

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 1

DATE December 16, 2014 WARD 9

NAME Anthony Beale

VOTING ADDRESS 10005 S. Prairie Ave., Chicago, IL 60628

HOME PHONE (773) 941-5239 BUSINESS PHONE (773) 785-1100

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS 34 E. 112th Place, Lower Level, Chicago, IL 60628

CAMPAIGN PHONE 773-785-5849 FAX 773-785-2790

CAMPAIGN WEBSITE ward09.com EMAIL ward9@comcast.net

CAMPAIGN MANAGER George Brown

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED 2,500 NUMBER REQUIRED 473

Please provide the following background information:

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

Alderman, 9th Ward, 1999-present; 9th Ward Democratic Committeeman, 2000-present

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

U.S. Congress, Illinois 2nd District

C. What is your primary occupation?

Full-time alderman

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

I have been a full-time alderman for the past 10+ years. I have also served as Democratic Committeeman for the 9th Ward, and as a community representative on the Local School Council at Gwendolyn Brooks College Prep. I am also and have long been involved with Rainbow/PUSH, CAPS, the NAACP, Salem Baptist Church, and the Rosemoor Community Association. I am deeply engaged in my ward and with its people and institutions, and I am firm in my commitment to civic life in my ward and in Chicago.

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

Growing up in an urban area undergoing change prepared me to understand the need for accountability, transparency, public service, and responsiveness.

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

There have been many, many elections in my life. During the most recent election I supported Governor Quinn, Secretary of State Jesse White, Attorney General Lisa Madigan, Senator Durbin, and Lt. Gov. Sheila Simon, as well as Cook County Board Chair Toni Preckwinkle. In 2012 I supported President Obama.

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 1

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

I look forward to receiving endorsements from a variety of groups; I have been endorsed already by a number of elected officials.

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?

I believe my track record on behalf of my ward and the people, businesses, and organizations in it is one of persistent hard work. In partnership with my constituents, we are finally turning the tide on long years of neglect on the Far South Side, but there is more work to be done, and I'm confident that I am the person for the job. I have the experience and the relationships to keep the 9th Ward moving forward together.

Over the past years, I've helped to bring 3,000 new jobs to the ward – well-paying ones in manufacturing and logistics as well as retail and warehousing. I have helped secure millions for schools and infrastructure improvements and soon hope to bring the city's first national park to our community.

My highest priority is working with my constituents and all my ward's stakeholders to keep it moving forward. We've made great progress during my time in office—thousands of new jobs have come to the ward, and hundreds of millions of dollars have been invested in businesses, schools, and infrastructure. The Red Line extension to 130th Street is on its way to becoming a reality, which will provide unprecedented and much-needed access to economic opportunity for residents of my ward. But the battle is from over, and I will continue to push to make sure that my ward emerges stronger than ever from the latest economic malaise.

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

My campaign committee has raised \$120,000 to date and will be adequately funded to get my message out to voters.

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

My campaign has one paid staff member, a contracted communications/public relations firm, and a lot of volunteers.

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

Most questions on this questionnaire can be answered by checking either YES or NO. Others 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	
	x		Do you favor maintaining the current number of City Council committees?
1.		ESSAY	<p>Which committees, if any, would you combine or eliminate? The City Council's committees are tailored so that each is broad enough to cover all of several closely related subject areas and narrow enough that it can be specialized enough to develop real expertise. This careful fitting is an advantage for the City Council, whose members can dedicate significant time and effort to the issues they care most about, while benefitting from the complementary dedication of their colleagues. Moreover, the cost savings from committee elimination are fairly small, and it's important to bear in mind that the monetary savings are only one side of the equation—there will be some loss in terms of governance and professionalism. Still, I am always open to new ideas, and will review any serious consolidation proposal.</p>
2.		ESSAY	<p>What reforms are necessary in the City Council's committee rules and structure? I believe the City Council committee rules and structure generally work well. I do, however, think that it can be difficult for individual or groups of aldermen to push forward an agenda without widespread agreement bordering on consensus. That is a two-sided coin, as consensus can promote harmony and can be helpful in making sure that proposals are fully considered. But I would welcome the opportunity to examine ideas for opening the process more.</p>
3.	x		Would you give the Inspector General's office independent subpoena power or other compulsory process that can be directed against city officials, agencies and employees without necessitation the approval of the Mayor or Corporation Counsel?
4.	x		Should the Inspector General be able to initiate his or her own investigations of Aldermen without a complaint from outside the office?
5.	x		Should the Inspector General be able to pursue anonymous complaints?
6.		x	Do you support patronage in hiring and promoting public employees?
7.		x	Will you employ or have you employed staff, in your office who hold other public sector jobs concurrently?
8.		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?
9.	x		Will you vote for an ordinance mandating that the City contest unemployment claims by former employees who were fired for cause?
10.	x		Will you vote for an ordinance forbidding the City to hire or contract the services of anyone previously fired for cause from the City or any other unit of government?
11.		x	Will you support an ordinance to reduce the number of wards?
12.			Have you joined or will you join:
		x	The Paul Douglas Caucus
		x	The Independent Progressive Caucus
			Both
13.	x		Do you support changing the state statute to return to filling aldermanic vacancies by special election, rather than Mayoral appointment? (Please note that I support Mayoral appointment for vacancies that occur more than two years into an alderman's term. For vacancies that occur less than two years' into a term, I support a special election.)
14.	x		Will you vote for an ordinance requiring redistricting of the wards to be based on non-partisan criteria and not to benefit any specific individual or political party?

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

15.		x	Will you or have you accepted campaign donations from current or potential suppliers or employees?
16.		x	Will you or have you accepted campaign donations from people or businesses seeking zoning changes in your ward?
17.	x		Do you support public financing of municipal campaigns?
	ESSAY		Please explain your position. I think there is far too much "big money" in politics at all levels of government. Public financing of campaigns would give the public added assurances that their representatives are representing only that public's interests, and not the interests of big business or wealthy individuals. Maintaining public trust is essential to the work we do in City Council, and I believe public campaign funding would create a critical bulwark against cynicism.
18.	ESSAY		Who are your top 5 contributors and how much has each contributed to your campaign? I am my own top contributor.
19.			What changes would you support to the redistricting process? I am open to requiring that wards be more geographically rational.
REVENUE AND BUDGET			
20.	x		Will you vote to hire independent analysts to conduct a forensic audit of past City spending?
Will you vote for a budget ordinance which would require:			
21.	x		public questioning of city department heads concerning their departments' specific budget requests?
22.	x		making budget copies available to the public 30 days in advance of hearings?
23.	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?
24.	ESSAY		What additional revenue sources, if any, would you propose? I support the introduction of a fair, progressive tax in the state of Illinois; I believe that such a levy has the potential to bring in a great deal of added revenue for the State and City while limiting the negative impact on citizens, especially those who cannot afford additional costs.
25.		x	Do you support casino gambling for Chicago?
26.	x		Will you vote to require a citywide referendum before any gambling is instituted in the City?
27.		x	Will you vote to roll back Mayoral and Aldermanic salaries to pre-2007 levels?
28.	x		Will you vote for an ordinance limiting future Mayoral and Aldermanic salary increases to the same percentage as the lowest raise for any class of city employees?
29.		x	Do you agree with the criticism that City government is top heavy with management?
	ESSAY		Please explain your position. The size of government in Chicago matches the needs of a big city. Chicago is large both in terms of population and geography, requiring a great deal of services—Chicago's management structure reflects those facts.
30.	ESSAY		What measures will you vote for to reform the city pension plan and ensure its solvency? The reality is that we have two methods we can pursue to reach pension solvency: reduce pension benefits, or raise revenues (or both). For current and former employees, the courts have sharply constrained our ability to reduce benefits, as is consistent with the state's constitution and the promises that were made. For future employees, I believe we need to figure out what is an attractive package of retirement and other benefits that will ensure a steady flow of good candidates but reduce demands on city funds in the future. On the revenue side, I firmly believe that long-term, our surest path to solvency is accelerating economic development. Short-term, I support a progressive income tax, and I'm open to other ideas, but I will stand firm against nickel-and-diming my constituents.

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

31	ESSAY	<p>How would you modify (if at all) the benefit and contribution levels and eligibility requirements for public employee pensions?</p> <p style="color: red;">As above, I believe we need to take a good, long look at the kind of packages that we can afford to offer future employees that will also allow us to attract the best candidates. I believe offering employees options (for instance, the choice of a 401K or a traditional pension) could be a good step. I also believe that, with people working later into life, we need to have a real discussion of raising the retirement age, perhaps coupled with allowances for particularly stressful or physically demanding careers. (A laborer might not be able to work as many years as a clerk.) It is abundantly clear also that some combination of a reduction in pension benefits or an increase in contributions will be part of an equitable solution to the problem. I also believe we must put in place safeguards to ensure payments are made in a timely manner so that we do not find ourselves in such a big hole in the future.</p>
32.	Choose One	Should discretionary funds for ward services and infrastructure improvements be allocated
		in equal amounts to each ward
	x	based on the size of each ward
	x	based on the needs of each ward (I believe both ward size and ward needs should be taken into account.)
	YES	NO
33.		x
		Will you institute participatory budgeting to allow ward residents to vote on discretionary spending in your ward?
PRIVATIZATION		
34.	ESSAY	<p>Which city services or assets, if any, do you believe should be privatized and what is your criteria?</p> <p style="color: red;">I am generally opposed to privatization, given the City's experiences so far. I am willing to review any proposals brought forward, but I believe such proposals require a stringent and thorough analysis before moving into serious discussion.</p>
35.	x	Will you vote for an ordinance requiring an independent analysis of any lease or outsourcing arrangement?
36.	x	Will you vote for an ordinance requiring detailed analysis and evaluation of any lease or outsourcing arrangement at least 30 days prior to the City Council vote?
37.	ESSAY	<p>Before voting on privatization contracts, what will you do to ensure that they deliver the maximum return and best service for city residents in the long term?</p> <p style="color: red;">I support an independent review process for proposed privatization contracts. I believe it's critical that evaluations of privatization proposals value long-term effects, not just short-term. I also think that it's important that all privatization contracts be scrutinized for value—not just savings, but also service quality, working conditions, and wages, among others.</p>
38.	ESSAY	<p>What procedures will you implement to ensure that privatization arrangements are not being used to move patronage workers outside of the scope of the Rutan decision requirements or any other anti-patronage rules or protocols?</p> <p style="color: red;">Keeping politics out of public employment decisions guards against cronyism and protects the public's faith that services are being provided efficiently, fairly, and competently. Privatization presents an opportunity to subvert the protections in place that prevent hiring based on otherwise-prohibited criteria. In order to firm up those protections in cases of privatization, we first need to put the brakes on privatization efforts—they ought to move only slowly, deliberately, and with exquisitely detailed examination. As they do, we ought to explore the introduction of provisions to any proposed privatization contracts that would match or exceed those that constrain purely public hiring. We should also implement regular reviews of contracted arrangements to ensure</p>

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

		proper hiring practices, and use the formal and informal levers of government to enforce anti-patronage rules.
PLANNING, ZONING, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		
39.	ESSAY	How will you involve ward residents in planning? I talk to my constituents, both individually and in community organizations, on a regular basis, so their perspectives are always top-of-mind for me when I consider ward planning issues. They know I welcome their input at all times.
40.	ESSAY	What is your long-range plan for development of the ward? I am focused on continuing to bring businesses big and small to the 9 th Ward. Seeing the Pullman Park development fully filled will be a great step forward. Pivoting off of that success, I'm confident we can attract even more economic development, building on the 3,000 jobs we've created in the ward just over the last few years.
41.	ESSAY	What criteria do you or will you use in determining whether or not to grant a zoning change or variance? When determining whether to support or oppose a zoning change/variance, I ask simple, straightforward questions: what effects, both positive and negative, will this change have on the immediate vicinity? On the larger community? In the short and long terms? I make sure to talk to those who are likely to be affected, and to experts who can help illuminate the larger issues. Then I carefully consider the various effects we can predict, and, bearing in mind that there are often unpredictable and unintended consequences, I make a judgment. Each case is different, but those simple questions and conversations guide me through all of them.
42.	ESSAY	How will you involve residents in planning, approval, and oversight of TIF districts? As noted above, I talk to my constituents and community organizations regularly; they're not in the dark about what is going on, including with TIF districts, and I'm not doubtful about where they stand. That's how I knew they would be supportive of using TIF funds to upgrade the public infrastructure that was necessary to enable the first new manufacturing site for the south side in decades, where Method, a maker of environmentally-friendly home cleaning products headquartered in Europe, will build a factory. Not a dime of taxpayer money was given to Method. But in order to make the site viable, the City used TIF money to upgrade infrastructure. So I will certainly engage in thorough community outreach should further TIF discussions arise in the 9 th Ward.
43.	x	Will you vote to terminate a TIF if the objectives of the TIF plan have been accomplished before the 23 year period is ended?
44.	x	Will you vote to return unspent and uncommitted TIF funds on an annual basis to the various taxing bodies?
45.	ESSAY	How do you propose to replace property tax revenue for CPS and other taxing bodies that is lost to TIF development? As noted elsewhere, I support a fair, progressive income tax for Illinois. I also believe that economic development is the key to added revenues; that's the whole idea of TIFs, and what Harold Washington had in mind when he introduced them to Chicago. In places where economic development isn't moving fast enough, we need to be creative about how we budget in order to make up for lost revenues without nickel-and-diming those who can least afford it.
46.	X	Will you support a moratorium on creation of any new TIF districts until new funding sources are identified to replace the revenue diverted to the TIF? (As noted above, TIF is a critical resource for my ward's development.)
47.	x	Will you vote for 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)?

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

48.	x		Will you vote to invest substantially more in job-training and the creation of transitional job programs in disadvantaged communities, including the formerly incarcerated, homeless, youth, and non-English speakers?
HOUSING			
49.	X		Will you vote to amend the Vacant Properties Ordinance to require mortgage servicers to register their properties?
50.	X		Do you support enacting an ordinance to preserve Single-Room Occupancy housing?
51.	x		Will you vote for an inclusionary zoning ordinance requiring developers to set aside 30% of residential new construction or renovation for the creation of affordable housing?
52.	ESSAY		<p>What measures will you support 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?</p> <p><i>We need to be creative and tough as we work to ensure that families in the 40%-60% of AMI bracket can afford properties that go through the NSP program. Working with local lenders and the NSP developers, I believe we can come up with some common-sense solutions. Loan repayment assistance programs, reverse mortgages—we should put it all on the table to see what works.</i></p>
53.	ESSAY		<p>What procedures and safeguards would you put in place on conversion/demolition of SRO's and other low income housing to ensure that affordable housing will continue to be available for low income tenants who would otherwise be displaced?</p> <p><i>I voted for the SRO protection ordinance that passed the City Council in November, because I believe we needed to act to preserve this housing. I think that the ordinance provides adequate protection against conversion/demolition, and that our focus should now be on increasing the supply of housing for the poor while decreasing the demand for such supply by lifting the poor out of poverty.</i></p>
54.	ESSAY		<p>What measures will you support to ensure that there is an adequate supply of affordable family sized units available to families in the Section 8 program?</p> <p><i>With the CHA increasingly pulling back from its historical role as housing provider to the poor, it is incumbent upon Chicago's leadership to find ways to incentivize private developers to build the units the city's residents need. I would support exploring doing so through the Affordable Requirements Ordinance.</i></p>
55.	ESSAY		<p>What measures will you support to provide affordable housing for low-income individuals and families who are not served by any existing programs?</p> <p><i>I look forward to supporting the revisions to the Affordable Requirements Ordinance when they come before the City Council; these revisions will mandate more affordable units and higher payments from developers who don't build them. I think we need to build on efforts like this one and like the push to protect SROs and think creatively about how to use the tools at the City's disposal. Ultimately, we need to take action to ease limits on the supply side of the housing equation; I would welcome a discussion about restrictive zoning which prevents density in high-demand locations, but, fundamentally, people need to be able to earn more so that there is less need.</i></p>
	YES	NO	Do you support any of the following to be built in your ward?
56.	X		low income rental housing that is affordable to those at 15% to 30% of AMI?
57.	X		supportive housing for people overcoming addiction and other problems which contribute to homelessness?
58.	X		shelters for the homeless?

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

59	X		Do you favor a moratorium on the conversion or demolition of SRO's pending the development of protections and remedies to protect the displaced tenants from becoming homeless?
60	x		Do you support allowing the demolition of existing public housing units without new or rehabilitated replacement housing on a one-for-one basis?
61.	Choose One		Which standard should the City use to define affordable housing?
			AMI of the Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area
			AMI of Cook County
	x		AMI of Chicago
			AMI of the Community Area
EDUCATION			
62.	Choose One		Which of the following options for choosing the School Board do you support?
			Popular Election
			Mayoral appointment from nominations made by community representatives
	x		Maintaining the current system of Mayoral appointment
			A mix of elected and appointed members
	YES	NO	
63.	X		Will you support a city-wide lottery for enrollment in magnet schools?
64.	X		Will you support LSCs in maintaining full powers, and support them through adequate funding levels that provide training and support for LSCs to do their jobs?
65.	X		Will you support 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?
66.	X		Will you support development and implementation of a more comprehensive and accurate approach to evaluate student and teacher performance than reliance on the SAT and ACT tests?
67.	X		Would you favor repealing (or modifying) the 70% requirement for voting to authorize teacher strikes?
68.	ESSAY		<p>What is your assessment of Renaissance 2010 and its implementation in your ward as well as the City as a whole? Please include in your assessment the role of charter schools as well as the power to reconstitute schools.</p> <p>Chicago Public Schools are moving in the right direction. In the 9th Ward, Gwendolyn Brooks College Prep, where I am on the LSC, is one of the standout institutions in the system. Recently, CPS recognized that fact: Brooks is to receive an Academic Center for 7th and 8th graders as well as 200 more seats for high schoolers. The 9th Ward is also home to four level one elementary schools and the Carver Military Academy, "the Jewel of the South Side." These schools are the lifeblood of their communities, and I hope to raise every school in my ward to their level. Doing so will require significant investments of time, money, and personnel, in addition to the involvement of parents and the community. In order to fund those investments, CPS needs to work with the CTU to find efficiencies, craft a common-sense labor agreement, and ensure future spending is focused on the most important priorities. And to me, what's more important than charter or not is a different question: are the students learning or not? The label is less important than what's happening inside the building. Every community needs a good neighborhood school. That's the bottom line.</p>
69.	ESSAY		<p>What should the City do to improve the quality of all local schools?</p> <p>I believe that learning needs to start before kindergarten, and students need to be supported inside and outside of school until they leave for college and careers. As I noted above, we also need significant investments of time, money, and personnel, as well as parent and community involvement.</p>

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

70.	ESSAY		What are your plans to improve the local schools in your ward? <i>I will continue to work with parents, community members, principals, teachers, and students to ensure that the schools in my ward have adequate resources, both financial and social.</i>
71.	ESSAY		How would you modify (if at all) the benefit and contribution levels and eligibility requirements for public school teacher pension? <i>I believe the most important thing we can do for pension solvency is continued, accelerating economic development. In the short-term, I am open to examining any serious, responsible proposal for adjusting benefits for new employees.</i>
ENVIRONMENT			
72.	x		Will you vote for the Clean Power Ordinance?
73.		x	Will you vote to privatize Chicago's water delivery system?
74.	x		Will you vote to ban Styrofoam food containers in Chicago public schools?
75.	x		Will you vote to ban Styrofoam food containers in Chicago restaurants and food delivery services?
76.	x		Will you vote to adopt the water quality standards recommended by the Pollution Control Board?
77.	ESSAY		What should the City do to encourage and implement alternative forms of energy? <i>Chicago has an impressive record of environmental leadership. To continue to build on that legacy, we have to keep pushing for alternative fuels. That's why I'm a chief sponsor of the proposal that would put E15, an automotive fuel with 15% ethanol, into Chicago's gas stations.</i>
78.	ESSAY		What other environmental initiatives, if any, do you propose? <i>I'm a strong supporter of the Millennium Reserve, which will preserve and enhance open space and the environment on the Far South Side.</i>
PARKS			
79.		x	Do you support election of the Chicago Park District Board?
80.		x	Do you support increased privatization of park facilities and services?
	ESSAY		Why or why not? <i>I am wary of privatization in general, and parks in particular are public assets to be enjoyed with as few restrictions as practicable. The way to ensure that they continue as such in perpetuity is to maintain public ownership.</i>
81.	x		Do you support prioritization of land acquisition and capital improvements first to those neighborhoods which are underserved by existing facilities?
TRANSPORTATION			
82.	x		Will you vote to increase the City subsidy to the CTA?
83.	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 Ford City Mall
		3	Downtown Circulator
		4	Downtown-O'Hare Express
			Other – please specify
	YES	NO	
84.	x		Do you support renegotiation of Chicago's parking meter privatization deal?
85.		x	Do you support privatization of Midway Airport?
86.	x		Do you support the O'Hare expansion plan?

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

CRIMINAL JUSTICE			
		x	Is 911 response time adequate?
87.	ESSAY		<p>If not, how can it be improved?</p> <p>My ward has one of the highest response times in the city; last year it was the highest. I'm working with the concerned departments and personnel to reduce that time, and I am also exploring the larger policy changes that need to be put into place, such as more police, resource reallocation, etc. I should note that the 9th Ward also faces infrastructural issues related to response time; specifically the large number of railroad tracks can be a factor, and so geographic distribution of resources is also something we continue to examine.</p>
		x	Are there inequities in 911 service in your ward?
88.	ESSAY		<p>If so, what can be done to redress them?</p> <p>As above, I am an advocate for putting police resources to work where the problems are, and unfortunately, the 9th Ward is home to more than its fair share of crime. We also need to look at hiring more officers citywide.</p>
89.		x	Do you support re-allocating police services from low-crime to high-crime neighborhoods?
90.	ESSAY		<p>What changes, if any, would you suggest for the CAPS program?</p> <p>CAPS suffers from a lack of public participation, and correcting that problem is the key to improving CAPS's efficacy. Doing so will involve making sure CAPS is focused on the right issues, and also on building trust with the community. Residents need to be confident that speaking out at CAPS meetings will not expose them.</p>
91.		x	Will you vote for more funding for alternative crime prevention programs such as Cease Fire?
92.	ESSAY		<p>What measures will you support to stop the schools to prison pipeline?</p> <p>I support reducing suspensions (especially out-of-school suspensions) in Chicago's schools. We also need more wraparound services, as well as after-school and employment opportunities for our youth.</p>
93.		x	Do you support gun control?
94.	ESSAY		<p>What measures, if any, should the City Council adopt in response to recent court decisions striking down Chicago's handgun ban?</p> <p>The City has responded about as well as it can to the recent decisions, which leave it little room to operate on this issue. It's worth exploring our gun crime laws to see where we might be able to toughen penalties for those who would supply guns illegally to criminals.</p>
95.		x	Will you vote to order the City to 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?
96.	ESSAY		<p>Please share your views regarding the functioning of the Independent Police Review Authority and whether it should operate more independently of the Police Department.</p> <p>I believe the IPRA ought to operate completely independently of the Police Department. Especially given the police-involved violence we've witnessed across the country this year, it's more important than ever that the public feel confident that the police are held to the highest standards. In order to do so, we need to be able to assure the public that there is a thorough investigation of alleged police misconduct, and that there are consequences when mistakes (or worse) are made.</p>
CIVIL RIGHTS			
97.		x	Do you support affirmative action based on race, gender and sexual orientation in establishing criteria for hiring and promoting public employees?
98.		x	Do you support affirmative action as a criteria in letting city contracts?
99.	ESSAY		Please comment on current participation of individuals with disabilities in city hiring and contracts.

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

		This is an area where the City always has room for improvement.
100.	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. Again, this is an area where the City always has room for improvement, including in firefighter and police officer recruitment and promotion.
101.	x	Do you favor restructuring the wage scale of city employees to institute gender-equal pay for jobs of comparable worth?
102.	x	Will you vote to require all City vendors and contractors to provide spousal benefits for same-sex partners of their employees?
103.	X	Will you vote for the Municipal ID ordinance?
	ESSAY	Why or why not? Chicago has always been and should always be a friend to the downtrodden and the stranger, and providing municipal IDs would be a great way to open our arms to those in need of critical public services, not to mention basic identification in order to access a more robust life in our city.
ALDERMANIC PRIORITIES		
104.	ESSAY	What employment, if any, other than alderman, do you intend to hold? None—I am a full-time alderman.
105.	ESSAY	How will you divide your time between your aldermanic duties and your other occupation? See above.
106.	ESSAY	Please specify the minimum hours per week you will spend performing your aldermanic duties. I work 12-hour days and also on weekends.
107.	ESSAY	Please describe your service office staffing plan, including the number of staff, full and part time, how you will pay for them, and the number of hours per week that your service office will be open. I have a fully-staffed ward office open Mondays 9am-7pm, Tuesdays-Thursdays 9am-5pm, Fridays 9am-3pm, and Sundays 9am-1pm.
108.	ESSAY	What services need improvement in your ward? How will you achieve this? The 9th Ward is in need of improvement to pothole-filling and tree-trimming services. I am persistent in working with the appropriate City departments and personnel to redress these deficiencies and bring these services up to the required service levels
109.	ESSAY	What are your top priorities for the Ward? As I noted above, my highest priority is working with my constituents and all my ward's stakeholders to keep it moving forward. We've made great progress during my time in office—thousands of new jobs have come to the ward, and hundreds of millions of dollars have been invested in businesses, schools, and infrastructure. The Red Line extension to 130th Street is on its way to becoming a reality, which will provide unprecedented and much-needed access to economic opportunity for residents of my ward. It finally seems we are beginning to turn the tide on long years of neglect on the Far South Side, but the battle is from over. I will continue to push to make sure that my ward emerges stronger than ever from the latest economic malaise.
110.	ESSAY	How will you work with community groups and residents on City matters? I have a long track record of bringing together all stakeholders in my ward to address issues of common concern. The key to building enduring relationships is honesty and integrity—making your stance clear and keeping your word. That's what I've done since I was first elected, and it's one of the things I most enjoy about the job: building trust with my constituents and working with them to move the 9th Ward forward.