

East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club Candidate Questionnaire

Jim Johnson

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Q1 First name

Jim

Q2 Last name

Johnson

Q3 Office you are seeking

Alameda County Assessor

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Q5 Are you a registered Democrat?

Yes

Q6 If so for how long?

In Alameda County - 3 months

Q7 With which Democratic organizations are you affiliated?

Member - City of Alameda Democratic Club

Q8 Are you a member of the East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club?

No

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Q9 If so for how long?

N/A

Q10 If not have you supported or contributed to the club in some way?

No

Q11 What other lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) organizations are you affiliated with and in what capacity?

None

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Q12 What specifically have you done to advance LGBT rights and/or to nurture an inclusive and affirming community for LGBT individuals and families? Please give specific examples.

I have always voted for LGBT rights. Ever since my first real job in 1981 where a gay co-worker talked to me about his life.

Q13 Who are your LGBT supporters?

None

Q14 What LGBT candidates have you supported, and did it include financial or campaign support?

I support the best candidate for the office regardless of whether they are LGBT or not. No to the second question

Q15 What other issues or causes have you advocated for that you feel are relevant to the LGBT community?

None

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Q16 What makes you uniquely qualified for the office you are seeking?

Experience - 26 years in the Assessor's office with that last 10 years in the top civil service position in the office. Working closely with the current Assessor, Ron Thomsen, I have helped decide budget issue, effectively resolved personnel matters, addressed assessment legal cases and have worked with City financial officers. I am being endorsed by Assessor Thomsen because he knows I am the most qualified person for the job and that is why all the top managers in the office are actively supporting my candidacy

Q17 Why should Stonewall consider you over your opponents for an early endorsement other than being LGBTQ?

I am the most qualified for the job.

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Q18 What would be your main policy goals?

To follow the law, not create the law. To enroll fair and equitable assessments. To continue our focus on excellent customer service. To continue to invest in technology at the current rate of 2x other similar sized departments.

Q19 How do these goals relate to the LGBT community?

They don't. This job is focused on following State law and guidance by the State Board of Equalization, while administering an office with 176 positions and a budget of \$27 million.

Q20 What do you hope to accomplish if you are elected?

To continue the current policies that have led to near perfect ratings by the State when they audit our office every 5 years. Expand mobile apps in the field for appraisers, enlarge the Exemption staff to handle the rise in low income filings, continue our imaging project for all documents and continue to improve our assessment system, which is the best in the State.

Q21 Why do you feel you can win this race?

I have the experience. I have the backing of the current Assessor and top managers in my office. If you listen to my message and then the other candidates, if you don't pre-judge the race, you will vote for me.
