

District Attorney | League of Pissed Off Voters November 2019

Questionnaire

Hello candidates! Thank you for filling out the League's questionnaire. Please complete the questionnaire by midnight on Friday, July 19th if you wish to be considered for a League endorsement. Please use THIS FORM rather than formatting it into a Word document or PDF. If you have any questions, you can contact us at TheLeagueSF@gmail.com.

Candidate Info

Name *

Chesa Boudin

Campaign Contact Person

Chesa Boudin

Email Address *

chesa@chesaboudin.com

Phone Number

415-484-5154

Office Sought *

District Attorney

Website

www.chesaboudin.com

When did you first fall in love with San Francisco?

Playing in Golden Gate Park as a child.

Priorities

Please list the 3 endorsements you are most proud of

Shaun King/Real Justice PAC, Angela Davis, Tom Ammiano

What are the top three issues you will work on, and how will you implement solutions in a timely manner? (1250 character limit)

1. Break the cycle of recidivism and treat the root causes of crime. More than 2/3 of people arrested and prosecuted come back into the system within a few years of their release. 85% of bookings into county jail are a person suffering from serious drug addiction, mental illness or both. If we treat the root cause of crime and prioritize treatment over jail, we can actually prevent crime and make our city safer.

2. Enforce the law equally. We must end the rampant racism that plagues every step of the process. We cannot have small, privileged groups, whether politicians, police officers, ICE, landlords, or corporations be above the law. All of us must follow the law and the consequences for failing to do so should be the same no matter the color of our skin, job title, or size of our wallet.

3. Prioritize victim's rights. That means promoting restorative justice opportunities as often as possible and ensuring that every victim of every crime in this city can participate in the process and have their voice heard.

My policies will include:

- A Wrongful Convictions unit;
 - Language access;
 - An online data dashboard; and
 - Restorative justice.
-

What for-profit or non-profit boards do you serve on, including political organizations?

Treasurer of the board for Civil Rights Corps.

Recently stepped down from the board of Re:Store Justice.

Previously served on several other non-profit boards.

What local and state commissions and policy bodies have you served on -- currently or in the past?

Pretrial risk assesment working group in San Francisco.

Local Issues

Some of the things pissed-off voters are watching right now!

Did you support the local implementation of SB 1045, mental health conservatorship?

Yes

No

Do you support the police use of force legislation, Assembly Bill 392?

Yes

No

Do you support the closure of Juvenile Hall?

Yes

No

Do you support the closure of 850 Bryant, jails #3 and #4?

Yes

No

Do you support opening supervised consumption services in San Francisco?

Yes

No

If so, what would you do to protect them from Federal interference?

I expect the federal government would target the finances of any parent organizations administering the services/sites. I would work with other city officials to create a new legal entity to take on that work so that any partner organizations providing services would be, at least partially, insulated.

As DA, what would you do to repair the harm done by the war on drugs?

The war on drugs has been a horrific tragedy for our country. It contributed to our system of mass incarceration, disproportionately targeted and affected black and brown communities, cost the United States an estimated \$1 trillion dollars in incarceration costs, had little impact on substance use rates, and had a negligible effect on public safety. Entire communities, mostly black and brown, are still affected by these policies and have had loved ones taken from them and incarcerated. It's created generational trauma that still lingers in affected communities.

The first thing I will do is to end the war on drugs in San Francisco and not perpetuate it with my own policies. I will not charge any drug possession or drug use cases, and I will refrain from overcharging drug possession cases as drug sales, which carry significant felony sentences and have substantial immigration consequences.

To repair the harm caused by the war on drugs, we need to provide resources and services to harmed communities. I will:

- Expand our collaborative court system to allow more participants, using a harm reduction model rather than abstinence only.
 - Launch a comprehensive diversion system that pairs people with services at many different stages of their case, including pre-arrest and pre-charge.
 - Create an automatic expungement process so everyone who suffered from drug convictions in the past and is eligible for relief will get it without needing to go to the courthouse and file paperwork (something many people are unable to do).
 - Hire formerly incarcerated individuals and others that have been impacted by the criminal justice system.
 - Expand the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program (LEAD).
-

Do you support decriminalizing all drugs, why or why not, and if so, what steps would you take to accomplish that?

Yes. The reality is that substance use is a public health issue, not a criminal justice issue. We need to follow the lead of countries like Portugal, that decriminalized all illegal drugs and saw its rates of substance use, overdose and HIV infections plummet.

I would not pursue criminal charges on any drug possession or drug use cases, and I would work with city leaders to ensure people can get the treatment they need through universal mental health treatment, increasing the amount of treatment beds the city provides, and ensuring there are enough programs offering harm-reduction treatment in San Francisco.

How would you reduce the SF jail population, including reducing the extreme racial disparity in the jail now?

1. Never seek cash bail;
2. Launch a comprehensive mental health diversion program
3. Decriminalize sex work;
4. Create a diversion program for primary caregiver parents;
5. Create a restorative justice program;
6. Expand our existing collaborative courts;
7. Refuse to call as a witness any officer with a documented history of racial profiling, dishonesty, or excessive force;
8. Never charge racist gang allegations or enhancements;
9. End the practice of systematically overcharging people;
10. Establish a Wrongful Conviction Unit;
11. Create an online dashboard to publish demographic data of every arrest, charge, and sentence to promote accountability and data-driven policy making to promote transparency and help end racial disparities.

All of this will help ensure that we reduce the jail population so substantially that San Francisco can close down the seismically unfit County Jail 4 within the first six months of my term and not replace it with a new jail.

What role, if any, should the criminal justice system have in addressing homelessness in SF?

The reality is that recidivism rates go up when people suffer from unstable housing. Providing housing options must be part of treatment plans if we want to see recidivism rates go down. That is why I will work with city leaders to ensure part of universal mental health treatment is bed space and housing options for everyone who needs it. We must stop using the jail as a homeless shelter - it is the most expensive, least humane, and least effective way to address homelessness.

Did you support 2012's Prop 35, the Californians Against Sexual Exploitation Act Initiative?

Yes

No

If elected DA, will you abstain from filing charges against sex workers or their clients for consensual acts of prostitution among adults?

Yes

No

In detail, describe how you would investigate a fatal officer involved shooting. Would you set a timeline to have investigations completed?

I would have District Attorney Investigators and attorneys from the Internal Investigations Bureau arrive on scene and immediately begin their own, independent investigation. This investigation would include obtaining statements from all witnesses (preferably outside the presence of counsel and prior to watching video footage). I would personally review all of the reports and investigative materials and make a decision within 6 months. If I decide not to file charges, I will explain why at a public town hall.

November 2019 Election

Do you support the Juul ballot measure that would override the vapor products ban ordinance passed by the Board of Supervisors and add restrictions on the sale?

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support the ballot measure “Sunlight on Dark Monday Initiative”?

Yes

No

Do you support the proposed tax on net rider fares of TNCs, autonomous vehicles and private transit services vehicles?

Yes

No

Do you support the proposed additional tax on businesses with disproportionate executive pay?

Yes

No

Who are you supporting for Mayor?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
London Breed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Robert Jordan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wilma Pang	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paul Y. Robertson	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Joel Ventresca	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ellen Lee Zhou	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who are you supporting for D5 Supervisor?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Vallie Brown	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ryan Lam	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Nomvula O'Meara	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dean Preston	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who are you supporting for City Attorney?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Dennis Herrera	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who are you supporting for District Attorney?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Chesa Boudin	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Leif Dautch	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Suzy Loftus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Nancy H. Tung	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who are you supporting for Public Defender?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Manohar Raju	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who are you supporting for Sheriff?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Paul Miyamoto	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ronald Terry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who are you supporting for Treasurer?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
José M. Cisneros	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who are you supporting for Board of Education?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
William Carduner	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jenny Lam	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who are you supporting for Community College Board?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Yi Quan Guo	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ivy Lee	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Past Elections

Did you support 2018's Prop C "Our City, Our Home" tax on gross receipts of businesses to fund homeless services?

Yes

No

Who did you support for Mayor in June 2018?

	1st	2nd	3rd
Angela Alioto	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Michelle Bravo	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
London Breed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Richie Greenburg	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jane Kim	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mark Leno	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Amy Farrah Weiss	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ellen Lee Zhou	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who did you support for D2 Supervisor?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Catherine Stefani	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Nick Josefowitz	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Schuyler Hudak	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
John Dennis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who did you support for D4 Supervisor?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Gordon Mar	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jessica Ho	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trevor McNeil	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Arthur Tom	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lou Ann Bassan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mike Murphy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tuan Nguyen	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adam Kim	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who did you support for D6 Supervisor?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Matt Haney	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Christine Johnson	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sonja Trauss	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who did you support for D8 Supervisor?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Rafael Mandelman	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lawrence "Stark" Dagesse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Who did you support for D10 Supervisor?

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unranked endorsement
Shamann Walton	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tony Kelly	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Theo Ellington	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Uzuri Pease-Greene	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gloria Berry	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Asale Chandler	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Final Question

Is there anything else you want to tell us? (3000 character limit)

My biological parents were arrested and sentenced to long prison terms when I was an infant – my father is still incarcerated today. With tremendous support, I earned a place at Yale College, won a Rhodes Scholarship to study at Oxford, and returned to Yale for law school. During law school I litigated as part of the Worker and Immigrant Rights Advocacy clinic, and designed and taught undergraduate seminars. I simultaneously researched and published six law review articles. After law school I clerked for two federal judges in California and then settled into my current job as a Deputy Public Defender in San Francisco. I've handled more than 300 felony cases, tried more than two dozen cases to jury verdict, led the office's work on bail reform, launched an early representation unit, and initiated the immigration unit.

I am not a former prosecutor. I fought for criminal justice reform my entire life, and am the only candidate directly impacted by incarceration. And I am the candidate who plans to significantly overhaul San Francisco's criminal justice system so that it stops hurting the disenfranchised and starts working for everyone. I believe San Francisco can lead the way in making fundamental reforms and changing the way our country approaches public safety.

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms