

Public Advocate Candidate:

Below is the Jim Owles Liberal Democratic Club's Public Advocate Candidate Questionnaire.
Please fill it out and return to jimowles@gmail.com

Candidate Name: David Eisenbach

Campaign Address: 201 E12th St

Campaign Website: <http://publicadvocateeisenbach.com>

Campaign Telephone: 9175281492

Campaign Social Media Handles (Facebook/Twitter): David Eisenbach FB, Eisenbach4NY
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Campaign Contact (name/phone/email):

- Do you now support or have you ever supported an openly LGBTQ candidate for public office? Yes Tom Duane, Danny O'Donnel, Deborah Glick, and Mel Wymore and I actively worked to get Corey Johnson elected as City Council Speaker by organizing a city hall press conference against his main opponent last year.
- If applicable, what legislation directly affecting the LGBT community have you introduced or co-sponsored? (indicate accordingly) I am leading the fight for the Small Business Jobs Survival Act which will protect the stores, bars, restaurants that are essential to the character of all our communities including the LGBTQ community.
- What LGBT organizations have you been involved with, either on a volunteer basis or professionally? I have been involved with the Columbia Queer Alliance as a professor of LGBTQ history and a mentor sharing the importance of knowing the history of the heroes of the movement including Jim Owles. Last year my seminar on Telling LGBTQ History created an exhibit on the history of the Columbia University gay community in Butler Library celebrating the 50th anniversary of the founding of the nation's first gay student group - the Student Homophile League which celebrated leaders like Bob Martin/Stephen Donaldson, Morty Manford, Ethan Geto, and Karla Jay. I have also spoken to gay students groups at Temple University and Georgetown University about the history of gay student activism.
- If applicable, what LGBT organizations have you allocated funds to?
- Do you consider yourself a member of the LGBT community? Yes I have been a leading straight advocate nationally since my first book Gay Power: An American

Revolution was published in 2006. Gay Power is a history of how the gay rights movement in the 1960s and 1970s transformed American politics and society. The [American Library Association](#) named Gay Power a 2007 Stonewall honor book and it was a finalist for the [2007 Lambda Literary Awards](#) in [LGBT](#) Studies. I did a national book tour advocating gay marriage and gays in the military at a time when most straights opposed those rights. Gay Power attracted national media attention when an anti-gay organization tried to get Walmart to stop selling the book. The movement failed when Walmart refused and ordered thousands of more copies to display in stores all around the country.

- Have you marched in Pride? Which marches and for approximately how many years? Yes - one of the greatest days of my life was marching in the pride parade as a candidate for Public Advocate in 2017
- Have you employed openly LGBT individuals previously? Do you employ any currently? yes
- If you receive the endorsement, do you agree to identify the club using its FULL name on all literature and electronic materials where you list endorsements? yes
- What press conferences, demonstrations, rallies and protests in support of LGBT issues, pro choice legislation, criminal justice issues and the Resist Trump Movement have you attended? More than I can remember
- Have you ever been arrested? If so please explain why and outcome of arrest. no
- Will you advocate in Albany for legislation to mandate the review of sentences of incarcerated individuals over the age of 55 who have served in excess of 15 years to determine if they warrant release? yes
- Do you commit to visit constituents who are incarcerated in state prisons such as Bedford Correctional Facility? Yes- I currently teach a course on the US presidents at the Metropolitan Detention Center and feel very strongly about the right of inmates
- Do you believe sincere remorse, risk of reoffending and actions taken while incarcerated should be considered over the original crime in determinations of parole? yes
- Do you consent to having your name added to a letter of elected officials to the New York State Parole Board advocating for the release of Judith Clark? yes
- Have you participated in any demonstrations or protests in relation to the issues of clemency and parole?
- Will you affirmatively seek to hire formerly incarcerated individuals? yes
- Do you believe in the legalization of sex work? Yes

- What proposals will you advocate for the protect immigrants and the further New York as a Sanctuary City? We need to protect the economic rights of immigrants. I have lead the fight for SBJSA to protect small businesses - the main employer of immigrants and the main avenue for them to achieve the American Dream. Also I have fought against rezonings of immigrant neighborhoods like Two Bridges, Chinatown, East Harlem and Inwood which are resulting in mass displacement. I also was involved in the fight for the residents of 83-85 Bowery to stay in their building.
- Will you advocate, including introducing legislation, to remove public funding from religious schools? I would demand that all schools provide the required education standards and end the funding for any schools that promote discrimination against the LGBTQ community.
- What is your position on Amazon opening their headquarters in Queens? Totally against because it will create displacement of long time residents in Queens.
- Do you support removing the loitering statue from the state criminal code? yes
- Do you support the legalization of marijuana? Yes- and we should make provisions to prevent large corporations from taking over the sale of marijuana
- Do you support the establishment of supervised drug consumption spaces? yes
- Have you ever endorsed any member of the IDC or any candidates who challenged IDC members? Please identify all candidates I have never endorsed IDC candidates and have actively worked for Robert Jackson and Jasmine Robinson
- Do you support reform of the CCRB? If yes, please explain. I believe there should be elections for members of the CCRB from each borough.
- Please identify 3 boards on which the PA serves and 3 appointments the PA makes that are of the utmost importance to you. City Planning Commision, New York City Transit Riders Council/MTA, Child Fatality Review Advisory Team (CRFAT), Department of Health. The most important appointment is to the City Planning Commission. I want to appoint an affordable housing activist to the CPC. I will work with my appointee to bring transparency to the ULURP process. We will alert communities at the very start of discussions about rezoning so that community activists can be mobilized at the very start of the process. Too often communities do not have enough time to oppose a rezoning.
- What reforms to the powers and duties of the office would you advocate for? Subpoena power and the power to sue the City of NYC
- Will you commit to hiring a member of the LGBT community to serve as a liaison to the community? Yes I want to reform the PA's office to appoint advocates to specific

issues. For example a Advocate for LGBTQ issues, an Advocate for Animal Rights, An Advocate for People with Disabilities etc.

- Will you commit to ensuring diverse LGBT representation among your staff? yes
- Who did you support for office in the following races A) Mayor and Public Advocate in 2013 B) President in 2016 C) Governor and Attorney General in 2018
A) Bill de Blasio and Tish James. I regret Bill de Blasio and ran against Tish James in 2017 because she abandoned the SBJSA and failed to call out the mayor for pay-to-play corruption, displacement and rezonings. B) Bernie Sanders C) Cynthia Nixon and Zephyr Teachout
- Do you support Habitat for Humanity's proposal for gay-friendly low income housing on Elizabeth Street? I want to protect the Elizabeth Street Garden and I support the alternative plan which would provide even more gay-friendly low-income housing in the neighborhood. I resent how de Blasio and the developers divide us by using affordable housing as a cover for big real estate giveaways. I will call out this 'Divide and Conquer Strategy' as Public Advocate and make sure we build affordable housing without sacrificing hospitals, greenspaces and community institutions. De Blasio's affordable housing scheme has led to record displacement.
- Would you speak in favor of an establishment applying for a liquor license when the opposition is based on Nimby and or unreasonable concerns? Yes-
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