

2022 Primary Endorsement Questionnaire

DEADLINE: Submit by 12:00 Noon, Monday, April 18, 2022

Email *

info@sanchez2022.com



Thank you for your interest in being considered for an endorsement by the Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County. Please answer each question in 250 words or less. Be honest and direct. Please submit your responses by 12 Noon, Monday, Apr. 18. All questionnaire responses will be posted on our website for Caucus members to review.

Personal Information

Candidate Name *

Yesenia Sanchez

City and zip code of residence.

Livermore 94550

What is your campaign website address?

www.sanchez4sheriff.com

What is your campaign email address?

info@sanchez2022.com

Are you a registered Democrat? The APA Democratic Caucus can only endorse registered Democrats *

Yes

No

Are you an APA Democratic Caucus member? *

Yes

No

How long have you lived in the district which you are seeking to represent?

Year and a half

What are the names of any community or nonprofit organizations with which you have been an active volunteer in the past 3-5 years.

None

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

1. What actions have you taken to address anti-Asian discrimination/bullying/harassment?

Please explain in what capacity you have acted and whether any of these actions were prior to 2020. (i.e., as an elected representative, member of commission/board/organization, and as an individual.

As an individual and a leader in my organization, I have always addressed any type of discrimination or harassment immediately once an allegation was brought to my attention. I do not tolerate any discrimination/harassment/bullying and I pay particularly close attention to make sure there is no presence of anti-Asian hate behavior or comments. Being this is my first political endeavor, I have not taken any actions as an elected official. When I am sheriff, I will work with our justice partners to ensure anti-Asian hate crimes are prosecuted and those who commit these crimes are held accountable to the fullest extent.

2. One out of every 3 Alameda County residents is of Asian ancestry but are underrepresented in elected office. What have you done and will you do to elevate their issues of concern?

Being a woman of color, I am keenly aware of the challenges and struggles people of color endure in the community. I will make myself accessible to our Asian communities to listen and address their concerns. I will also focus recruiting efforts in our Asian communities to draw more bilingual Asians into the sheriff's office. Our communities want to see a reflection of themselves when law enforcement shows up. I will develop our Asian deputies to ensure they have opportunities to advance in the sheriff's office and take on leadership positions and roles.

3. One-third of Alameda County residents were born in another country. Do you believe that the needs of immigrants have been adequately addressed by the office you are seeking to represent? What changes are needed to better center their needs?

Right now the sheriff's office communicates with ICE to the fullest extent of the law. I will cease this practice and only communicate with ICE when a criminal warrant is produced for someone. I believe anyone residing in our community should feel safe and trust their local law enforcement will not be enforcers of deportation efforts. I will ensure our undocumented residents were aware I had a policy of not communicating with ICE and they will be afforded the same level of service as our citizens.

4. What have you learned about Asian Americans in the past year that you were previously unaware of and how has that impacted you?

With the rise in Anti-Asian hate, I saw the Asian communities come together to take action and voice their concerns to their elected and law enforcement leaders. I saw them take to the streets in large numbers to volunteer their time and provide safety to their community members. Volunteers with the East Bay Toishan Association began foot patrols on the streets of Oakland's Chinatown which reduced the number of Anti-Asian hate incidents. I learned how community driven our Asian communities are and their willingness to take matters into their own hands to stop violence and ensure their streets are safe!

5. What is the difference between supporting Asian American/Pacific Islander issues and being an Ally?

To support the fight against Anti-Asian hate, for example, is a good way to call people to acknowledge what is happening across the world and locally. To become an ally is to work together with organizations taking ACTION against Anti-Asian hate. I will be an ally for the Asian American/Pacific Islander communities. I will be present and listen to their voices and do what I can within my authority to address those concerns. I will work in partnership with organizations to address safety concerns.

6. What resources (people/organizations) will you tap to increase your knowledge and understanding of the on-going needs of the Asian and Pacific Americans living in your district?

I will work with Elaine Peng, Founding Director of Mental Health Association for Chinese Communities and co-founder of the Orange Patrol in Oakland Chinatown. I will work with Stewart Chen and the Oakland Asian Cultural Center and any other organization offering services to the Asian communities in Alameda County.

7. Please identify any Asian Pacific American candidates whom you have publicly endorsed/supported over the past 5 years including this election cycle. If there are none, please explain.

This is my first time entering into the political world :) I have not publicly supported or endorsed anyone during this election cycle because I am not in a position to do so. Moving forward as sheriff, I will support Asian Pacific American candidates seeking office!

Thank you for completing our questionnaire.

Only candidates who submit questionnaires by noon Monday, April 18 will be considered for endorsement.

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