



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ATLANTA BUSINESS COALITION RELEASES
CITY CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS**

*Committee for a Better Atlanta's candidate scorecards and questionnaires available at
www.committeeforabetteratlanta.org*

ATLANTA (October 1, 2013) The Committee for a Better Atlanta (CBA), a nonpartisan committee representing more than 20 of Atlanta's influential businesses and civic organizations, released its *Consumer Reports*-style evaluations today of the candidates running for Mayor and City Council. The CBA Voter Guide rates candidates on business issues important to the community-at-large.

CBA is empowering constituents to make better voting decisions by providing clear evaluations of each candidate. CBA is an independent organization comprised of members from Atlanta-focused business organizations and large employers in the area engaged in city hall and industry issues. Notable committee members include the Atlanta Board of Realtors, the Georgia Beverage Association and Delta Airlines.

CBA members screened all candidates with a focus on issues including economic development, infrastructure, homelessness and public safety. Addressing these business and civic issues will help Atlanta maintain business and create a sustainable community.

"The role of business in the government is important to Atlanta and we want to make sure that is reflected in November's elections," said A.J. Robinson, chair of the 2013 CBA process. "The issues that impact businesses, impact residents and the CBA wants to ensure that the 2013 elections result in what is best for the city. We evaluate the candidates and their platforms with the goal of helping all voters make informed decisions when they step in the voting booth."

CBA is pleased to report that 30 out of 40 candidates participated in our process. Each candidate in the race received a questionnaire to fill out based upon the issues identified. The candidates also participated in an in-person interview held at the Marriott Marquis. The candidates were scored on the interviews and that score was combined with questionnaire responses for a total score.

Committee members used a scale for scoring the responses to the questionnaires and the interviews, and an average was calculated for each candidate: 88 or higher is considered "excellent;" 79 to 87 is "well qualified;" 70 to 78 is "average;" and below 70 is "not qualified."

CBA strives to make the evaluation process as fair as possible across all election categories and only takes into account responses provided to the questionnaire and in the interview process and prior voting records for incumbents. Interviewers were provided extensive training to ensure consistency in evaluating candidates. Finally, any outstanding ethics issues were not addressed by this process as the City of Atlanta Ethics Committee has its own process for addressing those issues.

Following are the scores for each candidate:

Candidate	Office	Score	Category
M. Kasim Reed	Mayor	99	Excellent
Al Bartell	Mayor	75	Average
Glenn Wrightson	Mayor	43	Not Qualified
Fraser Duke	Mayor	N/A	Did not participate
Cesar Mitchell	Council President	92	Excellent
Rachele Fruit	Council President	N/A	Did not participate
Carla Smith	District 1	86	Well Qualified
Robert Welsh	District 1	85	Well Qualified
Bill Powell	District 1	N/A	Did not participate
Kwanza Hall	District 2	83	Well Qualified
Ivory Young	District 3	84	Well Qualified
Darrion Fletcher	District 3	48	Not Qualified
Patricia Harris-Crayton	District 3	53	Not Qualified
Cleta Winslow	District 4	84	Well Qualified
Torriel "Torry" Lewis	District 4	81	Well Qualified
DeBorah Sister Williams	District 4	N/A	Did not participate
Natalyn Archibong	District 5	91	Excellent
Matt Rinker	District 5	85	Well Qualified
Christian Enterkin	District 5	71	Average
Jon Jones	District 5	71	Average
John Paul Michalik	District 5	N/A	Did not interview
Alex Wan	District 6	93	Excellent
Tracey Austin	District 6	68	Not Qualified
Mike Boyle	District 6	N/A	Did not participate
Howard Shook	District 7	91	Excellent
Bobby Montgomery	District 7	77	Average
Abid Haque	District 7	N/A	Did not participate
Yolanda Adrean	District 8	95	Excellent
Felicia Moore	District 9	87	Well Qualified
Duwon Robinson	District 9	54	Not Qualified
Ricardo Mosby	District 9	N/A	Did not participate
Clarence T. Martin	District 10	N/A	Did not participate
Keisha Lance Bottoms	District 11	91	Excellent

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Ron Shakir	District 11	N/A	Did not participate
Joyce Sheperd	District 12	89	Excellent
Michael Julian Bond	Post 1 At-Large	91	Excellent
Aaron Watson	Post 2 At-Large	95	Excellent
Mary Norwood	Post 2 At-Large	86	Well Qualified
H. Lamar Willis	Post 3 At-Large	92	Excellent
Andre Dickens	Post 3 At-Large	83	Well Qualified

Additional information will be available on the Committee for a Better Atlanta website www.committeeforabetteratlanta.org. CBA encourages its members to distribute the guide to their employees.

CBA has evaluated candidates for elected offices since 1997. This year's CBA members include:

Americas Mart
 Atlanta Apartment Association
 Atlanta Board of Realtors
 Atlanta Commercial Board of
 Realtors
 Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau
 Atlanta Hotel Council
 Atlanta Restaurant Council
 Atlanta Licensed Beverage Council
 Buckhead Business Association
 Buckhead Coalition
 Building Owners & Managers
 Association
 Business Wise Incorporated
 Central Atlanta Progress

Council for Quality Growth
 Delta Air Lines
 GE Energy
 Georgia Beverage Association
 Georgia-Pacific Corp.
 Georgia Power Co.
 Greater Atlanta Home
 Builders Association
 McKesson
 Metro Atlanta Chamber
 SunTrust Corp.
 Turner Broadcasting System

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For more information, please visit www.committeeforabetteratlanta.org.