

FAITH *over* FEAR

CANDIDATES

GUIDE *for*

District 28

Rochdale, South Ozone Park

New York City Primary Election Day is
Tuesday September 12, 2017

New York City General Election Day is
Tuesday November 7, 2017

POLLS OPEN 6 AM - 9 PM

The Candidates



ADRIENNE ADAMS

Democrat
Retired, volunteer Chair of
Queens Community Board 12



RICHARD DAVID

Democrat
Chief of Staff, NYC
Administration for Children's
Services



HETTIE POWELL

Democrat
Managing Supervising
Attorney, Queens Law
Associates

FAITH *over* FEAR



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Would you defend NYC's status as a sanctuary city?

POWELL: Yes. I have worked with immigrants in my community for years, helping them understand their rights and working with them on the path to citizenship. Of course I will continue to defend New York City's status as a sanctuary city.

DAVID: Yes, I strongly believe in protecting immigration, documented and undocumented, in our great City. It's also personal to me as someone who was born abroad. I have spent the last 10 years working with immigrant communities in Queens, and this is why I was endorsed by the NYS Immigrant Action Fund.

ADAMS: Yes. Without question. I will work to protect and defend our Sanctuary City status.

Would you support ending criminal penalties for minor infractions to limit arrests and potential threats to immigrants' status?

POWELL: I do support ending criminal penalties for minor infractions to limit arrests of immigrants. Minor offenses clog the system thereby diverting time and resources needed for major offenses and crimes. Additionally for immigrant communities, if they accrue several of these charges as crimes of moral turpitude they become deportable offenses.

DAVID: Yes, absolutely. Minor infractions like jumping the turn style in the subway should not be a cause for deportation. This affects the daily livelihood of children and families across the City.

ADAMS: Yes. Minor infractions should be dealt with via citations and should not require residents to deal with the criminal justice or immigration system by way of an arrest.

Describe your greatest accomplishment in advocating for constituents of the district.

POWELL: Representing indigent clients on criminal matters. Also helping the tenants of South Jamaica Houses and Baisley LLP in getting repairs done. I started the Rochdale Village Youth Council, a community program geared towards mentorship, job readiness, and resume writing programs.

DAVID: 1) To make room for NYC's first casino, in our backyard, over 500 mostly immigrant and low income business owners were being displaced. I spearheaded the opposition and was able to find an alternative location for their relocation. This campaign was widely covered including by the NY Times; 2) I co-founded one of the largest nonprofits in the district, called ICA. It provides mentoring and leadership skill building, after school programs, counseling for parents and families, civic advocacy and identity building. This was over an 8 year period; 3) As a 9 year member of our Community Board, I was able to bring greater attention to economic development, land use and small business assistance; 4) As Vice President of the NYCEDC, I was able to build community centers for youth and families around NYC, including in my district; 5) As Chief of Staff at ACS and NYC Department of Consumer Affairs, I was able to bring additional funding and programs to the district.

ADAMS: As the Chairwoman of Community Board 12 I work hard on a daily basis to make sure our Community's needs are met, and issues and concerns are addressed. I'm very proud of successfully fighting a co-location of an elementary school into a building that already housed four high schools.

Describe the 3 biggest priorities for the district.

POWELL: If elected I would work to improve our schools by creating community schools, improve programs for our seniors and youth, and invest in small business creation and assistance programs.

DAVID: 1) Funding for neighborhood nonprofits to offer more programs to youth and seniors including the construction of modern, new facilities; 2) Improving the high school graduation rates and improving our schools and quality of education; 3) Affordable housing options for low income families, seniors and veterans.

ADAMS: Creating good jobs, improving our schools and protecting our quality of life.

Would you support continued funding to support detained immigrants?

POWELL: I strongly support continued funding for immigrants' representation from the point of detention. I believe that anyone who is detained by law enforcement's agents should receive representation. With current threats to the immigrant community, we need ensure their rights are protected.

DAVID: Yes, I believe this is the only way for them to receive a fair hearing and trial.

ADAMS: Yes, I would. I believe that all persons detained should be treated humanely, and should have access to the appropriate legal representation they may need.

What is your position on tracking US residents and/or citizens based on their religious identity? Would you expunge wrongly collected surveillance data on Muslim New Yorkers?

POWELL: I am strongly against tracking US residents/citizens based on their religious identity. I believe the NYPD should include national origin in the equal protection and comply with the Freedom of Information Law to ensure that not any one group is targeted based on religion, race, and national origin. I am in support of expunging wrongly collected surveillance data, as well.

DAVID: I am strongly against using religion or national identity as the basis to conduct surveillance on any individual in our community.

ADAMS: I do not believe anyone should be tracked based on their religious identity. As Americans, we value freedom of speech, expression, and religion. These rights should not be violated, and as New Yorkers, we cannot tolerate it.

What is your position on strengthening the reinstated Handschu Committee?

POWELL: I am in favor of creating a permanent and empowered non-NYPD representative to the Handschu Committee to ensure that there is more community input in developing the guidelines for NYPD behavior and to hold NYPD more accountable for following the agreement.

DAVID: I think the NYPD's perspective should be considered and included in strengthening the Handschu Committee.

ADAMS: I believe the Handschu Committee should have a non-NYPD representative included to provide an outside viewpoint and balance to the Committee.

Would you bring to justice the perpetrators of all types of hate crimes, including those based on religion, sexual orientation, race, and ethnicity?

POWELL: Yes, I would bring justice to all victims of hate crimes. Our city is very diverse and we pride ourselves as a home to all who seek to live here. We must put an end to discriminatory behavior and punish those who seek to offend based on our differences.

DAVID: Hate crimes are at an all time high, and I would do everything in my power to have victims receive justice regardless of religion, sexual orientation/identity, immigration status, ethnicity, gender.

ADAMS: Yes. Discrimination, acts of aggression and crimes against any person based on any identity is wrong, and illegal. I would fight for justice for all victims on the City Council.

What is your position on law enforcement tracking members of civil rights movements?

POWELL: Our constitution grants us certain freedoms and we should not have those rights infringed upon based on intolerance and fear. I am strongly against law enforcement tracking members of civil rights movements. It is a gross infringement of their rights to free speech and privacy set forth in the constitution.

DAVID: I believe that tracking civil rights activists, including BLM members, many of whom are youth and young adults, is unlawful and should be prohibited.

ADAMS: I do not agree with tracking members of civil rights movements in any way.

Would you support legislation to allow non-citizen residents to vote in NYC elections? Allowing parolees to vote in local elections?

POWELL: I would support legislation that would allow non-citizens who have lived in the country for a certain amount of years to vote, but that legislation would need to state a specific mandate. I am in favor of letting parolees vote in local elections as well.

DAVID: Yes, I strongly support pre-citizenship voting and voting for parolees on local elections. In fact, I have even drafted testimony for the City Council on this proposal and I was a member of the Citywide coalition pushing for the legislation.

ADAMS: Yes. Green card holders who work and pay taxes deserve a say in their representation. Everyone who lives in our City is affected by its legislating body, and they should have a voice and a say in how our City operates.

Do you support passing Intro. 1482 to increase oversight and comprehensive reporting of NYPD surveillance technology?

POWELL: I support passing Intro 1482. Oversight and reporting of NYPD surveillance are just two of the ways we can strengthen and increase accountability, and protects against abuse of power of NYPD surveillance technology. This will help to enforce strict compliance by NYPD.

DAVID: Yes, I believe we should know the NYPD capabilities and potentially access them.

ADAMS: Yes. It is important to assess the effectiveness of these technologies to help keep our City safe.

What is your position on proposed legislation Intro. 152-A, the Certificate of No Harassment, that aims to protect tenants from landlord harassment?

POWELL: I support this legislation because it makes it more difficult for landlords to push out residents for a better building project. It also means that landlords are legally bound to provide a harassment-free environment to their tenants in the event that they are approved for a project.

DAVID: I agree with Certificate of No Harassment. I also believe that we need equality and protections for landlords, especially in my district with primarily one and two family homes, where tenants also harass landlords.

ADAMS: It's time we stop landlords from harassing tenants, I fully support Intro 152-A.

What is your position on the Dept. of Housing Preservation & Development revising their requirements for developers who request subsidies to include a significant increase in the amount of deeply affordable housing?

POWELL: I am in support of the revision of HPD's term sheets for developers. Our government should provide funding for more truly affordable housing. New York City is experiencing a shortage of affordable housing, and this will help to ensure that in any new developments affordable units are provided for. Furthermore, if these developers are getting subsidies for their projects then they should set aside more units for affordable housing.

DAVID: I agree with increased provisions for affordable housing by HPD.

ADAMS: I agree that we must make sure that the most public good and most public benefit is derived from instances where developers get public money such as tax breaks or subsidies. We cannot allow our tax dollars to go to private developers who then build housing that only the wealthiest can afford.

What is your position on the proposed Housing Not Warehousing legislation, including Intro.'s 1034, 1036 & 1039, to assure that land is used for affordable housing and not held vacant for profit?

POWELL: I am in favor of this legislation. We are in need of affordable housing and we should be placing needy families in this necessary real estate. It serves no justifiable purpose to warehousing these vacant properties when families have to be placed in homeless shelters or temporary housing at hotels.

DAVID: I agree that we need housing for all New Yorkers and not kept off the market in hope of greater profits.

ADAMS: I support these pieces of legislation and believe that affordable housing should be available to all those who need it.

Do you support passage of the Right To Know Act (Intro.'s 182 & 541) to increase police accountability?

POWELL: Yes

DAVID: Yes

ADAMS: Yes

Would you support ending the NYPD's current "broken windows" policing practices that over criminalize minor crimes and quality of life infractions in low-income communities of color?

POWELL: I strongly support bringing an end to NYPD broken windows policing. Too many low-income and communities of color have been adversely affected by a negative police presence in their area. We need to find innovative solutions to public safety in these communities.

DAVID: Yes, I believe that these offenses criminalize youth of color excessively and disproportionately.

ADAMS: Yes. The "broken windows" practice is outdated, predatory, and discriminatory.

What is your position regarding transparency and accountability of the NYPD when officers have engaged in misconduct or abuse?

POWELL: I am strongly in favor of more transparency, especially when officers have engaged in misconduct or abuse. To ensure that these cases are being handled as efficiently and effectively as possible. We need to enact legislation that police report any misconduct within a specified timeframe after such conduct.

DAVID: I believe that misconduct should be seriously investigated and prosecuted. This info should be part of the individuals human resource file.

ADAMS: I believe NYPD officers should be held accountable for their actions, just as anyone else is.

How would you propose to cut greenhouse gas emissions from those buildings that are the biggest & dirtiest in the city?

POWELL: As New York's government, we can subsidize a transition to part solar energy as a supplementary energy source. We should also provide incentives for those buildings that lower their greenhouse gas emissions.

DAVID: I was happy to play a key role in LL 63 to create more green buildings in NYC. For existing buildings, we should publish efficiency standards and perhaps incentives to help owners meet the goals.

ADAMS: We should provide tax incentives to lower emissions and strictly enforce penalties for those who do not.

Do you support installing solar panels on public buildings in NYC? Would you include local job creation & hire and the reinvestment of energy savings into communities most impacted by climate & economic challenges?

POWELL: We should push NYC toward a public solar transition. Installing solar panels on public buildings will allow us to create a new energy source that will significantly lower the cost of energy for the city.

DAVID: I strongly support this, and including NYC in the global Solar Alliance.

ADAMS: Yes and yes! We should transition to solar with speed and efficiency now, not later. Green energy creates jobs and benefits our environment.

GUIDE INFORMATION

This candidates guide is based on the platform of the Faith Over Fear coalition, a group of more than 27 faith-based justice organizations in New York City, convened by Faith in New York. The content for this guide was created through a candidates survey. All answers were written directly by the candidates or their campaigns, except in some cases where answers were shortened to meet a 50 word limit due to design limitations. All candidates listed by the New York City Campaign Finance Board (NYCCFB) and the Board of Elections were invited to fill out the survey. Only candidates who completed the survey have their information included. This guide was paid for by Faith in New York Action. To view the platform and learn more about the coalition, please visit <https://faithinnewyork.org/faithoverfear>.

VOTING INFORMATION

The NYC primary election is Tuesday, September 12th, 2017. You must have been registered to vote in NYC by August 18th, 2017 to vote in the primary election. The NYC general election is Tuesday November 7th, 2017. You must register to vote by October 13th, 2017 to vote in the general election. On voting day, bring your voter registration card if you have it, and another form of identification just in case. Be aware that you CANNOT be barred from voting as long as you are on the voter rolls, even if you do not have a photo ID or voter registration card. You are guaranteed assistance by a poll worker or interpreter if needed. For other questions on voting, please visit <https://faithinnewyork.org/faq>, or go to the New York City Board of Elections site at <http://vote.nyc.ny.us>.

POLLING LOCATION

Polls are open from 6am until 9pm. Your polling site is listed on your voter registration card and can also be found online at <https://nyc.pollsitelocator.com/search> or by calling 1-866-VOTE-NYC.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION ON THE CAMPAIGNS

With more and more money being poured into elections in our country and city, is it more important than ever to understand who funds the campaigns of our elected officials. As you consider making a decision, please visit the New York City Campaign Finance Board (NYCCFB) website at <https://www.nyccfb.info/> which provides detailed information on candidates' campaign financial information.

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To pledge to vote, to attend a forum, or to simply learn more, please visit <https://faithinnewyork.org/faithoverfear>. We encourage you to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @FaithinNewYork and use the hashtags #FaithOverFear, #FaithinNewYork, and #NYCCouncil when you post your voter selfie!



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