



VOTE411.org Frequently Asked Questions – Fall 2016

1. How would my Local League use VOTE411.org?

VOTE411.org helps you to create an online Voters' Guide. The final guide (see photos below) shows a voter the candidates for each race that the voter will see on the ballot, and offers in-depth information and links to additional information. If you are the one creating the Voter Guide, VOTE411.org offers numerous tools to track the progress of collecting responses for the Voter Guide.

State *
- Select -

Zip *

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[Fort Collins April 2, 2013 Election](#)

NYC Council Special Election - 31st District

Choose two candidates from below to compare.

 **Marie Adam-Ovide (BS)**
District Manager of Community Board 8, Queens

 **Selvena N. Brooks (RN)**
Sr. Communications Specialist

 **Michael Duncan (ON)**
Business Owner

 **Allan W. Jennings (PR)**

 **Saywalah Kesselly (GC)**
Administrator

 **Jacques M. Leandre (FD)**
Lawyer

 **Pesach Osina (CV)**

State *
- Select -

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Fort Collins April 2, 2013 Election Candidate Forum

NYC Council Special Election - 31st District



Marie Adam-Ovide (BS)
District Manager of
Community Board 8, Queens



Selvena N. Brooks (RN)
Sr. Communications
Specialist

Change Candidates >

Biographical Information -

<p>Campaign Web Site www.vote4marie.com</p> <p>Campaign Office Address 121-12 234th Street, Laurelton, NY 11422</p> <p>Campaign Email vote4marie@hotmail.com</p> <p>Campaign Telephone Number 718-723-0645</p> <p>City/Town of Residence Laurelton</p> <p>Occupation District Manager of Community Board 8, Queens</p> <p>Current Political Office (if applicable) N/A</p> <p>Education The City College of New York (CUNY), B.A. in Political Science</p> <p>Experience and Qualifications Director of Constituent Services for Former Councilman David Weprin - Chair of Finance Committee, Community Board District Manager - Currently running an office that ensures the delivery of City Services. I do not need on the job training.</p> <p>Community Involvement Former PTA President of Eagle Academy of Southeast Queens, Member of NAACP</p> <p>Party Affiliation Democrat</p>	<p>Campaign Web Site www.brooks2013.com</p> <p>Campaign Office Address 186-15 Merrick Boulevard, Springfield Gardens, NY 11413</p> <p>Campaign Email Friendsofselvenabrooks@gmail.com</p> <p>Campaign Telephone Number 917.952.8920</p> <p>City/Town of Residence Rockaway Beach, Queens, NY</p> <p>Occupation Most recently, Sr. Communications Specialist, SEIU</p> <p>Current Political Office (if applicable) n/a</p> <p>Education BA, Wilberforce University, 2005 MA, NYU, International law/dispute settlement, 2010</p> <p>Experience and Qualifications Extensive experience in government, public service, and the private sector over the past decade, working on a range of issues that matter to the residents or Southeast Queens. Proven ability to get results and move the community forward.</p> <p>Community Involvement Extensive experience working to reduce gun violence, improve</p>
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For fall 2016 primary and general elections, we expect that the state League would lead the effort to prepare the information for a statewide Voters' Guide using Vote411.org, and would collaborate with League members throughout the state to prepare questions and follow-up with candidates.

2. *If we want to use VOTE411.org for our state legislature and Congressional elections in fall 2016, what do we need to get started?*

The LWVMA would use one login and centrally prepare the Voters Guide. To get started, we will use information from the Secretary of State for the races that we will cover for state legislature and Congress, and the name and e-mail address for each candidate

3. *Will we include uncontested legislative races?*
Yes.

4. *Will we include any ballot questions that might appear on the ballot for the general election?*

Yes, we will provide the full text of the ballot questions, as well as pros and cons, collected from the proponents and opponents.

5. *What would be the timeline for primary and general elections for fall 2016?*
We have not yet developed the timeline for the September 20, 2016 primary election and the November 8, 2016 general election. We would expect the Voters' Guide to launch not less than four weeks before each election, and expect that efforts for the primary election would begin in June 2016.
6. *How is this better than the way we've been creating Voters' Guides?*
The value of Voters' Guides created by the League of Women Voters is in the careful formulation of questions for candidates and in the thorough and careful vetting of the information contained in the Voters' Guide. VOTE411.org Voters' Guides will also require these same requirements, but the value offered by VOTE411.org is in its ability to streamline the collection of the information directly from candidates, and ease the production of the finished product. In addition, the web-based platform will make the guide available to all voters throughout the state, and can benefit voters in areas where we do not have active Local Leagues.
7. *Can we still put a Voters' Guide in our local newspaper?*
Yes, you can assemble the information in VOTE411.org and then publish the Voters' Guide as a PDF or as a text document that can be sent to local newspapers.
8. *Can we link to cable tv video on demand of Candidates' Night?*
Yes, you can use VOTE411.org to post videos or links to videos from Candidates' Nights.
9. *What will be the cost to use this for general elections in fall 2016?*
Thanks to a generous donation from a member and from receipt of a grant from the Filene Foundation, VOTE411.org will be offered to Local Leagues for free for 2016.
10. *What kind of support will we receive in getting started with VOTE411.org – from LWVMA, from LWVUS?*
The LWVUS has a staff person dedicated to supporting the implementation of Vote411, as well as numerous webinars with information (see <http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/vote411-opportunities-participation>).

11. *Our State Representative, State Senator or U.S. House Representative's district is shared with more than our League. Are there plans for local Leagues to collaborate on questions?*

Yes, we will encourage local Leagues with shared districts to collaborate on questions that will focus on specific issues for voters in these districts. We will rely on local League members to be most knowledgeable about relevant questions for candidates in their districts, and will support these discussions.

12. *Who will develop questions for state legislature and Congressional districts where we do not have a local League?*

We will look for volunteers from League members around the state to help develop some "basic" questions for all state legislature and Congressional races. Where we have local Leagues who can develop specific questions, we will use those specific questions rather than the default questions.

13. *Will every voter in the state be able to access VOTE411.org, or only in those areas where we have a local League?*

Yes, every voter in the state will be able to access a personalized ballot and Voters' Guide.

For more information please contact [Mary Ann Ashton](#), LWVMA Voter Service Chair, or [Meryl Kessler](#), LWVMA Executive Director.