

East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club Candidate Questionnaire

Pamela Price

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Q1 First name

Pamela

Q2 Last name

Price

Q3 Office you are seeking

District Attorney

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Q5 Are you a registered Democrat?

Yes

Q6 If so for how long?

Since 1974

Q7 With which Democratic organizations are you affiliated?

Alameda County Democratic Party (Central Committee); Oakland East Bay Democratic Club, John George Democratic Club, Wellstone Democratic Club, Tri-City Democratic Club, City of Alameda Democratic Club

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

Yes

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Q9 If so for how long?

2017

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

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.

Fighting tirelessly for those who have experienced discrimination and injustice has been a cornerstone of my life. As a young woman between 1977-1980, I joined and agreed to serve as the lead plaintiff in Alexander v. Yale, the first sexual harassment lawsuit under Title IX. I stood proudly with other activists, including early LGBT pioneers, to give sexual harassment a name and give victims a remedy. I have publicly opposed organizations that oppose LGBTQ equality. In 2008, I renounced my decade-long membership in Acts Full Gospel COGIC because of the Pastor (and Church's) anti-gay activities and documented my position in a written letter to the Pastor and the local Bishop.

Q13 Who are your LGBT supporters?

Anne Simon, Linton Johnson, Jeff Johnson, Simona Farrise, Lisa Campbell, Carlos Uribe, Ecaterina Burton, Gwen Booze, Karen Anderson, Joey Smith, Tanya Brown, Gabriel Quinto, Cesar Zepeda, Chaney Turner, Rebecca Kaplan, Angela Davis, Ernesto Arevalo,

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

Cesar Zepeda (both financial & campaign support), Joey Smith (both financial & campaign support), Simona Farrise (campaign & financial support)

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

Fighting tirelessly for those who have experienced discrimination and injustice has been a cornerstone of my life. I believe that criminal justice reform, particularly prison, bail and jail reform, is extremely relevant to the LGBT community inasmuch as persons who identify as LGBTQ are extremely vulnerable in those situations and have often suffered abusive treatment in the conditions created by mass incarceration.

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

I am a civil rights lawyer with a history of seeking justice for all, a deep and abiding respect for the Constitution and a passion for the people I am privileged to serve. I am a long-term resident of the East Bay who has lived in various parts of Alameda County from the deep East Oakland to South Berkeley. I am a proud and strong Black woman who has been a champion for social justice, both racial and gender equality and inclusion. I have sued cops and represented cops, victims of sexual exploitation and gender violence, and I am a survivor of both domestic violence and state-initiated injustice. As a victim of domestic violence, I was prosecuted unsuccessfully by the Alameda County District Attorneys' office. I survived that effort to destroy my life and went on to successfully argue a case in the highest court of this land, the United States Supreme Court. Every chapter in my life has prepared me and makes me uniquely qualified to serve in this role.

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

Because I have advocated for issues that uniquely impact the LGBTQ community and have stood with the community for over 40 years.

Q18 What would be your main policy goals?

1. Establish new standards for police accountability to hold bad cops accountable for bad acts

I will not support officers who beat and kill people, engage in unconstitutional conduct, participate in sex trafficking or obstruct justice

2. Change our money bail system to a risk-based alternative system

3. Expand restorative justice programs for kids and adults - current eligibility criteria are so strict that they filter out many people who deserve a second chance

4. Give survivors of abuse & trauma a helping & healing hand

5. Hire prosecutors who want to change lives, not ruin them

6. Root out the causes of racial disparities and the decisions that fuel the gross racial inequality

7. Review all cases where the death penalty has been charged with an eye to removing that penalty

8. Create a new culture of transparency and fairness in the DA's office

9. Break the school to prison pipeline (and)

10. Give everyone a second chance at a first class life

Q19 How do these goals relate to the LGBT community?

Changing the money bail system would have a direct impact on the safety of LGBT members who are caught up in the criminal justice system and unable to post bail; ensuring that survivors of abuse and trauma, including sexual exploitation or abuse, receive a helping and healing hand would provide relief to members of the LGBT community who was often extremely vulnerable to this type of abuse, rooting out racial disparities and the decisions that fuel the gross racial inequities would also impact Black and Brown members of the LGBT community who are most vulnerable to incarceration and racial profiling in addition to harassment because of their sexual orientation.

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

Major criminal justice reforms, including:

1. Repair Damage Caused By Mass Incarceration

- a. Advocate in the County and State Legislature for the full implementation of criminal justice reform measures (Prop 47, 57, 62) and reinvestment away from punishment and incarceration (supporting the repeal of enhancements, sentencing reform, parole reform, etc)
- b. Support and implement bail reform (presumption of release unless significant risk to community or flight risk)
- c. End the practice of seeking the death penalty in all cases

2. Youth Justice

- a. End the prosecution of youth under the age of 18 as adults in all cases
- b. End the practice of seeking life without parole for young people between 18-25
- c. Significantly reduce juvenile case filings by expanding youth diversion programs, instituting neighborhood courts and advocating for funding to significantly expand employment opportunities for youth

3. Immigrant Justice

- a. Coordinate with the Public Defender Immigration specialists to ensure immigration safe dispositions in all cases
- b. End the practice of cooperation with ICE
- c. Support the full implementation of SB 54 (Sanctuary State)

4. Law Enforcement Accountability

- a. Create a Police Accountability Unit (PAU) to thoroughly investigate all in-custody deaths or serious injuries and allegations of criminal misconduct by law enforcement officers
- b. Enforce the City of Oakland's Negotiated Settlement Agreement by requiring OPD to report all allegations of criminal misconduct by officers to the DA within 24 hours and establish and enforce similar protocols with all law enforcement agencies in Alameda County
- c. End the practice of charging cases that arise from unconstitutional policing, particularly cases based on racial profiling and disparate treatment based on geography

5. Smart Justice Policies

- a. Stop the current practice of criminalizing poverty by no longer aggressively pursuing restitution orders for minor offenses or recommending revocation and imposition of additional jail or prison time for defendants who are not able to pay restitution
 - b. Advocate in the County and State Legislature for funding to support after school programs, sexual assault and domestic violence counseling, more support services for young people, veterans, elderly and homeless residents, and employment opportunities and housing for formerly incarcerated community members
 - c. Advocate in the County and State Legislature for the elimination of court fines and fees (traffic, probation, and other justice system related debt)
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Q21 Why do you feel you can win this race?

I believe that I can win this race because I am the right candidate at the right time. A Yale-educated lawyer, I am well known and respected as a tenacious advocate for "justice done right." We ran a winning campaign in Alameda County in 2016 earning the highest votes of any candidate for the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee.

Alameda County is the progressive leader and people in this community are hungry for a change. Alameda County is home to many progressive grass-roots organizations and ground-zero for resistance to the Trump-Sessions agenda to expand mass incarceration. The District is known for its progressive policies and leaders, including Congresswoman Barbara Lee.

I am building a county-wide network of support. Progressive and grass roots organizations and faith-based leaders are excited about my candidacy. My supporters include a network of activist icons like Angela Davis and Danny Glover, political organizations like Our Revolution, Black Women Organized for Political Action (BWOPA), progressive democratic clubs, Black Lives Matter leaders, faith-based leaders, progressive unions like the California Nurses Association and the International Longshoremen and local elected leaders.

I am raising the money. My finance team includes a well-respected CPA, a full-service political campaign treasurer and several seasoned finance assistants. I have already raised more than \$150,000 and have a goal to raise \$350,000.00.
