

IVI-IPO 2012 CONGRESSIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 1

DATE Jan. 10, 2012 DISTRICT: 1st PARTY: Democratic

NAME: Raymond M. Lodato

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CAMPAIGN MANAGER: Ivory D. Mitchell

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED: 990 NUMBER REQUIRED: 600

A) Elective or appointive public or party offices previously held including dates.: Local School Council (Chair), Wm. H. Ray Elementary School, 2008-2010.

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

C) What is your primary occupation?: Academic researcher/survey director.

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

Vision Committee for Principal Search, St. Thomas the Apostle School—2011.

Chair, Local School Council, Wm. H. Ray Elementary School, 2008-2010

E) What subjects have you studied and what experience have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek?

I have three degrees in political science, and I teach classes on environmental policy and politics at the University of Chicago. I have worked with or served on the boards of numerous non-profit organizations, and I have experience with educational reform, both as a researcher and as an elected member of the LSC of my local elementary school.

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

Toni Preckwinkle for Cook County Board President (2010)—Director of Research

Leslie Hairston for Alderman (1999)—Volunteer Coordinator

Toni Preckwinkle for Alderman (1995)—Volunteer Coordinator

Carol Moseley Braun for U.S. Senate (1992)—Petition Gatherer

Toni Preckwinkle for Alderman (1991)—Deputy Campaign Manager and Volunteer Coordinator

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

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?

I believe that the First District needs a Member of Congress who is committed to fighting for progressive values in Washington and who has a vision of how to improve the lives of its residents. The most important goal to me is to bring jobs to the district. Our district's unemployment rate is 13.9%, and significantly higher in some parts of the district. We need to encourage the growth and development of clean energy so that our citizens can secure the jobs of the future. I have a lifelong commitment to progressive values and policies, and I will work to become a leader for progressives in the House if I am elected. The incumbent has demonstrated a distinct lack of leadership in his 20 years in office, and none of the other candidates has demonstrated the leadership on progressive values that I have shown.

I) What is your campaign budget? How much have you raised to date? We expect to raise and spend \$100,000. We have raised \$6000 to date.

J) How many people are on your campaign staff? How many volunteers are on your list? We are in the process of hiring staff. We have about 25 volunteers to date.

IVI-IPO 2012 CONGRESSIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 2

Foreign and Military			
	YES	NO	
1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Should the US wage war without a declaration from Congress?
			Do you support
2.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	closing WHISC (the re-named Army School of the Americas)?
3.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	mandating release of the names of all those who have attended the WHISC?
			Do you support
4.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	normalization of relations with Cuba?
5.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	the Helms-Burton Act?
6.	ESSAY		What should be Congress' role in formulating foreign policy? <i>Congress should have an active role in formulating foreign policy under any Administration. Congress's role should be oversight of any Administration's stated foreign policy aims, and a strict adherence to the Constitution with regard to the declaration of war, the commitment of troops, and the funding of any war effort.</i>
7.	ESSAY		Comment on the necessity & effectiveness of our military deployment in Afganistan <i>I believe that it was necessary to overturn the Taliban's rule in Afghanistan and their role in providing a safe haven for al Qaeda. I do not believe that a full-scale military mission was necessary and I think that the same goals could have been accomplished using intelligence gathering and special forces.</i>
Energy & Environment			
			Do you Support
8.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Oil drilling in Alaska and other protected wilderness?

9.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cap and trade?
10.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lower National Carbon emissions goals?
11.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clean Diesel Program?
12.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Energy Efficiency goals?
13.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coal Liquification? UNDECIDED
14.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Increasing use of Nuclear power for electric generation?
15.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mountaintop coal strip mining?
16.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Increase user fees for grazing, mining and lumbering on Federal lands?
17.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Opening more federal land for lumber exploitation?
18.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Support for Alberta Oil Sand exploitation?
19.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Incentives for business to develop alternative energy systems
20.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tax credits for individuals to implement sustainable and renewable systems in their homes?
21.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support allowing states to adopt more stringent environmental standards than provided for in Federal law?
Transportation			
			Should the federal government have any funding responsibility for
22.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	infrastructure improvements?
23.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	highways?
24.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	mass transit?
25.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	high-speed rail?
26.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amtrak?
27.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Air transportation?
28.	ESSAY		<p>Please comment on specific proposals</p> <p><i>I believe that the Federal government should undertake a large-scale investment in infrastructure improvements in order to create jobs that cannot be outsourced and to rebuild our country. I would not support the building of new interstate highways without an extensive environmental review, and I would favor the transfer of funds from highway construction to the building and maintenance of mass transit systems, which are better for the environment and create more jobs. One of the keystones of my campaign is support for building high-speed rail. As Congressman, I will support projects to build high-speed rail from Chicago to other major Midwestern cities, both to improve transportation in Chicago and the Midwest and to create jobs for residents of the First District. I will also support the building of high-speed rail in other states as well.</i></p>
Taxes and Economic Policy			
			Do you favor
29.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a more progressive income tax?
30.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	a flat tax?
31.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	a national sales tax?
32.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	taxing capital gains at the same rate as earned income?
33.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	taxing dividends at the same rate as earned income?
34.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	reduction/elimination of the estate tax?
35.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	any other changes in our tax structure?
36.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Elimination of mortgage interest deduction?
37.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Elimination of income tax credit for dependent children

38.	ESSAY		What would you do to create jobs, specifically address communities with historically high and lingering unemployment rates <i>I will support the creation of “first-source hiring,” which emphasizes hiring from local communities for projects that will be built in low-income areas. I am dedicated to ensuring that government spending be directed toward projects that create jobs in the U.S., especially in low-income communities, many of which have not recovered from the loss of manufacturing jobs in the 1980s.</i>
39.	ESSAY		What changes would you propose for the Social Security System? <i>I support the lifting of the earnings cap as the primary means to ensure the long-term solvency of the Social Security system.</i>
40.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support repeal of the Commodity Futures Modernization Act?
41.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	Will you support “fast track” legislation for trade treaties?

Consumer Rights

42.	ESSAY		What legislation or regulation would you support to safeguard consumers harmed in the recent sub-prime lending credit crisis? <i>I will support legislation to mandate the write-down of “underwater” mortgages for consumers who have sub-prime loans, as a way to stabilize communities and families.</i>
			Do you support
43.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	federal legislation to cap interest rates on credit cards and other consumer loans?
44.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	federal legislation to regulate ATM fees and service charges on credit cards and other consumer loans?
45.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	allowing states to enact consumer laws which go beyond the protection of federal legislation?

Government and Ethics

			Do you support
46.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Constitutional amendment to regulate campaign financing?
47.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Constitutional amendment to reverse the Citizens United case?
48.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you support increased Congressional oversight of federal contracting?
	ESSAY		Why or why not? <i>I would support increased Congressional oversight of Federal contracting in order to avoid even the appearance of conflict of interest between those who award contracts and those who are awarded them.</i>

Health & Human Services

49.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	Do you support “Single Payer” or “Extended Medicare”?
	ESSAY		Why or why not? <i>I fully support either single-payer or Medicare-for-All as a replacement for our current fee-for-service system. I believe that health care is a right for all Americans, as it is in other nations in the world, and that no family should have to made difficult choices about their family’s financial future by worrying about whether or not they can keep their health insurance coverage. While some of this anxiety will be alleviated by the full implementation of the Affordable Care Act, Medicare is better managed and will eliminate the incentive for profit in the health care system</i>
50.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support authorizing Medicare and other government insurance programs to

			negotiate lower prices for prescription drugs?
51.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Should the FDA approve importation of drugs from countries whose manufacturing and safety standards are equal or superior to those in the US?
52.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support funding of medically accurate, age appropriate, sex education programs?
53.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support increased funding for HIV/AIDS research, education, prevention, and services?

			Do you support
54.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	the Human Life Amendment?
55.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	the Freedom of Choice Act?
56.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	parental notification to obtain an abortion?
57.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	a ban on so-called partial birth abortions?
58.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeal of the Hyde Amendment?
59.	ESSAY		What other changes would you support in the area of reproductive health? I favor the defunding of abstinence-only education programs.

			Do you favor increased funding for:
60.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	supplemental food programs for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)?
61.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	food stamp allowances?
62.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Head Start?
63.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	school lunch programs?

			Do you support
64.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	reauthorization of TANF in 2012?
65.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	raising TANF benefits to at least equal the poverty level?
66.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reestablishing federal regulation of statewide programs?
67.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	TANF work requirement?
68.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Support the further extension of unemployment benefits?

69.	ESSAY		What are your proposals to help people who do not qualify for TANF or for unemployment benefits?
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			Do you support
70.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	increased funding to develop affordable housing?
71.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	restrictions to ensure development of low-income rather than market rate housing?
72.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	adequate funding for the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund out of the premiums paid for Fannie Mae and Ginnie Mae loans?
73.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	protection against housing discrimination for holders of Section 8 housing vouchers?

			Do you favor
74.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	vouchers, tuition tax-credits or other any direct public support for parochial or private schools?

75.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	Are the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act the most effective way to advance student achievement?
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			<i>I support the Administration's blueprint for the No Child Left Behind law. Secretary Duncan's proposals do not require that all schools achieve 100 percent proficiency in reading and math by 2014. He is also correct when he offers to partner with states that have assessed the needs of their students and are working effectively to improve their schools. We need to incentivize working with the students who need the most help, not encourage schools to cherry-pick students. I know that strong neighborhood schools can serve a range of students</i>
	ESSAY		If not, what plan would you propose?
Law, Justice, and Correctional System			
			Do you support:
76.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	admissibility of illegally obtained evidence?
77.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	electronic eavesdropping?
78.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	roving wiretaps?
79.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	capital punishment?
80.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	criminal prosecution of juveniles as adults?
81.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	mandatory sentencing?
82.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	criminalization of hate crimes?
83.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Congressional oversight of the NSA?
84.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	Real ID program?
85.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	detention of suspects and material witnesses without charges and/or probable cause?
			Do you support
86.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	repeal of the Military Commissions Act?
87.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	a statutory ban on the use of extraordinary rendition and secret prisons?
88.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	creation of a special committee to learn the truth about unlawful and inappropriate activities by government officials in the post-9/11 era?
89.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	repeal of the FISA Amendments Act of 2008?
90.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation prohibiting racial profiling in law enforcement?
91.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation restricting the sale and possession of assault weapons?
			Do you support legislation
92.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	mandating background checks of purchasers of weapons at gun shows, through the internet and through print advertisements?
93.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	increasing penalties for illegal resale of weapons?
94.	ESSAY		What restrictions, if any, should Congress enact or repeal regarding the scope of federally funded legal services for the poor?
Civil Liberties and Civil Rights			
			Do you favor
95.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	repeal of the Patriot Act?
96.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	amending the NSL provisions to expand court oversight, require a mandatory showing of a connection to terrorist activity and rescind unconstitutional gag restrictions?

97.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	any other changes to the Patriot Act?
98.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support repeal/revision of the Posse Comitatus Act?
	ESSAY		Please explain. <i>I do not support using the military as a domestic police force.</i>
			Do you support
99.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	prioritizing family reunification as criteria in granting visas and processing citizenship and permanent resident applications?
100.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	halting deportations of immigrants until final determination of residency status has been made and appeals have been exhausted?
101.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prohibiting deportation of undocumented immigrants arrested for misdemeanors or traffic violations?
102.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	A pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants currently in the country?
103.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The DREAM Act?
104.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recognizing same sex marital or union status when determining immigration status?
105.	ESSAY		What other immigration reforms do you support?
106.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support DC statehood?
			Do you support
107.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	federal legislation to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, employment and education?
108.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act?
109.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	passage of the Respect for Marriage Act?
110.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you support legislation allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military?
111.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support prior government restraint of the press?
112.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support separation of church and state?
			Do you support
113.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	prayer in public schools?
114.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	moment of silence?
			Do you support mandatory drug testing
115.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	in private employment?
116.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	in public employment?
117.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support mandatory AIDS testing for insurance or employment?
118.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation to redress inequities in pension benefits for women?
119.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support the Equal Rights Amendment to the US Constitution?

Labor			
120.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support Affirmative Action with specific goals, targets and timetables for federal employment, grants and contracts?
121.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation to restructure the wage scale of federal employees to correct disparities based on gender by instituting equal pay for jobs of comparable worth?
			Do you support
122.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act?
123.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	a prohibition on permanent replacement of strikers?
124.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	giving federal employees the right to strike?
125.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	the Employee Freedom of Choice Act?
126.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support a federal living wage law to guarantee that a person working forty hours a week would be able to afford housing, food, utilities, transportation and health care?