

# JACKSON HTS./ELMHURST PRIMARIES Compiled by Craig McGuire

## U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 12TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

### Nydia Velazquez

**Party Affiliation:** Democrat/Liberal  
**Education:** B.A. from the University of Puerto Rico graduating Magna Cum Laude; master's degree in political science from New York University

**Legislative Experience:** elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1992; elected to City Council in 1984

In 1992, I asked for your vote because I was the candidate best prepared to represent the diverse communities of this district in Congress. Together we succeeded.

Once again, I ask for your support. Washington is a tough place to be heard, and our communities need a fighter who will stand on commitment and honor. I am that fighter. Whether the issue is affordable housing, crime, education, or economic development, I have spoken for the people on the floor of the Congress.

If you live in Sunset Park, Williamsburg, the Lower East Side, Chinatown, Cypress Hills, Bushwick, East Elmhurst, Corona, or any of the communities in our district, you can be sure to count on me when you need help.

I have been working hard to provide our neighborhoods with the information and resources for us to achieve economic empowerment and self-sufficiency. Together, we will continue to move our community forward.



### Pedro Velazquez

**Party Affiliation:** Democrat  
**Education:** attended University of Puerto Rico at Rio Piedras; degree in Criminal Justice from John Jay College.  
**Occupation:** New York City police officer on unpaid leave of absence.

"In the nine years I have spent in law enforcement I learned first-hand of the many problems facing the families and residents of New York neighborhoods," Velazquez notes. "I understand that crime and drugs are devastating families and communities here. But I am aware, as well, that tough law enforcement is not the answer to all of our ills. Nor is simply throwing federal money at problems the key to their solutions."

I believe that Congress and the federal agencies have a responsibility for oversight which they are not fulfilling.

For instance, where have Congress and the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development been when the federally subsidized public housing program in New York City has deteriorated from being the best in the country, a real jewel, into what appears to be a series of safe houses for drug dealers and other assorted criminals."

Velazquez is basing his campaign on the premise that the person who represents a district in as much need as the 12th must commit the bulk of his or her energies and time to attempting to solve the problems of the district.

"While I understand the national and international obligations involved in being a member of a national legislature I believe



the district's problems must hold the highest priority," the challenger states. "While the plight of the Haitians is important and not easily dismissed, I would rather have seen the incumbent arrested for demonstrating in front of Kings County Hospital because of the problems there than in front of the White House in Washington, protesting U.S. foreign policy towards Haiti."

## U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 14TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

### Carolyn Maloney

**Party Affiliation:** Democrat  
**Education:** graduate of Greensboro College

**Career:** public school teacher; analyst to the State Assembly housing and cities Committees

**Legislative Experience:** elected to New York City Council for 10 years in 1982; elected to U.S. Congress in 1992

Carolyn Maloney has consistently fought to make government more efficient, open and responsive over a 20-year career in public service. At the same time, she's never hesitated to challenge wrong-headedness, no matter where it appears.



As a Democratic member of the New York City Council, she filed suit against the Mayor to save taxpayers' money over no-bid sludge-disposal contracts.

In Congress, she withstood tremendous pressure and voted against passage of President Clinton's initial budget and deficit reduction plan because, as she put it, "I was



not elected to be a rubber stamp."

On the revised package with tax hikes reduced for seniors and the energy tax eliminated-she voted in favor of the President's deficit reduction budget.

As part of the largest "freshman class" to enter Congress since 1948, and the largest group of women members ever, Carolyn Maloney has been doing what she's always done: working to change the way government works.

As a congresswoman, Carolyn Maloney is fighting to change the funding formula for aid to cities, ensure a woman's right to choose an abortion remains legal and guarantee access to abortion clinics, increase funding for breast, cervical and ovarian cancer research, grant family and medical leave to those sick or newborn children or ailing parents, enact a bill to block U.S. arms sales to countries that boycott Israel and blacklist U.S. companies, ban assault weapons, pass a tough smart crime bill, and clean up the way campaigns are run.

### Robert Rosenthal

**Party Affiliation:** Democrat  
**Education:** Graduated cum laude from New York University with a degree in music and business

**Occupation:** Traffic coordinator/receptionist  
*(continued on page 15)*

*Statements reprinted as supplied by the candidate. Some statements have been edited for length.*