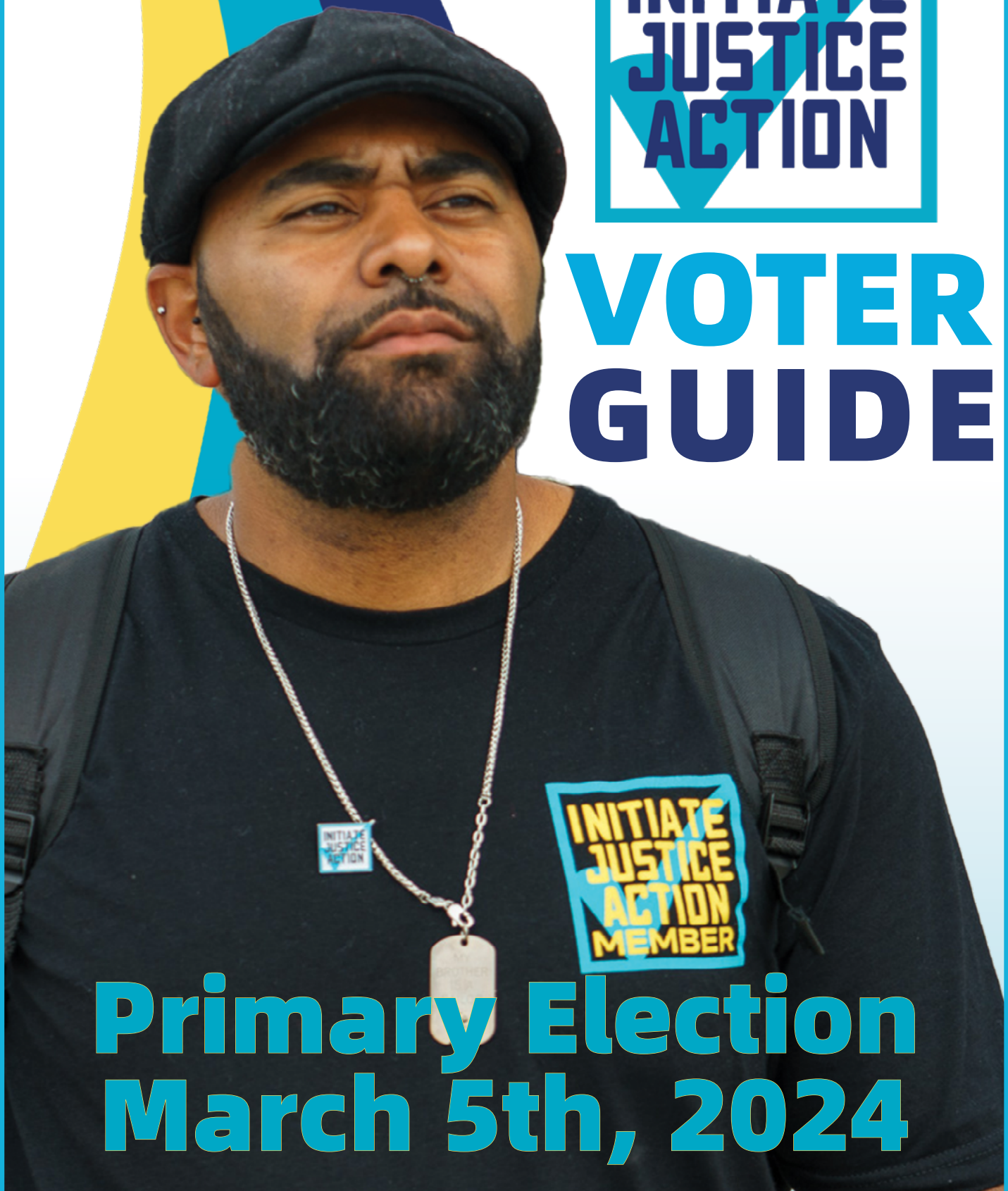




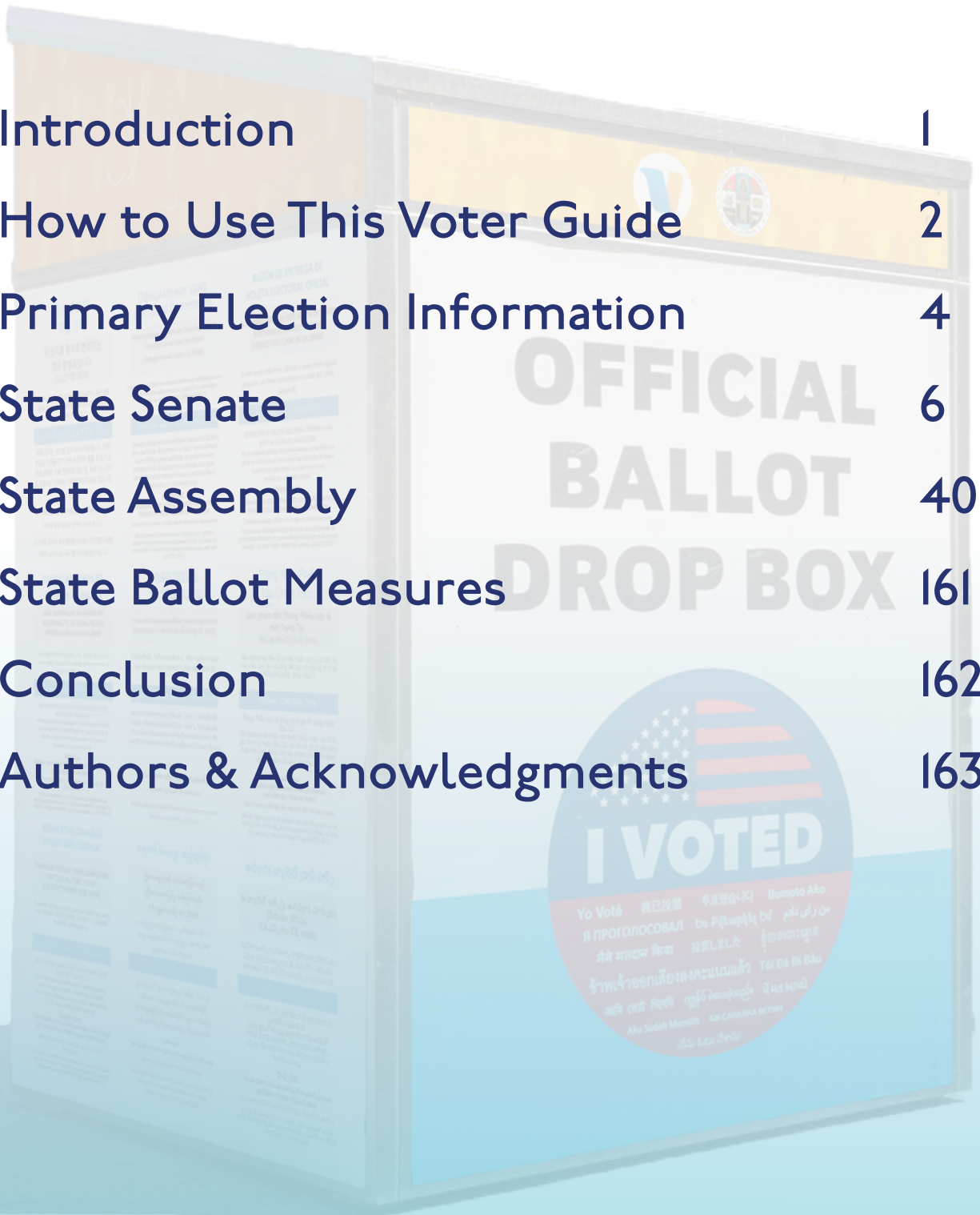
VOTER GUIDE



**Primary Election
March 5th, 2024**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

◆ Introduction	1
◆ How to Use This Voter Guide	2
◆ Primary Election Information	4
◆ State Senate	6
◆ State Assembly	40
◆ State Ballot Measures	161
◆ Conclusion	162
◆ Authors & Acknowledgments	163



INTRODUCTION



This voter guide was written by people directly impacted by incarceration - formerly incarcerated people and people with incarcerated loved ones - and abolitionist allies with a focus on the public safety platforms of candidates for state office in California. Initiate Justice Action believes that people who have been impacted by the prison system in this state deserve the opportunity to weigh in on the state elections, because we have historically been marginalized and because we are the ones who are most affected by the public safety policies proposed by elected officials.

We are at a unique time in our state's history - with the passage of Prop 17 in 2020, this is the second statewide election cycle where all formerly incarcerated people in California can vote. However, voting can be a daunting task for those who are doing it for the first time, or who have not voted in many years. We hope that this voter guide will help system-impacted people understand their voting rights, the details of the March 5th primary election, and help them with their research.

This guide is also intended to be helpful for justice-minded allies who want to learn more about how people impacted by incarceration in California are approaching the statewide elections. We hope that everyone who reads this will learn about voting rights in our state, and take the opportunity to reflect on why voting is so important specifically for those who are directly impacted by justice policies.

HOW TO USE THE IJ ACTION VOTER GUIDE

What this Voter Guide Is:

- General information on the March 5th, 2024 Primary Election.
- Research on candidates running for the State Senate and State Assembly, including an analysis of the candidates' positions and voting record on justice reform policies, if currently in office.
- Campaign finance information for each candidate, specifically whether or not the candidate accepted campaign contributions from law enforcement.
- Research and recommendations on statewide ballot measures appearing on the Primary Election ballot.

What this Voter Guide Is Not:

- An endorsement of or opposition to any candidate. IJ Action will not make formal endorsements of candidates until the November 5th, 2024 General Election.
- An analysis of any federal or local offices. We focus on the state candidates because our organization focuses on advocating for policy change at the statewide level.

The purpose of this voter guide is to provide thorough information on the candidates running for statewide office through a justice lens. Please use this guide as a resource and share widely!

What Information Does This Voter Guide Provide on Candidates?

Basic Information: We provide the candidate's name, political party, whether or not they are the incumbent (the person currently elected to that seat), and their designation as it will appear on the ballot.

Law Enforcement Contributions: We reviewed every candidate's campaign contributions to see if they have received funds from law enforcement Political Action Committees (PACs) or associations, and made notes of any such donations. Some things to note about our research:

- The law enforcement donations are updated as of Jan. 12th, 2024, so it is possible that candidates will have accepted or returned donations after that date.
- This guide is only reporting law enforcement donations for the current election cycle, so if the candidate has run for prior offices, it is possible they have received law enforcement donations that are not reported here.
- This guide only reports contributions from law enforcement PACs and/or associations, not any that may have come from individual law enforcement personnel.
- Many candidates have simply not raised any campaign contributions, so a lack of law enforcement contributions does not necessarily mean that they are opposed to receiving funds from them.
- If the candidate has received law enforcement contributions, we will list the agencies that donated.
- If the candidate has received campaign contributions from other people / organizations but none from law enforcement, their description will read "None as of 1/12/24".
- If the candidate simply has not raised any funds from any source for their campaign, their description will read "The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24".

Legislative Scorecard Grade: For the first time, we are including the grade that each current State Senator and Assemblymember earned in our 2023 Legislative Scorecard. The Scorecard looked at the voting records of each Senator and Assemblymember on six key justice reform bills for the 2023 legislative cycle. For details on the bills and voting records, check out our Legislative Scorecard at: <https://ijaction.org/legislative-scorecard/>



Background: We researched background information on each candidate, such as their professional experience, whether or not they are currently an elected official, and any other information relevant to justice reform.

Public Safety Platform: We did our best to compile a summary of each candidate’s views on public safety policy and whether or not they are in support of justice reform. This is not an exhaustive list, and it should be noted that many candidates do not have public information available on their positions.

Website: We also include the official campaign website of each candidate who has one at the time of writing our Voter Guide.

Recommendations: While we did not make candidate endorsements for this voter guide, we did make a recommendation for the state ballot proposition that will appear on the March 5th ballot, Proposition 1. This recommendation was made by vote of our staff and Board of Directors.

Ballot Designation

Law Enforcement Contributions

Background

Public Safety Platform

Campaign Website

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 29

ROBERT RIVAS, DEMOCRAT
Incumbent
Ballot Designation: State Assemblymember
Law Enforcement Contributions:


- California Statewide Law Enforcement Association PAC
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC
- Anaheim Police Association PAC
- Huntington Beach Police Officers Association PAC
- Santa Ana Police Officers Association PAC
- Garden Grove Police Association PAC
- Association of Orange County Deputy Sheriffs PAC
- San Bernardino County Sheriff's Employees' Benefit Association PAC
- State Coalition of Probation Organizations PAC

Background: Assemblymember Robert Rivas was first elected to the State Assembly in 2018, after serving on the San Benito County Board of Supervisors for eight years. In June 2023, Rivas assumed the position of Assembly Speaker, succeeding Anthony Rendon, after a months-long and contentious transition of power. Prior to entering politics, Rivas was an on-call firefighter and high school job training coordinator.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Robert Rivas earned an "A" on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on all 6 justice reform bills we prioritized this year.

However, as Assembly Speaker, Rivas has also put pressure on the Legislature to adopt more tough-on-crime policies, namely by pushing through SB 14 last year, which expanded the Three Strikes Law in California for the first time in over two decades. Additionally, he has accepted campaign contributions from eleven law enforcement agencies from across the state.

Website: <https://www.rivasca.com/>



GRADE A

J.W. PAINE, REPUBLICAN
Ballot Designation: Teamster Truck Driver
Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24
Background: Paine is a truck driver and first-time candidate for State Assembly. He ran unsuccessfully for California Secretary of State in 2022.
Public Safety Platform: Paine's campaign website does not include a policy platform, and little information is readily available regarding his public safety positions.
Website: <https://helpjw.com/>

Legislative Scorecard Grade

PRIMARY ELECTION INFORMATION

**The Primary Election is Tuesday, March 5th.
Here are some key dates to keep in mind:**

- **Monday, Feb. 5th: Vote by mail ballots mailed out.**
- Monday, Feb. 5th - Tuesday, March 5th: Early Voting sites are open. You can vote early in person or by dropping off your vote-by-mail ballot. Find your location here: <https://caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov/>
- **Tuesday, Feb. 20th: Last day to register to vote.**
- Wednesday, Feb. 21st - Tuesday, March 5th: If you miss the registration deadline, you can conditionally register to vote up to and on Election Day at a polling location and vote provisionally; however, your voter registration status will need to be verified before your vote will be counted.
- **Tuesday, March 5th: Election Day. Polls will be open from 7:00am - 8:00pm. Vote by mail ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day.**

What's on the Ballot?

Candidates:

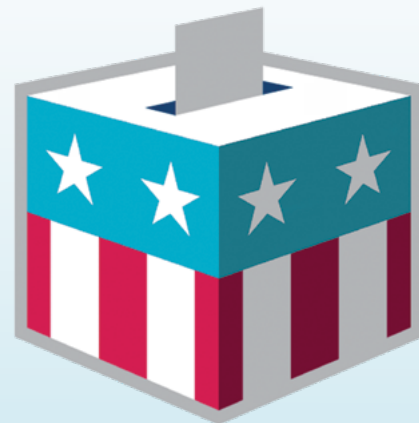
- Federal: U.S. President, U.S. Senate, and House of Representatives
- State: State Senator and State Assemblymember
- Local: City and county candidates depending on your jurisdiction.

Ballot Measures:

- State ballot measure(s)
- Local city / county ballot measure(s)

Voter Eligibility

- **To be eligible to vote in California if you must be:**
 - 18 years old or older,
 - A US citizen, and
 - A resident of CA
- **If you are impacted by incarceration, you do have the right to vote if you:**
 - Are incarcerated in a county jail, unless you have been sentenced to state prison and are awaiting transfer to a state prison
 - Are on county probation, federal probation, post-release community supervision (PRCS), or on parole
 - Have been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony in the past



- **You do not currently have the right to vote if you:**

- Are currently incarcerated in state or federal prison
- Are currently in a Pre-Release Custody Program, such as Alternative Custody Program (ACP), Community Prison Mother Program (CPMP), Custody to Community Transitional Reentry Program (CCTRP) or Male Community Reentry Program (MCRP)
- Have been found mentally incompetent by a court
- Are not 18 years old or older, a US citizen, and a resident of CA

In summary, as long as you are not currently incarcerated in a state or federal prison, you are eligible to vote as long as you meet the other age and citizenship requirements. You can learn more about how a conviction history impacts your right to vote here: <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/restore-your-vote>

- **Registering to Vote**

- You may register to vote online by visiting: <https://registertovote.ca.gov/> or by completing a paper voter registration form which you can find at post offices, DMV offices, and most public libraries.
- To register to vote, you will need to provide your residence address and either your driver's license or state ID number or the last four digits of your social security number.
- You can also use this site to check your voter registration status or pre-register to vote if you are 16 or 17 years old.
- Reminder - you must re-register to vote any time you move or change your name!
- Questions? You can call the Secretary of State: (800) 345-VOTE (8683)

- **Finding Your Polling Place**

- Want to know where you go to vote in person? You can use this web site to find your polling place: <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/polling-place>

- **Voting by Mail**

- Since 2020, all voters are automatically signed up to vote by mail. That means that once you register to vote, you will receive your ballot in the mail at the address where you registered to vote. You may complete your ballot at home and seal it, sign it, and mail it in to your county registrar of voters (no postage necessary) or drop off your ballot at a secure dropbox or at your polling place. You can find early voting locations or your nearest ballot drop box here: <https://caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov/>

- **Tracking Your Ballot**

- Once you have completed and submitted your ballot, you can track the status of your ballot online by entering your information on this site: <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ballot-status/wheres-my-ballot>
- You can also sign up for automatic text message or email updates on the status of your ballot!



SENATE



Photo: CA State Senate Website

The California State Senate is the upper house of the two legislative houses for the State of California. Senators are responsible for introducing and voting on state legislation and also vote to approve the state's budget each year. State Senators are responsible for confirming or rejecting the Governor's appointments to state agencies such as the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), and are also responsible for carrying out state agency casework for the people who live in their districts.

The Senate has a membership of 40 Senators elected for 4-year terms, 20 to begin every 2 years. A person may serve no more than 12 years in the Senate, Assembly, or both, in any combination of terms. Members of the Senate representing odd-numbered districts will have elections during the presidential election years. Members representing even-numbered districts will have elections at the same time as California's constitutional officers. That is why this year we are only voting for the Senators representing odd-numbered districts.

More information on the State Senate can be found on their website:
<https://www.senate.ca.gov/>

Want to know who your State Senator is? Find them here:
<https://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/>

SENATE DISTRICT 1

MEGAN DAHLE, REPUBLICAN

*Currently an Assemblymember

Ballot Designation: Farmer / Businesswoman / Mother

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA)
- California Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC
- Deputy Sheriffs' Association of San Diego County PAC



Background: Dahle is currently in the State Assembly, and is running to fill the Senate District 1 seat that will soon be vacated by her termed-out husband, Senator Brian Dahle. As a member of the Assembly, she consistently votes against good justice reform legislation and received an “F” grade in our Legislative Scorecard.

She is a small business owner and farmer, and served for one term on the Big Valley Joint Unified School Board.

Public Safety Platform: According to Assemblymember Dahle’s campaign website: “Crime is increasing and I’m fighting back. In the Assembly, I led efforts to crack down on sexual predators, co-authored a new law to toughen penalties for human trafficking and have backed efforts to prevent more smash and grab robberies that have made shopping more difficult.”

Assemblymember Dahle also highlights her support for ACA 12, which was opposed by IJ Action, and now will appear on California’s ballot in November. If passed, the measure will “make it easier for district attorneys to prosecute fentanyl dealers for homicide if the illegal drugs they sell kill an innocent person.” Furthermore, as Senator, Dahle promises to “vote to get rid of the laws which let dangerous felons out of jail early, and which have decreased penalties for drug and property crime.”

Website: <https://www.votemegandahle.com/>

DAVID FENNEL, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Entrepreneur

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Fennell is an entrepreneur with a background in the tech and music industries. He ran unsuccessfully for Lieutenant Governor in 2022.

Public Safety Platform: Fennell does not have a written platform or website for his Senate race, but his 2022 race for Lt. Governor outlined his priorities to address the “crime wave” of retail thefts and burglaries and “white collar crime” in Silicon Valley.

He is also critical of Prop 47, falsely stating that under Prop 47, theft under \$950 is “not even a slap on the wrist.” He further inaccurately claims that “police are no longer taking reports for property and white collar crime the statistics falsely show that crime in California is going down but the reality is the crime is on the rise” and then states “crime is not just being reported by police, but you can see the videos on YouTube.”

Website: <https://www.fennellforsenate.com/>

SENATE DISTRICT 3

JACKIE ELWARD, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Councilwoman / Educator / Mother

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Elward is the former Mayor and current Councilmember for the City of Rohnert Park. She is also Director at Sonoma Clean Power (responsible for community choice clean energy in Sonoma County) and at Sonoma County Continuum of Care (responsible for homelessness services in Sonoma County). Elward has a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and was an active BLM organizer during the George Floyd uprisings.

Public Safety Platform: According to her campaign website: "Jackie will ensure that local communities have the resources they need to prioritize public safety from every direction. This includes enriching opportunities for youth before, during, and after school, greater mental health investments, crisis responder support, and greater connections between law enforcement and the communities they serve (community policing). Jackie supports common sense gun safety laws and will champion efforts to reduce gun violence in our region."

She is endorsed by many social justice organizations such as Environmental Voters, Working Families Party, Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE) Action, and many labor organizations. She is also endorsed by IJ Action endorsed officials such as Senator Smallwood-Cuevas and Assemblymember Ash Kalra.

Website: <https://www.jackie4senate.com/>

CHRISTOPHER CABALDON, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Educator / State Commissioner

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Cabaldon was the Mayor of West Sacramento for over two decades, becoming the longest serving LGBTQ+ Mayor in US history. He is also a professor of Public Policy and Administration at Sacramento State University.

During the 2020 uprisings, as Mayor of West Sacramento, Calbadon established a Community Outreach and Support Division within the West Sacramento Police Department. He highlighted how the city has not had officer-involved shootings in many years, nor have there been racial bias complaints. However, "The fact that we don't have shootings and we don't have racial bias complaints doesn't tell us the whole story," he said to the Daily Democrat in a 2020 article.

Public Safety Platform: According to his campaign website: "Crime is up throughout the state and too many families don't feel safe in their communities. As Mayor, Christopher championed a comprehensive approach to public safety ensuring officers had resources and training they need, recruiting new officers that look like the communities they serve, reducing abuse of 911 calls for racial harassment and creating equitable justice programs."

The site further states "Christopher advocated for innovative strategies that safely and sensitively address mental health-related crises. In the State Senate, he will prioritize investments in public safety that promote improved 911 response times, combat the spate of smash-and-grab robberies gripping our communities, and keep our neighborhoods safe."

continued on next page

He is endorsed by reproductive rights and LGBTQ+ rights groups such as Planned Parenthood Northern CA Action Fund, Equality CA, and Stonewall Democrats.

Website: <https://cabaldonforsenate.com/about/>

ROZZANA VERDER-ALIGA, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Healthcare Provider / Councilmember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Statewide Law Enforcement Association PAC

Background: Verder-Aliga has worked in local government and politics for decades, first elected in 1993 to the Vallejo School Board where she served for 12 years, and in 2007 to the Solano County Board of Education where she served for 6 years. Since 2013, she has served on the Vallejo City Council.

Per her campaign website, “As Councilmember, she has supported initiatives to maintain financial stability, create jobs by streamlining business permitting processes, collaborate with schools/county and other public agencies, fund arts, youth, seniors and homeless programs.”

Public Safety Platform: Verder-Aliga does not have a written public safety platform, but has consistently supported more police funding while on Vallejo City Council. It is perhaps for this reason that she is endorsed by law enforcement agencies such as the LA Police Protective League (LAPPL), California Highway Patrol (CHP), and the California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA).

On her campaign website, she offers a thoughtful approach to homelessness, however also voices her support for the CARE Courts which can force houseless people into treatment or jail. She also has the endorsement of outgoing incumbent Senator Bill Dodd and the California State Democratic Party.

Website: <https://rozzana4senate.com/meet-rozzana/>

THOM BOGUE, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: City Councilman / Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Bogue is an elected official on the Dixon City Council and also served as the City Mayor. He is a business owner in the automotive repair industry.

Public Safety Platform: Bogue’s public safety platform, titled “Fighting Crime,” states the following: “I have a bold plan to address the pressing issues facing California. Within the first 120 days of my term, I will submit bills to reverse the disastrous effects of propositions like Prop-47, which have decriminalized serious offenses. We need to hold criminals accountable and prioritize the safety of our communities.”

Website: <https://thombogue4statesenate.com/>

JIMIH JONES, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Automotive Parts Advisor

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Jones is a resident of Woodland California and a former candidate for U.S. Congress for California’s 4th District. Very little information is available about him online.

Public Safety Platform: Jones does not have a website or written platform, and little information about him is readily available.

Website: None

SENATE DISTRICT 5

CARLOS VILLAPUDUA, DEMOCRAT

*Currently an Assemblymember

Ballot Designation: California State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association PAC
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC

Background: Villapudua was first elected to the State Assembly in 2020 after serving on the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors for several years and is now running for the newly-vacant Senate seat in his district. In 2016 he ran unsuccessfully for Mayor of Stockton, losing to Michael Tubbs.

Public Safety Platform: This session, Assemblymember Villapudua introduced AB 701, which would have increased criminal penalties for people convicted of possessing large amounts of fentanyl. This bill failed to pass the Assembly Public Safety Committee. He also introduced legislation to roll back Prop 47, lowering the \$950 threshold to charge thefts as a felony.

Villapudua has a mixed record on public safety issues, supporting both new criminal penalties and enhancements while also voting for certain bills to reduce lengthy sentences and bring people home, earning him a grade of “D” on our Legislative Scorecard.

Website: <https://villapudua2024.com/>



JERRY MCNERNEY, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Policy Advisor

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: McNerney is a former member of U.S. Congress, serving in that role from 2008 until 2022, after a career as a businessman and investor.

Public Safety Platform: McNerney does not have a written public safety platform, and while in Congress had a mixed voting record on criminal justice issues.

Website: None

JIM SHOEMAKER, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Trucker / Tradesman / Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Shoemaker is a conservative activist and former candidate who previously ran unsuccessfully for the U.S. Congress for California’s 9th District.

Public Safety Platform: Shoemaker’s public safety platform outlines a return to “law and order” and ending what he believes is the “prioritizing [of] criminals over business owners.”

Website: <https://www.shoemaker4senate.com/>

SENATE DISTRICT 7

JESSE ARREGUÍN, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Mayor of Berkeley

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Jesse Arreguín was first elected to Berkeley City Council in 2008, and became Mayor in 2016. The son of farmworkers, Arreguín discusses how his experiences with housing insecurity and eviction at a young age inform his advocacy on affordable housing as an elected official.

He is endorsed by over a dozen labor unions, including AFL-CIO, and has the endorsements of Senator Dave Cortese and over two dozen Bay Area local elected leaders. However, his endorsements also include law enforcement, namely Alameda County Sheriff Yesenia Sanchez.

Public Safety Platform: While his campaign website does not include a written public safety platform, Arreguín describes himself as a progressive and discusses how as Berkeley Mayor he “negotiated with his police department to increase oversight and introduced historic reforms to shift responses to mental health and homeless issues from police to trained social workers – advancing criminal justice reform while keeping Berkeley safe.”

Website: <https://www.jesse.vote/>

JOVANKA BECKLES, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: AC Transit Director

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Jovanka Beckles is a Black Panamanian immigrant and openly queer elected official on the Richmond City Council. According to her campaign website, she worked in public health for many years as a mental health clinician and prior to serving on city council was appointed to the Richmond Economic Development Commission and the City Planning Commission. In 2020, Beckles was also elected to the AC Transit Board.

Public Safety Platform: While Beckles does not have a written public safety platform, her “About Me” page included the following: “It was after experiencing a life-altering home invasion by desperate young people, that Jovanka was directly impacted by the profound needs of our growing marginalized communities. She felt moved to run for political office where she knew she could make a difference as an elected official who could deliver results for those with the greatest needs. And deliver results she did! Rather than to propose carceral and punitive consequences, Jovanka has been a vocal and active advocate for the working class, the poor, the unhoused, those at risk of incarceration and returning citizens looking for a second chance. Recognizing that the underlying needs of struggling community members must be met, Jovanka fought for, created and supported policies that include: banning the box on City job applications; providing any community member who wanted one a local identification card, pushing for and winning a fight for rent control and raising the minimum wage.”

She is endorsed by progressive Alameda County District Attorney Pamela Price as well as many labor and racial justice organizations.

Website: <https://jovanka4casenate.com/>

DAN KALB, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Councilmember / Environmental Advocate

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Dan Kalb is a three-term Oakland City Councilmember and environmental justice advocate. Prior to serving on the council, Kalb was California Policy Director for the Union of Concerned Scientists for nine years.

Kalb was also Chapter Director for the Sierra Club and past staffer for Common Cause. According to his “About Me” page, while on Oakland City Council Kalb championed reforms to “...stop ghost guns in our neighborhoods, create an independent police oversight commission, raise tens of millions for affordable housing, protect tenants from displacement, ban coal in Oakland, strengthen the Public Ethics Commission, create a progressive real estate transfer tax, require seismic retrofits of apartment buildings, create a partnership to keep kids in school, and so much more.”

Public Safety Platform: Kalb’s public safety platform, titled ‘Comprehensive Public Safety’ states the following: “Dan has led efforts to get guns off our streets, including writing the law to ban the parts that make ghost guns. Dan will stand up to the NRA and fight for tougher gun laws. And he knows that keeping our communities safe requires smart investments in effective violence prevention and rehabilitation programs that provide education, job training and other resources to people emerging from the criminal justice system. Dan has consistently supported community-focused policing and increased funding for violence prevention and intervention. He also authored the measure that created an independent police commission in Oakland. State government must increase funding for rehabilitation and reentry services in order to reduce recidivism and help those in need. Public Safety means many things. Dan is a leader in local efforts to reduce wildfire risk and is passionate about fighting for policies and funding for pedestrian and bicycle safety and safer routes to schools.”

Kalb is endorsed by a long list of current and former elected officials, such as Congress Member Kevin Mullin, Senator Catherine Blakespear, and Assemblymember Laura Friedman.

Website: <https://www.dankalb.net/>

SANDRÉ R. SWANSON, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Youth Foundation President

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Association of Highway Patrolmen
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- Oakland Police Officers Association PAC

Background: Sandré Swanson is a former California State Assemblymember who served three terms from 2006 - 2012. During his tenure in the Assembly, Swanson chaired the Labor and Employment Committee and the Assembly Select Committee on the Status of Boys and Men of Color. Swanson has worked in politics for many decades, including as former Senior Policy Advisor for retired Congressman Ronald V. Dellums and as Chief of Staff to Congresswoman Barbara Lee.

Public Safety Platform: While Swanson’s website doesn’t include a written public safety platform, it does list a wide variety of legislative accomplishments, several of which relate to public safety. For instance, Swanson mentions several laws he authored that expand fines and asset forfeiture for human trafficking (especially trafficking of minors). Swanson authored both AB 499 and AB 799 which treat underage sex workers as “victims of sexual exploitation” as opposed to “criminals” and also created a diversion program within Alameda County so as to

Continued on next page

“...provide law enforcement with tools to identify exploited minors and provide them with extensive wrap around services to address their physical and mental health needs.”

Website: <http://sandreswanson.net/index.php>

KATHRYN LYBARGER, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Union Federation President

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Lybarger is the current President of the California Labor Federation, representing over 2.1 million workers across the state. She is a queer woman and an advocate fighting to “build more affordable housing, clean energy infrastructure, and invest in workforce development...Kathryn will lead statewide ballot campaigns to extend basic labor standards, protect organizing rights for working people, and remove the ban on marriage equality from California’s Constitution.”

Public Safety Platform: Per her website, Lybarger’s public safety platform entails the following: “California is making some progress transforming the justice system to prioritize communities and prevent harm -- but we’re not done. California must enact public safety solutions rooted in good jobs and crime prevention, community health, rehabilitation, and support for crime victims. Funding for violence intervention, youth employment and mentoring, victim support and trauma recovery -- real public safety for all.”

She is endorsed by many labor organizations, elected officials such as Assemblymember and former Speaker Anthony Rendon, and social justice organizations such as Equality CA and Environmental Voters.

Website: <https://www.kathrynlybargerforstatesenate2024.com/>

JEANNE SOLNORDAL, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Broker

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds raised as of 1/12/24

Background: Solnordal is a licensed broker with a background in property management. She is also a former candidate who previously ran unsuccessfully for City Council in Piedmont and for U.S. Congress.

Public Safety Platform: Solnordal does not have a campaign website or platform, and little information is readily available regarding her public safety stances.

Website: None

SENATE DISTRICT 9

TIM GRAYSON, DEMOCRAT

*Currently an Assemblymember

Ballot Designation: Assemblymember / Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA)
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC
- California Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC
- Contra Costa County Deputy Sheriff's Association PAC
- California Statewide Law Enforcement Association PAC



Background: Grayson is currently a member of the State Assembly representing the 15th District, and was first elected in 2016 after serving on the Concord City Council. A Republican for many years, Grayson switched parties when he launched his campaign for Assembly. He is a construction contractor by trade.

Public Safety Platform: This legislative cycle, Assemblymember Grayson earned a “B” on our Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on 5 of the 6 justice reform bills we supported. However, he is also supportive of legislation to increase criminalization.

According to his campaign website: “I supported legislation and funding to crack down on organized retail theft and help law enforcement recover stolen merchandise and protect local businesses. Through our state’s budget I supported funding a permanent Smash and Grab Enforcement Unit to fight retail theft and investing \$30 Million in the National Guard’s drug eradication efforts.”

On the other hand, Assemblymember Grayson has also supported efforts to reduce gun violence and address police violence. Per his campaign website: “I supported \$156 Million for gun violence prevention programs and \$25 million for gun buyback programs... I support needed reforms to address the destructive effects of systemic racism, and to restore justice and trust in our communities. I voted to pass a recent law to limit police officer use of deadly force and co-authored legislation to require police officers receive training on use-of-force and de-escalation techniques. I believe we must increase oversight and accountability of police officers, and increase punishment for the few who break the rules.”

Assemblymember Grayson is endorsed by Planned Parenthood Northern CA Action Fund and the CA Labor Federation, however, he also received the endorsement of the CA Association of Highway Patrolmen and the Contra Costa County Deputy Sheriff’s Association.

Website: <https://www.graysonforca.com/>

MARISOL RUBIO, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Councilwoman / Caregiver / Educator

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Rubio is an elected official on the San Ramon City Council, and a former Director and Vice President of the Dublin San Ramon Water Services District. She is also a Delegate for the Democratic Party of Contra Costa County Central Committee.

Public Safety Platform: While Rubio does not have a policy page for her State Senate campaign, she stated the following regarding public safety in an interview during her city council campaign: “In addition to creating a smart city to improve crime detection, we should provide more collaborative opportunities for community engagement between our first responders, businesses, and residents. This is vital to ensuring that our public services are meeting our community’s needs and that our community, in turn, is aware of our first responders’ needs and the services they provide.”

She is endorsed by many Democratic clubs, elected officials, and progressive organizations such as Courage CA and Working Families Party.

Website: <https://www.marisolforca.com/>

SENATE DISTRICT 11

SCOTT WIENER, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Senator

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Senator Wiener was first elected to the State Senate in 2016, after many years in various positions in local politics in San Francisco where he served on the County Board of Supervisors, County Transportation Authority, and as a commissioner on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

Public Safety Platform: Wiener is a longtime progressive ally who has an extensive public safety platform, which he titled “Criminal Justice and Decarceration.” On his platform he lists over two dozen bills he has co-authored, including ACA 6, which became Proposition 17 and restored voting rights for people on parole in California. He also lists being a co-author of the Racial Justice Act, legislation to repeal the death penalty, end qualified immunity for police, and restrict use of “less-lethal” police weapons such as rubber bullets and tear gas.

Senator Wiener also writes that he “...is working with partners such as the Innocence Project, the Ella Baker Center, the Drug Policy Alliance, and more to reimagine and rebuild our broken system.”

Website: <https://www.scottwiener.com/>

CYNTHIA CRAVENS, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Community Volunteer

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds raised as of 1/12/24

Background: Cravens describes herself as a “community volunteer” and “advocate for public safety.”

Public Safety Platform: Cravens’ public safety platform outlines the following: “I understand the pressing need for enhanced safety in our community. I am resolute in my commitment to increasing support for law enforcement to combat the rising crime rates, including retail theft.”

Website: <https://www.cynthia4senate.org/>

YVETTE CORKREAN, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Registered Nurse / Mother

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Corkrean is a registered nurse and conservative activist, and currently serves as Vice Chair of Volunteers for the San Francisco County Republican Central Committee.

Public Safety Platform: Corkrean’s public safety platform outlines the following: “Yvette is determined to tackle the complex issues of rising crime rates, supporting law enforcement, and confronting the drug crisis head-on. She recognizes that homelessness, littered streets, and deteriorating cities demand immediate attention. Her mission is to implement holistic solutions, providing secure shelter and support for the homeless while breathing new life into our cities, restoring them to the vibrant, thriving places she holds dear.”

Website: <https://www.yvetteforsenate.org/>



SENATE DISTRICT 13

JOSH BECKER, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Senator

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)

Background: Josh Becker was first elected to the California State Senate in 2020. Prior to entering office, Becker was CEO of Lex Machina, a firm that provides analytics to legal professionals.

Public Safety Platform: This session, Senator Becker was a co-author of ACA 4, an IJ Action co-sponsored piece of legislation that would place an initiative on the November 2024 ballot to restore voting rights to people in prison. Becker also authored SB 474, an IJ Action supported bill which addresses price gouging by prison canteens by prohibiting sale prices that exceed 10% of what they pay vendors.

Website: <https://www.joshbeckerforcalifornia.com/>



ALEXANDER GLEW, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Professional Engineer / CEO

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds raised as of 1/12/24

Background: Glew is a licensed mechanical engineer and business owner, founding his own engineering consulting firm.

Public Safety Platform: Glew's public safety platform, which is titled "Policing," outlines the following: "We believe that reducing crime requires improving lives and economic opportunities in low-income communities. We need strong law enforcement to protect our communities and we support the police but must hold them accountable for treating all people fairly. We must back the blue. We must restore the bail system and prosecute property crimes. We must not cut funding to our police, which would severely impact low-income communities and provide a fertile ground for criminal activities."

Website: <https://www.voteglew.com/>

CHRISTINA LASKOWSKI, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Change Management Professional

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds raised as of 1/12/24

Background: Laskowski is a business professional who previously ran unsuccessfully for Assembly District 22 in 2018.

Public Safety Platform: Laskowski does not have a website or written platform, and very little information is readily available about her stance on public safety.

Website: None

SENATE DISTRICT 15

DAVE CORTESE, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Senator

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)

Background: Senator Cortese was first elected to the State Senate in 2020. He previously served on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors for 12 years, and prior to that as Council Member and Vice Mayor for the City of San Jose. He is also the son of former Santa Clara County Supervisor and California Assemblymember Dominic Cortese.

Public Safety Platform: This session, Senator Cortese was a co-author of ACA 4, an IJ Action co-sponsored piece of legislation that would place an initiative on the November 2024 ballot to restore voting rights to people in prison. Senator Cortese also led SB 94, another IJ Action supported bill which would allow for recall and resentencing for people sentenced to LWOP or a death penalty who have served at least 20 years.

Website: <https://davecortese.com/>



ROBERT PAUL HOWELL, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Cybersecurity Equipment Manager

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Howell is a Cybersecurity Manager and an elected delegate to the Santa Clara County Republican Party. He ran unsuccessfully for Insurance Commissioner in 2022.

Public Safety Platform: Howell has no website or written platform, and very little information is readily available about his background.

Website: None

TONY LOAIZA, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Software Executive / Parent

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Loaiza is a sales director for a software company, with a background in sales and business development.

Public Safety Platform: Loaiza does not have a campaign website (other than for fundraising) and no written platform. Very little information is readily available regarding his public safety stances.

Website: <https://www.efundraisingconnections.com/c/TonyLoaiza/20231129RSVP>

SENATE DISTRICT 17

JOHN LAIRD, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Senator

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- California Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC

Background: John Laird has been in the public eye since 1981, when he was first elected to Santa Cruz City Council, and later served as the city’s Mayor. He later served in the Assembly and became Secretary for the California Natural Resources Agency from 2011 to 2019. He was elected to the State Senate in 2020.

Public Safety Platform: Senator Laird does not have a written public safety platform, but has generally voted in favor of progressive criminal justice reform and received an “A” in our Legislative Scorecard for supporting all of our priority justice reform legislation this year.

However, Senator Laird has also received significant campaign contributions from law enforcement.

Website: <https://www.lairdforsenate.com/>



ERIC TAO, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Computer Science Professor

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds raised as of 1/12/24

Background: Tao is a professor at California State University Monterey Bay, specializing in artificial intelligence and computer science. He is the former director of the university’s School of Computing and Design.

Public Safety Platform: Tao does not have a written public safety platform, but his campaign statement mentions how “We face rampant crime, uncontrolled homelessness, and radical indoctrination in schools” indicating support for tough-on-crime policies and opposition to critical race theory.

Website: <https://www.erictao4senate.com/>

TONY VIRRUETA, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Veterans Advocate / Father

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Virrueta is a retired U.S. Army Ranger and Special Forces instructor, and founder of the Salinas Veterans Day Parade.

Public Safety Platform: Virrueta does not have a policy platform, but a press release on his website criticizes how the incumbent, John Laird, voted against SB 44 (Alexandra’s Law) which would have escalated criminal penalties for fentanyl dealers, stating: “Our Central Coast incumbent senator was a member of this key committee, and he failed to be a sponsor or supporter of this key bill, which would escalate penalties for fentanyl traffickers, where a young person died from the trafficking. Presently a fentanyl trafficker or gang member only gets a slap on the wrist for selling fentanyl to a young person, who dies from the dose.”

Website: <https://tony4senate.com/>

MICHAEL OXFORD, LIBERTARIAN

Ballot Designation: AV Technician

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Oxford is a former AV technician and anti-mask advocate during the COVID pandemic.

Public Safety Platform: Oxford’s public safety platform does not provide much detail, but includes statements such as “fund the police”, “deport illegal immigrants who are caught committing crime”, and “make theft illegal again.”

Website: <https://www.oxford2024.com/>

SENATE DISTRICT 19

ROSILICIE OCHOA BOGH, REPUBLICAN

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Senator / Businesswoman

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- San Bernardino County Sheriff's Employees' Benefit Association PAC
- State Coalition of Probation Organizations

Background: Senator Ochoa Bogh was first elected to the California State Senate in 2020, after working for years as an English teacher and briefly as a real estate agent. She is also a former member of the Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School District School Board.

Public Safety Platform: As the co-chair of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Ochoa Bogh has surprised onlookers and voted in favor of some criminal justice reform measures, but the vast majority of her votes fall squarely into the tough-on-crime camp and are pro-law enforcement. For instance, she is a co-author of SB 14 which expanded the state Three Strikes Law for the first time in more than 20 years by making human trafficking a serious felony - even though state law already allows for a life sentence for that crime.

Senator Ochoa Bogh also earned an "F" on our Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on 0 out of 6 of the justice reform bills IJ Action prioritized last year. Additionally, she accepts contributions from several law enforcement organizations.

Website: <https://ochoaboghforsenate.com/>



LISA MIDDLETON, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Palm Springs City Council Member

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Lisa Middleton is a member of the Palm Springs City Council and its former Mayor. She was the first and only openly transgender Mayor in California history. Middleton also serves on the Riverside County Transportation Commission, and was appointed by Governor Newsom to the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) Board of Administration.

Public Safety Platform: Middleton does not have a written public safety platform, and publicly available information about her stances on the issue are hard to find. She has noted that the city budget for Palm Springs remains high because it is one of the only desert cities that has its own independent police department, wherein 40% of city payroll goes towards pensions including for law enforcement.

She is endorsed by many civil rights and labor organizations and has accepted no money from law enforcement.

Website: <https://www.electlisamiddleton.com/>

SENATE DISTRICT 21

MONIQUE LIMÓN, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Senator

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- California Association of Highway Patrolmen

Background: Limón was first elected to the State Senate in 2020 after serving two terms in the State Assembly. Prior to her time in the legislature, she served on the Santa Barbara Unified School District Board of Education.

Public Safety Platform: Although Senator Limón does not have a public safety platform on her campaign website, she has consistently voted in favor of progressive reforms, earning an “A” on our Legislative Scorecard this legislative session. Also, while in the Assembly, Limón voted in favor of ACA 6 to restore voting rights to Californians on parole.

Website: <https://www.moniquelimonforsenate.com/>



ELIJAH MACK, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: College Student

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Mack is a college student and libertarian activist. He is a first-time candidate for state office.

Public Safety Platform: Mack’s public safety platform, titled “Justice Reform” outlines the following: “As a Libertarian, I believe our justice system should target crimes of aggression, theft, and fraud first and foremost. I believe in softening sentences for Victimless Crimes, or crimes where no party was defrauded, manipulated, or had violence initiated against them.”

On criminalizing drug use, Mack states: “I believe in decriminalizing, but not encouraging drug use. I believe California should focus on offering recovery options to addicts rather than leaving users worse off by throwing them behind bars when guilty only of possession.”

On issues of police violence, Mack states: “I believe in making sure members of Law Enforcement are accountable for their actions just like any other citizen, so that those abused or harmed can have their day in the courtroom.”

Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/mackforstatesenate/home>

SENATE DISTRICT 23

KIPP MUELLER, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Workers Rights Attorney

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Mueller is a Civil Rights and Employment Lawyer who also works as an asylum attorney for undocumented community members. He is a former Obama official who worked for the federal Justice Department’s Consumer Protection Branch, and also served a stint in the Santa Clara District Attorney’s office, where he sought to “...protect families by prosecuting sexual predators and fraudsters.”

Mueller challenged the Republican incumbent Senators Scott Wilk in 2020, losing by only 0.8% of the vote. Senator Wilk terms out this year, so this is now an open race.

Public Safety Platform: Mueller’s campaign website highlights his willingness to champion progressive causes such as providing affordable housing and protecting reproductive freedom, however, his public safety platform indicates a more moderate view, stating: “As a former prosecutor, I am the only candidate in this race who has actually held criminals accountable. We must continue to make community safety a top priority, including protecting families from crime, addressing the rise in smash-and-grabs, focusing investments in our fentanyl crisis, and ensuring our children are safe from gun violence.”

Website: <https://www.kippforsenate.com/>

SUZETTE MARTINEZ VALLADARES, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Small Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA)
- California Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC

Background: Valladares is a former Assemblymember from the Santa Clarita Valley who was defeated in 2022 by Democrat Pilar Schiavo after serving only one term. Prior to her time in the legislature, Valladares worked for former Republican Congressman Buck McKeon and as California Director of Hispanic Initiatives for the Republican National Conference.

Public Safety Platform: Valladares is unabashedly tough-on-crime and pro law enforcement, writing on her campaign website that she “...is taking a strong stance against the pro-criminal policies that have caused crime to explode. She has authored a crime victims support package and is supported by law enforcement.”

She has received the endorsement of several law enforcement agencies such as the California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA), Peace Officers Research Association of California, Los Angeles Police Protective League, California Association of Highway Patrol, and Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs.

Website: <https://suzettevalladares.com/>

BLANCA AZUCENA GOMEZ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Victorville Councilwoman

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Gomez is a Victorville City Councilmember who previously ran unsuccessfully for U.S. Congress for California's 23rd District, and for former Assembly District 33.

Public Safety Platform: Gomez does not have a campaign website or written policy platform, and little information is readily available regarding her public safety positions.

Website: None

JAMES "DJ" HAMBURGER, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Teacher / Army Officer

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Hamburger is a battalion staff officer in the Army National Guard and a board member for the iLEAD Charter Schools District.

Public Safety Platform: Hamburger does not have a written public safety platform, but his background information highlights how he "...and his unit backfilled the Los Angeles Police and Sheriff's departments during the social unrest of June 2020."

Website: <https://votehamburger.com/>

SENATE DISTRICT 25

SASHA RENÉE PÉREZ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Alhambra Vice Mayor

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Renée Pérez is a current Alhambra City Councilmember and Commissioner for the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority. She was also the statewide Political Director for the Prop 1 campaign, which enshrined reproductive rights into the California Constitution. She is endorsed by over three dozen local and state politicians and labor unions.

Public Safety Platform: Renée Pérez does not have a written public safety platform, but has made statements indicating that she supports addressing the root causes of crime and prevention, namely by successfully adding mental health workers to the city of Alhambra's public safety team. Renée Pérez has also stated that she supports sentencing reforms on a "case-by-case" basis and is in favor of exploring restorative justice and alternatives to incarceration.

Website: <https://www.sashareneeperez.com/>

YVONNE YIU, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Councilmember / Small Businesswoman

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Peace Officers Research Association of CA PAC (PORAC PAC)

Background: Yiu is the former Mayor of, and current City Councilmember for, the City of Monterey Park. She has a background in business and financial management, having worked as a financial advisor at companies like Citibank and Charles Schwab before launching her own firm. Her campaign website touts endorsements from over two dozen local and state elected officials.

Yiu is a multi-millionaire who unsuccessfully ran for State Controller in 2022, spending upwards of \$5.7 million of her own money on that race, and to date, has donated \$900,000 of her own money to this Senate campaign.

Public Safety Platform: Yiu does not have a written public safety platform, although she touts an endorsement from the Monterey Park Police Officers' Association. In their statement about the endorsement, the association wrote: "Yvonne Yiu is the best choice for public safety... Local police trust Yvonne Yiu to improve neighborhood safety because she did it on the City Council and we know she will do it as the next State Senator. Yvonne understands the critical importance of investing in 911 emergency response. We know she will work hard in the legislature and partner with local police to ensure we can continue to enhance the safety of neighborhoods across our local communities."

Yiu also supports maintaining gun enhancements, and only supports reform of the Three Strikes Law with collaboration from law enforcement.

Website: <https://www.yvonneyiu.com/>

TEDDY CHOI, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Professor / Insurance Agent

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Choi is a former Republican and repeat candidate who has previously run unsuccessfully for multiple state elected offices.

Public Safety Platform: Choi does not have a website or written platform, and very little information is readily available regarding his policy positions.

Website: None

SANDRA ARMENTA, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Rosemead Councilmember / Teacher

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Armenta was first elected to the Rosemead City Council in 2009, alongside a long career as a special and general education K-12 teacher.

Public Safety Platform: Armenta's public safety platform includes the following statements "...Armenta is dedicated to working towards legislation that prioritizes the interests of law-abiding citizens, supports law enforcement, and ensures justice for victims, all while maintaining the safety and security of our communities. Sandra firmly supports law enforcement and believes it is crucial to strengthen our support for these dedicated professionals."

Website: <https://www.sandraarmenta4senate.com/>

ELIZABETH WONG AHLERS, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Crescenta Valley Councilmember

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Ahlers is an elected official serving on the Crescenta Valley City Council.

Public Safety Platform: While Ahlers does not have a written public safety platform, she does have the following "values" listed on her website: "I believe that America is rooted in the Rule of Law. Law Enforcement is vital for everyone's personal and property protection from criminals. Moreover, citizens have a constitutional right to...keep and bear Arms."

Website: <https://elizabeth4senate24.com/>

SENATE DISTRICT 27

HENRY STERN, DEMOCRAT



Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Senator

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC

Background: Henry Stern was first elected to the State Senate in 2016. An environmental attorney by trade, Stern was an advisor to former State Senator Fran Pavley prior to running for office. His focus in the Legislature has largely been on climate issues, and he Chairs the Joint Legislative Committee on Climate Change.

Public Safety Platform: Stern does not have a written public safety platform, but has largely voted in favor of progressive criminal justice reform legislation, earning an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard. Senator Stern also supported ACA 6, which became Prop 17, restoring voting rights to Californians on parole.

Website: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/stern-for-senate-2024-1>

SUSAN COLLINS, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Neighborhood Councilwoman

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)

Background: Collins is a risk management professional specializing in the healthcare industry, and is a longstanding member of the Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association. She is also a Neighborhood Councilmember who has run for this seat unsuccessfully in the past.

Public Safety Platform: Collins’ platform outlines support for increasing “...LAPD and LAFD resources” and to “... reinvest in our law enforcement as well as preventative programs.” She is endorsed by the Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC) and the LA Airport Peace Officers Association.

Website: <https://www.collinsforsenate2024.com/>

LUCIE VOLOTZKY, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Mother / Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Volotzky is a perennial Republican candidate who has run for various federal and state seats over the last few election cycles. She is a small business owner running on a platform of “Faith, Family, and Freedom.”

Public Safety Platform: Volotzky’s public safety platform states: “Public Safety has been hurt by defunding the police. Criminals have been released, and more and more men and women in uniform been murdered. I say don’t defund the police, defend the police! We have to stand with our men and women in uniform to protect our cities, state, and country.”

Website: <https://www.lucievotzky.com/>

SENATE DISTRICT 29

ELOISE GOMEZ REYES, DEMOCRAT

*Current Assemblymember

Ballot Designation: Assemblymember / Attorney / Businesswoman

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)

Background: Reyes is currently a member of the State Assembly, and served as Majority Leader from 2020 to 2023. Prior to elected office, Reyes opened her own law firm in the Inland Empire representing workers in lawsuits against corporations. She is endorsed by dozens of elected officials, labor unions, and community organizations.

Public Safety Platform: While Reyes does not have a written public safety platform, she has supported many progressive criminal justice reform measures, earning an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard.

Website: <https://www.eloiseforsenate.com/>



JASON O'BRIEN, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Police Detective / Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: O'Brien is a detective with the Los Angeles Police Department and former member of the Fontana Unified Board of Education. He has run unsuccessfully for several local and state offices over the last decade.

Public Safety Platform: O'Brien does not have a campaign website or written platform.

Website: None

KATHLEEN TORRES HAZELTON, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Mother / Homemaker

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Hazelton is a retired nurse and Veteran who served in the Air Force. She was also a San Bernardino County coordinator for former President Donald Trump's 2016 campaign.

Public Safety Platform: Hazelton's platform does not go into great detail, but mentions her support for 2nd Amendment rights and "protection for the unborn."

Website: <https://kathleenhazelton.com/>

SENATE DISTRICT 31

SABRINA CERVANTES, DEMOCRAT

*Current Assemblymember

Ballot Designation: California State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC
- California State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police
- Long Beach Police Officers Association PAC
- Sacramento County Deputy Sheriffs Association PAC
- San Bernardino County Sheriff's Employees' Benefit Association PAC
- Association of Orange County Deputy Sheriffs PAC



Background: Assemblymember Cervantes currently represents AD 58 and was elected in 2016. She currently serves as Chair of the California Latino Legislative Caucus and is also the first openly LGBTQ+ Latina to represent Western Riverside County in the Legislature.

Public Safety Platform: On her written public safety platform, Assemblymember Cervantes emphasizes support for first responders and firefighters. She also advocates for gun violence prevention and states that she has “a record of standing up to the NRA”.

In the legislature, her voting record has been largely disappointing - she received a “D” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, only voting to support 3 of the 6 bills we prioritized, and voted no on ACA 6 (which became Prop 17 and restored voting rights to people on parole) in 2020. The extensive list of law enforcement agencies that have contributed to her campaign also is a cause for concern.

Website: <https://sabrinacervantes.com/>

ANGELO FAROOQ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Educator / Workforce Board Member

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- San Bernardino County Sheriff's County Employees Benefit Association PAC
- Riverside Sheriffs' Association

Background: Farooq is currently an elected official on the Riverside Unified School District Board of Education and a part-time Director of Economic Development at the University of California Riverside. According to his campaign website, Farooq is also a delegate to the California School Board Association and also serves on Equality California's Safe and Supportive Schools Advisory Committee.

Public Safety Platform: Farooq does not have a written public safety platform, but his campaign website boasts endorsements from the Riverside Sheriffs' Association, Riverside Police Officers Association, Riverside District Attorney Association, and individual

Continued on next page

endorsements from multiple retired police officers and sheriff deputies.

Website: <https://angelifarooq.com/>

CYNTHIA NAVARRO, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Educator / Parent / Businesswoman

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Navarro is an elected official in the Romoland School District, representing Area 1.

Public Safety Platform: Navarro does not have a campaign website or written platform, and little information is readily available regarding her public safety positions.

Website: None

SENATE DISTRICT 33

LENA GONZALEZ, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Senator

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- California Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC

Background: Senator Gonzalez was first elected to the State Senate in a special election in 2019, and then won a full term in 2020. She is currently Majority Whip and serves as Chair for both the Senate Committee on Transportation and the Senate Select Committee on Ports and Goods Movement.

Prior to her election to the Senate, she served for five years on the Long Beach City Council and worked in the private sector for Microsoft, where she led social impact programs that included a focus on criminal justice reform.

Public Safety Platform: Although Senator Gonzales does not have a public safety platform on her campaign website, she has largely supported criminal justice reform policies, receiving an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard. She also voted to support ACA 6 (which became Prop 17 and restored voting rights to people on parole) in 2020.

Website: <https://votelenagonzalez.com/>



SHARIFAH A. HARDIE, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: CEO / Business Consultant

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Hardie is the former President of the Long Beach Chapter of the Southern California Black Chamber of Commerce and describes herself as a diversity, equity, and inclusion expert. In 2020, she ran unsuccessfully for the Long Beach City Council.

Public Safety Platform: Hardie does not have a written public safety platform or an issues page on her campaign website.

Website: <https://sharifahhardieforsenate.com/>

MARIO PAZ, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Accountant

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: According to Ballotpedia, he is a first-time candidate and an accountant. Very little information about him is publicly available.

Public Safety Platform: Paz does not have a campaign website or platform, and little information about him is readily available.

Website: None

SENATE DISTRICT 35

MICHELLE CHAMBERS, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Community Justice Advocate

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Chambers is a former elected official on the Compton City Council, where she served for three years before resigning in 2022. She is a former field representative for Assemblymember Mike Gipson, and also worked as a Communications representative for County Assessor Jeffrey Prang. Chambers is also endorsed by the district’s outgoing State Senator, Steve Bradford.

Public Safety Platform: While Chambers lists “public safety” as a priority on her campaign website, she does not provide any detail on specific policy goals or positions. However, as part of her background, she mentions supporting policies like “reentry services” and “real solutions for those suffering from addiction and mental health issues.”

In separate interviews, Chambers noted support for capping enhancements and repealing ineffective ones, but stopped at universal repeal, stating that “some crimes” would need to be reviewed. Chambers is endorsed by dozens of elected officials and community-based organizations.

Website: <https://chambers4senate.com/>

JENNIFER TRICHELLE-MARIE WILLIAMS, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Accountant / Small Businesswoman

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Williams is a licensed CPA and small business owner, and an LA County Citizens’ Economy and Efficiency Commissioner. She is an elected California Democratic Party Delegate and Board Member for America’s Charities.

Public Safety Platform: Williams does not have a written public safety platform. Her online platform only outlines positions on the economy, housing, and climate change. However, in separate interviews, she has indicated support for repealing the Three Strikes Law, reducing gun enhancements, strengthening re-entry investments, and repealing ineffective mandatory minimums.

Website: <https://www.jennifer4senate.com/>

NILO VEGA MICHELIN, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Governing Board Member, El Camino Community College

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Michelin is a Trustee for El Camino College, and former City Councilmember and Deputy City Attorney for the City of Hawthorne. He also served on the local school board and taught at Carson High School and at Dana Middle School in San Pedro.

Public Safety Platform: While Michelin does not have a written public safety platform, as an El Camino College Trustee he "...supported providing formerly incarcerated students education and services... [and] the opening of the Black Student Success Center and the future opening of the Latino Success Center."

Website: <https://www.nilomichelin.com/>

LAURA RICHARDSON, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Businesswoman / Housing Advocate

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Richardson is a former member of U.S. Congress, serving from 2007 to 2013, spent one year in the State Assembly from 2006 to 2007, and served six years on the Long Beach City Council. While in Congress, she served on the Committee on Homeland Security. Richardson was formerly married to retired Long Beach Police Chief Anthony Batts.

Public Safety Platform: Richardson does not have a written public safety platform, but her record in Congress does shed some light on her perspectives on the topic. For instance, she co-sponsored bills that would allow individuals with nonviolent convictions to expunge their records, and supported legislation to eliminate the discrepancies in sentencing for powdered vs crack cocaine. She also supported youth justice legislation and bills to eliminate the mandatory minimum sentence for first-time crack cocaine possession.

At the same time, Richardson supported federal grants to police and legislation to establish a national coordination and communication center for slain law enforcement. Richardson has indicated support for repealing some enhancements, but believes they should be maintained for "intentional murder or mass shooting.

Website: <http://lauraforca.com/>

ALEX MONTEIRO, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Councilmember / Nonprofit Director

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Peace Officers Research Association of CA PAC (PORAC PAC)

Background: Monteiro has served on the Hawthorne City Council since 2018, and prior to that was a Board Member for the Hawthorne School District. According to his campaign website, he has founded nonprofits that focused on fighting for universal preschool, low-income housing, and increasing homeownership.

Public Safety Platform: Monteiro's public safety platform touts his strong support for "community policing" and his advocacy to secure large amounts of funding for K9 units for **Continued on next page**

local law enforcement. On his campaign website, Monteiro states: “[We] will continue to work with the Police Chief and Police Unions to improve our law enforcement tactics and community policing. We will implement continuing education and training for officers centered on inclusion, sensitivity, compassion, and understanding the social dynamics of the communities we serve. In order to make our public safety strategy effective and reduce crime in our neighborhoods and parks, we need to create trust, mutual respect, and a shared understanding between law enforcement and the people of Senate District 35.”

Website: <https://www.monteiro4statesenate2024.com/>

LAMAR LYONS, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Financial Consultant

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Lyons is a lawyer and Vice President of the San Pedro Central Neighborhood Council. He is a former legislative staffer in both the California State Assembly and the U.S. Senate, and is the founding partner and managing director for a venture capital firm.

Public Safety Platform: Lyons’ public safety platform outlines the following sentiments: “We cannot prosecute our way-out of crime. It is not the police who created the conditions that lead to crime and homelessness. Police did not defund mental health services and then ask for the power to arrest the mentally ill. Also, police are not behind the housing, health, education and investment policies that have shaped underserved communities. We cannot expect police reforms, at least not by themselves, to solve the underlying problems that are created. The State must develop programs that supplement law enforcement.”

Website: <https://www.lyons35thsenate.com/>

ALBERT ROBLES, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Attorney-at-Law / Local Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Robles is a former Mayor and Council Member for the City of Carson, and also served on the water Replenishment District of Southern California, representing District 5, for many years. Robles was also involved in the controversial 2006 city elections in Vernon, and ran unsuccessfully for Los Angeles District Attorney and for Los Angeles Superior Court.

Public Safety Platform: Robles does not have a campaign website or written policy platform.

Website: None

JAMES ARLANDUS SPENCER, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Environmental Consultant

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Spencer is a consultant who has previously run unsuccessfully for both State Assembly and State Senate.

Public Safety Platform: Spencer does not have a written public safety platform or campaign website. Little information about him is readily available.

Website: None

SENATE DISTRICT 37

JOSH NEWMAN, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Orange County State Senator

Law Enforcement Contributions:



- CA Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA) PAC
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- CA Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC
- CA Statewide Law Enforcement Association PAC
- Tustin Police Officers Association PAC
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC
- Long Beach Police Officers Association PAC
- San Bernardino County Sheriff's Employees Benefit Association PAC
- Sacramento County Deputy Sheriffs Association PAC
- Association of Orange County Deputy Sheriffs PAC

Background: Senator Newman is an Army Veteran who was first elected to the State Senate in 2016, after spending his career working on Veterans' issues and running a non-profit serving the community. He was successfully recalled by voters in 2018 and replaced by his 2016 Republican opponent. In 2020 he ran and defeated the same opponent.

Public Safety Platform: Josh Newman does not have a written public safety platform, but has generally voted in favor of criminal justice reforms, receiving a "B" on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, supporting 5 of the 6 bills we prioritized this year. However, Newman has received campaign contributions from ten law enforcement agencies from across the state, which calls into question his commitment to justice reform versus his loyalty to the police.

Website: <https://newmanforsenate.com/>

ALEX MOHAJER, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Civil Service Advocate

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Alex Mohajer is the immediate past President of the Stonewall Democratic Club, and is running to be the first LGBTQ+ Iranian American elected to the California state legislature. Mohajer is also a Civil Service Advocate for the County of Los Angeles, focusing on sexual harassment allegations and due process hearings.

Public Safety Platform: According to Mohajer's campaign website, he states his support for drug and alcohol addiction rehabilitation that is based in the community, stating: "Rather than criminalize it, let's invest in wrap-around rehabilitation services and end the taboo associated with addiction." His website also emphasizes his commitment to "centering public safety and the need to solve crime at its root by tackling income inequality and lack of access to education, healthcare, and housing."

Website: <https://alexmohajer.com/>

STEVEN “STEVE” CHOI, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Small Businessman / Educator

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Choi is a former Assemblymember representing the 68th District, where he served for six years. Prior to that, Choi was both an Irvine City Councilmember and Mayor, and also served on the Irvine Unified School District Board. He is also the founder of Dr. Choi’s Academy, which provides math and reading centers and tutoring for K-12 students.

Public Safety Platform: Choi does not have a written public safety platform, but while serving in the Assembly, he consistently voted against criminal justice reforms such as the Racial Justice Act and restoring voting rights to people on parole (ACA 6). Choi also opposed bills to stop judges from denying post-conviction record relief for people with unpaid restitution fees and opposed legislation to expand mental health services for people in prison.

Website: <https://www.stevenchoi.org/>

GABRIELLE ASHBAUGH, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Small Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Ashbaugh is a small business owner according to her ballot designation, but no other information is readily available about her background.

Public Safety Platform: Ashbaugh does not have a campaign website or platform, and no information is readily available regarding her public safety positions.

Website: None

LETICIA CORREA, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Neurosurgical Technologist

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Correa is a surgical technologist based in Irvine at the University of California Irvine.

Public Safety Platform: Correa does not have a campaign website or platform, and little information is readily available regarding her public safety positions.

Website: None

JACOB NILES CREER, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Surgical Coordinator

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Creer is a first-time candidate whose ballot designation describes him as a surgical coordinator.

Public Safety Platform: Creer does not have a campaign website or platform, and little information is readily available regarding his public safety positions.

Website: None

STEPHANIE LE, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Medical Authorization Coordinator

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Le is a medical authorization coordinator according to her ballot designation. No other information about her background is readily available.

Public Safety Platform: Le does not have a campaign website or platform, and little information is readily available regarding her public safety positions.

Website: None

JENNY SUAREZ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Respiratory Therapist

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Suarez is a respiratory therapist according to her ballot designation. No other information about her background is readily available.

Public Safety Platform: Suarez does not have a campaign website or platform, and little information is readily available regarding her public safety positions.

Website: None

ANTHONY C. KUO, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Kuo is a former elected official on the Irvine City Council and a former Vice Mayor, and was first elected in 2018. He is also a former City Planning Commissioner. Kuo is a board member for Crime Survivors Inc., and also serves on the Board of the Irvine Children's Fund.

Public Safety Platform: Kuo does not have a written platform on his website, but his background highlights how he has long served on the planning committee for the Irvine Police Awards Banquet.

Website: <https://www.anthonykuo.org/>

CRYSTAL MILES, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Business Owner / Councilmember

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Miles is an elected official on the Villa Park City Council and also served a term as Mayor. She owns a wholesale distribution business with her husband.

Public Safety Platform: Miles' public safety platform states that she wants to "Strengthen laws against dangerous criminals. Keep violent felons locked up" and that "California must work with ICE to stop illegal immigration, human trafficking and the importation of deadly fentanyl."

Website: <https://electmilesforsenate.com/>

GUY SELLECK, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Small Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Selleck is a retired Air Force Veteran and current business owner, running both a real-estate investment company and a wholesale building products distribution company.

Public Safety Platform: Selleck's platform does not provide much detail, but states that his priority is to "protect public safety and hold violent criminals accountable." Selleck writes that he is "...running for office to defend family values... and enhanced support for law enforcement."

Website: <https://selleckforsenate.com/>

SENATE DISTRICT 39

AKILAH WEBER, DEMOCRAT

*Current Assemblymember



Ballot Designation: Assemblymember / Medical Doctor

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Akilah Weber is currently in the state Assembly running for an open Senate seat. Prior to joining the Assembly in 2021, she served on the La Mesa City Council and is a medical doctor by trade.

Public Safety Platform: This session, Assemblymember Weber was a co-author of ACA 4, an IJ Action cosponsored piece of legislation that would place an initiative on the November 2024 ballot to restore voting rights to people in prison. Weber has consistently voted in favor of progressive justice reforms, earning an "A" on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard.

Assemblymember Weber has a demonstrated record of supporting justice reform. Last legislative cycle, she introduced AB 2598, a bill to create best practices for restorative justice for the California Department of Education K-12 system. Also, while serving on the La Mesa City Council, she helped create a Community Police Oversight Board and the La Mesa homelessness task force.

Website: <https://drakilahweber.com/>

BOB DIVINE, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Retired Navy Commander

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Divine is a Veteran and first-time candidate for elected office. Very little information about him is readily available.

Public Safety Platform: Divine does not have a campaign website or written platform, and little information regarding his public safety positions is publicly available.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY



Photo: Cal Matters Anne Wernikoff

The California State Assembly is the lower house of the two legislative houses for the state. Assemblymembers are responsible for introducing and voting on state legislation and also vote to approve the state's budget each year. Assemblymembers are also responsible for carrying out state agency casework for the people who live in their districts.

The Assembly has a membership of 80 Assemblymembers elected for 2-year terms. A person may serve no more than 12 years in the Senate, Assembly, or both, in any combination of terms.

More information on the State Assembly can be found on their website:
<https://www.assembly.ca.gov/>

Want to know who your Assemblymember is? Find them here:
<https://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 1

TENESSA AUDETTE, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Businesswoman / Redding Mayor

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Audette is Mayor Pro Tem on the Redding City Council, and a District Representative for her senate district. She is a former CAGOP delegate and Campaign Manager for the Republican National Committee. She is also an Adjunct Instructor at the Bethel School of Supernatural Ministry teaching a course on “God and Government.”

Public Safety Platform: Under “crime” Audette’s platform states the following: “Ensuring the safety and security of our communities is paramount. I will work closely with law enforcement agencies, prioritize community policing, and support initiatives that address the root causes of crime. By fostering collaboration between residents, businesses, and law enforcement, we can create a safer North State for all.”

Website: <https://www.votetenessa.com/>

HEATHER HADWICK, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Farmer / Emergency Manager

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Hadwick is a farmer, small business owner, and teacher. She was Deputy Director of Modoc County’s Office of Emergency Services at the local sheriff’s department for almost 5 years. She is a former County 4-H Coordinator through UC Davis, and teaches a Public Safety class at Modoc High School. She also served as president of her local school board.

Public Safety Platform: Hadwick’s platform states the following: “Our officers are asked to do more with less. They are on the front lines daily, protecting our communities and keeping us safe. Yet, Sacramento politicians hand criminals get-out-of-jail-free cards and cut funding from law enforcement. Heather backs the blue 100%. Heather will go to Sacramento to ensure career criminals are held accountable, and our law enforcement departments have the resources they need to keep us safe.”

Website: <https://www.votehadwick.com/>

MELISSA HUNT, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Anderson Councilmember

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Hunt was a former schoolteacher for 14 years before first being appointed to the Anderson City Council in 2007. Hunt is also the 1st Vice President of the Mayors & Council Members Department For the League of California Cities, and has served in other leadership roles for the organization.

Public Safety Platform: Public Safety is Hunt's first priority, and her platform states the following: "With Governor Newsom and the radical left Democrats closing our prisons, our streets and neighborhoods are saturated with people who have absolutely no regard for our laws or law enforcement and face no consequences to their actions, including shoplifting. We must re-open our prisons and provide the necessary funding. We need to remove the sentenced felons from our local jails and return them to the prisons which allows for local law enforcement to get the repeat offenders off the streets. I have always worked and will continue to work to give our law enforcement officers the tools they need to ensure the job is done of keeping our communities safe. I favor removing Soros-backed District Attorneys and repealing laws like AB 109, and Props 47 and 57 which are making crime a way of life in our state."

Website: <https://votemelissahunt.com/>

MARK MEZZANO, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Redding City Councilmember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC

Background: Mezzano is a career law enforcement official who retired as a Sergeant with the California Highway Patrol. In 2020, he was elected to the Redding City Council. While on city council, he pushed for expansion of the Redding Police Department to its (now current) largest size.

Public Safety Platform: On Public Safety, Mezzano wrote the following: "In the Assembly, public safety will be my top priority. Only a handful of former law enforcement officers currently serve in the state legislature—and it shows. Sacramento has passed disastrous legislation over the past decade that lets criminals off the hook, diminishes accountability for committing crimes, and makes the job of law enforcement exceptionally difficult.

I will bring my career-long experience in law enforcement to the legislature and be a strong advocate for repealing the pro-criminal policies of the past. We must once again allow law enforcement and prosecutors to do their jobs and put criminals behind bars. I will be a strong advocate of increased funding and support for local law enforcement agencies that have struggled to recruit and retain high-quality officers in light of the quickly deteriorating public safety situation in the state."

Website: <https://markmezzano.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 2

RUSTY HICKS, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Educator / Nonprofit Director

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Hicks is the current Chair of the California Democratic Party, and has been in that role for over four years. Hicks was a staffer for former Assemblymember (now Congressman) Ted Lieu, and was California Political Director for Barack Obama’s 2008 Presidential campaign.

Public Safety Platform: Hicks does not have a written policy platform, but in an interview with a local paper in his Assembly district he discussed his experience having an incarcerated father for many years as a child. As reported in his interview with the Lost Coast Outpost, Hicks teaches American government classes through College of the Redwoods at Pelican Bay State Prison. He stated: “At 14 I actually got to attend my father’s high school graduation, his GED graduation. He was incarcerated but looking to improve his life and improve himself and hoping for a second chance at some point, when he was released. And, some 30 years later, I got the opportunity to walk into Pelican Bay and share my 20 years of experience with students who were trying to get their second chance. And that may come in two years or 20 years. But they’re all dedicated to try and improve themselves and I’m really proud to be a part of — just a small little piece, you know — their journey.”

In other interviews, Hicks has also expressed an openness to reforming - but not repealing - the state Three Strikes Law, and towards eliminating enhancements and mandatory minimums that are deemed “ineffective” in protecting public safety.

Website: <https://rustyhicks.org/>

ARIEL KELLEY, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Healdsburg Mayor / Mom

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Kelley is the Mayor of Healdsburg, and former Chief Executive Officer of two non-profits. One of them, Pillars, focuses on small business recovery during the COVID-19 pandemic and the other, Corazon, provides cradle-to-career programs and services for families.

Public Safety Platform: Kelley’s website does not include a public safety platform, but in separate interviews on criminal justice issues, Kelley outlined support for overhauling - but not repealing - the Three Strikes Law, and in eliminating ineffective enhancements, including gun-related enhancements, that do not promote public safety and lead to more prison overcrowding.

Website: <https://www.arielkelley.com/>

CHRIS ROGERS, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Councilmember / Nonprofit Executive

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Rogers is a Santa Rosa City Councilmember, and has served in that role for seven years including two terms as Mayor. Prior to elected office, Rogers was a legislative aide in the State Assembly and State Senate, most notably working as campaign manager and senior district representative for Senate Majority Leader Mike McGuire.

Public Safety Platform: Rogers does not have a public safety platform, and has been largely focused on environmental and climate issues while serving on Santa Rosa City Council. However, while on council Rogers supported a program called inRESPONSE, which diverts some 911 calls away from police and towards mental health professionals, social workers, and homeless service providers.

In separate interviews on criminal justice issues, Rogers outlined support for repealing the Three Strikes Law or limiting its application to only the most violent crimes, and also eliminating ineffective sentence enhancements that lead to life in prison, including gun-related enhancements.

Website: <https://chrisrogersforassembly.com/>

TED WILLIAMS, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: County Supervisor / Firefighter

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Williams is an elected official on the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors, representing the 5th District. He has served in that role for four years, and prior to that was fire chief of the Albion-Little River Volunteer Fire Department.

Public Safety Platform: Williams does not have a written public safety platform, and very little information is readily available regarding his stances. He has made building climate infrastructure in the North Coast a top priority for his campaign.

Website: <https://tedwilliamsforassembly.com>

CYNTHIA A. CLICK, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Sales Manager

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Click is a first-time candidate and sales manager. Very little information is readily available regarding her background.

Public Safety Platform: Click does not have a functioning website or written policy platform, and little to no information is publicly available regarding her public safety perspectives.

Website: None

MICHAEL GREER, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Retired Special Educator

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Greer is a Trustee of the Del Norte Unified School District, a position he has held for a couple of years. He served 14 years as trustee for Paradise Union School District, and is a retired special education teacher.

Public Safety Platform: Greer's website does not mention public safety, instead focusing on high cost of living, access to quality education, and economic growth.

Website: <https://www.mikegreerassembly2024.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 3

JAMIE “JAMES” GALLAGHER, REPUBLICAN

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Assemblyman / Farmer / Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Yuba County District Attorney
- California Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association PAC (CCPOA PAC)



Background: Assemblymember Gallagher was first elected to the State Assembly in 2014, after serving on the Sutter County Board of Supervisors for six years. He is also a former staffer for then Assemblyman (now Republican Congressman) Doug LaMalfa. Gallagher is currently Minority Leader for the GOP.

Public Safety Platform: This cycle Gallagher has voted against every bill to reduce lengthy sentences and bring our incarcerated loved ones home, earning an “F” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard. He has historically been an outspoken opponent of justice reform in the Assembly, and voted against ACA 6 to restore voting rights to people on parole in 2020.

On his campaign website, his public safety platform outlines the following: “Focus on ensuring that dangerous people are kept in prison and out of our communities and support our law enforcement.”

Website: <https://electjamesgallagher.com/>

AARON DRAPER, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Professor / Photographer

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Draper is a wedding photographer and first-time candidate.

Public Safety Platform: Draper’s website doesn’t mention public safety, instead focusing on transparency in government spending, wildfire mitigation, education reform, supporting the middle class, and conservation.

Website: <https://www.draper4change.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 4

CECILIA AGUIAR-CURRY, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: State Assemblymember / Farmer

Law Enforcement Contributions:



- California Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association PAC
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC

Background: Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry was first elected to the State Assembly in 2016, and prior to that was the first woman Mayor of the small town of Winters, California. She is the Majority Leader of the Assembly. She is running unopposed in this race.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry’s public safety platform omits any mention of crime and law enforcement, and instead embraces public health, wildfire prevention, addressing poverty and income inequality, and healthcare access as issues of public safety. She has voted to support 5 of the 6 justice reform bills that IJ Action prioritized this year, earning a “B” on our Legislative Scorecard. However, she has received campaign contributions from four different law enforcement agencies during this election cycle.

Website: <https://ceciliaforassembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 5

JOE PATTERSON, REPUBLICAN

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Member of the Assembly, 5th District

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)

Background: Patterson was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022, after serving on the Rocklin City Council for six years and also briefly as Mayor. Patterson is also the former Executive Director of the California Gaming Association.

Public Safety Platform: This session, Assemblymember Joe Patterson introduced AB 1260, which IJ Action and many justice reform organizations opposed, which would have created unnecessary requirements for CDCR to notify victims if incarcerated people were being released from prison early due to credit earning and specify which credits they earned. He also co-authored ACA 12 (Alexandra's Law), a dangerous piece of legislation which would allow the courts to charge people who deal fentanyl with manslaughter in the case of overdose. Furthermore, he earned an "F" in the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting no on all 6 justice reform bills we prioritized this year.

His campaign website includes the following on public safety: "Make Crime Illegal Again – Support Local Law Enforcement. Small businesses won't invest in a community if it is under threat. Families won't move to our neighborhoods if they aren't safe. Joe Patterson is endorsed by nearly every single local and statewide law enforcement organization because of his strong support for the men and women working to keep us safe. The soft-on-crime policies being forced on us are making the jobs of our law enforcement less safe, our schools more dangerous and forcing businesses to move elsewhere. Joe will make sure criminals are held accountable and law enforcement is fully-equipped to do their jobs."

Website: <https://joepatterson.com/>



NEVA PARKER, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: California Senate Consultant

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Parker is Vice Chair of the Roseville Grants Advisory Commission, and prior to that had a long career in the Office of the Chief Clerk at the State Capitol, most notably as Senate Journal Clerk where she was responsible for maintaining the record of the State Senate.

Public Safety Platform: Parker's public safety platform does not mention police or prison policy, instead framing issues such as insurance access, broadband development, forest management, and senior homelessness as public safety issues.

Website: <https://www.nevaparkerforassembly.com/>

ATHENA SINGH, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Singh is an online business owner.

Public Safety Platform: Singh does not have a campaign website or written platform. No other information is publicly available regarding her policy positions.

Website: None

AABHASH “ABG” GAUTAM, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Guatam is a first-time candidate and recent college graduate.

Public Safety Platform: Guatam’s policy platform includes a video address wherein he states that his “crime package” will mandate that every DA in the state prosecute violent crimes, child abuse and trafficking, and burglary (which they already do).

Website: <https://voteabg.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 6

EVAN MINTON, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Education Union Steward

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Minton is a former Legislative Aide and current Senior CA State Policy Manager at Voices for Progress (V4P). Minton has also served as a Commissioner on the Sacramento Human Rights and Fair Housing Commission, Co-President for the Sacramento National Organization for Women (NOW), and Northern California Chair of the California Democratic Party's LGBTQ Caucus.

If he wins, Minton will be the first openly transgender person elected to the CA State Assembly. Minton is also a former Sacramento County Mental Health Board Appointee and Political Co-Chair for the Sierra Club.

Public Safety Platform: There is no public safety platform on Minton's campaign website, and little information is readily available online regarding his stances. Much of Minton's career has been fighting for trans rights, even suing Dignity Health for denying him a hysterectomy in a case that was represented by the ACLU.

He is endorsed by Planned Parenthood and Courage California as well as dozens of elected officials from across the state.

Website: <https://www.mintonforassembly.com/>

SEAN FRAME, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Education Union Steward

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Frame was a School Board Trustee in the Sierra Nevada Foothills for nine years, and most recently with the Sacramento County Office of Education. He describes himself as a labor leader and progressive, running on a platform focused on single-payer healthcare, climate issues, and housing.

Public Safety Platform: Frame does not have a written public safety platform, and little information is available online regarding his stances on the issue.

Website: <https://www.seanframe.com/>

MAGGY KRELL, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Deputy Attorney General

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- State Coalition of Probation Organizations PAC
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Sacramento Police Officers Association Political Activity Fund
- California Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC
- Sacramento County Deputy Sheriffs Association PAC

Background: Krell is a former California Deputy Attorney General who served under former State Attorney General Kamala Harris. According to her website, her priorities included protecting survivors of sex trafficking, going after predatory lenders, and prosecuting attorneys that misrepresented undocumented immigrants. She is currently Chief Legal Counsel for Planned Parenthood California.

Public Safety Platform: Krell’s public safety platform states the following: “As Deputy Attorney General, Maggy Krell won the City of Refuge “Hero Award” for her work protecting survivors of sex trafficking. Throughout Maggy’s 20- year legal career she has supported women and children, particularly those who have been victims of violence. Preventing crime, protecting people, and helping those who have been harmed will be the focus of her work in the Assembly.”

With her heavy emphasis on prosecuting crimes, she has received the endorsement of ten law enforcement elected officials and organizations, including Sacramento Sheriff (and former Assemblymember Jim Cooper) and the California Correctional Peace Officers Association.

Website: <https://maggykrellforassembly.com/>

CARLOS MARQUEZ III, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Civil Rights Advocate

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Marquez is the Executive Director of ACLU California Action. He was previously with the California Charter Schools Association for over six years, serving in the roles of Political Director and Senior Vice President of Government Affairs.

Public Safety Platform: Marquez’s public safety platform states the following: “We ask our police officers to do far too many jobs: investigator, social worker, medic, crisis counselor, traffic cop. As your Assemblymember, Carlos will commit to working with the public safety community and local officials to ensure that law enforcement remains focused on preventing and solving violent crimes and getting illegal weapons off the street.”

Website: <https://www.carlosforsacramento.com/>

PAULA VILLESCAZ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Healthcare Policy Director

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Villescaz is the former President of the San Juan Unified School District Board of Education, and was first elected in 2016. She also worked three years as Assistant Secretary for the California Health and Human Services Agency during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Public Safety Platform: Villescaz has written the following on public safety on her campaign website: “I support fully funding our state and local law enforcement to ensure they have the resources to keep our neighborhoods safe. We must hold criminals accountable for the crimes they commit, while also ensuring those suffering from addiction and mental health issues get the support and help they need. Finally, we must prevent crime by investing in our communities and our schools. As a new mom, I will fight hard by any means to reduce gun violence, prevent school shootings, ban assault weapons, and ensure all of our communities are safe for kids and families.”

Website: <https://www.paulavillescaz.com/>

EMMANUEL AMANFOR, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Sacramento Housing Commissioner

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds raised as of 1/12/24

Background: Amanfor is the Chair and Commissioner of the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency Commission, and also serves as Vice Chair of the City of Sacramento Personnel Board. According to his LinkedIn page, Amanfor is Director of Government Relations for the California Coalition of Black Employees, and was also a Manager with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Public Safety Platform: Amanfor's written public safety platform states the following: "In recent years, crime rates in Sacramento have been increasing at an alarming rate... Regrettably, these numbers have continued to escalate amidst the ongoing pandemic. As your representative, I am determined to create and enact impactful legislation that safeguards our residents from the improper use of weapons, regardless of whether they are registered or not. Furthermore, drawing upon my professional background in corrections, I will address the concerns our community faces regarding the successful reintegration of parolees, ensuring that they can be safely reintegrated into society."

Website: <https://www.amanforassembly.com/>

ROSANNA HERBER, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Environmental Advocate

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Herber is the Director of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), and her campaign is largely focused on issues of renewable energy, electric grid sustainability, and related issues. She entered the race with the endorsements of outgoing Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg and local Democratic State Senator Angelique Ashby.

Public Safety Platform: Herber does not have a written public safety platform and little information is publicly available regarding her stances. However, in a recent interview with KCRA 3 regarding her campaign, Herber noted that she was a mental health worker for 4 years and also assisted migrant families in accessing social services.

Website: <https://www.rosannaherber.org/>

NIKKI ELLIS, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: International Trade Advocate

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Ellis is an international trade specialist and board member for the California Chamber of Commerce.

Public Safety Platform: Ellis does not have a campaign website or written policy platform, and little information about her is readily available.

Website: None

PRESTON ROMERO, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Policy Analyst

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Romero is a former staffer for Republican State Senator Janet Nguyen and for retired Senator Ling Ling Chang. He is also a former commissioner with Sacramento County's Adult and Aging Committee.

Public Safety Platform: Romero's public safety platform states the following: "Broken glass, broken dreams and broken promises litter the streets of California because of reckless policy that prioritizes criminals at the expense of an unsuspecting public. We have seen what living under a decade of Prop. 47 (2014) and seven years under Prop. 57 (2016) has done to our state. It's time to repeal these measures and adopt new legislation that restores sanity and law and order back to our state. As the law-abiding public continues to bear the brunt of continuously rising crime, I will work to affirm the right to self-defense and the right to protect your family and your property through necessary and appropriate force."

Website: <https://prestonromero.com/>

KEVIN OLMAR MARTINEZ, PEACE AND FREEDOM

Ballot Designation: Union Representative

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Martinez is a union representative and first-time candidate.

Public Safety Platform: Martinez does not have a campaign website or platform, and little information about his policy stances is readily available.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 7

JOSH HOOVER, REPUBLICAN

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Member of the State Assembly, 7th District

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Association for Highway Patrolmen PAC
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC
- Sacramento County Deputy Sheriffs Association PAC

Background: Assemblymember Hoover was elected to the Assembly in 2022. Prior to that, he was a Legislative Aide for eleven years, and served as Chief of Staff for former Assemblymember Kevin Kiley. Hoover also briefly served on the Folsom Cordova Unified School Board.

Public Safety Platform: This session, Assemblymember Hoover introduced AB 1746, which would have prevented people convicted of great bodily injury against a child from a fire camp from earning the same credits as other incarcerated firefighters. This bill was opposed by IJ Action and many other justice reform organizations because it was a step backward and rolled back progress made with Prop 57 without addressing the root causes of violence against children.

He also earned an “F” in the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting no on all 6 justice reform bills that we prioritized last year.

Website: <https://hooverforassembly.com/>



PORSCHÉ MIDDLETON, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Councilmember, City of Citrus Heights

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Middleton is an elected official on the Citrus Heights City Council, and former CEO for the American Petroleum and Convenience Store Association - a lobbying group that represented gas stations and convenience stores. She is also the former Deputy Director of Sacramento Self-Help Housing.

Public Safety Platform: Middleton does not have a written public safety platform for her Assembly race, but stated the following in an interview with the Citrus Heights Sentinel while serving on City Council: “I am appreciative of the hard work, effort, and bravery that is consistently displayed by the men and women of our law enforcement departments. I would continue to support and further develop our Community Oriented Policing (COP) program and encourage the development of closer relationships between our local departments and the communities they serve through PAL, service organizations, and domestic service providers.”

Website: <https://www.porsche4assembly.com/>

YK CHALAMCHERLA, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Councilmember, City of Folsom

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Chalamcheria is an engineer and technologist by trade who was elected to the Folsom City Council in 2020. He also previously worked as a computer scientist with California's Medi-Cal program. He has also served on the Folsom Parks and Recreation Commission, the Folsom Community Service Day Steering Committee, and the Folsom Schools PTA.

Public Safety Platform: Chalamcheria does not have a written public safety platform for his Assembly race, but his City Council re-election campaign included the following priorities: "Continue to provide superior Police and Fire services." and "Establish a partnership between Folsom Police and residents (by identifying key locations of streets across the City), who have surveillance cameras installed in their homes to report and record suspicious activities."

Website: <https://ykforassembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 8

CALEB HELSEL, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Educator

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Helsel is a recent college graduate and first-time candidate for state office.

Public Safety Platform: Helsel does not have a campaign website or written platform, and little information about him is publicly available.

Website: None

DAVID TANGIPA, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Field Representative / Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- California Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC
- Fresno Police Officers Association Political Action Committee

Background: Tangipa is Field Representative for Fresno County Supervisor Nathan Magsig, and also works in private real estate. He is a first-time candidate with the endorsement of outgoing term-limited Assemblymember Jim Patterson.

Public Safety Platform: On public safety, Tangipa writes “Increase public safety and protect families by supporting law enforcement and passing common sense anti-crime bills.” He is also endorsed by Fresno County Sheriff John Zaroni and former Inyo County Sheriff Jeff Hollowell.

Website: <https://www.davidtangipaforassembly.com/>

GEORGE RADANOVICH, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Family Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Radanovich is a former member of U.S. Congress, serving from 1995 until his retirement in 2011. While in Congress, Radanovich sat on the powerful Energy and Commerce Committee. He ran unsuccessfully for State Senate District 4 in 2022.

Public Safety Platform: Under the heading “Restore Law and Order”, Radanovich’s campaign website reads “Our state once had a great Governor in George Deukmejian and one of his slogans was, “do the crime, do the time.” We need to get back to that law and order attitude that holds criminals accountable. Let’s start by repealing Propositions 47 and 57 and AB 109. These measures were sold as being pro-public safety, but the truth is the opposite – they have made us less safe. Gavin Newsom is spending hundreds of millions of dollars to turn San Quentin Prison into a fancy resort for convicts. Maybe we should turn it back into a prison instead.”

Continued on next page

While in Congress, Radanovich consistently sided with pro law enforcement bills and voted to reauthorize the PATRIOT Act allowing for mass public surveillance, and voted against timetables for eventual withdrawal from Iraq.

Website: <https://george2024.com>

MICHAEL MATHESON, NO PARTY PREFERENCE

Ballot Designation: No Ballot Designation

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds raised as of 1/12/24

Background: Matheson is a community volunteer and first-time candidate for state office.

Public Safety Platform: Matheson's public safety platform is focused on drug-related issues, and he calls for both increased penalties for fentanyl production and distribution, alongside investments in treatment and rehabilitation.

Website: <https://www.matheson2024.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 9

HEATH FLORA, REPUBLICAN

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Parent / Farmer / Assemblyman

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)

Background: Assemblymember Flora was first elected in 2016 after working as a volunteer firefighter for many years including with the California Department of Forestry and Wildfire Management.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Flora does not have a public safety platform, however, he has consistently voted no on good justice reform bills, earning an “F” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard. He also failed to support ACA 6 in 2020, which ultimately became Prop 17 and restored voting rights to people on parole.

Website: <https://heathflora.com/>



TAMI NOBRIGA, AMERICAN INDEPENDENT

Ballot Designation: Retired Advertising Businesswoman

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Nobriga is a retired businesswoman and first-time candidate.

Public Safety Platform: Nobriga does not have a campaign website or policy platform, and little information regarding her policy positions is publicly available.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 10

STEPHANIE NGUYEN, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Assemblymember / Mother

Law Enforcement Contributions:



- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association PAC
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC Small Contributor Committee
- Californians for Safer Neighborhoods, Sponsored by Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs

Background: Assemblymember Nguyen was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022 after serving on the Elk Grove City Council for five years. Prior to that she worked as Executive Director for Asian Resources Inc., a Sacramento-based nonprofit supporting Asian Americans and immigrants.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Nguyen’s campaign website uplifts her support for law enforcement and peddles misinformation about crime in California, stating: “As the wife of a police officer and member of the Sheriff’s community advisory board, Stephanie knows first-hand the importance of keeping our neighborhoods safe. She knows that crime is on the rise, including serious and violent assaults, rampant retail theft and gang violence...There is a reason Stephanie has earned all the support of our local frontline peace officers and over 50,000 law enforcement officers statewide.”

Her site also lists endorsements from seven law enforcement agencies as well as Crime Victims United, which is known for opposing justice reform legislation.

Furthermore, Assemblymember Nguyen has a very poor record on justice reform, earning an “F” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard for only voting yes on 2 of the 6 bills we prioritized.

Website: <https://www.stephanienguyenforassembly.com/>

VINAYA SINGH, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Retired Application Engineer

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Singh is an IT specialist and scientist who worked for the Indian Space Research Organization before emigrating to the United States.

Public Safety Platform: Singh’s public safety platform outlines how he supports “[allowing] law enforcement to do their jobs, and require that district attorney’s prosecute criminals as a disincentive to repeat offenders.” He goes on to write that “Law enforcement budgets should reflect the needs of the local population, and technology should be used to reduce crime and protect what are now fearful communities and business owners.”

Website: <https://drsinghforassembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 11

LORI WILSON, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Assemblymember, 11th District

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)

Background: Assemblymember Wilson was first elected to the California State Assembly in 2022. Prior to that she was the Mayor of Suisun City and served on the City Council since 2012. In the Assembly, Wilson Chairs the Legislative Black Caucus.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Wilson is generally a strong supporter of justice reform. This session, she was a co-author of ACA 4, an IJ Action cosponsored piece of legislation that would place an initiative on the November 2024 ballot to restore voting rights to people in prison. She is also the author of ACA 8, which would place an initiative on the ballot to end involuntary servitude in California state prisons.

She furthermore introduced AB 1034 to ban facial recognition technology on police-worn body cameras, arguing that the data is used as surveillance against Black and brown communities. She received an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on all 6 bills we prioritized this year.

Website: <https://www.electloriwilson.com/>



JEFFREY FLACK, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Research Data Analyst

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Flack is a data analyst and first-time candidate.

Public Safety Platform: Flack’s policy platform outlines support for stricter penalties for drug use, rolling back Prop 47 protections, and creating new sentence enhancements “...for those who have committed a crime to feed their addiction so they can remain in custody to complete their rehabilitation.”

Website: <https://www.jeff4ca.com/>

DAVE ENNIS, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Professional Civil Engineer

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Ennis is a former senior manager in the aerospace and defense industries. He is a first-time candidate for state office.

Public Safety Platform: Ennis does not have a written public safety platform, instead focusing his campaign on infrastructure development, homelessness, and affordable housing.

Website: <https://ennis2024.org/>

WANDA WALLIS, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Real Estate Agent

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Wallis is a business owner with a background in real estate, and first-time candidate for state office.

Public Safety Platform: Wallis' public safety platform outlines the following: "Prop 47 incentivized organized crime rings, and the defund the police movement demoralized law enforcement. As your Assembly Representative I will work to repeal Prop 47, support law enforcement, and hold criminals accountable."

Website: <https://www.votewanda.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 12

DAMON CONNOLLY, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC PAC)

Background: Assemblymember Connolly was elected to the Assembly in 2022 after serving on the Marin County Board of Supervisors for seven years, and prior to that was on the San Rafael City Council for several years. Before entering the public sphere, he was a Supervising Deputy Attorney General with the California Department of Justice for fifteen years.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Connolly does not have a written public safety platform, but he outlines a housing-first approach to homelessness which de-emphasizes police and carceral response. Specifically, he wrote: “Additional resources are needed to address the full range of reasons people experience homelessness, including mental health and addiction support, family counseling, job training, recidivism intervention, and direct help for vulnerable youth.”

Assemblymember Connolly earned an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on all 6 bills we prioritized last year.

Website: <https://www.damonconnolly.com/>



ANDY PODSHADLEY, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Winemaker / Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Podshadley is a winemaker who previously ran unsuccessfully for Novato City Council.

Public Safety Platform: Podshadley does not have a campaign website or written platform, but was endorsed by the Novato Police Officers Association when he ran for city council.

Website: None

ERYN CERVANTES, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Correctional Counselor

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Cervantes is a Correctional Counselor and Institutional Litigation Coordinator at San Quentin State Prison. She describes herself as an advocate for “victim services and rights” and member of Citizens Against Homicide.

Public Safety Platform: Cervantes draws on her experience of losing two family members to homicide to write that she can “...understand the challenges presented by brazen retail theft, property crimes, a growing homeless crisis, and the impact crime has on a community. The current approach falls short of extending much-needed support to our local law enforcement agencies, fostering an environment ripe for the escalation of crime.”

Website: <https://cervantes4assembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 13

RHODESIA RANSOM, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Business Owner / Mother

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Rhodesia Ransom is currently a Congressional District Director, and was elected to Tracy City Council in 2016. She served on the City Planning Commission from 2009 to 2016, and is a board member for the San Joaquin Partnership, an organization working to attract and expand businesses in the region.

Public Safety Platform: According to Ransom’s campaign website, she supports addressing root causes of violence but also giving resources to law enforcement, stating: “Community members should feel comfortable contacting public safety agencies when necessary and police officers should have the resources necessary to keep our communities safe...Prior to working in elected and appointed offices, I partnered with local nonprofits, public safety agencies, and faith groups to keep our youths safe and off the streets. As a Tracy City Councilwoman, I worked to help social workers and community leaders address the root causes of crime within the city. And I helped get hundreds of thousands of dollars to combat gang violence and provide more mental healthcare and mentoring. I’ve worked to ensure that police officers, firefighters, and sheriff’s deputies have enough resources and staffing to keep our communities safe.”

Ransom has the endorsement of Senator Smallwood-Cuevas and Assemblymember McKinnor and several labor groups, but also has the endorsement of San Joaquin County Sheriff Pat Withrow.

Website: <https://voteransom.com/>

EDITH VILLAPUDUA, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Businesswoman / Mother

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC
- California Association of Highway Patrolmen

Background: Villapudua is the wife of current AD 13 Assemblymember Carlos Villapudua. She is an Immigration Consultant who also spent 11 years as an investigator for the San Joaquin Public Defender’s Office. Villapudua has the endorsements of Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas, Speaker Emeritus Anthony Rendon, alongside several other Assembly and local government endorsements.

Public Safety Platform: On her campaign website’s section on public safety, Villapudua states: “Everyone deserves to live in a safe community. Edith will work with community leaders and public safety officials to address petty theft and smash and grabs, car and home burglaries, as well as decreased access to street drugs like fentanyl that are killing our children.”

She has accepted several campaign contributions from law enforcement, and is endorsed by the Stockton Police Officers Association, California Association of Highway Patrolmen, and California Correctional Peace Officers Association.

Website: <https://www.edithforall.com/>

DENISE AGUILAR MENDEZ, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Nonprofit Director

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Mendez is an anti-vaccine activist and cofounder of Freedom Angels, a non-profit that opposes any legislation expanding vaccine access and requirements for K-12 students.

Public Safety Platform: Mendez does not have a written public safety platform, but her non-profit strongly supported SB 14, passed in 2023, which expanded the state's Three Strikes Law for the first time in over 20 years.

Website: <https://denise4assembly13.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 14

BUFFY WICKS, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Assemblymember / Mom

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Assemblymember Wicks was first elected to the State Assembly in 2018 after working for many years as a political strategist, and was credited with being one of the architects of former President Barack Obama’s 2008 and 2012 grassroots organizing campaigns. Wicks chairs the powerful Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Wicks prioritizes gun violence prevention on her campaign website, noting that the issue is personal for her as her husband was Rep. Gabrielle Giffords’ legislative director when she was shot at a public event in 2011.

She has focused on a community-based approach, stating: “Gun violence is...a multifaceted problem that is connected to so many others — including income inequality, education equity, widespread hunger, a lack of corporate accountability, and so much more... In my first term I secured \$30 million in additional funding for the California Violence Intervention Program (CalVIP), for a total of \$39 million — the largest investment in the history of the state. I also passed AB 1603, which allowed CalVIP to prioritize its resources, and grant key funding to the most impacted communities.”

Assemblymember Wicks earned an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on all 6 bills we prioritized this year.

Website: <https://buffywicks.com/>



MARGOT SMITH, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Retired Social Scientist

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Smith is a retired public health researcher and scientist who worked for the California State Health Department and for UC Davis on issues like access to medical care, environmental health, and mental health

Public Safety Platform: Smith’s platform does not provide much detail, but does include the statement “Jails are not the place for mentally ill people.”

Website: <https://www.margotsmithforassembly.com/>

UTKARSH JAIN, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: College Student

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Jain is a college student and treasurer for the Alameda County Republican Party.

Public Safety Platform: Jain does not have a campaign website or written platform, and little information about him is publicly available.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 15

MONICA E. WILSON, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Local City Councilmember

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Wilson is a four-term Antioch City Council member, Vice Chair of the Northern California Democratic Party Women’s Caucus, and formerly the Vice Chair of the Democratic Party of Contra Costa County. She is also a Program Manager at a non-profit focused on addressing human trafficking

Public Safety Platform: On her campaign website, she states: “Four-term Councilmember Monica Wilson was the first African American woman elected to the Antioch City Council where she championed police reform and safe neighborhoods; solutions to homelessness; expansion of mental health response teams; and bans on new liquor stores. Monica is a regional and statewide leader in the fight against human trafficking, serving as a Program Manager for a Bay Area nonprofit battling exploitation – and also worked closely with the Contra Costa County District Attorney’s office to create the County’s Human Trafficking Task Force.” Her website further states: “I am a fierce advocate for safe neighborhoods and accountable law enforcement approaches that build trust with the community.”

Wilson has indicated support for repealing some enhancements, but believes that enhancements for human trafficking and sex crimes involving children should be maintained. She does, however, support full repeal of the Three Strikes Law and reinvestment of the cost savings from repeal into addressing the root causes of crime. She also supports reducing gun enhancements and removing mandatory sentences for gun-related crimes.

Website: <https://monicaforassembly.com/>

ANAMARIE AVILA FARIAS, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Contra Costa County Board of Education, Trustee

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Peace Officers Research Association (PORAC PAC)

Background: Avila Farias is a Trustee on the Contra Costa County Board of Education, and was elected in 2020. Prior to that she served eight years on the Martinez City Council. She is also a Democratic County Central Committee District 5 representative and AD 15 delegate.

Public Safety Platform: Avila Farias’ website outlines a platform of “transforming public safety” by focusing on recruitment of well-trained personnel and expanded accountability measures. In a separate interview she touted support for expanding re-entry and repealing ineffective mandatory minimums, but did not provide any explicit detail about which types of enhancements she would support full repeal of. She is endorsed by the Peace Officers Research Association.

Website: <https://www.anamarie4assembly.com/>

KAREN MITCHOFF, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: No Ballot Designation

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Mitchoff is a thirteen-year public official serving on the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, and prior to that was Councilmember and Mayor of the City of Pleasant Hill.

Public Safety Platform: Mitchoff’s public safety platform outlines the following: “Safe neighborhoods start with well-trained officers who reflect the communities they serve. This includes shifting mental health crises away from the police and providing funding to the A3 (Anyone, Anywhere, Anytime) program.”

Website: <https://www.karenmitchoff.com/>

SONIA LEDO, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Businesswoman

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Ledo is a self-employed real estate professional and first-time candidate. She is also a member of the One Hundred Club Organization which supports the families of police officers and firefighters.

Public Safety Platform: Ledo does not have a written platform on her website, but in interviews with local press noted “public safety” as a priority without providing any further detail.

Website: <https://www.sonialedo.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 16

REBECCA BAUER-KAHAN, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: State Assemblymember / Mother



Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC PAC)

Background: Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan was first elected to the State Assembly in 2018. Prior to entering politics, Bauer-Kahan worked as an environmental and immigration attorney, and was among the lawyers who provided legal services to migrants who were impacted by Trump’s travel ban. She was also a law professor at both Santa Clara University and Golden Gate University.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan has introduced some good justice reform bills, but her voting record is a little inconsistent on the issue. This session, she introduced good bills such as AB 862, which requires county jails to issue reports on recidivism and the effectiveness of programming provided inside the jails, and AB 1643, which would allow more youth to participate in diversion programs by raising the eligible restitution limit from \$1000 to \$5000.

However, she earned a “C” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on 4 of the 6 bills we prioritized, but not voting on AB 1306 (to reduce deportation of formerly incarcerated folks) or AB 600 (to create more opportunities for resentencing).

While Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan does not have a written public safety platform, her website highlights her legislative work on the issues of gun safety and human trafficking.

Website: <https://www.rebeccabauerkahan.com/>

JOSEPH RUBAY, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Business Principal / Father

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Rubay is the Chair of the Walnut Creek Police Officers Association and perennial candidate for state office, having run in every election since 2016.

Public Safety Platform: Rubay’s platform outlines strong support for law enforcement, stating: “While some are advocating defunding the police, I have actively helped to see that law enforcement in my community are well respected and properly funded. In 2021 my community held an election where we raised the annual fee for our police services by a multiple of four.

Website: <https://joerubay.nationbuilder.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 17

MATT HANEY, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Assemblymember Haney was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022 following a special election. He served on the San Francisco School Board for seven years, and is a former Executive Director of the UC Student Association. Haney also founded an Oakland-based non-profit that seeks to end mass incarceration by investing in youth and poverty reduction.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Haney has a very strong record on justice reform. This session, he was a co-author of ACA 4, an IJ Action cosponsored piece of legislation that would place an initiative on the November 2024 ballot to restore voting rights to people in prison. He also introduced AB 1226, which will require CDCR place incarcerated parents at the prison closest to their children; and AB 1497, which will allow more protections in court for defendants who are survivors of human trafficking, sexual violence, or domestic abuse.

Assemblymember Haney earned an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on all 6 bills we prioritized last year.

Website: <https://www.matthaney.com/>



OTTO DUKE, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Cancer Resource CEO

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Duke is a tenant’s rights activist and CEO of Prostate Cancer Resource, a nonprofit that recruits prostate cancer patients for experimental research at the University of California, San Francisco.

Public Safety Platform: Duke’s public safety platform outlines strong support for mandatory minimums, tougher sentencing, and what he calls “aggressively policed streets” and “stopping the rotating doors in jails/prisons.”

Website: <https://www.accesswebdev.com/otto/>

MANUEL NORIS-BARRERA, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Real Estate Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Noris-Barrera is a real estate professional and first-time candidate for State Assembly.

Public Safety Platform: Noris-Barrera does not have a policy platform, and his campaign website is exclusively for fundraising (despite the fact that he has no reported campaign funds raised). On his X page he lists “community safety, family values, personal rights, and American exceptionalism” as his priorities.

Website: <https://www.efundraisingconnections.com>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 18

MIA BONTA, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Bonta was first elected to the State Assembly in a 2021 special election, and formerly chaired the Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Public Safety. Prior to entering the Assembly, Bonta served on the Alameda School Board for several years, and also founded an Oakland-based non-profit that provides cradle-to-college services for low-income kids.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Bonta is a vocal supporter of justice reform policy, formerly sitting on the Public Safety Committee and generally voting to oppose harmful bills and being an outspoken opponent to recent efforts to roll back Prop 47. She was one of only two Assemblymembers on that committee who did not vote to support SB 14, a bill to expand the Three Strikes Law.

She has also been a lead author on many good bills. This session, Assemblymember Bonta was a co-author of ACA 4, an IJ Action cosponsored piece of legislation that would place an initiative on the November 2024 ballot to restore voting rights to people in prison. She also authored AB 1186 to allow restorative justice options in place of restitution for youth, and is a co-author of ACA 8 to end slavery in California prisons.

Assemblymember Bonta earned an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on all 6 bills we prioritized this year.

Website: <https://www.miabonta.com/>



MINDY PECHENUK, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: No Ballot Designation

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Pechenuk is a retired musician and classical music scholar.

Public Safety Platform: Pechenuk’s public safety platform includes support to “fully fund law enforcement at the local levels” and to “declare a war on drug cartels and human traffickers operating in our once-golden state.”

Website: <https://www.electmindy.com/>

CHEYENNE KENNEY, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: College Student

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Kenney is a college student and founder of the Oakland chapter of Turning Point USA, a conservative youth-led advocacy group.

Public Safety Platform: Kenney’s platform outlines her strong support for SB 14, legislation enacted in 2023 that expands the Three Strikes Law to include human trafficking. Her platform also outlines support for anti-vaccine bills and parents’ rights bills.

Website: <https://cheyennekenney4assembly.com/>

ANDRE SANDFORD, AMERICAN INDEPENDENT

Ballot Designation: Housing Program Manager

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Sandford is a housing manager for MNC Inspiring Success, a San Francisco-based non-profit organization.

Public Safety Platform: Sandford’s public safety platform includes requiring schools to have armed police officers, expanding Second Amendment rights to allow people to “lawfully defend themselves from individuals trying to harm them and their families” and “...to restore funding to policing and ensure officers have all the tools and training they need to protect California citizens.” Sandford also outlines wanting to establish a “police cadet program for high school students.”

Website: <https://www.andresandfordforassembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 19

CATHERINE STEFANI, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Supervisor City and County of San Francisco

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- San Francisco Police Officers Association

Background: Stefani is a current member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, and was first elected to that position in 2018. Prior to being elected to the Board, Stefani was a San Francisco County Clerk and also worked as Chief of Staff for former members of the Board of Supervisors. Stefani also worked for several years as a prosecutor in Contra Costa.

Public Safety Platform: Stefani is known as a fiercely tough-on-crime and pro-law enforcement incumbent on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. She was the first elected official to endorse the recall of progressive former District Attorney Chesa Boudin, and headed a successful local ballot measure that established a separate city agency to assist “crime victims and witnesses.”

Stefani’s campaign website states: “As a former prosecutor, national gun violence prevention advocate, and County Supervisor, Catherine increased police staffing, cracked down on car break-ins, and passed comprehensive gun safety laws,” and that in the Assembly she will be “determined to combat the pervasive issue of open-air drug dealing on our streets and will push for mandatory minimum sentences for fentanyl dealers...she will continue to work with federal and local partners to cut off the supply of deadly drugs on our streets.”

She has also indicated fierce opposition to reducing gun enhancements, only supports capping enhancements on a case-by-case basis, and only supports reform of the Three Strikes Law in limited circumstances.

She is endorsed by the San Francisco Deputy Sheriffs’ Association, an Francisco Police Officers Association, San Mateo Sheriff Christina Corpus, and San Francisco Sheriff Paul M. Miyamoto.

Website: <https://www.votecatherinestefani.com/>

DAVID E. LEE, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Civil Rights Educator

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Lee is director of the Asian Pacific American Student Success Program at Laney College in Oakland. He is a former 3-time candidate for San Francisco Board of Supervisors, and a long-time activist in the Chinese community.

Public Safety Platform: Lee’s website only states his support for “new tech to fight crime” but in separate interviews he indicated support for repealing ineffective mandatory minimums, capping enhancements, and investing more in rehabilitation and re-entry. On Three Strikes, he opposes repeal, stating instead that the sentence option for the lowest felonies should be reduced.

Website: <https://www.davidleeforassembly.com/>

NADIA FLAMENCO, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Mother / Filmmaker

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Flamenco is a stagehand and union member with IATSE Local 16.

Public Safety Platform: Flamenco does not have a campaign website or written policy platform, and little information is readily available regarding her public safety perspectives.

Website: None

ARJUN GUSTAV SODHANI, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Inventory Manager

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Sodhani is an inventory manager and a first-time candidate for State Assembly.

Public Safety Platform: Sodhani does not have a campaign website or written policy platform, and little information is publicly available regarding his public safety positions.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 20

LIZ ORTEGA, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- State Coalition of Probation Organizations PAC



Background: Assemblymember Ortega was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022, after working for many years in the labor movement. She is a former State Political Director for AFSCME Local 3299, which represents public sector workers (including law enforcement). She also served as Executive Secretary-Treasurer for the Alameda Labor Council.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Ortega was formerly on the Public Safety Committee and generally voted to support good legislation and opposed tough on crime measures. However, she joined others on the Public Safety Committee and changed her vote on SB 14, a bill to expand the Three Strikes Law, and ended up supporting it after pressure from Republicans. She nonetheless earned an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on all 6 bills we prioritized this year.

On her campaign website, she emphasizes a need for “community policing” and an end to gun violence. She is running unopposed in this race.

Website: <https://www.ortegaforassembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 21

DIANE PAPAN, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)

Background: Papan was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022, after serving as Vice Mayor and as Council Member for the City of San Mateo.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Papan prioritizes gun violence and hate crime prevention on her campaign website, naming that she will work with law enforcement to prosecute such crimes. This appears to line up with her voting record in the legislature, where she has supported certain justice reform measures, but failed to vote on AB 1310 (which would retroactively give judges more discretion to lessen or remove gun enhancements) and AB 93 (which would have prohibited warrantless searches by police), earning her a “C” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard.

She is endorsed by many local and state elected officials and community groups, but also by the California Statewide Law Enforcement Agency.

Website: <https://www.dianepapan.com/>



MARK GILHAM, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Inventory Manager

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds raised as of 1/12/24

Background: Gilham is a Marine Corps Veteran and perennial candidate who has run in every election since 2012.

Public Safety Platform: Gilham’s public safety platform announces strong support for law enforcement, and in particular believes that the best way to counteract the “defund the police” movement is to dissolve all city police departments and “fold them into the Sheriff’s Department and to control all law enforcement under the current elected sheriff’s authority.”

Website: <https://sa21.org/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 22

JUAN ALANIS, REPUBLICAN

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Assemblyman

Law Enforcement Contributions:



- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA)
- Modesto Police Officers Association PAC
- Turlock Associated Police Officers
- State Coalition of Probation Organizations PAC

Background: Assemblymember Alanis was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022 after a 29 year career in law enforcement with the Stanislaus County Sheriff’s Department. He ran unsuccessfully for Sheriff in 2017.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Alanis generally has not been supportive of justice reform issues, often citing his experience as a sheriff to support tough on crime measures. He earned an “F” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting no on all of the bills we prioritized this year. He also is a co-author of ACA 12 (Alexandra’s Law), a dangerous piece of legislation which would allow the courts to charge people who deal fentanyl with manslaughter in the case of overdose.

However, as Vice Chair of the Public Safety Committee, he did vote in favor of bills like AB 1186 to hold youth harmless of restitution costs and AB 958 to move towards visitation as a civil right.

Website: <https://alanisforassembly.com/>

JESSICA SELF, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Child Advocate / Businesswoman

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Self is an attorney and former public defender with the Stanislaus County Public Defender’s Office. She ran unsuccessfully for AD 22 in 2022.

Public Safety Platform: Self does not have a campaign website or platform, but in interviews during her 2022 race Self said she was opposed to returning to tough-on-crime laws. She said she supported Prop 47 and criticized Stanislaus County for not implementing more programs to help community reintegration for impacted families.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 23

MARC BERMAN, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)



Background: Assemblymember Berman was first elected to the State Assembly in 2016, after working as a private attorney for many years for Latham & Watkins, the second largest law firm in the world by revenue. Berman served on the Palo Alto City Council for several years prior to running for Assembly.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Berman has consistently voted in support of justice reform legislation, earning an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard. As the former Chair of the Elections Committee, he also supported ACA 6 in 2020, which became Prop 17 and restored voting rights to people on parole.

Furthermore, this legislative cycle, he authored AB 1130, which replaced the term “addict” with “person with substance use disorder” in state legal codes in order to “modernize our laws to reflect the appropriate use of person-first language in regards to individuals with substance use disorders.” In support of this bill, he stated, “As this epidemic has continued to grow toward a crisis point in California, there is a consensus among experts that vilifying the afflicted is not an effective public health strategy.”

Website: <https://www.voteberman.com/>

LYDIA KOU, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Mayor of Palo Alto

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Kou was elected to the Palo Alto City Council in 2016, and is now serving as Mayor. She is a realtor by training.

Public Safety Platform: On her website, Kou mentions her priorities to be “reducing homelessness, making our state safer from crime and addressing traffic gridlock, which contributes so much to environmental damage.” In an interview with Palo Alto Online she also mentioned being open to Prop. 47 reform to address “career criminals.”

Website: <https://lydiakou.com/>

GUS MATTAMMAL, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Small Businessman / Educator

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Mattammal is a business owner and member of the Midcoast Community Council, and also serves on the San Mateo County Transportation Authority's Citizen Advisory Committee. He ran unsuccessfully for U.S. Congress in 2022.

Public Safety Platform: Mattammal does not have a public safety platform on his website and information on his positions is not readily available.

Website: <https://www.gusforca.com/>

ALLAN K. MARSON, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: International Attorney / Father

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Marson is an attorney based in Palo Alto, and first-time candidate for state office.

Public Safety Platform: Marson does not have a campaign website or policy platform, and little information about him is publicly available.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 24

ALEX LEE, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Santa Clara County Probation Peace officers Union Local 1587 AFSCME AFL-CIO PAC

Background: Assemblymember Lee was first elected to the State Assembly in 2020 as its youngest member, being only 25 at the time of his election win. He is a former legislative staffer for Senator Henry Stern, and interned for other members including Assemblymembers Evan Low and Cecilia Aguiar-Curry.

Public Safety Platform: This session, Assemblymember Lee was a co-author of ACA 4, an IJ Action cosponsored piece of legislation that would place an initiative on the November 2024 ballot to restore voting rights for people in prison.

Lee is a strong supporter of progressive and abolitionist policies to end mass incarceration, increase funding for reentry programs, and build the political power of impacted people. He earned an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard this year, voting yes on all 6 of the bills we prioritized.

Website: <https://www.votealexlee.com/>



BOB BRUNTON, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Small Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Brunton is an electronics manufacturer and perennial candidate for State Assembly who has run in every election since 2014. He is a former elected official who served on the Ohlone Community College Board of Trustees for twelve years.

Public Safety Platform: Brunton does not have a public safety platform, instead focusing on reforming the civil court system. His platform includes providing public defenders for low and middle income individuals and small businesses.

Website: <https://votebobbruntonforassembly.com/>

MARTI SOUZA, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Pastor

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Souza is the senior pastor for, and cofounder of, Voice of Triumph Ministries (now called Freedom Culture) in the Bay Area.

Public Safety Platform: Souza does not have a campaign website or policy platform, and the most readily available information about her is in regards to her religious services and church network.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 25

ASH KALRA, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Kalra was first elected to the State Assembly in 2016 after working as a public defender in Santa Clara County for 11 years. Kalra also served two terms on the San Jose City Council while also becoming a law professor at Santa Clara State University.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Kalra is a strong supporter of abolitionist policy, having carried the Racial Justice Act and subsequent clean-up bills across multiple cycles. As a public defender for many years, Kalra deeply understands the injustices built into the legal system and has voted in favor of bills to expand sentence recalls and resentencing, expand reentry funding, and build stronger communities.

This session, Assemblymember Kalra was a co-author of ACA 4, an IJ Action cosponsored piece of legislation that would place an initiative on the November 2024 ballot to restore voting rights to people in prison. He also introduced AB 1266 which would end the practice of issuing bench warrants for traffic infractions, and is also recognized as the state leader on single-payer healthcare legislation.

Assemblymember Kalra earned an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard this year, voting yes on all 6 of the bills we prioritized.

Website: <https://www.ashkalra.com/>



LAN NGO, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Healthcare Manager / Mother

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Ngo is a prior schoolteacher who now works in healthcare management.

Public Safety Platform: Ngo’s public safety platform outlines the following: “District 25 has become unsafe for residents because of robberies, house destruction, vehicle theft, and looting in commercial areas. To combat this, the state budget should increase for cities including San Jose, so cities have adequate funds to hire more police to prevent crime, protect resident’s lives and property. At the same time, we host “meet and greet” for residents and the police to maintain a friendly relationship.”

Website: <https://lanngo.us/>

TED STROLL, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Retired Appellate Attorney

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Stroll is President of the Sustainable Trails Coalition, which advocates for fairer rules for cyclists on federal lands. He is a retired judicial staff attorney who worked many years for the Sixth District Court of Appeals and for the California Supreme Court.

Public Safety Platform: Stroll's public safety platform is centered on what he calls Sacramento's "... [enabling of] destructive behavior with well-meaning but misguided notions of compassion." Going further, Stroll writes that "Incumbents in Sacramento have proposed legislation that weakens our state's criminal laws. For example, they tried to reduce the penalty for certain injury-causing muggings to the minor crime of petty theft. They also tried to all but eliminate extra prison time that currently must be served when a felon uses a gun in a serious crime, including to kill someone with it. I will oppose such mistakes."

Website: <https://www.tedstroll.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 26

PATRICK AHRENS, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: College Board President

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Ahrens is district director for outgoing Assemblymember Evan Low, and is also a Trustee on the Foothill-De Anza Community College District Board. He was first elected in 2018.

Public Safety Platform: Ahrens' public safety platform states the following: "Violent crimes, retail theft, and gun violence have increased in recent years. In 2023, Californians have experienced a mass shooting every six days. I will advocate for policies to keep Californians safe."

He has the endorsement of many elected officials, including his current boss, Assemblymember Low and Santa Clara County Sheriff, Bob Johnson.

Website: <https://patrickahrens.com/>

OMAR DIN, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Sunnyvale Councilmember / Analyst

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Din is Vice Mayor for the City of Sunnyvale, and was first elected to city council in 2020. He is also a governing member of the Valley Transportation Authority Board of Directors

Public Safety Platform: Din does not have a written public safety platform for his Assembly race, but during his run for Sunnyvale City Council his platform outlined support for a ban on use of facial recognition technology, council approval for all new police equipment purchases, and the creation of a Human Relations Commission with oversight over the police force. He is endorsed by the Sunnyvale Public Safety Officers Association.

Website: <https://www.omarforassembly.com/>

TARA SREEKRISHNAN, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Governing Board Member, Santa Clara County Board of Education

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Sreekrishnan is District Director for Senator Dave Cortese, and also served as his Chief of Staff when he was a County Supervisor. She is also Vice President on the Santa Clara County Board of Education, and founded a non-profit focused on addressing climate change through education.

Public Safety Platform: Sreekrishnan's public safety platform outlines the following: "Revitalize and reshape our public safety system to bolster community safety and tackle the underlying causes of violence and crime, including health services, housing, and jobs." In separate interviews on criminal justice issues, Sreekrishnan outlined an openness to eliminating some enhancements deemed ineffective, and towards reforming the Three Strikes Law.

She has the endorsement of many elected officials, including her current boss, Senator Cortese.

Website: <https://www.tarasreekrishnan.com/>

SOPHIE YAN SONG, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Certified Public Accountant

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Song is a former auditor for the City of Cupertino, and currently runs her own accounting firm.

Public Safety Platform: Song does not have a campaign website or policy platform, and little information about her is publicly available. She appears to be using a LinkedIn page for campaign updates, but has not made any posts about her public safety positions.

Website: None

BOB GOODWYN, LIBERTARIAN

Ballot Designation: Retired Pilot

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Goodwyn is a retired pilot and perennial candidate for office, having run unsuccessfully for both U.S. Congress and State Assembly in prior years.

Public Safety Platform: Goodwyn does not have a campaign website or policy platform. Little information regarding his stances are publicly available.

Website: None

ASHISH GARG, NO PARTY PREFERENCE

Ballot Designation: School Foundation Boardmember

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Garg is the founder and CEO of a local financial services company.

Public Safety Platform: Garg does not have a campaign website or policy platform. Little information regarding his stances are publicly available.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 27

ESMERALDA SORIA, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: State Assemblymember



Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC
- Anaheim Police Association PAC
- Huntington Beach Police Officers Association PAC
- State Coalition of Probation Organizations PAC
- California Statewide Law Enforcement Association PAC

Background: Assemblymember Soria was first elected in 2022 on a platform of criminal justice reform, but since she has been in the Assembly she has failed to support any meaningful reform measures. She was a Fresno City Council Member for seven years prior to running for Assembly, and was a White House intern under former President Obama.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Soria earned an “F” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, not voting on any of the six bills we prioritized this year.

On her campaign website, she expresses tough-on-crime views, stating “I’m sick of politicians failing to keep us safe. I invested \$2 billion in police, fire protection, and emergency response – but my opponent let sex offenders and criminals go free on our streets. That’s wrong.”

She has received campaign contributions from several law enforcement agencies and is endorsed by the California Association of Highway Patrolmen, California Police Chiefs Association, California Statewide Law Enforcement Association, Fresno Deputy Sheriff’s Association, and the Fresno Police Officers Association.

Website: <https://soriaforcalifornia.com/>

JOANNA GARCIA ROSE, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Auditor / Mother

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Rose is a former farmer and business owner who ran her own water drilling company. She is now an auditor for the California Employment Development Department.

Public Safety Platform: Rose does not have a policy platform on her website, but has implied support for tough-on-crime policies stating how she believes “Sacramento politicians have made life in the Valley more expensive and dangerous, with less opportunity” on her campaign website.

Website: <https://www.joannaforthevalley.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 28

GAIL PELLERIN, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association Local (CCPOA PAC)
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC



Background: Assemblymember Pellerin was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022 after serving as the Santa Cruz County Clerk for 27 years, where she presided over the elections process for all county residents.

Public Safety Platform: This session, Assemblymember Gail Pellerin served on the Assembly Elections Committee and was one of six members who voted in favor of ACA 4, an IJ Action sponsored bill to restore voting rights to people in prison. During the committee vote, Pellerin remarked that after reflection she arrived at the conclusion that felony disenfranchisement was “unconstitutional” and “discriminatory” and therefore voted yes.

Assemblymember Pellerin earned an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on all of the bills we prioritized this year. However, she has received campaign contributions from multiple law enforcement agencies and is endorsed by the Peace Officers Research Association of California.

Website: <https://www.gailpellerinforassembly.com/>

LIZ LAWLER, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Retired Monte Sereno Mayor

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Lawler is the former Mayor of and current Council Member for the City of Monte Sereno. Her professional background is in advertising, and she is also a Better Streets Commissioner, focusing on street repairs and beautification.

Public Safety Platform: Lawler’s public safety platform, which is titled “Stop the Violence,” outlines the following: “Public safety is of increasing concern as lawlessness abounds and police officers are demoralized and defunded. “No bail” and other misguided policies are leaving violent people on the street and fostering “smash and grab”, car-jacking, and other serious crimes. To restore safety, we need to end “no bail” and hold violent and habitual criminals accountable.”

Per her website, her platform has three main goals: “1) Revise the state’s excessively lenient early release policies, particularly where they pertain to violent offenders, to ensure dangerous felons serve the majority of their sentence. 2) Allow for the arrest, possible jail time and drug treatment court for those who shoplift less than \$950; 3) Preserve cash bail, which is a proven safeguard for the “accused” to appear at their mandated court appearances.”

Website: <https://lizlawler.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 29

ROBERT RIVAS, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:



- California Statewide Law Enforcement Association PAC
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC
- Anaheim Police Association PAC
- Huntington Beach Police Officers Association PAC
- Santa Ana Police Officers Association PAC
- Garden Grove Police Association PAC
- Association of Orange County Deputy Sheriffs PAC
- San Bernardino County Sheriff's Employees' Benefit Association PAC
- State Coalition of Probation Organizations PAC

Background: Assemblymember Robert Rivas was first elected to the State Assembly in 2018, after serving on the San Benito County Board of Supervisors for eight years. In June 2023, Rivas assumed the position of Assembly Speaker, succeeding Anthony Rendon, after a months-long and contentious transition of power. Prior to entering politics, Rivas was an on-call firefighter and high school job training coordinator.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Robert Rivas earned an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on all 6 justice reform bills we prioritized this year.

However, as Assembly Speaker, Rivas has also put pressure on the Legislature to adopt more tough-on-crime policies, namely by pushing through SB 14 last year, which expanded the Three Strikes Law in California for the first time in over two decades. Additionally, he has accepted campaign contributions from eleven law enforcement agencies from across the state.

Website: <https://www.rivasca.com/>

J.W. PAINE, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Teamster Truck Driver

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Paine is a truck driver and first-time candidate for State Assembly. He ran unsuccessfully for California Secretary of State in 2022.

Public Safety Platform: Paine’s campaign website does not include a policy platform, and little information is readily available regarding his public safety positions.

Website: <https://helpjw.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 30

DAWN ADDIS, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: State Assemblymember / Teacher



Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC

Background: Assemblymember Addis was first elected in 2022 after serving on the Morro Bay City Council and as Mayor Pro Tem for three years. Prior to entering politics, she was an educator with the San Luis Coastal Unified School District for twenty years.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Addis does not have a public safety platform on her campaign website, but she has generally voted to support justice reform measures in the legislature. She earned an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting to support all 6 bills we prioritized this year.

Website: <https://dawnaddis.org/>

DALILA EPPERSON, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Broadcast Journalist / Mom

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Epperson is Chapter President of the Monterey County Republican Assembly.

Public Safety Platform: Epperson’s public safety platform, which is titled “Back the Blue,” peddles much misinformation and states the following: “The laws in California are softer each day. \$950 Smash and Grab law, shortening the jail time for pedophiles and violent criminals, and so much more. I would have fought against these bills. Crime has been rising all across our state; All violent prisoners are getting released early from their prison terms and are receiving Stimulus Checks as well; The Crisis at the Border wall has greatly increased human trafficking and fentanyl deaths. Drugs flowing over the border now will only have an exponential increase in crime waves as we go forward into 2023-2024.”

Website: <https://www.dalilaforassembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 31

JOAQUIN ARAMBULA, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Doctor / Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)



Background: Assemblymember Arambula was first elected to the State Assembly in 2016 in a special election. Prior to running for office, he was an emergency room doctor in Selma, California.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Arambula has a mixed record on public safety issues. He earned a “D” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, failing to vote on 3 of the 6 bills we prioritized, including AB 600 and AB 1310 which would retroactively give judges more discretion to lessen or remove gun enhancements, respectively.

His campaign website does not include his positions on any issues, including public safety. While in the Assembly, Arambula has consistently fought for additional funding for local law enforcement.

Website: <https://drjoaquinarambula.com/>

SOLOMON VERDUZCO, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Student

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Verduzco is a college student and first-time candidate for office, majoring in Science of Justice Studies.

Public Safety Platform: Without providing much detail, Verduzco’s public safety platform states that he will be “Prioritizing public safety with anti-crime measures to protect families and business owners.”

Website: <https://www.solomonverduzco.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 32

VINCE FONG, REPUBLICAN

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Central Valley Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:



- Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)

Background: Assemblymember Vince Fong was first elected to the State Assembly in 2016, after working for many years as a congressional aide for former Republican U.S. House Speaker Kevin McCarthy.

Assemblymember Fong created an uproar when he announced that he was running to replace the retiring Kevin McCarthy in Congressional District 20 after the filing deadline for 2024 candidates had already passed and he was already qualified to run for re-election to the State Assembly. After his bid for Congress was initially blocked by California Secretary of State Shirley Weber on the grounds that a candidate cannot be officially running for two seats in the same election year, Fong sued the state. A Sacramento judge ruled in Fong's favor, allowing him to have his name on both the Assembly District 33 and Congressional District 20 ballots, even though Fong is only running for Congress.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Fong has ardently opposed progressive criminal justice reform policies and earned an "F" on IJ Action's 2023 Scorecard. He routinely introduces or co-authors bills to expand sentencing laws, restrict opportunities for resentencing, and expand funding for law enforcement.

Website: None (He does, however, have a website for his Congressional race: <https://vincefong.com>)

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 33

ANGEL RUIZ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Labor Organizer

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Ruiz is a first-time candidate and labor organizer with SEIU Local 52. He formerly worked for the Dolores Huerta Foundation.

Public Safety Platform: Ruiz describes himself as a civil and labor rights advocate, and his public safety platform outlines support for working "...towards a justice system that is fair and equitable. Angel is an advocate of community-based safety programs and reform measures that address systemic issues in the criminal justice system."

Website: <https://www.angelruizad33.com/>

RUBEN MACARENO, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Education Board Trustee

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Macareno is a current Trustee on the Farmersville School Board and is a former City Councilman. Prior to elected office he chaired the Tulare County Democratic Party, and also served on the Tulare County Association of Governments, The Council of Cities, and the Tulare County Economic Development Corporation.

Public Safety Platform: Macareno does not have a campaign website and little information is readily available regarding his public safety positions.

Website: None

HIPOLITO A. CERROS, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Mayor, City of Lindsay

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Cerros is currently the Mayor for the City of Lindsay and a former Councilmember. Cerros has also served on the East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency, the Tulare County Association of Governments and the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency.

Public Safety Platform: Cerros does not have a campaign website or public safety platform, and in interviews with local papers has said the focus of his campaign is agricultural technology, water infrastructure, and workforce shortages in healthcare.

Website: None

ALEXANDRA MACEDO, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Small Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Tulare Co Deputy Sheriff's Benevolent PAC

Background: Macedo is the Macedo Environmental Consulting, Inc., a family business supporting dairy and crop farmers. She is an attorney by training.

Public Safety Platform: Macedo does not have a policy page on her website, and little information is readily available regarding her public safety positions.

Website: <https://www.alexandramacedo.com/>

XAVIER AVILA, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Dairyman / Healthcare Official

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Avila is dairy farmer and member of the Tulare Public Cemetery District Board of Trustees, the Tulare Local Healthcare District Board of Directors, and the Adventist Health Central Valley Network Community Board.

Public Safety Platform: While Avila does not have a written public safety platform, he has stated in interviews that his priorities are to "...protect the needs of our farmers and our water rights, work passionately to better our rural healthcare systems, support our law enforcement and keep our communities safe, protect your 2nd Amendment rights, I'm proudly pro-life, and will always put our Central Valley values first."

Website: <https://www.avila4assembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 34

TOM LACKEY, REPUBLICAN

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Assemblyman

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA)
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- State Coalition of Probation Organizations PAC
- California Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC



Background: Assemblymember Lackey was first elected to the State Assembly in 2014 after spending 28 years in law enforcement with the California Highway Patrol. He also served on the Palmdale Elementary School Board and City Council for nearly a decade.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Lackey was a vocal opponent to ACA 4, the IJ Action cosponsored legislation that would place an initiative on the November 2024 ballot to restore voting rights to people in prison. In a statement to the press, Lackey said: “We don’t want people who have shown disrespect for our laws to be part of forming them, and that’s what this proposal does.”

In the Legislature, Assemblymember Lackey has routinely opposed progressive criminal justice reform measures while supporting bills that increase criminalization of drug use and homelessness. This cycle, he introduced AB 1616, which would allow municipalities that do not allow cannabis cultivation or sale to nevertheless receive statewide cannabis tax revenue for use by law enforcement, and was also a vocal supporter of SB 14, which expanded the Three Strikes Law for the first time in more than two decades.

He earned an “F” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, failing to support all 6 bills that we prioritized this year. He is endorsed by several law enforcement agencies and was named “Legislator of the Year” by Crime Victims United and the California Police Chiefs Association.

Website: <https://lackeyforassembly.com/>

RICARDO ORTEGA, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Los Angeles County Commissioner

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Ortega is the first LA County Youth Commissioner and former President of the Los Angeles Chapter of the California Youth Commission.

Public Safety Platform: Ortega does not have a public safety platform, instead focusing on issues like infrastructure development and healthcare. However, he has advocated on related issues including on the foster care system, where he supported AB 2247 to protect foster children from random, unexpected changes in their foster placement.

Website: <https://www.ricardoortegaforassembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 35

JASMEET BAINS, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Family Doctor / Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- State Coalition of Probation Organizations PAC
- California Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC



Background: Assemblymember Bains was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022. She is a family physician by trade, and worked in Bakersfield hospitals prior to running for office. She was also appointed by former Governor Jerry Brown to the California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission.

Public Safety Platform: IJ Action staff met with Assemblymember Bains earlier this session to discuss ACA 4. During that meeting, Bains indicated that she would likely not support ACA 4 because she “... could not empower bad people.” To further illustrate her point, Bains made a hypothetical example that if she had kids, and those kids were given fentanyl, she would want the person who sold the fentanyl to be “in prison and not voting.”

Her voting record reflects these sentiments. She earned an “F” in the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, failing to vote in support of any of the 6 bills we prioritized this year.

Assemblymember Bains has received significant contributions from law enforcement and is endorsed by several police agencies, such as the Bakersfield Police Officers Association and the California Correctional Peace Officers Association.

Website: <https://www.drjasmeetbains.com/>

ROBERT ROSAS, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Electrical Technician / Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Per his ballot designation, Rosas is an electrical technician.

Public Safety Platform: Rosas does not have a campaign website or policy platform, and little information about him is publicly available.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 36

JOSE “JOEY” ACUÑA JR., DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: School Board Member

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Acuña is a Coachella Valley Unified School District Board Member.

Public Safety Platform: Acuna does not have a written platform on his website, but in interviews on criminal justice issues outlined a slight openness to reforming ineffective sentence enhancements, but stated that he needed “more education” on data-driven solutions and alternatives to lengthy sentences.

Website: <https://joeyacuna.com/>

WAYMOND FERMON, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Peace Officer / Councilmember

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Fermon is the former Mayor of and current Council Member for the City of Indio. He is employed by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), working in various positions at Calipatria State Prison after graduating from the CDCR academy.

Public Safety Platform: Fermon does not have a campaign website or written platform, but in a campaign statement touted his work as a correctional officer at Calipatria State Prison for the past 22 years. He went on to write “Safe communities and small businesses are the foundations to success. I have been at the forefront of this effort, championing public safety in our valley by engaging our youth, faith-based communities, nonprofits, and promoting community-oriented policing. Simultaneously, I have advocated to provide additional community resources and mentorships that help in the efforts of prevention and intervention.”

Website: <https://waymondforassembly.com/>

EDGARD GARCIA, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Councilmember / Attorney

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Garcia is an attorney and elected official on the El Centro City Council, where he was first elected in 2015. He is also the former Imperial County District Director for the League of California Cities. Garcia also twice ran unsuccessfully for Imperial County District Attorney.

Public Safety Platform: Garcia does not have an active campaign website or platform, and while on council has touted his work on infrastructure development, road safety, and economic development.

Website: <http://voteedgardgarcia.com/>

TOMAS OLIVA, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Councilmember / Congressional Aide

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Oliva is an elected official on the El Centro City Council, and is also the city's former Mayor. He was first elected in 2011.

Public Safety Platform: Oliva does not have a campaign website or policy platform, and in a campaign statement touted his work on Salton Sea preservation, water and natural resource issues, and air quality.

Website: None

ERIC L. RODRIGUEZ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Social Worker

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Rodriguez is president of the Central Union High School Board of Trustees, an El Centro police officer, and a child welfare social worker.

Public Safety Platform: Rodriguez touts his career as a police officer in his public safety platform, writing that "My dedication lies in supporting and drafting bills prioritizing the safety of our community, peace officers, and victims." His platform expresses support for "...prison reform in a safe and responsible manner, while protecting our correctional jobs." He also outlines support for bills "...aiming to provide support, policy, and training related to the 5150 law" and for the "...reassessment and reclassification of substance abuse offenses."

Website: <https://www.ericforassembly.org/>

JEFF GONZALEZ, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Business Owner / Parent

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Gonzalez is a retired Marine and local pastor. He operates three local small businesses, and cares for his son who is diagnosed with cerebral palsy. Gonzalez had formerly run unsuccessfully for the same seat in 2018.

Public Safety Platform: Without providing much detail, Gonzalez's public safety platform outlines the following: "Drawing upon his military background, Jeff prioritizes public safety, aiming to create a secure environment for all residents."

Website: <https://www.gonzalez4assembly.com/>

KALIN MORSE, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Business Owner / Parent

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Morse is a non-profit director from Westmorland. Little information regarding his background is readily available.

Public Safety Platform: Morse does not have a campaign website or written platform, and little information is readily available regarding his policy positions.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 37

GREGG HART, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PA



Background: Assemblymember Hart was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022 after serving over twenty years in local government. Hart served four terms on the Santa Barbara City Council and was elected to the Board of Supervisors in 2018.

Public Safety Platform: On his campaign website, Assemblymember Hart expresses his commitment to “working with crime survivors, law enforcement, community organizations, and criminal justice reform advocates to keep our communities safe and healthy” and promises to “invest in treatment and support programs to make our communities safer, reduce recidivism, and advance equity.”

In the Legislature, Assemblymember Hart has been a strong supporter of justice reform. He earned an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting to support all 6 bills we prioritized this year. Additionally, he introduced AB 1412 which allows people diagnosed with Borderline Personality Disorder from participating in court diversion programs, thereby expanding their access to treatment instead of incarceration.

However, Assemblymember Hart has accepted some campaign contributions from law enforcement agencies, and is endorsed by the California Association of Highway Patrolman California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations.

Website: <https://gregghart.org/>

SARI M. DOMINGUES, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Retired Business Analyst

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Domingues is a retired government employee who spent many years with the Santa Maria-Bonita School District, with Santa Barbara County, and most recently as Business Analyst with the County of Monterey.

Public Safety Platform: Domingues does not have a policy platform, instead focusing her campaign on the issue of “parents’ rights.”

Website: <https://www.sari4assembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 38

STEVE BENNETT, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Member of the Assembly 38th District

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- CA Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC
- CA Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)

Background: Assemblymember Bennett was first elected to the State Assembly in 2020. He had retired from politics for several years, after serving on the Ventura City Council and subsequently the Ventura County Board of Supervisors in the 1990s and early 2000s.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Bennett does not have a written public safety platform, however, he has generally been a supporter of justice reform in the Legislature. He earned a “B” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting to support all of the bills we prioritized except AB 1310, which would have retroactively given judges more discretion to lessen or remove gun enhancements.

Website: <https://stevebennettforassembly.com/>



DEBORAH “DEB” BABER, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Retired Publishing Executive

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Baber is an elected delegate to the Republican Party County Central Committee.

Public Safety Platform: Baber does not have a campaign website or policy platform, and little information is publicly available regarding her policy stances.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 39

JUAN CARRILLO VENTURA, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:



- Peace Officers Research Association of CA PAC (PORAC)
- CA Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Huntington Beach Police Officers Association PAC
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC
- State Coalition of Probation Organizations PAC
- CA Statewide Law Enforcement Assoc PAC
- CA Association of Highway Patrolmen

Background: Assemblymember Carrillo was elected to the State Assembly in 2022 after serving several years on the Palmdale City Council. Prior to entering politics, Carrillo was a City Planner for Palmdale.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Carrillo does not have a written public safety platform, however, he has generally been a supporter of justice reform measures in the Legislature. He earned a “B” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on all of the bills we prioritized except for AB 93, a bill which would have ended warrantless searches by police. He has also received significant campaign contributions from law enforcement.

Website: <https://votejuancarrillo.com/>

PAUL ANDRE MARSH, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Community Services Liaison

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Marsh is a community services liaison per his ballot designation. He ran unsuccessfully for State Assembly in 2022.

Public Safety Platform: Marsh promises a tough-on-crime approach on his campaign website, stating: “Crime is on the rise in California. We need someone who will stand by law enforcement, and give them the tools they need to protect our communities. While Sacramento politicians are supporting policies that release violent criminals into our streets, I promise to fight back and call out crime for what it is.”

Website: <https://www.paulmarshforassembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 40

PILAR SCHIAVO, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Assemblywoman

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24



Background: Assemblymember Schiavo was elected to the State Assembly in 2022, defeating Republican incumbent Suzette Valladares and effectively flipping the district from red to blue. Prior to joining the Assembly, she was a nurse advocate who worked with the California Nurses Association for 13 years, and co-founded an organization that provides meals and resources to houseless people in her community.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Schiavo does not have a written public safety platform, however, her voting record in the Legislature reflects a lack of support for justice reform issues. She earned an “F” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, failing to vote on any of the 6 bills that we prioritized.

Website: <https://pilar4ca.com/>

PATRICK LEE GIBSON, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Retired Deputy Sheriff

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)

Background: Gibson has been a Sheriff’s Deputy with the Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department for 24 years.

Public Safety Platform: Gibson’s platform calls for tougher sentencing and penalties for “convicted felons”, opposition to zero bail policies, repeal of Prop 47 and Prop 57, and enhanced penalties for human trafficking and drug crimes. He is endorsed by the Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs and many Republican elected officials in the region.

Website: <https://gipson4assembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 41

JOHN HARABEDIAN, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: California State Boardmember

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Harabedian is a former Mayor and City Councilmember for Sierra Madre, serving two terms. He is also a current prosecutor under George Gascón with the LA County District Attorney's Office. Harabedian also worked at the powerful law firm Latham & Watkins, and at Stanford's Immigrants' Rights Clinic, and the Equality Pro Bono Project. He is also a Regional Vice Chair of the Los Angeles County Democratic Party.

Public Safety Platform: Harabedian does not have a written public safety platform, but in separate interviews indicated support for overhauling the Three Strikes Law, but maintained that its focus should be on "violent and serious crimes." He supports repealing ineffective sentence enhancements and taking an evidence-based approach while also capping the total amount of enhancements that can be applied.

Website: <https://johnharabedian.com/>

PHLUNTE RIDDLE, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Public Safety Commissioner

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC

Background: Riddle had a 30-year career in law enforcement with the Pasadena Police Department, and in 2019 was appointed as a Commissioner to the Board of Juvenile Hearings. She is also a former District Director for incumbent Assemblymember Chris Holden.

Public Safety Platform: While Riddle does not have a written public safety platform, her 30 years with the police department and contributions from law enforcement indicate that she is likely not supportive of abolitionist criminal justice policy.

Her website celebrates how she "broke barriers" by becoming the first Black woman to become a sergeant and lieutenant within the Pasadena Police Department. In separate interviews, Riddle outlined support for reforming sentence enhancements on a case by case basis, and also supports reform - but not repeal - of the Three Strikes Law.

Website: <https://www.phlunriddleforassembly.com/>

JED LEANO, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Small Businessman / Councilmember

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Leano is an immigration attorney who helped protect individuals and families from deportation while seeking asylum in the U.S. He is a former Mayor of Claremont, and currently serves on the City Council. While there, he has championed programs to reduce homelessness, expand services for unhoused community members, and establish a mental health first responder unit called the Psychiatric Assessment Care Team.

Public Safety Platform: Leano's public safety platform highlights issues like pedestrian and cyclist safety, and how he launched the first "Walking School Bus" in which children had designated pathways to walk to school in order to promote physical exercise and reduce vehicle congestion. He also highlights the need for robust mental health services, and touts his work on creating the Psychiatric Assessment Care Team which sends unarmed clinical mental health first responders to respond to behavioral health crises in the community.

Leano supports reforming the Three Strikes Law, but not repeal. He also indicated support for repealing ineffective sentence enhancements, with exceptions for gun enhancements. He is endorsed by the Claremont Police Officers Association.

Website: <https://jedforca.com/>

MICHELLE DEL ROSARIO MARTINEZ, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Community Volunteer

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Martinez is a former Council Member for the City of Altadena, and is the founder and president of a business consulting firm.

Public Safety Platform: Martinez does not have a written policy platform, and little information is available regarding her public safety positions.

Website: <https://linktr.ee/mdm4ad41>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 42

JACQUI IRWIN, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC
- Peace Officers Research Association of CA (PORAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Ventura County Deputy Sheriff's Association



Background: Assemblymember Irwin was first elected to the State Assembly in 2014 after serving three terms on the Thousand Oaks City Council and two terms as Mayor. Prior to entering politics Irwin worked for the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab as a systems engineer, and also worked at Teledyne.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Irwin supports tough on crime policies and is openly pro-police. Her website highlights how she “...secured over \$13 million in funding for local law enforcement to remove guns from violent felons who are prohibited from possessing firearms” and “passed a law to make it easier to prosecute ‘smash-and-grab’ Organized Retail Theft that crosses city and county lines.”

Assemblymember Irwin earned an “F” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, only voting to support 1 of the 6 justice reform bills we prioritized this year.

Her campaign website lists endorsements from 16 law enforcement agencies and current and former elected sheriffs and district attorneys. She has also received significant campaign contributions from law enforcement.

Website: <https://jacquairwin.com/>

TED NORDBLUM, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Local Small Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Nordblum is a business owner who runs a medical device company

Public Safety Platform: Nordblum’s public safety platform outlines the following: “Californians no longer feel safe in their communities. Communities and families are being torn apart by crime and drug addiction. This issue means a lot to Ted personally, as he lost his brother to a fentanyl overdose in 2021. We must **FUND** the police, keep violent criminals out of our communities, and support public-private partnerships for drug rehabilitation and mental health programs.”

Website: <https://www.tednordblum.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 43

CELESTE RODRIGUEZ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: San Fernando Mayor

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Rodriguez is Mayor and City Councilmember for the City of San Fernando, and was first elected in 2020. Prior to elected office she worked for San Fernando's Recreation and Community Services Department, followed by the City of Los Angeles Mayor's Office of Economic Opportunity.

Public Safety Platform: Rodriguez does not have a written public safety platform, instead focusing her issues page on economic development, environmental, and housing issues.

However, in a separate interview on criminal justice priorities she outlined support for eliminating sentence enhancements and mandatory minimums, and stated that she was "open" to reforming gun-related enhancements. She also voiced support for reforming California's Three Strikes Law.

She is endorsed by many labor organizations, as well as outgoing Assemblymember Luz Rivas, and progressive elected officials such as Senator Caroline Menjivar and Assemblymember Isaac Bryan.

Website: <https://celesteforassembly.com/>

WALTER GARCIA, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Attorney General Spokesperson

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Garcia is a spokesperson for California Attorney General Rob Bonta, and a former staffer for (now) Vice President Kamala Harris. He is a lawyer by training.

Public Safety Platform: Garcia's public safety platform outlines the following: "Growing up, Walter lived a couple of houses away from a local gang and remembers fearing for his safety. He is committed to addressing the root causes of poverty, further developing alternative crisis responses, ensuring there is police accountability and transparency, and working with local law enforcement agencies to uplift community policing strategies. In addition, Walter is an ardent supporter of California's nation-leading gun safety laws and intends to author legislation to continue tackling gun violence in our state."

Website: <https://www.walterforassembly.com/>

SAUL HURTADO, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Childcare Provider

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Per his ballot designation, Hurtado is a childcare provider. He is a first-time candidate for State Assembly. Very little information about his background is publicly available.

Public Safety Platform: Hurtado does not have a campaign website or written platform, and little information about him is publicly available.

Website: None

VICTORIA GARCIA, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Commissioner / Attorney / Mother

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Garcia is a private attorney and former candidate for San Fernando City Council.

Public Safety Platform: Garcia does not have a campaign website or platform, but in her 2022 race for San Fernando City Council outlined the following: “Victoria will ensure the San Fernando Police Department has the resources they need to keep our community safe for all families, especially our most vulnerable children and seniors.”

Website: None

FELICIA L. NOVICK, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Mother / Office Administrator

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Novick is a conservative activist and first-time candidate for State Assembly.

Public Safety Platform: Novick does not have a written policy platform, instead presenting herself as a “unity advocate” and “family-values champion” writing that her “...allegiance remains steadfast in supporting Israel, standing shoulder to shoulder with the Hispanic, Armenian and Jewish community, reinforcing her commitment to fostering unity and solidarity among diverse populations.”

Website: <https://felicianovick4stateassembly43.com/>

CARMELINA MINASOVA, NO PARTY PREFERENCE

Ballot Designation: Homeless Crisis Advocate

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Minasova describes herself as the Secretary of Human Rights for a non-profit. She formerly ran for City Council unsuccessfully.

Public Safety Platform: Minasova does not have a campaign website or platform for her State Assembly race, but for her prior city council run she outlined support for a “better police force” including an increase in LAPD officers, expanding police independent contractors and use of private security.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 44

NICK SHULTZ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Deputy Attorney General

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Schultz is currently on the Burbank City Council and was first elected to that post in 2020. He is also a Deputy Attorney General within the Special Prosecutions Section focused on tax evasion, mortgage fraud, officer-involved shootings, and public corruption cases.

Public Safety Platform: Schultz’s public safety platform is focused on criminal justice reform, stating how “As a Deputy Attorney General, Nick has been on the frontlines combatting abuses and misuses of authority by public officials. In the Legislature, Nick will pursue legislation that prevents crime, addresses systemic injustices, and promotes rehabilitation and equity in our criminal justice system.” Schultz also strongly supports ending mandatory minimums, capping sentence enhancements, and repealing the Three Strikes Law.

Schultz also highlights how he was involved in the creation of a Post-Conviction Review Unit at the Department of Justice, which reviews “...claims of innocence and wrongful conviction for any cases handled by the State” so that “individuals making claims of wrongful convictions will be able to have their voices heard.” He also serves on the unit of the Department of Justice that investigates police killings of unarmed people and has successfully prosecuted police officers.

Website: <https://www.votenickschultz.com/>

STEVE PIERSON, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Entertainment Media Engineer

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Pierson is a sound engineer by training who has worked for decades in the entertainment industry. He is also a Democratic Party delegate and official, organizing with various local Democratic clubs. He is a SAG-AFTRA union member and organizer and Executive Board Member with the Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley.

Public Safety Platform: On justice reform, Pierson states: “We must do a better job of supporting our communities from within and providing resources for early intervention, mental health and social support. I support evidence-based policing and criminal justice reforms that reduce crime, invests in rehabilitation and anti-recidivism, and addresses our communities’ needs with compassion and efficacy.”

In a separate interview, Pierson noted support for repealing some sentence enhancements. He also supports reforming the Three Strikes Law.

Website: <https://www.pierseforca.com/>

ELEN ASATRYAN, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Glendale Councilwoman / Businesswoman

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Asatryan is a first-generation immigrant and an elected official on the Glendale City Council where she has served for several years. Asatryan is also a Democratic Party delegate and executive board member.

Public Safety Platform: On public safety, Asatryan states: “I will support efforts to increase public safety through restorative justice, community policing alternatives, and supporting our law enforcement and first responders with resources to address crime and to keep us safe. I will work with community groups and other critical stakeholders on policies that champion public safety while creating a more supportive and just community. I am proud to have the endorsement of both the Glendale Firefighters and Police Officers.”

In a separate interview, Asatryan noted support for repealing mandatory minimums, with exceptions for hate crimes, human trafficking, and rape.

Website: <https://www.electelen.com/>

CARMENITA HELLIGAR, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Businesswoman / Nonprofit Director

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Helligar is the founder and CEO of an e-commerce marketplace that is tailored to small business owners. She is also Vice-Chair of the Burbank Library Board and a member of the Burbank Chamber of Commerce.

Public Safety Platform: While Helligar’s website states that “criminal justice reform” is a priority, she does not provide any details about the types of reforms she would support. Helligar ran for Burbank City Council in 2022, and during that campaign she advocated for publicly subsidized housing for police. She also supports expanding community policing and creating opportunities to “mend the wounds” between communities of color and police. Helligar has noted supporting reform of the Three Strikes Law.

Website: <https://www.votecarmenitahelligar.com/>

ED HAN, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Educator / Military Prosecutor

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Han is a lecturer at UCLA School of Law and is an Air Force Reservist. He is also a former prosecutor with the federal Department of Justice.

Public Safety Platform: Han does not have a written policy platform, instead writing broadly about his values. Han highlighted his work as a federal prosecutor “...investigating the kind of organized crime and fraud that posed a danger and disruption to our communities.” He also writes how “...hate crimes should not go unnoticed.”

Website: <https://edhanca.com/>

ADAM PRYOR, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Server

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Pryor is a first-time candidate for State Assembly. Per his campaign website, Pryor has “volunteered and interned on political campaigns, analyzed public policies for chambers of commerce, advocated for small business owners, and connected people with their elected representatives.”

Public Safety Platform: Pryor does not have a public safety platform, instead focusing his issues page on the topics of housing and homelessness, climate change, animal welfare, and other issues.

Website: <https://www.pryor4assembly.com/>

TONY RODRIGUEZ, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Construction Regional Manager

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Rodriguez is an Army Veteran and first-time candidate for State Assembly.

Public Safety Platform: Rodriguez’s public safety platform includes the following: “Complete defunding the police/first-responders should never be considered. Instead, funding should be allocated for better training and tools. I will always be an advocate for our first responders; I believe security at our borders must be given priority, yet not at the expense of our reputation for Constitutional defense and protection of human rights.”

Website: <https://www.tony4california.us/>

ADAM SUMMER, NO PARTY PREFERENCE

Ballot Designation: Entrepreneur / Nonprofit Director

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Summer is an elected official on the Studio City Neighborhood Council. He is also a small business owner in the fitness industry. Per his website, Summer is also “...Co-Executive Director of Affirmative Athletics... dedicated to achieving positive outcomes for rehabilitating incarcerated young men through a sports, skill building and journal writing comprehensive program.”

Public Safety Platform: Summer has an extensive public safety platform, outlining policies such as creating a “...statewide criminal prosecution mandate that legally overrides county standards.” Summer listed support for police patrols, writing that “The metrics show no increase in crime, because cases are not being prosecuted and police are instructed not to even show up for dispatches. WE as Californians are not even allowed to physically protect our property or others, or we ourselves will be arrested and prosecuted (because the crime is of physical nature).”

Website: <https://www.summer4california.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 45

JAMES RAMOS, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Deputy Attorney General

Law Enforcement Contributions:



- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC
- Ontario Police Officers Association
- Redlands Police Officers Association
- California Statewide Law Enforcement Association

Background: Assemblymember Ramos was first elected to the State Assembly in 2018, becoming the first Native American to serve in the legislature. Prior to joining the Legislature, Ramos served on the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors and on the San Bernardino Community College District Board of Trustees. Ramos is also the former Chairman of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and currently chairs the Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Public Safety.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Ramos does not have a public safety platform on his campaign website, but he lists endorsements from six law enforcement agencies and has received campaign contributions from many of the same agencies as well.

This cycle, he earned an “F” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, only voting in support of 2 of the 6 justice reform bills we prioritized this year.

Website: <https://www.jamesramos.org/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 46

JESSE GABRIEL, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Member of the State Assembly, 46th District

Law Enforcement Contributions:



- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Peace Officers Research Association of CA PAC
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC
- California Statewide Law Enforcement Association Political Action Committee

Background: Assemblymember Gabriel was first elected to the State Assembly in 2018 after working for several years as a private attorney. As an attorney, he prosecuted cases protecting DACA recipients and Holocaust survivors. Assemblymember Gabriel co-chairs the California Legislative Jewish Caucus and is a former Board Member of the LA League of Conservation Voters.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Gabriel is generally supportive of justice reform efforts, but has missed a few key votes, earning him a “C” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard this year. While he voted in support of 4 of the 6 bills we prioritized last year (SB 81, SB 749, AB 1306, and AB 600), he had also voted to support AB 93 (to end warrantless searches) in a previous Floor vote but was absent for the final Floor vote, which was the vote used in our scorecard.

In previous years in the Assembly, he has voted to support justice reform legislation such as ACA 6, which ultimately became Prop 17 and restored voting rights to people on parole. However, Assemblymember Gabriel has also accepted campaign contributions from law enforcement and is endorsed by the CA Correctional Peace Officers Association.

Website: <https://jessegabriel.com/>

TRACEY SCHROEDER, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Teacher

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Schroeder is a kindergarten and elementary school teacher based in the San Fernando Valley.

Public Safety Platform: Schroeder’s public safety platform outlines the following: “Violent crime and property crime are on the rise. Sacramento’s soft on crime policies have made us less safe. I strongly oppose ‘Defunding the Police.’ As your Assemblywoman I will work to enact tougher penalties for repeat offenders, to STOP enablement of DA’s disregarding acts of malfeasance, STOP the refusals to prosecute, and STOP letting dangerous felons out of jail early. Let’s START putting the victims first, not coddle the criminals.”

Website: <https://traceyschroeder.com>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 47

GREG WALLIS, REPUBLICAN

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Member of the State Assembly

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)

Background: Assemblymember Wallis was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022. He was Chief District Advisor to former Assemblymember Chad Mayes before running for office.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Wallis has opposed all criminal justice reform bills this cycle, earning an “F” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard.

His public safety platform outlines the following: “Sacramento has let tens of thousands of dangerous felons out of prison early, lowered penalties for drugs and violent crime, and all the while ‘progressives’ try to Defund the Police. I don’t believe allowing crime is progressive or liberal. My solutions for restoring safety in our community: 1) Fight the Defund the Police crowd tooth and nail. Nothing is more dangerous than reducing the number of police on our streets while violent crime increases. 2) Stop letting violent felons out of prison early. If we need more space in prison to keep violent felons off the streets then we need to open more prisons, or stop closing the ones we are in the process of shutting down. 3) Put the victim first again: restore tough penalties for violent and property crimes so that criminals know there is a price to be paid if they want to harm you or steal your property.”

Website: <https://www.gregwallis.org/>



CHRISTY HOLSTEGE, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: City Councilmember / Businesswoman

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Holstege has served as both City Councilmember and Mayor for Palm Springs, and is a civil rights attorney by training. She has represented tenants facing eviction, low-income workers, and sexual assault survivors. Holstege has also served on the board of directors for Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest and Eastern Coachella Valley (EVCV) for Change. She also served on the Palm Springs Human Rights Commission and the City of Palm Springs Homelessness Task Force.

Public Safety Platform: Holstege does not have a written public safety platform, but expresses generally progressive views on her campaign website in terms of affordable housing, a community-based response to homelessness, and protecting reproductive freedoms.

Website: <https://www.christyholstege.com/>

JAMIE SWAIN, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Truck Driver

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Swain is a businesswoman and second-time candidate for AD 47, having run unsuccessfully for the same seat in 2022.

Public Safety Platform: Swain does not have a campaign website or policy platform, but in her 2022 race for the same seat, wrote that she supports “creating tough laws for repeat offenders.”

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 48

BLANCA RUBIO, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: State Assemblywoman / Teacher

Law Enforcement Contributions:



- National Peace Officers & Firefighters Benefit Association
- Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers' Association
- State Coalition of Probation Organizations PAC
- California Statewide Law Enforcement Association PAC (CSLEA)

Background: Assemblymember Rubio was first elected to the State Assembly in 2016, and is an elementary school teacher by training. Prior to running for an Assembly seat, she served two terms on the Baldwin Park Unified School District Board of Education.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Rubio has a mixed record on criminal justice reform, voting yes on ACA 6 in 2020 and ACA 4 in 2023 to restore voting rights to people on parole and people in prison, respectively, but only voting yes on 2 of the six justice reform bills that we prioritized this year, earning her an “F” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard.

She does not have a public safety platform on her campaign website, but does have a section highlighting previous criminal justice bills she authored several years ago.

Website: <https://www.blancarubio.com/>

BRIAN CALDERÓN TABATABAI, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Teacher / Mayor / Coach

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Tabatabai is Mayor Pro Tempore of West Covina and was elected to the City Council in 2020. He is an educator by training with over 20 years of teaching experience in elementary and high school, including as a high school football coach. He is also one of the primary authors of El Monte Union High School District's Ethnic Studies program.

Public Safety Platform: Tabatabai does not have a written public safety platform, but his website highlights the following on criminal justice issues: “Following up on his promise to be a voice for justice reform, he currently serves as a representative for Los Angeles County on the League of California Cities Public Safety Commission, where he continues to push for alternatives to incarceration.”

In August 2023, IJ Action held a virtual candidate forum that Tabatabai attended and spoke at. He reaffirmed his support for expanding non-carceral and non-police responses to public safety issues, and the need for robust investment in youth education to prevent crime and increase community safety.

Website: <https://www.briantabatabai.com/>

DAN T. TRAN, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Real Estate Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Tran is vice president of Fidelity National Title.

Public Safety Platform: Tran does not have a campaign website or policy platform, but is endorsed by far-right organizations like Reform California, which advocate for tough-on-crime policies.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 49

MIKE FONG, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)

Background: Assemblymember Mike Fong was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022 after working in various positions in local government within Los Angeles County. Fong served as a member of the Los Angeles Community College District Board of Trustees, and as a councilaide and East Area Director for former LA Mayor Villaraigosa.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Mike Fong does not have a written public safety platform on his campaign website, however, he has consistently voted in favor of progressive policies. He earned an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on all 6 of the bills we prioritized this year.

Website: <https://mikefong.org/>



LONG “DAVID” LIU, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Father / Attorney / Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Liu is a businessman and first-time candidate for State Assembly.

Public Safety Platform: Liu does not have a campaign website or written platform, but in interviews has stated his campaign slogan as “Make California Safe Again” and highlights “safe communities no longer robbed” as a priority.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 50

ROBERT GARCIA, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Etiwanda School District Member, Governing Board

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Garcia is an elected official on the Etiwanda School District Board of Trustees, first elected in 2016. An educator for over twenty years, Garcia has worked as both a math and science teacher and as a school administrator.

Public Safety Platform: Regarding public safety, Garcia’s website only makes a vague reference to the issue, stating that he is “prepared to work across the region to develop key investments and policy that improves our communities quality of life.” He is endorsed by outgoing Assemblymember Eloise Reyes Gomez, the CA Democratic Party, and the CA Progressive Legislative Caucus.

Website: <https://robertgarcia4ca.com/>

DEJONAE MARIE SHAW, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Licensed Vocational Nurse

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Shaw is a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) and union organizer. During the pandemic, she advocated for federal legislation to protect healthcare and social service workers from workplace violence. She founded Greater Empire Pageants to help empower youth in the Inland Empire, and describes herself as “actively involved” in the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Community Information Exchange Program.

Public Safety Platform: Shaw’s public safety platform states the following: “I’ve worked with first responders and other health care workers to keep our communities safe. I’ve also served on the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Next Gen Committee to advocate for more community policing...As your State Assemblymember, I will continue supporting policies that foster healthy relationships between our communities and law enforcement. I also support efforts to ensure that our law enforcement agencies have what they need to do their jobs safely, equitably, and effectively.”

She is endorsed by the CA Young Democrats, Working Families Party, and progressive legislators such as Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas and Assemblymembers Mia Bonta and Tina Mickinnor.

Website: <https://www.shawforassembly.com/>

ADAM PEREZ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Local School Boardmember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Upland Police Officers Association
- San Bernardino Police Officers Association
- Riverside Sheriffs' Association
- San Bernardino County Sheriff's

Background: Perez is a veteran and a police detective with the Desert Hot Springs Police Department and current elected official on the Fontana Unified School District Board.

Public Safety Platform: Perez does not have a policy page on his website, however, as a current police detective, he is the only candidate in the race who has accepted campaign contributions from law enforcement. He is also endorsed by Assemblymembers James Ramos and Blanca Rubio, both of whom earned an "F" on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard for their voting record on justice reform.

Website: <https://adamperez.org/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 51

RICK CHAVEZ ZBUR, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Peace Officers Research Association for California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- LA County Probation Officers Union - AFSCME, Local No. 685 PAC



Background: Assemblymember Zbur was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022. Prior to joining the Assembly, he was Executive Director of Equality California for eight years, leading the state's largest LGBTQ rights organization. As an openly gay Assemblymember and LGBTQ advocate, Zbur has been on the frontlines of combating HIV/AIDS and fighting for healthcare services and to end the stigma around HIV/AIDS.

Public Safety Platform: As a member of the Public Safety Committee, Assemblymember Zbur made several comments in opposition to various bills that sought to increase criminal penalties for drug use and sale, citing the failures of the War on Drugs. However, as the Chair of the newly-formed Select Committee on Retail Theft, Assemblymember Zbur has indicated that he is open to rolling back parts of Prop 47 and increasing criminal penalties.

Furthermore, Assemblymember Zbur was one of the legislators on the Public Safety Committee who changed his vote after pressure from Republicans and voted to pass SB 14, a bill to expand the Three Strikes Law for the first time in more than two decades. Nonetheless, Assemblymember Zbur earned an "A" on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting in support of all 6 of the bills we prioritized this year.

Website: <https://www.rickchavezzb主.com/>

SHIVA BAGHERI, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Small Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Bagheri is a dog-walker and dance instructor, and the founder of the Beverly Hills Freedom Rally, a far-right movement founded originally to oppose COVID-19 public health measures. Bagheri also ran unsuccessfully for Beverly Hills City Council in 2022.

Public Safety Platform: Bagheri does not have a campaign website or written platform, but as a conservative activist has frequently touted her strong support for law enforcement. Her city council run in 2022 included proposals to expand the Beverly Hills Police Department.

Website: None

STEPHAN HOHIL, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Entrepreneur

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Hohil is a travel agent and Republican County Central Committee member

Public Safety Platform: Hohil does not have a campaign website or written platform, and little information about him is publicly available.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 52

JESSICA CALOZA, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Women’s Rights Advisor

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Caloza is former Deputy Chief of Staff for CA Attorney General Rob Bonta, and former Commissioner for Los Angeles Public Works. She also worked as an aide to former President Obama on education policy, and is Southern California Chair of the Asian American & Pacific Islander Caucus in the California Democratic Party and board member of the Pilipino American Los Angeles Democrats.

Public Safety Platform: Caloza does not have a written public safety platform, but on the issue of ending gun violence, her campaign website states: “In the Assembly, she will continue to take on the NRA and the gun lobby by fighting for common-sense gun restrictions and work to ensure guns stay out of the hands of dangerous criminals, including those accused of domestic violence and sexual assault.”

In separate interviews has indicated that while supporting repeal of some enhancements, she believes they should be maintained for “heinous crimes” without going into further detail. She does support full repeal of the Three Strikes Law and capping the number of enhancements that an individual can be convicted of.

Caloza is endorsed by progressive elected leaders such as Attorney General Rob Bonta, Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas, and Assemblymembers Isaac Bryan, Mia Bonta, and Alex Lee.

Website: <https://www.jessicacaloza.com/>

FRANKY CARRILLO, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Justice Advocate / Commissioner

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Franky Carrillo is an activist and member of the Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission. He is formerly incarcerated, having served 20 years under a wrongful conviction. Carrillo is also Chief Policy Advisor for the Los Angeles Innocence Project at Cal State L.A.

Public Safety Platform: Carrillo has highlighted his lived experiences with prison in his platform, stating: “There is no candidate with more lived experience navigating the justice system.” His commitment is to “mend broken systems through effective and transformative policies,” namely by shifting mental health, substance use, and traffic violations away from armed police officers; eliminating ineffective sentencing enhancements and mandatory minimums; lead reforms focused on women and children in the incarceration system; increasing second-look sentencing; and increasing job opportunities for formerly incarcerated people.

Website: <https://frankycarrillo.com/>

DAVID GIRÓN, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Environmental Policy Advisor

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Girón is a longtime policy analyst in local government, focused on environmental policy. He was the lead staffer on Los Angeles City Council’s Energy and Environment Committee and led the efforts to create the LA100 plan to have the city become carbon-free by 2035. He was a staffer for former LA City Councilmember Mitch O’Farrell.

Public Safety Platform: Girón’s public safety platform states the following: “Everyone should be accountable for their actions and no person, elected, appointed, sworn or civilian, is above the law. We live in a society that needs public safety officers to enforce the laws that exist, but there should be zero tolerance for abuse of power or harm to others. David strongly believes that there are models for public safety that will help police enforce laws without requiring them to respond to mental health related incidents. Under new models of public safety, in-person and in-vehicle cameras should be a benchmark statewide, there should be opportunity for unarmed response for mental health issues and we must increase training for officers to ensure they are highly trained to de-escalate situations.” Giron has also indicated support for repealing ineffective mandatory minimums and expanding judicial discretion. On Three Strikes, he supports expanding review of cases under Proposition 36 and removing youth prosecutions from the law, and would “consider” proposals that eliminate the automatic doubling of a second strike while maintaining it for “repeat offenders.”

Website: <https://www.davidgiron2024.com/>

GENESIS CORONADO, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Public Education Advocate

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Coronado has worked as a legislative analyst and political organizer for many years. She has held policy positions with former LA Supervisor Gloria Molina, former Congressional Representative Roybal-Allard, and former CA Attorney General Xavier Becerra (now serving as President Biden’s Secretary of Health and Human Services). She is currently Outreach Director for the Los Angeles Unified Redistricting Commission. Coronado is also an elected delegate within the California Democratic Party.

Public Safety Platform: Coronado does not have a written public safety platform. During IJ Action’s August 2023 Candidate Forum, Coronado spoke about how she grew up witnessing “over policing and underfunded communities” and voiced support for ending police associations. She discussed the need to revisit the Peace Officer Bill of Rights and address the fact that the public does not have control over disciplinary actions and misconduct.

Website: <https://www.genesisforassembly.com/>

ARI RUIZ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Housing Advocate / Commissioner

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Ruiz is a longtime legislative staffer having worked for Congresswoman Maxine Waters, Assemblymember Blanca Rubio, and as Deputy District Director for former Assemblymember Autumn Burke. He was appointed by former Mayor Villaraigosa to the LA City Commission for Children Youth & Their Families where he supported the expansion of programs like KIDS WATCH LA which partners with the LAPD.

Public Safety Platform: Ruiz does not have a detailed public safety platform, but his campaign website included the following: “Keep our neighborhoods safe and protect our communities from gun violence by supporting background checks and supporting a federally mandated assault weapons ban.

Website: <https://ariruiz.com/>

ANTHONY LIBERTINO FANARA, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Restaurant Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Fanara is a U.S. Army Veteran who ran unsuccessfully for Governor in 2022 and during the 2021 gubernatorial recall election.

Public Safety Platform: Fanara does not have a campaign website or written platform, and little information is publicly available regarding his public safety positions.

Website: None

CARLOS J. LEÓN, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Deputy Probation Officer

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- L.A. County Probation Officers Union AFSCME, #685 PAC

Background: León is an Army Veteran and currently a deputy probation officer in the LA County Probation Department, working specifically with youth. According to his bio, he is currently a probation officer at the Dorothy Kirby Center, “...a coed juvenile mental health facility; and Camp Scott, a Secure Youth Treatment Facility. Prior to my current role, I was a Detention Services Officer at Central Juvenile Hall.” León is impacted by incarceration, as his father was in prison until he was 16 years old.

Public Safety Platform: León lists public safety on his campaign website, but does not have a written platform. His background touts his many years of work as a probation officer, and his work on issues of substance addiction, mental health, and domestic violence. He is the only candidate in this race to have accepted contributions from law enforcement.

Website: <https://carlosjleon.com/>

SOFIA G. QUINONES, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Community Advocate

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Quinones is an environmental and Chicano activist, and co founded the Chicano Latino Task Force at Cal State Dominguez Hills. Per her bio, she was also “...Co-Chair of the Senate Select Community Committee on the California Correctional System where the focus was to improve the conditions within the secured housing units, they were opposed to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of prisoners and staff.”

Public Safety Platform: Quinones does not have a written public safety platform, but her bio mentions how “...Sofía’s activism extends to fighting against detrimental projects like the East Los Angeles prison and Sybil Brand Women’s Jail.”

Website: <https://sofiaforassembly.com/>

SHANNEL PITTMAN, GREEN

Ballot Designation: National Diversity Cochair

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Pittman is Co Chair of the National Diversity Committee for Green Party of the United States.

Public Safety Platform: Pittman does not have a functioning campaign website, but her social media page includes posts opposing LAPD mass surveillance and expansion of CARE Courts to address homelessness.

Website: None

STEPHEN SILLS, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Nonprofit Research Assistant

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Per his ballot designation, Sills is a research assistant. He is a first-time candidate for State Assembly.

Public Safety Platform: Sills does not have a campaign website or policy platform, and little information about him is publicly available.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 53

JAVIER HERNANDEZ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Nonprofit Executive Director

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Hernandez is the Executive Director of the Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice (ICIJ), described as “...a coalition of over 35 diverse organizations that collectively advocate for immigrant justice in the Inland Empire.” He is formerly undocumented and had a parent deported when he was a child.

Public Safety Platform: Hernandez’s public safety platform prioritizes “investing in resources that tackle the root causes of violence and crime” and investing in youth. Specifically, he makes a commitment to “Invest in youth programs that focus on mentorship and gang prevention, and connect at-risk youth to educational and professional opportunities as well as mental health services.” and “Prevent misconduct by investing in training opportunities that focus on anti-bias and de-escalation techniques.”

Hernandez is endorsed by the Working Families Party, the CA Legislative Progressive Caucus, and progressive elected officials such as Assemblymembers Corey Jackson, Alex Lee, and Tina McKinnor.

Website: <https://www.hernandez4assembly.com/>

MICHELLE RODRIGUEZ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Public Safety Commissioner

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Pomona Police Officers Association PAC

Background: Rodriguez is married to outgoing incumbent Democrat Freddie Rodriguez. She is a Commissioner on the Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST), which sets training and professionalism standards for California law enforcement agencies. Her son is a Deputy Sheriff and she is a Neighborhood Watch organizer.

Public Safety Platform: Rodriguez’s public safety platform outlines the following: “In the Assembly, Michelle will: 1) Ensure the Inland Empire receives the necessary resources to fully staff our local fire firefighters, law enforcement, and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel; 2) Work with the community to ensure that the services and resources that are provided through the different state agencies are culturally sensitive and appropriately distributed; 3) Implement incentivized neighborhood watch programs to ensure the constituents are encouraged to participate in reporting suspicious activity and crimes; 4) Work with local police departments to fund and implement community policing programs that place our police officers within the community to serve as positive and visible symbols of public safety.”

She is endorsed by several law enforcement agencies, such as the California Correctional Peace Officers Association, California Police Chiefs Association, Los Angeles Police Protective League, and many more.

Website: <https://michelleforassembly.com/>

CARLOS GOYTIA, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Division One Director, Three Valleys Municipal Water District

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Goytia is a board member on the Three Valleys Municipal Water District and also serves on the San Gabriel Valley Water District and San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments. He is also Senior Groundsman for the Pomona Unified School District.

Public Safety Platform: Goytia does not have a written public safety platform, and instead focuses on water sustainability, housing affordability, and access to healthcare.

Website: <http://www.electcarlosgoytia.com/>

ROBERT TORRES, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: City Councilmember/Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Torres is Public Affairs Manager for the City of Fontana, and the son of longtime Congresswoman Norma J. Torres. He is also an elected official on the Pomona City Council and also served as its Vice Mayor. He was also a District Director in AD 53 and an elected delegate within the California Democratic Party.

Public Safety Platform: Torres does not have a written public safety platform, but while serving on Pomona City Council has publicly stated that he does not support defunding the police, and instead believes there should be more investment in bodycams and police commissions.

Website: <https://www.roberttorres.org/>

NICK WILSON, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Law Enforcement Educator

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- San Bernardino County Sheriff's County Employees' Benefit

Background: Wilson is a retired police officer and founder of the Resiliency Project, which focuses on "first responder mental health and suicide prevention." Wilson is also an instructor for the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.

Public Safety Platform: Wilson's public safety platform outlines the following: "It's time to end the war on cops in Sacramento. Our law enforcement officers have been handcuffed by our politicians through restrictive legislation and reduction in funding. This has greatly weakened our law enforcement resulting in increased crime rates in our own district. I will fight to restore public safety as it is one of the foundations of our standard of living."

Website: <https://nickwilsonca.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 54

JOHN YI, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Public Transit Advocate

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Yi is a longtime public health advocate and policy analyst. He is the Executive Director of Los Angeles Walks, a nonprofit focused on pedestrian safety and transit justice.

Public Safety Platform: Yi does not have a written public safety platform, but when he attended IJ Action's August 2023 Candidate Forum, he shared that his organization, LA Walks, cosponsored legislation to decriminalize jaywalking. He also shared that he publicly opposed LA Metro's renewal of its police contract, citing the high cost and lack of ensuing public safety. Yi remarked that criminal justice reform "is not just about fighting the carceral system itself, but the wider ecosystem that feeds into it" as he spoke about ending the school to prison pipeline and promoting civic engagement by turning county jails into polling stations.

In separate interviews, he also stated that he supports important abolitionist reforms, such as a clean repeal of California's Three Strikes Law, ending ineffective sentencing enhancements, shifting resources away from police and into mental health care, and closing prisons.

Website: <https://www.johnforassembly.com/>

MARK GONZALEZ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Assembly District Director

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Gonzalez is District Director for outgoing Democratic incumbent Miguel Santiago, and has worked in similar roles for former Assembly Speaker John A. Perez and then-Assemblymember Anthony Portantino. He also chairs the Los Angeles County Democratic Party.

Public Safety Platform: On public safety, Gonzalez states on his campaign website that he is "committed to keeping our neighborhoods safe, getting guns off our streets and out of the hands of criminals, and investing in programs to prevent violent crime and smash-and-grabs."

He has also made public statements that he does not support universal repeal of sentence enhancements, and instead wants carveouts for certain crimes such as murder, sexual violence, or if a firearm was involved. He has also stated that he supports reform, not repeal, of California's Three Strikes Law.

Website: <https://www.markgonzalezforassembly.com>

ELAINE ALANIZ, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Medical Healthcare Recruiter

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Alaniz is elected to the Westlake North Neighborhood Council, and is a firefighter with the Los Angeles Fire Department. She was also on the Crisis Response Team with the Los Angeles Police Department.

Public Safety Platform: Alaniz’s platform includes statements about “rising violent crime” and outlines support to “...fully fund our Law Enforcement Heroes and help protect qualified immunity for eligible Law Enforcement.”

Website: <https://elainereadytoserveassembly54.vote/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 55

ISAAC BRYAN, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Assembly Member

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Assemblymember Bryan was first elected to the State Assembly in 2021 following a special election. A justice reform advocate by training, Bryan founded the UCLA Black Policy Project, a multi-issue policy lab addressing racial inequities. He was also a coalition leader for Measure J, a local ballot measure in Los Angeles which passed in 2020 to require the county to reallocate \$1 billion from the sheriff's department and reinvest it into housing, education, job training, and other community programs.

Public Safety Platform: Since his election, Assemblymember Bryan has consistently championed abolitionist policies such as AB 93 to ban consent searches, AB 61 to address pretrial detention, and AB 544 to expand voting at county jails. This session, Assemblymember Bryan was the principal author of ACA 4, an IJ Action cosponsored piece of legislation that would place an initiative on the November 2024 ballot to restore voting rights to people in prison.

In addition to his strong leadership on authoring good justice reform legislation, he has also been a vocal opponent of harmful legislation. Notably, he did not vote to support SB 14 in the Public Safety Committee, and stated on the record that this bill is an expansion of the Three Strikes Law and unnecessary since human trafficking is already severely punishable by law. He also consistently voted to reject any legislation aimed at increasing criminalization for drug use or rolling back Prop 47.

Furthermore, Assemblymember Bryan earned an "A" on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on all 6 of the bills we prioritized this year.

Website: <https://isaacbryanforca.com/>



KEITH G. CASCIO, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Software Developer

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Cascio is Chair of the Republican Committee for AD 55, and is a software developer in Venice Beach. He is also Treasurer of the Los Angeles County Republican Party.

Public Safety Platform: Cascio's public safety platform outlines the following: "Reducing crime requires improving lives and creating economic opportunities in low-income communities. It also requires support for law enforcement and the application of all laws equally."

Website: <https://keithfor55.org/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 56

LISA CALDERON, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Assembly Member / Mom

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- National Peace Officers & Fire Fighters Benefit Association
- Peace Officers Research Association of CA (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)

Background: Assemblymember Lisa Calderon was first elected to the State Assembly in 2020, succeeding her stepson, Ian Calderon. Prior to running for the Assembly she was a Government and Policy Advisor at Edison International.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Lisa Calderon does not have a public safety platform on her campaign website, nor does she list her endorsers. She has supported certain justice reform bills in the Legislature while not voting on others. She earned a “C” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard this year, voting in support of 4 of the bills we prioritized, but skipping votes on AB 1310, to retroactively give judges more discretion to lessen or remove gun enhancements, and AB 93, to end warrantless searches by police.

Website: <https://lisacalderon4assembly.com/>



JESSICA MARTINEZ, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Whittier City Councilmember

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Martinez was first elected to the Whittier City Council in 2020, and a former public school teacher in Whittier.

Public Safety Platform: Martinez does not have a campaign website for her 2024 race, but when she ran for the same Assembly seat in 2022, stated that her public safety platform included “Criminal justice reform, [stopping] mandatory vaccinations of first responders, funding police agencies.”

Website: None

NATASHA SERRANO, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Human Resources Administrator

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Serrano is a human resources administrator. Little other information about her background is publicly available.

Public Safety Platform: Serrano’s public safety platform outlines the following: “Supporting Law Enforcement; Creating Tough on Crime Legislation; Repealing Soft on Crime Legislation; Create an effective approach to resolve homelessness.”

Website: <https://www.natasha4assembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 57

SADE ELHAWARY, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Educator / Community Organizer

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Elhawary is a community organizer and advocate. She was formerly with Community Coalition, a South Central based non-profit focused on community empowerment and civic engagement.

Public Safety Platform: On her campaign website, Elhawary identifies “Safe Neighborhoods” as a priority, stating: “To make our communities safer and keep people from entering systems of punishment, we need to heavily fund prevention-based social programs such as education, mental health, jobs, housing, and healthcare; we need to devise innovative ways to get guns out of our neighborhoods; and we must put an end to over-policing as our public safety response. Sade supports community-led alternatives to policing, a community safety model that prioritizes balanced and restorative justice, discipline reform, workforce innovation, cultural wellness, and civic engagement.” She makes a commitment to support decriminalizing poverty, investing in mental health and substance use disorder treatment, and “Further[ing] the policy goals of Care First, Jails Last.”

When she joined IJ Action’s August 2023 candidate forum, she shared that as a foster parent, she is passionate about addressing the school-to-prison pipeline and investing in community resources and services. She also spoke about the need for services for people reentering society from prison, and the family members of people experiencing incarceration. In a separate interview, Elhawary also noted support for repealing mandatory minimums and the state Three Strikes Law, and markedly increasing investments into youth and re-entry services. She has the endorsement of dozens of progressive legislators and community organizations.

Website: <https://sadeforassembly.com/>

DULCE VASQUEZ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Neighborhood Councilmember

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Vasquez is an educator and political organizer, and spent many years as Managing Director of Zocalo Public Square, a non-profit that produces syndicated journalism. She is also a former appointee of retired Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti to the El Pueblo/Olvera Street Board of Commissioners. She also served on her Neighborhood Council.

Public Safety Platform: Vasquez does not specifically address public safety on her campaign website, but does advocate for addressing the homelessness crisis by promising to “advocate for more permanent supportive housing for the homeless with services like mental health, addiction treatment and job training so we can get the homeless permanently off the streets and back on their feet.”

Vasquez participated in IJ Action’s August 2023 candidate forum. She spoke about her efforts fighting for economic and racial justice, and highlighted how her district residents are heavily impacted by incarceration and that it is also home to the notorious LAPD Newton Station. In a separate interview, Vasquez noted support for overhauling - but not repealing - the

Continued on next page

Three Strikes Law, including by expanding retroactive resentencing and second-look resentencing. She indicated support for repealing many mandatory minimum sentences, however with carve outs for hate crimes.

Website: <https://www.dulcevasquez.com/>

GREG AKILI, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Educator / Nonprofit Director

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Akili is a justice advocate and lecturer within the UCLA Labor Studies Program, and former Director of the Fannie Lou Hamer Institute. He is a leader within Black Lives Matter Los Angeles, and a former Senior Political Organizer for SEIU International. Akili is also a former Special Assistant to retired California Assembly Speakers Antonio R. Villaraigosa, Herb Wesson, and former Lt. Gov. Mervyn Dymally.

Public Safety Platform: Akili emphasizes restorative justice on his campaign website, stating:

“California’s criminal justice system has been filled with inequities, misappropriation, and incidents of violence against our community. To reduce the impact of this flawed system on our homes and our public budgets, we need to examine, fund and implement more productive ideas of public safety. We don’t feel safe and putting more tax dollars into this system of oppression is not the answer. Starting with our schools, our communities need non-armed responses when there is a nonviolent crisis.”

As a BLMLA organizer, he has led movements to end police associations, remove police from traffic stops and homelessness, and defend the families of people killed by police. At IJ Action’s August 2023 candidate forum, Akili spoke about how, as a formerly incarcerated person, he uniquely understands the needs for restorative justice and reentry programs and would champion legislation to expand investments in those areas. In separate interviews, Akili also fully supported repealing mandatory minimum sentences and the Three Strikes Law, and significantly increasing investments into youth programming and re-entry services. He is endorsed by Dolores Huerta and Cornel West.

Website: <https://akili4thepeople.com/>

EFREN MARTINEZ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Education Commissioner / Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC)
- Los Angeles Police Protective League

Background: Martinez is a Marine Corps Veteran who served in Iraq, and is the former Executive Director for the Florence-Firestone/Walnut Park Chamber of Commerce. Martinez also served on the Board of the L.A. County Sheriff’s Century Station Foundation. Martinez ran unsuccessfully for this seat in 2020, challenging then-incumbent Assemblymember Reggie Jones-Sawyer with strong backing from police associations.

Public Safety Platform: Although his campaign website calls for progressive justice reform, Martinez is a strongly pro-law enforcement candidate. In 2020, he challenged outgoing Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer largely because, as Chair of the Public Safety Committee, Jones-Sawyer was pushing

legislation that sought to end mass incarceration.

He has been endorsed by several law enforcement agencies, such as the Peace Officer Research Association, Los Angeles Police Protective League Association, Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers Association, Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs, Huntington Park Police Officers Association, Los Angeles School Police Association, and the Association of Probation Supervisors.

Website: <https://www.efrenmartinez.com/>

TARA PERRY, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Reparations Advocate

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Perry is a community activist focused on advocating for reparations for Black Americans who are descendants of slavery. She ran unsuccessfully as a write-in candidate for Los Angeles City Council District 8 in 2020.

Public Safety Platform: Perry does not have a campaign website or written platform, but her social media posts highlight support for reparations for the Black community, and criticism of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 58

CLARISSA CERVANTES, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Councilmember / Businesswoman / Mother

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Cervantes is an openly queer elected member of the Riverside City Council and former Chair of the Riverside Transit Agency's Greater Riverside Transportation NOW Chapter. She is the sister of current Assemblymember, Sabrina Cervantes, who is vacating this seat to run for Senate.

Public Safety Platform: On her campaign website, Cervantes promises to "Keep Riverside Safe", stating: "Crime is rising statewide, homelessness is a greater challenge than ever, and wildfires are making firefighters' jobs more dangerous. Clarissa will work with our local law enforcement to increase training to meet these new challenges, better deploy resources, and equip first responders with the tools they need to ensure fast emergency response times and keep Riverside safe."

In July 2023, Cervantes made headlines when she received a DUI, being sentenced to 57 days in a work release program and having to install an in-car breathalyzer since this was her second DUI conviction.

Website: <https://clarissacervantes.com/>

RONALDO FIERRO, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Restaurant Owner / Councilmember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Riverside Police Officers Association PAC
- San Bernardino County Sheriff's County Employees' Benefit Association
- Riverside Sheriffs' Association Public Education Fund

Background: Fierro is an elected official on the Riverside City Council and local small business owner. He has also served on the Board of Directors for Path of Life, a non-profit focused on addressing homelessness, and CivicWell, a nonprofit dedicated to combating climate change.

Public Safety Platform: Fierro's public safety platform states the following: "As a parent, Ronaldo knows that for our communities to thrive we must keep our families and neighborhoods safe. On the Budget Engagement Commission and on the City Council, Ronaldo has worked to preserve and increase investments in public safety, protect our business corridors, parks, and neighborhoods, and improve 9-1-1 response times and fire protection. In the Assembly, Ronaldo will deliver the resources we need to combat illicit drugs and gang violence and fight to strengthen gun violence prevention so we can raise our families in safe and healthy neighborhoods."

He is endorsed by the Riverside Sheriff's Association and the Riverside Police Officers Association.

Website: <https://www.ronaldofierro.com/>

LETICIA CASTILLO, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Licensed Psychotherapist

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Castillo is a Licensed Psychotherapist by training, and Vice President of the Riverside Republican Assembly.

Public Safety Platform: Castillo does not have a separate issues page, but her background information includes the following statement: "California is at its breaking point. Many of OUR friends, family, and neighbors have already left the state. Our once safe communities are now filled with crime, drug use, and homelessness. Criminals are set free while law abiding citizens pay the price of the failed policies in Sacramento. I want to change that with common sense policies that will strengthen our law enforcement agencies because we all deserve to feel safe in our communities."

Website: <https://www.leticiacastilloforassembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 59

PHILLIP CHEN, REPUBLICAN

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Assemblyman / Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions:



- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC)
- Long Beach Police Officers PAC
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC
- Riverside Sheriff's Associated Public Education Fund
- San Bernardino County Sheriff's County Employees' Benefit Association PAC
- Association of Orange County Deputy Sheriffs PAC

Background: Assemblymember Chen was first elected to the State Assembly in 2016, after serving on the Walnut Valley Unified School Board for five years. He is also a former Los Angeles County Reserve Sheriff's Deputy and appointee of former Governor Pete Wilson to the Governor's Office of Criminal Justice Planning.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Chen has voted against all major criminal justice reform measures we prioritized this year, earning an "F" on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard. He is strongly supported by law enforcement.

Website: <https://www.phillipchen.org/>

DAVE OBRAND, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Deputy County Counsel

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Obrand is a litigator and former member of the Child Protection Trial Unit in Orange County.

Public Safety Platform: Obrand does not have an issues page or policy platform on his website, and information about his positions is not readily available.

Website: <https://obrandforassembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 60

COREY JACKSON, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: State Assembly Member

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Jackson was elected to the State Assembly in 2022 after serving two years on the Riverside County Board of Education. He is also a former student member of the California State University Board of Trustees.w

Public Safety Platform: In his first term in office, Assemblymember Jackson has shown himself to be a leader in justice reform. He was a co-author of ACA 4, an IJ Action cosponsored piece of legislation that would place an initiative on the November 2024 ballot to restore voting rights to people in prison. He also introduced AB 855, which reduces interest charged on restitution payments from 10% to 1%; AB 994, which restricts law enforcement’s ability to post mugshots on social media of people charged with a crime and prevents them from using deadnames of defendants in any posts; and AB 742, to reduce the use of police canines.

Assemblymember Jackson also earned an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting to support all 6 of the bills we prioritized this year.

Website: <https://coreyjackson.nationbuilder.com/>



RON EDWARDS, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Small Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: According to his campaign website, Edwards is a veteran and small business owner

Public Safety Platform: Edwards’ public safety platform states the following: “Law and Order is job one. All citizens must have safety and security. Without Law and Order there is confusion. I will be the Law and Order candidate. In order to have social justice there must first be social order, in other words, Law and Order.”

Website: <https://obrandforassembly.com/>

HECTOR DIAZ NAVA, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Business Owner / Parent

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Nava is a small business owner who ran unsuccessfully for the same assembly seat in 2022.

Public Safety Platform: Nava does not have a campaign website, but on his Facebook page wrote that his priorities include “...standing for public safety, safe streets and safe neighborhoods.”

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 61

TINA SIMONE MCKINNOR, DEMOCRAT



Incumbent

Ballot Designation: State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Assemblymember McKinnor was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022 after a career as a political organizer and legislative staffer. She was Operations Director for the California Democratic Party and Campaign Director for PL+US, an organization advocating for paid family leave. McKinnor also worked as Civic Engagement Director for L.A. Voice

Public Safety Platform: In her first term, Assemblymember McKinnor proved to be a strong supporter of justice reform. She was a co-author of ACA 4, an IJ Action cosponsored piece of legislation that would place an initiative on the November 2024 ballot to restore voting rights to people in prison.

She also authored AB 1310, which would make SB 620 (2017) retroactive and allow people who are currently serving prison sentences with gun enhancements to petition the court for resentencing; and AB 1523, which would allow people eligible for youth offender parole to have youth offender parole hearings after serving only 15 years in prison instead of 20 or 25 years.

She upholds these positions on her campaign website, stating: "I support reforms for people who are currently incarcerated and services for the formerly incarcerated who are reentering society. I also support efforts to reduce the number of people who are incarcerated. I will work to provide funding for mental health treatment, employment services and access to education. I advocated for SB 2 because I believe in police accountability."

Website: <https://www.tina4ca.com/>

ALFONSO HERNANDEZ, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Restaurateur / Coach / Councilmember

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Hernandez is a city planner for the City of Downey.

Public Safety Platform: Hernandez does not have a campaign website or platform, and little information about him is publicly available.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 62

JOSE LUIS SOLACHE, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Mayor / Nonprofit Director

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Long Beach Police Officers Association

Background: Solache is an elected official on the Lynwood City Council and has also served as Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tem. Prior to that he served three terms on the Lynwood Unified School District's Board of Education.

Public Safety Platform: Solache does not have an issues page on his website. However, when he ran for State Senate in 2019, he provided answers on the record to questions about police abuse and misconduct, and whether he supported SB 1421 to expand public oversight of police abuse. He stated "I think legislation such [as SB 1421] is very important... There's a lot of criminal justice issues that we have in our local communities, especially in SD 33. One of the reasons why I support, for example, cannabis in our communities is because there's a lot of criminal justice issues within our community and [affecting] our young folks. So legislation like that, I think it's important to have and [to] discuss how we protect our local communities."

He is endorsed by dozens of elected officials, including outgoing Assemblymember Anthony Rendon, as well as many community organizations.

Website: <https://solacheforassembly.com/#home>

MARIA ESTRADA, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Accountant

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Estrada is a community activist and perennial candidate for State Assembly, having ran for the same seat in every election since 2018

Public Safety Platform: Estrada does not have a campaign website or public safety platform. On her campaign Facebook page, she highlights rent control, single-payer healthcare, and environmental issues as her top priorities.

Website: None

PAUL JONES, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Retired Combat Marine

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Jones is a retired Marine and former K-5th Grade computer teacher.

Public Safety Platform: While Jones does not have a written public safety platform, his website discusses the "rise in crime in California over the past 12 years."

Website: <https://pauljonesforstateassembly2024.com>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 63

BILL ESSAYLI, REPUBLICAN

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Assemblyman

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- CA Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Peace Officers Research Assn of CA (PORAC PAC)

Background: Assemblymember Essayli was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022 after an unsuccessful run in 2018. He is a former White House Counsel intern under President Bush, and also worked as a prosecutor for the Riverside County District Attorney. Assemblymember Essayli is a former Assistant United States Attorney for the Central District of California.

Public Safety Platform: This session, Assemblymember Essayli was a vocal opponent of justice reform measures, introducing several harmful bills. He introduced AB 328, which failed but would have reversed SB 620 (2017) and removed a judge's ability to use their discretion in applying gun enhancements, mandating 20-year and 25-to-life gun enhancements for certain crimes. During his testimony for AB 328, he stated that the justice system is "colorblind" and blamed SB 620 for an increase in gun violence during the pandemic. He also introduced AB 1378, which would have increased felony penalties for certain violations of domestic violence orders. The bill was opposed by many justice reform organizations because it increased penalties without addressing root causes of domestic violence.

Assemblymember Essayli also spoke out against ACA 4 during the Assembly Elections Committee, comparing restoring the right to vote for people in prison to restoring their right to own a gun in prison. Furthermore, he earned an "F" on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting no on each of the 6 bills we prioritized this year.

On public safety, his campaign website states: "Let police do their jobs, punish violent crime, keep re-offenders off the streets, and don't go easy on 'low-level' property and theft crimes." He is endorsed by several law enforcement agencies.

Website: <https://essayliforassembly.com/>

CHRIS SHOULTS, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Educator

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Shoults is a labor leader and public school teacher originally from Wyoming. Prior to moving to California, he served on a city planning commission in Wyoming and also ran unsuccessfully for state senate there.

Public Safety Platform: Shoults does not have a written policy platform, and little information is publicly available regarding his public safety positions.

Website: <https://shoults4assembly.com/>



ORLANDO MUNGUIA, NO PARTY PREFERENCE

Ballot Designation: Beekeeper

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/12/24

Background: Munguia is a retired Marine who now runs a beekeeping business.

Public Safety Platform: Munguia does not have a written policy platform and little information is publicly available regarding his public safety perspectives.

Website: <https://orlando4stateassembly.wordpress.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 64

BLANCA PACHECO, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Assemblywoman

Law Enforcement Contributions:



- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC
- Huntington Beach Police Officers Association PAC
- Californians for Safer Neighborhoods Sponsored by Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs
- State Coalition of Probation Organizations PAC
- Los Angeles County Probation Officers Union
- California Statewide Law Enforcement Association PAC

Background: Assemblymember Pacheco was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022 after working for many years as a private attorney and real estate broker. Pacheco also briefly served on the Downey City Council and as Mayor.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Pacheco earned a “D” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard this year, supporting three of the bills we prioritized, but failing to vote on SB 81, which would have reduced discrimination in the parole process, AB 600, which increases opportunities for resentencing, and AB 93, which would have ended warrantless searches by police. She also introduced AB 695, a bill that would create a grant program to “improve” probation detention centers. This bill was opposed by justice reform groups who emphasized the need to abolish youth detention centers instead of creating nicer facilities.

Assemblymember Pacheco has received significant campaign contributions from law enforcement and lists endorsements from several of their agencies, including the Peace Officers Research Association of California and California Statewide Law Enforcement Association.

Website: <https://www.pachecoforassembly.com/>

RAUL ORTIZ JR., REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Pest Control Manager

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/12/24

Background: Ortiz is a preacher based out of La Mirada.

Public Safety Platform: Ortiz does not have a written policy platform, but his About Me page included the following statement: “His concerns are safe neighborhoods, the homeless crisis, high taxes, CRT in school curriculums, open borders and drugs on the streets.”

Website: <https://www.raulortizforassembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 65

MIKE GIPSON, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Member of the State Assembly

Law Enforcement Contributions:



- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)
- Huntington Beach Police Officers Association PAC
- Long Beach Police Officers Association PAC
- Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC

Background: Assemblymember Gipson was first elected to the State Assembly in 2014. Prior to that he served on the Carson City Council and worked as a police officer for many years.

Public Safety Platform: As a former police officer, Assemblymember Gipson is staunchly pro-police, however, he has a strong voting record on most justice reform measures. This session Gipson authored AB 21 to expand police training opportunities, but also earned an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on all 6 of the bills we prioritized. He also voted yes on ACA 6 in 2020, which became Prop 17 and restored voting rights to people on parole.

His website outlines the following statement on public safety issues: “As a former local police officer, I know that ensuring the safety of our families and neighborhoods is of utmost importance. I believe our local law enforcement needs to be supported and I will continue to work to provide the necessary resources to tackle crime, in addition to supporting programs that get kids off the streets and combat crime.”

Website: <https://www.mikegipson.net/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 66

AL MURATSUCHI, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: South Bay Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- Los Angeles Police Protective League
- California Association of Highway Patrolmen
- Californians for Safer Neighborhoods Sponsored by Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)



Background: Assemblymember Muratsuchi was elected to the State Assembly in 2016. Prior to running for state office he was a deputy California Attorney General, trustee for the Torrance Unified School District, and trustee for the Southern California Regional Occupational Center.

Public Safety Platform: As a former prosecutor, Assemblymember Muratsuchi is generally not a supporter of justice reform. This legislative session, he earned an “F” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, only voting yes on 1 of the 6 bills we prioritized. He also introduced two bills to roll back Prop 47 and increase penalties for theft, AB 23 and AB 1798, both of which died in the Assembly.

However, in 2020, Assemblymember Muratsuchi was a vocal supporter of ACA 6, the legislation that became Prop 17 and restored voting rights to people on parole. At the time, he spoke in favor of ACA 6 on the Assembly Floor, acknowledging the positive impact that the measure could have on public safety.

Website: <https://www.al4assembly.com/>

GEORGE BARKS, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/13/24

Background: Barks is a small business owner and former Mayor and Council Member for the City of Hermosa Beach back in the 1970s and 1980s.

Public Safety Platform: Barks’ public safety platform states the following: “I’m Opposed to Diverting from Public Safety Agencies to Invest in Social Programs. Policing is a hard and dangerous job; I am grateful for our men and women in blue. Crime is soaring because our elected leaders will not enforce the law and most criminals are not held accountable for the harm that they do. I don’t want to defund the police; we need to increase training given the ever-wider range of situations we expect our law enforcement officer to handle.” He also stated strong support for the recall of progressive Los Angeles District Attorney George Gascón.

Website: <https://www.voteforgeorgebarks.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 67

SHARON QUIRK-SILVA, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Statewide Law Enforcement Association
- California Association of Highway Patrolmen
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA PAC)

Background: Assemblymember Quirk-Silva was re-elected to the State Assembly in 2016, after serving one term and then losing her seat to a Republican challenger. Prior to joining the Assembly she was Mayor of Fullerton and also worked for many years as an elementary school teacher.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Quirk-Silva has a mixed record on justice reforms issues. Her website touts how she authored AB 1459 (now law) to charge the killing of a police officer as first degree murder, and this cycle, she introduced AB 455 to allow prosecutors to petition a judge to prohibit someone in pretrial diversion from possessing a firearm. She also earned a “C” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting in support of 4 of the six bills we prioritized this year. However, in 2020, she voted in support of ACA 6, which became Prop 17 and restored voting rights to people on parole.

Assemblymember Quirk-Silva has received several campaign contributions from law enforcement and is endorsed by the Association of Orange County Deputy Sheriffs, California Association of Highway Patrolmen, and Peace Officers Research Association of California.

Website: <https://www.sharonquirksilva.com/>



ELIZABETH “BETH” CULVER, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Retired Entrepreneur

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/13/24

Background: Culver is a retired entrepreneur, per her ballot designation.

Public Safety Platform: Culver does not have a campaign website or policy platform, and little information about her is publicly available.

Website: None

JACOB WOO HO LEE, NO PARTY PREFERENCE

Ballot Designation: Pastor

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/13/24

Background: Woo Ho Lee is a Pastor and first-time candidate for State Assembly.

Public Safety Platform: Woo Ho Lee does not have a campaign website or platform, and little information about him is publicly available.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 68

AVELINO VALENCIA, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Statewide Law Enforcement Association PAC
- Anaheim Police Association PAC
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)

Background: Assemblymember Valencia was elected to the State Assembly in 2022 after working for several years as a legislative staffer for former Democratic Assemblymember Tom Daly. He also served one term on the Anaheim City Council.

Public Safety Platform: In his first term, Assemblymember Valencia has not been a strong supporter of justice reform. He earned a “D” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting to support 3 of the bills we prioritized this year, but failing to vote on AB 93, AB 600, and AB 1310, which would have ended warrantless searches by police, created more opportunities for resentencing, and retroactively given judges more discretion to lessen or remove gun enhancements, respectively.

His campaign website does not outline his views on any policy issues, and he has received campaign contributions from several law enforcement agencies.

Website: <https://www.avelinovalencia.com/>



MIKE TARDIFF, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Retired Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/13/24

Background: Tardiff is a retired small business owner but not much information about him is publicly available. He ran for the same Assembly seat in 2022.

Public Safety Platform: While Tardiff does not have a campaign website for his 2024 run, in 2022, he stated: “Our criminal justice system must work to protect our communities. I support law enforcement; we must fund the men and women protecting our neighborhoods and communities.”

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 69

JOSH LOWENTHAL, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Business Owner / Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Long Beach Police Officers Association
- California Statewide Law Enforcement Association

Background: Assemblymember Lowenthal was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022, and is the son of longstanding Democratic Congressman Alan Lowenthal. He is a small business owner in Orange County.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Lowenthal has voted yes on all 6 justice reform bills we prioritized this year, earning an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard.

However, his rhetoric on criminal justice issues is not as progressive, stating on his website: “I’ll fight to get our cities and communities the tools they need to crack down on residential crime, gun violence, and organized retail theft. Together, we can make sure our neighborhoods are safe from crime and violence.” This session he also authored a bill, AB 771, which failed, to impose an additional 3-year sentence for anyone who administers a controlled substance with the intent of committing a crime.

Website: <https://joshlowenthal.com/>



JOSHUA RODRIGUEZ, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Police Officer / Father

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/13/24

Background: Rodriguez is a police officer who ran unsuccessfully for Long Beach Mayor in 2022. available. He ran for the same Assembly seat in 2022.

Public Safety Platform: Rodriguez does not have a campaign website, but in his run for Long Beach Mayor outlined “Public Safety in reducing crime and response times” as a top priority.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 70

TRI TA, REPUBLICAN

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California Assemblyman / Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Association of Highway Patrolmen PAC

Background: Assemblymember Ta was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022. Prior to that he served on the Westminster City Council for many years and also as Mayor.

Public Safety Platform: In his first term in office, Assemblymember Ta has opposed all progressive criminal justice reform bills this cycle, earning an “F” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard.

His campaign website states the following on public safety: “We’ve all seen the news. Smash and grabs happening every day. Violent crimes occurring in our neighborhoods. Police units stretched thin due to Defund the Police budget cuts. We’ve got to end the madness and support our law enforcement officers. First, I support ending policies that allow dangerous criminals to be let out of jail early or to not be prosecuted at all. Second, I support fully funding police departments to boost safety and crime deterrence. Third, I will support law enforcement efforts to enforce our immigration laws and I will oppose Sanctuary Cities.”

Website: <https://www.trita4assembly.com/>



JIMMY D. PHAM, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: City Commissioner / Attorney

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/13/24

Background: Pham is an immigration and personal injury attorney who has “..tirelessly advocated for improved conditions in DHS-ICE Detention Centers.” Pham is Board Secretary for the Orange County Vietnamese American Democratic Club and Vice-Chair of the Traffic Commission for the City of Westminster.

Public Safety Platform: Pham’s public safety platform outlines the following: “Recognizing the concerns about rising crime rates, Jimmy stands firmly in support of law enforcement and first responders. He rejects calls to defund the police and instead advocates for better training, hiring practices, and accountability measures. By ensuring that our guardians are the best our nation has to offer, Jimmy aims to create a safer California, where the rule of law is upheld with unwavering dedication.”

Website: <https://www.jimmyphamca.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 71

KATE SANCHEZ, REPUBLICAN

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Assemblywoman

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Riverside Sheriffs' Association Public Education Fund
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA) PAC

Background: Assemblymember Sanchez was first elected to the State Assembly in 2022. Prior to running for office she was Vice President of American Ground Transportation, an Orange-County based company.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Sanchez has been a fierce opponent of justice reform, introducing multiple pieces of legislation aimed at increasing criminalization. On her campaign website, she states that, "Criminals seem to have more rights than law-abiding citizens" and lists some of the harmful bills she introduced, such as AB 75 which would increase penalties for shoplifting, and AB 257 which "would prohibit a person from sitting, lying, sleeping, or storing, using, maintaining, or placing personal property in any street, sidewalk, or other public property within 500 feet of a school, daycare center, park, or library."

Furthermore, she earned an "F" on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting no on all 6 justice reform bills we prioritized this year.

Website: <https://www.sanchezforassembly.com/>



GARY KEPHART, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Software Engineer

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/13/24

Background: Kephart is a software engineer. He previously ran unsuccessfully for state senate in 2014, and for the 71st Assembly District in 2010.

Public Safety Platform: Kephart does not have a campaign website or policy platform. Little information about his public safety positions is readily available.

Website: None

BABAR KHAN, PEACE AND FREEDOM

Ballot Designation: Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/13/24

Background: Khan is a first-time candidate for state assembly. Little information about his background is readily available.

Public Safety Platform: Khan does not have a campaign website or policy platform. Little information about his public safety positions is readily available.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 72

DIANE DIXON, REPUBLICAN

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Member of the Assembly

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA) PAC

Background: Assemblymember Dixon was first elected in 2022, after serving for eight years on the Newport Beach City Council. She is a business executive and former President of the Association of California Cities-Orange County.

Public Safety Platform: This session, Assemblymember Dixon introduced multiple bills opposed by justice reform organizations, such as AB 758, which would have added another ineffective gun enhancement to the penal code, and AB 1582, which would have made it easier to confine youth in secure youth treatment facilities. Both bills failed to pass. She also authored ACA 12 (Alexandra’s Law), a dangerous piece of legislation which would allow the courts to charge people who deal fentanyl with manslaughter in the case of overdose.

On her campaign website, she touts her support of SB 14, a bill that expanded the Three Strikes Law for the first time in two decades, stating: “When the Assembly Public Safety Committee tried to kill SB 14 to further punish people trafficking children, Diane used her position to spread the word and put pressure on the Democrats to stop this bill. The media coverage and public pressure campaign that followed was enough to pass this bill, which was then signed into law by the Governor.”

She furthermore failed to vote in support of any of the justice reform bills that IJ Action prioritized this year, earning an “F” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard. She is endorsed by the Orange County Sheriff and several law enforcement agencies.

Website: <http://dianedixonforassembly.com/>



DOM JONES, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Businesswoman / TV Personality

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/13/24

Background: Jones owns and operates a gym in Huntington Beach. She is a community activist who previously ran for U.S. Congress and for Huntington Beach City Council.

Public Safety Platform: Jones does not have a public safety platform on her campaign website, but has voiced support for progressive policies and criminal justice reform on her social media pages. She is endorsed by several state Democratic leaders, such as State Controller Mahlia Cohen, Assemblymember and former Speaker Anthony Rendon, and State Treasurer Fiona Ma.

Website: <https://www.domjones.org/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 73

COTTIE PETRIE-NORRIS, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Anaheim Police Association
- California Statewide Law Enforcement Association
- Huntington Beach Police Officers Association

Background: Assemblymember Petrie-Norris was first elected in 2018. She was a businesswoman by trade, and currently is Chair of the Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy and of the Select Committee on Green Innovation.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Petrie-Norris has a poor voting record on justice reform issues in the Assembly. She earned an “F” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, only voting to support 1 of the 6 bills we prioritized this year. She also authored AB 955, a bill that failed but would have created a new crime by making the sale of fentanyl on social media punishable by 3, 6, or 9 years in county jail.

Her campaign website also touts her efforts to secure additional funding for the Disarming Prohibited Persons Task Force and “...improve law enforcement’s system for seizing illegal weapons and keep guns out of the hands of dangerous criminals.” She is endorsed by California Association of Highway Patrolmen California and Correctional Peace Officers Association.

Website: <https://cottie.com/>



HENGAMEH ABRAHAM, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Educator / Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/13/24

Background: Abraham was Chief of Staff to former Republican Assemblymember Steven Choi. She is the founder of the group Greater Costa Mesa Republicans, which recruits millennials to join the Republican Party.

Public Safety Platform: On her campaign website, Abraham states that she is “committed to safeguarding our communities, holding criminals accountable and protecting our homeowners and business owners from rampant crime.”

Website: <https://www.hennyabraham.com/>

SCOTTY PEOTTER, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Architect / Small Businessman

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/13/24

Background: Peotter is a former Newport Beach City Councilmember.

Public Safety Platform: Peotter does not have a campaign website for his Assembly race, but as a councilmember has been a staunch conservative and supporter of law enforcement.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 74

LAURIE DAVIES, REPUBLICAN

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Assemblymember / Small Businesswoman

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- San Diego Police Officers Association
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA)
- Oceanside Police Officers Association

Background: Assemblymember Davies was first elected to the State Assembly in 2020, after serving several terms on the Laguna Niguel City Council and as Mayor.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Davies has opposed all justice reform bills this cycle, earning an “F” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard. Since entering office, she has introduced a few bills concerning public safety, such as AB 381 to require drug treatment centers to carry Naloxone, an opioid overdose treatment drug; AB 750, a bill to require people participating in drug diversion programs to be educated on the “dangers of controlled substances”; and AB 1848, a bill that would add a 1-year sentence enhancement for using a minor to sell or transport fentanyl. Her website states the following on public safety issues: “California has made people less safe by lowering penalties for property and violent crimes and letting felons out of jail early...I believe we need to do what it takes to have enough well-trained, properly equipped police in every community. At the same time we need to build trust with the police and some parts of our community: that’s why I support body cameras and diversification of our law enforcement. I also believe we need to repeal laws and ballot measures which have emboldened criminals and made the rest of us worry about when our car or home will be robbed.”

Website: <https://www.daviesforca.com/>



CHRIS DUNCAN, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Mayor / Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/13/24

Background: Duncan is Mayor of San Clemente and a former City Councilmember. He is also a former federal prosecutor and Senior Attorney for the U.S. Customs and Border Protection in the Department of Homeland Security.

Public Safety Platform: On his campaign website, Duncan said the following on public safety issues: “I will fully fund law enforcement officers...California’s response on public safety should be guided by one thing — the rule of law...As a former federal prosecutor who worked every day with law enforcement officers for 16 years, I believe in law and order and reject the extremist political agendas on both sides. I’ll fight to fully fund our police officers and deputy sheriffs, and I won’t ignore the growing threat of domestic terrorism. Recent criminal justice reforms have not worked as intended. I will utilize my experience as a prosecutor to develop better programs that keep violent criminals off our streets, ensure there are appropriate penalties for burglary and theft, and keep low-level individuals from re-offending.”

Website: <https://www.votechrisduncan.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 75

KEVIN JUZA, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Small Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/14/24

Background: Juza is a small business owner and former candidate for Poway City Council and Poway Unified School Board.

Public Safety Platform: Juza does not have a public safety platform, but under his social justice policy mentioned "...protecting our most vulnerable residents from crimes related to hate." He is endorsed by the CA Democratic Party, several state elected officials such as Assemblymembers Akilah Weber and Chirs Ward, as well as several labor and social justice organizations.

Website: <https://www.kevinjuza.com/>

JOY FREW, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Retired Revenue Officer

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/14/24

Background: Frew is a retired federal government worker who had a long career in the U.S. Treasury Department. Frew is founder of the Fallbrook Climate Action Team in San Diego, a non-profit that fights for climate mitigation.

Public Safety Platform: Frew does not have a public safety platform, instead focusing her issues on reproductive rights, affordable housing, and climate action.

Website: <https://frewforassembly.com/>

CHRISTIE DOUGHERTY, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Teacher

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/14/24

Background: Dougherty is a teacher specializing in education for students with moderate to severe disabilities. She is also a Veteran serving in the U.S. Navy.

Public Safety Platform: Dougherty does not have a campaign website or policy platform.

Website: None

JACK FERNANDES, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Business Owner / Entrepreneur

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/14/24

Background: Fernandes is a business owner with a background in the biotech industry, and founded Regenica Biosciences, a San Diego-based defense company.

Public Safety Platform: Fernandes's public safety platform states the following: "Crime is on the rise, arrests are down, and Californians don't feel safe. Jack will not be silent while Californians suffer and criminals triumph. Jack will work to increase penalties for fentanyl drug dealers, make serious domestic violence a felony, and make the penalty for an attempt to kill a law enforcement officer a life sentence in prison without parole. He also supports increased funding for law enforcement to hire more police officers on the streets."

Website: <https://www.fernandesforassembly.com/>

ANDREW HAYES, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Small Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- San Diego Police Officers Association

Background: Fernandes is a business owner with a background in the biotech industry, and founded Regenica Biosciences, a San Diego-based defense company.

Public Safety Platform: Hayes' public safety platform outlines the following: "Crime is out-of-control in California. We must restore law-and-order to the Golden State and make our streets and communities safe again - starting by ending the practice of secretly dumping Sex Predators in our communities, eliminating Prop 47 & 57, and ensuring law enforcement have the tools they need to keep us safe. That's why Andrew Hayes backs the blue and they back him. He will always support law enforcement as they work to keep our families safe."

Website: <https://www.electandrewhayes.com/>

CARL DEMAIO, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Small Business Owner

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/14/24

Background: DeMaio is a former San Diego City Councilmember and current conservative talk-show host. He is also chairman of Reform California, a political action committee that fights against local and state ballot measures that increase taxes.

Public Safety Platform: On his campaign website, DeMaio boasts his work through Reform California on public safety issues: "California's liberal politicians are more interested in putting criminals back out on the street and keeping the police from doing their jobs than they are in deterring crime and protecting Californians...These politicians are doubling down on crazy policies that incentivize crime instead of trying to give tools to law enforcement to combat the crime wave we are facing." DeMaio points to the passage of Proposition 47 and Proposition 57 in California as key drivers of the increase in crime over recent years.

Website: None

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 76

DARSHANA PATEL, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Scientist / School Boardmember

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/14/24

Background: Patel is an elected Trustee on the Poway Unified School District Board of Trustees. She is also President of the San Diego County School Boards Association, and a member of the San Diego Police Department Northeastern Division Captain's Advisory Board.

Public Safety Platform: Patel does not have a written public safety platform, but has been a member of the San Diego Police Department's Advisory Board for many years. When conservative parents were violently protesting outside school board meetings, Patel called for greater law enforcement protection for school board members.

Website: <https://patelforassembly.com/>

JOSEPH ROCHA, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Marine Officer / Attorney

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/14/24

Background: Rocha is a Marine Corps Captain and prosecutor, and previously served in the Navy. As an openly gay man, Rocha was discharged under "Don't Ask Don't Tell" and later fought for its repeal.

Public Safety Platform: Rocha does not have a public safety platform for his 2024 race, but was interviewed by the San Diego Union-Tribune in 2022 when he ran unsuccessfully for State Senate. On public safety, Rocha said: "The so-called "war on drugs," three-strikes laws, mandatory minimums, cash bail and for-profit prisons created an unequal system of justice and destroyed generations of families and communities, many of whom were already poor, underserved and underrepresented. Further, no one should care more about law enforcement living up to its values and standards than my fellow law enforcement officers themselves. When law enforcement loses the trust of the community it serves, that leads to a breakdown in the ability to enforce the law."

Website: <https://www.rochaforassembly.com/>

KRISTIE BRUCE-LANE, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Businesswoman / Victims Advocate

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA)

Background: Bruce-Lane is a former elected official on the San Diego Water Board. She is the founder and President of The Thumbprint Project Foundation which is described as assisting unhoused kids in transitioning from experiences with childhood domestic violence.

Public Safety Platform: Bruce-Lane has written the following on her website regarding public safety priorities: “The rise in crime, especially violent crimes, across the country is alarming. While San Diego County reports lower crime rates than Los Angeles, our residents, our neighborhoods, our businesses are less safe because of soft-on-crime policies. I successfully fought on the frontlines to keep Sexually Violent Predators away from our children and out of our communities and I will fight for your safety in Sacramento. I support prevention programs for our at-risk youth as well rehabilitation programs for those re-entering our communities. My work on keeping our communities safe are recognized by law enforcement and crime survivors, having received the endorsement of the San Diego County Deputy Sheriff’s Association and CrimeSurvivors PAC.”

Website: <https://www.kristiebruceane.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 77

TASHA BOERNER, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: California State Assemblymember

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA)
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)

Background: Assemblymember Boerner was first elected to the State Assembly in 2018, after serving several years on the Encinitas City Council.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Horvath is a moderate on justice reform issues. She earned a “D” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on 3 of the bills we prioritized, but skipping the vote on AB 600, to create more opportunities for sentencing recalls, AB 1310, to retroactively give judges more discretion to lessen or remove gun enhancements, and AB 93, to end warrantless searches by police.

On public safety, her campaign website states: “In the State Assembly, I continue to strengthen our unique communities, by working with law enforcement to keep our families and neighborhoods safe, and ensuring first responders have the tools, training, and technology that they need to effectively do their jobs.”

Website: <https://tashaboerner.com/>



HENNY KUPFERSTEIN, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Autism Researcher

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/14/24

Background: Kupferstein is a psychologist specializing in autism research. She is also a trained musical therapist.

Public Safety Platform: Kupferstein does not have a campaign website or policy platform.

Website: None

JAMES BROWNE, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Entrepreneur / Financial Advisor

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/14/24

Background: Browne is an entrepreneur and law student, and is also a finance professional.

Public Safety Platform: Browne’s website says he supports “ending mass incarceration” but his public safety platform outlines the following: “When elected in the State Assembly, I will work hard to strengthen our communities by working with firefighters and law enforcement to keep our families and neighborhoods safe, and ensuring first responders have the tools, training, and technology that they need to perform their job effectively.”

Website: <https://browne4assembly.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 78

CHRIS WARD, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Member of the State Assembly, 78th District

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- CA Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA)

Background: Assemblymember Ward was first elected in 2020 after serving on the San Diego City Council for several years. Ward was also chief of staff to former State Senator Marty Block. He is an active member of the San Diego chapter of the conservative Truman National Security Project.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Ward does not have a written public safety platform on his campaign website, however, his voting record shows strong support for justice reform issues. This cycle, he earned an “A” on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard, voting yes on all 6 of the bills we prioritized. His website describes him as a “Progressive” on other intersecting issues such as the environment and ending homelessness.

Website: <https://voteforward.com/>



ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 79

LASHAE SHARP-COLLINS, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: County Education Professional

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/14/24

Background: Sharp-Collins is a Community Engagement Specialist for the San Diego County Office of Education and Professor in the Dept. of Africana Studies at San Diego State University. She is the former District Director for then-Assemblymember (now CA Secretary of State) Dr. Shirley Weber.

Public Safety Platform: Sharp-Collins does not have a written public safety platform on her campaign website, however she does commit to “Support policies that address racial and gender inequities and promote social justice, and always protect the right to vote, women’s health care and reproductive freedoms, and our civil rights.” She is endorsed by many state elected officials, including outgoing Assemblymember Akilah Weber, the CA Democratic Party, and several labor and social justice organizations.

Website: <https://www.lashaeforassembly.com/>

COLIN PARENT, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Councilmember / Environmental Attorney

Law Enforcement Contributions:

- San Diego Police Officers Association
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)

Background: Parent is an elected official on the La Mesa City Council, currently serving as Vice Mayor. He is also CEO and general counsel for Circulate San Diego, a nonprofit that advocates for transit-oriented housing, bike and pedestrian infrastructure.

Public Safety Platform: Parent does not have an issues page on his website, and little information is publicly available regarding his public safety stances. However, he is the only candidate in the race who has received campaign contributions from law enforcement, and he is endorsed by the Peace Officers Research Association of California, San Diego Police Officers Association, La Mesa Police Officers Association, and California Statewide Law Enforcement Association.

Website: None

RACQUEL VASQUEZ, DEMOCRAT

Ballot Designation: Mayor

Law Enforcement Contributions: None as of 1/14/24

Background: Vasquez is Mayor of the City of Lemon Grove in San Diego County. She was first elected in 2016.

Public Safety Platform: Vasquez does not have a policy page, but in highlighting her accomplishments touted her work on “...Grants for Public Safety Bike Patrol.” and efforts to “clean up” graffiti in the city.

Website: <https://www.racquelasquez.com/>

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 80

DAVID A. ALVAREZ, DEMOCRAT

Incumbent

Ballot Designation: Assemblymember



Law Enforcement Contributions:

- Huntington Beach Police Officers Association
- Los Angeles Police Protective League
- Peace Officers Research Association of California PAC (PORAC PAC)
- California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA)
- California Statewide Law Enforcement Association
- California Association of Highway Patrolmen
- San Bernardino County Sheriff's Employees' Benefit Association

Background: Assemblymember Alvarez was elected to the State Assembly in 2022 after a career as a social worker. Alvarez served on the San Diego City Council for several years and also on the San Diego Community College District Board. He is a Capitol Fellows Program alumna under the Secretary of State, and also worked as Community Liaison for former State Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny.

Public Safety Platform: Assemblymember Alvarez does not have a written public safety platform on his campaign website, however, he has generally voted to support justice reform legislation. He earned a "B" on the IJ Action Legislative Scorecard this year, voting yes on 5 of the 6 bills we prioritized, but skipping the vote on AB 93, which would have ended warrantless searches by police. He also authored AB 436, which decriminalized cruising in CA. However, he has also received significant campaign contributions from law enforcement.

Website: <https://www.davidalvarez.com/>

MICHAEL W. WILLIAMS, REPUBLICAN

Ballot Designation: Retired Naval Officer

Law Enforcement Contributions: The candidate has not reported any campaign funds as of 1/14/24

Background: Williams is a retired naval officer and software manager in the defense industry, with a long career at Northrop Grumman.

Public Safety Platform: Williams does not have a campaign website or policy platform, and little information is readily available regarding his policy positions.

Website: None

STATE BALLOT MEASURES

PROPOSITION 1

IJ ACTION RECOMMENDATION: **VOTE NO**

Title & Summary: Authorizes \$6.38 Billion in Bonds to Build Mental Health Treatment Facilities for Those With Mental Health and Substance Use Challenges; Provides Housing for the Homeless. Legislative Statute.

Background & Description: Prop 1 is a legislatively-referred ballot measure that was created as the result of two bills enacted in 2023: AB 531 (Irwin) The Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act; and SB 326 (Eggman) The Behavioral Health Services Act. It is being financially supported by Governor Gavin Newsom, who is leading the campaign to support it.

According to the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO), Prop 1 would do two main things: 1) Amend the 2004 voter-approved Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) by changing how revenue generated by the act can be used by county governments; and 2) Authorize \$6.38 billion in bonds to build more treatment beds for mental health and substance use disorder services, and to construct more housing for veterans and people with mental illnesses and/or substance use disorders.

If Prop 1 were to be approved by the voters, counties would then be required to allocate a portion of their MHSA dollars specifically for housing and treatment bed construction, shifting about $\frac{1}{3}$ of MHSA funding away from existing mental health services to pay for treatment housing. Prop 1 would not establish a new tax - instead, it would augment how tax dollars generated by the MHSA can be used by counties. Currently, county governments are permitted - but not required - to spend MHSA tax revenue on housing, treatment beds and related services.

- **Arguments in Support:**

- **Supporters Say:** This measure will guarantee much-needed state funding to provide housing for people who are chronically unhoused, have substance use issues, and are veterans. It will also pay for the construction of new psychiatric and substance use disorder facilities and can be used as an alternative to incarceration.
- **Funding:** Major funding for the Yes on Prop 1 campaign comes from Governor Newsom's personal ballot committee, which has raised more than \$10 million. More than \$1 million of this funding has come from the Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA); \$35,000 from the California Statewide Law Enforcement Association; and \$10,000 from the State Coalition of Probation Organizations.
- **Endorsements:** Supporters of Prop 1 (besides Governor Newsom) include healthcare organizations such as Kaiser Permanente, Sutter Health, and the California Medical Association; rideshare companies such as UBER PAC; veterans organizations such as California Veterans Assistance Foundation and the New Directions for Veterans; and law enforcement agencies and individuals such as the California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA), Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC), California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA), and LA Sheriff Robert Luna and Sacramento Sheriff Jim Cooper.

- **Arguments in Opposition:**

- **Opponents Say:** This measure is expensive and will re-direct funds away from mental health services and provide very little housing overall. Although Prop 1 is being touted as a possible alternative to incarceration, it will also finance locked, carceral housing that will force people into treatment and limit opportunities for more effective, voluntary mental health and treatment services. Furthermore, while the proposed \$6.38 billion in bonds will build new facilities, there is no additional funding to staff these facilities or pay for services.
- **Funding:** The No on Prop 1 campaign has only raised \$1,000 as of 1/30/24 from a private individual.
- **Endorsements:** “Californians Against Prop 1” include the League of Women Voters of California, Disability Rights California, Mental Health America CA, and the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association.

IJ Action Recommendation:

IJ Action recommends a “NO” vote on Proposition 1 as it will restrict county governments from using all of their MHSA funds for community-based mental health services. Furthermore, Proposition 1 appears to be a thinly veiled attempt to finance the expansion of the controversial CARE court system, which allows judges to force people into a substance abuse or mental health treatment plan, and possibly even place them into a conservatorship if they refuse the treatment plan. Proposition 1 is also heavily supported by law enforcement entities including CCPOA and the LA County Sheriff. While IJ Action strongly supports the mission of building permanent housing for chronically unhoused Californians and expanding access to behavioral health programming, we believe these efforts must be done without force or coercion, and should not come at the expense of much-needed county mental health funds.

Website:

- Yes on Prop 1: <https://treatmentnottents.com>
- No on Prop 1: <https://www.prop1no.com>

CONCLUSION

Thank you for taking the time to read the Initiate Justice Action Voter Guide! Writing this guide required many hours of planning, research, and design, and was a labor of love for the people impacted by incarceration who contributed to its creation. We sincerely hope you found this guide to be a useful resource.

Please share this guide with your friends, family, and loved ones and encourage them to vote in this Primary Election on or before March 5th! When we make our voices heard at the polls, we prove our power. Together, we can make a difference. We can win meaningful change in our justice system and change the narrative on public safety.

Vote - because when we fight, we win!



AUTHORS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Authors

- ◆ Shervin Aazami
- ◆ Jay Hockley
- ◆ Taina Vargas
- ◆ Sophia Lianna
- ◆ Adrianna Griffith

Photography & Design:

- ◆ Emiliano Lopez

