

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 1

DATE 12/20/2014 WARD 36th Ward

NAME Alonso Zaragoza

VOTING ADDRESS 5124 West Belden

HOME PHONE 773-245-3178 BUSINESS PHONE _____

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS 5124 West Belden

CAMPAIGN PHONE 773-245-3178 FAX _____

CAMPAIGN WEBSITE www.ward36.com EMAIL _____

CAMPAIGN MANAGER _____

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED 1,751 NUMBER REQUIRED 471

Please provide the following background information:

A. Elective or appointive public and/or party offices previously held including dates. None.

B. Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate. I have run for the 31st Ward Democratic Committeeman seat

C. What is your primary occupation? I am a reference librarian.

D. Briefly list your civic activities of the past ten years. I have served on 3 Local School Councils and several park advisory boards in my community since the age of 18. I have served on the board of the IVI-IPO for several years and was the IVI-IPO State Chair in 2011. I have participated in immigrant rights rallies with The Resurrection Project and ICIRR. I have advocated for the rights of workers including attending rallies in support of day laborers, strikes, and the raising of the minimum wage. I supported the Chicago teachers Union during their strike and spoke up at several community rallies to protest the gutting of the budgets of my neighborhood schools.

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 reference librarian, I have invaluable research skills that will prove useful in City Council. I have also done community work throughout many of Chicago's communities and understand the needs of the entire City as well as the needs of residents of my own 36th Ward.

F. What candidates have you supported in past elections? Please be specific in describing your role in each campaign. I have supported progressive candidates such as Senator William Delgado, State Representative elect Will Guzzardi, former mayoral candidate Miguel Del Valle, and many others. I have also been supportive of numerous IVI-IPO endorsed candidates.

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G. Please list all endorsements you have received so far. I have received the endorsement of the Northside Democracy For America.

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 should be endorsed over other candidates in this race because I represent exactly what the IVI-IPO stands for. I stand for social justice through good government, believe in the good that responsive local government can do for its constituents, and have a history of empowering my community by fostering responsible citizen participation in public affairs. My main priorities for improving my Ward are improving our public schools, decreasing crime, focusing on our municipal debt and financial responsibilities, preventing further privatization of taxpayer owned assets, and improving city services.

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

II. My campaign budget is \$20,000 and we have raised approximately \$8,000 this far.

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

We have one paid staff member and 40 volunteers on our campaign.

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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? Changes in the rules and structure of the City Council committees won't necessarily improve the effectiveness of the committees. What will improve the committees are placing aldermen that truly want to legislate into those seats and that won't just be a rubberstamp for the Mayor or special interests. Those aldermen must also take more time to analyze legislation to avoid more mistakes such as the Parking Meter contract.
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. Public financing is already occurring in political campaigns. In my race, the politically connected candidates are getting help from lawyers who are indirectly compensated by the government to do nominating petition challenges. Incumbents also use public money to

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		build up their name recognition via publicly paid for mailings or “community meetings” featuring many government agencies offering services.
18.	ESSAY	Who are your top 5 contributors and how much has each contributed to your campaign? My top 5 contributors are myself, my parents, and my sibling. I have contributed \$4,000 and they \$1,000 each.
19.		What changes would you support to the redistricting process? I believe that the redistricting process should be less political and voted on by a referendum. The wards and districts should be based less on politics and preserving the power of incumbents and more on keeping communities and neighborhoods together. An independent non-political entity can help create legal maps and then the maps can be put as a referendum on a ballot. The people should be able to choose their representatives, not the other way around.
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 believe that the Mayor and City Council owe it to Chicagoans to come up with additional revenue streams that will not put a larger financial burden on Chicagoans, especially on those that can least afford it. Increased taxes are possible solutions after all additional revenue streams have been considered. Ideas for additional revenue streams that I support are reforming the TIF system, creating a Chicago owned casino, speeding up the progress of the Peotone airport, implementing a carefully structured commuter tax, implanting a carefully structured financial transaction tax, and recouping taxpayer money that was lost during CPS’ interest rate swap arrangements. We can also look at the possibility of bringing in revenue from suburbanites that park their vehicles on Chicago streets overnight, similar to the tickets that Chicagoans get when we park our vehicles in any of the suburbs overnight.
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?
	x	Do you agree with the criticism that City government is top heavy with management?
29.	ESSAY	Please explain your position. There is a clear need to eliminate unneeded midlevel management and political appointees from many City departments. Fewer workers are actually doing the work and an excessive number of supervisors and managers are overseeing the work in many departments and that is financially and efficiently irresponsible and a waste of taxpayer money. We should conduct an efficiency audit in all the City departments and see where we can trim the budgets without negatively impact

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		services that are provided to Chicagoans.
30.	ESSAY	<p>What measures will you vote for to reform the city pension plan and ensure its solvency? The City of Chicago has the contractual and moral obligation to properly fund the police (and other) pension funds. The City needs to make its expected actuarial required contribution (ARC) payments as is now required by law. Increased costs to police officers (and other pension fund members) and investments proceeds will not alone solve the problem. The City needs to find additional sources of revenues and direct them towards the massive pension debt that Chicago leadership has created for itself. TIF money can be used to help shore up the pension funds as can revenue that is created by building a casino in Chicago and the Peotone airport. A carefully structured commuter tax, a financial transaction tax, and recouping taxpayer money that was lost during CPS' interest rate swap arrangements brings in additional revenue that can help alleviate the pension problem. If these solutions are not enough, as a last resort, we will need to raise taxes to make sure that Chicago pays off its obligations and continues to function.</p>
31	ESSAY	<p>How would you modify (if at all) the benefit and contribution levels and eligibility requirements for public employee pensions?</p> <p>Illinois Constitution guarantees that municipal pension membership benefits are an enforceable contractual relationship which may not be diminished or impaired. Retirees deserve the right to plan for the remainder of their lives and changing their healthcare coverage after they have already earned their benefits is unfair and unjust. The 2% rise in healthcare contributions should be brought back to 0 and the City should find alternative funding methods to pay for it. TIF money and revenue from a Chicago based casino are just 2 of several different revenue possibilities that can be used to pay for retirees healthcare contributions without adding additional burden to Chicagoans. The city can try and modify the eligibility requirements for public employee pensions for future employees if financially necessary after implementing the above revenue streams.</p>
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
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	based on the needs of each ward
	YES	NO
33.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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>I am against the privatization of tax payer owned public assets.</p>
35.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote for an ordinance requiring an independent analysis of any lease or outsourcing arrangement?
36.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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>We should create an Office of Independent Budget Analysis responsible for vetting all financial legislation before the council to determine the impact any privatization</p>

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		contracts might have for the taxpayers of the City of Chicago. An independent financial analysis of contracts will help prevent future financial mistakes such as the Parking Meter contract.
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? Hire employment "monitors" proactively looking for hiring violations and substantially increase Rutan penalties.
PLANNING, ZONING, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		
39.	ESSAY	How will you involve ward residents in planning? I will host monthly community meetings to inform residents of upcoming ward projects and City Council legislation. Residents will receive a monthly flyer (paid for with my own salary) informing them of upcoming City Council votes, ward projects, and community meetings. I will meet with community groups and community leaders to discuss issues that are affecting our community and work with them to find solutions to community problems. We will also set up volunteer resident advisory councils to get input from residents on important community issues.
40.	ESSAY	What is your long-range plan for development of the ward? I want our ward to be greener, smarter, and more productive than any other ward in the city. We must think creatively about how we use the limited spaces available to us in the 36 th Ward. I want to provide opportunities for efficient development in the ward that preserve the identity and unique characteristics of our neighborhoods on all ends of the new ward. I am dedicated to working with neighbors, community organizations, elected officials, existing business owners, and property owners to create a healthy local business community within our ward. My aldermanic office will work closely with all businesses to help them navigate through Chicago's governmental red tape and help grow our business community and job opportunities for ward residents. On all major development issues, I will assess the issues, develop a comprehensive plan, implement these plans on time and on budget, and evaluate the effectiveness of the plan.
41.	ESSAY	What criteria do you or will you use in determining whether or not to grant a zoning change or variance? Benefit to the community and must be in line with the character of the community/locality.
42.	ESSAY	How will you involve residents in planning, approval, and oversight of TIF districts? I commit to educating the voters of the 36 th Ward on how a TIF works and showing them where their tax dollars are going to. I will inform the public in writing within 14 days of a consultant being hired by the City to prepare a TIF eligibility study. We will hold community hearings for every TIF in our Ward two times a year with the developer, consultants, city departments and residents, business owners and local community organizations.
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? Cut the sales tax rate by 1% point and expand the sales tax list to include services.
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)?

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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 will introduce and support legislation 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>
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 propose substantially raising the fee that a developer has to pay into the SRO preservation fund and looking into revisions of the Affordable Requirements Ordinance.</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? We can look into having a minimum number of units in large apartment buildings for Section 8 tenants. If the minimum is not met. We can tax the management company and make it more desirable to meet those minimum requirements.</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? Aldermen can pressure the CHA into releasing some of the 13,000 funded vouchers that it has not distributed and 1,900 habitable CHA units that currently are vacant to residents of Chicago.</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?
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?
	x		AMI of the Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area
			AMI of Cook County
			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?

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		Popular Election
		Mayoral appointment from nominations made by community representatives
		Maintaining the current system of Mayoral appointment
	x	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? The requirement is 75%, not 70%.
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>Renaissance 2010 didn't include a clear strategy for improving neighborhood schools and has not worked well for our neighborhood public schools. CPS needs to make many changes to improve the charter school system. An independent authorizer should be hired to eliminate politics from decisions on which operators get charters and where they locate. Charter schools should also be required to comply with the state's Freedom of Information Act. Many charters can't make the case that they deserve more public money if they aren't forthcoming about how they're spending what they already get and how dependent they may be on foundations and wealthy individuals. Charters also need to be upfront about the training, experience, and salary levels and of their teaching staff and have evaluation measures similar to those of regular non-charter CPS teachers.</p>
69.	ESSAY	<p>What should the City do to improve the quality of all local schools?</p> <p>To improve the quality of all local schools, the city should:</p> <p>Fully fund our neighborhood public schools, place a moratorium on school closings and charter expansion, support a democratically elected representative school board, hold CPS School Board meetings at night so that all parents can participate without losing a workday and students can advocate for their schools without missing a school day, support the reduction of high-stakes testing and promote opt-out for parents, and improve school safety by ending harsh discipline policies and promoting restorative justice programs in every Chicago Public School.</p>
70.	ESSAY	<p>What are your plans to improve the local schools in your ward?</p> <p>I plan on continuing to stay involved with our Local School Councils as I have been for the past 15 years. I plan on working directly with our school principals and our teachers to improve communication between both parties and to let them know that they have an advocate in the City Council working to improve the quality of education in the 36th Ward. I also plan on using a portion of my own aldermanic salary to hire a professional fundraiser to assist the schools in the 36th Ward with their local fundraising drives.</p>
71.	ESSAY	<p>How would you modify (if at all) the benefit and contribution levels and eligibility requirements for public school teacher pension? I don't plan on changing the public school teacher pension. The pension is a great tool that is used to make sure that high quality school teachers work in our local</p>

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			CPS schools and are not lured away to other states or other higher paying careers.
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? The green economy is an emerging market that Chicago must continue to invest in. As Alderman, I will work to increase funding for programs such as Retrofit Chicago that will provide jobs for Chicagoans and improve our environment. We also must begin to tap into the solar panel market and bring in manufacturing companies that will boost that market here in Chicago and make the technology more readily available for purchase by residents. I will also work with labor and the City Colleges of Chicago to make sure that Chicago students continue to have the opportunity to gain the necessary skills needed to work in the green economy.
78.	ESSAY		What other environmental initiatives, if any, do you propose? I propose that continue to promote the creation of community gardens, especially on unused/foreclosed City owned property.
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? Privatization of park facilities has not lowered the cost of park services for tax payers and has not proven more efficient in the long run.
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)
	2		Red Line south to 130th Street
	3		Orange Line to Ford City Mall
	4		Downtown Circulator
	5		Downtown-O'Hare Express
	1		Other – please specify Expansion of the Laramie bus north to Montrose and the extension of service hours for the bus lines that service the 36 th Ward.
	YES	NO	
84.	x		Do you support renegotiation of Chicago's parking meter privatization deal? We need to renegotiate this contract not reinforce it. What the city can do is drop the ticket fine for non-payment of a parking meter to \$5. Chicagoans can then make the decision to pay the cities \$5 fine that night online or pay the meter. If enough Chicagoans decide to pay the city ticket instead of the parking meters, the parking meter company might decide after some time to fairly renegotiate the deal to avoid the lost revenue.
85.		x	Do you support privatization of Midway Airport?

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86.	x		Do you support the O'Hare expansion plan?
CRIMINAL JUSTICE			
87.		x	Is 911 response time adequate?
	ESSAY		If not, how can it be improved? To ensure adequate police coverage and response time across the city, I will advocate for the hiring of additional police officers spread across all the police districts. I will also propose the hiring of retired police officers (at a negotiated hourly rate) to perform routine administrative work within our districts, so that our patrolman can get out of the police stations and into the neighborhoods where they can do the most good.
88.	x		Are there inequities in 911 service in your ward?
	ESSAY		If so, what can be done to redress them? To combat inequities of police service in my ward, I will advocate for the hiring of additional police officers for my ward. I will also propose the hiring of retired police officers (at a negotiated hourly rate) to perform routine administrative work within our districts, so that our patrolman can get out of the police stations and into the neighborhoods where they can do the most good.
89.		x	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? I would strengthen the gutted C.A.P.S program and have meetings every month again instead of just once a month. The community needs an effective way C.A.P.S program to build a continuous working relationship with the police officers that serve their community.
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? Research suggests that students who have been suspended are three times more likely to drop out by the 10th grade than their peers who have never been suspended. We must make sure that every high school in CPS has an active restorative justice program. Our limited resources should be directed away from policing and into affirming programs and opportunities for students.
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? Publish chain of ownership of firearms used in homicides and illegal public shootings where lives are put at risk, fine people who sell firearms but report them stolen, and apply an annual registration fee on some firearms.
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. The IPRA should function more independently of the Chicago Police Department. IPRA's management includes six former police officers and 3 of those officers were high ranking CPD officers. Public perception of independence is critically important in terms of the credibility of this agency.
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?

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98.	x		Do you support affirmative action as a criteria in letting city contracts?
99.	ESSAY		<p>Please comment on current participation of individuals with disabilities in city hiring and contracts.</p> <p>The City should increase the hiring of qualified individuals with disabilities to work in all areas of city government and city contractors and provide reasonable accommodations to ensure they are successful in completing those jobs. Chicago should also continue to support organizations like Access Living in developing innovations in employment opportunities for people with disabilities.</p>
100.	ESSAY		<p>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.</p> <p>I favor affirmative action in contracting and hiring so that women and minority firms get a fair opportunity in employment. The Chicago Police Department and Chicago Fire Department needs to hire more women and minorities to make their personnel more representative of the demographics in Chicago.</p>
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		<p>Why or why not?</p> <p>I support the Municipal ID ordinance. The ordinance will help many Chicagoans establish legal identity and residency and would allow card holders to access basic services such as banking, public transportation, homeless aid and library access. The Municipal ID would not allow id holders permission to drive, fly on an airplane, and may not be accepted by other municipalities other than Chicago thereby posing little if any security risk. The fees for the program will also pay for itself.</p>
ALDERMANIC PRIORITIES			
104.	ESSAY		<p>What employment, if any, other than alderman, do you intend to hold?</p> <p>None. I will be a full-time alderman with no outside income.</p>
105.	ESSAY		<p>How will you divide your time between your aldermanic duties and your other occupation?</p> <p>My time will be spent solely focused on improving the 36th ward and the City of Chicago.</p>
106.	ESSAY		<p>Please specify the minimum hours per week you will spend performing your aldermanic duties.</p> <p>70+. I plan on having night and weekend satellite ward offices in the neighborhood parks, schools, and public places. Constituents won't be limited to just one ward night a week and will have full access to their alderman.</p>
107.	ESSAY		<p>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.</p> <p>My aldermanic office will have 4 full-time employees and 2 part-time employees as the city budget allows. I will also use campaign money to hire additional staff. All staff will live in the 36th Ward. We will also have one Polish speaking staff member and one Spanish speaking staff member at all times. The service office will be open Monday-Saturday and we will have 2 Ward nights a week.</p>
108.	ESSAY		<p>What services need improvement in your ward? How will you achieve this?</p> <p>Services that need improvement in our ward are tree trimming and tree replacement delays, street repairs and light bulb replacement, graffiti removal, among others. Staff will conduct street based surveys and report all of the service needs on a daily basis. We won't wait for a constituent</p>

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		to report a broken street light, my aldermanic staff will go out every day to find the problems so that we can get them fixed as quickly as possible.
109.	ESSAY	<p>What are your top priorities for the Ward?</p> <p>My main priorities for improving my Ward are improving our public schools, decreasing crime, focusing on our municipal debt and financial responsibilities, preventing further privatization of taxpayer owned assets, and improving city services.</p>
110.	ESSAY	<p>How will you work with community groups and residents on City matters?</p> <p>I will host monthly community meetings to inform residents of upcoming ward projects and City Council legislation. Residents will receive a monthly flyer (paid for with my own salary) informing them of upcoming City Council votes, ward projects, and community meetings. I will meet with community groups and community leaders to discuss issues that are affecting our community and work with them to find solutions to community problems.</p>