



The Caribbean-American Political Action Committee

1015 18th Street, N.W., Suite 200, Washington, D.C., 20036 | 202-349-1498 | www.CaribbeanPac.org

Caribbean-American Political Action Committee (C-PAC) Montgomery County - 2022 Candidate Questionnaire

Please upload the completed form here: <https://www.caribbeanpac.org/news-candidate-responses.php> and submit it by 11:59 PM (EST) on Friday, June 13, 2022. Responses will be shared with C-PAC's membership.

Office Sought: Montgomery County Council D2

Candidate's Name: Marilyn Balcombe

Current Occupation: President and CEO of the Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce

Party: Democrat

Campaign contact information (Address, Phone, Fax, Email, Website):

www.MarilynBalcombe.com

13518 Ansel Terrace

Germantown, MD 20874

301-922-2951

marilyn@marilynbalcombe.com

1. What have you done, or will you do to ensure the interests of the Caribbean community in Montgomery County are being adequately addressed?
 - Both Gaithersburg and Germantown are often listed in the top 10 most diverse towns in the Country. As the president of a chamber of commerce I work with a diverse membership. Through an Federal covid grant, I recently implemented a program for women and minority entrepreneurs and work closely with business owners to help them succeed.
2. The Caribbean- American Advisory Group (CAAG) was established by former County Executive Isaiah Leggett and continued by the current County Executive Marc Elrich, if you are elected will you support continuity of CAAG in its current form as an autonomous group
 - Yes. I have been endorsed by former County Executive Leggett and have worked with current CE Elrich and would continue to support this advisory group.



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3. Will you proactively encourage and facilitate members of the Caribbean community of Montgomery County to be appointed to County Boards? Please explain what mechanism your office would establish to give effect to this policy.

- I am committed to making sure our County Boards are reflective of our community and that we actively seek nominations from our diverse community. The biggest focus would be on communication and outreach to continue to attract members of the Caribbean community to all County Boards

4. Please explain what policies you would espouse and implement to make Montgomery County **a safe haven** for undocumented Caribbean immigrants.

Although I support the protection of undocumented immigrants, this is not my area of expertise and would need to research and understand what policies are currently in place and whether they are sufficient for protecting our residents.

5. Will you support continuity of Montgomery County as welcoming Caribbean immigrants and settlement of the Region's refugees?

YES

6. Will you support availability of books by Caribbean authors and about the Caribbean in libraries and in the schools?

YES

7. It is difficult to balance crime prevention and community safety with trust and improved relations with local law enforcement. How will you work to strike this balance?

We need to fully fund our police department to ensure that we are attracting the best and brightest officers. We need to have adequate training and hold them accountable for their actions.