



SAN JOSE/SILICON VALLEY BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

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PRESS RELEASE

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NAACP RELEASES REPORT CARD ON SILICON VALLEY CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

SAN JOSE- Today the San Jose/Silicon Valley NAACP released the much-anticipated results of its annual “Do You Make The Grade” report card.

President Rick L. Callender said, “Our community must elect those who will do what is right and will stand up against what is wrong. The report card educates all in our community on the values of those seeking to represent them.”

The report card grades candidates, by way of letter grade, on their commitment to civil rights, human rights, workers rights and their willingness to ensure political, educational, social and economic equality for all in Silicon Valley. Additionally the report card lists the NAACP’s position on local measures and state propositions.

All candidates are asked to submit in writing their answers to multiple questions to determine what their positions are on issues impacting the community. Additionally, all candidates are orally interviewed in person by the NAACP political action committee. The candidates’ positions are then compared to the official policy positions of the NAACP and points are given for the “correct” answers provided by the candidates on their personal beliefs and positions.

Chris Elias, Vice-President of Advocacy and Policy said, “The grading process is an extension of our voter education efforts at the NAACP. We hope that the community will visit our website to educate themselves on the candidates.”

All of the candidates’ answers to the questions can be viewed online at www.sanjosenaacp.org.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, is the oldest, largest and strongest civil rights organization in the United States. The principal objective of the NAACP is to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of minority group citizens of the United States. The San Jose/Silicon Valley Branch of the NAACP was founded in 1952 and boasts more than 1200 members.

Attachment: NAACP Report Card

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CANDIDATE	OFFICE SOUGHT	GRADE
Congressional Races		
Elaine Shaw	11th Congressional District	FTR/NS
Robert Figureoa	11th Congressional District	F
Thomas Benigno	11th Congressional District	F
Richard Pombo	11th Congressional District	FTR/NS
State Assembly Races		
Sally Lieber	22nd Assembly District	A+
Rosemary Stasek	22nd Assembly District	B+
Rod Diridon, Jr.	22nd Assembly District	A
Stan Kawczynski	22nd Assembly District	FTR/NS
Judicial Races		
George Chadwick	Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge	B
Arthur Bocanegra	Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge	A
Ronald Berki	Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge	FTR/NS
William Priest	Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge	A-
Michael Millen	Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge	A
Aaron Persky	Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge	A
Thomas Spielbaur	Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge	A-
Ron Del Pozzo	Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge	A
Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors		
Dennis Kennedy	County Supervisor, District One	C+
Don Gage	County Supervisor, District One	A-
San Jose City Council		
Bill Chew	City of San Jose Mayor	FTR/NS
Patricia Martinez-Roach	City of San Jose Mayor	FTR/NS
Jose Posades	City of San Jose Mayor	A-
J. Valandingham	City of San Jose Mayor	FTR/NS
Dale Detwiler	City of San Jose Mayor	FTR/NS
Ron Gonzales	City of San Jose Mayor	A
Linda Lezotte	San Jose City Council District One	A
Ross Signorino	San Jose City Council District One	FTR/NS
Nora Campos	San Jose City Council District Five	A
Alex Ayala	San Jose City Council District Five	FTR/NS
Alfredo Benavides	San Jose City Council District Seven	FTR/NS
Ed Voss	San Jose City Council District Seven	A

CANDIDATE	OFFICE SOUGHT	GRADE
San Jose City Council (continued)		
Bob Dhillon	San Jose City Council District Seven	FTR/NS
Terrence Gregory	San Jose City Council District Seven	A+
Judy Chirco	San Jose City Council District Nine	FTR/NS
Chris Hemmingway	San Jose City Council District Nine	C+
Special Districts		
Bob McGuire	Santa Clara County Open Space Authority	FTR/NS
Jim Foran	Santa Clara County Open Space Authority	FTR/NS
Richard Frost	Santa Clara County Open Space Authority	FTR/NS
Ballot Measures		
Measure	Title of Measure	NAACP Position
Measure D	Gilroy Unified School District Renovation Bond	Vote Yes
Measure E	West Valley College Renovation Bond	Vote Yes
Measure F	San Jose Unified School District Renovation Bond	Vote Yes
Measure G	East Side Union HSD Improvement Bond	Vote Yes
Measure H	Campbell School District Repair and Renovation	Vote Yes
Measure I	Oak Grove School District School Repair Bond	Vote Yes
Measure J	Moreland School District Repair and Renovation	Vote Yes
Measure K	Loma Prieta Neighborhood Safety and Repair	Vote Yes
Measure L	Saratoga Union School District Repair Bond	Vote Yes
Measure N	(Mountain View) Retail Store Rezoning	Vote Yes
Measure O	(San Jose) Fire, Police and Paramedic	Vote Yes
Proposition	Proposition Title	NAACP Position
Proposition 40	Clean Water, Air, Safe Parks Act	Vote Yes
Proposition 41	Voting Modernization Bond Act	Vote Yes
Proposition 42	Transportation Congestion Improvement Act	Vote Yes
Proposition 43	Right to have Vote Counted Act	Vote Yes
Proposition 45	Legislative Term Limits. Local Voter Petitions	Vote Yes
KEY: Commitment to Civil, Human and Worker's Rights and Minority Interests		
A+ = Outstanding; A = Excellent; A- = Strong		
B+ = Good; B = Above Average; B- = Average		
C+ = Fair; C = Some Commitment; C- = Needs educating on the issues		
D+ and Below = Failing commitment, requires serious education on the issues		
FTR/NS = Failed to Respond/No Show (Be Very Cautious of this Candidate)		

HOW THE GRADES ARE DETERMINED

The NAACP only endorses ballot measures and does not endorse candidates for office. However, we do grade candidates on their commitment to civil rights, human rights, workers rights and their willingness to ensure political, educational, social and economic equality for all in Silicon Valley.

The grades are based on a series of both oral and written questions. Each question is weighted and a final score is determined based on the candidates answers and how they match up with the official position of the NAACP.

The NAACP has long believed in holding both our current and future elected representatives accountable. "Do You Make the Grade?" is one more step in the direction of shining the light on the record of elected officials who impact our lives on a daily basis.

You are welcome to visit the San Jose/Silicon Valley NAACP's website to view the candidates answers to our questions.

Our website is www.sanjosenaacp.org.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Chris Elias, Chair
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Blake Moore
Lea Byrd
Ed Callender
Tamara Haye
Michael McBride
Marion Whitaker
Rick Callender, Ex-officio member

**Get Involved With the NAACP
Voter Empowerment Effort!**
Call:
1-866-Yes-Vote (937-8683)

SAN JOSE/SILICON VALLEY

NAACP



PRESENTS

"DO YOU MAKE THE GRADE?" MARCH 5, 2002 ELECTION REPORT CARD ON SILICON VALLEY CANDIDATES, STATEWIDE PROPOSITIONS

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Rick L. Callender, President