

22nd City Council District

John J. Ciafone (D)

I was born, raised and schooled in this community and continue to live and work here. I went to the public schools in our neighborhood; PS 85, JHS 141 and Long Island City HS. I am an attorney practicing for almost 20 years and I maintain an office on Steinway Street. I am married with three children. I attended NYU and St. John's Law graduating with Honors. At NYU I received the prestigious Chancellor's Award and at St. John's Law School the Judge Mary Egan Scholarship and was an Editor of the Forum.

I served as an intern to Governor Mario Cuomo and was an intern in the New York City Council's Legal division where I helped draft and write law. I was an intern to Supreme Court Justice Frederick Schmidt and was appointed a referee in several foreclosure actions.

I ran and was elected twice to Community School Board 30 with the highest number of votes serving the greater communities of Astoria, Long Island City, Jackson Heights, Sunnyside, Woodside, Corona and East Elmhurst. There I had an almost perfect attendance record in the entire City of New York. There I fought for and obtained funding for more new schools and increased seats for the children in the district. I fought for more safety and security measures for children, like speed bumps, cameras and more school safety officers.

We are in a lot of trouble. There are no jobs for our children who graduate from school. There is no affordable housing and no adequate senior housing. Senior centers, libraries and parks are being axed. Small businesses are under attack by the City looking to generate money by increasing costs, fees, fines, and taxes. Small homeowners can't afford the increased taxes and water and sewer charges.

We need to hire more police and support Stop and frisk which reduces crime in our community. Public transportation is poor and there is no handicap access for the subways in our community. There is a shortage of pre kindergarten classes, beacon programs and after school programs. We are losing friends, families and neighbors to other Cities.

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