Reform Party

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**Candidate Questionnaire- NYC Candidates**

 **PRINCIPLES OF THE REFORM PARTY**

1. That the Reform Party is controlled exclusively by its membership, its agenda set by them and its direction guided by them. This includes having the Reform Party being a model for intra-party democracy.  Out members know what’s best.
2. That government at all levels (Washington D.C., Albany and City Hall) has become too dominated by special interests, lobbyists, big money and professional politicians and that citizens would be better served by more of an emphasis on citizen legislators. We’re anti lobbyist and pro people.
3. A more civically engaged and better informed citizenry is necessary for government and for NY’s political parties to function more effectively. We must make Civics education a priority!
4. The rights and interests of voters should trump the interests of political parties and party bosses.
5. New York’s ballot access laws are woefully inadequate and undemocratic. Let’s streamline the process to make it easier for regular people to run for office.
6. Elections and government in general should be administered in a non-partisan rather than bi-partisan manner. Let’s reform the Board of Elections, so that it’s no longer a patronage mill.
7. New York’s education system should be a student first agenda, with a curriculum primarily determined by parents, local educators and administrators, with an emphasis on higher standards and life skills, as opposed to a one size fits all approach like Common Core, focused exclusively on standardized testing.
8. New Yorkers should have the opportunity to vote on whether or not their elected officials should be subject to Term Limits.
9. To support voter choice and voter empowerment, we strongly support allowing people to make laws for themselves through “Initiative and Referendum”.
10. Public Authorities like the MTA, the Port Authority, the New York Racing Association, etc. need better oversight, less bureaucracy and greater public awareness into how they make decisions

Name (as it will appear on your petitions):

Home Address (include Apartment Number and Zip Code)

Campaign Address (include Apartment Number and Zip Code)

Telephone Numbers:

Day: Evening:

Fax: None 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?
2. The Reform Party has a focus on reforming the political and electoral process, to eliminate corruption and special interest control of policy making. Please state your basic philosophy on this agenda and the kinds of initiatives you will campaign on with respect to political reform.
3. What do you think is the most pressing issue(s) facing your constituents, and how do you plan to address this issue(s) if elected?

1. Please state your views in general with respect to criminal justice reform and what specific reforms you might support.
2. Please comment on your position on term limits.
3. Would you agree to a debate which includes all other candidates for the office you seek who have made the ballot?

1. Currently, elections for Mayor, Public Advocate, Comptroller and City Council are held in a partisan manner. Would you support a system of non-partisan elections for state legislature, where candidates would forego the primary process and run without party labels? Please feel free to elaborate on your response. Would you also consider a return to Proportional Representation which the City Council was elected by for twelve years?

9. What is your position on Instant Run-Off Voting (IRV)?

1. What is your position on Same Day Voter Registration?

11. The Board of Elections currently administers all elections in this state. Would you support a plan to restructure the Board of Elections along non-partisan rather than Bi-partisan lines?

1. Would you support the appointment of a NYC Charter Revision Commission, to do a comprehensive examination of the City Charter and recommend reforms? What charter revisions would you like to see it explore?
2. What would you do to improve the environment in New York City for small business?
3. What is the biggest problem with the way the city government conducts business and if elected, what would you do to change this?
4. 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?
5. What would you do reduce traffic congestion in New York City?
6. What’s your position on “Common Core” and what changes would you suggest be made to it?
7. If you receive the Reform Party endorsement, how would you use it in your campaign? And will you include that fact in all campaign materials and ads for your campaign?
8. Do you agree - whether or not you should receive the Reform Party endorsement - that you will not challenge, cause to be challenged, or urge to support a challenge to any Reform Party candidate petitions filed with the Board of Elections this year for any office, except with the expressed written consent of the chairman of the this committee, and that your name may be used as being opposed to any such challenge? Please *initial* after yes or no.

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

**Please sign and date this questionnaire.**

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

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