2023 Register of Wills Candidate Questionnaire

Name: ____________________________  Campaign Manager’s Name: ____________________________

Campaign Website: ____________________________  E-mail: ____________________________

Phone number: ____________________________  Date: ____________________________

Instructions

Please complete the following questions on this form and return by email to gmgilman@gmail.com. Note: Although these questions are uniform, we recognize that the perspective of the incumbent and challengers will differ based on whether your viewpoints arise from within or without the Office.

I. Background

1. Please describe your professional and educational history and how it prepares you for the position of Register of Wills.

2. Why do you want to hold the Office of The Register of Wills & Clerk of Orphans’ Court? What skill set do you bring that qualify and make you stand out for this position?

3. How much money have you raised, and how much do you anticipate raising? What is your plan to win?

4. What endorsements have you obtained and what others do you expect?

II. General Duties of Office
5. Please briefly explain the mission of the Office of The Register of Wills & Clerk of Orphans’ Court. To whom, or to what department, is this office accountable?

6. Why is The Register of Wills important?

7. How does this office interact with and affect the citizens of Philadelphia? Has that interaction increased or decreased? Why or why not?

8. What is the annual budget, and what expenditure classes take up a good portion of it, whether salaries, programming, or other items?

9. What are the staffing needs? Is there room for growth or changes in job numbers, skills, or requirements?

10. Do you see a need for an increased budget to perform this work?

11. How much revenue does your department generate annually? Are there departmental expenditures that aren’t covered by City appropriations, and do they require you to find other ways to supplement your department? What, if any, other financial resources do you use to supplement expenditures for your department?

12. Would you support efforts to have your department revenues deposited into a Public Bank? Would that create any additional positive/negative actions on the part of your department?

13. Are your department revenues going to the City of Philadelphia General Fund or some other place?

14. Are you in support of the Wealth Tax and do you believe it would have any possible effects on the citizens going through probate and/or any additional work this office would have to perform?

15. What type of programming and changes have been implemented over the past three years, and how successful have those changes been? How would you measure that success?

16. What additional programming and changes, would you like to implement that would benefit the public? (i.e., internships, technology, status of old records, documentation, archiving, storage, and historical preservation)

17. How diverse is this office compared to three years ago?

18. There has been some controversy around office hiring practices that have folks questioning the incumbent’s leadership ability. Please speak to that.