

- 1) **Tell us something about yourself, including why you are running for office.** My educational and professional experiences have prepared me for this moment in my life. I'm a graduate of Howard University with a Ph.D. in Political Science, and I've worked as a Manager for NASA of the Federal government for 10-years. More importantly I understand public policy and how government should work. I was honored to receive the Metropolitan Police Department's Community Service Award last year for my work in public safety, and I'm the most recent past president of the Shepherd Park Citizens Association. I've also served as a Member on the Committee for the development of Upper Georgia Avenue, and as a member on the Local School Restructuring Team.
- 2) **If elected, what are the three most important things you intend to accomplish?** *First*, I will establish a Ward 4 centralized Orange Hat Patrol to assist neighborhood Orange Hat Patrols in need of individuals to walk their communities. The visible presence of Orange Hat Patrols can only serve as a crime deterrent. In conjunction with the Orange Hat Patrol I will initiate legislation to more severely punish individuals convicted of gun related crimes. The goal is to reduce crime. *Secondly*, I will organize a Ward 4 PTA consortium consisting of representation from all of the PTAs in the Ward. The purpose is to share ideas, while working together to improve the overall participation in PTAs of Ward 4. The PTAs are very important to the overall development of a school, and a ward-PTA can only strengthen the overall goal of the PTA, which is to improve the quality of education for children. *Thirdly*, I will develop a Ward 4 business and services directory in both hard copy and electronic formats. This will allow for the continuous promotion of businesses and services in the Ward. It will also provide residents and our public officials a detailed list of health and retail options close to home, because Ward 4 businesses should be publicized and strongly considered in the DC government contracting process.
- 3) **Briefly summarize your priorities regarding taxation (business, individual, and property) and expenditures, highlighting any changes to current tax law or spending**

practices that you will promote if elected. I believe the Mayor and City Council should freeze our personal income and residential property 2008 taxes, at the current level, until the District government gets a realistic handle of government agencies and their expenditures. Additionally, I support universal health care, and providing tax incentives or relief for companies providing health care to their employees.

- 4) **Either directly or indirectly, public education affection every Washingtonian. If elected, what will you do improve the quality of our public school system?** In conjunction with the aforementioned creation of a Ward 4 PTA, I will be an advocate for retuning the elected school board to oversee District Public Schools. The school board should have all the authority just recently taken away by the current Mayor. I will also advocate for a more inclusive and public dialogue of the expenditures of public school funds. The residents of the District should have input and influence on public school financing and its curriculum. Public education involves public facilities and public finances. Public decisions should not be made in private forums. Public education is a collective effort and Public Officials need to respect the community and secure their buy-in before initiatives are implemented.
- 5) **What legislation or policies do you advocate for reducing gun violence in the District of Columbia?** I'm proposing using recreational centers not only to provide recreational activities, but also for providing social service programs for adults and youth. Crime prevention should include programs that deliver services to the community to help decrease the probability of crime; while crime reduction can occur through an increase in law enforcement and legislative initiatives that penalize criminals more severely for gun related crimes. Ward 4 needs more police officers on the beat, and more social service trained professionals to deal with the issues facing residents.

- 6) **What steps will you take to help alleviate the lack of affordable health care in the District?** I propose to establish a local health care research consortium consisting of Howard, Georgetown, George Washington and John Hopkins Universities, as well as other health care providers to assess the health needs of the citizens of the District of Columbia. Based upon their findings the consortium will recommend courses of action to the City Council. In conjunction with the consortium the City Council should lobby Congress to advocate for universal health care, and the Council should provide tax incentives for companies providing health care to their employees. The objective is to secure and improve health care for all District residents.
- 7) **Briefly summarize your positions regarding reproductive health choice, including emergency contraception?** I support reproductive health choice and emergency contraception. Women should have the right to choose the reproductive health choice or emergency contraception desired.
- 8) **Do you support legal recognition of marriage between same sex partners?** Yes.
- 9) **Will you support the legislative and/or regulatory changes necessary to ensure that the District recognizes marriages legally sanctioned in other jurisdictions?** Yes.
- 10) **What will you do to help create, protect and maintain affordable housing options and alleviate homelessness?**
I believe that one-time fees paid by large commercial developers and affordable set-asides are viable options to help create, protect and maintain affordable housing in the District. Another idea to increase the affordable housing stock is having The District government invest in a home ownership program targeted for those District government employees who provide social services for city residents. This affordable housing program will help to create long term stability in District neighborhoods, and give hard working District employees, i.e. teachers, principals, police and fire officials, a major stake in their community.
- 11) **What will you do to support the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and to help ensure its responsiveness to its riders?** I will support any policy or law that improves the responsiveness of the Washington

Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). I believe the general public should be more aware of the services offered by WMATA. An organized Public Service Announcement campaign would be a good way to inform District residents about WMATA services and the benefits from using WMATA.

- 12) **In your campaign what are you doing to train, support, and encourage more people to get involved throughout the democratic process in the District of Columbia?** Studies have indicated that door-door canvassing is the best approach to increasing voter turnout. The democratic process is enhanced when more people vote. Our campaign canvasses everyday to inform Ward 4 residents about the urgency of this election, and the important issues being debated. This strategy began in January and will continue after we win the election in September.
- 13) **Which committees would you seek to serve on if elected and why?** I plan to graciously serve on the committees that the Chairman of the Council will assign to me.