

IVI-IPO 2011 CHICAGO MAYORAL QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 1

DATE: December 6, 2010

NAME: Danny K. Davis

VOTING ADDRESS: 5956 West Race, Chicago, Illinois 60644

HOME PHONE: 773-261-3164

BUSINESS PHONE: 773-533-7520

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS: 566 West Lake Street, Chicago, Illinois 60661

CAMPAIGN PHONE: 312-207-5435

FAX _____

CAMPAIGN WEBSITE: www.davisforallchicago.com EMAIL: info@davisforallchicago.com

CAMPAIGN MANAGER: Jason Perkey

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED: 50,000 NUMBER REQUIRED: 12,500

Please provide the following background information:

A. Elective or appointive public and/or party offices previously held including dates.

<i>Alderman, 29th Ward</i>	<i>1979-1990</i>
<i>Cook County Commissioner, 1st District</i>	<i>1990-1996</i>
<i>Ward Committeeman 29th Ward</i>	<i>1984-2000</i>
<i>Democratic State Central Committeeman, 7th District, IL</i>	<i>1998-present</i>
<i>Board Member, National Corporation for Housing Partnerships</i>	<i>1994-1996</i>
<i>U.S. Congressman, 7th District</i>	<i>1997-present</i>

B. Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate.

Mayor of Chicago
Cook County Treasurer

C. What is your primary occupation?

Member of Congress, 7th Congressional District, Illinois

D. Briefly list your civic activities of the past ten years.

Since 1979 I have devoted my full time to public service. I have been active in supporting causes, issues and constituencies which I feel deeply about including such issues as peace and an end to the arms race, justice and equality for every member of our society, jobs with living wages for everyone who can work, quality, accessible health care for all, a quality education for every child, an end to discrimination because of race, gender, religion, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or indigence, protection of a woman=s right to choose, preservation of our

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environment, a fair taxation system, open, honest and participatory government and full involvement of the people in our democratic system. I believe in empowering people including active support for organizing people on their jobs into labor unions, in their neighborhoods into community organizations, and regionally into political and issue groups.

I believe I have been engaged in almost every aspect of labor, education, public safety and criminal justice, health, housing, open government, civil and human rights and immigrant rights activity impacting Chicago for the past 30+ years.

- E. What subjects have you studied and what experience have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek?

As a member of the Chicago City Council and as a member of the Cook County Board of Commissioners I have been involved with every department of local government. I know, work with, and hold as friends elected officials, grass-root activists and leaders of labor, community and faith based organizations in every corner of the city. It is my hope that they all view me as accessible and dedicated to the most open, democratic style of government.

I hold a Ph.D. in public administration. I have had productive careers in education, health planning and community organizing which have exposed me to a broad array of concerns and individuals which enabled me to grow and develop. In my time as an elected official I have had the opportunity to study many of the issues which face us locally, nationally and internationally up close and in depth. I have been able to travel and learn from the experiences of others across the country and abroad. I have been fortunate in having the support and counsel of activists and leaders from many organizations which share parts of my philosophy, outlook and commitment.

- F. What candidates have you supported in past elections? Please be specific in describing your role in each campaign.

Over the years I have supported dozens of candidates who I felt shared my views and commitment on the issues of the day. I was active in supporting Harold Washington for Mayor. I was co-chair of the Clinton-Gore Illinois campaign and the Carol Moseley-Braun campaign. I was co-chair of the Obama for Senate campaign and a Congressional liaison for Obama for President. In the most recent elections I was a strong supporter of Quinn/Simon ticket. It is a matter of principle for me, and a matter that I take great pride that I have always chosen candidates to support based their views and record, and the best interests of the people.

- G. Please list all endorsements you have received so far.

My candidacy has been endorsed by a coalition of more than 60 community, labor and faith based organizations. More endorsements will be announced soon.

- H. As concisely as possible, state why you feel you should be endorsed over the other candidate(s). What goals for the office you seek are most important to you personally?

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I have been consistently and intimately involved in the economic, social and political development and growth of Chicago at both the grass-roots level and as an elected official for more than three decades. During that time I have consistently advocated for, voted for, organized for, spoke out for and otherwise supported a progressive agenda. That agenda has emphasized making Chicago work for all its people and all its neighborhoods. That agenda has always demanded the fullest participation of all Chicagoans in the development and implementation of public policy. That agenda has always been based on fairness, justice and maximizing opportunity for all Chicagoans. It is my hope that a Davis administration would eliminate disparities in services and opportunities, would secure the economic well-being of its residents and would provide quality education for all its children, quality, accessible health care, security from violence and crime and quality, affordable housing for all its families.

I. What is your campaign budget? How much have you raised to date?

Budget not yet set.

J. How many people are on your campaign staff? How many volunteers are on your list?

Current full-time staff about 6. Hundreds of volunteers on list.

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Most questions on this questionnaire can be answered by checking either YES or NO. Some are essay questions and all have the option of answering in greater detail. Just hit enter at the end of the question and begin typing your answer in the additional space.

CITY COUNCIL REFORM AND ETHICS

	YES	NO	
1.	X		Do you support allowing a single Inspector General of the City of Chicago, rather than a new City Council Inspector General, to investigate allegations of fraud or waste by aldermen and their staff?
2.		X	Do you support patronage in hiring and promoting public employees?
3.		X	Will you employ or have you employed staff in your office who hold other public sector jobs concurrently?
4.		X	Will you employ or have you employed staff in your office who have either outside employment or contracts with entities which do business with the City?
5.	X		Will you direct your administration to contest unemployment claims by former employees who were fired for cause?
6.	X		Will you pledge not to hire or contract the services of anyone previously fired for cause from the City or any other unit of government?
7.	X		Do you support changing the state statute to return to filling aldermanic vacancies by special election, rather than Mayoral appointment?
8.	X		Do you support redistricting of the wards based on non-partisan criteria and not to benefit any specific individual or political party?
9.		X	Will you or have you accepted campaign donations from current or potential suppliers or employees?
10.	X		Do you support public financing of municipal campaigns?
	ESSAY		Please explain your position. <i>My position on public financing of campaigns has been consistent and well known. I support public financing of campaigns to help eliminate the ability of wealthy special interests to exert undue influence on public policy and/or secure contracts, special regulations or other financial advantages.</i>
11.	ESSAY		Who are your top 5 contributors and how much has each contributed to your campaign?

REVENUE AND BUDGET

12.	X		Will you hire independent analysts to conduct a forensic audit of past City spending?
13.	X		Will you hire independent analysts to review the budget and recommend spending cuts?
	Will you institute any of the following as part of the budget process?		
14.	X		public questioning of city department heads concerning their departments' specific budget requests?
15.	X		making budget copies available to the public 30 days in advance of hearings?
16.	X		restoring city-wide community group budget hearings several months prior to the publication of the budget, as were held under the Washington and Sawyer administrations?
17.	ESSAY		What additional revenue sources, if any, would you propose? <i>I am looking at a wide array of options for dealing with the massive structural deficit facing the City. These include reforming TIFs (Tax Incremental Financing) and restoring the revenues they</i>

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			<p><i>divert to the city and school district, and as a part of a package to make taxes in Chicago more fair and equitable with reductions in property tax and certain other fees which especially impact those least able to pay, instituting a city income tax and/or a sales tax on large-scale financial transactions such as that in New York City?</i></p>
18.	X		<p>Do you support casino gambling for Chicago? <i>Currently Chicago is losing millions of dollars to neighboring states which allow state regulated gaming. I am open to considering proposals which address the full range of issues associated with gaming including public safety.</i></p>
19.	X		Will you support a citywide referendum before any gambling is instituted in the City?
20.	X		Do you support rolling back Mayoral and Aldermanic salaries to pre-2007 levels?
21.	X		Do you support limiting future Mayoral and Aldermanic salary increases to the same percentage as the lowest raise for any class of city employees?
22.	ESSAY		<p>What will you do to address the criticism that city staffing is top-heavy in upper-level management? <i>I believe this is an urgent and critical issue for the new administration to take on. Streamlining and improving management is going to be a key part of budget reform.</i></p>
23.	ESSAY		<p>What measures do you support to reform the city pension plan and ensure its solvency? <i>Like health care, cities and states all across America are facing a crisis in funding pensions. Some of the problem is certainly due to errors in managing the funds, or failure to budget properly. However, the national scope of the problem and the size of the problem are indicative of some serious underlying national problems. Solving the problem will require identifying new sources of revenue locally combined with some innovative national initiatives.</i></p> <p><i>I am opposed to reducing pension benefits for current employees or two tier systems with new employees receiving reduced benefits. This is not just a question of budget balancing; it goes to the heart of creating healthy cities. With wages largely stagnant for the past 30+ years our nation's workers economic security is now seriously threatened. It is the consumption of working America which has powered the growth of our economy. Where the economy stagnates and contracts cities wither and die. Social Security has provided the means to prevent tens of millions of seniors in the private sector from slipping into poverty - and, in fact, a key component of working America's economic and social security is providing a solid and reliable basis for retirement. I believe America's Mayors must come together, in conjunction with America's public workers to seek innovative solutions to this threat to our public workers. As Mayor I will take a leadership role in the U.S. Conference of Mayors to create a coalition of America's cities and towns to fashion a permanent solution to this problem.</i></p>
24.	Choose One		Should discretionary funds for ward services and infrastructure improvements be allocated
			equally to each ward
			based on the size of each ward
	X		based on the needs of each ward
	YES	NO	
25.	X		Will you reorganize the Department of Streets and Sanitation by compact districts rather than wards?
PRIVATIZATION			
26.	ESSAY		Which city services or assets, if any, do you believe should be privatized and what is your criteria?

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		<i>I am opposed to privatization of city services and assets and do not believe the city has been well served by the privatization of such assets and the Skyway and the parking meters especially since these were long term leases and the great bulk of the revenues were used almost immediately</i>
27.	X	Will you order an independent analysis of any lease or outsourcing arrangement prior to submitting it to the City Council for approval?
28.	X	Will you provide at least 30 days for the Council to review leases and contracts prior to approval?
29.	ESSAY	What will you do to ensure privatization contracts deliver the maximum return and best service for city residents in the long term? <i>Please see response to #26. I believe Chicago must demand that every contract serve the best interests of the people of Chicago and must be willing to defend their interests with all administrative and legal tools at our disposal</i>
30.	ESSAY	What procedures will you implement to ensure that privatization arrangements are not being used to move patronage workers outside of the scope of the Shakman decree? <i>Please see response to #26. I believe Chicago must demand that every contract serve the best interests of the people of Chicago and must be willing to defend their interests with all administrative and legal tools at our disposal. Patronage has corrupted Chicago politics and government for generations and is not in the interests of the people of Chicago.</i>
PLANNING, ZONING, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		
31.	ESSAY	How will you involve city residents in planning? <i>I believe we need both formal and informal means of involvement. This should include neighborhood hearings as the budget is being shaped as well as special citizen advisory bodies for major projects to allow for community input from the very early stages. There must be transparency in the operation of government with information easily available via the internet or other publicly accessible means. From the beginning of my political career I have always had "people's assemblies", issue advisory councils, "state of the district" assemblies and other means for direct participation by residents and I would look to continuing those type of structures and inputs.</i>
32.	ESSAY	What is your long-range plan for the development for Chicago? <i>I have no "secret" long-range plan for the development of Chicago and will discuss my views and hopes for Chicago during this campaign and will develop a long-range plan for Chicago will maximum input from Chicagoans if elected.</i>
33.	ESSAY	How will you involve residents in planning, approval, and oversight of TIF districts? <i>Please see response to #31</i>
34.	X	Will you agree to terminate a TIF if the objectives of the TIF plan have been accomplished before the 23 year period is ended?
35.	X	Will you return unspent and uncommitted TIF funds on an annual basis to the various taxing bodies?
36.	ESSAY	How do you propose to replace property tax revenue for CPS and other taxing bodies that is lost to TIF development? <i>Please see response to #17</i>
37.	X	Will you declare a moratorium on the creation of any new TIF districts until new funding sources are identified to replace the revenue diverted to the TIF?
38.	X	Do you support an ordinance requiring that large corporate entities receiving \$250,000 or more in public subsidies, and their tenants, must pay their workers a living wage (currently \$11/hour)?
39.	X	Will you invest substantially more in job-training and the creation of transitional job programs in disadvantaged communities, including the formerly incarcerated, homeless, youth, and non-

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		English speakers? <i>Yes. I believe the Chicago City Colleges have a special role to play here and will look to develop an ongoing partnership around this issue.</i>
HOUSING		
40.	X	Do you support the Sweet Homes Chicago ordinance? <i>Yes, I applaud Alderman Burnett and the community/labor activists (Action NOW, Albany Park Neighborhood Council, Bickerdike Redevelopment Corporation, Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, Jane Addams Senior Caucus, Kenwood Oakland Community Organization, Lakeview Action Coalition, Logan Square Neighborhood Association, Organization of the NorthEast, Service Employees International Union (SEIU)-Healthcare Illinois/Indiana, SEIU Local 1, and United Food and Commercial Workers Local 881) who have proposed using a portion of TIF funds for affordable housing. These are exactly the kind of inputs which are needed if Chicago is to continue to thrive</i>
41.	X	Do you support amending the Vacant Properties Ordinance to require mortgage servicers to register their properties? <i>Yes. As former chair of the Zoning Committee during the Washington administration my experience leads me to believe that we need to use city authority much more aggressively to address housing issues. There is a special need in the current economic climate as a result of the bursting of the housing bubble and the misdeeds of some sectors of the housing industry both before and after the crisis erupted.</i>
42.	ESSAY	What will you do to guarantee that some of the foreclosed properties saved through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program are made affordable to families at 40% and 60% of AMI? <i>I believe this is an excellent place for the city to develop partnerships with some of our non-profits with a record in housing development</i>
43.	X	Do you support an inclusionary zoning ordinance which would require developers to set aside 30% of residential new construction or renovation for the creation of affordable housing? <i>While I would not commit to a specific percentage at this time I believe this would be a good goal</i>
44.	ESSAY	What will you do to ensure that there is an adequate supply of affordable family sized units available to families in the Section 8 program? <i>Please see #46</i>
45.	ESSAY	What will you do to provide affordable housing for low-income individuals and families who are not served by any existing programs? <i>Please see #46</i>
46.	ESSAY	What will you do to increase housing stock that is affordable to those at 15% to 30% of AMI? <i>I believe Chicago needs an overall affordable housing program which would include and build on existing programs such as:</i> <i>Passing Sweet Home Chicago</i> <i>A statewide property tax exemption of all nonprofits creating and preserving affordable housing</i> <i>Expanded support for and use of community development corporations</i> <i>Build on the model of the Cook County Preservation Compact Comprehensive Rental Housing Action Plan for Cook County, designed to preserve and improve 75,000 existing affordable rental homes by 2020 that might otherwise be lost to condominium conversion, demolition, or rising</i>

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		<p>costs</p> <p><i>A focus on the needs of key groups especially homeless and, among the homeless, homeless youth</i></p> <p><i>An ongoing fight for additional state (such as Rental Housing Support Program) and federal aid (public housing and section 8)</i></p>
47.	Choose One	Which standard should the City use to define affordable housing?
		AMI of the Metropolitan region
		AMI of Cook County
		AMI of Chicago
	X	AMI of the Community Area
EDUCATION		
48.	Choose One	Which of the following options for selecting the School Board do you support?
	X	Popular Election
		Mayoral appointment from nominations made by community representatives
		Maintaining the current system of Mayoral appointment
	YES	NO
49.	X	Will you support a city-wide lottery for enrollment in magnet schools?
50.	X	Will you support LSCs in maintaining full powers, and support them through adequate funding levels that provide training and supports for LSCs to do their jobs?
51.	X	Will you declare a moratorium on school closings until a detailed analysis of the impacts of shuffling children is completed, and a real plan to address the quality of education and safety for every child is in place?
52.	X	Will you support development and implementation of a more comprehensive, and accurate approach to evaluate student and teacher performance than reliance on the ISAT and ACT tests?
53.	ESSAY	<p>What is your assessment of Renaissance 2010? Please include in your assessment, the role of charter schools as well as the power to reconstitute schools.</p> <p><i>Unfortunately, Renaissance 2010 has assumed the rhetoric of the small schools movement, which I believe holds promise for school reform, but has turned its back on the real content of the ideas small schools. Instead it has become a smokescreen for closing schools and privatization of public schools. Both nationally and locally, charter schools have been hyped as an alternative to traditional public schools. The overall record of charter schools is not significantly better than public schools, have not opened their doors to all students, have siphoned higher performing students while leaving other students with fewer options and have sometimes been used to prevent teachers from organizing. If charter schools are to have a future in Chicago, they must become a part of an overall education plan for the city with clear purpose and on-going assessments of their success or failures.</i></p>
54.	ESSAY	<p>What should the City do to improve the quality of all local schools?</p> <p><i>We need a multi-pronged approach: 1) the state must fulfill its constitutional obligation to fund its share of the cost of education and we must replace City dollars lost as a result of TIFs, 2) reduce class size especially in grades K-3 to ensure that every child gets a solid start in reading and math but also programs in art, music, physical education etc. which studies have shown are closely correlated with reading and math success, 3) expand parent involvement in both school governance and in at home education coordinated with the school curriculum via home visitation programs – make learning our collective community passion via community and faith-based organizations adopting libraries for Saturday morning programs, 4) greatly expand teacher</i></p>

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			<i>training to refresh teaching skills to latest evidence based programs, 5) return to an elected school board with a professional educator as CEO of the system, 6) explore ways to cut costs, open new revenue sources and improve instructional content such as use of e-books for text books by working with other urban mayors to break the grip of Texas on selection of text books, 7) develop a real on-going partnership with the teachers union to find solutions of school problems including an expansion of the school day and the school year, 8) expand and improve child nutrition programs, 9) recognize that testing is not the be all and end all of educational progress but is a tool in measuring educational growth – teach problem solving and divergent thinking, not just convergent thinking, 10) utilize Chicago’s rich cultural institutions to expand the horizons and experiences of all our children in science, history, art, music etc.</i>
ENVIRONMENT			
55.	X		Will you implement the blue cart recycling program throughout the City?
56.	X		Do you support the Clean Power Ordinance? <i>Yes, I applaud the work of Alderman Moore and the Environmental Law and Policy Center, Little Village Environmental Justice Organization, Pilsen Environmental Rights and Reform Organization, Eco-Justice Collaborative, the Respiratory Heath Association of Metropolitan Chicago and the Sierra Club in pursuing this initiative. This is an urgent health issue.</i>
57.		X	Do you support privatization of Chicago's water delivery system?
58.	X		Will you implement a citywide ban on Styrofoam food containers in the public schools?
59.	X		Do you support a citywide ban on Styrofoam food containers by restaurants and food delivery businesses?
60.	X		Do you support adoption of the water quality standards recommended by the Pollution Control Board?
61.		ESSAY	What will you do to encourage and implement alternative forms of energy? <i>Accelerate and complete the retro-fitting of all public buildings to make them energy efficient not just for heating and cooling but for lighting, and water heating, explore the use of passive solar for water heating in all public buildings, expand training and licensing of solar installers in conjunction with building trades apprenticeships and simplify permitting of solar panel installations, expand public transit and transit ridership, explore and expand the electrification of public transit, police and taxi fleets in conjunction with other urban mayors – insist some of that manufacturing for energy efficient materials and vehicles be done in Chicago with Chicago workers, work with ComEd and Peoples Gas to provide additional incentives to retrofit homes and businesses, install smart meters and other essential infrastructure, enlist community expertise via City-Non-Profit partnerships such as with the Center for Neighborhood Technology to make the transition to a new energy infrastructure for Chicago, restart efforts to bring free broadband wireless to every neighborhood</i>
62.		ESSAY	What other environmental initiatives, if any, do you propose? <i>There are numerous other areas in need of careful examination including protection of the Lake, repair of Park infrastructure, repair and rebuilding of our water and sewer infrastructure</i>
PARKS			
63.	X		Do you support election of the Chicago Park District Board?
64.		X	Do you support increased privatization of park facilities and services?
		ESSAY	Why or why not? <i>Please see #26</i>
65.	X		Do you support prioritization of land acquisition and capital improvements first to those neighborhoods which are underserved by existing facilities?

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TRANSPORTATION			
66.	X		Do you support increasing the City subsidy to the CTA? <i>Only if we can identify new revenue source without reducing critical City services</i>
67.	Rank 1-5 or say no to any	Please indicate which CTA expansion plans, if any, you support and rank them in order of priority (1 highest)	
	1		Red Line south to 130th Street
	2		Orange Line to the Ford City Mall
	4		Downtown Circulator <i>If it serves to enhance Chicago's ability to host trade and convention business</i>
	5		Downtown-O'Hare Express <i>If plans to build it with private funds prove realistic</i>
	3		Other – please specify <i>Introduction of smart technologies and hybrid technologies on CTA buses to reduce average travel times and save energy costs</i>
	YES	NO	
68.	X		Do you support renegotiation of Chicago's parking meter privatization deal? <i>If it has a reasonable chance of success without massive legal costs to the city on unlikely outcomes</i>
69.		X	Do you support privatization of Midway Airport?
70.	X		Do you support the O'Hare expansion plan?
CRIMINAL JUSTICE			
71.		X	Is response time adequate in 911 service?
	ESSAY		If not, how can it be improved? <i>This clearly is in need of further study, but re-allocation of police resources to match challenges to the safety of City residents must be a key part of the program. See #72</i>
72.	X		Do you support re-allocating police services from low-crime to high-crime neighborhoods?
73.	ESSAY		What changes, if any, would you suggest for the CAPS program? <i>Additional outreach by civilian police staff, use of internet and regular use cable TV and local radio to more fully involve the public</i>
74.	X		Do you support more funding to alternative crime prevention programs such as Cease Fire?
75.	ESSAY		What measures would you support to stop the schools to prison pipeline? <i>More job opportunities for young people, reduction of school drop out rate, drug treatment on demand, expansion of programs for a "second chance" including expungement, job training, family support programs</i>
76.	X		Do you support gun control?
77.	ESSAY		What measures, if any, should be adopted in response to recent court decisions striking down Chicago's handgun ban? <i>I support refinement of the handgun ban ordinance</i>
78.	X		Will you stop paying legal fees and attempt to recover past legal costs of city employees implicated in the Police Board findings of misconduct related to the Burge case?
79.	ESSAY		Please share your views regarding the functioning of the Independent Police Review Authority and whether it should operate more independently of the Police Department. <i>I do support a more independent Authority, but believe we must focus on evidence that a very small number of officers account for a disproportionate share of cases and that those cases which are "one-time" offenses should be able to be referred to more evidence based programs for</i>

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		<i>correction to minimize losing expensive trained man/woman power</i>
CIVIL RIGHTS		
80.	X	Do you support affirmative action based on race, gender and sexual orientation in establishing criteria for hiring and promoting public employees?
81.	X	Do you support affirmative action as a criteria in letting city contracts?
82.	ESSAY	Please comment on current participation of individuals with disabilities in city hiring and contracts. <i>This has received little attention despite changes in federal law. We need to an urgent examination of barriers to hiring and contracts followed up by appropriate changes in City ordinance and/or regulation.</i>
83.	ESSAY	Please comment on current women and minority participation in city hiring and contracts. Be sure your comments include firefighter and police officer recruitment and promotion. <i>The on-going failure to address this issue is well known. I believe that what is most needed is commitment from City leadership. I have such commitment.</i>
84.	X	Do you favor restructuring the wage scale of city employees to institute gender-equal pay for jobs of comparable worth?
85.	X	Do you support requiring all City vendors and contractors to provide spousal benefits for same-sex partners of their employees?
86.		X
86.	ESSAY	Why or why not? <i>I oppose the City of Chicago imposing such a requirement on its people. It would represent a significant encroachment on our rights, create a massive bureaucracy with additional costs and duplicate the efforts of the state and federal government and City government would seem to have no legal authority for such an initiative</i>
PRIORITIES		
87.	ESSAY	What are your top priorities for Chicago? 1) <i>Creation of jobs and an environment conducive to the creation of jobs</i> 2) <i>Education</i> 3) <i>Public Safety</i> 4) <i>Health</i> 5) <i>Housing</i>
88.	ESSAY	How will you solicit and follow citizens' and community groups' recommendations on City matters? <i>Please see #31</i>