

WINDY CITY TIMES CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Aldermanic races

Return responses by fax (773-871-7609), regular mail (Windy City Times, c/o Andrew Davis, 5315 N. Clark, #192, Chicago, Ill., 60640) or e-mail ([Andrew@windycitymediagroup.com](mailto:Andrew@windycitymediagroup.com)). Call 773-871-7610, ext. 201, if questions arise.

**DEADLINE: Friday, Jan. 9, 2015, by 5 p.m. LATE RESPONSES WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**

Please feel free to use additional paper as needed.

YOUR NAME: Alyx S. Patton INCUMBENT? YES/NO \_\_\_\_\_  
OFFICE SOUGHT: Second Ward (if appropriate): 2  
Alderman

1) Do you have or would you install a written policy in your office regarding sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination? I would be happy to have such a policy.

2) Have you started or would you start sensitivity training for your staff members regarding LGBT-related issues? I would be happy to have such training in my office.

3) Have you taken or would you take any steps to further HIV/AIDS treatment and education programs? If so, what are those measures? It has been a while, but I rode in the AIDS Ride and raised money for the cause.

4) What is your position on abortion as it pertains to the law?

Pro-choice - unequivocally

*I would be glad to support HIV education in Chicago Public Schools*

5) What is your position regarding funding for HIV/AIDS treatment and education?

We must have adequate funding about the disease, prevention and treatment.

6) Do you favor marriage equality (marriage between two people of the same gender)? Yes.

7) Do you favor hate-crimes legislation that increases penalties for crimes committed based on the sexual orientation or gender identity of the person attacked? Yes.

8) Do you believe LGBTs should become foster parents if they are qualified? Yes!

9) Do you believe LGBTs have the right to adopt children if they are qualified? Yes!

10) Would you keep committees such as the City of Chicago Commission on Human Relations' Advisory Council on LGBT Issues? Yes.

11) What are your thoughts on a school that would be designed specifically for LGBT students, much like the Harvey Milk School in New York City?

I would be in favor of such a school.

12) Would you advocate for mandatory anti-bullying policies/training in Chicago public schools?

Yes, I would be happy to support and join in any actions for such policies.

13) Would you advocate for mandatory LGBT-inclusive history education in Chicago public schools starting in middle school?

Yes - LGBT history is American history - as much as any other identifiable group.

14) Would you advocate for mandatory comprehensive, LGBT-inclusive and age-appropriate sex education in Chicago public schools starting in middle school? Yes.

15) What would you recommend to have a better relationship between police and the citizens they serve, including people of color and the transgender community?

I would be in favor of sensitivity training but - ongoing review of police ~~would~~ the relationship with the LGBT community is critical. Training should ~~be~~ not be a one-time deal. It should be repeatedly ~~reinforced~~ reinforced.

16) If you are an incumbent, did you vote for the recent increase in the city's minimum wage and, if a challenger, would you have? Also, what do you think is the ideal minimum wage for the city of Chicago?

I would have voted for \$13 min. wage.

I support a \$15 min. wage.

17) How do you propose to handle the crime rate in Chicago, especially in minority neighborhoods?

We need to fully fund our police department and hire the 1,000 police officers we need to police this city. Also, we have to double our efforts at job creation and job training in poor & minority communities.

18) What do you feel is the biggest problem facing your ward? How do you propose to tackle that problem?

Crime is the biggest problem I hear about in the ward. (See #17 for answer)

19) Some studies show that 40 percent of homeless youth are LGBTQ. What would you do to provide more resources for prevention, education and services for the entire homeless youth population?

I would start to solve this problem with sensitivity training on the part of police who too often treat these kids like criminals when they are really just trying to come to terms with who they are. Cops should be directing these LGBTQ youth to services.

20) New York City eliminated barriers to transgender people changing their birth certificates.

They just need a letter from a doctor to do so. Would you support this for Chicago? Yes, happily.

21) Are any members of your current staff—either campaign or general office personnel—openly LGBT?

NO. But a number of my volunteers are.

22) Please list any and all experience you have on LGBT-related issues.

I have represented two lesbians in separate cases seeking asylum in the U.S. because they could be "honor-killed" due to their sexual orientation. I won both. Also, I ~~represented~~ represented transgender

23) What do you feel is the biggest problem facing the LGBT community today?

Ill laws that don't work for the community. inmates in adWI who were being denied

I genuinely believe the civil rights issue of the 21st century is the legal rights of LGBTQs. While there is still plenty of discrimination experienced by women and people of color - we have laws to protect our rights. The same cannot yet be said for the LGBTQ community. And we must change that! we won that case too!