

Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club

Questionnaire for Candidates for November 2014

Dear Candidate,

Congratulations on declaring your candidacy. The Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club invites you to get to know us better as we seek to learn more about you. As we plan our endorsements for the 2014 election cycle, your participation in our club questionnaire allows our membership to better understand you as a candidate: who you are, what you stand for, and what you plan to accomplish in office.

*There are two parts to our questionnaire. Part 1 is a series of short-answer questions. We invite you to be descriptive in this section, however, please keep your responses to under 5 sentences. Part 2 is a simple Yes/No questionnaire that covers a broader set of issues than Part 1. You may expand upon Part 2 answers on a separate sheet of paper. Please return the completed questionnaire by **11:59 PM Thursday, August 14th**. E-mail all questionnaires to PAC Chair Alex Walker at pac@milkclub.org. Please bring at least 5 copies (printed front and back) of your questionnaire to our PAC interviews on **Saturday, August 16**. If you are unable to do so, please let Alex know ASAP. Please do not print this cover sheet.*

*We will be having our candidate interviews on **Saturday, August 16** from **9:30 AM to 4:30 PM** at the **LGBT Center's Ceremonial Room** (1800 Market at Octavia). Alex should be in touch to schedule a 10-minute slot (5 minute speech and the rest for questions and wrap-up). If you have any questions or to reschedule, email him at pac@milkclub.org or call him at 415-876-8254.*

Good Luck,

The Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club

Required Information

Full Name: JEFF ADACHI

Office Sought: PUBLIC DEFENDER

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Are you a member of the Harvey Milk Club? Yes.

If so, when did you first join? 1998

Are you lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ)? No.

PART 1: Short-Answer Questionnaire

- 1) Please describe your qualifications for the position you seek (include your key issues/priorities if elected and any key endorsements you'd like to share), plus anything else that you'd like our members to know about you and your candidacy.

I have served as Public Defender for the past twelve years. Prior to being elected in 2002, I worked as a Deputy Public Defender for 11 years and the office's Chief Attorney for 2 years. I have personally handled over 3,000 criminal cases and have tried over 150 jury trials. I have been certified by the California State Bar Criminal Law Specialist for the past 24 years and have served on the Boards of the California Attorneys for Criminal Justice and the California Public Defenders Association.

As Chief Attorney, I worked to bring the office into the 21st century. Prior to 1998, the office did not have computers and a networked database. After being elected Public Defender in 2002, I worked to increase staffing and resources for the office. For many years, the office had suffered from inadequate staffing and high caseloads. I implemented effective managerial and staff support, caseload and workload standards to ensure superior legal outcomes, and training. Since being elected, the office's budget has increased from \$13 million to \$30 million.

Each year, the office and its dedicated staff helps over 20,000 San Franciscans obtain justice in the courts, and uphold our nation's Bill of Rights and Constitution. Today our office is considered one of the best in the nation.

I have also founded a number of innovative community-based programs and reforms that prevent crime. Our Clean Slate and prisoner reentry programs have helped thousands of people turn their lives around. Our award winning juvenile justice programs, including MAGIC and Legal Education Advocacy Program (LEAP) keep kids in school.

I have received top national, statewide, and local awards from the American Bar Association, the National Legal Aid and Defense Association, the California Public Defenders Association, the SF Lawyer's Committee, and the Mayor's Fiscal Advisory Committee's Managerial Excellence Award.

- 2) If you are running for College Board, tell us about what you have done to support CCSF during its accreditation crisis and what you plan to do to keep it open and funded. Even if you aren't running for College Board, if you have been a part of the fight to save CCSF, feel free to tell us about what you have done to help.

I attended City College in Sacramento, where I grew up, so I strongly support CCSF and keeping it open so students from all economic and social backgrounds have access to a college education.

- 3) Do you support repeal or reform of the Ellis Act? Locally, what specifically would you do to fight for housing affordability in San Francisco?

I support repeal of the Ellis Act, and supported the recent effort to reform the Ellis Act in San Francisco. I have always supported affordable housing, and recently I worked with a coalition of tenant advocacy organization, and joined with Supervisor David Campos to obtain \$1 million in funding which will be used to hire 10 tenant attorneys. This is an issue that is very important to me. 90% of landlords are represented by a lawyer in eviction proceedings, while only 10% of tenants are represented by a lawyer. We increased the number of tenant attorneys for 35%, and as a result, all tenants facing eviction will be able to receive full scope representation.

- 4) In your opinion, what kind of reform of Prop 13 is needed, if any? Would you support a split-roll property tax system? Prop 13 should be repealed. But failing that, there should be a split-roll property tax system so corporations who are not paying their fair share are required to pay higher property taxes.

- 5) LGBTQ elders and older people living with HIV face a number of challenges, including finding affordable housing, accessing health care and a general lack of services. Many are being evicted. If you were elected, what would you do in your power to help address these challenges? As mentioned above, I have worked to increase the number of lawyers available to tenants, and worked in collaboration with the AIDS Legal Referral Panel, AIDS Housing Alliance, Eviction Defense Collaborative, Causa Justa, the SF Tenants Union, the Asian Law Caucus and other

organizations to improve legal services to LBGQT seniors and others who are vulnerable given the rising cost of living in our City.

- 6) Similarly, LGBTQ youth face challenges including bullying and a high rate of homelessness if ostracized by their families. If you are elected, what would you do in your power to help these youth? For School Board candidates, what would you do on the SFUSD board to help LGBTQ students who are bullied?

Over the past two years, the MAGIC Programs (BMAGIC and Mo MAGIC), which I founded, both in the Western Addition- Fillmore and Bayview Hunters Point have worked with LYRIC and other LGBT organizations to provide diversity and anti-bullying training to over 120 non-profits from those communities. This training has been key in terms of strengthening bridges and understanding between LGBT members both inside and outside of those communities.

- 7) Supervised injection facilities or drug consumption facilities have been shown to reduce new HIV and hepatitis infections, overdose deaths, and public drug use, and to increase linkage to medical care and substance use treatment and save money, yet they remain controversial and illegal. If you are elected, what would you do to advocate for supervised injection sites?

I completely support supervised injection sites, as they have in Canada. I have spent my entire career fighting against the senseless War on Drugs and would welcome supervised injection sites and wet houses.

PART 2: Yes/No Questionnaire

Please check **Yes** or **No** for each question.

GENERAL	YES	NO
1. Are you registered to vote as a Democrat?	YES	
2. Have you ever run for elected office before?	YES	
3. Do you have a campaign consultant? If so, who:		NO
4. Have you ever sought the Milk Club endorsement in the past?	YES	

LGBTQ ISSUES

5. Do you support including full transgender health benefits in Covered California health plans?	YES	
6. Do you support public funding for employment development for transgender individuals?	YES	

TENANT, HOUSING, AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

7. Do you support rent control?	YES	
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8. Have you ever been involved as homeowner, buyer or agent in the eviction of a tenant? If so, please explain:	NO	
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RACIAL AND IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES

9. Do you support driver's licenses for undocumented persons?	YES	
10. Do you support localities allowing noncitizens to vote in local elections, including but not limited to school board?	YES	
11. Do you support the protection of due process for immigrant youth accused of crime?	YES	
12. Do you support the DREAM Act?	YES	

SOCIAL JUSTICE, HEALTH, NIGHTLIFE AND LABOR ISSUES

13. Do you support capital punishment (death penalty)?		NO
14. Do you support the decriminalization of sex work?	YES	
15. Did you support Prop 35 in November 2012?		NO
16. Did you support Sen. Leno's 2013 bill (or at least the concept) to allow localities to allow some bars to serve liquor until 4 AM?	YES	
17. Do you support the legalization, taxation, and regulation of adult recreational use of marijuana?	YES	
18. Have you ever crossed a union picket line or violated a union boycott? If so, explain:		NO
19. Do you support the Domestic Workers' Bill of Rights?	YES	

EDUCATION AND YOUTH ISSUES

YES

NO

20. Did you support Assemblymember Ammiano's AB 1266 (rights for transgender students)?	YES	
21. Do you support the Common Core education standards?	YES	
22. Do you support lowering the threshold to pass a local parcel tax for education to 55%?	YES	

ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

23. Do you support California's high speed rail plans?	YES	
24. Do you support Governor Brown's Delta Tunnels plan?		NO

LOCAL BALLOT MEASURES

25. Do you support Prop A (Transportation and Road Improvement Bond)?	YES	
26. Do you support Prop B (Population-Based Adjustment to General Fund Appropriation to Transportation Fund)?	YES	
27. Do you support Prop C (Children and Youth Fund)?	YES	
28. Do you support Prop D (Retiree Health Benefits for Former Redevelopment Agency and Successor Agency Employees)?	YES	
29. Do you support Prop E (Tax on Sugar-Sweetened Beverages)?		
30. Do you support Prop F (Pier 70 Development Height Limit Increase)?	YES	
31. Do you support Prop G (Harvey Milk Anti-Speculation Tax)?	YES	
32. Do you support Prop H (Maintaining Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park as Natural Grass)?	YES	

33. Do you support Prop I (Park Code – Children's Playgrounds, Walking Trails, Athletic Fields)?	YES	
34. Do you support Prop J (Administrative Code – Minimum Wage)?	YES	
35. Do you support Prop K (Affordable Housing Goals)?	YES	
36. Do you support Prop L (Transportation Priorities)?	YES	

STATE BALLOT MEASURES

37. Do you support Prop 43 (Water Bond)? Note: this may not end up being on the ballot this year.		
38. Do you support Prop 44 (Rainy Day Fund)?	YES	
39. Do you support Prop 45 (Health Insurers Justify Rate Increases)?	YES	
40. Do you support Prop 46 (Drug Testing Doctors; Raising Medical Malpractice Awards Cap)?		
41. Do you support Prop 47 (Reducing Some Crimes From Felonies to Misdemeanors)?	YES	
42. Do you support Prop 48 (Indian Gaming Compacts Referendum)?		
43. Do you support Prop 49 (Constitutional Amendment Opposing Citizens United)?	OFF BALLOT	