

2022 Endorsement Questionnaire- General Election - City Elections

Email *

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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 note: your questionnaire will be posted on our website for Caucus members to review. Please submit your responses by Tuesday, Sept. 6 by 5 pm.

Personal Information

Candidate Name *

Abbey Kerins

City and zip code of residence.

94577

What is your campaign website address?

abbeykerins.com

What is your campaign email address?

abbey.kerins@gmail.com

What is the office that you are seeking? *

- City of Alameda, Mayor
- City of Alameda, City Council
- City of Alameda, School Board
- City of Albany, City Council
- City of Albany, School Board
- City of Berkeley, City Council, Dist. 1
- City of Berkeley, City Council, Dist. 8
- City of Berkeley, School Board
- City of Berkeley, Rent Stabilization Board
- City of Dublin, City Council, Dist. 2
- City of Dublin, City Council
- City of Dublin, School Board (short term)
- City of Dublin, School Board, Area 5
- City of Emeryville, City Council
- City of Emeryville, School Board
- City of Fremont, City Council, Dist. 2
- City of Fremont, City Council, Dist. 3
- City of Fremont, City Council, Dist. 4
- City of Fremont, School Board, #3
- City of Hayward, City Council
- City of Hayward, School Board (long term)
- City of Hayward, School Board (short term)
- City of Livermore, Mayor

- City of Livermore, Mayor
- City of Livermore, City Council, Dist. 1
- City of Livermore, City Council, Dist. 2
- City of Livermore, School Board
- City of Newark, Mayor
- City of Newark, City Council
- City of Newark, School Board
- City of Oakland, Mayor
- City of Oakland, City Council, Dist. 2
- City of Oakland, City Council, Dist. 4
- City of Oakland, City Council, Dist. 6
- City of Oakland, School Board, Dist. 2
- City of Oakland, School Board, Dist. 4
- City of Oakland, School Board, Dist. 6
- City of Piedmont, City Council
- City of Piedmont, School Board
- City of Pleasanton, City Council, Dist 1
- City of Pleasanton, City Council, Dist. 3
- City of San Leandro, Mayor
- City of San Leandro, City Council, Dist. 1
- City of San Leandro, City Council Dist. 5
- City of San Leandro, School Bd., Area 2
- City of Union City, City Council, Dist. 2
- City of Union City, City Council, Dist. 3
- City of Union City, City Council, Dist. 4

New Haven School District, #4

Other:

Are you the incumbent?

Yes

No

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

Yes

No

Are you an APA Caucus member?

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement?

I believe that we need to take a stronger stance and more decisive action against the rise of anti-Asian hate nationally and locally. In San Jose alone, there has been an increase 150% of Anti-Asian hate crimes in 2019-20. Our nation has a long and ugly history of discriminatory practices and policies targeted toward our members of our community that are of Asian descent, and this reality affects me as a citizen and wife and mother. My husband is Japanese and Chinese, 4th generation on both sides. While I'm a white presenting Puerto-Rican American, I am proud to be a mother to a child that is multi-racial. Because most people will see her Asian background first, I believe it is important to support her to develop a deep sense of self-love. I am fortunate to have become close to the Japanese-American and Chinese-American community, and have participated in numerous community events to celebrate and honor the history and heritage. I am a regular attendee at AAPI Legal Outreach fundraising events, volunteer at the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California during Oshogatsu and their annual Christmas fundraiser, and have participated in art events with my family. I will always speak out and take direct action to protect the Asian-American community from the prejudices that have barred their way to access in education and the prejudice of the "model minority" myth.

List ONLY the top 5 endorsements that you have received. (Please reference your website if you want to alert us to more).

Delaine Eastin, James Aguilar, Megan Sweet, Nicole Knight, Lisa Andrew

If we endorse you, will you use our name in your campaign materials?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

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

3 years

Educational background: What schools have you attended, date graduated, major and degree(s) earned.

I have 2 masters degrees. One in Educational Leadership (2016) and another in Teaching (2006). I graduated from Brown University and went to the New School for Social Research for undergraduate (2000).

Employment: List the last three (3) paid positions, indicating name of employer, job title, and length of employment.

Director of Special Projects, Newark Unified School District. Assistant Principal at San Leandro High School, SLUSD. Literacy Coordinator, OUSD.

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. I'm a dedicated educator and have not had much time to lend toward additional non-profit service.

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/or as an individual.

2. One out of every 3 Alameda County residents is of Asian ancestry but are underrepresented in elected office and make-up 28% of all eligible voters in the County overall. Do you believe the legislative body you are seeking to represent has adequately served Asian and Pacific Americans? Why or why not?

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?

4. Please identify the three largest APA ethnicities in your district.

5. Please identify the most at-risk APA community in your district and explain why.

6. What have you learned about Asian Americans in the past 2 years that you were previously unaware of and how has that impacted you?

7. How do you think microaggressions and verbal harassment against Asians and other marginalized community members can be better addressed and what will you commit to doing? If you have intervened in the past, please describe what you did.

8. 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?

9. Please list any Asian American candidates you have publicly endorsed.

Thank you for completing our questionnaire.

Please Submit your responses by Sep. 6, 5 pm. We will be holding several zoom endorsement meetings covering all three regions of the County before the end of September, tbd. Only those candidates completing the questionnaire will be on our endorsement ballot. No changes to your responses can be made after it is submitted.

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