

IVI-IPO 2014 ATTORNEY GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 1

DATE: July 14, 2014 PARTY: Democratic

NAME: Lisa Madigan

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CAMPAIGN MANAGER: Michelle Young

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED: 10,000 NUMBER REQUIRED: 5,000

A) Elective or appointive public or party offices previously held including dates. Illinois State Senator (1998-2002); Illinois Attorney General (2003-present)

B) Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate. None.

C) What is your primary occupation? Illinois Attorney General

D) Briefly list your civic activities of the past ten years. See attached biography.

E) What experience have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek? See attached biography.

F) What candidates have you supported in past elections? Please be specific in describing your role in each campaign.

I have and continue to work to elect progressive candidates at all levels. Additionally, I am an active supporter of the Illinois Democratic Women and the Illinois Women's Institute for Leadership.

G) Please list all endorsements you have received so far.

General Election Endorsements (to date): Citizen Action/Illinois, Illinois AFL-CIO, Illinois Education Association, National Association of Social Workers, Planned Parenthood, SEIU Illinois Council PAC, Sierra Club Illinois Chapter, UAW Illinois, UFCW Local 881.

2014 Primary Endorsements: Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois, Citizen Action/Illinois, Equality Illinois, Illinois AFL-CIO, Italian American Political Coalition, Sierra Club Illinois Chapter

H) As concisely as possible, please state why you feel you should be endorsed over the other candidate(s). What goals for the office you seek are most important to you personally?

As Attorney General, I will continue to stand up, speak out and fearlessly fight for all the people of Illinois.

I have achieved unprecedented financial recoveries, including over \$10 billion in revenue during the state's fiscal crisis. I am a national leader in holding Wall Street accountable for fraudulent lending and servicing during the mortgage foreclosure crisis, recovering over \$2.4 billion for Illinois homeowners. I also have targeted banks for the losses they caused the state's pension systems, so far recovering over \$100 million.

I am tackling new threats to Illinoisans' financial security and privacy. I have created a unique unit and hotline to help people recover from identity theft by repairing their credit and assisting over 35,000 victims remove over \$26 million in unauthorized charges. With data breaches on the rise, I am leading investigations into breaches at companies including Target and eBay. With student loan debt burdening more people, I have taken action against for-profit colleges and am investigating Sallie Mae for abusive loan servicing practices.

I have prosecuted public officials and successfully sued to recover taxpayer funds lost through Medicaid fraud and public contracting fraud. I have established my office as a national leader for increasing government transparency and accountability by leading efforts to strengthen our sunshine laws and establishing and running the state's first-ever Public Access Counselor to help people obtain government information. Under the stronger transparency laws, my office's Public Access Counselor handles thousands of requests each year from Illinoisans seeking help to access government information and fight the state's culture of secrecy.

In my work to protect children, I lead the Illinois Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, which has been involved in the arrests of over 770 offenders. I have also targeted the most active child pornographers, arresting over 60 individuals for trading horrifying images of sexual violence against infants and toddlers. The Task Force has also provided Internet safety training and education to nearly 350,000 parents, teachers and students and over 17,000 law enforcement professionals.

I seek re-election to continue fighting for and protecting all the people of Illinois.

I) What is your campaign budget? How much have you raised to date?

The campaign budget will be determined by the circumstances of the general election race. My campaign committee reported \$4.7 million on hand at the end of the first quarter. As required by law, a detailed disclosure of campaign contributions and expenditures will be filed with the Illinois State Board of Elections.

J) How many paid staffers do you have on your campaign? How many volunteers?

I currently have five paid staffers, as well as a number of interns and volunteers who help in the office. In addition, we have thousands of supporters statewide who assist my campaign by attending events, marching in parades and contacting voters. I am honored to have such a strong network of supporters who are vital in my re-election efforts.

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2. Will you accept or have you accepted campaign donations from current or potential suppliers, employees or contractors?

I have adopted a policy of not accepting campaign contributions from employees of the Office of the Attorney General, their spouses, or from entities that have contracts with the Office.

3. Will you employ or have you employed staff in your office who hold other public sector jobs concurrently?

My office does not employ staff members who hold other employment in the public sector. However, from time to time, the Office employs staff members who hold positions with other government bodies. For example, when I took office, one of our staff members was an alderman in Murphysboro, Illinois. At other times, staff members have served on local government bodies, such as school boards. Under the Office policies, before a staff member initially seeks such an outside position, he or she must discuss the position with the Ethics Officer and obtain the approval of both the Ethics Officer and Chief of Staff who work to ensure that the outside activity does not raise any ethical concerns based on that staff member's position in the Office.

4. Will you employ or have you employed staff in your office who have either outside employment or contracts with entities which do business with the State of Illinois?

The policies of my Office prohibit staff members from engaging in outside employment with entities that do business with the Office. Additionally, our policies prohibit attorneys employed by the Office from engaging in the practice of law outside the Office.

5. Will you employ or have you employed staff in your office who are related to you?

No.

6. Should employees of this office be hired through the CMS employment service? Why or why not?

No. The Office of the Attorney General is an independent constitutional office within state government. The Office has its own hiring policies and procedures that are administered by the Deputy Chief of Staff for Administration, the Director of Human Resources and the Director of Attorney Recruitment and Professional Development. The Office's policies and practices aim to ensure that we recruit, hire and retain the most qualified candidates for each position and adhere to all of the labor and employment laws.

7. Do you support a ban on hiring, firing and promotion based on political considerations for non-policy making positions?

Yes. I think it is critical that public offices hire the most qualified individuals for each position, regardless of political affiliation or personal connections. As Attorney General, I have worked to hire outstanding staff that show a commitment to doing the best possible work for the people of Illinois. That is a primary reason why I

have been able to successfully advance legal and public policy positions that serve as models for the rest of the country.

8. Do you support Affirmative Action?

I believe that we must create true equality of opportunity for all. We should start by giving those who now have the fewest educational opportunities a chance to learn and excel through quality education.

9. Do you favor restructuring the wage scale of state employees to correct disparities based on gender by instituting equal pay for jobs of comparable worth?

Yes.

10. In what circumstances should the Attorney General contract for outside professional services and what criteria would you implement for letting contracts? Please comment on any existing abuses and how you would correct them.

The lawyers within the Office should represent the people of Illinois except in very limited circumstances when a complex case requires particular expertise not available in the Office or when the Attorney General has a conflict of interest. The criteria for hiring outside counsel should be narrow: the expertise and experience the attorneys will bring to the particular case and their cost. As Attorney General, I have sought to limit the hiring of outside counsel unless required by statute or necessitated by the dictates of a particular complex case or ethical rules.

11. a. Should drug testing be mandatory for employees of your office?

No.

Government employees should be drug tested?

b. Should testing be universal or random?

c. Should testing be allowed on reasonable suspicion or probable cause?

Policies for drug testing of government employees should be based on the specific job duties of the employees and must follow all applicable state and federal laws.

**12. Do you favor
a. restoration of capital punishment?**

The death penalty was abolished in Illinois because of the state's record of exoneration of death row inmates. I supported capital punishment for the most heinous of crimes, but at this point, before any consideration of reinstatement of the death penalty, law enforcement, prosecutors and policymakers would need to assess thoroughly the impact of its elimination. We cannot even consider reinstatement unless and until we can guarantee reforms to eliminate the significant problems that resulted in innocent people being on death row.

b. criminal prosecution of juveniles as adults?

The ability to prosecute juveniles as adults can be an important and appropriate tool for prosecutors in limited circumstances, such as cases involving serious, violent crimes committed by juveniles close to adulthood.

c. mandatory sentencing?

I believe that mandatory sentencing has an appropriate place as part of a comprehensive sentencing scheme designed to ensure that violent offenders and especially repeat, violent offenders, such as child sexual predators, are sufficiently punished and that sentencing standards are the same across judicial jurisdictions.

d. work release, home monitoring, other alternative sentencing?

I support work release, home monitoring, and other alternative sentencing programs.

e. wiretapping and surveillance of private persons?

I support wiretapping and surveillance conducted by the police in accordance with the dictates of the United States and Illinois Constitutions, all applicable state and federal laws, and as part of an ongoing investigation of criminal activity.

f. roving wiretaps?

I support roving wiretaps when used in accordance with the United States and Illinois Constitutions, all applicable state and federal laws, and as part of an ongoing, substantiated investigation of criminal activity.

g. "stop and frisk" laws?

I believe it is appropriate for police officers to stop and frisk individuals when they comply with the law as set forth in *Terry v. Ohio* and subsequent United States Supreme Court and Illinois Supreme Court rulings.

13. Is racial profiling a legitimate tool in law enforcement? Why or why not?

Racial profiling is one of the foremost criminal justice and civil rights issues in our country. I do not believe racial profiling is a legitimate law enforcement tool. In fact, research has shown that focusing on racial profiling as a means of identifying criminals prevents law enforcement officers from accurately and effectively recognizing criminals. As I have discussed with IVI-IPO in the past, as a State Senator, I sponsored legislation requiring law enforcement officers to record the race of the motorists stopped and requiring the compilation and study of this data to assist in determining whether a pattern of discrimination exists and how to end this discrimination. The Illinois Department of Transportation publishes a report each year with updated data. These reports continue to demonstrate the importance of continuing to study and address this issue.

14. Does the present Illinois prison system serve the long term needs of law enforcement and prisoner rehabilitation in Illinois? Why or why not?

To protect the citizens of Illinois and appropriately punish offenders, we must incarcerate many types of criminals. However, it is critical that we constantly evaluate and consider changes to our sentencing policies and our prison system to make sure that we are placing an appropriate emphasis on rehabilitation and are working to reduce recidivism and increase the likelihood that offenders, especially non-violent, first-time criminals, can become productive members of society.

As I have discussed with IVI-IPO in the past, during my first term as Attorney General, I worked on changing the way that our system approaches sex offenders, who often have the highest recidivism rates. I held public hearings across the state to seek input on how to better manage sex offenders in Illinois. Through these hearings, I heard from victim advocates, law enforcement, criminal justice experts, and treatment providers. As a result, I drafted bills to require treatment of sex offenders, to provide the State with greater options in imposing parole conditions that take into account the specific risks posed by these offenders, and to require that after the most dangerous of these offenders complete their prison sentences, they will be subject to extended terms of probation (potentially for natural life) based on their specific risk. Since that time, I have continued to be involved in legislation to address sentencing and post-prison supervision for sex offenders. I

also have worked with legislators and others involved in the criminal justice system to review and assess the effectiveness of Illinois' sentencing policies.

15. Will you establish an Integrity Unit to investigate allegations of forced confessions?

As Attorney General, I do not have the legal authority to investigate allegations of forced confessions unless appointed by a court to do so. In the instances in which my office has been appointed by a court to handle cases involving allegations of forced confessions, we have carefully investigated the allegations and approached the case with the goal of seeking the truth and ensuring a just and fair result.

16. Do you believe that the Illinois Constitution's right to privacy provisions guarantee reproductive choice?

The Illinois Supreme Court addressed and decided this issue in 2013 in *Hope Clinic for Women v. Flores*, 991 N.E.2d 745 (2013).

17. Do you support repeal of the Illinois 1995 Parental Notice of Abortion Law?

I am pro-choice, and my voting as State Senator record backs this up. While I was in the Illinois Senate, I supported a woman's right to choose as recognized by *Roe v. Wade*. I had a 100% pro-choice voting record, including supporting legislation to provide public funding of abortion services for low-income women.

In the lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the parental notification law, it was my responsibility under the constitution to represent the defendants. When my office's legal research showed that the law was constitutional, based on the fact that federal courts around the country have upheld parental notice laws, including laws that are more stringent than Illinois', my office defended the law. In 2013, the Illinois Supreme Court upheld the law under the Illinois Constitution.

In addition, working with Planned Parenthood, I have supported legislation to amend Illinois' parental notice law.

18. How can the Attorney General's office reduce delays in enforcement of state and local EPA laws and regulations?

As Attorney General, I have been an aggressive environmental advocate, working to clean up pollution and protect our natural resources. My Office handles environmental enforcement cases referred to us by the IEPA, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and other state agencies with responsibilities relating to the environmental laws. Additionally, my staff and I can and have used the power and authority of the Office to work with citizens groups and environmental advocacy organizations to protect public health and our environment by pursuing enforcement actions that the IEPA has not identified.

My strong environmental protection record as Attorney General clearly demonstrates a willingness to go after polluters, to advocate for stronger state laws protecting the environment, and to work with federal authorities to strengthen and enforce critical provisions of our national environmental protection laws. For example, during the Bush Administration, I joined with a small number of other attorneys general to oppose the Bush Administration's efforts to roll back the Clean Air Act provisions that require power plants to devote resources to putting in place the most up-to-date technology to reduce pollution that has devastating health consequences for Illinois residents and our environment. Throughout President Obama's tenure, I have joined with his administration to defend its efforts to strengthen and enforce the environmental laws and regulations.

19. Please specify and rank your areas of major concern in environmental law enforcement.

My areas of concern in enforcing the environmental laws have been and will continue to be:

(1) enforcing our clean air laws to ensure that we are developing effective plans to provide a safe and healthy environment for our children;

(2) enforcing our clean water laws to make sure that our over-taxed rivers, lakes, and streams are protected from further degradation; and

(3) protecting our open spaces and natural areas by advocating for effective growth and development policies.

20. Will you establish a tenant ombudsman in your office to protect the rights of tenants throughout the state?

My Office responds to hundreds of thousands of calls annually from consumers and provides consumer protection information and assistance, including information to assist tenants and to assist homeowners who are struggling with predatory mortgage lending practices and mortgage “rescue” scams. As a result of my work on the national mortgage foreclosure settlement, I recovered money from the banks to remediate the historic levels of foreclosures in Illinois. I distributed \$20 million of that settlement money to fund legal aid services for both homeowners and tenants in distress. Additionally, I have been and will continue to be interested in working with consumers, legal aid providers and consumer advocacy organizations to increase the resources available to consumers on all issues, including tenants’ rights.

21. Do you support legislation to ban Pay Day and Title loans?

Yes. As Attorney General, I have worked tirelessly to protect Illinoisans from fraudulent practices, especially from payday lenders who target those who are struggling to make ends meet. I have partnered with Citizen Action in their extensive efforts to pass legislation to prevent predatory lending practices and cap the interest rates on payday and title loans. Additionally, I have filed multiple lawsuits to crack down on unlicensed, online payday lenders for illegally offering predatory loans that trap Illinois borrowers in a cycle of debt. My office also continues to help consumers file complaints against these fraudulent lenders and spreads awareness by holding roundtables statewide on how to avoid these scams.

22. Please outline the programs you would institute in the Attorney General's office, including any changes in the law that these programs require:

a) Criminal Justice

The 102 county State’s Attorneys and the local sheriffs and police departments play the lead role in investigating and prosecuting all crimes in Illinois. The primary role of the Attorney General in criminal cases is (1) to provide trial assistance to local prosecutors when requested by the State’s Attorney and (2) to step in to handle the prosecution of a case when the State’s Attorney has a legal conflict and cannot prosecute the case. I have made it a priority of my Office to increase the amount and effectiveness of the assistance provided to local law enforcement. Additionally, as Attorney General, I:

- Conducted trainings across the state for law enforcement officers and prosecutors to make sure that they have the tools necessary to combat methamphetamine and synthetic drugs in their communities,
- Successfully argued a case in the United States Supreme Court to protect the ability of law enforcement agencies to reduce the trafficking of illegal drugs through and into Illinois communities,
- Drafted a number of critical new laws to strengthen the ability of police and prosecutors to curb the manufacture, sale and use of methamphetamine, as well as the sale and use of synthetic drugs,
- Supported the training of law enforcement to use naloxone in an effort to save lives when responding to potential drug overdoses,
- Drafted a number of new laws to protect our communities from sex offenders and to increase the ability of police and prosecutors to investigate and charge child pornographers,
- Implemented new tools for law enforcement to use to protect women and children from the vicious cycle of domestic violence,
- Enhanced and streamlined the Office’s process for providing assistance to crime victims across the state,

- Drafted a new law to identify criminals and sex offenders residing in nursing homes and initiated a multi-agency task force to check nursing homes and ensure individuals with outstanding arrest warrants are arrested,
- Lead the state’s Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, which assists and trains law enforcement across the state on identifying, investigating and successfully prosecuting internet predators and child pornographers,
- Created an extensive, statewide program to train registered nurses to serve as Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) so that they have the expertise to provide comprehensive, compassionate care to sexual assault survivors, gather physical evidence in sexual assault cases and serve as expert witnesses to assist the prosecution,
- Implemented an initiative with the Illinois Hospital Association to expand the number of SANE nurses practicing in hospitals throughout the state, and
- Worked with lawmakers to draft, negotiate and pass the Illinois Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Act, making Illinois the first state in the nation to pass a law mandating the submission and testing of DNA rape kits in sexual assault cases.

b) Gangs and c) Drugs

I have partnered with law enforcement and legislators to curb the manufacture, trafficking, sale and use of illegal drugs throughout Illinois.

In *Illinois v. Cabellas*, I was the first Illinois Attorney General in over 25 years to argue a case before the U.S. Supreme Court. As a result, the Supreme Court allowed police officers greater latitude to prevent illegal drugs from flowing into Illinois communities by upholding their ability to use dogs to detect the presence of illegal drugs during drug traffic stops.

I have made fighting methamphetamine a priority by drafting legislation to curb the manufacture and use of meth, crack down on meth producers, increase penalties and provide additional resources for law enforcement. I have also worked to stop the growing use of over-the-counter synthetic drugs and drafted a new law to crack down on the retail sale of these drugs and address the misleading labels claiming they are legal. In addition, my office launched “Operation Smoked Out”— an effort with local police and county sheriffs to conduct retail store sweeps for synthetic drugs.

d) Consumer Protection

As Attorney General, I have served as the State’s chief consumer advocate, establishing a strong track record of fighting for Illinois consumers. Through this work, I have seen how critical it is to quickly identify emerging frauds, scams and other threats to the financial security of Illinoisans and ensure that the office is taking action to protect people. For example:

- When the mortgage foreclosure crisis was beginning, I took action to hold big banks accountable for their fraudulent conduct leading to the foreclosure crisis and have recovered over \$2.4 billion in relief for homeowners. I also created a unit of expert housing counselors within our Consumer Fraud Division and set up a helpline for people to access our housing counselors to make sure that my office provides direct help to individuals and families struggling to stay in their homes.
- When identity theft began increasing, I created an identity theft unit and a hotline staffed with experts to help people remove fraudulent charges from their credit, assisting over 35,000 victims to remove over \$26 million in unauthorized charges from their credit.
- With data breaches on the rise, I am leading investigations into breaches at companies including Target and eBay.
- Recently, as more and more Illinoisans are dealing with staggering amounts of student loan debt, I have worked on two fronts to help them: (1) investigating and suing for-profit colleges for defrauding students, and (2) investigating Sallie Mae for abusive practices.
- To protect the pocketbooks of all Illinoisans, I have taken aggressive action to oppose efforts by public utility companies to increase charges, recovering over \$2 billion in unfair charges for utility consumers.

Working with the legislature, I have drafted and advocated for the passage of important legislative measures to protect consumers. As an example of these many initiatives, I have worked with consumer advocacy organizations in Illinois to draft and push for the passage of effective reforms to curb predatory lending and unfair payday loan practices and to fight the devastating problem of mortgage fraud.

I also have focused on increasing my Office's education and outreach to the public on consumer issues. To ensure my Office is as accessible as possible to consumers, I have increased the hours that our phone lines are answered; made sure that, unlike many government offices, our phones are still answered by staff members, not a machine; and made sure that we have bi-lingual staff members available to assist Spanish and Polish-speaking consumers when they call or visit our Office.

These examples demonstrate my ability to use the tools of my office – and create new tools – to protect Illinoisans from the constantly changing threats to their financial security.

Additionally, I have an extensive record of working on behalf of Illinois healthcare consumers to make healthcare more accessible and affordable and challenge abusive, unfair practices by pharmaceutical companies. My accomplishments include:

- Drafting and negotiating the Fair Patient Billing Act, establishing patient rights to obtain more detailed billing information, to receive notice regarding financial assistance and to negotiate a payment plan;
- Drafting and negotiating the Hospital Uninsured Patient Discount Act, requiring that hospitals significantly reduce the costs charged to the uninsured and placing an annual cap on the total amount hospitals can charge the uninsured;
- Winning the largest verdict in the office's history resulting in a \$225 million recovery from a Medicaid HMO for illegally denying coverage to pregnant women;
- Recovering over \$133 million through suits filed against pharmaceutical companies for fraudulently inflating the prices of drugs charged to the state;
- Reaching a \$25 million settlement with Blue Cross Blue Shield over allegations the company inappropriately denied nursing care for sick children and fraudulently shifted costs to the state and federal government; and
- Saving consumers over \$24.3 million in healthcare benefits from 2003-2013 through the work of the Health Care Bureau in my office.

e) Civil Rights

I believe that every American deserves equal protection under the law. Throughout my career in public service, I have been committed to ending discrimination and have fought for tolerance, inclusion and equality for all individuals. Some examples of my civil rights work are:

- From the start of my career in public service, I have strongly supported marriage equality for same-sex couples. As Attorney General, when the lawsuits were filed against the Cook County Clerk challenging the constitutionality of Illinois' ban on same-sex marriage, I intervened in support of the plaintiffs and argued that the court should overturn the law. I also worked closely with supporters of the marriage equality legislation to pass that bill. Additionally, once the marriage equality bill was passed and couples facing medical emergencies sought court orders allowing them to marry before the June 1, 2014 effective date of the new law, I again intervened and urged the courts to grant them the right to marry without delay and completely overturn the state ban on same-sex marriage. Finally, early in my service as Attorney General, I ensured that my Office provided benefits to same-sex partners.
- I worked with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services to enforce the Illinois Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act, which required that prospective foster parents in civil unions be treated the same as heterosexual married couples. This work led the State to decline to renew its foster care and adoption contracts with Catholic Charities across Illinois, whose agencies refused to work with same-sex couples.
- I testified before a U.S. Senate committee in 2009 in support of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), emphasizing the importance of such laws in promoting tolerance and equality. I

specifically described how LGBT Illinoisans were impacted by the passage of an amendment to the Illinois Human Rights Act to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. (As an Illinois State Senator, I was the chief Senate co-sponsor of the amendment to the Human Rights Act to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.)

- I advocated for the passage of the federal Shepard-Byrd Hate Crimes Act to add sexual orientation, gender and gender identity to federal hate crime laws.
- Working with the U.S. Department of Justice, I convened summits in Illinois to improve the approach to investigating and prosecuting crimes motivated by hatred and bias.
- I have collaborated with teachers, parents and law enforcement officials to educate Illinois youth on how to recognize and respond to cyber bullying, including protecting LGBT youth who are at an increased risk of being bullied.
- I drafted and advocated for the passage of legislation to amend the Illinois Human Rights Act to allow the Attorney General's Office to initiate a civil action against any person or entity that commits repeated violations of the civil rights laws.
- I sued Wells Fargo and Countrywide (a subsidiary of Bank of America), two of the nation's top mortgage lenders, for illegally discriminating against minority borrowers. In these suits, I alleged that Wells Fargo and Countrywide steered African-American and Latino borrowers into high cost, risky subprime loans more often than similarly situated white borrowers and charged them more for their loans during the height of the nation's housing boom. Working with the U.S. Department of Justice, I reached (1) a \$335 million joint settlement with Countrywide over these allegations, the largest national fair lending settlement in history, and (2) a \$175 million joint settlement with Wells Fargo over discriminatory lending practices. With the settlement with Wells Fargo, I became the only state Attorney General to bring and resolve a fair lending lawsuit against a national bank.
- During my tenure as Attorney General, I have expanded the Disability Rights Bureau of the Office and taken aggressive action to advocate for the rights of the disabled, including, for example, actions against retailers to ensure that their stores are accessible to people with disabilities and a lawsuit against the Illinois High School Athletic Association to ensure that student athletes with disabilities have the full right to compete.

23. How will you prevent political and partisan concerns from influencing legal opinions emanating from the Attorney General's office?

I have a strong track record of independence and of basing my actions on the facts and the law. I have demonstrated this throughout my work as Attorney General, including, for example, in my decisions (a) to reject Governor Blagojevich's proposed deal to mortgage the Thompson Center, (b) to reject Governor Blagojevich's proposal to expand the Illinois Lottery to include keno games, (c) to advise the Illinois Department of Transportation that it does not have the authority, without legislative approval, to convey State-owned land for less than fair market value to groups seeking to build a Peotone Airport, (d) to aggressively pursue revocation of the Emerald casino license and to refuse to agree to efforts to locate the 10th casino in Rosemont, (e) to deny former governor George Ryan a state pension, and (f) to vigorously pursue criminal investigations of public corruption throughout the state, including launching the state's investigation of then-Governor Rod Blagojevich.

Additionally, I have worked to prevent political or partisan concerns from influencing Illinois government at all levels by aggressively enforcing the state's open government laws. Specifically, I have created in my Office the first-ever position of Public Access Counselor to help Illinoisans obtain access to government meetings and information and to educate citizens, members of the media and government officials on the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act and the Open Meetings Act. In addition, I led the efforts to strengthen these open government laws and to increase the enforcement authority of the Public Access Counselor.

I also have worked closely with the Executive Ethics Commission to draft, negotiate and pass reforms to strengthen enforcement of the ethics laws and increase transparency in that process. These reforms included provisions to (1) significantly tighten the revolving door prohibition to prevent state employees from going to work for government contractors, (2) add transparency to the ethics enforcement process by requiring public

disclosure of Inspector General reports concluding that allegations of misconduct are founded, and (3) add transparency to the state grant-making process and make it easier to recover grant money in the event of fraud.

24. How would you balance your roles as attorney for state officials vs. attorney for the people of Illinois?

As Attorney General, I have exercised my power to safeguard the interests of the people of Illinois by bringing many cases to enforce the laws, which individuals, due to limited resources, do not have the ability to file. When representing the State in litigation, I have made decisions only after considering the concerns of the State government when fulfilling its role on behalf of the people as well as the interest of all the people of Illinois.