Missoula County Democrats

Name: Jennifer Cady

Address: 801 N. Orange St., #101, Missoula, MT 59802

Precinct: Precinct Committeewoman - Lowell 94

Office Sought: Alternate State Committeewoman

Briefly describe your previous experience and community involvement:

I have been a Democrat all my life and worked on my first campaign before I could vote. I worked on both the primary last year and the general election. I learned much in last year's campaign and have many ideas on how we can improve our outreach to the community.

Recently, I worked at a fundraiser for Rob Quist that raised 32K for his campaign.

I have attended leadership workshops while employed by the California Attorney General's office and, last fall, I attended a leadership training provided by the Clinton campaign.

Which of your skills and abilities are you willing to volunteer as part of your service on the next Executive Board?

I moved to Missoula seven years ago, following a 30 year career as a public servant in California. I was employed, in various sections, as a Deputy Attorney General and Supervising Attorney General in the California Department of Justice. During my career I represented the State of California in appellant matters (interpreting statutes and regulations) and represented numerous State agencies in licensing and regulation matters. In all my assignments, I represented the most vulnerable members of our society. Over 15 years of that time was spent litigating licensing matters for those not properly cared for in nursing homes that are regulated by the California Department of Health Services.

I believe my experience as an attorney provides me with a skill set of leadership, the need to protect those in society who are most vulnerable, and an ability to understand statutes and regulations that should serve well in working on our Democratic platform and review of statutory matters the Democratic Party may want to take a position on for or against.

Please describe your philosophy on group decision-making and conflict resolution:

First, and foremost, we must respectfully listen to everyone's thoughts and opinions. We should then examine those areas where compromise is possible. Finally, we should vote and make a decision based on that discussion and those areas where we were able to compromise.

Do you have the time to dedicate to the job?

I am retired and am dedicated to working to fight the Republican efforts to limit our civil liberties, silence the press, and leave behind the most vulnerable members of our society. Absent unforeseen circumstances, I commit to completing the full two year term.

What are your top goals for the Missoula County Democrats in the future? How would propose achieving such goals?

My number one goal for the Missoula County Democrats and the Montana Democratic Party are to work to elect more Democrats in Montana to local, state, and federal office. I think we need to do better outreach to those in the community who feel their voice is not heard and who are vulnerable to the Republican agenda. I offer the committee a practical and commonsense approach to recruiting and supporting those candidates who have a legitimate chance of being elected in our County and State.

As a gay American it is extremely important to me that we live in a county where our civil liberties are protected, those without a voice are heard, and we have a diverse and inclusive community.

I believe we can achieve these goals through better outreach and visibility in the community. As the State Committeewoman or the Alternate State Committeewomen, I have much to learn and will have many more ideas for service to the Party and community as I go forward.

In reviewing the By-laws of the Missoula County Democrats, I note that Rule 17 (A) provides:

"It shall be the duty of all officers to support the platform of the Montana Democratic Party and the Democratic candidates nominated in the primary election who support the Democratic Platform."

I pledge to abide by this Rule, as well as, working to ensure that the State Platform represents Democratic values of inclusion and fairness in our society.

I hope to further serve the community on the Executive Board and would be honored to receive your vote.