

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.

Email *

pamela@pamelaprice4da.com

Name (First Last) *

Pamela Price

Are you a registered Democrat *

Yes

No

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

Alameda County District Attorney

Jurisdiction *

Alameda County

District *

N/A

Are you an East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club member in good standing? If you are unsure, email 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 have been a member of East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club since 2016. I have participated in events in the past, including the PRIDE parade in Oakland and as a sponsor of the PRIDE breakfast, and numerous endorsement and club meetings.

I am the Secretary of Oakland East Bay Democratic Club (2017-present), a member of Wellstone Renewal Democratic Club, San Leandro Democratic Club, City of Alameda Democratic Club, Metropolitan Greater Oakland (MGO) Democratic Club and the John George Democratic Club.

I received the 2021 Woman of the Year Barony Black Excellence Award from the Barony.
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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 supported and worked with LGBTQ+ individuals and activists since 1977 when I joined *Alexander v. Yale*, the very first case under Title IX to attack sexual harassment at an educational institution. Many of the activists who worked on our case were lesbian or gay, including Jack Winkler, one of our original plaintiffs. My claim was the only one allowed to proceed to court. I served as the lead plaintiff in the lawsuit from 1977-1980.

Although we did not win our case, we achieved our objectives: Yale instituted a grievance procedure and a Court held that sexual harassment constituted sex discrimination. As a result of *Alexander v. Yale*, most U.S. schools from K-12 and universities instituted grievance procedures for sexual harassment and hired Title IX officers.

In 1979, I co-founded the Bay Area Defense Committee for Battered Women, and formed the Committee's Advisory Board. It included prominent feminists such as civil rights icon Angela Davis and LGBTQ+ rights pioneer, Del Martin. We worked to advocate in the courts for domestic violence survivors prosecuted in Alameda County.

Ten years after graduating from Berkeley Law, I created my own civil rights private practice in Oakland, California. During my 30+-year career as a civil rights attorney, I represented hundreds of people in difficult employment discrimination cases, across a variety of industries, including transportation, construction, corrections and health care. I have specialized in sexual and racial harassment cases for 30+ years, working toward the advancement and equal treatment of women and people of color.

I am one of a few Black women to argue a case before the US Supreme Court in *Morgan v Amtrak* – and win. *National Railroad Passenger Corp. v. Morgan*, 536 U.S. 101 (2002), 232 F.3d 1008, affirmed in part, reversed in part, and remanded. The Supreme Court's decision represented a decisive victory for victims of persistent or pervasive harassment in the workplace. Because of this case precedent, those who can show a continuing hostile environment based on any protected status, including sexual orientation, are entitled to recover damages for all of the conduct and all of the harm suffered.

In my career, I have been honored to represent a range of individuals facing discrimination. I am proud of the work I have done to find justice for LGBTQIA+ people over the last 30+ years.

In the early 1990s, I represented a transgender woman in a fight to have her insurance cover her transition surgery.

Commencing in 1995, I represented a young man who was bullied and harassed at school because of the perception that he was gay and sued the school district. (*John B. v. Orland Joint Union School District*, U.S. District Court Case No. CIV-S-95-781 WBS.)

From 1998 to 2001, we represented a transgender minor whose school and medical records were improperly released by the San Francisco Unified School District, resulting in the invasion of his privacy. (*Anderson v. San Francisco Unified School District, et al.*, U.S. District Court Case No. C00-00710 MHP; *Andrew P. v. San Francisco Unified School District*, San Francisco Superior Court Case No. 986274.)

In 2008, my then-husband and I resigned our 10-year membership in Acts Full Gospel COGIC and sent a letter to the Pastor, Bishop Bob Jackson, and our new pastor, Bishop JW Macklin, declaring our opposition to the Church's position on gay marriage and our commitment to the doctrine as we believe it - that God loves everyone.

Commencing in 2011, I represented a lesbian attorney in her quest to find justice for a harmful and homophobic work environment which resulted in her wrongful termination. We reached a confidential pre-litigation settlement on her claims for wrongful termination, sexually hostile work environment, sexual orientation and gender discrimination, intentional misrepresentation as well as intentional and devastating acts of retaliation.

In 2021, as an elected member of the Alameda County Democratic Party Central Committee, I voted in favor of a bylaw amendment proposed by the LGBTQ+ Caucus to remove any member who endorses an anti-LGBTQ+ candidate, or who engages in anti-LGBTQ+ activities him or herself.

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

Yes, I have supported LGBTQ+ candidates for office. In 2020, I formed the Ida B. Rising PAC and our inaugural class of candidates that received our financial support included at least two LGBTQ+ candidates.

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

Currently I am under consideration for an endorsement from BALIF - Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom – LGBTQI Bar Association.

The following elected officials across Alameda County have endorsement my campaign:

James Aguilar (San Leandro), Victor Aguilar, Jr. (San Leandro), Jovanka Beckles (AC Transit), James Chang (Berkeley), Kevin Jenkins (Oakland), Melissa Shuen-Mallory (Union City) and Brittini Kiick (Livermore)

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

I am acutely aware that our criminal justice system often does more harm than help for our LGBTQ+ community members. To tackle some of the problems, I have created a plan on how to make the justice system in Alameda more fair, just and accountable for the LGBTQ+ community. It is critical that we build a DA's office that doesn't lose sight of how even the smallest of things like pronoun usage impacts the LGBTQ+ individuals we interact with in the office on a daily basis.

My work, dedication and connections to the LGBTQ+ community in Alameda County will continue when I am elected DA. I am committed to:

- Creating a DA's office that see and responds to the needs of LGBTQ+ people including attorneys, staff, victims, survivors, witness and defendants.
- Establishing policies that reduce/eliminate the disproportionality of criminalization faced by our transgender youth, transgender women, transgender people of color and all the intersectionality of those identities.
- Building data collection to oversee the treatment of LGBTQ+ victims and defendants (data is key in the fight for transparency).
- Making sure the DA's office staff is culturally responsive and works respectfully, knowledgeable and fairly manage cases involving LGBTQ+ hate crimes and domestic violence situations.
- Requiring DA office personnel to ask victims, survivors and defendants their correct pronouns as well as finding out the preferred use of name compared to the one in the police's charging papers.
- Opposing efforts to re-criminalize people based on their HIV status.
- Ensuring access to ALL diversion programs for transgender individuals
- Expanding the circle of services we provide for survivors of sex and human trafficking to include the disproportionate number of exploited gay and transgendered youth

It means so much to me that so many of my supporters are members of the LGBTQ community and see the great need to have leadership in the DA's office that not only sees them but will work to make sure they are uplifted. One leader who has always been in my corner is San Leandro Vice Mayor Victor Aguilar, Jr.

"As Alameda County DA, Pamela Price will be an advocate for many of us in the LGBTQ community who have felt unseen and unheard," Aguilar stated. "Pamela's commitment to creating a DA's office which uplifts LGBTQ individuals with dignity and respect is refreshing, necessary and completely in step with her past support of LGBTQ people and rights."

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

First, I identify as a cis, straight, Black woman (pronouns, she & her). And while not a member of the LGBTQ+ community, I am a wholehearted ally and the only candidate in the race who has been a vocal advocate and champion for the spectrum of the queer community. I was one of the first people to financially sponsor and participate in Oakland Pride— and have every year. I have sponsored and participated in East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club's annual Gay Pride breakfasts, the annual March and attended Club meetings. I was recently honored as the 2021 Woman of the Year by the Barony and received the Barony Black Excellence Award.

Since 1977, I have been an advocate for women, people of color, low-income, LGBTQ+ and marginalized communities in their struggle for justice. In 1977, I joined the first sexual harassment lawsuit under Title IX and served as the lead Plaintiff for 3 years until the final decision in the case. As a civil rights attorney, I have held corporation, education systems, legal systems and law enforcement accountable for their misconduct and illegal actions. I am the only candidate that has that breadth of experience.

Since 1991, I have specialized in federal civil rights litigation, successfully suing the California Department of Corrections. As an advocate for CDCR employees, mainly women subjected to sexual harassment or retaliation for complaining about sexual harassment, I had to go inside the walls of Pelican Bay, Corcoran, CSP-Sacramento and CSP-Solano; and I have represented clients who worked at Mule Creek, San Quentin, High Desert, Salinas Valley State Prison and CHAD.

In my private practice, I also represented numerous victims of crime in Alameda County who were not given a fair shake by the Alameda County District Attorney's office. During my 30+-year career as a civil rights attorney, I have obtained millions of dollars in judgments to compensate workers who suffered discrimination and sometimes debilitating injuries. As a civil litigator, I am very familiar with the battles to represent the public's interest in consumer, environmental and anti-trust matters.

I have a diversity and decades of management experience. I have successfully created and managed Executive Teams to run my office and achieve major legal victories. I have trained and managed legal teams to represent victims against some of the major law firms in this country, including the Dept. of Justice for the State of California, Amtrak, and the United States Postal Service. I wrote my first personnel manual and hired my first employee in 1991. Since then, I have hired, supervised and trained hundreds of employees and helped dozens of other companies become successful.

I have lived or worked in Alameda County for most of the last 44 years (more years than all my opponents added together) and have positive connections with its people around the County. Our ability to garner 42% of the vote in 2018 in our first run for DA in less than two years against an entrenched, well-financed incumbent speaks volumes about the level of trust that our community has in my leadership and values.

I am

- the only woman in the race
- the only mother and grandmother who has raised many children
- the only survivor of domestic violence and sexual assault
- the only survivor of the juvenile justice system
- the only survivor of the foster care system

- the only candidate prosecuted by the Alameda County District Attorney's office
- the only lawyer who has argued a case in the United States Supreme Court and won
- the only lawyer with a winning history of prosecuting law enforcement officers who engaged in misconduct
- the only lawyer who has been a lead plaintiff in a history-making and precedent-setting case (Alexander (Price) v. Yale (1977) 459 F.Supp.1, 631 F.2d 178 (2nd Cir. 1980)
- the only lawyer to be honored as California Lawyer of the Year (CLAY Award - 2002)
- the only candidate to run a successful law firm for 30 years
- the only candidate to complete 2 marathons and 14 half-marathons

Representation matters. It is why I am running for DA again. It is also why organizations like East Bay Stonewall Club exists. To be at the table, on the bench or in the room when decisions are being made that affect us is key to healing the harm and creating a justice system that works for everyone.

The intersectionality of gender, race, national origin and the LGBTQIA+ community has been intertwined forever – and historically we have stood up against all injustice in major movements of change. This is one of those times in Alameda County. As the only Black woman, the only elected Democrat and the only candidate who has ever actually held police accountable for their misconduct, it is key to come together to stop police brutality against our communities.

Having the East Bay Stonewall Club stamp of approval sends the message that we are stronger together. As Justice Sotomayor wrote in her dissent in *Utah v. Strieff*,

"We must not pretend that the countless people who are routinely targeted by police are 'isolated.' They are the canaries in the coal mine whose deaths, civil and literal, warn us that no one can breathe in this atmosphere."

We are not isolated – we are united. Your endorsement would send this uniting message to voters and push the needle of justice in Alameda County towards real reform.

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