

Name Eli Northrup

GENERAL INFORMATION

Office Sought (New York State)

District Number 69

In which primary

Age 41

Education B.A., Cornell University. L.L.M., Georgetown University Law Center. J.D., New York University School of Law.

Current job, position, or occupation

Legal Director, Criminal Defense Practice at the Bronx Defenders

Other positions or roles

Criminal Defense Attorney at the Bronx Defenders

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement

Policy Director, Criminal Defense Practice at The Bronx Defenders, Director, The Bronx Cannabis Hub, E. Barrett Prettyman Fellow at the Georgetown University Law Center's Criminal Defense and Prisoner Advocacy Clinic

Campaign Contact Information

Website www.eli4ny.com

Twitter @EliNorthrup

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/eli4ny>

Instagram @elinorthrup4ny

Other social platforms <https://www.youtube.com/@elinorthrup4ny>

Signature

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eli Northrup".

GOALS AND PLANS

In addition to evaluating stances on the reform issues, Citizens Union considers the campaign goals articulated to voters, issues specific to the district, and the ability propose thoughtful solutions to represent constituents' interests.

What are your top three campaign promises or goals, and what actions will you take to achieve them if elected?

Defending New York from Trump: The threats are real, but we will not be intimidated. I've spent my career standing up to bullies, defending New Yorkers in Bronx Criminal Court, standing up to ICE at 26 Federal Plaza, and representing clients facing deportation. I'm uniquely prepared for what this moment requires.

As a member of the advocacy community, I know the landscape of organizations and individuals fighting for us, whether immigration attorneys or civil rights lawyers. I'll bring that same expertise and commitment to serving you, fighting for legislation like the RECOURSE Act, to allow New York to withhold payments to the federal government if they hold up money due to the state, and New York for All, to prohibit government agencies from cooperating with ICE.

Advancing the Affordability Agenda: Mayor Mamdani's affordability agenda needs Albany's support. The people who keep this city running must be able to afford to live in it. I'll champion universal childcare and the New York Health Act, social and affordable housing, and rent increase caps.

Fighting for the West Side: I'll tackle daily quality of life issues, like scaffolding, e-bikes, and noise pollution, because so-called "minor" issues become major when they're constant. So many of the small businesses that make our neighborhood great have been pushed out, and vacant storefronts fill our streets. I support a vacancy tax and closing loopholes that make it more profitable for landlords to keep storefronts empty. I'll work to protect our neighborhood institutions, local businesses, and parks.

How long have you lived in the district in which you are running, and do you have any achievements or involvement in your district you are particularly proud of?

As one of the most progressive neighborhoods in the country, the Upper West Side has frequently served as a bulwark against crackdowns from Washington and austerity from Albany. I've lived in the neighborhood since 2015 and will bring its values to the Assembly.

Although I've been effective as an advocate, I realized I can help more people as a strong, progressive voice in the State legislature. I ran for this same seat in 2024, winning over 4,500 votes and earning endorsements from the WFP, UAW, JFREJ, Zephyr Teachout, and NYC Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, among others. We've reactivated that base while carrying over the enthusiasm and volunteer energy from Mayor Mamdani's campaign.

I'm a proud member of the Three Parks Democratic Club and a founding member of the "UWS/Morningside Heights Neighbor Community" which emerged from Mamdani's mayoral campaign and now includes over 200 motivated progressives committed to fighting for his agenda and local issues. I'm a member of the W111th Street Block Association and have collaborated frequently with the Morningside Heights Community Coalition. I'm also a member of JFREJ's Uptown Manhattan community group. I've served as a legal observer with the National Lawyers' Guild during various protests, and with immigrants at 26 Federal Plaza. In May 2025, I hosted an Uptown Town Hall for Mamdani with "For the Family," and canvassed for him extensively on the Upper West Side. I'm a board member of the New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, serve on its Legislative Committee.

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

My experiences fighting to reform ethics and oversight in state government strongly inform how I plan to operate as a legislator. As Policy Director for the Criminal Defense Practice at The Bronx Defenders, I led statewide coalitions to advance justice reforms, protect due process, expand opportunity, and ensure

fairness and dignity for all New Yorkers. I have seen firsthand how inhumane and draconian New York's sentencing laws are as a public defender. These injustices led me to help found Communities Not Cages, a campaign advocating for decarceration and sentencing reform, and I sit on the campaign's steering committee. I've also spent countless days in Albany working with state legislators and coalition partners to repeal 50-a (transparency in police discipline), pass Clean Slate and Discovery Reform (robust evidence sharing in criminal cases), and fight for cannabis justice with a focus on repairing the past harm.

In office, I would work not only with my colleagues to build coalitions of support but with my constituents and activists in my district, the city, and the state. In all of my advocacy work, I have partnered with community members, unions, and those directly affected to build coalitions that can effectively demand change. I intend to carry that approach with me into the Assembly. I will work with my colleagues to shepherd bills through the legislative process, but I will also bring those colleagues to the people. Together, we will build coalitions that cannot be ignored by the legislature or the Governor.

ELECTIONS AND VOTING

1. Do you support opening up New York City's closed primary system, allowing over 1 million unaffiliated voters that are currently locked out of the election to participate in the primary election?

Yes

2. Will you oppose any attempt to permanently remove redistricting protections from the state constitution, including existing protections of minority voting rights, population equity, ban on political gerrymandering, and consideration of communities of interest?

No

Comments (optional)

I believe this question implicates A9014 introduced by AM Lasher which would allow the state Legislature to engage in off-year redistricting if another state moves to do it first. Given what we are seeing from the Federal Government, I feel like New York should have this option to protect our democratic values. This legislation is popular in my district as well. However, I will fight to protect minority voting rights, population equity, ban political gerrymandering, and consider communities of interest.

3. Do you support reforming the process of filling vacancies in the state legislature by implementing nonpartisan special elections (like the system used in New York City) instead of giving party officials the power to decide who will run as the party nominee?

Yes

4. Do you support restructuring the New York City Board of Elections to make it more professionalized and transparent, and less dependent on political parties (S699 Krueger/A1852 Rozic)?

Yes

5. Do you oppose requiring registered voters to show ID to vote in New York State?

Yes

6. Do you support providing time extenders for polling place voting hours in cases where an emergency leads to voting being disrupted or shut down? (S4602A Gounardes/A5846A Gibbs)

Yes

7. Do you support the Democracy During Detention Act (S440 Myrie/A2121 Walker), which establishes the election infrastructure to make voting accessible for all those eligible to vote who are detained in jails?

Yes

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

8. Are you a public campaign finance participant? If not, please explain why.

Yes

9. Are you a supporter of the state's public campaign matching funds program, and do you commit to ensuring the program is fully funded?

Yes

10. Do you support requiring disclosure of a contributor's employer in campaign finance reports? (S1910 Rivera/A3092 Carroll)

Yes

11. Do you support requiring Independent Expenditure entities (Super PACs) to disclose their top three donors on ads, similar to the requirements under NYC law? (S8445 Fahy/A10097Solages)

Yes

12. Do you support applying lower contribution limits to lobbyists and people doing business with the state or seeking contracts from the state? New York City imposes lower contribution limits for registered lobbyists and individuals doing business with the City.

Yes

ETHICS

13. Do you support requiring lobbyists to report their campaign contributions and fundraising activity, as well as campaign consulting services they provide?

Yes

14. Do you support including lobbying regarding a nomination or confirmation of a nominee that requires Senate confirmation in lobbying reports? (S374 Gianaris/A7456 McDonald)

Yes

15. Do you support codifying sexual harassment as conduct that violates the public officers and employees code of ethics? (Gounardes S4197/Kelles A6201)

Yes

POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY

16. Do you support giving the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board access to certain sealed and confidential records in matters involving potential police discipline? (S4966 Bailey/A292 Cruz)

Yes

17. Do you support transferring disciplinary hearings involving police officers from the NYPD to the Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH)? (S3927 Myrie)

Yes

REVISING CITY CHARTERS

15. Do you support banning the establishment of “lame duck” charter revision commissions, established by mayors right before the end of their term? (S8934 Liu)

Yes

16. Do you support mandating that charter commissions conduct their process over a mandatory minimum timeline of 180 days before issuing recommended ballot questions to a city's charter?

Yes

ADDITIONAL INFO

What else would you like us to know about yourself?

For any resources and more information, go to www.eli4ny.com