

# East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club Candidate Questionnaire

**Nancy O'Malley**

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**Q1** First name

Nancy

**Q2** Last name

O'Malley

**Q3** Office you are seeking

Alameda County District Attorney

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**Q5** Are you a registered Democrat?

Yes

**Q6** If so for how long?

45 years

**Q7** With which Democratic organizations are you affiliated?

Alameda County Democratic Lawyers Association; in the past, Asian Democratic Club; Alameda Democratic Club; East Bay Womens Political Alliance (formerly NWPC); I am a member of Stonewall Democratic Club

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

Yes

## East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club Candidate Questionnaire

**Q9** If so for how long?

4 months

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

I have supported the Club by sponsoring events and attending events

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

I have worked with Tiffany Woods on issues affecting Transgender and through TransVision; I have supported BALIF in the past and I work with Gay and Lesbian attorneys within my Office

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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 am affirmatively hired gay and lesbian attorneys, investigators, victim advocates and administrative staff in my Office to ensure that my staff reflects the communities we serve and with whom we work. I have organized and convened law enforcement training that focuses on working with LGBT individuals. Beginning in 2010, at the Alameda County Family Justice Center, I hired a new attorney whom I mentored through Law School. She is gay and her assignment was to create policies and practices on responding to domestic violence in same sex couples. I have trained attorneys and trained LGBT trainers to provide extensive training to professionals working within the criminal justice system and the health care to better respond to LGBT in a culturally competent manner. I created a training and engaged the trainers, including Tiffany Woods and Terra Slavin (from Los Angeles) to provide training for all of the county's law enforcement and DA staff, non-profit advocates and health workers involving issues affecting the transgender community, which heretofore had been ignored or misunderstood. The training was entitled "Working With Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Domestic Violence Survivors." In 2013, I had Assistant DA Kim Hunter providing the training specifically for the East Bay Regional Park Department. I have spoken at the Day of Remembrance honoring transgender individuals who had been killed in that specific year. My Office has also prosecuted cases involving the murders of transgender individuals.

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**Q13** Who are your LGBT supporters?

Tiffany Woods, Michael Colbruno, John Gooding, Kamika Dunlap and other members of Stonewall Dem Club, Senator Scott Weiner, Judge Tara Flannigan, Kim Hunter, Abigail Mulvihill, Brian Owens, Dr. James Crawford-Jukubiak and Dr. Martin Crawford-Jukubiak, whose wedding I performed on Prop 8 was struck down by the Supreme Court. I have many, many supporters throughout the county and beyond, many of whom are LGBT

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

I supported Judge Tara Flannigan in her first race for judge and support her now. I have supported Senator Scott Weiner for his election to the California Senate, I have supported Senator Toni Atkins, the first woman President Pro Tem, I have supported DAs Bonnie Dumanis and Jill Ravitch for their elections and did donate money, I have worked with and supported former Senator and now LA Board of Supervisors Sheila Kuehl but have not providing financial support. This is only a partial list of LGBT candidates I have supported for office

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

I have fought for gay and lesbian parents in the adoption process and fought for their rights to receive the same benefits as straight parents. I led the policy change within my own Office to ensure the same family benefits and rights for gay / lesbian families as straight families. I also rewrote the office policy to ensure anti-discrimination against an individual based on their sexual orientation or gender identity. I have provided guidance to other DA offices on development of office policies that replicate my anti-discrimination practices. I am a strong and vocal advocate for equal rights and am a recognized leader in public policies and education regarding interpersonal violence in same sex relationships as well as aggressive prosecution of crimes committed against members of the LGBT community. I am also a national leader in advancing victims rights that have always included culturally competent support for LGBT community

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

I have been the DA for 8 years and in the Office for 33 years. I rose through the ranks of the DA's Office quickly and have been assigned to most of the positions within the Office. I know this Office better than anyone. As a national and statewide leader and an activist, I have led the efforts to combat human trafficking, including trafficking of LGBTQ youth who are far too often overlooked and ignored. I have created several initiatives that have improved outcomes for victims of crime, such as H.E.A.T. Watch, the Alameda County Family Justice Center and many more. I have created several working and advisory groups, including the Animal Abuse Task Force, the Labor Trafficking Task Force, the H.E.A.T. Institute for research, the AC United Against Human Trafficking and many more. Many of those programs have received national and statewide awards, including the elimination of the backlog of untested sexual assault kits. I began my advocacy in Alameda County -- we have no backlog now -- and in D.C. resulting in more than \$175 million that has been allocated across the country for this purpose. When I became DA, there were 300 employees. There are now 404 employees due to the creation of several initiatives and expansions, including Environmental Protection, Prescription Drug Abuse, the Family Justice Center, Girls Court and SafetyNet for young commercially exploited children and the like. My budget is nearly \$80 million of which I and my staff successfully generate more than \$17 million each year. I have also created several programs to divert those involved in crime away from incarceration and on to pathways of success. I have written 49 bills that have become law in California and currently have 8 bills pending in the legislature. I have received numerous awards, including the American Bar Association's Margaret Brent Award for Excellence -- I am the only prosecutor to ever receive that award and I share it with Hillary Clinton, Ruth Bader-Ginsburg and other superstars. The DA is the Chief Law Enforcement Officer of the County. The DA must know the job to do the job. I make tough decisions every single day and I am committed to ensuring justice. The role of the prosecutor is to seek justice, not convictions. We also serve victims of crime and last year, we provided more than 90,000 services to more than 30,000 victims, of which 76% are people of color. My Office is recognized as one of the best prosecutor offices in the nation and I am proud to carry on the fine traditions of professionalism and excellence.

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

I have a strong, extensive proven track record of serving my community with the highest ethical and professional standards. I am a visionary who is also has the skill of strategic planning and implementation. I have a strong reputation among funders and have been successful in generating the resources I need to put plans into action. I am a woman who has spent my adult life lifting up and empowering others and communities. As a rape crisis advocate in the 70s, witnessing injustices in the criminal justice system, I vowed then and continuing through today, to fight injustice and improve the lives of those I serve. As a cancer survivor, I am guided by my humanity and my strength of character to always do the right thing for the right reasons.

My opponent has done none of the above. She does not have management or prosecutorial experience. She has little to no experience in the criminal justice system. She is not qualified for THIS job.

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### **Q18** What would be your main policy goals?

I have led and will continue to lead, the efforts in bail reform. Our Pre-trial incarceration population is 24% as compared to the statewide average of 70%. I have led the creation of and will continue to expand the collaborative, specialized courts that deal with root causes of why someone may commit crimes. The Family Justice Center has been awarded a grant to be a "Trauma Recovery Center" and I will continue to grow the effective programs and ensure that the Center is a place of response, recovery, empowerment and hope. I have created many, many successful programs and I'm not done. I strive to a place where we are preventing human trafficking of our children.

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### **Q19** How do these goals relate to the LGBT community?

The goals I identify, my leadership and the work I do are to ensure inclusion, equality and equity to all. We are transforming workplaces, some in 100 year old buildings, to create all-gender bathrooms. It is important to me that my Office staff, the lawyers and investigators, include LGBT individuals. Gender identity is personal to each individual, be they an employee, a victim of crime or a defendant. Gender identity may be a separate issue from one's sex, biological makeup or sexual orientation. Our policy is and always to respect an individual's gender identity and refer to the individual by their gender identity, whether it be in the courtroom, the workplace or the community

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

I will continue the fine work of ensuring equality, equity and justice in Alameda County. I will continue to identify and adopt initiatives that promote public safety, healthy families and neighborhoods and empowered communities

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### **Q21** Why do you feel you can win this race?

I have been successful in my fundraising. My support is broad and diverse. I have a strong track record of accomplishments. I have a reputation as a progressive, strong leader. I have the experience necessary to do this job and I have the respect of many of our leaders, including Senators Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris, our mayors and city council leaders, leaders in the community, law enforcement and the Board of Supervisors. I have the support of our leaders in Sacramento and my support is diverse in gender, in gender-identity, in ethnicity, in race, in career and profession and throughout the entire County of Alameda

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