

# Candidate Report Sheet for Interviews

Candidate Name BARACK OBAMA  
Office Sought SENATOR - 13<sup>TH</sup> STATE LEG. DIST.  
Incumbent? No Questionnaire Answered? YES  
Date of Interview 9/9/96 Party DEMOCRAT

Did the candidate disagree with any IVI-IPO positions? (Be sure your remarks include the candidate's position on patronage.) ELECTED ICC

Is the candidate's campaign viable? Yes 10 No 0  
Undetermined 0

Place of interview 5623 S. DREXEL HOME OF ALAN AND LOIS DUBRY  
Other candidates being interviewed in the same session ROSETTE PEYTON

Please record endorsement motions and votes below and indicate which, if any, prevailed. (Options are to endorse, find two or more candidates qualified, or to take no action.)

MOTION TO ENDORSE BARACK OBAMA - MOTION PASSED  
13-0-0

(Members evaluating must sign reverse side.)

IVI-IPO GENERAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

CANDIDATE FOR State senate, 13th Legislative District PARTY Democratic

NAME Barack Obama

VOTING ADDRESS Chicago, IL 60615

HOME PHONE BUSINESS PHONE

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS /Chicago, IL 60649

CAMPAIGN PHONE

CAMPAIGN MANAGER Carol Harwell

Elective or appointive public and/or party office previously held including dates.

This will be my first elective office.

Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate.

I have not previously been a candidate.

Principal business, educational, professional and civic activities of the past ten years.

See biography attached.

What subjects have you studied and what experience| have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek?

See biography attached. My experience and training as an attorney, coupled with my background as a community organizer, will allow me not only to be a strong advocate in Springfield, but also enable me to mobilize residents in the district. My civic involvement in issues of education, the environment, and economic development also gives me the policy background necessary to be effective.

Activities for other candidates. Please be specific.

I have been a financial supporter of such candidates as David Orr and Alice Palmer; I have worked actively on voter registration and education efforts throughout the county.

Please list all endorsements you have received so far.

The 4th, 5th and 6th Democratic Organizations, Aldermen's Preckwinkle and Steele; the New Party.

As concisely as possible, state why you feel you should be endorsed over the other candidates(s).  
What goals for the office you seek are most important to you personally?

I feel I combine the professional background, organizational experience and long-standing commitment to social justice issues and community involvement that will make me effective not only in Springfield but also in the district. My top priority is ensuring that our young people are nurtured and supported through fully-funded public schools, and that a coherent job creation strategy is instituted at the state level to create more jobs at livable wages.

Please outline the place of patronage, personnel codes, race, gender and sexual orientation in establishing criteria for hiring and promoting public employees.

I do not think there is any place for patronage or any type of discrimination in the hiring and promoting of public employees, and will ensure that such policies begin in my own office practices. I am a strong supporter of affirmative action programs that ensure qualified minorities, women, and gays and lesbians are actively recruited and supported at all levels of government.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

# BARACK OBAMA

**BARACK OBAMA** received his BA in Political Science from Columbia University. He spent five years working as a community organizer, first in Harlem, then in Chicago.

In 1988, **OBAMA** enrolled in Harvard Law School. There he served as the first African-American president of the Harvard Law Review and was a member of the Executive Board of the Black Law Students Association. He graduated Magna Cum Laude.

In 1992, **OBAMA** served as Illinois Executive Director of PROJECT VOTE!, an effort that added over 100,000 newly registered voters.

In 1993, **OBAMA** was named by Crain's Chicago Business as one of "40 under 40" outstanding young leaders in the city of Chicago. He is the recipient of the 1995 Legal Eagle Award from IVI-IPO for his work in bringing Illinois into compliance with the National Voter Registration Act (Motor Voter). His commentaries have been heard on National Public Radio and his memoir Dreams of My Father will be published by Random House in August, 1995.

**OBAMA** works as a civil rights attorney with the firm Davis, Miner, Barnhill and Galland. He specializes in employment discrimination, fair housing and voting rights litigation. He also lectures at the University of Chicago Law School, where he teaches civil rights law and related subjects.

In addition, **OBAMA** serves on the boards of several organizations including: the Chicago Annenberg Challenge (Chairman), the Joyce Foundation, the Woods Fund of Chicago, the Center for Neighborhood Technology, the Chicago Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law and Public Allies. He is also a member of the Cook County Bar Association.

**BARACK OBAMA** is married to Michelle Obama and is a member of Trinity United Church of Christ.

INDEPENDENT VOTERS OF ILLINOIS-INDEPENDENT PRECINCT  
ORGANIZATION

ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY QUESTIONNAIRE - 1996

ELECTIONS

1. Do you support:
- moving the primary election date? If so, to May, June, July or September?

Yes; to May

- keeping voters' political party preferences in the primary election secret?

Yes

- eliminating straight party voting in general election?

Yes

- appointment of year-round administrative election judges?

Yes

- any other changes in Illinois' election law?

Campaign finance reform, including the institution of contribution limits, disclosure of contributors' professions, and state-financing of campaigns.

2. Should Illinois citizens be required to complete separate forms to register to vote in State and Federal election?

No

3. Do you support Merit Selection of judges? If yes, please give a brief description of the system you support. If no, are there any changes to the present system that you support?

I generally favor merit selection, whereby an independent commission made up of both attorneys and community residents with staggered terms would submit a list of qualified individuals to the chief executive officer of the relevant jurisdiction.

4. Do you believe that appointments to judicial vacancies should be based on nominations from local review panels?

Yes

## FINANCE

5. Do you support:
- instituting a graduated income tax?

Yes

- maintaining the current corporate/individual ratio?

I strongly favor a graduated income tax for both individuals and corporations that would shift an increasing burden on corporations and individuals most able to pay.

- increasing the \$1000 personal exemption?

Yes, but as a part of a shift to a graduated income tax.

- increasing income taxes to relieve or replace local property tax?

Yes.

6. Will you vote to increase state funding to at least 50% of public education costs?

Yes.

7. Do you support vouchers or other means of public funding for private or parochial schools?

No.

8. Do you support:
- public financing of election campaign?

Yes.

- extending the same campaign disclosure requirements for ward and township committeemen throughout the state?

Yes.

- permitting state employees to hold other public sector jobs concurrently?

No.

9. Do you support land-based or riverboat gambling for Cook County?

No.

10. Will you support legislation requiring citizen referenda at the state or local level before land-based or riverboat gambling is expanded? If so, at which level and why?

Yes, and at the state level, because of the inevitable impact that expansion of the gaming industry would have throughout the state, and the potential domino effect that would result if these decisions were made solely on the local level.

#### **CIVIL RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES**

11. Do you favor adding sexual orientation to the Human Rights Act? Do you favor domestic partnership legislation?

I favor both proposals.

12. Do you favor amending Professional Regulation legislation to prohibit discrimination against board-certified graduates of foreign schools?

Yes.

13. Do you support mandatory AIDS testing for insurance or employment?

No.

14. Do you support mandatory drug testing for public or private sector employees? Under what circumstances?

I oppose such legislation except for those narrowly-defined occupational categories, such as railway engineers, where drug use on the job might endanger public safety.

15. Should state police be allowed to stop vehicle operators to test DUI on grounds other than probable cause?

No.

16. Do you support the recently passed legislation permitting employers to eavesdrop on the telephone conversations of their employees?

No.

#### **LABOR**

17. Do you favor restructuring the wage scale of state employees to institute equal pay for jobs of comparable worth?

Yes.

18. Do you support the right of public employees to strike?

Yes.

19. Do you support banning the replacement of strikers in private employment?

Yes.

20. Do you support family leave legislation for private employment?

Yes.

21. What is your position on:

a. raising the minimum wage?

I support raising the minimum wage to assure that any employee working full-time enjoys a livable wage.

b. establishing a lower minimum wage for minors?

I am opposed generally to a lower minimum wage for minors; in a chronically slack labor market, such a system discourages the employment of adult workers.

c. including farm workers and household employees under existing labor laws?

I support such legislation.

#### HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

22. Will you support a single-payer health plan for Illinois? How would Medicaid be incorporated into the program you support?

Yes in principal, although such a program will probably have to be instituted at a federal level; the long-term objective would be a universal care system that does not differentiate between the unemployed, the disabled, and so on. The state can move more aggressively to expand coverage to the currently uninsured, perhaps through a managed care system with a sliding scale of premiums and copayments.



23. What program changes, if any, do you support to improve the present state mental health program?

A further review of the current system is required in light of the ACLU's recent critique of the system. Immediately, we need to increase per capita funding to make community based facilities function effectively.

24. Do you support:

a. Medicaid funding for abortions?

Yes.

b. insurance coverage of abortions for state employees?

Yes.

c. parental consent/notification for minors seeking abortions?

No.

d. any other restrictions on abortions?

No.

25. Do you support additional funds for the Department of Children and Family Services to enable the hiring of a sufficient number of caseworkers?

Yes.

26. Do you support:

a. cost of living adjustment for public aid recipients?

Yes.

b. workfare?

I oppose arbitrary time limits or work requirements that fail to take into account the lack of entry-level jobs. I do favor measures that would expand child care, day care, transportation subsidies, and sustained job training that actually encourage welfare recipients to enter the workforce.

c. restrictions on welfare benefits for teenage mothers?

I oppose such restrictions.

d. restrictions on welfare benefits for women who have children while on welfare?

I oppose such restrictions.

e. repeal of the six month limit for receiving general assistance?

I support such a repeal.

f. restoration of the Aid to the Medical Indigent program?

I support such a restoration.

g. energy assistance programs for the poor?

I support such programs.

27. Would you support "repair and deduct" legislation, which would allow tenants to withhold rent to make repairs to ensure "habitability"?

Yes.

## ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

28. Do you support the retail rate law which requires utilities to purchase power generated by waste incinerators at retail rates? why or why not?

Yes (this was accomplished this week)

29. Do you support an elected ICC?

Yes.

30. How do we balance our need to protect our environment with our need for economic development? Your comments may include: enforcement of pollution statutes, recycling and waste management, state purchasing practices and economic development issues.

A commitment to environmental quality is not only compatible with a strong and healthy economy, but a necessary condition for economic growth. The state needs a comprehensive plan for developing a sustainable economy that would include a) job training in the environmentally-related sector; b) brownfield cleanup; c) incentives for environmentally friendly industries; and d) state purchasing that rewards recycling and helps develop a market for recycled material. Illinois should also authorize the Illinois EPA to assess penalties for violations of environmental regulations.

## TRANSPORTATION

31. Do you support a third Chicago, South Suburban Cook County or Peotone airport?

No.

32. Do you support:

a. inter-city high speed rail?

Yes.

b. the current formula for allocation of funds to CTA, Metra and PACE?

CTA's share should be increased.

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE

33. Do you support:

a. admissibility of illegally obtained evidence?

No.

b. electronic eavesdropping?

No.

c. police radar?

Yes, if not abused.

d. prior government restraint of the press?

No.

e. state censorship of the arts?

No.

34. Do you support:

a. capital punishment?

No.

b. criminal prosecution of juveniles as adults?

No.

c. mandatory sentencing?

No.

d. work release, home monitoring, other alternative sentencing?

Yes.

35. Do you support state legislation to:

a. ban the manufacture, sale and possession of handgun?

Yes.

b. ban the manufacture, sale and possession of assault weapons?

Yes.

c. mandatory waiting periods, with background checks, to purchase guns?

Yes.