



**Stewart For Hartford** 

RIGHTS

CIVILITY

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EDUCATION

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This is both a vision and a pledge. The vision is Hartford citizens and all elected officials working without regard to politics, special interests, or fiefdoms. It won't happen in 2023, but consider the possibilities for future elections and appointments.

Hartford's City Council could be completely turned, to a group that puts past policies on ice. Whether it's current Council members running with a new agenda, or insurgents replacing them, voters in November 2027 will be able to decide on all 9 council seats. That could include every one of my current Mayor candidate opponents: McGarry, McCauley, LeBron, Jacobs, Fonfara, Coleman, and Arulampalam. ALL are worthy, and a "reform" council with all of them plus Ms. Rosado and Mr. Gale would be very appealing.

In late 2025, however, Hartford could select a new Mayor. The route is via the City Council's selection of a president, who is the Mayor's successor, and a resignation. I have several citizens in mind to succeed me, the most prominent of whom is Sen. Doug McCrory. Should he or any Council member who is as steadfast about school choice as I am, be elevated to the Council presidency in 2025, I pledge to step aside. I will then attempt to make a similar impact in Waterbury or New Haven, knowing that I've helped Hartford rise higher.

I had hopes that Judge Coleman or Sen. Fonfara would become the Democrat Party's nominee, but the 40% of Democrats who voted for the establishment candidate thwarted this. I still hope both these men will consider serving Hartford directly, whether under Arunan or with me, as part of a Stewart Mayorship. Both are good men with good ideas and a non-traditional streak. Had either won the primary, I likely would have stepped away and supported him.

Following their defeat in the Democratic Party primary, I had hopes that Sen. McCrory would campaign for the Mayor's office. I and others were surprised to see no open ballot slot for him from the Independent Party or the Working Families Party.

So I remain "in" and more eager than ever to use this 2023 election to turn Hartford's governance. Hartford has good and great people, but has been stuck with relatively unresponsive governance. High crime, unreasonable noise, low jobs, ineffective welfare programs, and poorly-run schools exemplify weakness of Hartford's governance. We can turn this around. With the good people mentioned here, and citizens' help, we WILL.

M.S.G. Sept 20, 2023