peter J.W. Sherwin
Chair, Board of
Directors

John Horan
Chair, Local
Candidate Committee

Dick Dadey
Executive Director

Andrea Senteno
Local Candidates
Staff Coordinator



ABOUT THIS DIRECTORY

This directory lists every contest for public office that will be on the ballot in New York City on September 9, 2008. Voters should be aware that New York's tangled election laws often result in the last minute elimination (or reinstatement) of candidates.

Many key contests for State Assembly and State Senate seats have been evaluated by nonpartisan interview teams from Citizens Union's Local Candidates Committee. Citizens Union does not evaluate candidates for federal office or candidates for the judiciary, but for the surrogate court.

This year's interview teams were charged with soliciting candidates' views on key proposals aimed at reforming the legislative process in Albany, assessing the candidates' general experience, and their knowledge of district, city, and statewide issues. No single answer by a candidate ensures – or rules out – a preference.

Recommendations for a "Preferred" rating are made by the Local Candidates Committee (LCC) on the basis of the interview, research, an issues questionnaire, and first-hand knowledge of the candidate. These recommendations are reviewed by 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 being sought, but committed to an agenda of positive reform in Albany. Candidates not preferred may nevertheless be highly regarded by Citizens Union. These distinctions are generally reflected in the commentaries. The "Preferred" rating will apply for the Primary Election only. Citizens Union will be issuing "Endorsed" ratings for the General Election contests.

A "No Preference" rating may result when there is insufficient information available, when one or more of the candidates has not been interviewed, or when a determination has been made that the candidates are of equal merit. Only candidates that have been interviewed can receive our preference.

All maps were supplied by the Community Mapping Assistance Project (CMAP).
--



2008 PRIMARY ELECTION CANDIDATE PREFERENCES

BRONX

Senate District 33

Pedro Espada Jr.

BROOKLYN

Senate District 21

Kevin Parker

Senate District 25*

Martin Connor vs. Daniel Squadron
*Attend our September 3, 2008
Candidate Debate and then check
www.citizensunion.org for an update
on our decision.*

Assembly District 40

Inez Barron

Assembly District 55

Royston Anione vs. William Boyland
vs. Leonard Hatter
*Check www.citizensunion.org for
an update on our decision.*

MANHATTAN

Assembly District 64

No Preference

Assembly District 72

Adriano Espaillat

Manhattan Surrogate's Court

Nora Anderson vs. John Reddy vs.
Milton Tingling
*Check www.citizensunion.org for
update on our decision.*

QUEENS

Senate District 16

Toby Ann Stavisky

Assembly District 22

No Preference

STATEN ISLAND

*Staten Island has no state senate or state assembly primaries.
We intend to evaluate Staten Island candidates in the General Election.*

**Includes portions of Brooklyn and Manhattan*



CONTESTED PRIMARY ELECTIONS

FEDERAL ELECTIONS

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TERM OF OFFICE: TWO YEARS • SALARY: \$150,000

BROOKLYN

Democratic Primaries

District 10 **Edolphus Towns (D)**
Kevin Powell (D)

District 13* Stephen Harrison (D)
Michael McMahon (D)

Republican Primary

District 13* Robert Stranieri (R)
Jamshad Wýne (R)

STATEN ISLAND

Democratic Primaries

District 13* Stephen Harrison (D)
Michael McMahon (D)

Republican Primary

District 13* Robert Stranieri (R)
Jamshad Wýne (R)

** District includes portions of more than one borough.
Incumbents in bold.*



CONTESTED PRIMARY ELECTIONS

STATEWIDE ELECTIONS

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY
TERM OF OFFICE: 2 YEARS • SALARY: \$79,500

BRONX

Democratic Primaries

<i>District 79</i>	Michael Benjamin (D, WF) Sigfredo Gonzalez (D) Jose Padilla (D)	<i>District 85</i>	Israel Cruz (D) Ruben Diaz Jr. (D, WF)
<i>District 83</i>	Sherman Browne (D) Carl Heastie (D, WF)	<i>District 86</i>	Nelson Castro (D) Mike Soto (D)

BROOKLYN

Democratic Primaries

<i>District 40</i>	Inez Barron (D) Nathan Bradley (D) Kenneth Evans (D) Winchester Key (D) Earl Williams (D)	<i>District 55</i>	Royston Antoine (D) William Boyland Jr. (D, WF) Leonard Hatter Jr. (D)
<i>District 42</i>	Michele Adolphe (D) Rhoda Jacobs (D, WF)	<i>District 59</i>	Alan Maisel (D) H. R. Clarke (D)

MANHATTAN

Democratic Primaries

<i>District 64</i>	Luke Henry (D) Paul Newell (D) Sheldon Silver (D, WF)	<i>District 72</i>	Adriano Espaillat (D, WF) Miguel Martinez (D)
--------------------	--	--------------------	---

** District includes portions of more than one borough.
Incumbents in bold.*



CONTESTED PRIMARY ELECTIONS

QUEENS

Democratic Primaries

District 22 Grace Meng (D)
Ellen Young (D, I, WF)

STATEN ISLAND

No Primary Races

NEW YORK STATE SENATE
TERM OF OFFICE: 2 YEARS • SALARY: \$79,500

BRONX

Democratic Primaries

District 33 Pedro Espada Jr. (D)
Efrain Gonzalez Jr. (D)
Richard Soto (D, R, I)

BROOKLYN

Democratic Primaries

<i>District 21</i> Simcha Felder (D) Kevin Parker (D, WF) Kendall Stewart (D)	<i>District 25*</i> Martin Connor (D) Daniel Squadron (D)
--	---

** District includes portions of more than one borough.
Incumbents in bold.*



CONTESTED PRIMARY ELECTIONS

MANHATTAN

Democratic Primary

District 25* **Martin Connor (D)**
Daniel Squadron (D)

QUEENS

Democratic Primaries

District 10 **Shirley Huntley (D, WF)**
Allen Jennings Jr. (D)

District 16 Robert Schwartz (D)
Toby Ann Stavisky (D, WF)

District 15 Joseph Addabbo Jr. (D, WF)
Albert Baldeo (D)[†]

STATEN ISLAND

No Primary Races

[†] Candidate Albert Baldeo has announced his exit from the race.

* District includes portions of more than one borough.
Incumbents in bold.



CONTESTED PRIMARY ELECTIONS

CIVIL COURT JUDGESHIPS

TERM OF OFFICE: 10 YEARS • ELECTED COUNTYWIDE OR BY DISTRICT •
SALARY: \$125,600

BRONX

Democratic Primary – Countywide

Maria Matos
Verena Powell
Elizabeth Taylor

BROOKLYN

Democratic Primary

District 1st Municipal Court

Roger Adler
Devin Cohen

MANHATTAN

Democratic Primary – Countywide

Nancy Bannon (D)
Michael Katz (D)

SURROGATE COURT JUDGESHIPS

TERM OF OFFICE: FOURTEEN YEARS • ELECTED COUNTYWIDE OR
BY DISTRICT • SALARY: \$136,700

MANHATTAN

Democratic Primary

Nora Anderson
John Reddy Jr.
Milton Tingling



LOCAL CANDIDATE EVALUATION AND SUPPORT PRINCIPLES

OUR VALUES AND AIMS

As an independent, non-partisan organization, Citizens Union works to promote good government and political reform in the City and State of New York. For more than 111 years, CU has worked to combat the corrupting influence of Tammany Hall and its inheritors.

In keeping with this tradition, CU aims to promote a competitive and diverse political culture, a fair and open political process, and accountable and responsible governance. Through public education, issue advocacy, and civic engagement, CU seeks to inform the citizens of New York, affect the issues in which it is involved, and advance the cause for which it was founded. To that end, CU evaluates candidates for elected office and backs those candidates who strongly support and can advance our stated agenda for reform.

When CU evaluates and supports candidates, it focuses on significant, competitive races; on races in which an incumbent has earned our support by his or her diligence in pursuing our agenda; and on races in which an incumbent has earned our opposition by either being an obstacle to reform in office or through inappropriate personal behavior. Races considered for evaluation and support shall be limited to the following:

- a) City-wide — Mayor, Public Advocate, and Comptroller
- b) Borough-wide — Borough President, District Attorney, and Surrogate Court Judges
- c) Legislative — State Senate, State Assembly, and City Council
- d) State-wide — Governor, Attorney General, and Comptroller

The following guidelines help the Local Candidates Committee (LCC) and the Board of Directors fulfill CU's mission.

OUR CRITERIA

The criteria for determining CU's support for a candidate is as follows:

1. Support for Citizens Union's reform agenda shall be a primary criteria used in deciding its support for a candidate.
2. Evidence of ability to wage an effective and competitive campaign shall be considered, but not be determinative.



— LOCAL CANDIDATE EVALUATION AND SUPPORT PRINCIPLES —

3. Ability to advance CU's goals, if elected, shall be considered, but not determinative.
4. 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.
5. State, local, or community issues specific to the race's jurisdiction shall be considered (as determined annually by the Board and LCC) as will candidates' ability to grasp these issues, propose thoughtful solutions, and represent the interests of their constituents, but these factors shall be given less weight than CU agenda issues.
6. The practice of ethical conduct and adherence to high ethical standards shall also be seriously considered.
7. For city-wide or state-wide races, CU not only will evaluate candidates against the above criteria, but also gauge their knowledge and command of other issues as defined by the Board and their proposed approach in addressing them.
8. Evaluation of the candidates and the decision to support a particular candidate shall be made without regard to political party and in a non-partisan manner.



CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

The following list of questions were sent to each candidate running for State Legislature. Candidates were asked to answer each question and were given the opportunity for elaboration at the end of the questionnaire. The support or oppose answers are compiled in the following pages. These answers, as well as their additional comments, were a part of our candidate evaluation process. To view completed candidate questionnaires, please visit www.citizensunion.org.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

1. Where do you stand on lowering campaign contribution limits for legislative and statewide candidates for public office?
2. What is your position on establishing a system of public financing for state legislative and statewide races?
3. If you support public financing, what is your position on a system where public funds are awarded on a matching basis (similar in design and function to the New York City system) rather than a system of full public funding of campaigns?
4. What is your position on restricting campaign contributions from registered lobbyists and those who do business with the state?
5. What is your position on banning campaign contributions from corporations, LLCs, and LLPs, while still allowing such entities to form separate PACs?
6. What is your position on banning campaign contributions from unions, while still allowing them to form separate PACs?
7. What is your position on limiting transfers from party committees to candidates, or other committees, to twice the limit set on individual contributors and limiting contributions to party committees to the same ceiling placed on candidates?
8. What is your position on increasing disclosure and reporting of campaign contributions and expenditures by requiring candidates to include full name, home address, and employer/business name for each contribution?
9. 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?



CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

ELECTION REFORM

10. What is your position on restructuring the state Board of Elections and changing the administration of elections by amending the constitution to abolish the two-party system of governance and operation?
11. What is your position on making it easier for candidates to appear on the ballot (i.e. lower signature requirements, less burdensome witness signature requirements, etc.)?
12. Where do you stand on amending the state constitution to allow adoption of statewide Election Day voter registration?
13. 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?
14. Where do you stand on establishing by statute an Independent Legislative Redistricting Commission charged with drawing congressional and state legislative lines, thus removing the responsibility from the Legislature?
15. Where do you stand on the adoption of stricter redistricting rules that would ensure that every district is: more equal in population (within 1% deviation from the mean), contiguous and compact, formed without regard for protecting an incumbent or political party, mindful of the need to keep neighborhoods intact, and not drawn to undermine racial, linguistic, and ethnic representation?

ETHICS REFORM

16. What is your position on changing the representation of the newly formed Commission on Public Integrity so no one elected official makes a majority of the appointments?
17. What is your position on expanding the jurisdiction of the newly formed Commission on Public Integrity to include legislative ethics violations?
18. What is your position on stricter requirements on the use of campaign contributions for non-campaign related activity, such as personal use?



CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

BUDGET REFORM

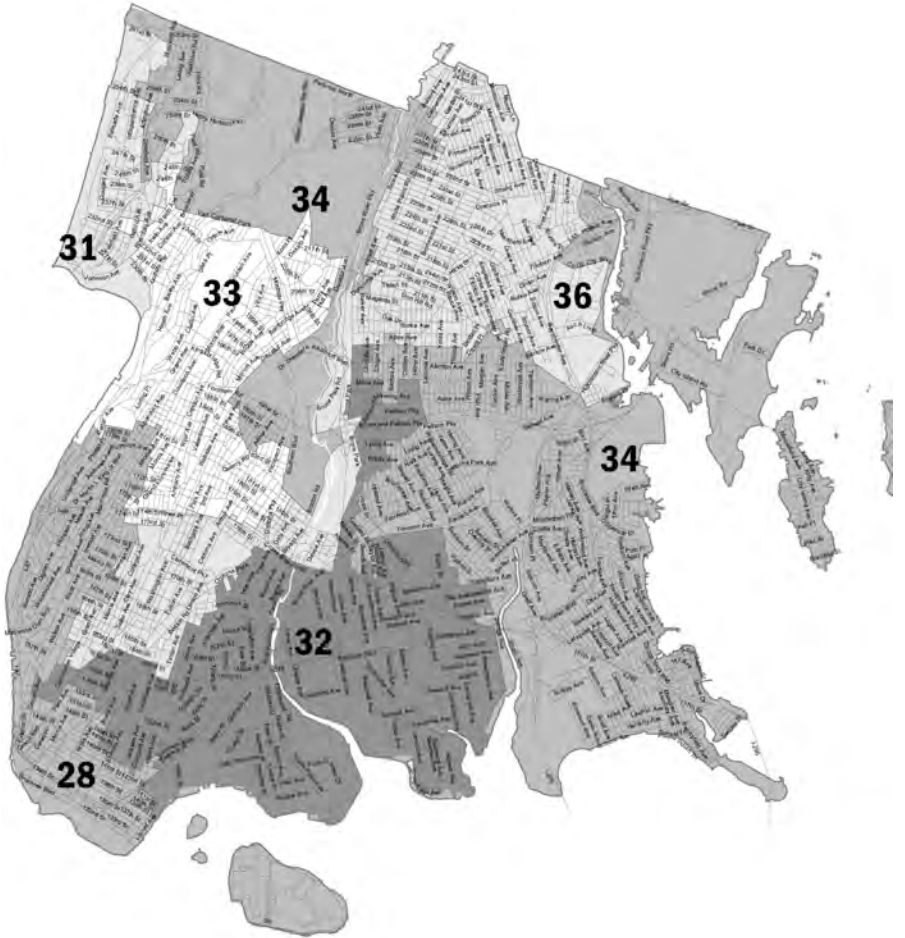
19. What is your position on requiring all budget documents, including budget bills and legislative additions, to be presented in a format that is organized into programmatic categories and allows for comparison between past year and expected spending in order to facilitate public and legislative review?
20. What is your position on requiring the governor's budget submission to present the full scope of the state's financial condition, including its public authorities, and to provide a clear, comprehensive, and consolidated picture of the state's budget operations and fiscal obligations?
21. Do you support 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?
22. What is your position on creating an independent Public Authorities Budget Office and requiring disclosure of detailed budgetary operations of all public authorities?
23. What is your position on requiring regular reporting of lump-sum appropriations and member items that includes detailed information on MoUs, funds distributed, recipients, and remaining funds?

ADDITIONAL REFORM

24. Do you support a system of selecting New York trial court judges through an appointment process in which candidates are recommended by citizens committees on the basis of merit?
25. Do you support reform of the Wicks Law that requires New York State government entities to award separate prime contracts for the major components of a construction project?
26. What was your position on holding a public vote on the floor on the issue of congestion pricing?



BRONX STATE SENATE DISTRICT MAP

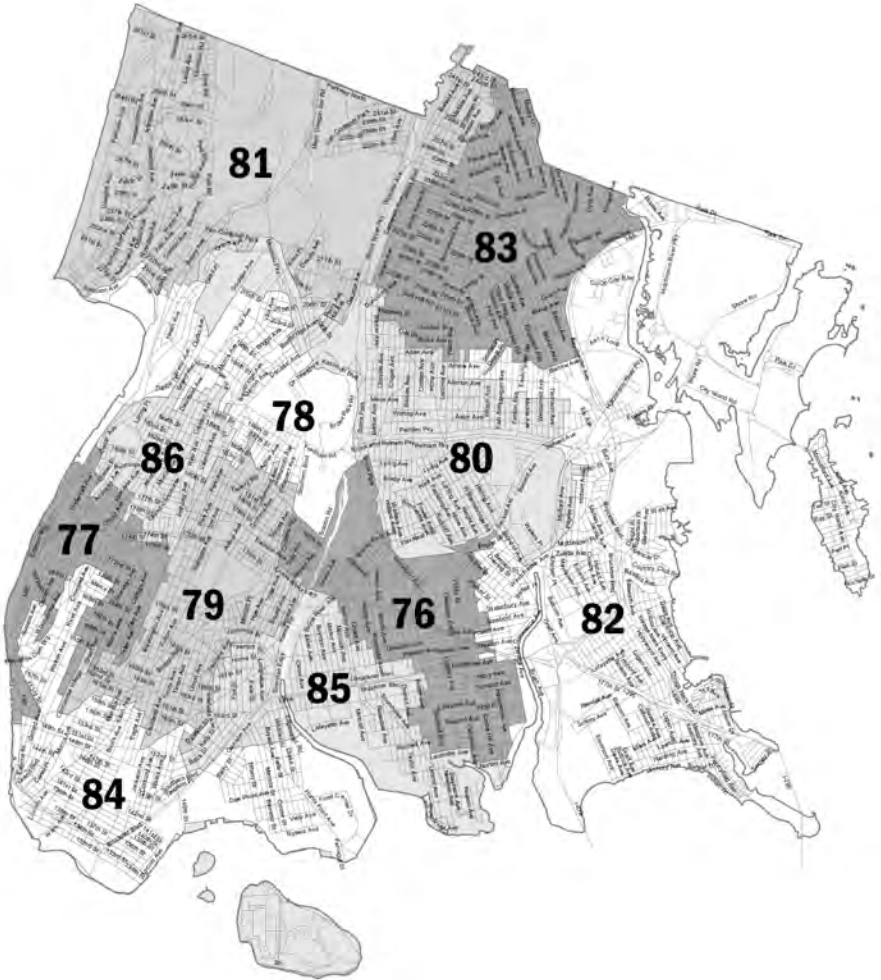


Sources: NYS Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, April 22, 2002;
US Census Bureau TIGER Line files, 2000





BRONX STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT MAP



Sources: NYS Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, April 22, 2002;
US Census Bureau TIGER Line files, 2000





BRONX STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

• BRONX STATE SENATE RACES •

DISTRICT 33

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE — PEDRO ESPADA JR. — DEM ★

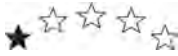
Has returned questionnaire; see responses on page 18.

Age: 54 Occupation: CEO, Health Centers

Education: Hunter College (BA); NYU (Real Estate Certificate)

Pedro Espada Jr. is a former three-term state senator from the Bronx. A healthcare provider, Espada has established a network of clinics which he has used as a platform to become civically active. Espada is seeking office again in a different Senate district than the one he used to represent, because he recently moved. He believes that the Bronx and New York City have a unique opportunity right now to utilize undeveloped parcels of land in the district to work with developers and negotiate with the city to allow these projects in exchange for improvements in safety, environment, and the economy within the district. He identifies the number one problem in his district as quality affordable housing, and would work in Albany to find ways to preserve and build affordable housing units. Espada, a supporter of most Citizens Union's reform measures, particularly noted the need for an independent redistricting committee and maintains that legislators should not be responsible for drawing their own district lines. He has seen how the current practice of having the lines drawn by the legislature has been unfair and preserved those in power.

Citizens Union remains concerned about how Espada's healthcare organization has contributed to his political activity, given that several of his aides pleaded guilty several years ago to such activity. He himself was found not guilty of similar charges. Given that his opponent, the incumbent Senator is currently under indictment, without yet the benefit of a trial, for misuse of state legislative member items, and has not responded to Citizens Union's repeated requests to be interviewed, Citizens Union believes that the district deserves better. Espada is someone who has professed to be a reformer and is concerned about providing more services and support to the district. For all of these reasons, Citizens Union prefers Espada.



BRONX STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

EFRAIN GONZALEZ JR. – DEM

Has NOT returned questionnaire.

Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview.

Occupation: Senator, NYS Senate

RICHARD SOTO – DEM, REP, IND

Has NOT returned questionnaire

Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview.

THE FOLLOWING RACES IN THE BRONX HAVE NOT BEEN EVALUATED BY CITIZENS UNION:

BRONX STATE ASSEMBLY RACES

District 76 **Michael Benjamin (D,WF)**
Sigfredo Gonzalez (D)
Jose Padilla (D)

District 85 **Ruben Diaz Jr. (D,WF)**
Israel Cruz (D)

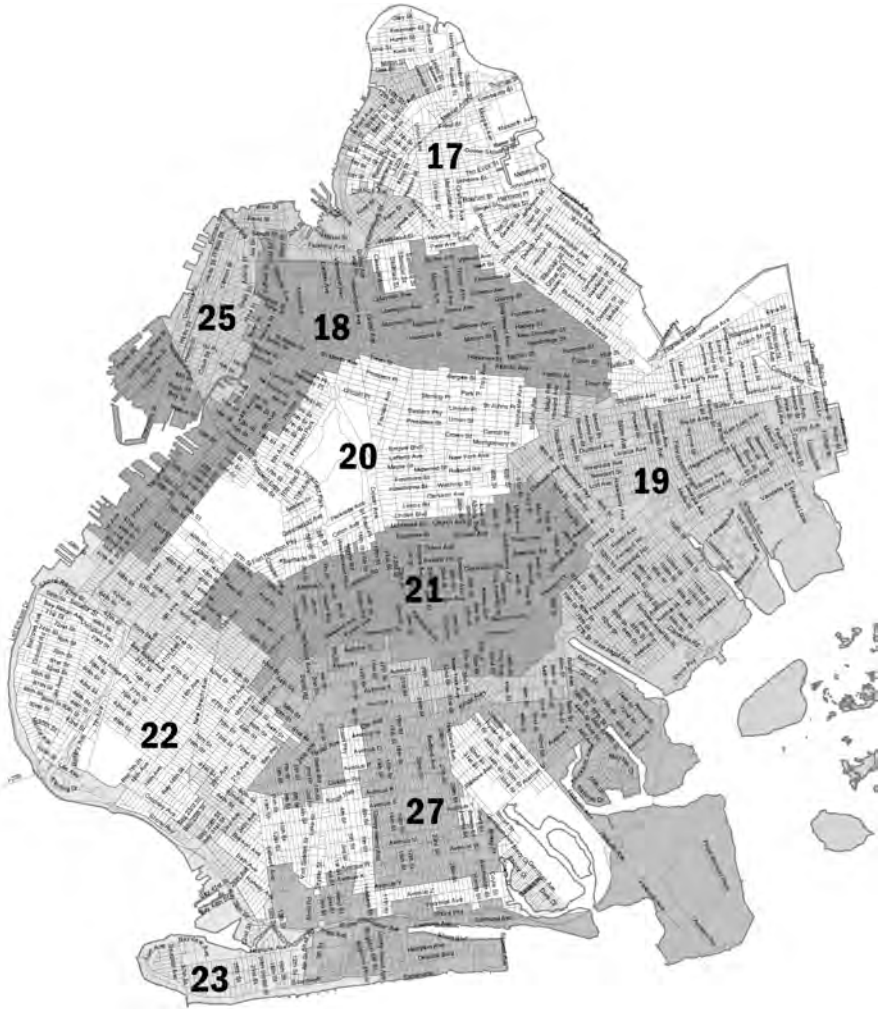
District 83 Sherman Browne (D)
Carl Heastie (D,WF)

District 86 Nelson Castro (D)
Mike Soto

Incumbent candidates in bold.



BROOKLYN STATE SENATE DISTRICT MAP

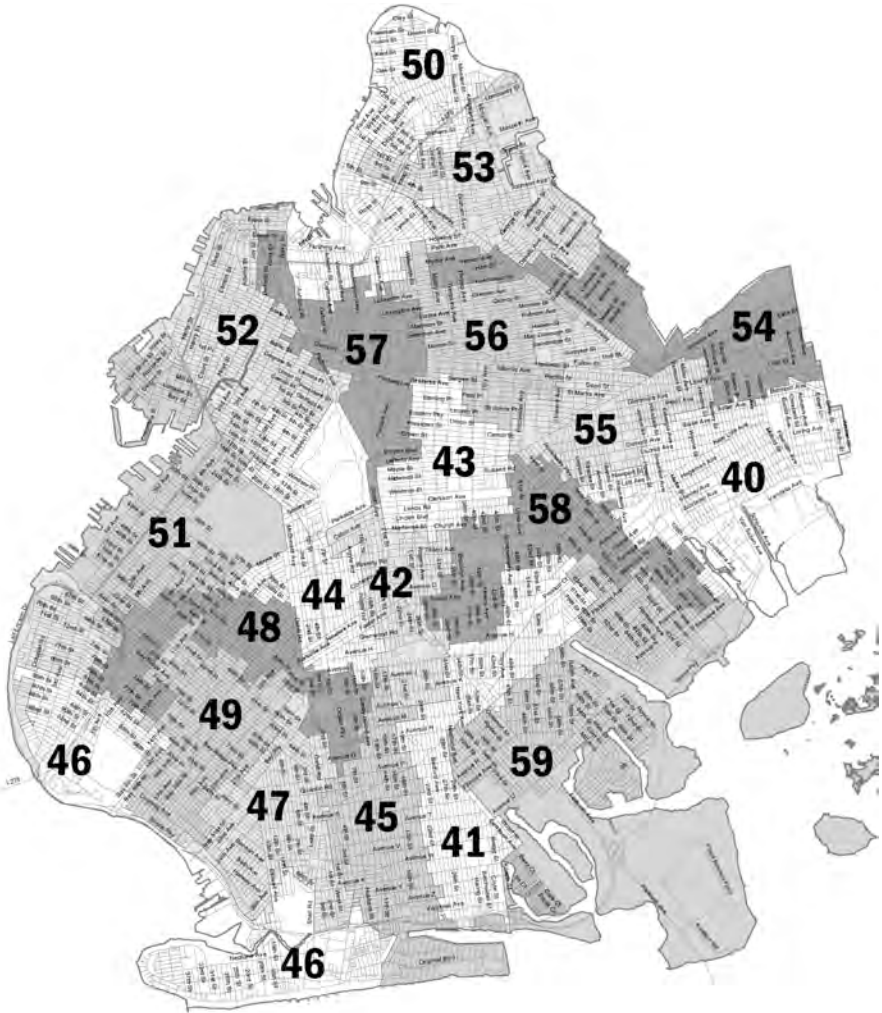


Sources: NYS Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, April 22, 2002;
US Census Bureau TIGER Line files, 2000





BROOKLYN STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT MAP



Sources: NYS Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, April 22, 2002;
US Census Bureau TIGER Line files, 2000





BROOKLYN STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

• BROOKLYN STATE SENATE RACES •

DISTRICT 21

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE — KEVIN PARKER — DEM, WF ★

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 18.

Age: 41 Occupation: Senator, NYS Senate

Education: Pennsylvania State University (BS); The New School (MS)

Kevin Parker has served the 21st Senate District for the past six years. In that time, he has risen to the rank of Democratic Whip and is a ranking member of the Energy and Telecommunications Committee. He believes that Albany, though not perfect, is getting better, and looks forward to the possibility of the Democratic Party taking control of the senate to improve government openness and accountability. Parker, a supporter of most of Citizens Union's agenda, no longer advocates for the establishment of nonpartisan election administration. He argues that it would only serve to mask partisan affiliations. In response to the Governor's proposed budget cuts, Parker disagrees with the idea of a hiring freeze. Rather, he would like to reverse many of the irresponsible tax cuts introduced by Governor Pataki, such as the tax on fuel for private jets. A supporter of the millionaire's tax, he would like to shift the tax burden more towards the wealthy. In addition, Parker was a vocal advocate for providing driver's licenses to immigrants, and also believes one of his major accomplishments was his work to secure \$300,000, with the support of Senator Chuck Schumer, for a small business development center at Brooklyn College.

Parker has been an admirable representative for his district. Concern exists whether he effectively brings resources to all of his district needs, given how diverse the constituency is. Should he find himself in the majority next year, Citizens Union would expect him to put government reform at the top of his agenda, and use his leadership role to pass meaningful legislation in support of campaign finance, election reform, and legislative reform. Like many senators in the minority, he has taken supportive positions on reform without being in a position to bring them about. As it has in the past, Citizens Union prefers Kevin Parker in this race and sees no reason to reverse our prior support. CU look forward to reevaluating his future success in representing all of his district and fixing Albany, particularly if he finds himself in the majority.



BROOKLYN STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

SIMCHA FELDER — DEM

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Age: 49 Occupation: Member, NYC Council (District 44)

Education: Touro College (BA); Baruch (MBA)

An accountant by trade, Simcha Felder has represented the 44th Council District in the New York City Council for almost the past seven years. Initially preparing to run for New York City Comptroller in 2009, Felder eventually decided against it, citing the strains a year-long campaign would put on his family and the Comptroller position's lack of active community interaction. Felder currently serves as the chair of the Government Operations Committee in the City Council, and touts the passage of the city's Campaign Finance Reform Bill of 2007 as one of his notable accomplishments. Some of his other legislative accomplishments include changing the hours the Sanitation Department can fine individuals for personal trash found on their premises and his voting record as an advocate for New York City parks.

Felder characterized the three most pressing issues facing his district as affordable housing, safe streets, and constituent services. He offered renovation and retrofitting of city properties, and organizing civilian patrols as possible solutions. As the current city councilmember for some of these neighborhoods, Felder fears that in poor economic times, these problems may increase. He has pledged to do a better job of attending to the constituent and funding needs of his entire district unlike the current incumbent, to ensure that the district sees resolutions to these issues through increased services, legislation, and resources.

Felder has often stood with Citizens Union on a number of important issues, including campaign finance, election reform, and increased transparency in government. He has been an effective member of the Council and one of that body's stand out legislators. The district would be well served were he to be elected to the Senate, because Felder is a responsible and responsive public servant, but he did not make a convincing case as to why Citizens Union should turn its support from Parker to him.

KENDALL STEWART — DEM

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Age: 58 Occupation: Member, NYC Council (District 45); podiatrist

Education: City College (BA); New York College of Podiatric Medicine

Kendall Stewart was first elected to the City Council in 2002. Stewart represents a high proportion of new immigrants in his council district, and has dedicated much of his attention and resource to assist them. As chair of the City Council's immigration



BROOKLYN STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

committee, he has lobbied for common-sense immigration reform both within the City Council and the State Legislature like allowing qualified non-citizens to obtain a teaching license. He supports youth empowerment activities and creating trade school programs for non-college bound youths.

Stewart would like to see further checks and balances in the judicial appointment process, because he believes that the current system is flawed, as well as an appointment process. To increase transparency in Albany, he would advocate that more state and city proceedings be open to the public for participation and scrutiny. While Stewart supports a number of Citizens Union issues, he opposes the implementation of Election Day voter registration, because he thinks it would be difficult to implement and ensure accuracy. He believes that it also would be subject to manipulation by larger candidates that can turn out the vote and create the added problem of processing additional affidavit ballots. Stewart also opposes banning union contributions because it would take local union members out of the political process since the larger unions, as a whole, may not make contributions to the small campaigns. Stewart feels the current Senator is not representing the entire district and that certain organizations deserving of state support, are not receiving it.

Members of Stewart's staff were recently indicted in the City Council member item scandal this spring, with no outcome yet made. Stewart maintained that he was not aware of his staffers' involvement with the community organizations that received city funding. He says it is his policy not to know the board members of the groups he recommends to receive funding from the city, because he would not want to be seen as favoring one group over another because of relationships with people connected to the organization. He sees it as a conflict of interest for council members to do so, and would instead place the burden of identifying impropriety on the City Comptroller and city agencies. It is clear that Stewart has been effective at providing his district with much needed services and advocacy on behalf of immigrants, but given the unresolved issues involving the member item scandal and the experience of the incumbent, Citizens Union cannot support his election to the Senate.

DISTRICT 25

Citizens Union will issue a preference in this race for State Senate district 25, the day after our debate between the two candidates on September 3rd. You can check our decision at www.citizensunion.org.

MARTIN CONNOR — DEM

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Age: 63 Occupation: Senator, NYS Senate



BROOKLYN STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

Education: The Catholic University of America (BA; JD)

Martin Connor has been a member of the New York State Senate since 1978. Connor, a supporter of almost all of Citizens Union's agenda, carries with him years of experience and a strong grasp of the issues affecting the state as well as those of his local community. On the statewide level, he is a supporter of campaign finance reform to diminish the perception of impropriety, but also believes making state senate terms four years in length would allow candidates to spend more time focused on governing as opposed to fundraising. He believes that absent of real campaign finance reform there are other ways to curb the influence of special interests by holding more public hearings on issues and legislation. Though an election lawyer who earns money kicking challengers off the ballot, Connor is a supporter of easier ballot access and also open to election administration reform. He emphasized the need for professional personnel with little investment in election outcomes as one way to improve election administration. In his district, his primary concern is for the state of public housing, which historically received federal rather than state subsidies but recently has seen federal subsidies cut without new funding sources. In addition, he is supportive of increasing home rule for the city, but in the case of mayoral control of city schools, sees the need to make many modifications before continuing it, particularly focused on involving parents to a greater degree and creating a line of communication between parents and the central administration.

Though supportive of state government reform, Connor has been hampered by his party serving as the minority in the state senate. Nevertheless, he has not been as public a supporter of reform as others. Citizens Union has both supported Connor and not in the past, and is concerned that he has occupied the same seat for thirty-two years. If re-elected, we hope that he will be a more aggressive representative for reform and bring new energy and commitment to serving his district.

DANIEL SQUADRON — DEM, WF

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Age: 28 Occupation: N/A

Education: Yale University (BA)

Daniel Squadron, in his first campaign for elected office, has worked with Senator Charles Schumer both as an aide and co-author of *Winning Back the Middle-Class Majority One Family at a Time*, worked at the Department of Education, and lobbied on behalf of education and transportation issues as a representative of KnickerbockerSKD. He believes that Albany needs to be reformed and supports a nonpartisan commission to draw state legislative district lines and stronger efforts to hold public officials accountable. He has admirably released an eleven-point plan laying out his state government reform priorities that includes campaign finance



BROOKLYN STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

reform. His other top priorities are increasing education aid and affordable housing in his district. Squadron believes improved public education can help keep residents, who are at risk of leaving the city, to stay in NYC. He is also supportive of rezoning in Chinatown to increase affordable housing, as was done in through the Lower East Side with the help of community boards. Squadron is an appealing and energetic candidate, with a passion for public service. He moved to Carroll Gardens two years ago, a neighborhood in the district he seeks to represent. Voters would benefit from more details of how he will implement some of his agenda for better education and more affordable housing as he did not provide specifics for how he plans to address these issues. When questioned, he cited his first action as a legislator would be to begin a listening tour of the district to formulate his priorities, something CU hopes he is currently doing during the campaign so that he knows the district and its issues well enough so if elected he can enter with a specific and clear agenda for his district.

• BROOKLYN STATE ASSEMBLY RACES •

DISTRICT 40

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE — INEZ BARRON — DEM ★

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Age: 62 Occupation: Elementary School Principal (Retired)

Education: Hunter College (B.A.); Bank Street College of Education (MS)

Inez Barron is running in her first campaign for elected office. Encouraged by community members and her husband, City Councilmember Charles Barron, she is seeking to fill this seat in Brooklyn vacated as a result of the conviction of former Assemblymember Diane Gordon, who was found guilty of corruption charges. Barron has worked as a school principal and believes strongly in the need for better education in her district. An opponent of mayoral control of city schools, Barron instead is advocating for a board of parents, teachers, and other major players to take control of education. She also believes that more funding for school programming like the arts should also be allocated. Barron strongly supports the millionaire's tax and believes the tax should apply to those earning more than \$500,000. A supporter of many of Citizens Union's reform positions, she supports the right of unions—but not corporations—to create interest groups. In addition, budget reform would be one of her top priorities when arriving in Albany, pushing for a more transparent budget process and an equal distribution of member items by district. Barron is a well respected figure in



BROOKLYN STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

her district and has a long history of community service. Barron's desire to engage her community in the political process and make it accessible to them is admirable, and with her connections and support within the community, Citizens Union believes that of the candidates with whom it has met, she has the potential to be a needed reformer in Albany and serve her district well and in a way that has been sorely lacking.

NATHAN BRADLEY — DEM

Has NOT returned questionnaire.

Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview.

KENNETH EVANS — DEM

Has NOT returned questionnaire.

Candidate DID NOT APPEAR for scheduled interview.

WINCHESTER KEY — DEM

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview.

Age: 63 Occupation: President/CEO, East New York Urban Youth Corp., Inc.

Education: High School Diploma

EARL WILLIAMS — DEM

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Age: NA Occupation: Director of Community Event, Starrett City Associates

Education: College of San Mateo, CA (AA); NYU School of Continuing Education

Earl Williams has been involved within his district through local organizations and community outreach for over 30 years. His energy has been largely focused on his community board and he was the founder of the East New York Redevelopment Plan to help improve housing in the district. Williams says he is running to help bring the American dream to East New York. He notes that approximately 67% of students in his district do not graduate on time, making education his number one priority. He is also a strong supporter of PlaNYC 2030. On campaign finance, Williams supports instituting public financing for campaigns and lowering contribution limits, but would still like to see a program that allows everyone to contribute and opposes banning contributions from unions and corporations. Though a sincere presence, Williams lacked specifics as to how he would like to address the problems of his districts. While he opposed a number of our issues, Citizens Union found his candor admirable.



BROOKLYN STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

DISTRICT 55

Citizens Union will issue a decision on this race for State Senate district 55 after a scheduled meeting with Leonard Hatter Jr. in early September. Check www.citizensunion.org.

WILLIAM BOYLAND — DEM, WF

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Age: 37 Occupation: Member, NYS Assembly

Education: Virginia State University, Metropolitan College

William Boyland has represented Brooklyn in the State Assembly since 2003. His top priorities in the community are increasing infrastructure and funding for community services. He is proud of his efforts to create 18,000 units of affordable housing in his district and believes strongly in homeownership. He believes that appropriate space and time have not been allocated for businesses and services in these new areas. For instance, he says his district needs more grocery stores. His district was hit particularly hard by financial fraud in relation to housing loans, and he is proud to have helped organize an effort to offer legal services to these constituents. His primary reform concern is the budget, where he supports all of Citizens Union's suggested reforms. At odds with CU's view, he does not believe too many signatures are currently required to get on the ballot, but would like to see it become more difficult to file frivolous law suits that cause candidates to unnecessarily spend thousands of dollars in legal fees. Boyland seemed to understand both sides of many issues, specifically those on Citizens Union's agenda, but when pressed seemed noncommittal on his opinions of where he stood on these issues. Citizens Union has supported Boyland in the past, but is concerned that we have not seen enough commitment and progress to our reform agenda to issue a preference in his favor in this election. We would be encouraged to see him make a focused effort to push for meaningful government reform in the next two years, should be re-elected, and reevaluate him in the future.

RAYSTON ANTOINE — DEM

Has NOT returned questionnaire.

Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview.

LEONARD HATTER JR. — DEM

Has NOT returned questionnaire.

Citizens Union is scheduled to meet with the candidate and will issue a decision on September 4, 2008. Check www.citizensunion.org.



BROOKLYN STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

**THE FOLLOWING RACES IN BROOKLYN HAVE NOT BEEN
EVALUATED BY CITIZENS UNION:**

ASSEMBLY

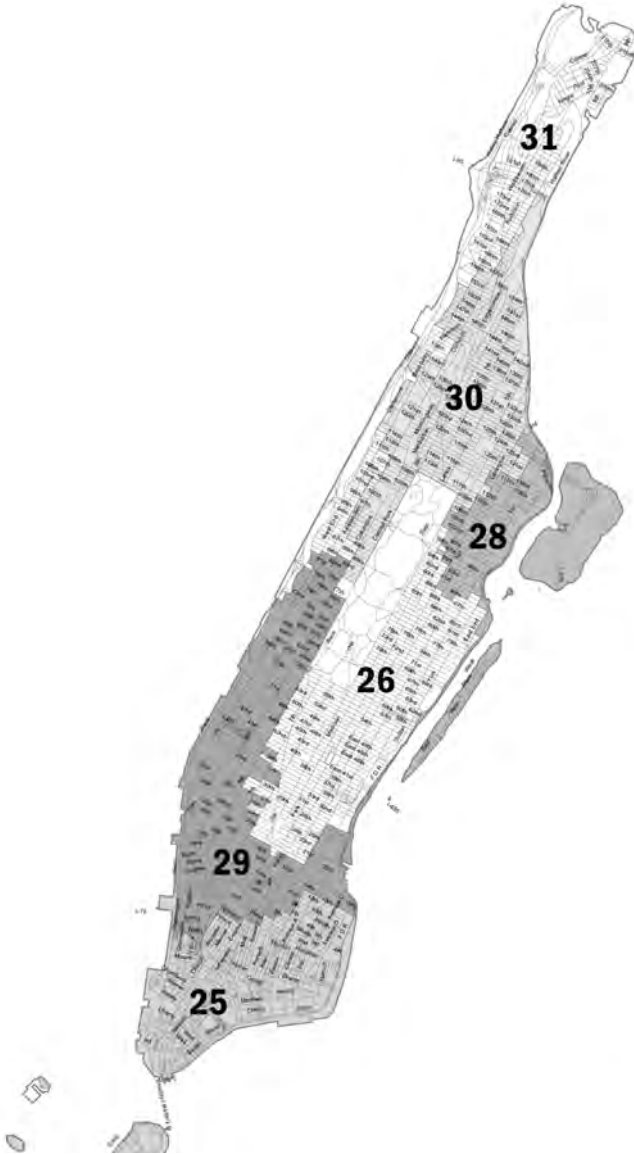
District 42 Michele Adolphe (D)
Rhoda Jacobs (D, WF)
Jose Padilla (D)

District 85 H.R. Clarke (D)
Alan Maisel (D)

Incumbent candidates in bold.



MANHATTAN STATE SENATE DISTRICT MAP

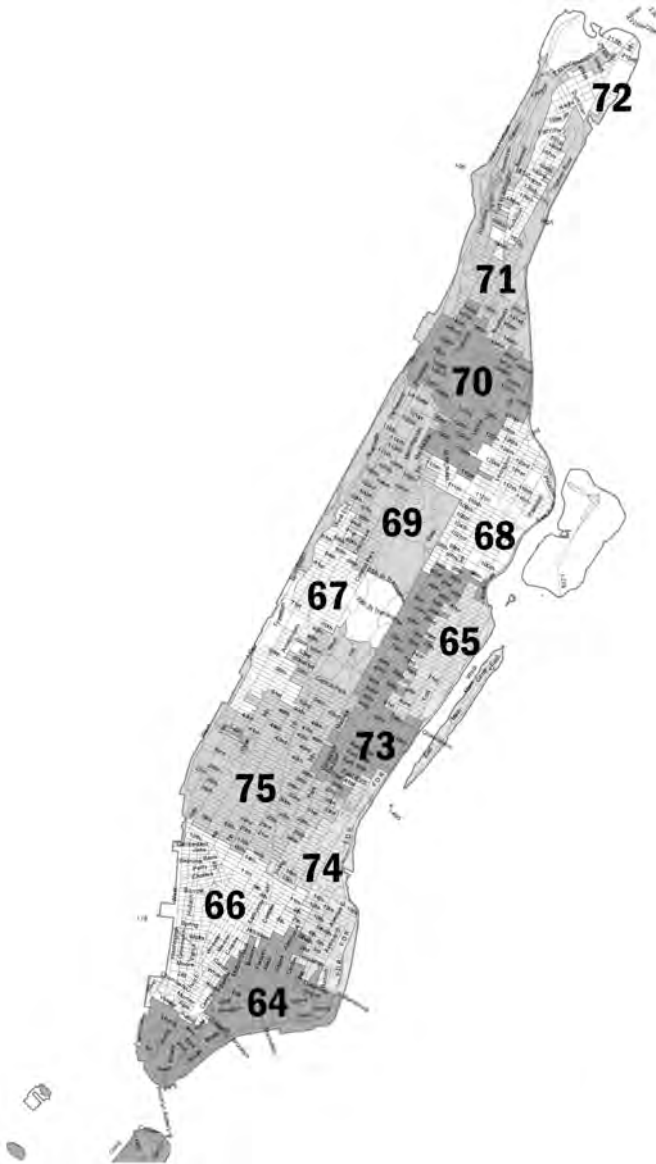


Sources: NYS Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, April 22, 2002;
US Census Bureau TIGER Line files, 2000





MANHATTAN STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT MAP



Sources: NYS Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, April 22, 2002;
US Census Bureau TIGER Line files, 2000





MANHATTAN STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

• MANHATTAN STATE SENATE RACES •

DISTRICT 25

District encompasses portions of Manhattan and Brooklyn.

Please see District 25 evaluation in Brooklyn section on page 28.

• MANHATTAN STATE ASSEMBLY RACES •

DISTRICT 64

No Preference

LUKE HENRY — DEM

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Age: 33 Occupation: Attorney

Education: University of Albany (BS); Fordham Law (JD)

Luke Henry, an attorney, is in his first run for public office. Supportive of all of Citizens Union's issues, he is a passionate advocate for reform and improving the quality of life in his district. Knowledgeable of the larger issues his district faces, Henry appears less focused on the finer details of solutions for those problems. He cites the districts most pressing issues to be environmental protection, the rising costs and inaccessibility of housing, education, and healthcare. Henry is optimistic that with community support and sunlight in Albany, he can be successful in pushing his agenda for more after-school program, affordable housing, and more environmentally friendly policies like the creation of green roofs. He also expressed strong support for campaign finance reform and rules reform, and believes that with a new vanguard of reformers entering Albany, these goals can be achieved. To address the looming budget crisis in the state, Henry believes common sense reforms like instituting an immediate hiring freeze, cutting back on member item spending, implementing a merit based allocation of these funds, and reform of the Public Authorities, would relieve alleviate the need to cut in other areas. Henry is a charismatic and energetic



MANHATTAN STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

presence, but lacked a necessary grasp of how to address specifically some important state government issues that Citizens Union feels is needed to work effectively in Albany and for his district.

PAUL NEWELL — DEM

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Age: 33 Occupation: Community Organizer

Education: Whitmore College (BA)

Paul Newell is an organizer, and founded the Ubuntu Education Fund, a South African charity with ties in New York City. Newell, born and raised in lower Manhattan, is running in his first campaign for public office because he believes that government has the potential to be more responsive to the voters and the community. Newell stated that the biggest difference between his opponents and he is that he believes effective change in how the city operates comes from reforming government so that it can better respond to the needs of voters instead of being influenced by special interests and various factions in the district. He believes that he is uniquely qualified to work toward that aspiration given his track record as a community activist.

A supporter of Citizens Union's core issues, Newell said his first act as a freshman member of the Assembly would be to vote for a reform speaker who would encourage transparent government and enact many of the reforms CU supports. His top three concerns are providing more affordable housing, increasing support for quality schools, and making streets more livable and friendly to neighborhood residents. A strong supporter of congestion pricing, Newell believes that the proposed plan did not go far enough in offering transportation alternatives and would like to have seen the park-and-ride areas built near "outer" borough subway terminals to encourage mass transit use. He believes that expanding the width of sidewalks, particularly along Canal Street, would help encourage pedestrian use. In addition, he would push harder for home rule, so that the wishes of the city with issues, like congestion pricing, are not determined by state government. Newell believes that the only way to implement solutions in his district on issues like housing, transportation and healthcare, is to implement comprehensive legislative rules reform, since it would result in more transparency and vigorous debate of the issues. As an assemblymember, he would work to educate his constituents on why a broken Albany affects their everyday lives. He supports the millionaires' tax, the creation of an independent budget office, and full public financing; he opposes lowering individual contribution limits without more comprehensive campaign finance reform, citing concerns about the effect that it would have on less well funded candidates.



MANHATTAN STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

Newell is a strong and appealing first-time candidate, with the knowledge and specific ideas needed to make a potentially effective legislator, running against an experienced and effective legislator. Though a life long resident, it is unclear how well known or connected he is to the district he wishes to represent given that he has yet to demonstrate a strong base of support within his district, making it difficult perhaps to wage a successful campaign. No doubt, too, the lack of organized support for his campaign is connected to the strength of his opponent, the incumbent, who is also the Speaker of the State Assembly. Citizens Union is impressed by what Newell brings to the table, but feels that he has not generated the support within his district to wage the kind of successful campaign that is necessary.

SHELDON SILVER — DEM, WF

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Age: 64 Occupation: Speaker, NYS Assembly

Education: Yeshiva University; Brooklyn Law

Sheldon Silver has been a member in the Assembly for thirty-two years and has served as speaker for the last fifteen. Silver did not fill out his candidate questionnaire, because of his position as Speaker, though he did indicate his support for, and leadership on, a number of Citizens Union's proposed reforms.

The Speaker has long been a leader on campaign finance reform, most recently when the Assembly voted this past June to support an improved public funds matching bill. Silver also was the original sponsor of a same-day voter registration bill for which he secured a favorable vote in the Assembly over two decades ago. In addition, Silver is open to changing the make-up of the appointed representatives on the Commission on Public Integrity so that no one elected officer can make a majority of the appointments. He, however, does not support expanding their authority to conduct oversight of the legislature, leaving such responsibility with the legislature. Silver is also open to increasing the disclosure of legislators' outside income and possible conflicts of interest, but is not willing to voluntarily disclose such information or champion such a reform. On redistricting reform, the Speaker did express support for enacting legislation that would strengthen criteria and create stricter guidelines in drawing state legislative district lines, but opposes the creation of a non-partisan independent redistricting commission. He feels that no commission is truly independent.

On the looming state budget crisis, Silver believes that budget cuts may be necessary, but enacting the so-called millionaire's tax can raise much needed revenues. The Speaker supports a more transparent budget process and would like to see conference committees used more to publicly resolve differences. At the local level, Silver stated that he actively listens and responds to the concerns of his constituents. He is proud of how he has helped protect and increase state funding for public education and



MANHATTAN STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

provided resources for affordable housing in his district. Furthermore, Silver also expressed his support for finding ways to relieve congestion in the city, but remained firm that the recent proposal did not require an Assembly floor vote. He believes that it is the prerogative of the Assembly majority to exercise its power and determine which bills come to the floor for a vote, as other legislative bodies do. In addition, he spoke passionately about his opposition to tort reform, though he suggested that he might be open to supporting the reduction of attorney fees.

Given his long tenure as Speaker, Silver has been a strong and directed leader of the New York State Assembly. He has been attentive and responsible in representing not only the interests of his district, but also of the entire city. On issues like campaign finance reform, Silver has been a leader, proposing and passing meaningful measures that have failed to become law because they are not taken up in the Senate. But much remains undone in the area of state government and political reform and the Speaker is responsible in part for that record. Citizens Union hopes that if Silver is re-elected, he will work with the Governor and his partners in the Senate, in seeking a more open, transparent, and accountable state government and enacting long overdue political reform.

DISTRICT 72

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE — ADRIANO ESPAILLAT — DEM, WF ★

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Age: 53 Occupation: Member, NYS Assembly

Education: Queens College (BS)

For twelve years, Adriano Espaillat has been an active member of the New York State Assembly. He currently serves as chair of the Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic & Asian Legislative Caucus, and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. As chair of the Veterans' Committee, Espaillat has succeeded in providing free college tuition for Iraqi war veterans in the CUNY and SUNY schools. Espaillat feels that his leadership on public safety has been important in helping to reduce the number of homicides in Washington Heights in the past twelve years. In addition, through the creation of seventeen new schools, Espaillat has worked to improve education and to create a better teacher-to-student ratio. Espaillat is seeking re-election because he believes he has more to accomplish in Albany, specifically pushing for stronger tenant's rights. He has already begun to fight for more affordable housing in his district through the rezoning of Sherman Creek that has the potential to offer badly needed affordable housing units. Espaillat is a supporter of campaign finance reform and is in favor of a public matching system for campaign financing. However, he opposes a ban on contributions from corporations and unions, arguing that it will hurt less



MANHATTAN STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

wealthy candidates. He cites that many small business owners in his district prefer to donate money from their company rather than their personal bank accounts. In addition, he believes that the only way for working class union members to have a say in the government is through voicing their opinions when their unions decide to which candidate they will donate. Espaillat opposes the selection of New York trial court judges through an appointment process, because he believes it will negatively affect diversity on the bench. On the issue of the looming budget problem in the state, Espaillat supports the millionaire's tax but also recognizes the need for cuts in government spending. He maintains that while some savings can be made in education and healthcare, it is important that these services are not cut. Citizens Union preferred Espaillat in 2006 and despite his opposition to our position on judicial selection and limiting campaign contributions from corporations and unions, we prefer him again in the primary for his growing track record of serving his district, and demonstrating that he is a thoughtful, attentive, and effective legislator.

MIGUEL MARTINEZ – DEM

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

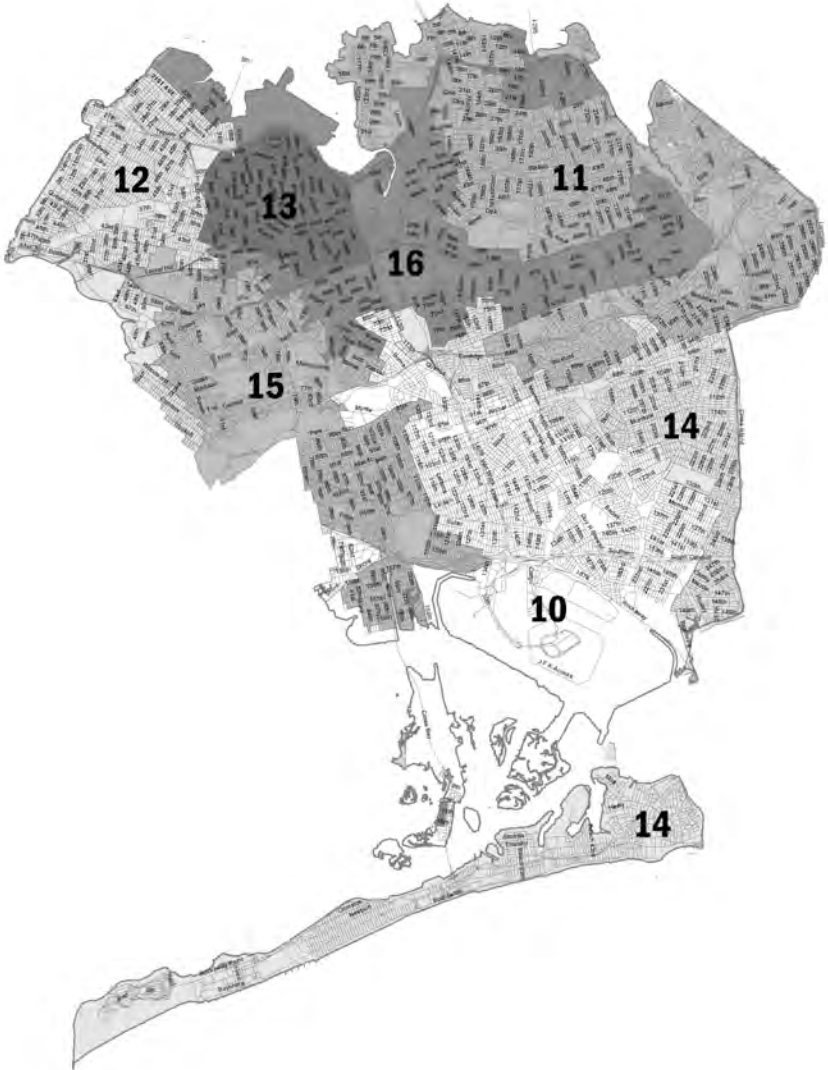
Age: 37 Occupation: Member, NYC Council (District 10)

Education: BS and Post-Grad

Candidate DID NOT APPEAR for a scheduled interview.



QUEENS STATE SENATE DISTRICT MAP

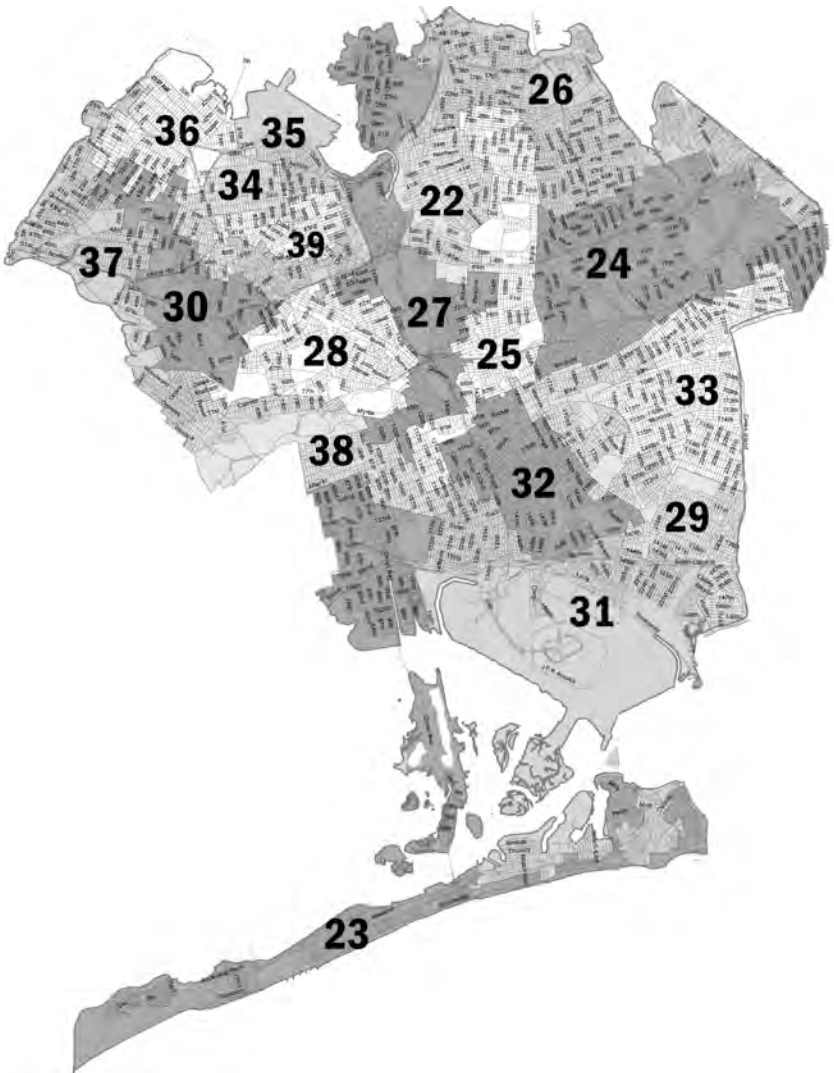


Sources: NYS Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, April 22, 2002;
US Census Bureau TIGER Line files, 2000





QUEENS STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT MAP



Sources: NYS Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, April 22, 2002;
US Census Bureau TIGER Line files, 2000





QUEENS STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

• QUEENS STATE SENATE RACES •

DISTRICT 15

This was to be a primary race between City Councilmember Joseph Addabbo Jr. and Albert Baldeo, in a bid to unseat incumbent Serphin Maltese (R) in the general election in November. Citizens Union evaluated this race, and was prepared to issue a preference, but because Baldeo has since dropped out of the race and is putting his support behind Councilmember Addabbo, we will not be issuing a statement. We will evaluate this race in the General Election.

DISTRICT 25

★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE — TOBY ANN STAVISKY — DEM, WF ★

Has returned questionnaire, answers on page 18.

Age: NA Occupation: Senator, NYS Senate; former High School Teacher

Education: Syracuse University (BA), Hunter Graduate School; CUNY Queens

Toby Ann Stavisky has served in the State Senate since taking over the seat from her late husband in 1999. Through the creation of a senior center, Stavisky has worked to improve the lives of senior citizens in her district. In addition, Stavisky has tried to improve schools in her district through her participation with the Higher Education committee. Stavisky has often called for change in Albany and would like to reorder the Senate's priorities to focus on education. While Stavisky realizes that the days of a free SUNY or CUNY education are gone, she hopes to make college more affordable and increase the funding of colleges in Queens. She also will prioritize safety in her district. In particular, she has tried to improve conditions on the ominous Queens Boulevard by asking for red-light cameras and countdown signals over the crosswalks. Stavisky has also advocated for increased police staffing in her district precinct to incidences of robberies.

Stavisky supports Citizens Union's agenda on campaign finance and election reform. She co-sponsored bill S3108 that would regulate financing of elections by imposing expenditure limits and creating a campaign finance board. In addition, Stavisky would advocate for a restructuring of the state Board of Elections to create nonpartisan administration of elections. It is apparent that Stavisky has the experience and continued determination to bring change in Albany and aid her constituents. Given her desire to push forward a reform agenda, her experience, and her track record in Albany and the district, Citizens Union supports her candidacy and looks forward to reevaluating her progress on reform in the future.



QUEENS STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

ROBERT SCHWARTZ — DEM

Has NOT returned questionnaire.

Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview.

• QUEENS STATE ASSEMBLY RACES •

DISTRICT 22

No Preference

GRACE MENG — DEM

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Age: 32 Occupation: Partner, Yoon and Kim, LLP; Founder of Friends of the Community Unite & Serve (FOCUS)

Education: University of Michigan (BA); Yeshiva University's Cardozo School of Law (JD)

Grace Meng, running a second time for the 22nd Assembly district, is the founder and president of the non-profit organization Friends of the Community Serve and Unite (FOCUS). FOCUS has worked to improve daily life in Flushing by helping the community address local problems such as the potential hazard of having a broken fire hydrant in front of a building. She is the President of the Queens Chinese Women's Association and served as District Office Administrator for her father, Jimmy Meng, when he was an Assemblymember, before leaving office two years ago. If elected, Meng plans to expand upon FOCUS's accomplishments serving the community and improve the quality of life in Flushing by increasing public safety, and creating a transportation hub that would connect the LIRR, subway, and buses that run through downtown Queens. In addition, she hopes to build pedestrian bridges in Queens to allow pedestrians to walk more easily around traffic, increase the safety of citizens, and increase funding for after-school programs. In Albany, Meng says she will focus on increasing the accessibility of elected officials and making state budget discussions more transparent. As a possible solution for the state's current fiscal problems, Meng hopes to build public and private partnerships that can be used to fund community organizations. She also supports requiring additional disclosure of campaign contributions during the legislative session. While Meng is a compelling candidate who carries with her varied experience and it conceivably make an easy transition from community organizer to elected official, her ability to represent the diverse population in Flushing or to work as an effective legislator has not yet been demonstrated.



QUEENS STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

ELLEN YOUNG — DEM, IND, WF

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Age: 56 Occupation: Member, NYS Assembly

Education: Takmin College of Administration, Taipei Taiwan (AD)

Emigrating from Taiwan thirty-one years ago, Ellen Young just completed her first term as an assemblymember and is proud to be the first Asian-American woman to serve in the New York State Legislature. Young was also honored to become the first Asian Speaker Pro Tempore. As a freshman member of the Assembly, Young introduced forty-four bills, five of which were signed into law. One provides services for nonresidents in adult homes, while another adds a representative from the State Office for the Aging to the State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence. Young pledged to prioritize increased funding for New York City public schools as mandated by the Campaign for Fiscal Equity and to provide clean streets in Flushing. She also will work to increase economic opportunities for people in her neighborhood by reducing the price of health care, improving education, and creating affordable housing. If re-elected, Young promises to raise the ethical standards of elected officials in Albany. She would like to increase transparency regarding the funding of projects in member items. In her summer newsletter, Young disclosed the names of organizations and projects that she has funded. A supporter of lower campaign contributions and a public matching system to fund campaigns, Young opposes the banning of campaign contributions from corporations and unions. She has not been a visible presence for reform in Albany, though she is eager and equipped with the skills to work toward becoming a more effective and outspoken legislator. Citizens Union hopes that if sent back to Albany she will use her time to make a stronger mark in Albany and achieve some significant headway in the issues affecting her district and be a more forceful supporter and leader for government reform.

DISTRICT 34

This district was formerly represented by Assemblymember Ivan C. Lafayette. Lafayette circulated and submitted petitions to appear on the ballot for reelection. The day after, Assemblymember Lafayette announced would not run again in 2008, leaving the party to name his replacement on the ballot. A five member committee of district leaders met and voted to place Michael Den Dekker on the primary election ballot to run against challenger Marlene Tapper. Citizens Union was prepared to evaluate this race, but Tapper was eventually kicked off the ballot, leaving the district with no primary. Citizens Union is disappointed with this process that has taken away the choice of an entire district. The way in which vacancies on the ballot represents the kind of reform we need, in addition to the petition challenges filed to remove Tapper, as they deprive voters of their voice.



QUEENS STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

THE FOLLOWING RACES IN QUEENS HAVE NOT BEEN EVALUATED BY CITIZENS UNION:

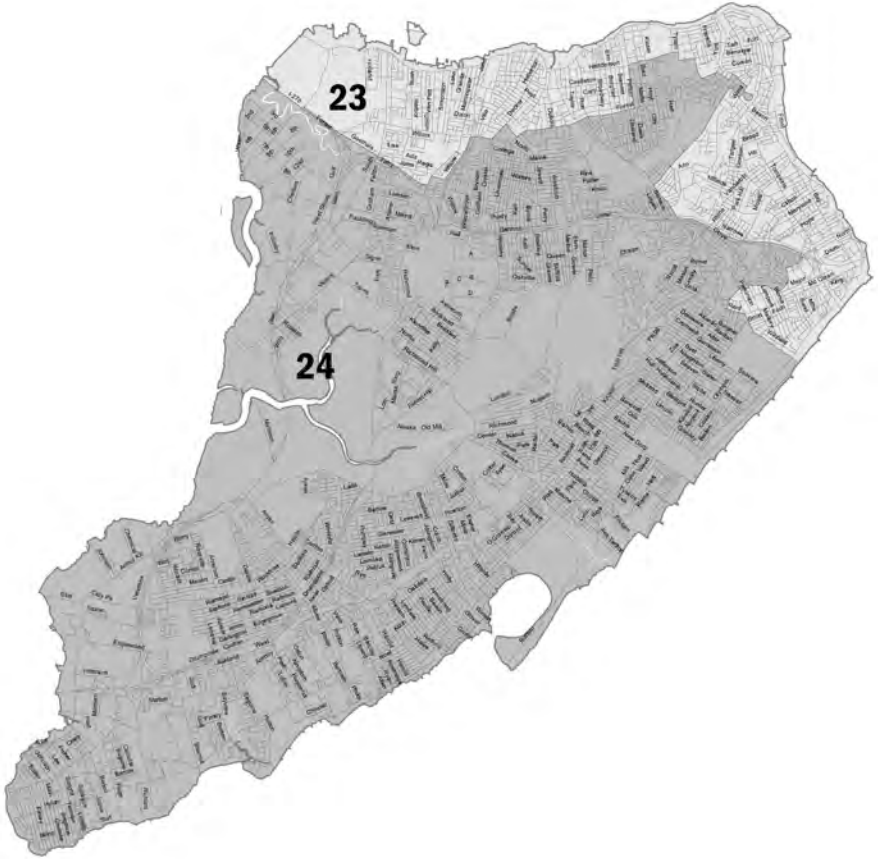
ASSEMBLY

District 10 **Shirley Huntley (D, WF)**
Allen Jennings Jr. (D)

Incumbent candidates in bold.



STATEN ISLAND STATE SENATE DISTRICT MAP

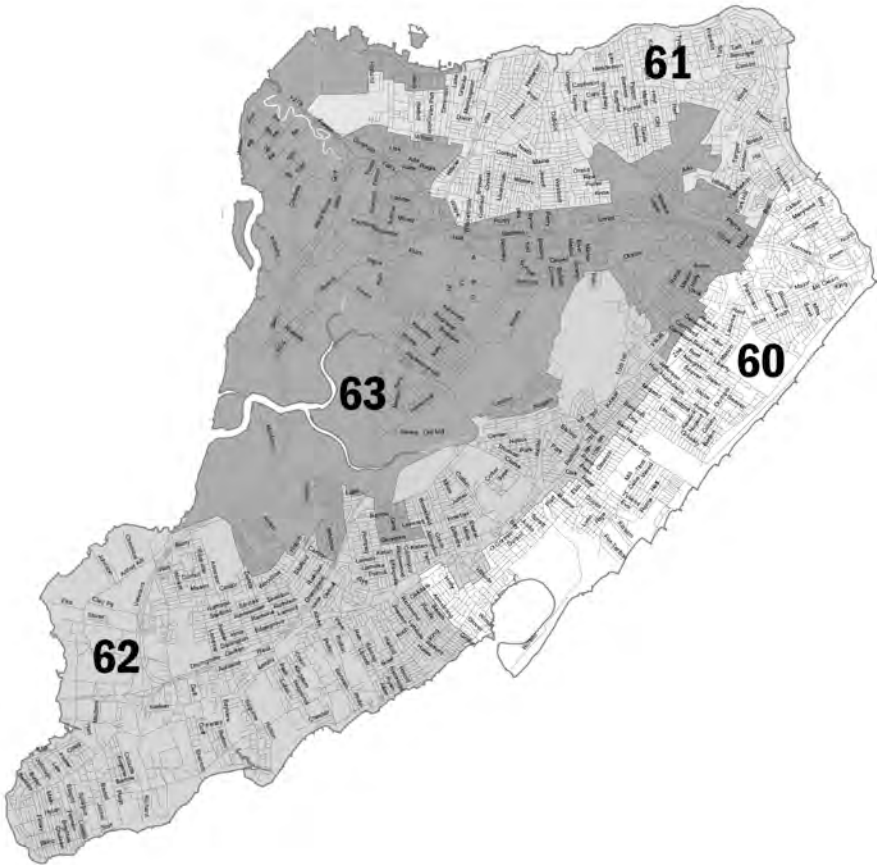


Sources: NYS Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, April 22, 2002;
US Census Bureau TIGER Line files, 2000





STATEN ISLAND STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT MAP



Sources: NYS Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, April 22, 2002;
US Census Bureau TIGER Line files, 2000





STATEN ISLAND STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES

**STATEN ISLAND HAS NO STATE SENATE OR
STATE ASSEMBLY PRIMARIES.**

We intend to evaluate Staten Island candidates in the General Election.



FURTHER RESOURCES

TO LEARN ABOUT THE POLITICAL PARTIES

Conservative	(718) 921-2158	www.cpnys.org
Democratic	(212) 725-8825	www.nydems.org
Green	(518) 463-8653	www.gpnys.org
Independence	(212) 962-1699	www.ipnyc.org
Liberal	(212) 213-1400	www.liberalparty.org
Libertarian	(518) 7674688	www.ny.lp.org
Republican	(518) 462-2601	www.nygop.org
Right to Life	(518) 434-1293	www.nysrighttolife.org
Working Families	(718) 222-3796	www.workingfamiliesparty.org

TO REGISTER & VOTE

NYC Board of Elections	(212) VOTE-NYC	www.vote.nyc.ny.us
NYPIRG	(212) 349-6460	www.nypirg.org
League of Women Voters of NYC	(212) 725-3541	www.lwvnyc.org

TO RESEARCH CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

NYS Board of Elections	(518) 474-6220	www.elections.state.ny.us
NYC Campaign Finance Board	(212) 306-7100	www.cfb.nyc.ny.us
FEC Federal Database	(202) 628-0617	www.fec.gov

TO RESEARCH CANDIDATES AND ISSUES

Citizens Union	(212) 227-0342	www.citizensunion.org
Gotham Gazette	(212) 227-0342	www.gothamgazette.com
Project Vote Smart	(888) VOTE-SMART	www.vote-smart.org
New York Wired		www.newyorkwired.com
NY1		www.ny1.com

TO RESEARCH INCUMBENT RECORDS

NYC Council	(212) 788-7100	www.nyccouncil.info
NYS Assembly	(518) 445-4218	www.assembly.state.ny.us
NYS Senate	(518) 455-2800	www.senate.state.ny.us

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WHO'S RUNNING

Who's Running for What is Gotham Gazette's unique and searchable database on all the candidates running for state and city office. To find out available campaign funds and research candidates' websites, or to search by office holder or candidate position, log on to www.gothamgazette.com/city/campaigns. *GothamGazette.com is published by Citizens Union Foundation, the education and research affiliate of Citizens Union.*



VOTER INFORMATION

The Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, September 9. 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 at: <http://gis.nyc.gov/vote/ps/index.htm>.

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. To locate the handicap entrance to your polling site, please visit: <http://gis.nyc.gov/vote/ps/index.htm>.

At the polls, if there is no entry for you on the voter registration list, it may be because your registration form was not received 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 to vote.

BECOME A POLL WORKER

The New York City Board of Elections is looking for good citizens to join its Election Day poll worker teams. Poll workers receive \$200 for a rewarding day of work, plus a \$35 bonus if you work both the primary and general election. Hours are from 5:30 AM to 9:30 PM each Election Day. All poll workers are assigned as close to their home as possible. All poll workers must attend a three-hour training session. Contingent upon working on Election Day, trainees will receive a \$25 stipend for attending the class and passing an exam. Sign up today by going online to www.citizensunionfoundation.org/pollworker or by calling the Board of Elections at 1-866-VOTE-NYC and asking for the Poll Worker Department.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS (212) 487-5300

Bronx	(718) 299-9017	Queens	(718) 730-6730
Brooklyn	(718) 797-8800	Staten Island	(718) 876-0079
Manhattan	(212) 886-2100		

REGISTER TO VOTE

To be eligible to vote in municipal, federal and state elections you must be 18 years of age, a citizen of the United States and registered 25 days before the election. If you are not yet 18, but will be 18 before the election you are eligible to vote. Send your voter registration card in January of the year you turn 18 and it will be filed on your 18th birthday. To request a voter registration form, please call 1-866-VOTE-NYC or visit www.vote.nyc.ny.us/register.html.