



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) Prince Georges 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: Prince George's County Council At-Large

Candidate's Name: Stanford Fraser

Current Occupation: Public Defender

Party: Democrat

Campaign contact information (Address, Phone, Fax, Email, Website): PO Box 7878 Largo, MD 20792. 240-221-1916. info@stanfordfraser.com. www.stanfordfraser.com

1. Will the County Executive re-establish a community liaison within the Department of Community Relations to serve the needs of the Caribbean community?
 - a. As a council member, I would not control the County Executive's administrative positions. But, I would encourage the County Executive to re-establish a community liaison to serve the needs of the community, including the needs of the Caribbean community.
2. Will each council member create community liaisons within their district to address the needs of the Caribbean community within their constituency?
 - a. On the council I want to make sure that I'm hearing the concerns of all community members. And as an individual who was born on St. Croix and whose mother was born and raised on St. Kitts, it is important that the Caribbean community is heard and included in County decision making.
3. Will you be interested in creating a community infused team with the Office of Economic Development to address development needs?
 - a. Unfortunately, Council decisions to make changes to the zoning code without the community input shows many current leaders don't take community input seriously. As a council member I want my constituents to be heard and considered in our economic development process. This could be done through public hearings, community meetings, or an infused team in the Office of Economic Development.
4. What is your position on strengthening protections for Caribbean immigrants within the County?



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- a. I support strengthening the protections for all members of the community and that of course includes Caribbean immigrants. As a public defender, I often represent immigrant clients who face serious consequences if found guilty. Through this work, I've learned about the particular needs of Prince George's County's immigrants and will use this knowledge to shape policy at the council level.
5. Would you support introducing books by Caribbean authors into the Public School system and county libraries?
 - a. Of course! I have fond memories of doing summer reading challenges at the library as a kid. And I especially enjoyed the free Bowie Bayson tickets I would win for completing those challenges. We need to make sure our education system includes Caribbean authors so our students can learn from a wide variety of viewpoints.
6. In 2012, Governor Martin O'Malley created the Governor's Commission on Caribbean Affairs. The mission of the group was to expand outreach, ensure greater access and to serve as a resource to increase the economic, educational, health, political and social well-being of the Caribbean community in Maryland. Unfortunately, no funding was provided to institute such programs. Can we count on you to demand that the Commission be re-established, and the necessary funding appropriated to fulfill the mission?
 - a. As a member of the County Council I wouldn't be able to demand the State Commission be funded. But I would use my elected office to advocate for the needs of our community and apply pressure for the Caribbean Affairs to get funded. Additionally, some of the aims of the Commission could be accomplished at the County level. I would use my community liaison position to investigate the needs of the Caribbean community in Prince George's County.
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?
 - a. One of my platform plans is to improve public safety by creating a unit of public health first responders. See Denver Star program: <https://www.denverpost.com/2022/02/20/denver-star-program-expansion/> . This unit will allow paramedics, nurses, and social workers to respond to non violent 911 calls. They could address the needs of the homeless, people facing addiction, and individuals experiencing mental health emergencies from a health care perspective. This would then allow our police officers to focus on serious crime. Additionally, I would like to explore providing grants to "violence interrupters" to supplement the efforts of our police departments. See <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/many->



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[cities-are-putting-hopes-violence-interrupters-understand-challen-](#)

[rcna28118](#) . I believe these models of public safety in conjunction with the existing police department would reduce crime while improving relations with law enforcement.