



Candidate Questionnaire
Local Candidates Committee
NYS Elections 2018

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 13th. Responses to these questions will be one of several factors Citizens Union uses to evaluate candidates running for Attorney General of New York State, and to issue our preference for the Primary and endorsement for the General Election. Please feel free to affix any additional information such as a resumé, campaign brochure, or issue statements.

If you seek our support, we will also need to schedule an interview with you as part of the evaluation process. Please contact us if you wish to be interviewed.

We plan to make responses to this questionnaire public on our website, printed voters directory, and other appropriate venues.

We thank you very much for your response.

Biographical Information

Candidate Name: NANCY SLIWA (previously REGULA; being updated)
Party Affiliation(s): NYS REFORM PARTY Age:
Education: JD Brooklyn Law School / SUNY Stonybrook B.A.
Office Sought/District: Attorney General New York State
Occupation/Employer: Attorney / Real Estate Broker
solo practice + contract attorney work / previously law firm
Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement:
no previous offices or campaigns

(Please feel free to affix any additional information such as a resumé, campaign brochure, or issue statements.)

Campaign Contact Information

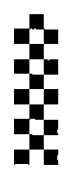
Campaign Manager Name: N/A currently Additional Staff Contact:
Address:
Telephone: Fax:
Website: Email:
Twitter: Facebook:

I. AFFIRMATIONS

Have you completed required campaign finance filings? YES / NO
Are you willing to be interviewed by CU's Local Candidates Committee? YES NO

(Please note: interviews are prerequisites for Citizens Union endorsements.)

Signature of Candidate: Nancy B. Sliva Date: July 31, 2018



II. CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

1. What will be your top priorities if elected Attorney General?

My top priority is advocating Animal Rights in New York. This is an all-encompassing platform but includes major points such as:

- 1) NO KILL shelters
- 2) STATEWIDE Animal Abuse Registry; recently passed in NYC but needs to be statewide
- 3) State Tax Credits for Shelter Animal Adoptions
- 4) Banning of Puppy Mills, including only showcasing shelter pets for adoption in pet stores; statistically the BIGGEST abusers of animals throughout US is breeders
- 5) take animals out of the legal classification of "property"
- 6) no more state funded testing on animals as such testing currently has zero parameters and benchmarks for funding by NY

2. How would you address fraud and public misconduct of elected officials? Do you believe that greater responsibility should be given to the office to investigate corruption and how would you achieve that?

One way I would address the issue is to promote term limits in every sector of public office; this represents the greatest opportunity for officials to become corrupted. But without the ability to mandate this, in the interim there must be INTEGRITY INVESTIGATIONS developed and implemented.

3. What do you think the role of Attorney General should be in enforcing election and campaign finance laws? Would you publicly ask the governor to empower you with greater authority to oversee public corruption and enforce related laws, particularly in those areas?

I think the role of Attorney General in NYS should be increased and prominent in the enforcement of election & campaign finance laws. I would absolutely ask the governor to empower the role of AG with greater authority to oversee public corruption + enforce corruption laws, but depending upon who is governor, they may not be on board with that for fear of being prosecuted. In any event, to what extent possible, such corruption prosecution would be at the forefront of my tenure. I believe that public servants should agree to disagree when applicable but all should be focused on ridding corruption from NYS because that HURTS ALL!

4. Do you support measures to limit the role of money in elections and politics, such as substantially reducing contribution limits and/or instituting a matching public campaign financing system at the state level? If elected, would you set an example on campaign finance reform by voluntarily limiting the size of campaign contributions you receive by an amount significantly less than the current limit, should reforms not be enacted?

I do VEHEMENTLY support limiting the role of money in the political process. In the previous Mayoral race the REFORM party candidate Sal Albanese proposed the concept of "Democracy Vouchers" which encourages more active voter participation as well as re-focusing candidates on the issues of the collective, not simply the financially strong donor base. This is a public office that serves the State & the People and there is no place for deference to monetary enticements. I would be happy to personally set such example.

5. Do you believe there is a conflict of interest in raising funds from companies you may regulate and have to take action against? Are there parameters you set or you believe should be established in statute to limit potential conflicts of interest?

Yes I do believe there is a conflict of interest.

I would seek to establish clear conflict of interests rules establishing guidelines and severely limiting the ability of a public servant working DIRECTLY with a company that was specifically regulated in any way by such public officer.

6. What do you believe is the proper role of the Office of Attorney General in monitoring the financial industries and ensuring Wall Street's compliance with finance regulations, as well as any related criminal laws? If elected, would you push to reform legislation regarding oversight of financial industries?

Reform of financial industries is a key focus for the role of Attorney General. Oftentimes financial industries are viewed as "too big too fail" but that attitude often overlooks obvious industry abuses when the reality is others stand in place who operate in similar fashion. There is no need to continually reward those who abuse public trust and are sub-par partners when plenty of good alternatives exist.

7. The previous Attorneys General have given priority to litigating against federal action that they deemed harmful to the state. What would be your approach to addressing such federal policy?

The focus of the Attorney General MUST BE on New York State. The Previous AG and interim AG continue to focus on federal suits which seem highly political in nature. This position should not be used as a stepping stool onto the national scene. The focus is on our State and deviating from that is unconscionable.

8. If elected Attorney General, what organizational changes would you make to the Department of Law, if any?

- ① Emphasize responsiveness to constituent concerns as shown on website for AG - top 10 list of reasons why people reach out to AG office
- ② Focus HEAVILY on arbitration + mediation to resolve issues - less costly and less combative
- ③ Create as many opportunities as possible for law students / recent graduates to offer their services to assist the public in legal issues

9. What are your thoughts on striking the appropriate balance between the Attorney General's role as the lawyer representing the state's officials, and as an independently elected government official?

The appropriate balance is for an Attorney General to act EQUALLY as the People's Lawyer and the States lawyer. The AG is not so much defending particular state actors but rather defending the State and its institutions. That being said, far too often there is very little focus placed on the interests of the People. This needs to change. The People's interest represents that of the majority which oftentimes is the weakest party in defending their rights and this goes to the heart of establishing a good quality of life for all and creating meaningful ways to avoid the tyranny of the state or deep pocket interests

10. What, if any, are the key social issues of the state that you would address should you be elected to the Office of Attorney General? How would you address them?

Animal Rights - described in length elsewhere on form

Fair Elections + Voters Rights - push to make voting easier (smart phones, online, etc) registration and updates effective immediately (changes in Party affiliation for example) and equal access to all Parties and candidates on equal footing;

End low level drug prosecutions which are needlessly costly to the state, tie up court dockets and lead to undue difficulties for individuals in pursuing careers or otherwise, in turn leading to large segments of disenfranchised people who then in turn add to the burdens of the state as opposed to societal benefits

Increased penalties (prosecution of sex offenders (particularly recidivist) and animal rights abusers

11. What, if any, would be your top legislative priorities to pursue should you be elected to the Office of Attorney General? What specific solutions would you put forward?

- ① No Kill animal shelters in NYC
- ② Removal of Department of Health from overseeing shelter system and creation of independent Animal Welfare Agency
- ③ Focus on arbitration & mediation in all matters - the difference between zealous advocacy and cooperation of counsel can mean the difference between a matter getting settled expeditiously & efficiently versus lengthy, draw out, expensive proceedings that may never finalize at all; the legal system should help resolve issues not complicate them

Please use the space provided or a separate sheet of paper to elaborate on your positions on the issues contained in the previous pages. You may also provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to advance your positions on these issues.

Other elements of my annual platform includes:

- ① outlawing feeding bans for feral cats - current state of NY law is that depriving animals of food is a misdemeanor yet county, municipalities, cities continue to be unclear on it
- ② help keep animals w/ owners who enter homeless shelters, domestic violence victims because those who love their pets so much but can't bear to leave them behind may remain in abusive situations due to this.
- ③ integrate animal care with seniors centers which has proven successful in many states
- ④ create a "Cats At Work" program to give feral cats a chance at life, which oftentimes would terminate simply by virtue of their placement in a shelter

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

In addition to evaluating their stances on the issues above, Citizens Union will assess candidates on the commitments they are making to voters during the campaign.

What are the top five promises or goals you are making to the voters during this campaign?

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

TOP FIVE 2018 CAMPAIGN PROMISES OR GOALS

1. To Finalize Realize a NO-KILL New York Shelter System while promoting animal rights to the place they deserve to be; public sentiment agree
2. To Focus My Efforts on Prosecuting New York Corruption + Criminality instead of being distracted by federal lawsuits premised on political ambitions.
3. To Focus on Simplifying & Making More efficient voter rights. Same Day Registration less hurdles to new candidates, removing political influences from BOE governance
4. Creation of Statewide Animal Abuse Registry. NYC recently implemented this. I would make it statewide and increase penalties for abusers; i.e. currently after 5 yrs time an abuser can own or adopt again... why?
5. Increased Penalties & Prosecution for Sex-offenders: there is no reason recidivism should be so high but it is because these charges are often minimized in plea bargains. A 3 strikes and you're out approach is appropriate here, particularly on trains. If you can't control yourself on a train you don't deserve to ride on one.

IV. ETHICAL REPRESENTATION OF CONSTITUENTS

Citizens Union believes that all New Yorkers deserve to be represented by officials who work for the public interest and honor the public trust. With the corruption conviction of recent legislative leaders, we seek to endorse a candidate who will demonstrate that she/he will honor the full commitment of the oath of office, and always represent the public interest above all else.

Please tell us how you have and would continue to conduct the political affairs of this office in an upright manner, and maintain the public trust.

I believe that as long as you are not beholden to big money interests (clear by following the trail of donor dollars) and you are treating the office at hand as YOUR contribution to the political process (term limits should dictate one office, one length of representation is sufficient) you will be well situated to address all matters of import from a perspective NOT influenced by others or a desire to stay in office perpetually.

I personally would be OK with public officials with whom their method of addressing an issue I disagreed with if I believed their character and concern was sincere.

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