



Dear Candidate,

As the San Francisco Latino Democratic Club embarks on our endorsements for the June 2016 election cycle, your participation in our club questionnaire allows our membership to better understand you and where you stand as a candidate.

Our questionnaire consists of a series of short-answer questions (200 words or less).

Please return the completed questionnaire by 11:59 PM Tuesday, April 5, 2016.

E-mail all questionnaires to our Political Action Committee at pac@sflatinodemocrats.com. If you are unable to complete the questionnaire by April 5, please let us know ASAP.

Upon submission of your completed questionnaire, you will receive an invitation to our April 9, 2016 PAC endorsement meeting.

Good Luck!

Sincerely,
The San Francisco Latino Democratic Club

BASIC INFORMATION

Name as It Will Appear On the Ballot:	Arlo Smith
Campaign Contact Info:	415-685-9331
Website:	Email is halesf7@aol.com

Yes No

Are you now or have you ever been a member of LDC?		No
Have you ever sought LDC’s endorsement in the past?		probably

QUESTIONS (Please limit responses to 200 words):

- 1) Please describe your qualifications for the position you seek plus anything else that you’d like our members to know about you and your candidacy. Also list any endorsements you have secured from others you wish us to know about.**

I have previously served on the SFDCCC for 35 years (1980-2015). Before that I was a Democratic club President. Have been a Democrat since 1960, when I argued with other kindergarteners whose parents were supporting Nixon. I was Parliamentarian of the SFDCCC for over 30 years. I resigned from the SFDCCC only because I changed districts.

I consider myself a JFK-Bill Clinton- Dianne Feinstein Democrat. In the present election I am supporting Hillary Clinton. During my 35 year tenure on the SFDCCC, I have always watched out for the grassroots. Before 1980, the SFDCCC had chartered few clubs, and the attitude of SFDCCC members was that Democratic clubs “get in the way” of the SFDCCC. I wrote the provisions of SFDCCC by-laws and rules that make club chartering easy for the grassroots. When several clubs endorsed non-Democrats in a nonpartisan race for Mayor, I (and Mary Jung) opposed any discipline, taking the position that we cannot enforce party loyalty in nonpartisan races.

To give grassroots Democrats a better chance to be elected to the SFDCCC, I will propose the following when re-elected: (1) that the number of elected members be increased from 24 to 31 – 18 in the 17th District and 13 in the 19th District. (2) that the SFDCCC adopt campaign contribution limits the same as limits for campaigns for Supervisor.

Supporters include Mayor Lee, Sheriff Hennessey, Assemblymember Chiu, Supervisor Wiener, Former State Senator Carole Migden, Matt Dorsey, Zoe Dunning, Rebecca

Prozan, Leah Pimentel, Kat Anderson, Joe Engardio, Tom Hsieh, Mary Jung, Megan Levitan, Eric Mar, Trevor McNeil, former BART Director Michael Bernick, former SFDCCC Chair Matthew Rothschild, Supervisor London Breed, San Francisco Building Trades Council. San Francisco Firefighters Association, Alice B. Toklas Lgbt Democratic Club, Bart Director Nick Josefowitz

2) What do you think are the top 3 priorities/issues of the San Francisco Latino Community? And why?

Economic growth, affordable housing, and nondiscrimination should be priorities of Latinos and all other communities. The Supervisors need to adopt pro-business policies. Red-tape that restricts development of housing should be eliminated. As a gay man I have been subject to harassment and discrimination. So I understand the need for government to oppose discrimination.

3) What are your plans to encourage and empower the Latino Community into the Democratic political process?

I believe strongly in the need to give grassroots Democrats a better chance to be elected to the SFDCCC, I will propose the following when re-elected: (1) that the number of elected members be increased from 24 to 31 – 18 in the 17th District and 13 in the 19th District. (2) that the SFDCCC adopt campaign contribution limits the same as limits for campaigns for Supervisor. I also believe that SFDCC should hold some of its meetings in neighborhood venues including the Mission District.

4) Are you active in your community/communities? If so, how?

I have been involved in Democratic clubs since I graduated from high school in 1973. I have been a member of both the Toklas and Milk clubs for 20 years. I am a member of Dignity, the gay Catholic organization. I identify as a Catholic but have problems with many church doctrines such as exclusion of women from the clergy and papal infallibility. I once had the experience of visiting Saudi Arabia and going on a hajj, but I found Islam to be too spiritually restrictive

5) Which candidates are you supporting or have you supported in the following elections:

2016 SF DCCC

AD 17:

Alix Rosenthal
Arlo Smith
Francis Tsang
Gary McCoy
Jill Wynns
Leah Pimentel
London Breed
Malia Cohen
Rafael Mandelman
Rebecca Prozan
Scott Wiener
Shaun Haines
Zoe Dunning
Wade Woods

AD 19:

Joel Engardio
Kat Anderson
Keith Baraka
Marjan Philhour
Mark Farrell
Tom A. Hsieh
Mary Jung
Emily Murase
Rachel Norton
Trevor McNeil

2015 Mayor Ed Lee

Sheriff Vicki Hennessey

Board of Supervisors (District 3) Julie Christensen [I do not like Peskin, he is a doctrinaire leftist whose policies would hurt the business climate in San Francisco if fully implemented.]

Community College Board Alex Randolph

6) Do you believe that registered/paid lobbyists should be required to recuse themselves from votes that benefit the industry or organizations that they represent?

Yes, if they are voting for a matter in which they are an interested party (e.g. a specific zoning matter involving a specific property or property owner or specific entity or person for which the member is also a representative or attorney.)
However, I believe it would be unconstitutional to require abstention if the vote was on general policy or a ballot measure which is not directly to a named property. I.e, I believe, a lobbyist for the real estate interests would be eligible to vote on a rent control measure which applied to all landlords and tenants. I believe that if the SFDCCC made rules prohibiting votes on matters of general policy, the courts would throw the prohibition out and assess attorney fees against the SFDCCC