



## 2013 QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CANDIDATES FOR CITY COUNCIL

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

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

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Candidate Name: **Olanike Alabi**

Campaign Address: **768 Washington Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11238**

Campaign Telephone Number: **( 718 ) 552-2683**

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

Website & Email: [www.olanikealabi.org/olanike.alabi@gmail.com](http://www.olanikealabi.org/olanike.alabi@gmail.com)

Education: **Temple University, University of London, School of Industrial & Labor Relations (Cornell University)**

Occupation/Employer (or years in currently held elected office): **Full-Time Candidate**

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement: **State Committeewoman (District Leader) – 57<sup>th</sup> Assembly District, New York State Assembly Candidate (2012), Member, Community Advisory Board of the Cumberland Diagnostic & Treatment Center, League of Women Voters of the City of New York, Church Women United, and several other community/civic groups.**

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

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

Have you completed requisite campaign finance filings? YES   X   NO

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Signature of Candidate: **Olanike Alabi**

Date: **July 6, 2013**

**I. CANDIDATE QUESTIONS**

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

**VOTING AND ELECTIONS REFORM**

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



**CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM**

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

**CITY COUNCIL REFORM**

12. What is your position on creating a bill drafting service independent of the Speaker’s Office, similar to the New York State Legislature’s bill drafting commission?	<b><u>Support/Oppose</u></b>
13. What is your position on the following proposals enabling Council committees to function more effectively and independently of the speaker :	
a. Should committee chairs have the ability to hire at least one committee staffer?	<b><u>Support/Oppose</u></b>
b. Should committee hearings and votes be scheduled at the direction of the chairs?	<b><u>Support/Oppose</u></b>
c. Should committees be able to issue subpoenas by a vote of their members?	<b><u>Support/Oppose</u></b>
d. Should the number of overall committees be reduced so members can participate more meaningfully in fewer issues?	<b><u>Support/Oppose</u></b> Some committees can be merged or taskforces can be created and greater emphasis can be placed on the issues that matter most.
14. What is your position on greater disclosure of councilmembers’ outside income?	<b><u>Support/Oppose</u></b>
15. What is your position on limiting stipends or “lulus” to only members holding majority or minority leadership positions?	<b><u>Support/Oppose</u></b>

16. When the Quadrennial Compensation Commission is reconvened, what is your position on requiring that any future increase in councilmember compensation only apply prospectively to the following term?	<b><u>Support/Opnose</u></b>
17. What is your position on ensuring a more equitable and needs-based distribution of discretionary funding?	<b><u>Support/Opnose</u></b>
18. What is your position on increasing transparency of discretionary funding by requiring the list of capital and expense funds and their sponsors be provided to councilmembers and the public three days in advance of any vote, and expanding the online searchable database of expense funds to include all capital fund recipients and applicants?	<b><u>Support/Opnose</u></b>

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND OVERSIGHT OF POLICE MISCONDUCT**

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

**BUDGET REFORM**

24. What is your position on establishing independent budgeting for: a. the borough presidents?	<b><u>Support/Opnose</u></b>
b. Conflicts of Interest Board?	<b><u>Support/Opnose</u></b>



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## II. CANDIDATE ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONNAIRE

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

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

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

### TOP FIVE 2013 CAMPAIGN PROMISES

1. Sponsor Monthly Community Advisory Meetings to inform the residents about pending/recently passed legislation and available community resources, opportunities and events.

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2. Continue to sponsor community food drives in support of local food pantries.
3. Host regular community conversations/town hall meetings to discuss and assess proposed development projects and pilot programs.

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4. Support increased services for senior citizens, the disabled and children.
5. Support income-based affordable housing and primary/preventive healthcare initiatives.

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