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## **National Organization for Women, Rhode Island Chapter Endorses Nirva LaFortune for Providence City Council**

*Only Woman in East Side Primary Race on Wednesday, July 12*

PROVIDENCE, RI - The Rhode Island chapter of the National Organization for Women (RI NOW) today announced its endorsement of Nirva LaFortune for Providence City Council citing her support for civil rights and economic equity. LaFortune is the only woman in a field of five running for the Ward 3 council seat representing Providence's east side.

"Nirva LaFortune's message of unity in the face of racial and economic division is inspiring residents across the east side. We are excited to endorse the only woman of color in a crowded field vying for a seat at the table, and we know she will be a strong voice for Ward 3 on Providence's city council," said Amanda Clarke, past president and current RI NOW PAC member.

RI NOW endorses women and feminist candidates who share the organization's goal to ensure that women fully participate in public and private life free from gender-based barriers. Key issues RI NOW works to address include economic equity, ending violence against women, reproductive health and justice, LGBT civil rights, and ending racism.

"I am honored to join so many incredible leaders in receiving an endorsement from our state chapter of the National Organization for Women," said LaFortune. "NOW has leveraged the voices of women for generations, and I am proud to stand alongside RI NOW in the fight for equality for all."

LaFortune faces several opponents in a Wednesday, July 12 primary election. The general election for the Ward 3 City Council seat is Wednesday, August 16.

### **ABOUT RI NOW**

Rhode Island NOW is the state chapter of the National Organization for Women, the largest organization of feminist grassroots activists in the United States. RI NOW takes action to remove barriers based on gender, seeking to all women and girls have access to comprehensive health care services, are free from violence in all forms, have achieved economic equality, have equal rights regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, and are free of racism. More at: <http://www.rinow.org/>

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*Paid for by Friends of Nirva LaFortune, Joanna Brown treasurer*