

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 1

DATE 12/20/14 WARD 24th

NAME Frank Bass

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CAMPAIGN MANAGER Andre Holland

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED 1800 NUMBER REQUIRED 473

Please provide the following background information:

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

-Legislative Liaison to the Cook County Board President 2001-2010.

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

-Alderman 24th Ward

-County Commissioner 2nd District

C. What is your primary occupation?

-Government Affairs Consultant

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

-chairman of the North Lawndale Community News

-volunteer with various orgnaizations that help clean vacant lots throughout the ward, as well has feed kids from the - community,

-work with Grow Your Own Teachers program to secure state funding

-volunteerfor a youth mentoring program in North Lawndale

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

I have over 15 years of governmental affairs experience. I worked as the legislative liaison for Cook County for 10 years before starting my own lobbying firm. Most of my private lobbying efforts consist of working with community groups and non-profits. I have extensive knowledge of government and I've worked with elected officials at every level of government.

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

- Cook County Board President **John Stroger Jr Deputy Campaign Manager,**
- Jehan Gordon for State Rep (92 District), Deputy Campaign Manager**
- **State Representative Ken Dunkin (5th District), Deputy Campaign Manager**
- Art Turner for State Rep (9th District), Volunteer**

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

- State Rep Ken Dunkin**
- Cook County Commissioner Deborah Graham,**
- Westside Ministers Association (members)**
- Chicago Black Chamber of Commerce (members)**
- various other community leaders.**

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?

The twenty-fourth ward is plagued by crime, housing issues, a lack of quality education, and a lack of economic development. My goals are to create jobs by spurring economic development; hire a ward superintendent to ensure that we keep a clean and vibrant ward; work with the city, county, and state to assist home owners with foreclosure and rid the ward of abandoned buildings and vacant lots; create a police accountability program to deal with police abuse of authority -- this program would, amongst other things, force police officers to carry professional liability insurance coverage similar to the malpractice insurance doctors carry; strengthen our school system by securing more funding for education and continuing to work in Springfield to push a for an elected representative school board

I. What is your campaign budget? **\$75,000**

J. How much have you raised to date? **\$5,000**

J. How many people are on your campaign staff? **10**

K. How many volunteers are on your list? **50**

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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	
1.	x		Do you favor maintaining the current number of City Council committees?
	ESSAY		Which committees, if any, would you combine or eliminate?
2.	ESSAY		What reforms are necessary in the City Council's committee rules and structure?
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
		x	Both
13.	x		Do you support changing the state statute to return to filling aldermanic vacancies by special election, rather than Mayoral appointment?
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?
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. It takes corporate money out of the equation, public financing becomes the equalizer
18.	ESSAY		Who are your top 5 contributors and how much has each contributed to your campaign? Myself 3000, the rest have come from neighbors
19.	What changes would you support to the redistricting process? Community input		

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:		

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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? Increase in certain taxes, TIF reform, sending TIF surplus back to those agencies that the money was taken from. I also support legislation that deals with the streamline sales tax and changes to the way and from whom the state collects income taxes. I believe we should use a progressive tax system.
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. We have too many managers yet not enough employees to actually do the job needed to make city government work for the people. I also believe more the hiring within City government agencies needs to be done in a collaborative way between the City Council and the Mayor.
30.	ESSAY		What measures will you vote for to reform the city pension plan and ensure its solvency? Property tax increase but with caps for seniors and those under a certain income. A transfer of TIF surplus dollars.
31.	ESSAY		How would you modify (if at all) the benefit and contribution levels and eligibility requirements for public employee pensions? I would not; it is unconstitutional
32.	Choose One		Should discretionary funds for ward services and infrastructure improvements be allocated
			in equal amounts to each ward
			based on the size of each ward
	x		based on the needs of each ward
	YES	NO	
33.	x		Will you institute participatory budgeting to allow ward residents to vote on discretionary spending in your ward?
PRIVATIZATION			
34.	ESSAY		Which city services or assets, if any, do you believe should be privatized and what is your criteria? None, a public service should never be privatized.
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		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? I would always vote no on Privatizing a city good
38.	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 Rutan decision requirements or any other anti-patronage rules or protocols? I will always vote no on privatizing.

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PLANNING, ZONING, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		
39.	ESSAY	How will you involve ward residents in planning? Community town hall meetings and allow residents to vote on what they would like or not like in the ward, same as I did with cook county when we addressed property tax increases for the Cook County Forest Preserve District.
40.	ESSAY	What is your long-range plan for development of the ward? Expansion of black owned businesses, development of restaurants, grocery stores, cafes', local stores that sell clothing, floral shops, ice cream parlors, etc...
41.	ESSAY	What criteria do you or will you use in determining whether or not to grant a zoning change or variance? How would impact the residents of the ward, the positives and negatives and also ask residents for their input.
42.	ESSAY	How will you involve residents in planning, approval, and oversight of TIF districts? Community meetings.
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? I would like to create a "loan" program where the low interest rate collected by the loan program will go toward CPS and other taxing bodies, while also including property tax increases that do not impact those who are low income and seniors.
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?
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)?
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	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? Work to amend the laws that created the Neighborhood Stabilization Program to include making homes affordable for this targeted group.
53.	ESSAY	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? Before any SRO's are converted or demolished, there must be funding set aside to ensure that those who are displaced have somewhere to live, that is safe and affordable.
54.	ESSAY	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? Build more affordable housing in the city, also force CHA to be more open to how the Section 8 program works to help keep an

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			ample supply of family sized units within the city
55.	ESSAY		What measures will you support to provide affordable housing for low-income individuals and families who are not served by any existing programs? An increase in the Rental Housing Support Program currently funding by fees created when a real estate transaction is completed.
	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?
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
			AMI of Chicago
	x		AMI of the Community Area
EDUCATION			
62.	Choose One		Which of the following options for choosing the School Board do you support?
	x		Popular Election
			Mayoral appointment from nominations made by community representatives
			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		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. Renaissance 2010 has destroyed the education fiber of my ward, and in the city, you now have kids from warring gang areas walking to school in dangerous communities thus adding to the increase to after school shootings in Chicago. Charter schools is an ideology I am strongly opposed too, they do nothing but make neighborhood schools weaker. I work tirelessly to make life for Charter schools horrible.
69.	ESSAY		What should the City do to improve the quality of all local schools? college teachers to come into CPS teach More funding, reduce class size, upgrade the classrooms, cafeterias, auditoriums, in our schools, quit firing qualities teachers who have accumulated a great

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			deal of years in the classroom, quit after working for 5 years, then leave taking that skill set with them to some suburban school district.
70.	ESSAY		What are your plans to improve the local schools in your ward? Reducing class size, working with teachers, parents and principals in bringing the funds needed to improve the schools. Bring in "real men read" into every school, meet twice a month with LCS members to keep up with what's going on in the schools and what's needed.
71.	ESSAY		How would you modify (if at all) the benefit and contribution levels and eligibility requirements for public school teacher pension? I would not do anything dealing with changing a teacher's pension, its protected by the state constitution.
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? Push recycling, get government owned buildings to look at alternative forms of energy to heat and cool the buildings, and new ways of keeping the lights on in the buildings. Then pass those findings over to the private sector and encourage them to follow suit.
78.	ESSAY		What other environmental initiatives, if any, do you propose? A tax credit for purchasing a low emission/ high mileage automobile
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? Again I am opposed to privatizing any public good.
81.	x		Do you support prioritization of land acquisition and capital improvements first to those neighborhoods which are underserved by existing facilities? I am working right now on getting Franklin Park a new Fieldhouse, the current structure was built in the early 1970s
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
	no		Downtown Circulator
	3		Downtown-O'Hare Express
	4		Other – please specify (expansion of the blue line into Schaumburg)
	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?
CRIMINAL JUSTICE			

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87.	x		Is 911 response time adequate?
	ESSAY		If not, how can it be improved? Hire more employees at the 911 center and more police officers.
88.			Are there inequities in 911 service in your ward? I have not heard of any complaints from my neighbors but that does not mean it's not a complaint elsewhere. I would have to look into this matter more.
	ESSAY		If so, what can be done to redress them?
89.			Do you support re-allocating police services from low-crime to high-crime neighborhoods?
90.	ESSAY		What changes, if any, would you suggest for the CAPS program? More civic engagement, more engagement from the alderman office as well.
91.	x		Will you vote for more funding for alternative crime prevention programs such as Cease Fire?
92.	ESSAY		What measures will you support to stop the schools to prison pipeline? Increased funding and programming aimed at our youth; significantly more funding for public schools.
93.	x		Do you support gun control?
94.	ESSAY		What measures, if any, should the City Council adopt in response to recent court decisions striking down Chicago's handgun ban?
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		Please share your views regarding the functioning of the Independent Police Review Authority and whether it should operate more independently of the Police Department. There should be more input from non police/ law enforcement officials. I feel more civilians should be on the board along with a different appointment process, I would love to work with community activist to come up with a better way of addressing this issue and how the board is appointed.
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. Individuals with disabilities are often overlooked when it comes to hiring and contracts. I believe the city should do more to assist individuals with disabilities by helping to prepare them for jobs and to helping them prepare to become business owners. I believe the same holds true for minorities, women, and veterans.
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. There has undoubtedly been a lack of minority and women participation in city hiring and contracts. The city needs to make more concerted effort to ensure that minorities and women. I think is important to have more minorities and women and decision making positions within the city council and the mayors office to see to it that contracts and city hiring are handled in an equitable manner.
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.			Will you vote for the Municipal ID ordinance? yes
	ESSAY		Why or why not? Gives people a way to establish identity, get bank accounts, use public transportation, helps the homeless out, etc..

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ALDERMANIC PRIORITIES		
104.	ESSAY	What employment, if any, other than alderman, do you intend to hold? None
105.	ESSAY	How will you divide your time between your aldermanic duties and your other occupation? I will become a full time alderman
106.	ESSAY	Please specify the minimum hours per week you will spend performing your aldermanic duties I will spend as many hours necessary to complete the job in an effective manner.
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 plan to have several staff members. The exact number will be directly related to what is necessary to effectively serve the constituents of the ward. I foresee that number being between four and six. I would like the office opened 6 days out the week with late hours once or twice a week for personal meetings with constituents. Additionally, I will develop a smart phone app so that constituents can efficiently communicate with the ward office.
108.	ESSAY	What services need improvement in your ward? How will you achieve this? Frankly, the 24th ward is lacking in every area of service that an alderman can possibly provide. I will develop a stronger line of communication with my constituents so as to meet their needs more effectively and efficiently. I will work to fill potholes quicker, eliminate excessive trash, and make sure that residents of the ward are aware of the assistance the city can provide them with any number of issues.
109.	ESSAY	What are your top priorities for the Ward? My priorities are to reduce crime, create jobs, and build stronger public neighborhood schools.
110.	ESSAY	How will you work with community groups and residents on City matters? I will have open communication with them to ensure that they have input in all matters pertaining to the 24th ward and the city.