Reform Party

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**Candidate Questionnaire- Comptroller Candidates**

 *The Reform Party is an advocate for:*

1. Responsible State Budgeting
2. Property Tax Reform
3. Election and Campaign Finance Reform (including redistricting)
4. True Government Transparency
5. An End to Unfunded Mandates
6. Criminal Justice Reform
7. Government Employee Compensation & Pensions Consistent with Private Sector
8. An End to Back-Door Borrowing and Reining in Authorities
9. Empowering individual state legislators
10. A better functioning education system with an emphasis on local control
11. Restoring public confidence in government
12. Defense of small business
13. Improved Mass Transit

Name:

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. Should you fail to win the nomination of any other party (including your own), would you commit to running enthusiastically and energetically as the nominee of the Reform Party?
3. 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.
4. What do you think is the most pressing issue(s) facing New Yorkers, 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. Specifically, what role do you see the Comptroller playing?
2. Please comment on your position on term limits. Should the Comptroller be subject to them?
3. Would you agree to a debate which includes all other candidates for Comptroller who have made the ballot (if not, please explain)?

1. Currently, elections for state legislature 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.

9. Currently, in the event of a vacancy in the office of Comptroller, the vacancy is filled by the state legislature. Would like to see this system changed? If so, how?

1. What is your position on Same Day Voter Registration? Early voting? Please comment on both.

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. Currently, residents of New York City have the right to reform the city charter be referendum. Would you support extending that to the state level? Please be specific as to what specific Initiative and Referendum process you’d prefer.
2. Do you support maintaining the current structure of administering the state pension fund, in which the Comptroller is the sole trustee? Why or why not?
3. What is the biggest problem with the way the government conducts business in Albany and if elected, what would you do to change this?
4. If you are the Reform Party nominee, in what ways can you work with the party to expand its influence and reach?
5. How should the campaign finance rules be changed for the Comptroller’s office?
6. Would you support a change to Zero based budgeting? Why or why not?
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. What’s the biggest problem facing the residents of New York State?
9. How would you seek to reform the MTA and/or similar public authorities? Can the audit powers of the Comptroller’s office be utilized in this regard?
10. How would you like to see the property tax structure in the state changed or improved?
11. What other reforms (if any) would you like to see made to the state budget process?
12. 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:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_