

IVI-IPO 2012 GENERAL ASSEMBLY QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 1

DATE 12-23-11 DISTRICT: 5<sup>TH</sup> SENATE PARTY: DEMOCRATIC

NAME: PATRICIA VAN PELT-WATKINS, PhD, CPA

VOTING ADDRESS: 2826 W. WASHINGTON BLVD

HOME PHONE: 773.710.1500 BUSINESS PHONE: 773.710.1500

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS: 2312 W. HARRISON

CAMPAIGN PHONE: 312.265.1056 FAX: 312.624.9703

EMAIL: DR.PWATKINS@GMAIL/COM WEBSITE: WWW.PATRICIAFORILLINOIS.COM

CAMPAIGN MANAGER: CHERYL PHILLIPS

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED: 3,000 NUMBER REQUIRED: 1,000

A) Elective or appointive public or party offices previously held including dates.

None.

B) Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate.

Ran for Chicago Mayor 2011

C) What is your primary occupation?

President of a Social Justice Organization

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

**Organizing residents to improve public safety, raise the minimum wage, support immigration reform, reintegrate ex-offenders, and plan a community park.**

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

**As founding director of a successful nonprofit, I have had a years of experience in political advocacy , community organizing, coalition-building, and leadership development. As a learner, I have studied the criminal justice system in America, social movements across the world, education reform in Illinois, and financial accounting.**

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

Barak Obama - organizing people, and money to support his bid for election

Pat Quinn - organizing people to do door knocking, organized local pastors, and hosted 2 rallies

Senator Jackie Collins - organized people and money to support her re-election bid

Jesus (Chuy) Garcia - organized people and money to support his bid for election as commissioner.

**G)** Please list all endorsements you have received so far. Secretary of State Jesse White, Alderman Bob Fioretti, Dawn Clark Netsch, Bishop Claude Porter (MB Church), Presiding Elder Albert Tyson III (AME Church), Josh Hoyt, and Committeeman Jesse Juarez

**H)** As concisely as possible, please state why you feel you should be endorsed over the other candidate(s). I have a history of working to improve the lives of Chicago families. I am independent and am not owned by anyone. As a citizen, I have worked to improve the reintegration of ex-offenders; reduce the shootings and violence in the community; and improve educational outcomes among our students. My opponent has little engagement with the community and was found to not even live in the district, which is against the law. What goals for the office you seek are most important to you personally? Currently, murder is the leading cause of death in Chicago for people 35 and under, this is completely unacceptable. Ex-offenders return to our communities with few opportunities to successfully re-integrate. Our children are attending crumbling schools and teachers are held out as scape-goats. These and other concerns will drive my work in Springfield.;

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

\$300,000 campaign budget. I have raised approximately \$175,000

**J)** How many people are on your campaign staff? Seven

How many volunteers are on your list? 125

## IVI-IPO 2012 GENERAL ASSEMBLY QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 2

<b>Elections &amp; Ethics</b>			
	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	
1.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support moving the primary election date?
	ESSAY		If so, to what month? I would like it to be permanently held in March. As long as it continues to be held in the Spring, it shouldn't impact turn-out.
			Do you support
2.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	keeping voters' political party preferences in the primary elections secret?
3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	reestablishing straight party voting in general elections?
4.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	establishing a signature requirement for independent candidates and new parties equal to the requirement for the major party candidates for the same office?
5.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Should there be a photo ID requirement to cast a ballot?
6.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation granting County Clerks jurisdiction over municipalities in their county regarding filing for municipal office and hearing objections to petitions?
7.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support restoration of cumulative voting for the Illinois House of Representatives?
	ESSAY		If so, please describe the plan you support. I do not understand the value of such a plan for residents of Illinois.

8.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Should Illinois institute instant run-off voting?
			Do you support
9.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	holding a special primary to fill a vacancy caused by the nominee withdrawing from the ballot before the general elections?
10.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	holding a special election to fill vacancies for U.S. Senate and state constitutional officers?
11.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support changes in the way judges are selected?
	ESSAY		If so, please give a brief description of the system you support. I believe there should be strict regulations on how much can be spent on a judicial campaign.
12.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	If judges continue to be elected, should judicial elections be non-partisan?
13.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support popular election of University of Illinois trustees?
14.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support any other changes in Illinois' election laws?
	ESSAY		Please explain. I support same day registration.
			Do you support:
15.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	dollar limits on campaign contributions?
16.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	dollar limits on political committee transfers?
17.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	the same limits on leadership PACs as on candidate PACs?
18.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	dollar limits on campaign expenditures?
19.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	public financing of election campaigns?
20.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you accept or have you accepted campaign donations from current or potential suppliers, employees, or outside contractors?
21.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support a ban on hiring, firing and promotion based on political considerations for non policy making positions?
	ESSAY		Please explain your position. Illinois is a bastion of corruption. Employment considerations should be based on the capacity and qualifications of the person.
			Will you employ or have you employed staff in your office who
22.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	hold other public sector jobs concurrently?
23.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	have either outside employment or contracts with entities which do business with the state?
			Do you support
24.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	legislation to prohibit incumbency and political affiliation as criteria in the mapping process for Congressional, Legislative and local government electoral districts?
25.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	creation of a non-partisan Commission to draw maps instead of the General Assembly?
26.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support term limits for legislative leaders?
27.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support term limits for members of the General Assembly
<b>Taxes and Economic Policy</b>			
			Do you support amending the constitution to

27.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	institute a graduated income tax?
28.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	allow the legislature to change the corporate/individual ratio in income taxes?
29.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support increasing income taxes to relieve or replace local property taxes and increase state funding of education?
			Do you favor:
30.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stricter definitions of blight required for TIF creation?
31.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Greater legislative oversight of TIFs to ensure they are meeting their purpose?
32.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requiring itemization on property tax bills of funds diverted to TIFs?
33.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Restriction of fund transfers between TIF districts?
34.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consent of affected taxing bodies before TIF creation?
35.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to terminate a TIF if the objectives of the TIF plan have been accomplished before the 23 year period is ended
36.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you support a moratorium on creation of any new TIF districts until new funding sources are identified to replace the revenue diverted to the TIF?
37.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public disclosure of each TIF district's funds and expenditures?
38.	ESSAY		How would you fully fund the state pension systems?
I do not know the answer to this question. However, I believe we have to cut waste and ensure that corporations and the wealthy pay their fair share of taxes. These funds could be used to shore up the pension for now. I do not know what is the long-term solution to this issue.			
<b>Consumer Protection</b>			
			Do you support legislation to
39.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Increase electric rates outside of the ICC to build a Smart Grid?
40.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ban Pay Day loans?
41.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	regulate ATM fees and service charges on credit cards and other consumer loans?
42.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	cap interest rates on credit cards and other consumer loans?
			Do you support legislation to
43.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	prohibit confession of judgment clauses in consumer contracts?
44.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	mandate attorney fees to be awarded to successful plaintiffs?
47.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you support legislation requiring citizen referenda at the state or local level before casino gambling is expanded?
<b>Education</b>			
48.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to increase state funding to at least 50% of public education costs?
49.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support vouchers or other means of public funding for private or parochial schools?
50.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support public funding of charter or contract schools?
ESSAY		Please explain your position. I believe public funding should prioritize public schools that serve all of our children. I do not believe in the privatization of our schools in any form.	
51.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support abolition of the General Assembly scholarship fund?

	ESSAY		Please explain your position. The scholarship fund was meant to provide education opportunities to students in each district. Currently, scholarships are distributed all over the state with no regard to student need, geographic location, or University budget shortfalls. This program abuses the system and there is very little oversight. It should be eliminated.
<b>Civil Rights &amp; Civil Liberties</b>			
52.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support Affirmative Action?
53.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution?
54.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you favor legislation legalizing civil marriage between two people of the same gender? Yes, if it is also recognized on a federal level.
55.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support mandatory AIDS testing for insurance or employment?
56.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation to prohibit discrimination in housing against unmarried individuals residing together?
57	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support the decriminalization of Marijuana?
			Do you support mandatory drug testing
58.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	for public sector employees? Not for ALL
59.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	for private sector employees? Not for ALL
	ESSAY		If so, under what circumstances? I support mandatory drug testing for specific occupations that would endanger the public safety like bus drivers, etc. In most cases, I would also support treatment programs to help rehabilitate workers.
60.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Should state police be allowed to stop vehicle operators to test for DUI on grounds other than probable cause?
61.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you support legislation to include data on pedestrian, as well as motor vehicle, stops by police for the purpose of gathering statistics on racial profiling?
62.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support repeal of legislation that permits employers to eavesdrop on the telephone conversations of their employees?
63.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you favor detention of suspects and material witnesses without charges and/or probable cause?
<b>Labor</b>			
64.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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?
65.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support privatization of state services? If so, which services?
66.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support the right of public employees to strike?
67.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation banning the replacement of strikers in private employment?

			Employers should not be able to PERMANENTLY HIRE employees to replace striking employees.
68.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support family leave legislation for employees of private companies not currently covered by federal law? FOR COMPANIES WITH 50 EMPLOYEES OR MORE
			Do you support
69.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	raising the minimum wage to establish a living wage for Illinois workers?
70.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	establishing a lower minimum wage for minors?
71.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	including farm workers and household employees under existing labor laws?
<b>Health &amp; Human Services</b>			
71.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you support Single Payer or Extended Medicare healthcare plans?
	ESSAY		If not, what is your plan for providing health care for Illinois residents without insurance?
72.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support the Affordable Care Act?
	ESSAY		What are your priorities involving implementation in Illinois? Ensuring that health care remains truly affordable and accessible for low-income communities.. In the General Assembly, I will work to ensure Illinois' programs reach all Illinoisans, and do not exclude anyone.
73.	ESSAY		What is your plan to provide sufficient funding to provide community based services for discharged mental health patients? I will support full funding for these programs. I believe these services could be provided by non-profit hospitals since they are enjoying a tremendous tax break.
			Do you support:
74.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Repealing the Illinois Abortion Law of 1975 and replacing it with a law stating that decisions about reproductive matters are to be made privately between a woman and her doctor, without governmental interference?
75.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Repealing the Illinois 1995 Parental Notice of Abortion Law?
76.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Allowing the government to decide what medical care a physician may provide to patients during pregnancy?
77.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Allowing pharmacies or pharmacists to refuse to fill prescriptions based on their own conscientious objections and send customers away without being served?
78.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation to authorize medically accurate, age-appropriate sex education in public schools?
79.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support increasing appropriations to the Department of Children and Family Services to increase the number of caseworkers?
			Do you support
80.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	raising TANF benefits to at least equal the poverty level?
81.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	providing greater benefits to fund child care and transportation for TANF recipients?
83.	ESSAY		What are your proposals to help people who do not qualify for TANF or for unemployment benefits? I support extending and increasing unemployment benefits so fewer people fall in the gap. I will also support a broad set of safety net programs to support low-income individuals including food stamps, public and transitional housing, and job training programs that specifically target these populations.

<b>Housing</b>			
		Do you favor	
84.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	legislation banning housing discrimination against holders of Section 8 vouchers?
85.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	mandating that landlords give tenants notice prior to entering their units?
86.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	assessing penalties against landlords who engage in illegal or retaliatory evictions?
87.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you support legislation requiring mortgage holders to honor the terms of existing residential leases in effect when property is foreclosed upon?
88.	ESSAY		How do you solve the problem of vacant foreclosed housing? I will support legislation to promote proactive, fair and efficient loan modification programs to help prevent foreclosures and keeping families in their homes. I will also help protect tenant rights through the entire foreclosure process as well as protect the status of affordable housing units being foreclosed.
<b>Energy &amp; Environment</b>			
89.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support an elected ICC?
90.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you support legislation that would provide state technical assistance funds to local communities to help them prepare and implement comprehensive smart growth plans to avoid the costs of rapid unplanned growth and urban sprawl?
91.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support funding for high speed rail connecting Illinois Metropolitan areas?
92.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support a comprehensive statewide mass transit plan for Illinois?
<b>Criminal Justice</b>			
93.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support state legislation to ban the manufacture, sale and possession of assault weapons?
		Do you support	
94.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	legislation increasing penalties for illegal resale of weapons? DEPENDS UPON WHAT THE PENALTY IS NOW.
95.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	legislation permitting the carrying of concealed weapons?
96.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	legislation mandating background checks of purchasers of weapons at gun shows, through the internet and through print advertisements?
		Do you support:	
97.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	capital punishment?
98.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	criminal prosecution of juveniles as adults?
99.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	mandatory sentencing?
100.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	work release, home monitoring, other alternative sentencing?
101.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	admissibility of illegally obtained evidence?
102.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	electronic eavesdropping?
103.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	roving wiretaps?
104.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Life sentences for juvenile offenders?