

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 - District 6

Candidate's Name: Steve Solomon Current Occupation: Podcast host

Party: Democrat

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

P.O. Box 2331 Rockville, MD 20847 301-219-5812 VoteSteveSolomon@gmail.com www.VoteSteveSolomon.com

- 1. What have you done, or will you do to ensure the interests of the Caribbean community in Montgomery Country are being adequately addressed?
 - I am running for County Council District 6. I will be a councilmember who will ensure the interests of all communities are addressed. The issues I believe in will certainly affect members of the Caribbean community (bringing in more businesses to the county thereby creating more jobs. Also, improving infrastructure, housing, and transit.
- 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 will support the CAAG.

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.



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As someone who has applied for and served on County Boards, I believe we need to improve the process of selecting board members. I have applied for several board positions and never even heard back. That process would change if I became a councilmember. I would support a policy where all applicants would receive correspondence and interviews for board positions.

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

My parents were immigrants to this country and they settled in Montgomery County. It was not easy for them in the 1960s when they came here. Today we have many resources and support systems in place for immigrants. Between the many government offices like the Office of Community Partnerships and Gilchrist Immigrant Resource Center, as well as the many nonprofit groups in Montgomery County, I will continue to support policies and efforts to support immigrants from all areas, including Caribbean.

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

Yes, of course.

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

I have been a supporter of our libraries my whole life. We have done well to refresh many libraries, and create many programs for adults and kids at the libraries. The library in my neighborhood (Wheaton) has also become a great community and rec center. Working with the Friends of the Library Montgomery County, we can continue to expand the library to include more Caribbean authors.

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?

I have spoken to several police officers in our community and even visited the 4th district headquarters in Glenmont. I believe we need to continue to grow the outreach of the police department to the community, such as having more events like coffee with a cop, or having officers speak to classes at schools. The community and the police have to work together to create a trust.