

2024 Central Committee Questionnaire

We expect the responses to be based on each candidate's individual lived experience.

Email *

seandugar@gmail.com

Basic Information

Endorsement Questionnaire



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. Caucus members attending our Endorsement meeting on January 13 will be provided a ballot to vote. Only candidates who have submitted their completed questionnaire will be listed on the ballot. Questionnaires must be submitted by December 28 at 5 PM.

Personal Information

Candidate Name *

Sean Dugar

City and zip code of residence. *

Oakland 94607

What is your campaign website address?

www.seandugar.com

What is your campaign email address? *

seandugar@gmail.com

What is the office that you are seeking? *

- Central Committee AD 14
- Central Committee AD 16
- Central Committee AD 18
- Central Committee AD 20
- Central Committee AD 24

Are you an incumbent? *

- Yes
- No

Are you a registered Democrat? *

Yes

No

Are you on a slate? If so, please identify. *

United Voices for Democracy

Are you an APA Caucus member? *

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement? *

My first interaction with the Alameda County Democratic Party was one I will never forget. At just 18 years old I screamed at, berated, and told I had no place in this party. I've made it my mission to ensure no one endures what I had to go through. This means making the Party more welcoming, supportive, and culturally competent. Building a diverse and winning coalition is what I do professionally and what I want to do on the ACDCC. This only happens with the support of diverse groups like the APA Caucus.

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

Yes

No

Maybe

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

18+ years

Please list what experiences most qualify you to serve on the Central Committee (e.g., education, work, volunteer, life experiences, political campaigns) *

Appointed Incumbent - ACDCCC
Elected DNC Member - 2020-Current
Political Director - Barbara Lee for US Senate
Non-profit Leader - 2002-Current
Outreach Director - John Chiang for Governor

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS - Central Committee

1. What percentage of the district in which you are running are of APA heritage? And what are top three Asian ethnic groups? *

In AD 18 residents of APA heritage make up 19.4% of the population yet 21.5% of the voting population.

The top 3 AAPI ethnic groups are Chinese, East Indian, and Filipino.

2. Asian Americans are the fastest growing population in Alameda County and are in the majority in three cities. While the majority are Democrats, a growing number are registering as No Party Preference. How can the Central Committee be more relevant to these communities? *

The Alameda County Democratic Party must build long term and authentic relationships with communities, including communities of color, and especially the AAPI community.

Far too often the ACDCC acts as more of a social club resistant to new diverse voices. In my first interaction I was screamed at, berated, and told I had no place in this party. I have since made it my mission to make our party welcoming of all who want to make our party and their communities a better place.

3. List three ways in which you could help the CC promote a greater awareness of issues of concern to the A/PA communities and support greater representation on elected bodies. *

I would like to see a restructuring of our DCCC to enable identity based caucuses to advise the body on policies/resolutions and build relationships within their communities.

Representation and lived experiences matter. We are the bluest county in the bluest state in the nation, yet for nearly 30 years there's only been 1 Chair of color serving just a couple of years. The passing of Chair Sandoval should have propelled the search for a consensus candidate of color to fill her shoes. I will do everything in my power to ensure the leadership of our party reflects the diversity of our county.

We must support qualified candidates who reflect their communities. This means providing thorough and regular candidate trainings, recruiting candidates who match our progressive party platform to run for every office, and putting in the financial and people powered resources to support those candidates across the county.

4. Please name local Asian American candidates the Central Committee has endorsed in the past 10 years. *

Attorney General Rob Bonta, State Controller (ret.) Betty Yee, US Rep. Ro Khanna, Oakland Mayor (ret.) Jean Quan, Alameda City Councilmember Malia Vella, State Senate Dist. 10 – Hon. Aisha Wahab State Assembly Dist. 24 – Hon. Alex Lee Alameda USD Director – Hon. Gary Lym Albany USD Director – Sadia Khan Berkeley Auditor – Hon. Jenny Wong Berkeley Councilmember – Dist. 1, Hon. Rashi Kesarwani; Dist. 7, Hon. Rigel Robinson Dublin Councilmember – Kashaf Qaadri Livermore Councilmember – Dist. 2, Mel Chiong New Haven USD Director – Area 4, Shruti Kumar Oakland Mayor – Hon. Sheng Thao Oakland Councilmember – Dist. 2, Hon. Nikki Fortunato Bas; Dist. 4, Janani Ramachandran Pleasanton Councilmember – Dist. 3, Jamie Yee Union City Councilmember – Dist. 4, Scott Sakakihara A.C. Transit Director – At-Large, Alfred Twu BART Director – Dist. 6, Lance Nishihira

5. Proposing and adopting resolutions is one of the main functions of the CC. Some of the resolutions over the past several years impacted members of the APA communities. Please comment on what you think of those resolutions. *

* Incumbents - response is required.

Over my just under 2 years on the Central Committee I've supported resolutions on AAPI Hate and opposed resolutions which I believe pit communities against each other. We cannot become the same as the party we are fighting against.

6. Do you believe that the vetting process for Resolutions is adequate? Please explain your response. *

I believe the new resolutions process we have in place works, when the rules and process is followed. What I do not think works is the business of the party being conducted hours into a meeting. We must restructure our meeting to be more effective and allow for full participation.

7. How impactful have the past resolutions been on the quality of life for low-income Alameda County residents? *

The sad reality is that our resolutions have no teeth and few electeds listen to what we have to say. One way to change this is to release an annual or semi-annual report card on how local electeds have voted on positions we've taken. This also could be taken into consideration in the endorsement process.

Thank you for completing our questionnaire.

Please submit your responses by Dec. 28, 5 pm. Our Zoom Endorsement Meeting is scheduled for January 13 beginning at 10 am. 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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