

Hello. I am David Casavis, and I am running for Borough President of Manhattan, City of New York.

I did not ask for this. People complained about the office of Borough President, but no one was going to run. So when I was asked to run, I said that I'd run under one condition: that my campaign would be devoted to dissolving the office. If I win, I want my job eliminated.

Borough Presidents have many privileges and few duties. When New Yorkers work on a project, it is the Borough President who steps in front of the cameras and takes the credit, not those who did the work.

The job has devolved into ribbon cutting. It is a parody of what it was prior to the Supreme Court decision of 1989 declaring the Board of Estimate unconstitutional. Without a Board of

Estimate, the Borough Presidents are left with little to do.

After years of near-uselessness, some still want to keep the office. Some have said that the office is a stepping stone. This it once was. Not now. With little authority or responsibility, it is a campaign to nowhere. The Borough President is an empty suit.

Some have said that there is no single individual to represent the entire island of Manhattan. Represent the island to whom? Manhattan is represented in all legislative bodies.

Some have said that the Borough President is the mayor of Manhattan. The last five mayors of New York lived in Manhattan prior to their election. How can anyone be the mayor of Manhattan when the mayor lives and works in the same borough?

The benefits of eliminating the position are obvious. Times are tough. Unemployment is high. City workers were let go. Small businesses are struggling with onerous taxes. If the career politicians fired you, then you can fire them.

Questions have also been raised over what I would do if elected. Would I walk away from the job after being sworn in?

This I cannot do. By law another election would be held in 31 days after my resignation. The same people who eagerly stick their snout in the trough would return for more.

No. This is a long struggle. If I catch my weasel, I'm in the trap with it. I will then have to eliminate all five weasels.

A vote for me is a vote to eliminate the Borough Presidencies. A simple

referendum will not work. And, given that a successful referendum would cost \$10 million, this is the most effective way of starting the process. If we don't do anything about it now, nothing will ever happen. If nothing ever happens, nothing ever will.

That is why I am asking for your support on November 3rd.

Thank you.

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