

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

DATE 12-19-14

WARD 46th

NAME Denice Davis

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CAMPAIGN MANAGER Cortez Duquette

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED 1,479 NUMBER REQUIRED 472

Please provide the following background information:

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

Local School Council Parent 1990-94, LSC Communities Rep 1994-1999

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

C. What is your primary occupation?

Service Coordinator for mentally challenged adults

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

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

25 Years of Public Service, Alderman Helen Shiller's assistant from 1989 to 1994

Congressman Bobby L. Rush, Director of Community Affairs 1994-1996

Alderman Helen Shiller, Chief of Staff 1996- 2011

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

Alderman Helen Shiller, I was one of her top 4 campaign statagics which took Alderman Shiller to victory in all of her elections, Planned a march with over 200 people from the Heart of Uptown to bring out the vote, Held Gospel Fest with Gospel singers from Uptown and across the city of Chicago, held at Peoples Church the only thing you needed to get in was you voter registration card, if you didn't have one we registrar you right then

State Rep Sarah Feingenholtz, won all my precents which took State Representative Feingenholtz to victory.

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

JP Pritzker run for Congress, won all 9 of my pcts even though he lost the rest of the ward (46) to Congressman Jan Schakowsky

Tom Sharp 46th Ward Democatic Ward Committeeman, I found out the challaenger Sandra Reed received signitures from serveral buildings I knew Supported Tom, I asked the Seniors at 4040 N. Sheridan and I also asked Cornerstone Shelter found out that the petition at 4040 N. Sheridan was left laying on the front desk without a cirulator and at Cornderston the signitures that were collected the people no longer lived there by several years. Challenged Ms. Reed signitures with the Board of Elections, took Seniors from the building to testify in front of the Board of Elections, and had an employee from Cornerstone Shelter to testify also that the people had not lived there for several years. I was able to get Ms. Reed off the ballot by one signiture. Ms Reed was not allowed to have her name on the ballot, which Tome Sharp became the Democartic Ward Committeeman 46th Ward.

Bobby Rush, Congressional re-election, and His Democartic Ward Comitteeman Office, had several preceints and won them

Jon Erickson candidate for Judge had 8 pct. In Uptown and won them even though we lost the race by 11 votes

Rahm Emanuel Congressional Race, had 9 preceints in the 46th Ward won all 9. Door knocking, voter Registation, plus count, and turning out the vote.

Jon Cullerton, something happened to his petitions 72 hrs before it was time to turn them in, I went out and 400 plus good signitures needed for him to get on the ballot

Mike Quigley, 1st Congresstional race, got signitures for his petitions, voter registration, won my pecients.

Freddrena Lyle, Went on the South side to help was given 2 pct. to work in 2007 won, lost the pct I work for her in 2011

Larry McKeon, did petitions to get Larry on the ballot, and worked his election

In 1991 and 1994 I had the highest number of newly registrared voters and Black voters in the entire City of Chicago. That's how I was arecruited by Congressman Bobby L. Rush in 1994.

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

NFDA

Chicago Teacher's Union

POP 46 (People over Politics)

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?

24 ears of public service, experience in delivering city services

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

My Budget is 65,000. I rasied 1,650.00 6,500.00 committed, 3 fundraisers schedule

Two (2) in January and one (1) in February

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

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

4 people are on my campaign staff, 37 volunteers with people signing up everyday.

ns 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.	Yes		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.	Yes		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.	Yes		Should the Inspector General be able to initiate his or her own investigations of Aldermen without a complaint from outside the office?
5.	Yes		Should the Inspector General be able to pursue anonymous complaints?
6.		no	Do you support patronage in hiring and promoting public employees?
7.		no	Will you employ or have you employed staff, in your office who hold other public sector jobs concurrently?
8.		no	Will you employ or have you employed staff, in your office that has either outside employment or contracts with entities, which do business with the City?
9.	Yes		Will you vote for an ordinance mandating that the City contest unemployment claims by former employees who were fired for cause?
10.	Yes		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.		no	Will you support an ordinance to reduce the number of wards? Unless the city increase the number of Aldermanic employees, it would be difficult to run a much larger ward with only 4 paid full time staff. If they hired more staff to cover a large ward than yes, I would like to reduce the wards.
12.			Have you joined or will you join:
		no	The Paul Douglas Caucus
	Yes		The Independent Progressive Caucus
		no	Both
13.	Yes		Do you support changing the state statute to return to filling aldermanic vacancies by special election, rather than Mayoral appointment?
14.	Yes		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.		no	Will you or have you accepted campaign donations from current or potential suppliers or employees?
16.		no	Will you or have you accepted campaign donations from people or businesses seeking zoning changes in your ward?
17.	Yes		Do you support public financing of municipal campaigns?
	ESSAY		Please explain your position.
18.	ESSAY		Who are your top 5 contributors and how much has each contributed to your campaign? Not much yet I just received the endorsement of CTU and we have discuss budget.
19.			What changes would you support to the redistricting process?

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

REVENUE AND BUDGET			
20.	yes		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.	yes		public questioning of city department heads concerning their departments' specific budget requests?
22.	yes		making budget copies available to the public 30 days in advance of hearings?
23.	yes		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? Transaction Tax would help tremendously, There needs to be fairer tax system in place where large corporations do not get a pass by not contributing their fair share of paying taxes to help the economy for our city or 'and state. When revenue is being disseminated into wards throughout the city with the use of taxpayers T.I.F. fund alderman should be held accountable on how it is being used. We also need to additionally identify different sources of revenue that are not fines or fees.
25.			Do you support casino gambling for Chicago? I not sure I have pros and cons on that. I believe it would bring a tremendous amount of jobs, but then again it would cause some people unfortunately to gamble away many of their resources which they cannot afford.
26.	yes		Will you vote to require a citywide referendum before any gambling is instituted in the City?
27.	yes		Will you vote to roll back Mayoral and Aldermanic salaries to pre-2007 levels?
28.	yes		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.	yes		Do you agree with the criticism that City government is top heavy with management?
	ESSAY		Please explain your position. Some departments yes.
30.	ESSAY		What measures will you vote for to reform the city pension plan and ensure its solvency? The city did not do its part in paying into the pension, which has caused the pension crisis. Employees should contribute more. Also, address the age at which pensioners can draw on their pension. Increase the age at which employees can draw from their pensions. Everyone has to be willing to share in the pain of addressing the pension problem. It is our collective interest.
31	ESSAY		How would you modify (if at all) the benefit and contribution levels and eligibility requirements for public employee pensions?
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.	yes		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? I do Not believe in privatization, too much already. People have been employed for years and lose their jobs even though most companies claim they would hire the displaced worker first that had NOT be true in most cases, from the Park District to O'Hara Airport
35.	yes		Will you vote for an ordinance requiring an independent analysis of any lease or outsourcing arrangement?
36.	yes		Will you vote for an ordinance requiring detailed analysis and evaluation of any lease or

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

			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?
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?
PLANNING, ZONING, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT			
39.	ESSAY		How will you involve ward residents in planning? Community meetings for whatever the issue may be that directly affects the constituency of the ward. I will not just depend on Social media i.e. on line newsletters, (everyone is not computer savvy) I would also put out monthly newsletters in building lobby ways, libraries and neighborhood businesses. My office will have an open door policy (not just Mondays from 5PM to 7PM. I would also have a Zoning committee that reflects the eclectic diversity of the 46 th , not just a chosen group or class of people.
40.	ESSAY		What is your long-range plan for development of the ward? Development without displacement, we have had a tremendous amount of development in the ward over the past 3 and ½ years. I think we need to slow down to see what actually is existing, what we do need, and let the constituency of the 46 th ward decide, democratically.
41.	ESSAY		What criteria do you or will you use in determining whether to grant a zoning change or variance? Community input.
42.	ESSAY		How will you involve residents in planning, approval, and oversight of TIF districts? It will not happen without the direct input from the constituents in the 46 th ward, the zoning community would have to take all concerns to the people, at least 70% of the residents in a particular grid, must respond by survey and then still it would be a community meeting.
43.	yes		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.	yes		Will you vote to return unspent and uncommitted TIF funds on an annual basis to the various taxing bodies? It definitely should go back to the Chicago Public Schools, affordable housing and youth centers.
45.	ESSAY		How do you propose to replace property tax revenue for CPS and other taxing bodies that is lost to TIF development? TIF funds that are not committed should go back to CPS, Park Districts and affordable housing.
46.	yes		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.	yes		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.	yes		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.	yes		Will you vote to amend the Vacant Properties Ordinance to require mortgage servicers to register their properties?
50.	yes		Do you support enacting an ordinance to preserve Single-Room Occupancy housing?
51.	yes		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?

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

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? I would have had to exhaust every opportunity within my power to tear down another SRO, I would definitely work with the owner to bring his building up to code, additionally go to housing court to request a receiver for the building if possible.
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? It depends on what is in the ward, what opportunity will arise for additional family housing. Speaking to existing management companies to help them with the process of section 8, even though management companies are not suppose to decline someone with a section 8 a lot of them do solely based on the amount of paper work involved, there would be a liaison through my office that would worked directly with property owners and management companies.
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? Existing programs have waiting list, whether it is a Section 8 voucher or project based. The key is to ensure that residents have an opportunity to get on the waiting list. Additionally, waiting list should be updated on a yearly bases by going through the process to see who on the list that is still in need, Those who are currently in subsidized housing if they need to downsize or increase in size should be done expeditiously and getting the units that are off line back on by putting in work orders to get the unit ready asap. Most of the time that is the problem.
	YES	NO
	Do you support any of the following to be built in your ward?	
56.	yes	low-income rental housing that is affordable to those at 15% to 30% of AMI?
57.	yes	supportive housing for people overcoming addiction and other problems which contribute to homelessness?
58.	yes	shelters for the homeless?
59	yes	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		no
	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	
	X	AMI of the Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area
		AMI of Cook County
		AMI of Chicago
		AMI of the Community Area
EDUCATION		
62.	Choose One	
	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.	yes	Will you support a city-wide lottery for enrollment in magnet schools?
64.	yes	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.	yes	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?

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

66.	yes		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.		no	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.
69.	ESSAY		What should the City do to improve the quality of all local schools? The key to improving public education in Chicago is to implement sound education policy and practice – not just, what is politically expedient. We must put our education system back in the hand of educational professionals, not corporate managers or those who have no sense of what good education policy and practice look like.
70.	ESSAY		What are your plans to improve the local schools in your ward? First not to close not one more school. Fight to use our TIF funding to go to our schools, hopefully getting Stewart School reopened. Continue to work with Uplift to become a community High School as opposed to allowing students from all over the city to attend Uplift. There have been situations if you leave around the corner from Uplift, you are told that you do not live in the catch are.
71.	ESSAY		How would you modify (if at all) the benefit and contribution levels and eligibility requirements for public school teacher pension?
ENVIRONMENT			
72.	yes		Will you vote for the Clean Power Ordinance?
73.		no	Will you vote to privatize Chicago's water delivery system?
74.	yes		Will you vote to ban Styrofoam food containers in Chicago public schools?
75.	yes		Will you vote to ban Styrofoam food containers in Chicago restaurants and food delivery services?
76.	yes		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?
78.	ESSAY		What other environmental initiatives, if any, do you propose?
PARKS			
79.	yes		Do you support election of the Chicago Park District Board?
80.		no	Do you support increased privatization of park facilities and services?
	ESSAY		Why or why not? No, it has been proven that privatization does not work, it destroys employees and working families who have been working and vested in their jobs for years not giving them any consideration what so ever.. For instance look at the schools janitorial services, they are privatized and children have to bring toilet paper to school. I heard testimony from the November's school board hearings of horrific challenges particularly in African American Schools on the Southside that are unacceptable from the lunches to the cleanliness of the bathrooms.
81.	yes		Do you support prioritization of land acquisition and capital improvements first to those neighborhoods, which are underserved by existing facilities?
TRANSPORTATION			
82.			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
			Orange Line to Ford City Mall

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

			Downtown Circulator
			Downtown-O'Hare Express
			Other – please specify
	YES	NO	
84.	yes		Do you support renegotiation of Chicago's parking meter privatization deal?
85.		no	Do you support privatization of Midway Airport?
86.		no	Do you support the O'Hare expansion plan?
CRIMINAL JUSTICE			
87.			Is 911 response time adequate? It all depends I have seen 911 response very quickly, I have also seen 911 response time not adequate at all,
	ESSAY		If not, how can it be improved?
88.			Are there inequities in 911 service in your ward? Sometimes
	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? No, we need to hire more police officers. Number one they are already working overtime which causes lack of rest and lack in judgment. This would help to avoid volatile situations. The officers should for the most part at least 40% should reflect the racial makeup of the community they serve. Most importantly sensitivity training and restored justice practice to build relationships in the community(this can build trust)
90.	ESSAY		What changes, if any, would you suggest for the CAPS program? CAPS is suppose to be the community and the police department collectively coming together to problem solving, I have been to CAPS meetings where certain groups and classes of people were single out for no reason other than they were poor or lived in subsidized housing. I have also attended CAPS meetings where the perpetrator was sitting in the CAPPs meeting so they can take back what the plan or action would be. More residents than not in my ward do not attend CAPP's meetings because they are singled out.
91.	Yes		Will you vote for more funding for alternative crime prevention programs such as Cease Fire? Actually secured funding for Ceasefire to come in our ward in 2004. The first one the North side
92.	ESSAY		What measures will you support to stop the schools to prison pipeline? We need more resources and choices for our young people. Real job training programs, Art programs from sculpting to spoken word. Include young people in the decision making process. Ask the young people what they want. More Youth on Youth programs, mentoring programs like the Black Star Projects, and recruit more Men to become Big brothers they need more volunteers many young men applied for Big Brothers but there are no brothers to send.
93.	Yes		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? Not sure,
95.	yes		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. Absolutely it should operate independently of the Chicago Police Department
CIVIL RIGHTS			
97.	yes		Do you support affirmative action based on race, gender and sexual orientation in establishing criteria for hiring and promoting public employees?
98.			Do you support affirmative action as a criteria in letting city contracts? Not sure

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 2

99.	ESSAY	Please comment on current participation of individuals with disabilities in city hiring and contracts.
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.
101.	yes	Do you favor restructuring the wage scale of city employees to institute gender-equal pay for jobs of comparable worth?
102.	yes	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?
	ESSAY	Why or why not?
ALDERMANIC PRIORITIES		
104.	ESSAY	What employment, if any, other than alderman, do you intend to hold? None being an Alderman is a full time job, it is at least between 60-70 hr a week, and If you are going to hold the office and be effective, I do not see how you could possibly hold another job.
105.	ESSAY	How will you divide your time between your aldermanic duties and your other occupation? I won't
106.	ESSAY	Please specify the minimum hours per week you will spend performing your aldermanic duties. 60-70 and even more, if it's an emergency like a water main break etc.or a fire you have to spend the time calling property owners to secure permanent housing for someone who has possibility been displaced etc.
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. You only get 4 permanent positions and you can use your yearly budget to put on 2 or 3 more staff at about 15 to 18 dollars and however it does not include benefits, I would need and infrastructure person, a liaison for GLBT issues, housing and survival services, A city service person. We would all take service request, not only follow up with the city to see if the issue was taken care of but also the constituent that was directly affected. My office would be an open door policy; I would be open from 9-5 M, TU 9 to 7 on Wed. 9-5 Thru. In addition, Fri. 10am to 1PM on Sat., I will have a 24-hour service line so if there were an emergency you would be able to talk to a live staff no matter what time of night it is, emergencies are not on a 9 to 5 bases. I can be done I did it.
108.	ESSAY	What services need improvement in your ward? How will you achieve this?
109.	ESSAY	What are your top priorities for the Ward? Transparency, Restoring cuts in city services, developing infrastructure to provide jobs, funding for affordable housing, abolishing TIFS returning those funds to our schools parks and communities
110.	ESSAY	How will you work with community groups and residents on City matters?