

IVI-IPO 2012 GENERAL ASSEMBLY QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 1

DATE Dec. 27, 2011 **DISTRICT:** 34th **PARTY:** Democratic

NAME: Richard A. Wooten

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CAMPAIGN MANAGER: Sherri Snead

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED: 1475 **NUMBER REQUIRED:** 1500

A) Elective or appointive public or party offices previously held including dates. None

B) Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate. 6th Ward Alderman City of Chicago.

C) What is your primary occupation? 18 year veteran Chicago Police Officer.

D) Briefly list your civic activities of the past ten years. I served my country honorably for 10 years in the U.S. Army, worked at Olive Branch Mission helping and servicing the homeless and less fortunate for several years, Founded Gathering Point Ministries now known as Gathering Point Community Council serving at- risk youth and their parents through counseling and supportive services, I currently provide employment and training for Chicago Public Schools Safe Passages program, I worked in the Chicago Police Dept. 6th dist. CAPS office as the community liaison bringing participation to second place in the city within 4 years out of 25 police districts, I am a proud 6th ward small business owner so I understand budget and operations, and finally I am currently an 18 year veteran Chicago Police Officer serving and protecting people and communities while counseling individuals through very challenging situations as it relates to life and death. Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 7 member, Member of the Illinois Farm Bureau, Chaplain of Nu Pi Chapter, Joliet, IL., of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Worshipful Master King David Lodge 100 of Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons. I am currently the Associate Pastor of Faith Walk Church International where I minister the word of God counsel parishioners and feed the homeless at the Door of Hope Homeless Shelter faithfully.

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 studied Law Enforcement Management, I served my country honorably for 10 years in the U.S. Army, worked at Olive Branch Mission helping and servicing the homeless and less fortunate for several years, Founded Gathering Point Ministries now known as Gathering Point Community Council serving at- risk youth and their parents through counseling and supportive services, I currently provide employment and training for Chicago Public Schools Safe Passages program, I worked in the Chicago Police Dept. 6th dist.

CAPS office as the community liaison bringing participation to second place in the city within 4 years out of 25 police districts, I am a proud 6th ward small business owner so I understand budget and operations, and finally I am currently an 18 year veteran Chicago Police Officer serving and protecting people and communities while counseling individuals through very challenging situations as it relates to life and death. I am currently the Associate Pastor of Faith Walk Church International where I minister the word of God counsel parishioners and feed the homeless at the Door of Hope Homeless Shelter faithfully.

F) What candidates have you supported in past elections? Please be specific in describing your role in each campaign. As a former aldermanic candidate receiving approximately 3000 votes, I supported and endorsed the current 6th ward Alderman Roderick Sawyer in his run off election against then Alderman Fredrenna Lyle.

G) Please list all endorsements you have received so far. I recently responded and submitted several request for endorsements. However, none of the PAC's nor organizations have made a decision as of yet.

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 will continue to be a humble servant with a passion and commitment to do everything possible within my power to help transform lives and communities for the better through the resources that God has blessed me with. When elected, It will be my primary goal and mission to expand upon the work that I have already been doing for more than twenty years by engaging new ideas and new organizations that have been locked out and never recognized for there work when it comes to connecting solutions to the many problems that exist in communities across our state. I will expand access to state and private resources, programs and maximize the community outreach efforts of my office through creating new partnerships with government, private sector corporations, and community based organizations during these economically tough times. I will create an open honest transparent process to the scandal plagued General Assembly scholarship program that no one talks about. Most people have no idea of who their State Representative is or how they can help. I will be a full time Legislator unlike many of the current one. Finally, I am not part of the old guard and I represent the possibility of Restoring Value, Balancing The Power, & Getting The Job Done!

I) What is your campaign budget? How much have you raised to date? Our budget is currently \$80,000 dollars. How much have you raised to date? \$40,000 which is being self funded.

J) How many people are on your campaign staff? I have 6 staff people. How many volunteers are on your list? I have a volunteer list of 150 committed people.

IVI-IPO 2012 GENERAL ASSEMBLY QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 2

Elections & Ethics			
	YES	NO	
1.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support moving the primary election date?
	ESSAY		If so, to what month? I would it to May or June.
			Do you support
2.	<input 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"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Should there be a photo ID requirement to cast a ballot?
6.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> x	Do you support restoration of cumulative voting for the Illinois House of Representatives?
	ESSAY		If so, please describe the plan you support.
8.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Should Illinois institute instant run-off voting?
9.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support holding a special primary to fill a vacancy caused by the nominee withdrawing from the ballot before the general elections?
10.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	holding a special election to fill vacancies for U.S. Senate and state constitutional officers?
11.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<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. Let the voters decide always.
12.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> x	If judges continue to be elected, should judicial elections be non-partisan?
13.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support popular election of University of Illinois trustees?
14.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> x	Do you support any other changes in Illinois' election laws?
	ESSAY		Please explain.
15.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support: dollar limits on campaign contributions? Corporations & Organizations only. Not individuals.
16.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	dollar limits on political committee transfers?
17.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	the same limits on leadership PACs as on candidate PACs?
18.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> x	dollar limits on campaign expenditures?
19.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> x	public financing of election campaigns?
20.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you accept or have you accepted campaign donations from current or potential suppliers, employees, or outside contractors?
21.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<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. A process as such wouldn't allow for a fair, open, transparent consideration method that could be discriminative in some respects.
22.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> x	Will you employ or have you employed staff in your office who hold other public sector jobs concurrently?
23.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> x	have either outside employment or contracts with entities which do business with the state?
24.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support term limits for members of the General Assembly?
Taxes and Economic Policy			
			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?
Because of the tremendous amount related to pension debt the state must generate new revenue sources and the number one unfavored would be through taxes and reallocating and prioritizing funds within the annual budget. As well, as looking at other potentially strong new funding sources.			
Consumer Protection			
			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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to increase state funding to at least 50% of public education costs?
49.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support vouchers or other means of public funding for private or parochial schools?
50.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support public funding of charter or contract schools?
	ESSAY		Please explain your position. I support the use of public funds however the entities receiving funding should be required to adhere to collective bargaining agreements, ISBE , and state and local laws statues and school policies & procedures when it comes staff hiring, firing, promotions student curriculum etc.
51.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support abolition of the General Assembly scholarship fund?
	ESSAY		Please explain your position. This is an important education access tool that needs more transparency, accountability, and oversight with regard to applying and awarding process. State Representatives have played favoritism and given these scholarships to their on hand picked people.
Civil Rights & Civil Liberties			
52.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support Affirmative Action?
53.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution?
54.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	Do you favor legislation legalizing civil marriage between two people of the same gender?
55.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	Do you support mandatory AIDS testing for insurance or employment?
56.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation to prohibit discrimination in housing against unmarried individuals residing together?
57	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	Do you support the decriminalization of Marijuana?
			Do you support mandatory drug testing
58.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	for public sector employees?
59.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	for private sector employees?
	ESSAY		If so, under what circumstances?
If an unusual situation occurs that might suggest drugs played a part in the matter, I would strongly support this measure.			
60.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	Should state police be allowed to stop vehicle operators to test for DUI on grounds other than probable cause?
61.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	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"/> x	Do you favor detention of suspects and material witnesses without charges and/or probable cause?
Labor			

64.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<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"/> x	Do you support privatization of state services? If so, which services?
66.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support the right of public employees to strike?
67.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation banning the replacement of strikers in private employment?
68.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	<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"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	raising the minimum wage to establish a living wage for Illinois workers?
70.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	establishing a lower minimum wage for minors?
71.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	including farm workers and household employees under existing labor laws?
Health & Human Services			
71.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	<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"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support the Affordable Care Act? ESSAY What are your priorities involving implementation in Illinois? I think that is important that we provide healthcare to children and their parents who rely on government assistance daily. As well, persons experiencing hardships due to unemployment.
73.		ESSAY	What is your plan to provide sufficient funding to provide community based services for discharged mental health patients? I would have to review all funding sources related to mental health to determine and prioritize the reallocation of funds and identifying news community based organizations to partner with the state to provide care.
			Do you support:
74.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	<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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	Repealing the Illinois 1995 Parental Notice of Abortion Law?
76.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	<input 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"/> x	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"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation to authorize medically accurate, age-appropriate sex education in public schools?
79.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	<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 type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	raising TANF benefits to at least equal the poverty level?
81.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<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 would have to review the current TANF / unemployment criteria to identify the challenges. As well, I think it important that we as a state begin to promote entrepreneurship opportunity grants in an effort to promote self sufficiency.
Housing			
			Do you favor
84.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	legislation banning housing discrimination against holders of Section 8 vouchers?
85.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	mandating that landlords give tenants notice prior to entering their units?
86.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	assessing penalties against landlords who engage in illegal or retaliatory evictions?
87.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<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? Create a program to target veterans, and homeless people in addition to identifying community based organizations that can acquire the properties from the banks for little or no charge.
Energy & Environment			
89.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support an elected ICC?
90.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<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 type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support funding for high speed rail connecting Illinois Metropolitan areas?
92.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support a comprehensive statewide mass transit plan for Illinois?
Criminal Justice			
93.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support state legislation to ban the manufacture, sale and possession of assault weapons?
			Do you support
94.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input type="checkbox"/>	legislation increasing penalties for illegal resale of weapons?
95.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> x	legislation permitting the carrying of concealed weapons?
96.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<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 type="checkbox"/> x	capital punishment?
98.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> x	criminal prosecution of juveniles as adults?
99.	<input type="checkbox"/> x	<input 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?