

2022 Primary Endorsement Questionnaire

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

Email *

info@joannwalker4sheriff.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 *

JoAnn Walker

City and zip code of residence.

P.O.Box 56050, Hayward, Ca 94545

What is your campaign website address?

www.joannwalker4sheriff.com

What is your campaign email address?

info@joannwalker4sheriff.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?

Over 40 years

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

Crisis Support Services, Alameda County

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, I have addressed fairness, equality, and inclusion with ALL of my students over 27+ years, prior to the pandemic. During the first week of classes at CSUEB, I allowed students to participate in an ice breaker activity where they were required to meet several new people and learn three things about their new friends. The activity helped the students lower their defenses develop a collaborative approach to learning and open their minds/hearts to learn w/o a sense of entitlement/implicit/explicit bias.

At the end of each quarter/semester, I introduced another activity Re Cardiovascular Disease. Students, through a systematic approach, were put into groups of 5 where the grade depended upon help/collaboration from each member of the group and no cell phones. Each group presented their findings in front of the class and the audience critiqued the presenters.

After each presentation, students learned that cardiovascular disease does not discriminate; that the disease can affect at least one in every family; and to encourage their families to participate in healthy ways of living which is a life-long learning process regardless of ethnicity, race, gender, sexuality, age, or socio-economic background. On short, students learned to respect each others health challenges.

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?

Listen to their concerns and continue doing what I have done throughout my 27+ years as a teacher, 4 years as a field trainer and as an Academy Instructor of 7 years with SFPD - provide opportunities for learning and preparation for future success/leadership which is diverse, equitable, and inclusive.

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?

I have no hard statistics that demonstrate that the needs of immigrants are not adequately addressed by ACSO. However, the overriding complaint that has come to my attention relates to the collaboration ACSO has with ICE on property grounds at SR Jail after an arrestee has completed his/her sentence. I will follow SB 54, "The California Values Act" and endure immigrants are not handed over to ICE unless there is a pending warrant signed by a federal magistrate. I will treat immigrants like anyone else arrested in Alameda County. I will follow the requirements of the Vision Act (AB 937) should it become law. SB 54 has passed the Assembly but has yet to pass the Senate.

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

According to the SF Chronicle dated 3/26/22, reports made to Stop AAPI Hate - a crowdsourced database, "Asian women bore the brunt of the animosity as the total number of hate incidents reported in the U.S. climbed 35% last year to 6,273 in 2021."

I thought about injured, psychologically fragile, broken people who feel disregarded by society and/or institutions. They are full of such hatred, rage, and hopelessness which overtakes their sensibilities. They then make a very poor decision to act out on easy targets, i.e. our seniors, children, and disabled, or physically weak residents which creates communities who are now full of fear and who experience physical injury, psychological trauma, and hopelessness.

I advocate for our leaders and communities to do whatever we can to decrease hate incidents. Communities must organize. Neighborhoods must develop Neighborhood Watch programs. LE must be visible in the areas where the incidents occur to prevent crimes, get to know the residents, and to develop trust. Suspects must learn that their actions will not be tolerated for AAPI or ANY other group. Accountability for those brutal attacks on innocent people must occur. The CJ system has options and so do DAs who investigate the cases. DAs look at the factors that contribute to the violations (at least they should), discuss charges they can support / prove in court and provide resources for victims and their families. As a county, we should develop the position that Public safety is everyone's responsibility.

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

Support = to provide assistance by giving approval, comfort and encouragement, or being capable of sustaining. It doesn't have a defined end-goal or time-frame.

Ally= An individual, country, or organization that combines or unites a resource or commodity with (another) for mutual benefit, in an on-going effort, activity, or struggle ie a political ally.

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 listen to elected officials, local leaders, members of my staff, LE organizations, CBOs, and community members. I welcome social media and newspaper articles as well as a Citizen's Advisory Board etc to improve upon my knowledge and understanding of the on-going needs of Asians and Pacific Americans living in AC. As Coordinator of Cultural Competency at SFPD Academy, my role was to ensure instructors tailored their programs to the expectations outlined by POST. So understanding the cultural differences of community members and treating people with dignity and respect through education and training is important to build legitimacy and trust with ALL communities in efforts to prevent crime and increase public safety.

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.

Kamala Harris/Rob Bonta

Thank you for completing our questionnaire.

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

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms