Reform Party

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**Candidate Questionaire- DA Candidates**

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address (include Apartment Number and Zip Code)

Campaign Address (include Apartment Number and Zip Code)

Telephone Numbers:

Day:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Evening:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Fax:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Campaign Manager:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Telephone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Candidate for which elective office?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

District:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Party Registration:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of Campaign Committee: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Feel free to attach pages if you don’t have enough room for an answer. You may wish to attach a resume or campaign material to this questionnaire (optional). This questionnaire is not confidential.

1. Have you run for this or other elective office before? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Office (District): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Year(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What other party lines are you seeking? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Please list all your degrees including law school, undergraduate, etc., the schools you attended and the years you received them.

1. As a D.A., what would you do differently than most others in the position you’re seeking?
2. Please describe in detail your work as a lawyer before running for D.A.
3. Do you feel that prosecutorial experience should be a prerequisite for being a District Attorney? Why or why not?
4. Would you agree to a debate which includes all other candidates for the office you seek who have made the ballot? Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

8. Is Mass incarceration a problem? Why or why not? If so, what can you do to address it.

9. List any complaints you have received through any Bar Association, Judicial Conduct Committee or Board, or other legal entity.

10. What recommendations do you have for improving court system funding and

administration?

11. Please attach a list of organizational and personal endorsements you have received in this race. Identify your top 3 endorsers and why

1. Please list all current and past memberships in any clubs or organizations, including unions, bar and legal associations.
2. Identify any litigation or present financial arrangements that are likely to present a potential conflict of interest during your service and explain how you will resolve such conflict, including the procedures you will follow in determining these areas of concern:
3. Do you have any plans, commitments or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during the period in which you would serve as D.A?

If so, explain:

15. It is expected that a D.A. and other public officials shall not, by words or conduct, manifest, or appear to condone bias or prejudice, including but not limited to bias or prejudice based upon age, race, creed, color, gender, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, disability, marital status, socioeconomic status, alienage or citizenship status and shall require staff, court officials and others subject to his or her direction and control to refrain from such words or conduct. Will you be able to meet this expectation?   
  
  
If no, please describe the circumstances:

16. State whether you have ever: (answer each subdivision of this question “Yes” or “No”):

(a) Been summoned, arrested, or charged with any offense or crime other than a traffic offense, even if the summons, arrest, or charge was later withdrawn, voided, vacated or dismissed?

(b) Have you ever been taken into custody, or indicted, or convicted, or tried or cited for, or charged with, or pleaded guilty to the violation of any law, ordinance, or the commission of any felony, misdemeanor, or contempt of court?

(c) Have you ever been subpoenaed, called as a witness, questioned or interviewed, or asked to provide testimony or documents before any federal, state, or local prosecutor, court, legislative, civil, regulatory, criminal, or other investigative body, or grand jury?

If so, state the date, body or agency, the matter involved, and your role.

(d) Have you ever failed to answer on the return date any ticket, summons or other legal process served upon you personally at any time?

If so, was any warrant, subpoena, or further process issued against you as a result of your failure to respond to such legal process?

(e) As a member of any armed forces, been the subject of any charges or complaints, formal or informal, or have any proceedings been instituted against you, or have you been a defendant in any court martial or been disciplined?

(f) Been the subject of any investigation by any federal, state or city, or other governmental agency, or other investigative body, or by any grand jury, or the Internal Revenue Service?

If so, please describe each investigation and its outcome.

1. Has any federal, state or city or other governmental agency, or other investigative body, or a grand jury or the IRS initiated or completed an investigation of any law firm, corporation, business, partnership, joint venture, government agency or other similar entity with which you are, or were at the relevant time, affiliated?

If so, please describe each investigation and its outcome.

(h) Resigned from or, for other reasons, ceased to be a member of the bar or

bench of any state or court in any jurisdiction, a member of any governmental body, a hearing officer or an occupant of any other similar position?

If you answered “Yes” to any subdivision of this question, and in addition to the information requested immediately following certain subdivisions, state the facts in detail, including in each case, the name and locality of the court, agency, or other body, the dates of beginning and termination of action or proceeding, and the judgment or other disposition.

1. If you are the Reform Party nominee, in what ways do you think the party could work with you to grow, expand its influence and enact its agenda?

18. A D.A. may be required to handle emergency situations, cope with media scrutiny, issue quick decisions, deal with fractious litigants, recall significant amounts of information, and otherwise respond to extremely stressful situations. Are you able to perform these tasks on your own or with reasonable accommodation?   
  
  
If no, please describe the circumstances:

19. Fusion candidacies. These are multiple-party candidacies in which a

candidate for public office appears on the ballot as the candidate of more

than one party. A few states, including New York permit them. Most do not. To the extent that you’re able, please comment on how fusion candidacies help or hurt the process of electing District Attorneys.

20. "Sore loser" laws. Most states prohibit a candidate who loses a party

primary election from running in the general election as an independent.

Is this unduly restrictive?

1. Does the need to raise funds for an election detract in any way from a D.A.’s ability to do his/her job, rather than raise funds? What suggestions would you make in terms of how to approve the process of electing District Attorneys?

22. How could the costs of judicial administration be reduced? Can you give us

a specific example of how you have reduced costs in your law practice/court?

23. What do you perceive as the greatest obstacles to justice, if any?

24. Do you support the use of conviction integrity units to identify those who may be wrongfully convicted? Why or why not?

25. Please describe one instance in which you faced an ethical dilemma and how

you resolved it.

26. If elected or re-elected to the position you seek, what is the minimum number of years you intend to serve before seeking another post? What is your commitment to serving out the full term?

27. Should a District Attorney be subject to term limits?

28. Do you believe the current system for disciplining lawyers and judges is

effective? Why or why not?

1. Who are your prosecutorial role models? Why?

30. While serving as D.A., do you believe you have a role in bringing

important legal or judicial issues before the public or the legislature? Why or why not? Do you have specific issues in mind?

What should your role be?

31. Do you possess any expertise in a field other than law?

32. Do District Attorneys have an obligation to improve public understanding of the criminal justice system?

If so, how should they carry out that obligation?

1. Please list the three public figures throughout history that you admire most and least.
2. Should cameras be permitted in courts in New York State and in federal court?
3. How should cases involving police involved deaths be handled?

35.Should attorneys be provided for those who can’t afford them in civil cases as they are in criminal cases?

1. Of the current U.S. Supreme Court Justices, who do you admire most and why?
2. Please describe your attitude/approach toward negotiating plea bargain versus trial litigation in criminal cases.
3. How would you handle the Opioid epidemic in your community?
4. Please describe why you do or do not support an effective program for identifying illegal aliens who come in contact with any county entity.
5. Do you believe that defendants with mental disabilities should be treated in a different manner than others? If so, how? If not, why not?

Additional comments on any subject not covered that are important to you are welcome.

**Please sign and date this questionnaire.**

Candidate Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_