



Central Committee Candidates, Assembly District 68

Candidates are listed by alphabetical order. Statements are printed as received. Not all candidates submitted statements. Statements compiled by the Democratic Party of Orange County (DPOC) as a service to Orange County voters. DPOC does not issue endorsements for Central Committee.

Monica Barranco-Leon

No statement received.

Nathaniel Fernandez Epstein

My name is Nathaniel Fernandez Epstein and I am running for Central Committee in AD-68. As an alternate on the Central Committee for the past several years, I gained valuable experience about the crucial role the Central Committee plays within our party.

I am a healthcare attorney, a DSCC delegate, Executive Vice Chair of the Filipino American Democratic Caucus, Southern Secretary of the API Caucus, all for the California Democratic Party, and serve on the board of one of Orange County's longest running non-profit organizations. I hope to continue serving my community as part of the Central Committee.

After running a countywide campaign in 2018, I gained valuable knowledge about the different issues that face each part of the county. With this knowledge, I will work with other Central Committee members to ensure our voices are heard, values are represented, and leadership will continue to thrive.

Eugene W. Fields

No statement received.

Melissa Fox

I'm Melissa Fox and I'm running for Central Committee to ensure that the Democratic Party represents the true values and interests of our wonderfully diverse and increasingly Democratic Orange County.

As a longtime progressive activist and dedicated Democrat, I'll continue fighting to be a strong voice for Orange County communities and make our party reflective of our values.

I'll fight to make sure our party stands strong against the Trump administration's attacks on our diversity, our freedoms, and our planet. I'll continue to prioritize growing a strong middle-class economy, protecting workers' rights to join unions, protecting women's rights to equal pay and reproductive freedom, ensuring high quality free public education, taking decisive action on climate change, protecting our air and water, protecting our immigrant, minority, and LGBTQ communities against bigotry and prejudice, taking care of our veterans and stopping the endless wars that have killed and injured so many while making the world less safe and just.

For all these reasons, I humbly ask for your vote for DPOC Central Committee.

www.votemelissafox.com

Naz Hamid

Along with being a mom and an activist, Naz's resume includes serving on the board of the national women's political caucus, Democrats of Greater Irvine, Asian Americans in Action, Orange County Equality Coalition, and an IUSD education committee. Naz has run for IUSD board of education, and also served as an ADEM delegate since 2016.

Naz is a progressive who believes that healthcare is a human right, that we must act now to control climate change, that we need to make drastic changes to immigration to allow a path to citizenship for DACA recipients, NO border wall or separation of families. She believes in access to affordable housing in Orange County, and equity for all races and genders. Naz Hamid for AD-68 central committee would be honored to receive your support and vote on March 3rd.

Thank you!

Florice Orea Hoffman

Florice is an attorney for over 25 years who is dedicated to the representation of working people. Florice is the mother of Daniel and Gabriel Orea. Daniel and Gabriel both worked on Obama's 2012 campaign in Nevada.

My top priority is to continue the Blue Wave in Orange County by electing democrats up and down ballot. We need to continue to build our Party and unite issues that unify our party and our values. We need to engage democrats and democratic leaning voters to build a base in Orange County. We have to address homelessness, transportation and climate change. I believe that democrats share common core values that embraces our differences. We support women's reproductive rights, LGBTG rights, immigrant and minority rights, education and healthcare for all.

Florice currently holds the following positions with the Democratic Party: Treasurer Democratic Party of Orange County Regional Director California Democratic Party.

Bill Honigman

Dr Bill Honigman is a lifelong Democratic Party activist and advocate for many issues related to peace and social justice. Having spent an entire career of 37+ years as an Emergency Room physician, Dr Bill is especially fighting for Healthcare as a human right, in particular through a Single Payer system, whether at the state or federal level, commonly known as Medicare for All.

Originally from the eastern suburbs of Los Angeles, Dr Bill has served on the Orange County Democratic Central Committee in varying capacities throughout his 30+ years of residence in the area. He has been a delegate to numerous state and national Democratic conventions, and has served as a spokesperson for many campaigns as well as an organizer and leader of the national grassroots group Progressive Democrats of America (PDA).

Mani Kang

No statement received.

Tammy Kim

As a lifelong Democrat, I am running to create a more stronger and inclusive party. There has been a demographic shift in Orange County, yet the Central Committee does not reflect the diversity of our county. I have been personally committed to ensuring that our Asian American community does not become disenfranchised and that they receive the knowledge and access to resources to be fully immersed in our democracy. By building a foundation of culturally-aware outreach resources, we can encourage civic participation which will help to grow the base and strengthen our Party. I am deeply committed to a platform of social justice, criminal justice reform, bail reform, ending mass incarceration, immigration reform, universal healthcare, gun reform, reproductive rights, addressing our climate crisis, access to quality education, and universal community colleges. I humbly ask for your vote. Your vote will help build a more inclusive party.

Meredith Marquis

My name is **Meredith Marquis**, a proud Progressive Democrat! I am running to become a Member of the County Central Committee in the **68th Assembly District**. It would be my honor to represent YOU at the county party level. Go Dems!!

I have proudly been endorsed by U.S. Congresswoman **Katie Porter**, California State Treasurer **Fiona Ma** and a host of other local labor, party and environmental leaders.

I look forward to serving you! Thank you!

Bridget R. McConaughy

No statement received.

Joe McLaughlin

Here's why I'm running:

We need to bring the voice of local Democratic activists, club members and clubs to the table on endorsement decisions for local offices. We need to give a formal role in endorsement decisions to folks besides Central Committee members.

We need to elect more Democrats to office at the local level - city councils, school boards, water districts and other offices. We need to improve the 'pipeline' of candidates who are recruited, trained and supported. When we elect those candidates, we need to hold them accountable to all voters, including the Democrats who helped elect them. Candidates we elect should support other Democrats - not Republicans.

We need to un-elect Trump and keep the 'blue wave' rolling in the US Congress, the State Assembly and the State Senate.

I'm proud to be endorsed by DPOC chair Ada Briceno. I hope to receive your endorsement and vote!

Trina Arias Miller

For the past 20 years I have worked as an educational leader at local college institutions, supporting thousands of high school graduates and working adults who were looking to transform their lives and support their families. During that time, I have witnessed the economic and personal struggles of students under the current circumstances of our economy and lingering social barriers. This is the catalyst of why I decided to become more engaged with our local Democratic party and the political landscape of our community. Professionally, my skillsets include public outreach, project management, organizational leadership, and fiscal operations. The issues that I am most focused on include education and workforce development, housing, healthcare, sustainability, and reproductive rights. Vote for Tina Arias Miller as one of your six choices for the 68 th Assembly District Central Committee.

Ted Perle

I'm running for re-election to the DPOC Central Committee from AD 68 to continue bringing real issues from my neighborhood of working families to the attention of the DPOC as well as the California Democratic Party.

I am:

A lifelong Democrat,

A third-generation union member and retired teacher who has consistently stood for the \$15/hour minimum wage, collective bargaining, and increased vocational education opportunity. I have never and will never cross a picket line.

A full supporter of LGBTQIA rights, immigrant rights, including abolishment and replacement of ICE, women's rights to control their own bodies and health care as well as Medicare For All.

An organizer who knows how to flip precincts and win because I've done it!!
You can trust TED!!

David R. Sonneborn

I have continued to be a DPOC Central Committee member since shortly after becoming an OC resident in 2004, though I continue to not be what is customarily meant as an establishment member. My participation has continued to be as a very deeply committed volunteer public advocate of, by, for the people, as well as the planet. I have continued to do a lot of door knocking and attending group meetings, where my first task is always to listen to others' top priority wants/needs, particularly those who are at risk, so that I can better advocate for them. We must move forward at and beyond, this critical moment. I have actively served on each of the key DPOC committees – executive, bylaws, resolutions, endorsements, outreach, legislation. I am currently co-chair of the legislation committee and a member of the resolutions and outreach committees.

David Sonneborn for Central Committee

Beatriz "Betty" Valencia

Beatriz "Betty" Valencia is the Vice President of Operations in Business & Finance, a member of the Santiago Canyon College Foundation (SCCF) Board of Directors, a previous city council candidate in the city of Orange, and the Central Vice-Chair of the Democratic Party of Orange County. Betty is currently working on her Ph.D. in Leadership Studies. In 2019, Betty was named one of several women of the year and TOP 100 Influencers in Orange County. She is also a published author and a motivational speaker on education and equity.

Betty's political philosophy is rooted in the belief that we can obtain our political goals honestly and equitably. The resolve to work toward representation and power with and not over individuals. The firm conviction to lead by example and walk with and not in front of our community. Finally, the commitment to speak truth to power.

Laura Villa

Laura Villa is a Manager in Finance. A graduate from California State University Fullerton, Laura earned her Anthropology degree with honors. Laura is a powerful community organizer in Orange County. Most recently, Laura has shown her skills in management translated well into political organizing.

Laura's political philosophy is built on the ability to represent our fellow Democrats honestly and equitably. That one must commit to working toward a party that feels like a home, and all feel welcomed. The firm conviction to work with our community. Finally, the obligation to listen with intent.

Ken Wyant

Re-elect Ken Wyant to the DPOC Central Committee (Endorsed by Katie Porter).

I will work to: 1) Build up the infrastructure of the Democratic Party, 2) Establish a Code of Conduct with a clear Conflict of Interest clause, and 3) Encourage Democratic Clubs to promote Democratic candidates and policies at every level.

Throughout 2017-2018 I worked as a leader of the GRO program that recruited and trained volunteers to contact tens of thousands of voters on behalf of all Democratic candidates. I have knocked on hundreds of doors myself in the Ambassador, GRO, Neighborhood Organizer, and Adopt a Precinct programs.

I serve on the Executive and Bylaws Committees of the DPOC. I was selected by Rusty Hicks for a second term on the CDP Voter Services Committee.

I have also served as an ADEM representative and as a Delegate to the Democratic National Convention.

Website: kenwyant.com. Email: ken@kenwyant.com