

Candidate Questionnaire

Dear Candidate,

Congratulations on your decision to run for a seat on the New York Legislature!

Citizens Union appreciates your commitment to serve the public.

In the following pages, you will find questions regarding your positions on various reform issues and your plans for office.

Responses to these questions will be one of several factors Citizens Union uses to evaluate candidates running for office, and to issue our preference for the June primary. Read more about the method, principles, and criteria of the candidate evaluation process [here](#).

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If you wish to be considered, please submit the questionnaire by June 27, 2022.

If you seek our support, we will need to schedule an interview with you as part of the evaluation process. Given time constraints and the limited capacity of a member-based organization, we may not be able to evaluate all contests or candidates in this election cycle.

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If you cannot complete the questionnaire in one sitting, you can click Save at the bottom of every page.

Once you submit the questionnaire, you will receive a confirmation email with your responses. Citizens Union will not be able to see your answers unless you submit the form. We plan to make responses to this questionnaire public on our website, printed voters directory, and other appropriate venues (your contact information will not be published).

For any questions, please email candidates@citizensunion.org

We thank you very much for your response.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name

Alec Brook-Krasny

Office Sought (New York State)

Assembly

District Number

46

In which primary

What party line/s are you running under?

Republican and Conservative

If elected, which legislative conference will you join (e.g., Democrat, Republican, other)?

Republican

Age

64

Education

Economics B.A., Engineering B.A.

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement

Former Assemblyman 46AD, Former Treasurer Community Board 13, Founder of the Council of Jewish Émigré Community Organizations, COJECO

Website

KRASNYGOP.COM

Twitter

@ALECBROOKKKRASNY

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/BrookKrasnyAlec>

Affirmations

Have you completed the required campaign finance filings?


Yes

Are you willing to be interviewed by Citizens Union's Local Candidates Committee?

Yes

(Please note: interviews are prerequisites for Citizens Union preferences and endorsements)

Signature

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'ABK', written on a light blue background.

ETHICS

What is your opinion on the recently passed ethics reform, which replaced JCOPE with a new ethics oversight agency called Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government? Did you support this policy?

Replacing JCOPE as a different agency in name only, is fruitless. A true oversight agency will have the power and ability to make changes and reforms on how government does business. I support any policy that creates transparency in government.

Do you support the new independent ethics oversight agency to also replace the Legislative Ethics Commission (LEC)?

Yes

Do you support significantly limiting outside compensation earned by state legislators and eliminate stipends, while increasing their pay?

Yes

Do you hold financial interest or serve as an officer on an entity that receives funding from the state? If you do, how will you manage this conflict of interest?

No I do not.

If needed, you may elaborate below on your positions on the previous questions. You may also provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to advance your positions on ethics issues.

ELECTIONS AND VOTING

Election Administration

How would you use your power as a legislator to improve election administration in New York? Feel free to add any policy proposals you support in regards to reforming the BOE.

As a legislator, I would promote and help pass legislation that will improve the election process. I will also insist that the BOE become more cost efficient, and train their staff and pollworkers on how to run and manage elections properly.

Do you support removing the constitutional requirement in election administration that empowers the two major political parties to nominate and effectively control election boards?

Yes

Do you support reducing the party-based hiring in boards of elections to the minimum currently required by the constitution?

Yes

Do you support implementing an open, competitive, merit-based hiring process for all election administration staff and certain functions at polls?

Yes

If needed, you may elaborate below on your positions on the previous questions.

Voting Rights

Do you support re-passing the constitutional amendment to enact same-day voter registration?

No

Do you support re-passing the constitutional amendment to enact no-excuse absentee voting?

Yes

If needed, you may elaborate below on your positions on the previous questions. You may also provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to advance your positions on these issues.

Open and Competitive Elections

Do you support easing access to the ballot for parties and independent candidates, by returning to the pre-2020 voting and signature thresholds? That includes reducing the voting threshold to become a registered party back to 50,000 votes in a gubernatorial election, and the petition requirement for independent candidates back to 15,000 signatures.

Yes

Do you support reforming the process of filling vacancies in the state legislature by implementing nonpartisan special elections or holding a primary election at least thirty days in advance of the special election?

Yes

Who do you think should draw new district maps every decade in New York? (e.g., the current Independent Redistricting Commission, the Legislature/LATFOR, a new body)

A new body, equally made up of the constituents in the area, local leaders, and some political officials should have a very strong influence on the drawing new district maps.

If needed, you may elaborate below on your positions on the previous questions. You may also provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to advance your positions on these issues.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Do you support further reducing campaign contribution limits?

Yes

Do you support setting even lower contribution limits for registered lobbyists and those who do business with the state?

Yes

Starting from the next election cycle, New York will have a public campaign finance program, offering matching funds on small donations for candidates who opt in. If you decide to run again in the next election, do you intend to participate in the program?

Yes

Do you support moving the campaign finance matching program to be administered by an independent, nonpartisan body outside of the State Board of Election?

Yes

If needed, you may elaborate below on your positions on the previous questions. You may also provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to advance your positions on these issues.

I do not believe that those that do business with the state should take part in, or influence the legislative process.

COURT REFORM

Do you support simplifying and consolidating New York State's court system - which includes 11 trial courts - by passing the Chief Judge's proposed constitutional amendment to modernize the courts?

Yes

If needed, you may elaborate below on your positions on the previous questions. You may also provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to advance your positions on these issues.

Our Court system is overburdened, confusing and redundant. It needs to be streamlined and more organized towards efficiency.

GOALS, PLANS, AND REPRESENTATION

What are the top three campaign promises or goals, and what action will you take to achieve them if elected? Feel free to reference an answer above rather than restate it.

First: Make our neighborhoods and streets safer

Second: Revise Bail Reform

Third: Improve the quality of life in our area.

If elected, what is the first piece of legislation you would want to introduce? If you are an incumbent, what is the first piece of legislation you would want to pass?

I would like to see LIVE FEED cameras installed in high crime areas of the district. Crimes may be prevented if law enforcement is allowed to become more proactive than reactive.

In providing constituent service, what are the major needs of your district's constituents and how will you meet them?

The district needs more police presence, more senior citizen housing, and a complete reassessment of real estate taxes and water sewer charges to help reduce costs to homeowners which will reduce rents.

What experience have you had, if any, with good government and reform issues? (e.g. voting and elections, campaign finance, ethics, government transparency and oversight, police accountability). If you've worked to advance these goals, we'd love to hear about it.

I have worked on many of my previous campaigns, and I find the whole election process archaic, and rather suppressive. There are too many rules that hinder the voters choice and their right to vote. In my opinion, the BOE needs a complete overhaul and become more voter friendly.

Do you currently live in this district? How long have you lived in it?

Yes, over 30 years

For incumbents: If your district has changed significantly following this year's

redistricting, how do you intend to run your office to serve the needs of the new constituents you now represent?

PATH TO VICTORY

What is your win number (the number of votes needed to win this race), and what is your plan to achieve that number?

The win number is approximately 20,000 votes.

My plan is to reach every voter possible through organization, hard work and determination.

What are your current fundraising numbers, if different than the last campaign finance filing?

40k

How many individual donors do you have?

200

Please indicate any endorsements that your campaign has received, if applicable (you can also share a link to a list of endorsements)

Kings County Republican Party, Kings County Conservative Party, and the Fiorello LaGuardia Republican Organization, in addition of many others.

ADDITIONAL INFO

Please feel free to attach any additional information such as resume, campaign brochures, or issues statements.



ABK ISSUES.docx

What else would you like us to know about yourself?

Alec Brook-Krasny is an award winning entrepreneur, a founding director of a non-profit, a long time community leader, a husband to the beautiful Aviva, and the proud father of three. Alec was born in Moscow to a shoemaker and a bookkeeper who worked at a beauty salon. He attended the Moscow Technological Institute and graduated with dual degrees in Engineering and Economics.

Arriving in Brooklyn, where he already had relatives. Alec — who spoke only twenty-one words of English — became a stock person at an East Village shoe store in Manhattan. As his English skills improved, he was promoted and became a manager. While looking for a location for his daughter's first birthday party, Alec saw the need for venues that would make it easy on parents and fun for kids. With several childhood friends as investors, he converted an old beer warehouse on Neptune Avenue into a community, entertainment, and educational center called Fun-O-Rama. Fun-O-Rama became instantaneously popular and profitable. Its success and sense of community captured the attention of industry experts, and in 1997, Alec was named "Entrepreneur of the Year" by Leisure and Entertainment magazine. He became acquainted with Councilman Howard Lasher and Assemblyman Jules Polonetsky, who appointed him to Community Board 13. Two years later Alec's hard work and leadership were recognized by his colleagues who elected him the treasurer of the community board. In 2000, he ran for the NYS Assembly and set a record for write-in votes in the City of New York (1800 votes).

In 2001 Alec ran for New York City Council. Though he didn't win, he did become close friends with his opponent Councilman Domenic M. Recchia, showing grace even in defeat. With public service still a strong desire, he founded the Council of Jewish Émigré Community Organizations, an organization that provided programs for youth, seniors, and community groups. COJECO worked closely with some larger institutions, including JCRC, NYANA, FEGS, 92nd Street Y, and many others. Alec's leadership shined again and for two years in a row, COJECO was named one of the top fifty most innovative non-profit organizations in North America.

As a local business leader, Alec was appointed to Community Board 13, and became active in local Democratic politics. He founded the Council of Jewish Émigré Community Organizations (COJECO) to bridge the gap between the Jewish-American

and the Russian-Jewish communities. COJECO was named one of the top 50 most innovative non-profit organizations in North America for 2 consecutive years. Alec was elected to the New York State Assembly, representing Coney Island, Bay Ridge, and Dyker Heights. He served on the aging, cities, governmental employees, housing, and social services committees. He received a Public Service Commendation Medal from the Department of the Army for service, support, and commitment to the military community. In 2013, his colleagues named him the Vice-Chair for Majority Steering, and Chair of the Assembly Task Force for New Americans. After 9 years of successfully representing his constituents, in 2015 Alec left the Assembly for family reasons.

This year he again decided to return to public service. "During my time in the Assembly, we achieved so much," said Alec. "We increased financial support for schools, Coney Island Hospital, and subsidized housing. We enacted anti-violence programs that made our communities safer, especially for seniors. And we worked together to recover, rebuild, and revitalize after Superstorm Sandy. After all that, leaving the Assembly was one of the hardest decisions I ever made, but it was the only way for me to help my family in a time of need. But today, I am forced to ask myself: what good is providing for your family if our institutions fail to protect them?"

Please review your answers by clicking PREVIEW ANSWERS below. You can submit the questionnaire at the bottom of the preview page by clicking SUBMIT.

Once you click SUBMIT, you will receive a confirmation email with a PDF file containing your responses. *If you don't see the email, please check your spam box.*

If you have any further questions, you may contact us at candidates@citizensunion.org

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