

# 2024 Central Committee Questionnaire

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

Email \*

tracyjensenalameda@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 \*

Tracy Jensen

City and zip code of residence. \*

Alameda 94501

What is your campaign website address?

www.tracyjensen.com

What is your campaign email address? \*

tracyjensenalameda@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. \*

no

Are you an APA Caucus member? \*

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement? \*

The API caucus represents an important Alameda constituency and I want my campaign and, if elected, my positions as a Delegate to represent the needs of API residents.

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? \*

More than 40 years. I grew up in Alameda and left in the 80s - returning in 2000 after graduate school in Atlanta and positions with the Maryland Legislature and the Clinton Administration.

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

- +Office of CA14 Assemblymember Johan Klehs 1984-86
- +Office of CA18 Assemblymember Delaine Eastin 1986-87
- +Emory University MBA and MPH 1988-1990 - focus on universal health care access
- +US Department of Health and Human Services 1992-1997: liaison to healthcare industry for Medicare managed care programs and services
- +Office of Vice President Al Gore 1998-2000: worked with states and school districts to implement Childrens Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
- +City of Oakland 2000-2023: Oakland's first appointed Senior Services Administrator; expanded services and improved access for vulnerable, low income senior residents.
- +Alameda Unified School District Trustee 2002-2010
- +Alameda Healthcare District Director 2013-2022
- +Alameda Heath System Trustee 2014-2022
- +Alameda City Councilmember 2022-present

## 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? \*

AD District 18 is one of the most diverse districts in the most diverse state in the nation. AD18 is part of Alameda County, which has a 34% majority Asian population. The ethnic groups that comprise the largest number of bay area Asian residents are Chinese, Philipino and Indian - in Alameda County and AD18 the Indian ethnic group may be surpassed by Vietnamese residents.

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? \*

Recent national studies and polling shows that the majority of Asian Americans vote with the Democratic Party, and this is particularly true in California. On issues like policing, race-based college admissions, and nonconforming gender rights, Asian voters may feel uncomfortable with the Democratic Party platform. I think that the Central Committee should listen to API voters and respond to legitimate concerns about dogmatic, culture-blind positions. Asian voters, regardless of party, have been subjected to racial profiling and racial quotas, and the Democratic Central Committee should identify ways to change those systems to benefit all. And for all Democratic Party members, the Central Committee can support diversity, equity and inclusion while not de-valuing deeply held cultural beliefs.

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. \*

Alameda is home to a large API population, and our schools, city programs, public safety officers, elected and appointed positions reflect the Island's Asian diversity. Alameda unified school district had "student" board members, and helped prepare young people for future public policy positions and I believe that the City of Alameda could support young Asian American residents for these roles in a similar way. Our Library and Parks have held Asian Heritage events, and these could also be used to share information about public opportunities.

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

Mia Bonta, Malia Vella, Sheng Tao, Nikki Bas, Rob Bonta, Alfred Twu, Lance Nishihira, Teresa Keng, Raj Salwan, Jamie Yee, Lance Kwan, Aisha Wahab, Ro Khanna, Janani Ramachandran, Fiona Ma, Betty Yee,

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.

I think that the resolutions developed and adopted by the CC are intended to address Democratic principles and support diverse Alameda county residents, including APA communities. The CC could be more impactful if resolutions were discussed through a lens of DEI, and issues that may be impactful for APA were outlined at the start of the debate rather than brought up during discussion.

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

If elected, I would work to develop more thoughtful, reasoned vetting of CC resolutions.

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

In some ways the CC resolutions are more impactful on the quality fo life for low-income Alameda residents, especially the advocacy for GBI, and the attention to racial profiling. In other ways, the attention to defunding public safety has been detrimental to these communities where crime may be more prevalent.

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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