



**JIM OWLES LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC CLUB CITY COUNCIL**

**CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Candidate Name: Anthony Beckford**

**Campaign Website: <http://voteforbeckford.nationbuilder.com>**

**Campaign Telephone: 347-729-9775**

**Campaign Social Media Handles (Facebook/Twitter):**

**FB: AnthonyBeckford4CityCouncil**

**Twitter: Vote4Beckford**

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**What LGBT organizations have you been involved with, either on a volunteer basis or professionally?**

**I am a Member of Lambda Independent Democrats and have stood in solidarity with LGBTQ Grassroots organizations at various Direct Actions.**

**Have you participated in press conferences, marches, protests or demonstrations in support of the LGBTQ community? Yes, I have.**

**What press conferences, demonstrations, rallies and protests in support of pro choice legislation, criminal justice issues and the Resist Trump Movement have you attended? I have attended rallies in solidarity with PPA NY and Vote Pro Choice regarding a Women's Right To Choose. I am the Leader of the Brooklyn Sector of Copwatch Patrol Unit. I have been standing with many of the families who have lost loved ones to police violence in New York and throughout the Country (Ex: Kimani Gray, Shantel Davis, India Kager, Korryn Gaines, Eric Garner, Mario Romero, etc). I have also participated in various direct actions against injustice. I have been to various Resist Trump rallies and marches in D.C. and New York. I have also organized a few rallies in regards to the issue of Family Separations, TPS, DACA and Deportations. There are many press conferences that I have attended based on these issues that were organized by organizations and City Council Members.**

**If you receive the endorsement, do you agree to identify the club, using its name, on all literature and electronic materials where you list endorsements? Absolutely.**

**Will you seek or accept endorsements of anti LGBTQ rights and anti-choice people such as Ruben Diaz Sr., Fernando Cabrerra, Chaim Deutch, or anti gay religious people? No. If such individuals endorse you will you pledge to denounce their homophobia and anti-choice attitudes? Yes.**

**Will you pledge to not campaign in religion institutions that are known to speak out against the LGBTQ community? Yes.**

**Will you advocate, including introducing legislation, to remove public funding from religious schools when permissible by law? Yes.**

**Do you support a woman's unrestricted right to medically covered reproductive services and the right to choose in regard to abortion? Yes.**

**What is your position on the Right to Know Legislation. Would you support strengthening it? While advocating for it, I have been vocal in regards to strengthening it. I will definitely support strengthening it.**

**What are your concrete plans for NYC to defend the rights of racial minorities, women and LGTB individuals from the Trump administration? I plan to review and introduce legislation that will truly protect the rights of racial minorities, women and LGBTQ individuals. I will work alongside organizations and like minded elected officials to strengthen current legislation and fight back against every attack that comes from the Trump administration.**

**Will you join our efforts to have legislation passed in Albany 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 support complete legalization of marijuana and immediate suspension of arrests for possession of such for medicinal or recreational purposes? Yes. Legalize and Decriminalize.**

**Do you support or oppose the death penalty? Oppose**

**Do you support outlawing solitary confinement? Yes. Absolutely. Justice for Kalief Browder.**

**Will you affirmatively seek to hire formerly incarcerated individuals? Yes I will. I already have two individuals in mind.**

**16. Do you support the decriminalization and legalization of prostitution? Yes. I fully support and advocate for the Rights of Sex Workers.**

**17. Do you support removing the loitering statute from the state criminal code? Loitering is not a crime and should not be listed as a crime. Too many people have been harassed by and continue to be harassed.**

**18. 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.**

**19. Do you commit to visit constituents who are incarcerated in state/city and federal prisons including Bedford Correctional Facility? Absolutely.**

**20. Have you participated in any demonstrations or protests in relation to the issues of clemency and parole? Yes I have. I am even advocating for parolees to gain back their right to vote.**

**21. 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.**

**22. What proposals will you advocate for the protection of immigrants and to further New York City being a Sanctuary City? I would advocate for all TPS and DACA holders to receive Permanent Residency. I have been very vocal about creating a less time consuming process to apply for citizenship. I have been advocating for Driver Licenses for all.**

**23. Do you now support or have you ever supported an openly LGBTQ candidate for public office? Yes. If so, please identify any and all candidates. Jimmy Van Bramer, Corey Johnson, Cynthia Nixon and Marc Fliedner.**

**24. Who did you support for office in the following primary races: (a) Mayor in 2017 Bill De'Blasio (b) Governor and Attorney General In 2018 Cynthia Nixon and Jumaane Williams (c) Public Advocate in 2019 Jumaane Williams and (d) President in 2016? Bernie Sanders**

**25. What is/was your position on Amazon opening their headquarters in Queens? I was against the Amazon deal.**

**26. Do you support the closing of Rikers Island prison? Yes. Would you support the placing of a prison in your community? No.**

**27. As there have been the removal of statues and names removed from streets due to one's past history of blatant racism, do you support the renaming of the Ed Koch bridge and will you work towards the renaming? Yes and Yes.**

**28. Do you support the establishment of supervised drug consumption spaces? Yes I do.**

**29. Have you ever endorsed any member of the IDC or any candidates who challenged IDC members? I endorsed Max Rose, John Liu, Jasi Robinson and Robert Jackson.**

**30. 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. There has to be a legit concern for an establishment to not be able to obtain a liquor license.**