

IVI-IPO 2012 GENERAL ASSEMBLY QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 1

DATE 12/19/11 DISTRICT: 26th PARTY: Democratic Party
NAME: Christian Mitchell
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CAMPAIGN MANAGER: John Keller
NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED: 1500 NUMBER REQUIRED: 500

- A) Elective or appointive public or party offices previously held including dates.
- B) Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate.
- C) What is your primary occupation?
- D) Briefly list your civic activities of the past ten years.
- E) What subjects have you studied and what experience have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek?
- F) What candidates have you supported in past elections? Please be specific in describing your role in each campaign.
- 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) What is your campaign budget? How much have you raised to date?
- J) How many people are on your campaign staff? How many volunteers are on your list?

IVI IPO General Assembly Questionnaire, Section 1

- A) None
- B) None
- C) Vice President at Conlon Public Strategies
- D) Southsiders Organized for Unity and Liberation (SOUL), Mayor Emanuel's Transition Team for Energy and the Environment
- E) I studied Public Policy Studies at the University of Chicago. I believe the most helpful experience that will translate to my role as a state representative will be my experience on the ground organizing with everyday people and working families, having drafted two pieces of legislation that passed in Springfield, and working on President Preckwinkle's senior staff to streamline Cook County Government to deliver more cost effective and efficient services.
- F) Lisa Madigan – Deputy Field Director, 2010, Toni Preckwinkle for Cook County Board President – 2010. Will Burns for Alderman – Campaign Manager, 2010-2011.
- G) President Toni Preckwinkle, UFCW 881, Illinois Retail Merchants Association (IRMA), Alderman Will Burns, Alderman Pat Dowell, Alderman Leslie Hairston, Alderman Michelle Harris, Representative Kimberly du Buclet, Representative Marlow Colvin, Committeeman John Corrigan
- H) I'm not running because of other candidates – I'm running because I believe I'm the best person for the job of State Representative of the 26th District. I spent the majority of my organizing career in the 26th District – working with single mothers like my own struggling to pay for their kids education, with families fighting to care for ailing elders, and with working people trying to get back on their feet in the wake of this recession – and we had success. I drafted two pieces of legislation that passed in Springfield – the Urban Weatherization initiative, to create local jobs in urban centers across Illinois, and the Universal Fare Card legislation that just passed in May to integrate Metra, CTA and Pace's fare system by 2015. I've worked as a high level staffer for Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, implementing a balanced budget and delivering services effectively and efficiently for taxpayers. I'm seeking the endorsement of IVI-IPO because I come from a legacy of progressive and independent reformers, and I believe IVI-IPO represents the best of that tradition.
- I) We plan to raise \$250,000. We have raised almost \$100,000 so far.
- J) There are three people on my campaign staff and we have had over 100 volunteers.

IVI-IPO 2012 GENERAL ASSEMBLY QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 2

Elections & Ethics			
	YES	NO	
1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support moving the primary election date? <i>See attached</i>
	ESSAY		If so, to what month?
			Do you support
2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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? <i>See attached</i>
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.
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? <i>See attached</i>
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.
12.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	If judges continue to be elected, should judicial elections be non-partisan?
13.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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.
			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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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.
			Will you employ or have you employed staff in your office who
22.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	hold other public sector jobs concurrently?
23.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support term limits for legislative leaders? <i>see attached</i>
27.a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support term limits for members of the General Assembly <i>see attached</i>
Taxes and Economic Policy			
			Do you support amending the constitution to
27.b	<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? <i>- see attached</i>
34.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consent of affected taxing bodies before TIF creation? <i>see attached</i>
35.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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?
Consumer Protection			
			Do you support legislation to
39.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Increase electric rates outside of the ICC to build a Smart Grid? <i>see Attached</i>
40.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ban Pay Day loans? <i>see attached</i>
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will you support legislation requiring citizen referenda at the state or local level before casino gambling is expanded?
Education			
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.
51.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support abolition of the General Assembly scholarship fund?
	ESSAY		Please explain your position.
Civil Rights & Civil Liberties			
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?
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?
59.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	for private sector employees?
	ESSAY		If so, under what circumstances?
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?

Labor			
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 type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation banning the replacement of strikers in private employment?
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?
			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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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?
Health & Human Services			
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?
73.			ESSAY What is your plan to provide sufficient funding to provide community based services for discharged mental health patients?
			Do you support:
74.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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?
Housing			
			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?
Energy & Environment			
89.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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?
Criminal Justice			
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 type="checkbox"/>	legislation increasing penalties for illegal resale of weapons?
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? <i>see attached</i>
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?

Essay Questions: IVI-IPO 2012 General Assembly Questionnaire

1) Do you support moving the primary election date?

At this time, I believe a March primary is appropriate. In the future, I would support a study to determine when a primary could be situated to encourage the greatest possible voter turnout.

6) Yes, with two reservations. First, a thorough review would need to be conducted to ensure that the County Clerk's possessed sufficient infrastructure and expertise to deal with the increased workload. Second, the Clerk's office would need to establish satellite locations for candidates from the periphery of counties to file.

9) Maybe. A special primary election would cost additional money, an expense that a cash strapped state may struggle to afford. I would want to see a cost-benefit analysis before making that decision.

11) I would support a system, at the very least, of public financing for judges. I believe we should find a way to make the judge selection process less political as a whole - perhaps creating a transparent selection process like other states.

14) I would support a system of public financing for legislators and other elected officials, such as the Lincoln Act.

21) With the exception of policy positions, where the view of the elected official needs to be consistently reflected, I believe that all positions should be filled by the best and most qualified candidate based primarily on measurable, objective, appropriate skill sets.

27a) I believe that elections are term limits. They are a regularly scheduled time at which voters can affirm or reconsider their choices of elected leadership.

33) I support the establishment of either criteria or a review process for fund transfers.

34) I would support the creation of a transparent process involving all relevant stakeholders before implementing a TIF district.

35) I believe that TIF goals and objectives should be re-evaluated on an annual or bi-annual basis. Where appropriate, I would support early elimination of a TIF that had fulfilled its purpose.

38) No single legislator can possibly answer this question - but I believe there are some concrete principles that need to frame any discussion. First and foremost, this is an extremely difficult situation - for the most part, we're not here because teachers didn't teach our kids, or because police and firefighters didn't keep us safe, but because 40 years of failed political leadership kicked the can down the road. Second, the goal must be to avoid solving this problem on the backs of working families, and to preserve the

right and dignity of retirement for those who have worked so hard for it. Third, all stakeholders must be brought to the table - public employee unions, the chief executive, legislators, civic groups, and other thought leaders, to craft a solution. The state must, hereafter, make its required employer contribution in accordance with its statutory and constitutional mandate.

39) The Smart Grid has already passed the Legislature.

40) I support rigorous oversight of payday lenders, especially with regard to hidden fees and extortive rates.

50) In so far as charter schools are laboratories of innovation for best practices to bring back to neighborhood schools, and so long as there is a real process of accountability (ie, the ability to revoke a charter from an underperforming actor), I am in favor of public support for charter schools.

51) The program needs more extensive oversight, but I believe it can work.

72) The most timely aspect of implementation for the state is creating a health insurance exchange by 2014. I will fight for the creation of an insurance exchange that not only aggregates plans from private providers, but acts as an advocate to get the best possible deals for consumers.

73) I will work with service providers on the ground to advocate for more funding. When we don't address mental health issues at the community level, many of those cases end up in jail, at a greater cost to taxpayers, patients, and our community.

76) I believe that all women should have access to science based, modern maternity care.

83) I believe we need to review all of our current safety net programs to determine where coverage gaps are, and examine qualifications and income requirements accordingly.

88) I support the vacant properties ordinance passed at the City level and its accompanying state legislation. Especially in cases where foreclosure documentation is incomplete or unavailable, the originators of the mortgage need to be held accountable to maintaining property in the community. Ultimately, we need to create more jobs in Illinois, so that we can create a new generation of homeowners.

99) Without reform, mandatory minimums simply do not work - except to create disparities.