

SOUTHEAST QUEENS PRESS

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Confidential

PRESS ENDORSEMENTS

In the race to replace late Councilman Thomas White Jr. in the 28th City Council District, a field of seven contenders has stepped up to the plate, though none have hit a home run.

In a meeting this week with candidates seeking the seat, we evaluated those who showed up. We were disappointed that the campaign of Nicole Paultre-Bell, who we've known for several years, chose not to have her sit for the interview. This could have been the opportu-

nity for this college sophomore to show us that accusations that she is an opportunist unprepared for the job were not accurate. She did not show.

Likewise, Rueben Wills showed up too late for the interview to convince us that he was the most deserving in the field.

Of the field who attended, there was one candidate who demonstrated the energy level, work ethic and knowledge of the process that is required as a jumping-off point for

serving in the City Council. Albert Badeo has shown that he can adequately work both sides of this divided district. He has been involved in advocacy issues for new immigrants in his home neighborhood west of the Van Wyck, as well as in Rochdale Village and other locations on the eastern side of the district. Though we are still uncomfortable about his conduct in a previous election, Baldeo clearly demonstrated the best mastery and understanding of the job.

The 28th District is a growing and changing community, and we believe Albert Baldeo has the ability to serve all the residents of the district. The PRESS of Southeast Queens endorses Albert Baldeo in the 28th Council District Special Election Nov. 2.

Last week the PRESS endorsed Andrew Cuomo for Governor, Tom DiNapoli for Comptroller, Dan Donovan for Attorney General and both Kirsten Gillibrand and Chuck Schumer for U.S. Senate.