

IVI-IPO 2006 COUNTY COMMISSIONER QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 1

DATE January 7, 2006 DISTRICT: 6th, Democratic PARTY:

NAME: **Robert L. Ryan Jr.**

VOTING ADDRESS: 18228 Burnham Ave. Lansing, IL 60438

HOME PHONE: (708)474-2000 BUSINESS PHONE: _____

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS: 18228 Burnham Ave. @ present

CAMPAIGN PHONE: 708 474-2000 FAX: 708 474-2000

EMAIL: _____ WEBSITE: _____

CAMPAIGN MANAGER: _____

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED: 913 NUMBER REQUIRED: 468

Please use an additional sheet to complete the following background information:

- 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? 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 2006 COUNTY BOARD COMMISSIONER QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 2

	YES	NO	
1.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support removing the cap on the number of abortions performed at Stroger Hospital?
2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the distribution of County funded health facilities sufficient?
3.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Does your district need additional health care facilities? Access, to facilities is the key. The sixth district is erratically drawn the needs of the south-east portion which lies contiguous to the state line needs to be balanced with those of the northwestern part of the district. The south suburbs in general need more governmental services.
4.			How would you solve the budget gap while still ensuring that health and other basic human services would continue to be provided? Fiscal responsibility and reform, both of which I am well disciplined. Specifically, the county has to many supervisors relative to employees, patronage has to cease, skilled workers need to be employed and a day's work is required for a days pay. Contracts have to be bid properly and no more "pay to play."
5.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you favor a freeze in the property tax rate? No tax increases until fiscal responsibility is in tact, and waste is rooted from the system.
6.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support extension of the 7% property tax cap beyond the expiration date? Until education is properly and equitably funded, we cannot further burden all our homeowners. The 6 th District is continuously loosing homeowners to Indiana because of the tax burden.
7.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Should County Board approval be required prior to the creation of TIF districts in Cook County? ** I proposed TIF reform legislation while in the legislature because of the big box abuses.
8.			What should be done by the County Board to foster affordable housing, including subsidized housing? Need to partnership more closely among the spectrum of federal and municipal leaders to insure that needs of those are met not only in housing but also in employment so people can afford to live independent of government. The sixth district lacks affordable housing, in part, because of the excessive tax burden. This excessive tax burden not only is driving our homeowners out but also our businesses.
9.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you support equitable geographic distribution of affordable housing throughout the county?
			Will you support an amendment to the County Human Rights Ordinance to protect Section 8 voucher holders from discrimination in housing
10.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	in buildings of any size without exemptions?
11.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	if owner occupied buildings of 6 or more units were exempted? The south suburbs have been discriminated relative to subsidized housing. The section eight housing has been steered to the south suburbs and has further burdened the already fiscally strapped municipalities. Those that need help need to be placed where they can be helped.
12.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support lifting the moratorium on restoration of Forest Preserve land?

13.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support the sale or transfer of forest preserve land to private interests? Not unless there is a net benefit to the preserve relative to there core mission.
14.			What proposals do you support to reduce overcrowding at Cook County Jail and the Juvenile Temporary Detention Center? Right now the County Jail is not as overcrowded as it once was given the reduction in crime statistics. We do however need highly trained staff not built on patronage. The juvenile detention Center is a fiasco, dangerous to its young clientele and needs total reform.
15.			What should the County Board do to ensure that the Juvenile Temporary Detention Center provides adequate educational and vocational services to detainees? Hire skilled individuals rather than patronage hacks.
16.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support separating violent from non-violent offenders?
17.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support separating juvenile from adult offenders?
18.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you favor work-release, electronic monitoring and other alternative sentencing programs?
19.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support drug testing of potential or current County employees? Only in those positions where the courts have had that the public could be at risk, i.e. transportation, criminal justice and health care workers.
20.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support Affirmative Action? Patronage has subverted the goals of affirmative action. Patronage has caused it to a political game of bogus participants.
21.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you favor restructuring the wage scale of county employees to correct disparities based on gender by instituting equal pay for jobs of comparable worth?
22.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support patronage? NO, NO, NO!!!!, see above.
23.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you favor extending the Civil Service System to replace patronage in County employment?
24.			What should be done to eliminate patronage abuse in county government? Strict enforcement of the Shakman Act.
25.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you favor permitting county employees to hold other public sector jobs concurrently? This is a very complex issue that warrants discussion. I'm against:"double dipping" but where do we draw the line. The problem is not holding two positions but rather the conflicts that it gives rise to. I took a leave of absence while serving in Legislature. The whole issue is dependant on ethical standards.
26.			In what circumstances should the County contract for outside professional services? The county should contract outside when appropriate. However, proper bidding practices need to be enforced and be highly scrutinized to ensure the services are actually needed and not just a political reward.
27.			In what circumstances should competitive bidding for contracts be required? Please comment on any existing abuses. In all cases, we are dealing with the publics' money. The county is overrun by abuses. As a Trustee I was outspoken in raising our local ordinance to mirror the State's higher level.
28.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Would you support contracting for outside services with companies located outside of Cook County? Why or why not? There are situations possibly where a technical service made not be available within the County.
29.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will you accept or have you accepted campaign contributions from current or potential suppliers, employees or outside contractors?

30.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the County Ethics Ordinance adequate?
	ESSAY		Why or why not?
Given the publicized and documented abuses, how can it be adequate? FYI my opponent previously chaired the Ethics Committee.			
31.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support public financing of campaigns for this office?
32.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support a campaign expenditure limit?
Based upon a dollar equivalent per previously cast vote total.			
33.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you be a full-time Commissioner?
34.			What other employment, if any, do you intend to hold?
Nothing that would conflict with the full time responsibilities of the Commissioner's Position. Again, I was a Full time legislator.			
35.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you open an office in your district?
36.			What will you do to ensure community involvement in identifying the concerns of the residents of your district?
As a legislator we routinely held town hall meetings, publicized newsletters and conducted surveys. In our short tenure we professionally staffed an office and became to be highly regarded for its constituents services. I am proud and honored to say that we did one heck of a job and I look forward to doing the same as Commissioner.			
37.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Should candidates for Board President be prohibited from running concurrently from a district?
Willing to discuss. This goes back to the issue of conflicts of interest and to whom are you beholden. Is your priority the respective District or is County as a whole.			

THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS SOME PRESSING ISSUES. THE FOLLOWING BIOGRAPHY ADDRESSES LETTERS A THROUGH J OF PAGE ONE OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE. I WILL HOWEVER LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT I HAVE BEEN POLITICALLY INVOLVED WITH MY PARENTS IN PROGRESSIVE INDEPENDENT POLITICS SINCE THE 60'S. IRRESPECTIVE OF THE BIG NAMES LIKE SCARIANO, MIKVA, RAYSON, AND SIMON MY BIGGEST PLEASURES WERE SUPPORTING THE CANDIDACIES OF MY FATHER AND MOTHER. MY FATHER WAS HONORED WITH SEVERAL IVI-IPO ENDORSEMENTS AND MY MOTHER SERVED ON THE BOARD. ALL THESE YEARS I HAVE TRIED TO CARRY ON THE FAMILY'S TRADITION OF INDEPENDENCE. I FOUND MYSELF REDISTRICTED OUT OF THE LEGISLATOR DURING THE LAST RE-MAP BECAUSE OF THAT FAMILY INDEPENDENCE. CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING AND OUR CHOICE IS SIMPLE

- The incumbent is a political puppet for the president, has voted for every tax increase and she is absent from her responsibilities at least 50% of the time.
- **THE OTHER DEMOCRATIC OPPONENT IS A PRODUCT OF THE SYSTEM AND HAS ALREADY NOTED THAT HE SEES NOTHING WRONG WITH "POLITICS AS USUAL."**
- I AM INDEPENDENT AND VOTED AGAINST EVERY SINGLE FEE OR TAX INCREASE IN THE LEGISLATURE.

I will be honored to have the IVI-IPO Endorsement!

Biography

Bob was the State Representative of the old 79th Legislative District. As Representative he sponsored and lobbied extensively for the passage of several key pieces of legislation. The most notable of which are the Amber Missing Kids Alert Act and the Military Family Relief Assistance Act. He also sponsored an inquiry into the billing practices of the utility companies. As a freshman legislator, the Lawyer's Assistance Program, Inc. honored him as "Legislator of the Year". Bob had a 100% voting record for working families by the AFL-CIO, a 100% voting record on environmental issues by the Sierra Club and a 100% voting record for education by the Illinois Education Association. Bob was a full time legislator who also worked diligently on health-care reform, consumer protection, prescription drug reform and disabled citizen issues. Bob did not vote for a single tax increase and was honored to be a member of the Labor Committee.

Ryan has served conscientiously on the Lansing's Village Board since March of 2003. He routinely questions the billing ledgers and recently took exception to audit oversight and competitive billing practices. Trustee Ryan is proud that, working with the Lansing Police Department and Local School Officials, he and the board took his Amber Alert legislation to a higher height by establishing a volunteer system by which the IDs of the children of the village can be digitalized, captured, cataloged and more easily be accessed in the advent of a child abduction. Ryan drafted, passed and pursued other municipalities to do the same in regards to a resolution opposing the proposed Cook County Hotel and restaurant Tax increase.

Bob Ryan's profession is integral to the banking community and the safety and soundness of the public's money. Mr. Ryan has been employed as a Financial Institutions Examiner, of The Department of Financial & Professional Regulation, formerly known as The Office of Banks & Real Estate, for nearly 24 years. Mr. Ryan is one of the first examiners to be certified as a fraud examiner, subsequent to his accreditation by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, Austin Texas. Bob was the state's representative in a national intergovernmental technology initiative (GENESYS PROJECT) conducted in Washington D.C. Most recently, Bob's expertise has found him as a lead regulator in the combatant of money laundering and other BSA and Patriot Act matters. He has received clearance and has been trained in the utilization of the financial crime enforcement database. Since his employment as a Financial Institutions Examiner, Bob has successfully completed a consortium of professional curriculums. He continues to participate in ongoing education at the FFIEC Center in Washington D.C.

Bob Ryan lives in Lansing and has been a life long resident of the 6th District of Cook County. He was educated in Lansing's public school system, is a graduate of North Central College, Naperville, IL and compiled numerous credit hours of graduate curriculum at DePaul University, Chicago. Bob is a parishioner of St. Ann Church, a member of AFSCME ~ Council 31, lifetime member of the Illinois Citizens Coalition of Disabilities, a member of the Sons of American Legion, Edward Schultz Post #697 and greatly enjoys all water and snow sports.