

IVI-IPO 2009 SUBURBAN TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS & MUNICIPAL MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS (CLERK OR TREASURER) QUESTIONNAIRE

DATE 3/4/09 CANDIDATE FOR Northfield Township Trustee
NAME Catherine Caporusso
VOTING ADDRESS 2534 Essex Dr. Northbrook IL 60062
HOME PHONE 847 715 9596 BUSINESS PHONE 312 933 0655
CAMPAIGN ADDRESS 1926 Waukegan Rd, Suite 310
CAMPAIGN PHONE 847-998-1002 FAX 847-486-0230
CAMPAIGN MANAGER Andy Chusid
NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED Slated by Caucus NUMBER REQUIRED Slated by Caucus
WEBSITE: www.northfielddems.org

Please provide the following background information:

Elective or appointive public and/or party offices previously held including dates.
None.

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

Principal business, educational, professional and civic activities of the past ten years.
Law Office of H. Candace Gorman 1997-2005 – employment and civil rights law
Law Office of Catherine Caporusso 2006-present – employment and civil rights law
Legal Assistance Foundation, 2007 – present - part-time staff attorney at the federal court *pro se* assistance office
National Organization for Women – various positions, including President of Chicago and Northwest Suburban chapters
Women Employed Advocacy Council
Illinois National Employment Lawyers Association, Board Member
University of Illinois at Chicago, Lecturer
Illinois Women’s Institute for Leadership, 2006 Graduate

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

I have a degree in political science, a law degree, and a great deal of experience with non-profit organizations working on behalf of working parents.

Activities for other candidates. Please be specific.

I have worked as a volunteer for many candidates, including Clinton, Gore, Kerry, Christine Cegelis, Lee Goodman, Dan Seals, and Daniel Biss. My activities were primarily canvassing and legal assistance on election day.

Please list all endorsements you have received so far.

I have been endorsed by the Illinois NOW PAC, Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan, State Senators Susan Garrett and Jeff Schoenberg and State Representatives Elaine Nekritz and Karen May.

As concisely as possible, state why you feel you should be endorsed over the other candidate(s). What goals for the office you seek are most important to you personally?

I believe that I should be endorsed because I have a demonstrated commitment to working for the public interest and can help to change the way that Northfield Township operates, to enact real ethics reform, and end the nepotism. I also would reduce the township reserves to the levels recommended by Dan Hynes and use the money to invest in social services, which are so badly needed in today's economy.

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

The budget for the democratic slate of 7 candidates is \$25,000. We have raised \$15,000 so far. We have a fundraiser scheduled with Attorney General Lisa Madigan on March 23 where we are planning to raise a substantial amount of contributions to help fund our campaign.

How many people are on your campaign staff? How many volunteers are on your list?

The slate has one staff member and a list of over 100 volunteers.

1. What are your top priorities for this office?

To enact substantial ethics reforms that will end nepotism; to control waste, including excessive overtime; to keep only a 3-6 month reserve, and release the remaining reserves to reinvest in funding social services and programs for children, seniors, and the disabled.

2. What changes if any would you propose to the current budget, both revenue and expenses?

In addition to the above, I will work to reduce the costs to the township by coordinating services (such as road work) with other units of local government. I hope that such cost-cutting can result in a reduction of the tax levy.

3. a. Do you support affirmative action based on race, gender and sexual orientation in establishing criteria for hiring and promoting public employees?

I support affirmative action for qualified applicants and employees, not for family members of or donors to township officials.

b. Do you support affirmative action as a criterion in letting contracts?

I support affirmative action for qualified low-cost contractors, not for family members of or donors to township officials.

4. Do you favor restructuring the wage scale of employees to institute gender-equal pay for jobs of comparable worth?

Yes.

5. Do you support patronage in hiring and promoting public employees?

No.

6. a. Do you support employing municipal/township staff who hold other public sector jobs concurrently?
No.

b. Do you support employing municipal/township staff who have either outside employment or contracts with entities which do business with the municipality/township?
No.

7. In what circumstances should the municipality/township contract for outside professional services and what criteria should exist for letting contracts? Please comment on any existing abuses and how you would correct them.

When the township requires outside services such as audits and legal counsel, contract bids should be solicited. Whenever possible, contracts employing residents of the township and “green businesses” should receive preference. Contracts with family members of and political donors to township officials should be prohibited.

8. Will you or have you accepted campaign donations from current or potential suppliers or employees?
No I have not and I will not.

9. Who are your top 5 contributors and how much has each contributed to your campaign?

The top contributions to the slate I am running on include:

\$5,000 – The Democrats of Northfield Township

\$500 – Tenth District Democrats

\$500 – Mary Reynolds

\$500 – Dr. Kathy Barth

\$500 – Tracy McCormick

\$300 – my grandmother Dolores O’Malley

\$250 – State Senator Susan Garrett

Additionally, we have received several donations from friends and family members averaging \$75 each.