

Stephanie Liggins
zqueen9@gmail.com
 909-519-0968

Describe in your own words, the role of a CADEM delegate.

Role of a CADEM delegate: A delegate's primary responsibility is to represent the Democratic party at the CA Democratic convention as a well-informed voting member as we vote for party leaders, resolutions, policies and procedures, issues to be endorsed by the party, positions on ballot propositions.... We serve as community liaisons attending gatherings called by our local officials to be informed of things like upcoming legislation proposed by them that would assist our communities and we bring ideas and issues from the community to our officials. We support candidates and assist with campaigns of our choice—always Democrats!! One term is 2 years.

What are the 3 issues you care about and will prioritize?

3 issues I care about and will prioritize: Education: Within the party, I believe we need to better educate our active party members about the workings of the party. I have seen some improvement already as RADC and SBDCC explained the role of ADEMs. I had never heard or seen it explained before the latter part of this year, and the only reason I knew about it was because I was appointed. I educated myself. I spoke to Rusty Hicks about helping to educate the party members. If I am elected, I will ask the clubs and SBDCC to better educate and explain how things work within the party. Knowledge seems to stop at the executive board and is not adequately shared with the membership.

Diversity in leadership: In our area, we have Kristin Washington as chair of Central Committee and Lorraine as RADC leader, but at the top of the state party, there no African Americans. We need representation by those who are always cognizant of the special issues African Americans have—especially as a result of an overtly racially biased Trump presidency. We need elected officials who will not be financially or power motivated, but people motivated. Help all races, all socio-economic groups—including the homeless and the working poor. The plight of African Americans is often ignored. Somehow, African Americans need to be organized and unified in order to get a top position in the party—especially since Harris has been replaced by Padilla.

Focus on organization perhaps via African American Caucus.

Strategic Sophistication for campaigning, fund raising, building name recognition: Why did we lose most of our races this past election? We had so many of the best possible candidates--that just happened to be Democrats—lost by many votes? We have more registered Democrats in San Bernardino than Republicans, but we need to do more to get them out to vote. We need to provide more assistance in strategizing as a party of our candidates. We should not just leave it up to the candidate to do all of the footwork, figure out how to canvas, campaign, raise money and win election. We need to be like coaches and examine the strategies of the Republican party and combat their strategies like in basketball and football. Build our candidate's campaign up defensively. Chris Bubser should not have lost. Kris Goodfellow should not have lost. Many of our candidates should not have lost. We cannot continue to allow this type of thing to happen. Where we have Democratic majorities, we should win elections.

If you were to write a resolution proposal for consideration by CADEM, what would it be? Please summarize using 2-3 sentences

1/1/ 2021 # 001

Whereas ADEM delegates are liaisons between the political officials and the community, be it resolved that ADEM delegates will be provided an audience with said officials for 1 hour on a quarterly basis. The delegate will carry community concerns to the official and staff. If possible, the delegates will respond to the community concerns and be made available to the constituency via Zoom town hall meetings or other means of mass communication. This approach will provide an avenue of open communication and problem solving that allows the community to feel heard and valued.

What caucuses &/ standing committees would you like to be a part of and why?

I would like to be a part of the African American Caucus to find ways to unify the members of the party to strongly support possible African American leaders. I really believe Karen Bass should run for Kamal Harris's vacated seat when the term is up. No African Americans at the top of the party.

The Platform Committee reflects what we believe in as a party. I would like to be a part of that committee to help encourage more diversity. We need more qualified and intelligent minorities and women in leadership in our party to cover issues that I believe are being ignored like extra funding for public schools in lower income areas. Additional outreach and assistance needed for homeless families living in cars or with friends. The students need hot spots, a way to charge their Chromebooks, and hotspot devices, for example.

Member-submitted Questions: RADC members provided the following list of key issues that they would like to see addressed by delegates. Please pick one. Discuss any experiences (lobbying/demonstrations/letter writing/etc...) you may have on the issue as well as the skills you will bring to further the cause as a delegate: A) Reparations B) Climate Change C) Healthcare

Regarding reparations, I have extensive historical knowledge on the plight of African Americans in this country, and I know several others who share this knowledge. Together, we could solicit support from our inner circle of associates to create a petition and a letter writing campaign filled with details of why African Americans in this country deserve reparations to our Congressman. Japanese – Americans campaigned for and received reparations, why not African Americans? Reparations are a way of acknowledging that the right to life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, justice, freedom over one's body and children and history were not only stolen in the past, but they continue to be. Through a caste system, implemented even before the states were united, darker skinned people have been made into inhuman machines to profit others. In our letters and petitions, we would make this message clear in several different ways. We would place petitions at Black owned businesses and churches and request support in obtaining signatures and letters to further the cause of reparations. These petitions and letters would be for our Congressman to present and rally others to support on the floor of Congress.

In regards to Climate Change, we would need to solicit better writing of laws and restrictions on pollutants and climate killing chemicals and waste. I am personally aware of scientists who have worked in the field of occupational hazards in the workplace and life destroying practices that destroy our environment. They could help provide information for writing better legislation that can be presented to Congress. Petitions, letters, post cards, phone calls, and even getting candidates to run for office that support our platform are ways I would approach the issue of arresting climate change. We would need to petition to get this issue back on the ballot in the form of better practices that would help reverse some of the damage we suffered since Trump got into office.

Health care is not far different from Climate change in my approach to gain support to turn it around. Because a Democratic president brought almost universal health care for the first time in the history of this country, the legislation is already available and the desire for the party to restore what Trump has worked to destroy is already alive. Biden has already expressed the desire to return to Obama's Affordable Health care with a few improvements, so we just begin letter a writing campaign within the community. Get teachers, grocery store workers, civil service workers and solicit sororities, fraternities to get involved and bring in others. We write letters, sign petitions