

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). 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: JOSEPH LAIACONA INCUMBENT? YES/NO NO
OFFICE SOUGHT: ALDERMAN WARD (if appropriate): 39

- 1) Do you have or would you install a written policy in your office regarding sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination? YES
- 2) Have you started or would you start sensitivity training for your staff members regarding LGBT-related issues? YES
- 3) Have you taken or would you take any steps to further HIV/AIDS treatment and education programs? If so, what are those measures? YES I will support and encourage HIV/AIDS PREVENTION PROGRAMS IN MY WARD
- 4) What is your position on abortion as it pertains to the law?
A WOMAN'S BODY IS HER OWN AND IT IS HER CHOICE AND HER ALONE TO HAVE OR NOT HAVE ABORTION
- 5) What is your position regarding funding for HIV/AIDS treatment and education?
I think it is VERY IMPORTANT. I RECEIVE MY HIV MEDS FROM THE STATE AT NO COST
- 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?
IF THERE WERE A PROVEN DEMAND FOR IT, I WOULD FAVOR IT. I ALSO THINK EVERY HIGH SCHOOL SHOULD HAVE A LGBT CLUB
- 12) Would you advocate for mandatory anti-bullying policies/training in Chicago public schools?
YES
- 13) Would you advocate for mandatory LGBT-inclusive history education in Chicago public schools starting in middle school? YES

PAGE TWO Joseph LAIACONA

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?

Regular AND excellent SENSITIVITY TRAINING. I
am also in favor of police Assignments include WALKING
and permanent beat

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?

Yes but it should be \$15.00

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

hire AND TRAIN MORE policemen,
including sensitivity TRAINING - we need
at least 2,000 more policemen. probably MORE

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

O'Hare Noise in the west, NEIU eminent
domain in the EAST. Both need city task forces
APPT'd by the Mayor.

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?

EXACTLY THAT put more money in the budget For
MENTAL HEALTH CLINICS OF ALL KINDS

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

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

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

EXTENSIVE. I HAVE BEEN OUT FOR MORE THAN
30 yrs. WRITING, PROTESTING, GOING TO SPRINGFIELD
I ALSO SERVED ON A POLICE/GAY COMMITTEE A LONG TIME
AGO

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

there is no "biggest problem" we are all unique
and so are our problems.