

My name is Tom Baumann. I am the Socialist Workers Party candidate for Manhattan Borough President. More than 8,000 people signed petitions to place my name on the ballot. We are running on a platform to defend the interests of workers and farmers and against the capitalist candidates, Democrats and Republicans alike.

Our campaign begins with the fact that the capitalist crisis today is leading to an unprecedented war on the living standards of the working class at home as well as spreading imperialist wars abroad. Today Washington has 177,000 troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Socialist Workers Party calls for the withdrawal of all U.S. and its allied troops from Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and elsewhere now. We also demand the immediate closing of all U.S. prison camps, including Guantanamo.

In the name of "homeland security," the capitalist government is assaulting constitutional rights, from expanded police wiretapping to the threat of kangaroo military trials, to police checks of personal belongings in the New York subways. These steps will be used more and more against working people as we organize to defend our rights and living standards.

One case in point is the frame-up of five Cuban working-class fighters who have already been unjustly imprisoned for nearly eleven years on phony "conspiracy" charges, three of them serving life sentences. What was the "crime" of Gerardo Hernandez, Ramon Labanino, Antonio Guerrero, Fernando Gonzalez, and Rene Gonzalez? Monitoring the activities of right-wing groups in Florida that have a history of violent attacks on Cuba from U.S. territory with Washington's complicity. We call for their immediate release.

We unconditionally defend a woman's right to choose abortion. There is no "common ground" with those who want to restrict women's reproductive rights. In response to the murder of Dr. George Tiller in Wichita, Kansas, I joined protests to defend and extend safe, accessible abortion, and to demand the prosecution of Tiller's assassin.

When elected, I and my fellow Socialist Workers party candidates will press for the enactment of legislation to defend working people. We join with others in fighting for the immediate legalization of all undocumented workers. We advocate affirmative action quotas in hiring, promotions, and university admissions for Blacks, Latinos, Asians, and women.

We explain the need for a working-class revolution to take state power out of the hands of the propertied ruling class. That is the only answer to the expanding

capitalist crisis and the frontal assault  
the capitalist rulers are beginning to wage  
against our class.

For more information on our campaign,  
please call us at 212-736-2540 or e-mail us  
at [newyorkswp@mac.com](mailto:newyorkswp@mac.com). You can also visit  
our campaign offices at 306 West 37th  
Street, 10th Floor, in Manhattan.

Thank you very much.

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