

## DCCC Mayoral Candidate Questionnaire

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### INSTRUCTIONS:

- Please complete this questionnaire and bring 45 copies with you to be distributed just prior to your interview appointment on Saturday, August 13th, 2011. **\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*** Please send electronic copies in Microsoft Word or PDF format to Emily Lowe, [Elowe@sfdemocrats.org](mailto:Elowe@sfdemocrats.org) by **5:00 PM on Monday, August 8th, 2011.**
- **With the *possible exception* of a Democratic candidate filing to run after the questionnaire due date, *only* candidates who return a completed questionnaire electronically by the due date will be allowed to present before the committee.**
- At the time of the interview, you may also provide 45 copies of up to 4 pages of information attached to your questionnaire for distribution to SFDCCC members (materials are not to be passed out during the meeting).
- If you have not heard from the committee by August 12th, please contact Emily Lowe at [Elowe@sfdemocrats.org](mailto:Elowe@sfdemocrats.org) to schedule a specific time slot at the Endorsement Interview Meeting on August 13th, 2011.
- While it may seem that some of these questions do not apply to the office you are seeking, they represent Democratic Party Platform principles and since many people run for higher office where they will be called upon to answer these questions, we would like them addressed.
- We will distribute the questionnaires at the event and post them on the DCCC website for the public to view.

## DCCC Candidate Questionnaire

### GENERAL QUESTIONS:

1. Please confirm that you are a registered Democrat.

**Yes**

2. When did you first register as a Democrat?

**When I first registered to vote in 1986**

3. Who did you vote for in the last two Presidential elections?

**President Obama, Senator Kerry**

4. What have you done and what do you plan to do to ensure the election of a Democratic president next year?

**I will endorse, advocate for and volunteer for the President in his reelection effort.**

5. Have you ever voted for or endorsed a non-Democrat in an election? Who? When?

**No**

6. Please provide a brief summary of your *qualifications* for this office. (no more than 250 words)

**I began my career as a policy aide to the Clinton-Gore campaign in Little Rock, responsible for creating the disability policy for the national campaign. I then became Deputy Domestic Policy Advisor to Vice President Gore. I have served the city as a Port Commissioner and a member of the Board of Supervisors. As a Supervisor, I proposed the ballot measure leading to the city's first ever economic plan, I created the biotech tax credit and the film and television rebate program. Though it was outside my district, I worked to save St. Luke's hospital and I led the fight to close dirty power plants in the city while preventing construction of new combustion turbine engines. As a teenager, I was an advocate for the disabled, and an early activist for stem cell research.**

7. As a testament of your commitment to the Democratic Party, please describe your contributions to the Democratic Party at the local, state and or/national level in the last 4 years.

**In addition to serving as a Democratic elected official, I have worked on campaigns for Democrats at the state, national and local level.**

8. If elected, or if currently holding office what are the three top issues you will work to affect?

**1) Job Creation.**

**2 & 3) Greater concentration on the middle class with a focus on both better neighborhood schools and middle class housing.**

**ISSUES QUESTIONS (please answer yes or no and include an explanation only if necessary):**

1. Do you support capital punishment (the death penalty)? **No**
2. Do you support a woman's right to choose a safe and legal abortion? **Yes**
3. Do you support Affirmative Action? **Yes**
4. Do you support same gender marriage? **Yes**
5. Do you oppose privatization of essential government services and the outsourcing of public and private sector jobs, and support vocational retraining, income support and health care for workers who lose their jobs due to

globalization? **Yes**

6. Do you support reducing prison overcrowding and the drain on our economy by decreasing penalties for minor drug offenses and other victimless crimes, making the punishment fit the crime? **Yes**

7. Do you support the implementation of community-based policing to break down barriers between law enforcement officers and the people they serve, and to curtail police misconduct? **Yes**

8. Will you oppose anti-worker initiatives that seek to undermine the ability of union leaders to carry out the will of their members and engage in political activities? **Yes**

9. Do you support and encourage increased and expedited processing of applications for citizenship, family reunification and naturalization? **Yes**

10. Do you support increasing the construction of affordable housing to alleviate and prevent homelessness, and develop supportive housing with continuum of care services to help homeless people re-establish themselves as self-sufficient contributors to society? **Yes**

11. Do you support the many lifesaving programs of the Violence against Women Act (VAWA), including the educational and preventative programs, especially for those who are at higher risk for sexual and domestic violence? **Yes**

SHORT ANSWER ISSUES QUESTIONS (Please provide brief answers of no more than 250 words each to the questions below).

A. What, if any, changes would you make to San Francisco's rent control and condo conversion laws?

**I support the current rent control laws and would not advocate changing them. Many people in San Francisco with disabilities are only able to live here because of rent control. I will always support it because of that.**

B. Did you support or oppose: a) Lennar's Bayview-Hunter's Point Development; b) the Treasure Island Development; c) the Park Merced Development? Why?

**I supported all three. When looking at any development proposals, we need to evaluate the need for it, its affect on low-income residents, the potential for job creation and the possible environmental impacts. In the case of these three, I believe the housing is needed, there are appropriate levels of low-income housing, the construction itself will significantly improve economic prospects for workers, and the environmental concessions make the developments an overall benefit to the city.**

C. Do you support the negotiated pension reform measure put on the ballot by the Board of Supervisors? Do you support the Adachi pension reform measure? Why?

**For us to continue offering needed services to city residents, we're going**

**to have to make some changes to the pension system. I support the reform measure put on the ballot by the Supervisors because it was fairly negotiated with labor and represents an honest compromise while meaningfully addressing pension costs. I do not support the Adachi measure because it goes too far, was drafted without appropriate input, and is punitive, not collaborative.**

D. What, if any, changes would you make to the management and priorities of the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department?

**The number one priority of the Parks Department should be making quality programs and public spaces available to any city resident who wants to use them.**

Thank you for your time. We look forward to seeing you on August 13th, 2011.