

IVI-IPO 2009 CONGRESSIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 1

DATE: January 27, 2009 **DISTRICT:** 5th Congressional District **PARTY:** Democrat

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CAMPAIGN MANAGER: Joe Woodward

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED: 2, 963 **NUMBER REQUIRED:** 927

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

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

C) What is your primary occupation? **Physician/Eye Surgeon and Professor at Northwestern University Medical School**

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

My main civic activity over the last 10 years was setting aside one day each week to see patients at Winfield Moody Health Center, which is a non-profit community health clinic that provides care for patients regardless of their ability to pay. When I started there 10 years ago, we had one exam room in the eye clinic. Today we have four exam lanes at two separate sites, state of the art glaucoma screening equipment, and an electronic health record system. Outside of the field of medicine, I have volunteered as a youth soccer coach and at various school/church events at St. Andrew of Chicago church.

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 graduated in 1989 from Georgetown University with a degree in Government/International Relations. In 1994, I graduated from the University of Illinois at Chicago medical school. I completed my residency in Ophthalmic Surgery at Northwestern University in 1998 and my fellowship at the University of Wisconsin in Madison in 1999. Since 1999, I have been in practice and am a full time teacher at Northwestern University medical school.

As a doctor who sees patients in both a university and community health clinic settings, I am on the front lines every day. I know what challenges my patients face, and can lend much more to the process of solving this crisis than an entrenched politician who is looking to advance his or her political career. As a teacher, I know the struggles my students have with student loan debt. I see the results of federal mandates for students and teachers, and how they often prevent students from learning and teachers from teaching. As a professional, I do not have any ties to a corrupt Illinois political system where pay to play politics is business as usual. My degree in Government complements all of these aspects of my professional career. These experiences will make me an effective Congressman, who has the best interests of people, not politics in mind.

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

I have not volunteered for any campaigns in past elections.

G) Please list all endorsements you have received so far. **American Academy of Ophthalmology - (AAO)**

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 would be honored to have the endorsement of IVI IPO. I am a professor at Northwestern University medical school and an eye surgeon. Since my first day in practice 10 years ago, I have dedicated one day each week to providing medical care in a community health center that serves patients regardless of their ability to pay. I will take my real life experience as a teacher, doctor and community advocate to Congress. My priorities will be to:

- **Use my experience to ensure that health reform creates access for all, and preserves quality, choice, and efficiency**
- **I will support rebuilding our economy, create jobs with new infrastructure projects and fight for legislation to keep people in homes they can afford**

I) What is your campaign budget? **\$548,500** How much have you raised to date? **\$238,565**

J) How many people are on your campaign staff? **6 staff** How many volunteers are on your list? **36 volunteers**

IVI-IPO 2009 CONGRESSIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 2

Foreign and Military		
1.	ESSAY	What should be the US role in multi-national alliances such as the UN, NATO and the International Criminal Court?
The US should have a role in the UN as a member of the security council and general member. Full participation, including paying our share of the dues, should be the goal. The US role in NATO should be one of leadership, with cooperation from the other member nations. This leadership role should continue as long as the US contributes the bulk of NATO's forces. As for the International Criminal Court, I agree with President Obama's statement: Yes. The United States should cooperate with ICC investigations in a way that reflects American sovereignty and promotes our national security interests[1].		
2.	ESSAY	What should be the policy of the IMF and World Bank toward countries that are essentially bankrupt?
Both of these institutions should abide by their stated missions. According to their stated goals on their websites, "The IMF works to foster global growth and economic stability. It provides policy advice and financing to members in economic difficulties and also works with developing nations to help them achieve macroeconomic stability and reduce poverty." The World Bank provides funds for "purposes that include investments in education, health, public administration, infrastructure, financial and private sector development, agriculture, and environmental and natural resource management." Each of these goals are aimed at improving countries around the globe, and if successful would address both their poverty and economic situation.		
3.	ESSAY	What should be Congress' role in formulating foreign policy?

Congress does have a constitutionally mandated role in foreign policy for things such as ratifying treaties and Senate confirmation of certain executive appointments. Congress also influences foreign policy through oversight, legislative restrictions and funding. I believe that Congress should not micromanage foreign policy, but when appropriate, it should have a role in significant decisions by the executive branch.

	YES	NO	
4.	X		If a Timetable for withdrawal from Iraq is not established, will this affect your votes on funding for the Iraq War? Please explain your answer.
I support President Obama's plan of a phased withdrawal of our troops in order to minimize further destabilization of the region. It must be done in a way that ensures the safety of our troops and helps the Iraqi government assume responsibility for its own security.			
5.		X	Should the US wage war without a declaration from Congress?
6.		X	Would you support legislation giving Governors veto power over deployment of their National Guard units overseas?
7.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	Do you agree with the current proposed level of funding for the military?
8.	ESSAY		If you agree, explain. If you disagree, how would you distribute the funds?
President Obama has not yet proposed his military funding level. I believe that it should be different from the latest funding by the last administration. It should take into account re-shaping our military to deal with the threats of the 21 st century.			
9.		X	Do you support continued funding for WHISC (the re-named Army School of the Americas)?
10.	X		Would you support congressional investigations into government contractors that have participated in Human Rights violations such as the rendition/torture flights
11.	X		Would you support legislation banning such activities in the question above?
12.	X		Will you support legislation guaranteeing the protections of the Geneva Conventions and the US Constitution to "enemy combatants" or others similarly detained by the US Government anywhere in the world?
13.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	Do you support the way the drug war is being carried on, both abroad and at home?
14.	ESSAY		What would you change? I would change the focus abroad to include more prevention and treatment programs, and the policies abroad to be in a manner more cooperative with other nations.
15.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	Do you support the way the drug war is being carried on, both abroad and at home?
Do you support			
16.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	normalization of relations with Cuba?
17.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	the Helms-Burton Act?

Energy & Environment			
	YES	NO	Do you support:
18.		X	Oil drilling in Alaska and other protected wilderness?
19.		X	Do you support any increased off-shore drilling? Explain I believe that we need to start to end our dependence on foreign oil by starting an aggressive alternative energy production program. This will create green collar jobs not only in Illinois, but across the U.S.
20.	X		Lower National Carbon emissions goals?
21.	X		National Energy Efficiency goals?
22.		X	Coal Liquefaction?
23.		X	Increasing use of Nuclear power for electric generation?
24.		X	Mountaintop coal strip mining?
25.	X		Increase user fees for grazing, mining and lumbering on Federal lands?
26.	X		Kyoto Protocols?
27.	X		Biodiesel mixture and agri-biodiesel production tax credits?
Transportation			
			Should the federal government have primary funding responsibility for
28.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	infrastructure improvements?
29.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	highways?
30.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	mass transit?
31.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	high-speed rail?
32.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amtrak?
33.	X		Air transportation?
34.	ESSAY		Please comment on specific proposals
The federal government should have a responsibility for mass transit funding along with state and local governments. I believe that before federal dollars are given for large scale projects, the projects should fit into a comprehensive regional and national transportation program.			
Taxes and Economic Policy			
			Do you favor
35.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	a more progressive income tax?
36.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	a flat tax?
37.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	a national sales tax?
38.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	reduction of the capital gains tax?
39.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	taxing capital gains at the same rate as earned income?
40.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	reduction or elimination of the estate tax?
41.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	elimination of the corporate alternative tax?
42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	reduction of the tax on stock dividends?
43.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	taxing dividends at the same rate as earned income?
44.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Increasing the Federal Minimum wage?
45.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	any other changes in our tax structure?
46.	ESSAY		I agree with the goals of President Obama's current tax goals of bringing tax relief to

		the middle class, and simplifying the tax code for many Americans.
47.	ESSAY	What changes, if any, do you support regarding Social Security?
I believe that our Social Security System should remain public. I oppose privatization of Social Security by making Social Security accounts privatized.		
48.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
		Will you support "fast track" legislation for trade treaties?
49.	ESSAY	<p>Please discuss your ideas for an economic recovery plan. Please be specific as to what criteria would be necessary for you to support such a plan.</p> <p>In order to create more jobs in Illinois we need to end wasteful spending of our tax dollars and pass a Made In America tax cut immediately. I support President Obama's stimulus plan to rebuild our economic infrastructure. I will require banks who participate in TARP (Troubled Asset Relief Program) to become transparent, and I think that the majority of the remaining \$350 billion needs to be used to reduce foreclosures on homes. I also believe that we need to create a government backed loan program for a 30 year fixed rate mortgage which will offer a 30 year fixed mortgage rate of 4% for new home purchase up to \$1 million to those who qualify. I believe that this will put more money back into the pockets of the people and also stimulate new home buying.</p>
50.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Would you support utilizing anti-trust laws against firms that are "too big to let fail?"

Consumer Rights			
51.	ESSAY		What regulations would you support to safeguard consumers from being harmed in situations such as the recent sub-prime lending credit crisis? I support legislation that would simplify the language for interest rate disclosure to consumers and have better oversight on mortgage backed securities.
52.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support a moratorium on mortgage foreclosures?
	YES	NO	Do you support
53.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	federal legislation to cap interest rates on mortgages?
54.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	federal legislation to cap interest rates on credit card interest?
55.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	federal legislation to regulate ATM fees and service charges on credit cards and other consumer loans?
56.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	allowing states to enact consumer laws which go beyond the protection of federal legislation?
Government and Ethics			
57.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support term limits?
			Do you support
58.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	public financing of Congressional campaigns?
59.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	spending limits?
60.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	abolition of PACs?
61.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elimination of earmarks?
62.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	All earmarks being made available in a searchable format on the internet?
63.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you support increased Congressional oversight of federal contracting?
64.	ESSAY		Why or why not? I believe that we need more oversight and more transparency on federal contracting.
65.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you support Congressional investigations of wrong-doing under the Bush administration?
66.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you support legislation forbidding all Senate, House, and White House staff from engaging in any political activity on government time?
Health & Human Services			
67.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support comprehensive, universal, single-payer health care?
68.	ESSAY		If not, how would you address the need for healthcare for the uninsured and underinsured? Each week over the last 10 years, I have spent one day per week going to a community health center, Near North Health Services Corp., to provide care for patients regardless of their ability to pay. I have used my skills as a doctor to provide desperately needed services to working families, retirees, unemployed, and immigrants. I believe that we

			do need to reform our health care system, and we can offer healthcare to every person in America at an affordable price. My plan mirrors the Obama health care plan which guarantees universal access to health care, and provides a health plan for the millions of uninsured people in America today.
69.	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?
70.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support funding of comprehensive age appropriate sex education programs?
71.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support increased funding for HIV/AIDS research, education, prevention, and services?
72.	ESSAY		Please discuss compulsory licensing of essential drugs where needed, in the US, Africa, Asia and elsewhere. I believe that there should be a mechanism for compulsory drug licensing in certain circumstances, but should not be abused to the point where it discourages future discovery and innovation. This should be a cooperative collaboration between groups such as US public health officials, the World Health Organization, and pharmaceutical manufacturers.

	YES	NO	Do you support
73.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	federal funding for stem cell research?
74.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	legislation prohibiting stem cell research?
Do you support			
75.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	the Human Life Amendment?
76.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Freedom of Choice Act?
77.	X		parental or spousal notification or consent to obtain an abortion? (Yes for parental notification.)
78.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	restoration of Medicaid coverage of abortion?
79.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	a ban on so-called partial birth abortions?
80.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	insurance coverage for abortions for federal and military employees and their dependents?
Do you favor increased funding for:			
81.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	supplemental food programs for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)?
82.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	food stamp allowances?
83.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Head Start?
84.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	school lunch programs?
85.	ESSAY		What services, if any, should be offered to those whose time on Welfare has run out and do not have adequate income to support themselves and their families? Services should be provided to care for those people along with programs designed to have them enter the work force.
Do you support			
86.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	increased funding to develop affordable housing?
87.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	restrictions to ensure development of low-income rather than market rate housing?
88.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	a National Affordable Housing Trust Fund to build, rehabilitate and preserve at least 1.5 million units of housing, 75% of which would be rental housing for households with income below the poverty level?
89.	X		protection against housing discrimination for holders of Section 8 housing vouchers?
Do you favor			
90.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	increased federal aid to public education?
91.		X	vouchers, tuition tax-credits or other any direct public support for parochial or private schools? (I would support these if it did not decrease the funds for public schools.)
92.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	Are the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act the most effective way to advance student achievement?
93.	ESSAY		If not, what plan would you propose? I have been a high school teacher, and currently am a full time professor at Northwestern University Medical School. Nearly 20 years in education has taught me that unfunded mandates and inflexible unrealistic benchmarks are not an effective way to improve education. I believe that the No Child Left Behind Act is seriously flawed. I support accountability for progress; however I believe that NCLB is focused too much on test scores. Teachers and schools need to be held accountable, and efforts should be

			made to improve, no punish underperforming schools.
Law, Justice, and Correctional System			
		Do you support:	
94.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	admissibility of illegally obtained evidence?
95.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	electronic eavesdropping?
96.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	roving wiretaps?
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?
	YES	NO	
100.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	criminalization of hate crimes?
101.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Congressional oversight of the NSA?
102.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Real ID program?
103.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Changes to the Military Commissions Act?
104.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation prohibiting racial profiling in law enforcement?
105.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you favor detention of suspects and material witnesses without charges and/or probable cause?
106.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you favor giving such detainees access to counsel?
107.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Would you support legislation authorizing or prohibiting secret military tribunals?
108.	ESSAY		Please explain your position.
I believe that secret military tribunals should be prohibited.			
109.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation banning torture and inhumane treatment of detainees under US control?
		Do you support legislation to ban the manufacture, sale and possession of	
110.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	handguns?
111.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	assault weapons?
		Do you support legislation	
112.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	mandating background checks of purchasers of weapons at gun shows, through the internet and through print advertisements?
113.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	increasing penalties for illegal resale of weapons?
114.	ESSAY		What restrictions, if any, should Congress enact or repeal regarding the scope of federally funded legal services for the poor?
I do not believe any restrictions on legal services for the poor should be enacted.			

Civil Liberties and Civil Rights			
115.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support DC statehood?
116.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you favor repeal of the Patriot Act or any of its provisions?
117.	ESSAY		Please explain your answer
<p>The Patriot Act has many provisions in it that deny Americans their basic civil rights. I am a strong advocate for national security, and believe that we can have security, protect our civil rights, and abide by the Geneva Convention.</p>			
			Do you support
118.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	repeal or revision of the Posse Comitatus Act?
119.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	prioritizing family reunification as criteria in granting visas and processing citizenship and permanent resident applications?
120.	<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?
121.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		amnesty for undocumented immigrants currently in the country? I support this when combined with a path to citizenship.
122.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building a US-Mexican border fence or "wall"?
123.	ESSAY		What immigration reforms do you support?
<p>I support legislation regarding penalties for employers who habitually break immigration laws. I believe that overall we cannot support and reward illegal activity, and we must hold employers accountable for breaking the law in hiring undocumented immigrants.</p>			
	YES	NO	Do you support
124.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	federal legislation to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, employment and education?
125.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act?
126.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	a Constitutional amendment prohibiting states from recognizing gay marriage or civil unions?
127.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal recognition of all state marriages for federal benefit purposes?
128.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you support legislation allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military?
129.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support prior government restraint of the press?
			Do you support
130.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	prayer in public schools?
131.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	moment of silence?
132.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		faith-based initiatives?
			Do you support mandatory drug testing
133.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	in private employment?

134.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	in public employment?
135.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	Do you support mandatory AIDS testing for insurance or employment?
136.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation to redress inequities in pension benefits for women?
137.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support the Equal Rights Amendment to the US Constitution?
Labor			
			Do you support
138.			repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act? (I would have to know what provisions for unions and businesses would replace the act after a repeal to answer this question.)
139.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	a prohibition on permanent replacement of strikers?
140.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	giving federal employees the right to strike?
141.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	the Employee Freedom of Choice Act? (I would support it if it protects a worker's right to unionize, and if there were provisions that prohibits both union and employer intimidation.)
142.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	a federal public works program to ensure full employment?
143.	X		Do you support Affirmative Action with specific goals, targets and timetables for federal employment, grants and contracts?
144.	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?
145.	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?