

## East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club Endorsement Questionnaire

Thank you for your interest in obtaining an endorsement from the East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club.

Per the Club's bylaws, to be eligible for endorsement, a candidate must be a registered Democrat. All candidates must also complete this candidate questionnaire to be considered for an endorsement. Endorsements are decided by the general membership, and candidates must receive at least 60% of votes cast to be endorsed.

The deadline for questionnaires is posted on the East Bay Stonewall website (<http://eastbaystonewalldemocrats.org/Elections>). Any candidate submitting a questionnaire that is received after the deadline will not appear on the endorsement ballot. To ensure a fair process, no grace period will be granted.

Please return your completed questionnaire via Google forms by clicking submit at the bottom of this form. All form submissions are final. If you have questions, please contact Joe Greaves, EBSDC PAC chair via email at [jsphgreaves@gmail.com](mailto:jsphgreaves@gmail.com).

Email \*

JimmieWilsonDA@gmail.com

Name (First Last) \*

Jimmie Wilson

Are you a registered Democrat \*

Yes

No

Office you are seeking? (e.g. City Council, School Board, Supervisor, etc) \*

District Attorney

Jurisdiction \*

Alameda County

District \*

Alameda County

Are you an East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club member in good standing? If you are unsure, email [eastbaystonewalldems@gmail.com](mailto:eastbaystonewalldems@gmail.com). \*

Yes

No

I self-identify as: (check all boxes that apply; note these identifiers will be used publicly during our endorsement process.) \*

Gay

Lesbian

Transgender

Gender non-conforming

Bisexual

Queer

Straight

Other: .....

How have you participated in East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club activities, and/or supported the Club other ways? What other LGBTQ+ organizations are you affiliated with and in what capacity? What other Democratic clubs are you affiliated with? \*

I am a new member of the East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club. I am also a member of the Castro Valley and Berkeley Democratic clubs, and an honorary supporter of the East Bay Young Democrats. I am a member of Black Women Organized for Political Action (BWOPA), Hayward-South Alameda County Chapter; and an Executive Board Member of the NAACP Hayward-South Alameda County.

Using specific examples, please identify the causes you have advocated for and the ways you have helped advance LGBTQ+ rights or otherwise helped foster a community of inclusivity for LGBTQ+ individuals and families. \*

I have served our community as an Alameda County Deputy District Attorney for over 17 years, many of which were spent prosecuting sexual abuse and assault, and child molestation cases. In that role, I supported numerous LGBTQIA+ victims and survivors navigating the criminal justice system and seeking trauma support. A number of the LGBTQIA+ survivors I supported were assaulted, abused or molested because of their gender identity and/or sexual orientation.

While serving on the Alameda County District Attorney's Office sexual assault prosecution team, I prosecuted a case involving a teenage victim who was sexually assaulted by his Uncle because of his sexual orientation. To prevent the victim from disclosing his abuse, the perpetrator threatened to tell the victim's family that he was gay - something the victim had not yet chosen to do. Once the case was in court, the victim was terrified of testifying because he knew that he would be questioned about his sexual orientation in front of his family and on the public record. I supported the victim through this process, connecting him with mental health support services and talking to him about his fears around the criminal process and sharing his sexual orientation. After time and many conversations, the victim asked me if I would sit with him while he told his family that he was gay. He asked if I would speak to his family before the meeting and share our conversations about the truths he shared and what they were going to hear. I was inspired by his strength as he faced his fears and disclosed his truth on a timeline that was not of his own choosing.

Have you previously supported LGBTQ+ candidates for office? If yes, did that include financial support? \*

Yes, at the ballot box.

Growing up in Bayview-Hunter's Point, I canvassed and worked on Harvey Milk's campaign as a young man.

Which LGBTQ+ organizations and elected officials have formally endorsed you for this race? \*

Jay Hansen, President and CEO of the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy, and the recipient of Sacramento Stonewall's 4-Freedom's award in 2018. He recently worked as the Chief Strategy Officer for the California Medical Association, and previously served as the Legislative Director for California's building trades workers and in the State Capitol for four different Speaker's of the Assembly. He was endorsed by the Victory Fund for the Sacramento School Board, where he served for 6 years as President among other positions. He served eight years as the Governor's appointee to the California Health Facilities Financing Authority (CHFFA) having been unanimously confirmed twice by the California State Senate. In his years of service, Jay has been as an appointee of the State Controller, the Assembly Speaker, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Secretary of State to a variety of Commissions and Boards.

Jo-Ann Adams, attorney and leading advocate for LGBTQ+ issues, Ms. Adams was proud to serve as grand marshal for two gay pride parades. She has received awards from the local chapter of the National Women's Political Conference and is also the author of "A New Day in Hawaii: A Political Activist's Remembrance Of The Grassroots Effort To Pass The Civil Unions Bill." Ms. Adams worked on numerous democratic campaigns throughout her life, most recently in Hawaii.

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Please describe a policy/goal that is part of your formal platform that benefits the LGBTQ+ community? \*

Last year, the Human Rights Commission (HRC) recorded more violent deaths of transgender and gender non-conforming individuals than any year since tracking began in 2013. To combat hate crimes and violence against the LGBTQIA+ community, and particularly against transgender and gender non-conforming individuals, The Alameda County District Attorney's Office must model respect and compassion for all of our LGBTQIA+ community. This includes inquiring and using correct pronouns, names, and titles for all individuals who come into contact with the District Attorney's Office and the criminal justice system, and hiring a staff that reflects the incredible diversity of the communities' we serve. The District Attorney is the leader of our law enforcement community; it is their obligation to create an environment where all victims and survivors feel safe, heard, and respected.

When elected, I will implement trauma-informed practices at every stage of prosecution including charging, plea negotiations, victim and witness engagement, and jury trials. We will work to ensure that all attorneys and victim-witness advocates receive comprehensive and ongoing training in trauma-informed practices, and directly employ appropriate clinical staff in the District Attorney's Office. We will partner with police jurisdictions to provide trauma-informed training, and increase our collaborative efforts with community-based organizations to provide a seamless handoff of support resources for victims, survivors, and witnesses.

Community-based organizations that have been on the front lines filling critical gaps in services for decades. These groups and individuals understand our communities and their needs, and are the best equipped to provide victims and survivors the culturally competent support they deserve. When elected, I will directly fund and empower these community organizations to provide trauma recovery, relocation, and violence prevention and intervention services.

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What makes you uniquely qualified for the office and how are you different or unique from the other candidates in your race? \*

I am universally respected by my colleagues, the defense bar, the judiciary, and law enforcement for my uncompromising ethics and integrity, and a steadfast devotion to the community I've called home for the past 36 years. Because of my reputation, I was selected to serve on the Judicial Appointments Evaluation Committee for the Alameda County Bar Association, where I interviewed Alameda County Superior Court Judicial candidates for the Governor's Judicial Appointments Secretary. My campaign is endorsed by a broad and diverse coalition of partners who have worked alongside me day in and out in the criminal justice system including a majority of private criminal defense attorneys, public defenders, NAACP civil rights activists, elected officials across the county, community leaders, and the working members of law enforcement in the Deputy Sheriff's Association of Alameda County (DSA), and the Berkeley, Hayward, Oakland, San Leandro, Union City and Newark Police Officers' Associations.

I have the right experience for the change Alameda County needs and deserves in its criminal justice system. For the past 17 years, I have been in court trying many of our County's most complex child molest, sexual assault, human trafficking, homicide, and organized crime cases. I managed pretrial plea negotiations for all felony cases in North County Alameda for more than two years; served on the sexual assault, gang, and general felony trial teams; and worked out of all of the various courthouses including Oakland, Hayward, Dublin, and the Juvenile Justice Center in San Leandro. I served for over 5 years as the liaison for the District Attorney's Office to the Hellman Foundation's Ceasefire program, a nationally-recognized violence prevention program that seeks to stop violent crimes before they occur through targeted community outreach, and as a member of the office's Officer-Involved Shooting (OIS) team, where I responded to the scenes of officer-involved shootings, questioned officers, and conducted independent investigations. I believe that real change must come from within, and I have put my vision of what a prosecutor should be into action each day that I come to the office.

Titles don't make leaders, actions do. To repair relationships, restore trust, and bridge gaps between the police and communities of color, I stepped up through my role on the Executive Board of the NAACP Hayward-South Alameda County and created of a multi-course Cultural Diversity and Implicit Bias training that has been adopted by police partners across Alameda County including Hayward, San Leandro, BART, Alameda, and Fremont. This training helps our peace officers see themselves as guardians of their community, not warriors in combat with the people they serve. We talk about the history of policing, and our personal experiences as people of color. To build trust and reduce police-community conflict, our officers need to rebuild relationships with our communities door-to-door and face-to-face. When elected District Attorney, I look forward to working with law enforcement to keep our communities safe, provide the training they need to make the right decision in every situation, and promote the continued adoption of community policing reforms and implicit bias training countywide.

The struggles facing many Alameda County residents are not just stories I've heard but realities I've lived. I grew up in Bayview-Hunter's Point, a historically underserved community in San Francisco's South Bay where gun and gang violence was common and resources were scarce. I spent the first 16-years of my career working as union Plumber and Pipe-fitter for UA local 38 while raising my children and attending school at night. At 40 years old, I received a full scholarship to UC Berkeley to complete degree in legal studies and, upon graduation, attended UC Hastings College of the Law.

Alameda County has been my home for more than 36 years. I married my wife Patricia and raised my three

children in Oakland's public schools. I joined the Alameda County District Attorney's Office in 2004 and, unlike so many prosecutors who come of age in the criminal justice system, my moral compass was set. Before I sat for my first law school class, I had already served on five criminal juries - for many of which I was the only person of color. I am a member of the Board of Directors of the Oakland Elizabeth House, a transitional residential program for women with children who have experienced homelessness, domestic violence, addiction, or poverty; a member of BWOPA Hayward-South Alameda County; an Executive Board member of the NAACP Hayward-South Alameda County; and an Oakland Rotarian.

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