



CITY OF BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE

QUESTIONNAIRE

- 1 What is your motivation for running for this office?

I want to be the voice for the people of District 5, those of whom are often forgotten. I saw a need for change and I intend to be that change.

- 2 What is your greatest virtue, especially as applied to stewardship and the law?

I've always prided myself on doing what's right even when right isn't the most popular thing to do. I am most fulfilled when I am being of service to others. Helping others has always been an innate instinct of mine to speak up for those who can't speak for themselves. Representing the citizens of District 5 will give me the opportunity to be the voice of my community.

- 3 If you currently attend a house of worship, what is the name of it and how often do you attend?

I attend New Pilgrim Baptist Church in Titusville. I attend Sunday church service, Sunday School, and our mid- day bible study on Wednesdays.

- 4 What impact will your faith have on the performance of the duties of this office?

My faith in God makes up the very fiber of my being. As a Christian I aim to be more like Christ every day.

- 5 How will you establish a good working relationship with the elected Mayor to ensure the city's success.

I know that no one man/woman has all the answers. Working together despite differences in opinions/views is essential for the City's growth and success.

- 6 Suppose the City Council faced a development proposal that meets all the regulations, yet a large number of citizens appeared before the City Council to stop it. How would you vote?

I would consider the concerns of the citizens as well as the pros and cons of the proposed development and make the decision based on what's best for all the citizens.

- 7 How would you stay informed about City issues and what the City Council is working on?

The best way to stay informed is by staying connected to the people. Regularly attending community meetings is essential. I would like to explore creating a President's Task Force which would be made up of all the presidents of the neighborhood associations in District 5. Doing so would create a direct line of contact with the citizens.

- 8 Have you thought about any legislation you are interested in seeing the City Council enact, repeal or revise? If so, what is it? What would you propose?

One piece of legislation would be the City's Noise Ordinance. The city's growth requires revision of this ordinance. Citizens in one Birmingham community in particular are plagued with noise from outdoor concerts and parties hosted at a local business that can take place on any day of the week. I would propose exploring requiring these businesses to invest in noise barriers so that the noise from these events like these don't continue to be a nuisance to the residents of the community.

9 How will you determine the City's wants v. needs?

The same way I've had to raising my two daughters. Determining what's essential for survival and addressing those concerns first. And entertaining the "wants" after the necessities are taken care of.

10 What do you see as Birmingham's major challenges and assets?

One major challenge that Birmingham is facing is the issues of crime and safety in our communities. Our assets are many, including but not limited to the social and multicultural diversity our city offers, our economic growth and potential for continued growth, and major institutions like UAB, our city's largest employer, some of whose footprint just so happen fall in District 5.

11 How long have you lived in Birmingham, and how would you characterize the City's quality of life? How should it be improved?

I have lived in Birmingham my entire life. I would characterize the City's quality of life as fair. We can improve by first addressing the concerns of the majority instead of a small minority. Safer streets for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists is extremely important. The city's infrastructure is not keeping up with its growth.

12 What distinguishes you from the other candidates?

I am an ordinary citizen that simply wants to be of service to my community. I am not a career politician, I don't have a \$30K campaign budget or the financial support of various corporate entities. My hands on approach to life is what sets me apart. I am not afraid to do the work. Addressing the concerns of the citizens, not my personal interest, will be my main objective.

13 What issue is not getting enough attention?

Safety and Education should be top priorities right now. In my opinion the two issues work hand in hand. By giving our citizens more opportunities when it comes to education we increase the probability of them being gainfully employed thereby decreasing the chances of them turning to a life of crime.
