



## Candidate Questionnaire 2015

**Instructions:** Please return questionnaire via email, fax, or mail:

Email: [JamesParrish@EAdvocates.org](mailto:JamesParrish@EAdvocates.org)

Fax: 804-643-1554

Mail: 530 East Main St Suite 600  
Richmond, VA 23219

**Purpose:** Thank you for taking the time to fill out the Equality Virginia Advocates candidate questionnaire. The questionnaire will help our supporters, the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community, and its allies know where candidates stand on issues important to them. Your returned questionnaire will also serve as part of the evaluation process for EVPAC's Board in regards to endorsements.

**Publication:** Your answers are "on the record" and will be circulated to all members of the EVPAC Board, and may be shared outside the organization and published to the EV Advocates website.

### **Candidate and Campaign Information:**

Name: [A. Donald McEachin](#)

Address: [4719 Nine Mile Road Richmond, Virginia 23223](#)

Phone: [804.226.4111](tel:804.226.4111)

Email: [info@donaldmceachin.com](mailto:info@donaldmceachin.com)

Campaign Website: [www.donaldmceachin.com](http://www.donaldmceachin.com)

Campaign Manager: [Abbi Easter](#)

Campaign Manager Phone/Email: [804.320.0842](tel:804.320.0842), [abbi.easter@gmail.com](mailto:abbi.easter@gmail.com)

### **Race and Election Information**

Office Sought: [Virginia State Senate – 9<sup>th</sup> District](#)

City, County or District of office: [All of Charles City Co., part of Hanover and Henrico Counties, part of the City of Richmond](#)

Select One:  Challenger  Incumbent  Open Seat

## Positions

- A. Equality Virginia asks all General Assembly members to sign a [statement](#) that they do not discriminate in their office based on sexual orientation or gender identity. If you are an incumbent, have you signed EV's nondiscrimination statement [[check here](#)]? If you are not, will you sign the nondiscrimination statement if elected? Please include other actions you and your office take to create an open and inclusive workplace for gay and transgender employees.

I have signed the pledge and I encourage my colleagues to sign it. Our office is open and inclusive for everyone. I have been and will continue to be very vocal about my strong support for these issues and I would hope anyone coming to my office, to visit or for a job, would know that.

- B. Please describe your level of support for the following issues that are legislative priorities for Equality Virginia.
1. Protecting public employees from discrimination based on their real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity.

I have introduced this very legislation for years and will continue to fight for it until no Virginians fears losing a job for these kinds of bigoted reasons.

2. Ensuring that LGBT Virginians have equal access to public accommodations and housing.

Strong support - I am sorry the bill did not report out of committee because I would be eager to support it and advocate for it.

- C. Please describe your level of support for the following issues that are important to EV and Virginia's lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and allied community.
1. Banning "conversion therapy" practiced on LGBT minors.  
Strong support
  2. Protecting all LGBT Virginians from discrimination in the workplace.  
No one should fear losing a job or promotion or position because of discrimination
  3. Removing the Marshall Newman Marriage Amendment from the Virginia Constitution.

Fortunately, the Marshal-Newman amendment has been found to be unconstitutional. It should never have been in our Constitution and now it should be removed.

**D. Provide any additional information regarding your involvement in or support for the LGBT community.**

All Virginians deserve equal opportunity, justice and fairness and that is one of my most critical crucial missions as a legislator. I will continue to introduce legislation, to advocate for others' bills and to use my bully pulpit to make that a reality.

Moreover, I try to be very involved with the LGBT community in supporting goals and events and assisting with advocacy. I have appeared at numerous events, including the EV annual banquet. When possible, I attend Richmond Pride and I am happy to speak on these issues from pulpits and podiums around the Commonwealth.

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. If you have any questions, please contact Equality Virginia Advocates at 804-643-4816 or [JamesParrish@EAdvocates.org](mailto:JamesParrish@EAdvocates.org).