



345 West 44th Street
New York, NY 10036

www.Manzano.org

212-707-8778 t.
212-707-8121 f.

Gary Tilzer
Press Contact
MANZANO 2005
Tel: 212-707-8778
E-mail: Press@Manzano.org
Web: www.Manzano.org

PRESS RELEASE

June 20, 2004

Manhattan Borough President Candidate Endorses Term Limits For State Officeholders

New York – In an article called “Break Down The Walls” and scheduled to be published in the July 2004 issue of *The Clinton Chronicle*, Carlos Manzano, Manhattan Borough President candidate calls for revisions to the municipal term limits law, while encouraging a movement toward term limits for statewide officeholders.

While maintaining strong support for term limits, Manzano proposes that New York City elected officials be allowed to serve three terms instead of two. He describes his position as “a reconciliation” with voters who oppose limits, adding that they will “still appear egregious to those who argue that, as a democracy, we should simply leave the electoral process alone.” Manzano proposes public hearings and a voter referendum to settle the matter.

Manzano also takes statewide officeholders to task, saying that they, too, should be term-limited, calling legislative gridlock in Albany a “triangular finger-pointing blame game.”

In the same article, Manzano recommends broad changes in local Democratic politics, suggesting that public officeholders not be allowed to also hold local, volunteer positions within the party.

“Too often, party officials will also be elected as public officials. It is simply impossible to provide solid and strong local, grassroots leadership when legislators have to be in Albany or Washington, D.C. for three or four days a week, far from the people they represent. Those we send away from the city to serve our interests should remain focused on their work in the governmental bodies to which we elect them. Those who work in local party posts—on whom those same officials depend to keep them up-to-date on local developments—should be in the city conducting their valuable work. These distinctions should be clear and the roles filled individually.”

Manzano adds that these changes will only come about from within the party, whose rules and processes are neither visible nor beholden to voters.

For more information on the Manzano 2005 campaign visit www.manzano.org.
