

# 2019 IVI-IPO CHICAGO ALDERMAN QUESTIONNAIRE

**Part I: Instructions for questionnaire completion, file naming and saving, and submission.**

**Part I: Instructions for questionnaire file naming and saving, completion, and submission.** From within your Word processor, please answer all questions in Part I (Instructions and Candidate Details) and Part II (Issue Questionnaire). This questionnaire uses special formatting features: please see the specific instructions below for each type of question.

## **Question Type: Yes/No and Short Answer**

- Please click within the appropriate box to mark your answer for each yes/no question.
- If you wish to add comments to a yes/no question, or if elaboration is requested, you may click within the gray rectangle directly below the question text (next line, flush-left) to type your answer. The rectangle will expand to accommodate the length of your entry.
  - by adding a paragraph return at the end of the question and typing your comments in the same cell as the question. Use such comments only when clarification is necessary.

## **Question Type: Select Choice(s), rank choices, etc.**

- These begin with a prompt (e.g., “I am a member of the following groups:”) then ask you variously to “select one” or “select all that apply” or “rank from 1 highest to 4 lowest”). If you wish to elaborate, you may click within the gray rectangle directly below the question text (next line, flush-left) to add text.

## **Question Type: Essay**

- Click within the gray rectangle directly below the question text (next line, flush-left) to type your answer. The rectangle will expand to accommodate the length of your entry. Please answer the questions at the length you deem sufficient. It is OK if your comments cause tables, etc., to shift

pages. ***Saving and Naming Your Questionnaire***

Please follow the form detailed below exactly. Your questionnaire was downloaded to your computer as a Microsoft Word file (docx) with a generic name that identifies the office for which you are running. After you complete your questionnaire, but before submitting, you must save your

questionnaire as a PDF file and give it a new name to which you will append your personal name and the election year as specified below.

## **General**

### **Form:**

- If you were running for a suburban mayor's office, your downloaded file (doc) name would be: Mayor\_SUB\_f
- You must save-as a PDF file (.pdf) and replace the "f" part of the downloaded file name with your last and first name and add the election year.
- Use capitals for the first letter of your last and first name and lowercase for the rest.

## **Specific**

### **Example:**

- Suburban Mayor candidate Elizabeth Rias would rename the Mayor\_SUB\_f file to: Mayor\_SUB\_RiasElizabeth2019

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# **2019 IVI-IPO CHICAGO ALDERMAN QUESTIONNAIRE**

## **Part I: Instructions for questionnaire completion, file naming and saving, and submission.**

*If you are familiar with file saving routines, you may skip the step-by-step instructions below.*

### **Step-by-Step Instructions for saving as a PDF file and personalizing your questionnaire file name:**

1. Open your completed questionnaire in your word processor.
2. From the FILE menu, select "Save a Copy" (or "Save As").
  - 2.1. In the dialogue box that appears, find the pull-down list that shows the file type. It will show .doc  
or  
.docx.

2.2. Click on the small triangle within the file-type box and select the “PDF” (.pdf) option from the menu

2.3. BEFORE selecting the “save” or “export as” option (varies depending on your computer platform set-up), rename your file.

2.4. You will see the generic questionnaire title in a fill-in box (e.g. Mayor\_SUB\_f) with the first word identifying the office for which you are a candidate and the second indicating the jurisdiction (in the example, Mayor, suburban) followed by an underscore and the letter “f.”

2.5. Click on the generic name field to highlight the name.

2.6. Then, click just after the END of the generic title (so that the entire file title is no longer highlighted but the field is active).

2.7. Backspace once to eliminate the “f.”

2.8. Type your last name then first name, using appropriate capitals and lower-case letters (no space necessary: e.g., JohnsonJuan).

2.9. Add 2019 (the election year).

**2.10. Your file name should look like this (but with your specific office and name):**

Mayor\_SUB\_JohnsonJuan2  
019

3. BEFORE SELECTING “Save” look to be sure you are saving the file to the location you want (if you need to change the location, click on the file path and navigate to the location you wish to save the file (e.g., your desktop, a specific folder, etc.)

4. Make sure you remember this location: this is the location you must navigate to when you

attach your

file to an e-mail and submit to the IVI-IPO. ***Submitting  
Your Completed Questionnaire to the IVI-IPO***

- Your properly named PDF file (see above) completed questionnaire should be attached to an e-mail and sent to: [iviipo@gmail.com](mailto:iviipo@gmail.com).

*Thank you for your  
participation!*

**Please go to the next page to begin your  
questionnaire.**

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## **2019 IVI-IPO CHICAGO ALDERMAN QUESTIONNAIRE**

### **Part II: Candidate Contact**

#### **Information Part II: Candidate Contact Information**

\*Answers to Part II questions with an asterisk\* will be redacted prior to public distribution.

**1. DATE:**

**12/27/18**

**2. NAME:**

**Berto**

**Aguayo**

**3. WARD:**

**15th**

**4. PARTY AFFILIATION:**

**Democrat**

**5. VOTING ADDRESS\*:**

**6. MAIN PERSONAL**

**PHONE\*:**

**7. BUSINESS PHONE\*:**

**8. CAMPAIGN PHONE:**  
**773.407.2603**

**9. CAMPAIGN FAX:**

**10. PERSONAL  
EMAIL\*:**

**11. CAMPAIGN  
ADDRESS: 2608 W 47th  
Street**

**12. CAMPAIGN  
WEBSITE:**  
**bertoaguayo.org**

**13. CAMPAIGN  
MANAGER: David Hommy  
Gonzalez**

**14. CAMPAIGN MANAGER  
PHONE: 401.996.9661**

**15. CAMPAIGN MANAGER  
EMAIL: [david@bertoaguayo.org](mailto:david@bertoaguayo.org)**

## Part III: Candidate Background Information

**16.** How many petition signatures were you required to file? 473

**17.** How many petition signatures did you file? 2,136

**18.** Elective or appointive, public or party, offices previously held (*including dates*). Back of the Yards College Prep Local School Council Member-Community Representative

**19.** Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate. Back of the Yards College Prep Local School Council Member-Community Representative

**20.** What is your primary occupation?  
Community Organizer

**21.** Briefly list your civic activities of the past ten years.

Community Organizer, The Resurrection Project

Co-founder, #IncreaseThePeace initiative

National Leadership Trainer, Obama Foundation

Youth Director, St. Michael's Church

Local School Council Community Representative,  
Back of the Yards College Prep

Civic Seminary Fellow, Citizen University

Multicultural Leadership Academy, Latino Policy  
Forum

Aspen Ideas Festival Scholar, Aspen Institute

Illinois Lincoln Laureate Award, The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

Hoops in the Hood Director, Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council

Congressional Intern, Office of United States Senator Dick Durbin

My Brother's Keeper Cabinet, City of Chicago

Mayoral Youth Commissioner, Mikva Challenge

Intern, Illinois Coalition of Immigrant and Refugee Right

Student of politics and history, University of Havana, Cuba

Representative, Chicago Earthquake Relief Delegation

**22.** What experience have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek?

I am a local school council member, a community organizer, a youth director at St. Michael's Church, and I was a national leadership trainer with the Obama Foundation. I am the first in my family to

attend college, graduating with high honors from Dominican University with dual bachelor's degrees in Political Science and Economics. As a lifelong resident of the Back of the Yards neighborhood and a product of an immigrant family, I have been a fierce voice against gun violence and a champion for immigrant rights. My work in Back of the Yards, Brighton Park, Gage Park and West Englewood has been recognized nationally as a solution to prevent violence in Chicago.

I could tell you about how I opened a community center, how I mobilized thousands of people to combat gun violence, or how I crafted city wide policy to reduce gang violence. But, what makes me truly qualified to represent the 15th is my

experience of going through the struggles that our community faces every day. I know what it's like to lose friends at a young age. I know what it's like to be in overcrowded classrooms and what it's like to move from place to place because of unstable housing. At the end of the day, we need someone in office that can read policy with those set of experiences in mind and the capability to change them.

**23.** Please list any candidates have you supported in past elections and specify your role in each campaign.

Chuy Garcia for Mayor, Youth Endorsement

Carlos Rosa for Alderman, Canvasser

Emanuel Chris Welch, Canvasser

Chuy Garcia for Congress, Volunteer

Marie Newman for Congress, Volunteer

**24.** Which candidate, if any, are you supporting for Mayor? N/A

**25.** Please list all endorsements you have received. N/A

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

Marie Newman, 1,000

Rosalba Contreras, 800

Luz M Cortez, 800

Alma Flores, 800

Futurama Academy, 500

**27.** Please concisely state (a) why you feel you should be endorsed over the other candidate(s)

and (b) what goals for the office you seek are most important to you personally?

I believe that I should receive this endorsement given my track record of grassroots organizing and the fact that I am one of the few independents in this race. I am not backed by any big politicians, the machine, or corporate lobbyists. But, I am backed by hundreds of volunteers and thousands of supporters in the 15th Ward.

**28.** What is your campaign budget and (b) how much have you raised to date?

**29.** How many paid staffers and (b) how many volunteers do you have on your campaign?

2 full-time staffers

1 part-time staffer

117 volunteers

## **2019 IVI-IPO CHICAGO ALDERMAN QUESTIONNAIRE**

### **Part IV: Issue Questions**

#### **Part IV: Issue Questions**

##### **Select all that apply:**

**30. Do you support an ordinance banning contributions in any amount from:** 30 a.  
city vendors and contractors? Yes

30 b. entities seeking licenses, permits or zoning changes? Yes

30 c. registered lobbyists? Yes

##### **Select all that apply:**

**31. Will you vote for a budget ordinance which would require:**

31 a.

Page 5 of 12 2019 public questioning of city department heads concerning their  
departments' specific budget requests?

31 b. making budget copies available to the public 30 days in advance of  
hearings? Yes

31 c.

restoring city-wide community group budget hearings several months prior to the

publication of the budget, as were held under the Washington and Sawyer administrations? Yes

**Select all that apply:**

**32. Will you support an ordinance requiring every school to have a:** 32 a. full-time nurse? Yes

32 b. full-time social worker? Yes

32 c. full-time librarian? Yes

**Select all that apply:**

**33. Do you support any of the following to be built in your ward?**

33 a.

low income rental housing that is affordable to those at 15% to 30% of the Area Median Income? Yes

## 2019 IVI-IPO CHICAGO ALDERMAN QUESTIONNAIRE

### Part IV: Issue Questions

**Select all that apply:**

**33. Do you support any of the following to be built in your ward?**

33 b.

Page 6 of 12 2019 supportive housing for people overcoming addiction and other problems which contribute to homelessness?

33 c. shelters for the homeless?

**Choose one:**

**34. Which standard should the City use to define affordable housing?** 34 b. Area Median Income of Chicago

34 c. Area Median Income of the Community Area

**Choose one:**

**35. Which of the following options for choosing the School Board do you support?** 35 a.

Popular Election

35 b. Mayoral appointment from nominations made by community representatives

35 c. Maintaining the current system of Mayoral appointment

35 d. A mix of elected and appointed members

**Choose one:**

**36. Should discretionary funds for ward services and infrastructure improvements be allocated: 36 a.**

in equal amounts to each ward

**36 b.** based on the size of each ward

**36 c.** based on the needs of each ward X

**36 c.** Other-please specify

**2019 IVI-IPO CHICAGO ALDERMAN QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Part IV: Issue Questions**

**Rank from 1<sup>st</sup> to last preference (1, first – 4, last):**

**37. Please indicate which CTA expansion plans, if any, you support and**

**rank them in order of**

**priority. 37 a.** Red Line south to 130th Street 2

**37 b.** Orange Line to Ford City Mall 1

**37 c.** Downtown-O'Hare Express 3

**37 d.** Other – please specify 4

**A. Yes/No Questions**

**YES NO**

**38.**

Page 7 of 12 2019 Do you favor restructuring the wage scale of city employees to institute gender-equal pay for jobs of comparable worth? Yes

**39.**

Will you employ or have you employed staff, in your office who hold other public sector jobs concurrently? No

**40.**

Will you support an ordinance that bars city employees and elected and appointed officials from taking on any outside employment, or other responsibility for which they receive compensation, which conflicts with the city's interests? Yes

**41.**

Will you employ or have you employed staff, in your office who have either outside employment or contracts with entities which do business with the City? No

**42.**

Will you vote for an ordinance mandating that the City contest unemployment claims by

former employees who were fired for cause? Yes

**43.**

Will you vote for an ordinance forbidding the City to hire or contract the services of anyone previously fired for cause from the City or any other unit of government? Yes

**44.** Have you joined or will you join the Independent Progressive Caucus? Yes

## **2019 IVI-IPO CHICAGO ALDERMAN QUESTIONNAIRE**

### **Part IV: Issue Questions**

#### **A. Yes/No Questions**

**YES NO**

**45.**

Page 8 of 12 2019 Do you support changing the state statute to return to filling aldermanic vacancies by special election, rather than Mayoral appointment? Yes

**46.**

Will you vote for an ordinance requiring redistricting of the wards to be based on non-partisan criteria and not to benefit any specific individual or political party? Yes

**47.** Do you support a two, 4-year term limit, for Mayor? Yes

**48.**

Will you or have you accepted campaign donations from current or potential suppliers or employees? No

**49.**

Will you or have you accepted campaign donations from people or businesses seeking zoning changes in your ward? No

**50.** Do you support a progressive City income tax for Chicago? Yes

**51.**

Will you institute participatory budgeting to allow ward residents to vote on discretionary spending in your ward? Yes

**52.** Do you support creation of a public bank for Chicago? Yes

**53.**

Will you vote for an ordinance requiring independent analysis and evaluation of any lease or outsourcing arrangement at least 30 days prior to any City Council vote. Yes

**54.**

Will you vote to hire independent analysts to conduct a forensic audit of past City spending? Yes

**55.**

Are you in favor of procedures to ensure that privatization arrangements are not being used to move patronage workers outside of the scope of anti- patronage rules or protocols? Yes

**56.**

Will you vote to terminate a TIF if the objectives of the TIF plan have been accomplished before the 23-year period is ended?

I would vote to bring back TIF funding to it's original purpose: to aid and assist in the development of blighted areas.

**57.**

Will you vote to return unspent and uncommitted TIF funds on an annual basis to the various taxing bodies? Yes

## **2019 IVI-IPO CHICAGO ALDERMAN QUESTIONNAIRE**

### **Part IV: Issue Questions**

#### **A. Yes/No Questions**

**YES NO**

**58.**

Page 9 of 12 2019 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? N/A

**59.**

Will you vote to invest substantially more in job-training and the creation of transitional job programs in disadvantaged communities, including the formerly incarcerated, homeless, youth, and non-English speakers? Yes

**60.**

Do you support the Fair Workweek Chicago Ordinance which would give employees greater control over their schedules? Yes

**61.**

If the General Assembly repeals the pre-emption of rent control consideration by local government, would you support some form of rent control for covered units of rental housing in Chicago? Yes

**62.**

Do you support the Development for All Ordinance which would eliminate "in lieu of" fees and require developers to include 30% affordable units on site? Yes

**63.**

"Will you support guarantees that some of the foreclosed properties saved through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program are made affordable to families at 40% and 60% of the Area Median Income? Yes

**64.**

Will you support policies to ensure that there is an adequate supply of affordable family sized units available to families in the Section 8 program? Yes

**65.**

Do you support the Homes for All Ordinance which would establish an automatic

approval process for affordable housing applications if not acted upon within 90 days?  
Yes

66. Will you support a city-wide lottery for enrollment in magnet schools? Yes

67.

Will you support Local School Councils (LSCs) in maintaining full powers, and support them through adequate funding levels that provide training and support for LSCs to do their jobs? Yes

68.

Will you support a moratorium on school closings until a detailed analysis of the impacts of shuffling children is completed, and a real plan to address the quality of education and safety for every child is in place? Yes

69. Will you vote to privatize Chicago's water delivery system? No

## **2019 IVI-IPO CHICAGO ALDERMAN QUESTIONNAIRE**

### **Part IV: Issue Questions**

#### **A. Yes/No Questions**

YES NO

70.

Page 10 of 12 2019 Will you support guarantees that some of the foreclosed properties saved through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program are made affordable to families at 40% and 60% of Area Median Income? Yes

71.

Will you oppose disposal of contaminated dredging sediment from the Cal- Sag Channel within Chicago city limits? Yes

72.

Will you consult with neighborhood residents before approving permits that could affect air or water quality? Yes

73. Do you support election of the Chicago Park District Board? Yes

74.

Do you support prioritization of land acquisition and capital improvements first to those neighborhoods which are underserved by existing facilities? Yes

75. Will you vote to increase the City subsidy to the CTA? Yes

76. Do you support privatization of Midway Airport? No

77.

Do you support re-allocating police services from low-crime to high-crime neighborhoods? Yes

78.

Will you vote for more funding for alternative crime prevention programs such as Cease

Fire? Yes

**79.**

Will you support an ordinance codifying the provisions of the Consent Decree regarding the duties and accountability of school resource officers? Yes

**80.**

Do you support the proposed Civilian Police Accountability Council (CPAC) Ordinance? Yes

**81.**

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

**82.** Do you support affirmative action as a criteria in letting city contracts? Yes

## **2019 IVI-IPO CHICAGO ALDERMAN QUESTIONNAIRE**

### **Part IV: Issue Questions**

#### ***A. Yes/No Questions***

**YES NO**

**83.**

Page 11 of 12 2019 Do you favor restructuring the wage scale of city employees to institute gender-equal pay for jobs of comparable worth? Yes

**84.**

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

#### ***A. Essay Questions***

**85.** What are your top priorities for the Ward?

The most pressing issue facing constituents is incessant gun violence that we witness in our neighborhoods. We plan on tackling the root causes of gun violence that would make someone pick up a gun in the first place. We can expand programs like One Summer Chicago to give more young people jobs in our communities, so they can pick up a job instead of some bullets. We can increase the amount of funding for mental health services to have more social workers in schools and more mental health clinics in our neighborhoods. Last but not least, we can increase the amount of funding schools receive to ensure all youth have a quality education and are not forced into desperate situations. We

are open to exploring other measures. Moreover, the issue of gun violence is one that disproportionately affects young people and we believe that our campaign has the most qualified track record working on this issue and with the population most affected by the issue.

**86.**

Do you intend to hold employment other than alderman? No If so, how will you divide your time between your aldermanic duties and your other occupation (please note the minimum hours per week you will spend performing your aldermanic duties)? No

**87.** How will you involve ward residents in planning?

In the 21st century, the role of an Alderman is a much more that of an organizer. We envision our office as a hub for civic organizing in the 15th Ward. We plan on developing a Youth Advisory Council to advise our office on policy impacting youth, to civically engage other young people, and to implement community service efforts. Moreover, we want to democratize the way our ward money spent. That is why, our office is committed to implementing Participatory Budgeting so that constituents themselves can decide where there money goes. Lastly, we are committed to organizing quarterly townhall meetings in each of the neighborhoods so that we can address constituent needs and plan for the future.

**88.** What is your long-range plan for development of the ward?

We plan on creating a task force made up of residents and experts to prevent foreclosures and loss of homeownership. This task force will also create, organize, and implement a long-range plan for community development driven by resident input.

**89.** What employment, if any, other than alderman, do you intend to hold? None

**90.**

Please describe your service office staffing plan, including the number of staff, full and part time, how you will pay for them, and the number of hours per week that your service office will be open.

Currently, the city of Chicago allows for \$181,774.40 for staff. We plan on hiring four staff with that amount of money. After election day, we will convene constituents in the area to decide what days and what hours should our office(s) be open.

**91.** How will you work with community groups and residents on City matters?

We are committed to strengthening existing relationships with faith leaders, community leaders, and stakeholders. Moreover, we are committed to hosting quarterly Townhall meetings in each neighborhood for residents to plan for the future and have their needs addressed.

**92.**

Should the Inspector General be able to initiate his or her own investigations of Aldermen without a complaint from outside the office? Please explain your position. Yes, I believe that the City of Chicago has been marred by corruption scandals and we should give the inspector general all the tools necessary to perform their job.

**93.** What measures will you vote for to reform the city pension plan and ensure its solvency?

The constitution should not be amended to reduce benefits for public employees. We made a commitment to those workers and cannot go back on our commitment.

**94.** What additional revenue sources, if any, would you propose?

Moreover, we can address the pension crisis through ensuring corporations are paying their fair share, advocating for a progressive income tax at the state level, and passing the LaSalle Street tax at the city level.

**95.**

Which city services or assets, if any, do you believe should be privatized and what is your criteria? As of this moment, none.

**96.** What criteria do you or will you use in determining whether or not to grant a

zoning change or

variance?

We will institute a Community Driven Zoning Board to determine any zoning changes.

## **2019 IVI-IPO CHICAGO ALDERMAN QUESTIONNAIRE**

### **Part IV: Issue Questions**

#### ***A. Essay Questions***

**97.**

Page 12 of 12 2019 How do you propose to replace property tax revenue for CPS and other taxing bodies that is lost to TIF development?

**98.**

Please discuss 911 service in your ward: are there inequities, is response time adequate. If so, how the service be improved.

Response time for 911 services in our ward is dangerously slow. We believe that the service could be improved by having more police officers on foot and in bikes rather than in vehicles.

**99.** Do you support public financing of municipal campaigns? Please explain your position.

We support the public financing of elections.