



Hello. Thank you for the opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Jacqui Carlomagno and I live in Montpelier.

I am running for Obama District Delegate and respectfully ask for your vote at the Vermont Democratic Convention.

After graduating from the University Of Maine School of Law I became a judicial law clerk. I then chose to practice public interest law, representing individuals without power or advantage. I am proudest of the five years I spent working for Vermont Legal Aid, representing clients with disabilities. Currently, I advocate for veterans and their families as the Vermont program director for Veterans' Education and Training.

Between careers I took time at home to raise my children and care for an ailing parent. I became deeply involved in the life of the community and especially in volunteer service to the organizations important in the lives of my children and family.

Two years ago my then 14 year old son found a video of Senator Obama's speech to the 2004 Democratic Convention on the internet and said , "Mama you've got to see this ; *he* should be president." Two months ago, I had the profound experience of working along side my son getting out the vote for Senator Obama.

I believe it is important that the Vermont Delegation to the Democratic Convention includes grassroots Obama supporters. It would be fitting if the delegation included people like me who have been drawn into participating in this political process by the hopeful promise of Senator Obama, as well as the inspired urgency of the young people in our lives. (I have three of those agents of change!)

If sent to Denver, I will use my professional experience and training, including skills in mediation and negotiation, to effectively participate in the business of the convention. When advocating for platform positions important to Vermonters or when discussing rules or votes, I promise to reflect the respectful civility and discipline of our candidate. Most importantly I will honor you, the Obama volunteers and voters, with my steadfast support of Senator Obama.

If I am favored with your vote and sent to Denver on your behalf, I will not only take seriously the business of the convention , nominating Senator

Obama, but I will also take seriously his call to “service and active citizenship”...

I won't just ask for your vote as a candidate; I will ask for your service and your active citizenship when I am president of the United States. This will not be a call issued in one speech or program; this will be a cause of my presidency.”

— *Barack Obama, Speech in Mt. Vernon, Iowa, December 5, 2007*

As part of a volunteer service initiative, the Democratic National Convention staff is working with an organization called Homes for Our Troops building a house in Denver. Homes for Our Troops partners with communities in a way similar to Habitat for Humanity, building specially-adapted homes for servicemen and women who have become severely injured while serving our country. The home will be built right up to the week of the convention and will be presented to Staff Sergeant (SSG) Travis Strong, his wife and two young children. SSG Strong entered the Army after graduating from high school and has served for 11 years. During his second tour of duty in Iraq in 2006, while on patrol, SSG Strong lost both of his legs when an explosion hit his platoon.

The Vermont Delegation should join in these volunteer efforts and I am running for delegate to make it happen. By proposing to expand American volunteer service in the Peace Corp, Senator Obama has challenged us to show the best face of America. In the same way, we should show the country the best face of Vermont at the Democratic National Convention. Our delegates, pledged both to Senator Obama and to Senator Clinton, could work together to show unity and reflect both the enthusiasm for our candidates and also the compassionate vision of Vermonters.

Thank you for your consideration. My family will be raising awareness for the Homes for Our Troops Denver project on Saturday at the State Convention. Please visit our table to learn more.

