

Metropolitan Washington Council AFL-CIO

2018 Prince Georges/Montgomery Counties PRIMARY ELECTIONS

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Overview:

The Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO, is comprised of 180 local unions representing working people in all public industry sectors. The Metropolitan Washington Council AFL-CIO's priorities are outlined below:

- creating family sustaining jobs for all;
- investing in education, infrastructure, healthcare and transportation;
- improving the lives of workers through education, quality job training, career
- advancement and livable wages with good benefits;
- ensuring fair, progressive tax policies;
- making high-quality, affordable healthcare available to everyone;
- holding corporations and government more accountable to ensure that the public good
- · is served by taxpayer dollars; and
- ensuring that a worker's universal right to organize and to bargain collectively for
- wages, hours and conditions of work are maintained and enforced.

Metropolitan Washington Council AFL-CIO 2018 CANDIDATE'S QUESTIONNAIRE

GENERAL INFORMATION:			
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City / County Seat Pleasant Zip 20743			
Phone: 301-456-7429 Mobile 713-498-517	9 Email	krystal@votekrys	taloriadha.com
Candidate for: Prince George's County Cour	neil District	7	
Campaign Committee Name and Address: Frie	ends of Krys	tal Oriadha	
406 71st Ave, Seat Pleasant MD 20743			
Campaign Committee Phone: 301-456-7429	Email / Web	www.votekrystaloria	adha.com
Campaign Manager: Alicia Martin			
Campaign Treasurer: Ernesto Rodriguez			
Does your campaign accept PAC contributions	? Yes		
Previously elected / appointed office: N/A			
Office Term	Office]	Геrm
Have you ever received labor's endorsement?		When?	
Answer: I am a first time candidate and have Local 25, Casa In Action, PGCEA, SEIU 32B	e been endor	sed by the following	g: UNITE HERI

PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY YOU SEEK LABOR'S ENDORSEMENT:

I believe that our values are aligned. The current federal administration is waging a war on the working class. We must be proactive in protecting unions. I believe that as a Democrat, it is my responsibility to act now to support unions and provide opportunities for them to grow. We have an opportunity to protect unions and worker rights on the local level, however, the current local government in Prince George's County is not driving an agenda focused on helping workers. For example, I would like to see more Project Labor Agreements in the county, more investments in apprenticeship programs, and more legislation passed versus

just support for best practice standards. I will fight together with AFL-CIO to protect workers, unions, and improve the quality of life in our community. SIGNATURE: DATE: 5/4/18 Please return your signed questionnaire by Friday, May 4, 2018 to the below address: Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO Attn.: David Dzidzienyo 815 16th St NW, Washington, DC, 20006 Submissions can also be e-mail to ddzidzienyo@dclabor.org 2018 Candidate Questionnaire A. Workplace Rights: (Please answer by checking the box) There are certain basic workplace rights that the unions and members of the Maryland State and District of Columbia AFL-CIO believe are fundamental and absolutely essential. Collective bargaining elections and representation are permitted for private sector employees, whereas for public sector employees in Maryland, legislation is required in order to have those same rights. Over the past decade, these rights have been given to many state, higher education and K-12 public school education employees and some county employees. However, thousands of public sector employees are still denied these rights. 1. Would you support comprehensive collective bargaining legislation that would provide collective bargaining rights (including exclusivity, binding arbitration and an independent labor board) for all public employees-local, county, school boards and state? X Support ☐ Oppose □ Not sure What is your position on each of these fundamental rights? 2. The right of workers to organize and have union representation X Support □ Oppose □ Not sure 3. The right to freely exercise workplace rights free from harassment, intimidation and/or delays X Support ☐ Oppose □ Not sure 4. The right to bargain collectively with a legal obligation on both sides to negotiate in good faith X Support ☐ Oppose □ Not sure 5. The right to resolve differences in a fair, impartial and timely manner, including binding arbitration X Support □ Oppose □ Not sure

Metropolitan Washington Council: AFL-CIO 2018 PG/Montgomery Counties Primary Election Candidate

Questionnaire

The National Labor Relations Act grants private sector workers the right to organize themselves and be represented by a union in collective bargaining negotiations. From time to time, opponents of collective bargaining propose legislation to curtail workers' bargaining strength and effectiveness. Under the innocuous sounding name of "Right-to-Work," this legislation purports to protect the rights of workers and improve the state's economic development climate. But the net result in Right-to Work states is that workers earn less, have fewer health care benefits and have higher job fatality rates. Right to Work laws prohibit workers from negotiating a "union shop" or "union security" clause in their contracts. Such a clause obligates those in the bargaining unit to pay their fair share of the collective bargaining representation costs. By wiping out that protection, Right to Work actually weakens the rights of working people.

out that protection, Right to Wo	rk actually weakens the rig	thts of working people.
6. Would you support F	Right to Work in Maryland	?
□Yes	X No	□ Not sure
legislative voice through a frient to give rank and file members requiring unions to spend an	idly sounding proposal cal more control over how the incalculable amount of fect is that it would make	t years to stifle labor's political and led "paycheck protection." It proposes eir dues money is spent. It does so by time and money jumping through e it virtually impossible for unions to has.
7. What is your position	on the so-called paycheck	x protection idea?
☐ Support	X Oppose	□ Not sure
	2 public school employee	e law and receive part of their funding es in each county, community college llective bargaining.
8. What is your position employees?	n on granting collective ba	argaining rights to community college
X Support	\Box Oppose	□ Not sure
obligated to represent every we	orker in the unit. Even went them fully and fairly. It	g representative, that union is legally when some people choose to be non- n other words, those who pay dues are

9. In your opinion, should a union be permitted to collect a service fee from non-members for the cost of union representation as long as there are protections for those

who object on religious grounds?

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	Questionnaire	a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a	mery countries riminary Election Candidate
	X Yes	□ No	□ Not sure
В.	Health Care: (Please answer b	by checking the box)	
	This includes a pervasive pract sufficient number of registered patients and studies show incr Another manifestation of this p times in the country, according one clear cause of this is underswould you pursue to protect ar clinics? Do you support manda Do you support measures to linacute care hospitals to nursing he	alth care decisions based ice by hospital corporate nurses taking care of pareases morbidity and maroblem is that Maryland to the US federal Cente staffing in the ERs and and improve the quality atory, minimum nurse-to mit unsafe, premature domes or other sub-acute pital patients warehouse	re industry increasingly undermine the districtly on the needs of their patients. Joins not to have on shift at all times attients, a practice which is dangerous for ortality rates among hospital patients. It has the longest emergency room waiters for Medicare and Medicaid Services; other units of the hospitals. What steps of patient care in county hospitals and oppatient ratios in acute-care hospitals? Iischarges of patients or transfers from facilities? Do you support legislation to the ed in "observation status" with fewer
	deductibles that prevent them from of uninsured people in the state by of Medicaid in Maryland, it is so Maryland's population (i.e., oversituation will get worse if Carely requested 52% rate hike from Congressional Republicans have pass (unsuccessfully thus far) no million people, including the exchanges. But even without the	the country have inadequent of the passage of the p	rylanders, have no health insurance and uate insurance with high co-pays and his is an improvement from the number Affordable Care Act and the expansion state's registered nurses. Over 10% of cannot afford to see a doctor.[1] This ant health insurance carrier, obtains its Administration. President Trump and situation much worse by attempting to hat will deny care to an additional 22 andent on Medicaid and the ACA ed changes, the US still ranks poorly licators, despite paying more per capita
	 Do you believe that hea administered, single-payer implement such a plan in t 	r universal health care sy	ght? Are you in favor of a publicly- stem? Will you champion legislation to
	X Yes	□ No	□ Not sure
	occupation. Do you suppo	ort legislation that would	related, musculoskeletal injuries of any require that hospitals institute and utilize ects the rights of nurses to speak out

regarding unsafe patient care practices?

Metropolitan Washington Council: AFL-CIO 2018 PG/Montgomery Counties Primary Election Candidate

	X Yes	□ No	□Not sure
	The rates of workplace viola proportions. The Bureau of La from occupational assaults and settings. Healthcare workers spindustries combined, to be the have passed comprehensive registered nurses and other heamust mandate that every hosp conjunction with registered nurseffect at all times in every un procedures, annual program sufficient staffing to respond creation of a comprehensive workers in Maryland?	abor Statistics showed that 4 deviolent acts occurred in he decifically are five times more victim of assault. Thus far, Coworkplace violence prevent althorate workers. In order to bottal develops a workplace verses that is unique to the neat. It must include hazard in evaluation, in-person training to workplace violence incidence.	8% of all non-fatal injuries calthcare and social service clikely, than all other major alifornia is the only state to the effective, such a standard violence prevention plan in eds of each unit, and is in dentification and correctioning for all employees and dents. Do you support the
	X Yes	□ No	□ Not sure
As heal quality l	th care costs continue to escala health care services.	ate, many Marylanders do no	t have access to affordable
4.	☐ Do nothing/monito X Adopt a state uni	eral government to fix or the situation wersal health care system to the uninsured but leave priv	•
Educat	ion: (Please answer by checking	g the box)	
1	. Would you support returning	g to an all-elected Board of Ed	lucation for PGCPS?
	X Yes	□ No	□ Not sure
2	2. Would you support removing returning the CEO position to	g all authority of the Country I o that of Superintendent as out	Executive from PGCPS? Including clined by the State.
	X Yes	□ No	□ Not sure
3	Will you as an elected office the Prince George's public so	ial commit to providing a bud shool system and the necessary	dget that will fully support resources needed?
	X Yes	□ No	□ Not sure
4	. Do you support collective bar	gaining for teachers in Charte	er Schools?

D.

Metropolitan Washington Council: AFL-CIO 2018 PG/Montgomery Counties Primary Election Candidate Questionnaire

at public	charter schools	ryland law regarding are members of PC s to rights as other un	Public Charter Schools teachers GCEA, therefore I believe they nion members.
X	Yes	□ No	□ Not sure
progress has been ma	ade since 1999 and		on systems in the country. Much the Thornton Commission and the tions.
5. Do you su	pport Full Funding	for Thornton?	
X	Yes	□ No	□ Not sure
Accountability/Econ	omic Developmer	at: (Please answer by c	hecking the box)
	sidized economic		roving government transparency and Many states and municipalities have
As an elected Count apply):	y official, will you	introduce and suppo	rt legislation to (Please check all that
reporting for each		omes with regard to job	al as originally granted, and annual os created, wages and benefits paid,
			ent projects receiving County subsidies, red for a specified level of financial

C.

X Establish job quality standards for economic development projects receiving County subsidies, such as the number of hours that must be worked per week, provision of paid leave, provision of health insurance, apprenticeship participation, and wage standards

X Recapture or rescind subsidies if a recipient fails to achieve its job creation, wage and healthcare requirements

X Require annual reporting of companies receiving County property tax abatements and reductions

X Require a publicly accessible unified economic development budget that provides a comprehensive accounting of economic development spending all in one place

E. Standing with the Democratic Party: (Please check all that apply)

Every four years, the Democratic Party establishes its party platform—the ideas and beliefs that govern the party as a whole. In 2016, the platform included the following tenets related to workers. As a Prince George's County councilmember and member of the Democratic Party, please indicate which of the following you support.

- X Make it easier for workers to exercise their right to organize and join unions
- X Bring companies to the negotiating table
- X Support binding arbitration to help workers who have voted to join a union reach a first contract
- X Oppose so-called "right to work" laws
- X Vigorously oppose any efforts to roll-back prevailing wage standards
- X Defend the right of workers to collect their defined benefit pensions and ensure workers get priority and protection when pension plans fail
- X Make investments to spur the creation of jobs for our young people
- X Fight to ensure every American has access to quality, affordable health care
- X Push for more educational benefits and job training for veterans

THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO MONTGOMERY COUNTY CANDIDATES

Note: Does not apply, candidate for Prince George's County

F. Extending Montgomery County's Prevailing Wage Law to Include School Construction: (Please answer by checking the box)

Prevailing wage laws assure that workers on public works projects are paid a wage that is most common or "prevailing" for a specific job in a specific geographic location. They prevent contractors from undermining local employment by low bidding or bringing in workers at lower wages.

MCPS is budgeting its school construction projects to avoid paying prevailing wages—seeking to achieve cost savings by paying construction workers as little as possible in a county with a high cost of living.

Maryland enacted its prevailing wage legislation in 1945. Montgomery County enacted its prevailing wage law in 2008, but excluded school construction projects. Consequently, MCPS construction is governed solely by the State's prevailing wage law. The threshold for applying the State's prevailing wage law occurs when the state funds 75% or more of total project costs.

According to OLO Report 2017-4, "New School Construction Costs," by Stephanie Bryant, to avoid paying prevailing wages on its school construction projects, MCPS does not request more than 24.9 percent of state funding for any school projects.

1. As a Montgomery County elected official, will you introduce and support

□ Yes	□ No	☐ Other (explain l	below)	
Comments:				

. Establis	shing a Montgomery Co	ounty PLA Ordina	nce: (Please answer by checking the box	к)
also hav	Labor Agreements (PLA re the added benefit of bur provide family healthcar	ilding community p	to bring in projects on time and on budgertnerships with contractors and unions areer path for residents.	get. They to hire
south Control HOT La	United Soccer Stadium, t apitol Street Bridge in W mes in Virginia, among c	the Wizards Practice Vashington, DC; the others. This pipeline ds and another begin	ecuring PLAs on a wide range of project e Facility, the Northeast Boundary Tunne Purple Line in suburban Maryland; and of projects enables laborer apprentices to as, accumulating the hours they need to ing wages.	el, and the the 395 to move
County I \$1 millio funded c	Executive has had expression or more. In the Distriction projects value	ss authority since 20 et of Columbia, a landed at \$75 million of	es. For example, in Prince George's Cou 111 to execute PLAs on County-funded p w was passed in 2016 requiring PLAs on more, unless the Mayor indicates in wr	orojects of city-
		ounty elected officia	istrict. l, will you introduce and support legisla	tion
	· DI A			
	the County Executive not be in the best inter	indicates in writing	projects valued at \$20 million or more un why a PLA on a particular project would	nless
	the County Executive	indicates in writing	orojects valued at \$20 million or more un why a PLA on a particular project woul	nless
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	the County Executive not be in the best inter	indicates in writing rest of residents?	why a PLA on a particular project woul	nless

2.	Will you sign PLA's	per Current county law?
	□Yes	□ No
3.	Will you adopt appr	enticeship readiness programs with RFP's on County projects?
	□Yes	□ No

THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY CANDIDATES

H. Strengthening Prince George's County's PLA Ordinance: (Please answer by checking the box)

Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) have been proven to bring in projects on time and on budget. They also have the added benefit of building community partnerships with contractors and unions to hire locally, provide family healthcare, pensions, and a career path for residents.

Across the DMV, LiUNA has been successful securing PLAs on a wide range of projects, including the DC United Soccer Stadium, the Wizards Practice Facility, the Northeast Boundary Tunnel, and the South Capitol Street Bridge in Washington, DC; the Purple Line in Maryland; and the 395 HOT Lanes in Virginia, among others. This pipeline of projects enables laborer apprentices to move from project to project as one ends and another begins, accumulating the hours they need to graduate and become journey workers earning family-supporting wages.

While the County Executive for Prince George's County has had the express authority since 2011 to execute PLAs on County-funded projects of \$1 million or more, only one project (the Brandywine Firehouse in 2012) was built with a PLA. There has been virtually no effort by the County Executive to utilize this authority since then.

1. As a Prince George's County elected official, will you introduce and support

legislation to require PLAs on County construction projects valued at \$20 million or

Comments: Yes, I think that it is important that we put policy behind our values. If we hat we support unions and the working class, then our policies should rehose values. I also believe that all projects under the set threshold should neet union standards regarding things like wage and paid sick leave.	X Yes	\square No	☐ Other (explain below)	
nat we support unions and the working class, then our policies should re nose values. I also believe that all projects under the set threshold shou					
hose values. I also believe that all projects under the set threshold shou					
neet union standards regarding things like wage and paid sick leave.					
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Prince Geor	rge's C	county has pockets o	f poverty and high	n unemployment. According to The W	orkforce
Landscape :	<i>in Prir</i> es that	nce George's County horder the District o	, nearly 10 percer	at of residents live in poverty, and man remployment rates in the double-dig	ny of the
Oxon Hill,	Blader	sburg, Capitol Heigh	hts, and Hyattsvill	e.	its, including
Desnite the	se dire	statistics the Count	v's local hiring or	dinance only sets "best efforts," aspir	ntional goals
for County	contra	ctors. In contrast, oth	ner jurisdictions th	at have adopted local hiring ordinance	es have
established	very s	pecific requirements	for their contracte	ors, and levy fines when violations oc	cur. Some of
tnese jurisa	ictions	include the District	of Columbia, San	Francisco, Pittsburgh, Seattle, and M	ilwaukee.
2				cial, will you introduce and support le	
	am ratl	end the County's loc ner than "best efforts	cal hiring and appropriational of	enticeship ordinances to set firm requested for County contractors?	irements
	1441		or aspirational g	contractors:	
		X Yes	□ No	☐ Other (explain below)	
		omments:			
	Y	es, as I mentioned b	pefore I think we n	nust move past just encouraging bette	er
	p e	ractices, and start in qualizer. Creating ai	nplementing bette n opportunity for y	r policies. I believe education is an oung adults to learn a trade and have	
	th	e opportunity to wo	rk in that field is a	key part of uplifting a community	

			ner-control specialises
L			
order to protect our ne convert valuable hous entals that would trace easonable cap on the	eighborhoods and con ing to de facto hotels is short-term rentals, amount of days a hos	nave grown exponentially in the inmunities against commercial op, do you support stronger regulat limit them to primary residences at can share their home while not	perators we ions of shapet, and put
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X Yes	□ No	☐ Other (explain below)
Comments:		
es, I think it is ou	r job to negotiate	a deal that provides the best for our
ommunity. I thin hat when commur	K tnings like LPA' iities are being dev	's and CBA's are great ways to ensure veloped they are also benefiting the
eopie that live the	ere not just develoj	jeis.
es, I believe that	Unions are needed	to protect worker's rights. I will ir right to organize because I believe
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George's

- I. Transportation: (Please provide your response on a separate sheet).
 - 1. Going into WMATA's FY2019 budget season, politicians, community groups, labor, and business groups have weighed in on the dedicated funding debate. If you are elected, what would you propose to provide WMATA dedicated funding, and how would you navigate the politics of the situation and unite the jurisdictions around your proposal?

Answer: Bus and Rail Transit are relatively important to a significant proportion of my potential constituents. Personally, I am a strong proponent of public transit. I believe that dedicated funding is necessary to ensure the long-term viability of WMATA. Now that legislation just passed to provide dedicated funding to WMATA, I would advocate to ensure that the funding stayed in place and was allocated properly. I would also work to ensure marginalized communities where addressed first.

2. In the last few months, there have been several major safety concerns that have been raised publicly by ATU Local 689 leadership and members. From operator assaults to issues with the 7000 series trains, the public has seen that WMATA management doesn't seem to be able to create a true safety culture at WMATA. How would you work with and support employees who raise safety concerns and are ignored?

Answer:

I believe we need elected officials that are advocates first not career politicians. That means that you use your platform to amplify the needs of the people you represent. I will always be the person that is willing to step up to the front lines of any issue that is adversely affecting my community. I will make sure that people are held accountable for their actions and inaction.

There are three institutional avenues available to support employees and others who raise safety concerns and are ignored. The first is to testify before the WMATA governing board at public hearings. The strong voice of an elected official can make a difference if well informed and clear. Second, advocacy on behalf of a strong safety culture through membership on WMCOG can also place the issue front and center. I would work to ensure that the County representative take a strong stance on the WMCOG Board on this issue at its regular meetings. Finally, the County Council itself can hold hearings on safety, assuring a voice for those who have something to say. Through those hearings, reports, and resolutions that follow, they can influence the County delegation to act in Annapolis to prod WMATA to act on public and employee safety concerns.

3. In addition, how would you work with labor to help tackle the larger issue of establishing a safety culture at WMATA and solving some of the recent safety issues, like operator assault, that have been brought to the forefront?

Answer: I believe that we have to be proactive and always think of ways in which we can improve. We should have a "think tank" that addresses issues such as safety and run pilot programs, so we can roll out new policies and guidelines with ease. It is going to take people at the table that don't mind thinking outside the box and understand, if one method does not work, you don't stop trying you just go back to the drawing board.

4. With the recent revelation that WMATA and ATU Local 689 have reached an impasse in negotiations due to their inability to agree regarding the employee's defined benefit pension, many politicians and advocates for privatization have tried to make a case for lowering "labor costs" by eliminating hard earned, very basic worker protections. How would you champion worker protections and change the narrative surrounding "labor costs" and defined benefit pension costs?

Answer:

I will always work to defend workers' rights. I believe that as an elected official you have to be willing to stand up and fight alongside the people you represent. There has been this long-standing narrative with more conservative politicians that Unions and workers are the problem, even though, we see that the executive level continues to get larger salaries and mismanage funds. We need to force them to answer the question - Do they believe that hard working people deserve healthcare for their family, to be able to put a roof over their heads, to be able to take of their kids when they are sick without losing their job, or do they think that is a luxury that only they deserve? Workers are not asking for more, they are asking for what is right and what they have earned.

Shifts away from defined benefit pension systems have done little if anything to guarantee the security of retired workers, no matter what the occupation. Privatization is a particularly problematic solution, as in the case of pensions, it tends to raise the costs to the worker while reducing retirement benefits and security.

5. In the last six months, there has been a lot of discussion surrounding the possibility of the establishment of a federal control board to run WMATA. If that happened, the possibility of eliminating legally binding labor contracts would become a reality, endangering thousands of workers. What are your thoughts regarding the takeover of a federal control board and would you be open to adding a labor seat to the WMATA Board?

Answer: I would <u>not</u> support establishing a federal control board to run WMATA. I would support adding a labor seat to the WMATA Board.

J. Bail Reform: (Please provide your response on a separate sheet).

Under the current money bail system, judges in Maryland typically set financial conditions of release, with little consideration as to whether the defendant can meet them. Defendants must then either pay the court or

a commercial bail bondsman to get out of jail. Those who can't afford bond often remain incarcerated until their cases go to trial, sometimes for periods of weeks or longer.

1. Maryland's highest court approved key changes to the state's bail system, setting into motion a reform designed to keep defendants from languishing in jail before trial simply because they're poor, do you support Bail Reform Efforts?

Answer: Yes, I support Bail Reform. I have been a longtime advocate for criminal justice reform and ending mass incarceration. As the Chair for Progressive Maryland's Prince George's Chapter, I have been leading a charge around bail reform. I have worked with national organizations like Color of Change to bring attention and awareness to the issues facing our community, as well as, lobby my elected officials to do the right thing around reform. I plan to use my office when elected to continue to champion social justice issues like bail reform.

K. Confederate Monuments and Memorials: (Please provide your response on a separate sheet).

At the federal level, legislation is being proposed that would prohibit the use of taxpayer funds for the creation, maintenance, or display of any Confederate symbols on Federal property. The Federal proposal defines "Confederate symbol" as a Confederate battle flag, any symbol or other signage that honors the Confederacy, any monument or statue that honors a Confederate leader or soldier or the Confederate States of America. Localities across the nation are having this debate.

2. What is your position on this matter?

Answer: I do not think that our tax dollars should be used to maintain confederate monuments. As a black woman, I take issues with us lifting up replicas of the oppression of my people, as if it is something to be celebrated, while re-writing history books to trivialize 400 years of slavery. It is important that we teach the meanings of these symbols but I think the place for that is in museums, books, and class rooms where the context of what it represents is clearly presented. We need to learn from our history so we do not repeat the same mistakes, not glorify the worst part of our past.

3. Should there be legislation removing Confederate symbols from libraries, parks, streets, and public buildings?

Answer: Yes, see answer above.

Questionnaire

Candidate (Please Print Legibly): Mystyl Original Signature: S

Metropolitan Washington Council: AFL-CIO 2018 PG/Montgomery Counties Primary Election Candidate

Thank you.