

San Francisco Democratic Party Endorsement Agreement

Date: _____

I, _____, seeking the office of _____, have reviewed, understand, and will comply by the San Francisco Democratic Party's endorsement process as outlined in our Bylaws ([Article VI](#)) and Policies & Procedures manual ([Article VII](#)).

I agree that I will not use the name or logo of the San Francisco Democratic Party or the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee until I have secured an endorsement from the San Francisco Democratic Party for the race for which I was endorsed.

If I am seeking an office that utilizes Ranked Choice Voting, I shall accurately reflect the San Francisco Democratic Party's ranked endorsement.

I will not provide the San Francisco Democratic Party name or logo to third parties without the written permission of the San Francisco Democratic Party Executive Director.

I understand that any violation of these agreements may be subject to actions from the San Francisco Democratic Party, including revocation of an endorsement.

(signature)

**Candidate Questionnaire
Board of Supervisors – November 2022**

Candidate Name: Cherelle Jackson

Address:

City, State, Zip: [REDACTED]

Cell Phone Number: [REDACTED]

E-mail Address: [REDACTED]

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. Are you a registered member of the Democratic Party? **(Yes)**

2. When did you first register as a Democrat? **(Several years ago)**

3. Have you read the California Democratic Party Platform? **(yes)**

4. Will you fight to implement policies supported in the Party platform? **(yes)**

5. Are you running for re-election? **(No)**

6. What other elected positions have you held? **(California Assembly District 17 ADEM)**

7. Have you ever voted for or endorsed a non-Democrat? If yes, who? When?
(No)

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

(No more than 200 words per response)

1. Provide a summary of your qualifications for this office.

My name is Cherelle Jackson I have a Masters degree in Political Science Public Policy & Public Administration. Bachelors of Arts in Psychology Concentration Sociology. International Association of Women's Influencer of Year 2020-2021 I was listed as Top 5 in my group for Jet Set Magazine. Co-Chair of Workers With Disabilities Committee of SEIU 1021. Member of LGBTQ Lavendar Committee, Women's Committee, AFRAM Committee. Executive Producer of Rose Milk Podcast, and Executive Editor & Chief of Rose Milk Magazine. Author my book in December of 2021. Director of Communications of Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion Committee for the California Democratic Party. Vice Chair of Communications of Veterans Caucus. Member of the Black Caucus, Seniors Caucus, and Disabilities Caucus. Madam President of Black Voices and Allies Leadership Committee. I am known for my work in serving underserved, and marginalized communities including housing the unhoused communities (**Successfully**). I focus on serving vulnerable communities such as our seniors , disabled, and veterans. Working on a new project called Ladies of Grace please if you haven't already connect with me to support. I have also worked serving individuals who are dealing with mental health, and substance abuse. As an educator I have taught at many different schools throughout the bay area including underserved youth, and immigrants on curriculum such as history, physics, English, art, computer coding. In addition, I have also work on social justice issues for civil rights, women's rights, BIPOC & LGBTQ rights.

2. Describe your contributions to the Democratic Party? I serve as California Assembly District 17 ADEM. I also attend, and support initiatives in several caucuses in the California Democratic Party, and also became the Director of Communications for Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion Committee. My commitment to San Francisco, and the Democratic Party lies with the people. I am dedicated to public service. Ensuring the underserved, and marginalized communities voices are amplified. I am always listening, and will ensure that the issues that they care about the most are being heard. Believing in a thriving community is just the start. I know together we can make a difference in protecting us. The pandemic hit our communities, created setbacks, and it's time we ensure that opportunities, and resources are designed to uplift us. Now it's about taking action. Together we will provide sustainable resources for our small business, schools, and design a district where all will have opportunity. It's about ensuring we get there Together. It's true the systems need reform, the way we think about obtaining, and building a life in San Francisco starts with all of us., and if were towards the success of San Franciscans there's no doubt that we can succeed.

3. If elected, what are the three top issues you will work on? I will be making sure that all voices, and social issues raised by the community are heard. It would not be fair to iterate a Top 3. I will make sure that I will work on protecting women's rights, civil rights, lgbtq, seniors, disabled, labor rights, climate justice, public health equity rights, veterans rights, rights of veteran women & their families. I also want to ensure that we provide resources to underrepresented black women's rights, and underrepresented black men's rights, but really addressing some core issues that continue to just sit on the back burner. Each community has overlapping issues to address, and social justice issues to raise of their own. Other BIPOC communities are equally important, and I definitely do not want to leave them out of the conversation because they deserve resources to uplift their communities as well. As I have come to listen to many different public concerns, priorities of their coalitions, and groups it would not

be fair to narrow it down. I will say this there is a real concern to ensure that our black, and brown communities are included in the process more often as I notice for young black women such as myself I couldn't find one question that would help support that were raised in poverty, and, that continue to get the shorthand end of the stick are represented in a better light, Furthermore, this will allow for the progress for all of our communities, and hope for a better tomorrow.

4. What are your top district priorities and what would be your process in addressing these issues with the community? Ensuring that our marginalized, and underserved communities are effectively uplifted with the resources they need to thrive. Let's ensure that we put investment in our community ambassador programs to keep the community safe. (They're very friendly so say hello if you can.) Let's ensure we create a sustainable living for families in District 6 with opportunities to see folks thrive which means partnering with city departments, private non-profits, and other entities to help skill-up folks so that they can obtain opportunities for vacant roles in the district. I also want to see support go to our small businesses in the district which will improve opportunities economically. We will be ramping up Operation Green D6 which will help create a green, and vibrant environment to combat climate change. I also want to ensure that we obtain resources for education. I want people to really see the changes, and differences in their district.

5. What have you done to mentor women and people of color in your field? I invite you to check out my Ladies of Grace project which will specifically uplift more women, and women of color. In addition, as an educator I recognized that there were opportunities to uplift women in STEM so I decided to take the initiative to volunteer with a program that helps with mentoring. There is an educational STEM program which helps mentor youth, and a summer program that has activities as well. It's truly exciting so if you ever get a chance please consider it.

6. In a hearing conducted by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, it was found that African Americans disproportionately experience lower hiring rates for Civil Service jobs, are the lowest paid of all ethnicities in SF's Civil Service classifications, have the highest terminations rates, and their claims of hostile environments such as harassment, threats, and bully-tactics persist. What steps have you taken (or will you take) to address these disparities? How would you recommend legislation be drafted so that the Office of Racial Equity can hold departments who perpetuate systemic racism accountable?

Countless African Americans here in the city have faced this issue. This has disproportionately created setbacks for African Americans, and their potential to gain a sustainable living in the city. People want to build their lives here, and start families. Those born here don't want to be displaced, and so when they attempt to obtain employment it's so they can support their families, and build a life. I will work closely with the Office of Racial Equity. I will also meet with those who have experienced this personally. In addition, readdress what the eligibility requirements are. Provide sustainable protections for temp workers to be trained, and placed in vacant roles if they so choose so that they are not left out of a job after their position has ended. Ensure that every city worker, and non-city worker has the opportunity to be trained or skilled in efforts to obtain the skills necessary to start a career with the City & County of San Francisco. In addition,

I will work with private entities to ensure that no City Worker is left behind, and can connect with private work if they are interested in pursuing other options. In addition, fix the response, and communication rates in which employees hear something about the role they are applying for, and connect others who were not able to obtain a specific role. (Train those individuals for those vacant roles). These are just few of the solutions.

7. Define affordable housing.

I would like to see a **portion** of Affordable housing rates at \$690.00 per month for single occupancy, and \$850 for a 3 bedroom home family. The definition of Affordable Housing is set aside or provided for those whose needs are not met. That would be true sustainable living for those needs that are not met. San Franciscans deserve a decent living. Now the definition of Affordable housing is rent or sales price restrictions. We can move toward rental caps or I would like to see the rates for a portion of the housing equivalent 25% to minimum wage. Meaning if individuals making \$16.50 an hour after taxes makes about 930.00 then their rent would be around \$600.00. (A portion of housing at this rate would really help those who are lower income, and working class) it would provide some relief. Now for someone who is on let's say a fixed income only receives \$1000 per month which is common for seniors, and disabled veterans, those dealing with mental health, and substance abuse. That rent amount I just mention is still high because it leaves you with \$310.00 to survive on for the month. I will support programs that subsidize a portion of the rent. I would like to reduce those experiencing poverty by providing some relief through housing initiatives. I would also like to mention that middle class, and those who have specific hardship situations need access to housing as well, including city workers, I will support those efforts as well such as temporary housing weekly hotel stays while on duty if they live further distances to reduce their commute expenses.

8. How will you push for racial equity and equitable distribution in San Francisco's neighborhood planning and individual project development to ensure that we are building more deeply affordable housing and other community assets (i.e., childcare, parks and open space, grocery stores and small businesses)?

-I will ensure that the bids and contracts that are received are from diverse backgrounds, and ensure that businesses applying for opportunities are not discriminated against in the process. I will also make sure that the opportunities are reaching communities of color because sometimes businesses aren't aware of the opportunities to do business with the City. I will also make sure first the Public, City Depts, City Stakeholders, Community Organizations, and Allies have access to attend meetings, and making it accessible for those unable to attend during the day to have access to recordings of meetings. I would also make sure to have community liaisons helping with processes for applications, questions, and overall training of understanding of information for those not familiar with processes or how things work. I will also make sure that suggestions or recommendations of development are recognized. I will also work with community stakeholders, and organizations to support programs to train those interested in the planning, and individual project process.

9. How many Navigation Centers are in your district? If none, who is to blame?

We should focus on contributing to the solution. The people of District 6 know we have a lot of work to do. It's so important that we have resources like Navigation Centers for those experiencing homelessness. Equally important is providing support for the programs, and non-profits that are residing in the district. I hope to continue to amplify the work they're doing with providing sustainable resources, and accommodate as much as we can to uplift folks from the streets. I would like to also mention that I spent my career (several years) working in District 6 on providing resources for housing, helping those with mental health, and substance abuse, housing the unhoused successfully. This will help me tremendously when it comes to making decisions for the district because there are many variables we will need to address to help people. That's what I want to do.

10. What specific policies would you propose to address chronic homelessness in San Francisco?

We need to look at this as a multi-pronged issue. We need affordable housing for the homeless equally important we have to look at the resources, and benefit programs they are already receiving. Some are working they just need more investment, and support. The issues that I noticed while working in this field is that there's disconnect between the departments, and the frontline, essential workers, social workers, case workers, who commonly have to work with less to provide services. Reforming the benefit programs are necessary as well so that an individual living on a fixed income has enough money to obtain housing so that they are able to get on their feet. We also have to look at increasing funding for housing facilities for those experiencing mental health, and investment in more public conservators, as well as case management, and social workers. We can increase funding for options of rehabilitation efforts, and Harm Reduction Therapy Plans. We can increase funding for marginalized groups including our LGBTQ, BIPOC, and immigrants that need it. I would also like increase funding for social programs for housing for women. Increase investment on work, and small business programs. Then lastly, investment in prevention programs. We need to be looking at ways at preventing these hardships in the first place.

11. We recognize that the affordability crisis and evictions have caused gentrification and widespread displacement. How do you plan to address preserving long-standing communities? What have you done to address the displacement of low-income communities in San Francisco?

I will continue to ensure that low-income communities, and widespread displacement efforts are addressed. One way I attempted to fight this issue was attending meetings such as redistricting meetings.

12. Do you support a vacancy tax on residential units? Yes if the residents are protected from being effected by these tactics.

13. What plans would you have to protect existing co-ops in your district? Do you believe this model should be expanded?

-Unable to answer due to time constraints

14. What do you believe are the biggest issues facing public housing tenants in San Francisco? What concrete plans would you implement to better serve these households?

Unable to answer due to time constraints

15. It is against the law for owners to discriminate against Section 8 and HUD-VASH (Veterans) vouchers for payment. What more can be done to enforce these laws?

Unable to answer due to time constraints

16. Do you support defunding the police? Why or why not?

We need to ensure that police departments are not harming black and brown communities. We need to ensure that there isn't discriminatory practices happening within the police force, and protect those living in the community from discriminatory practices.

17. Have you accepted donations from any police officers, police officer associations, police unions, sheriff's associations, correctional officer's unions, or the Prison Industrial complex?

(NO)

-Unable to answer due to time constraints

a. If no, will you accept any such donations in the future? No, I have not taken any money from the Police Officer Associations.

b. If yes, please explain why.

ISSUES QUESTIONS

Please only mark whether you support or oppose each position.

QUESTION	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
1. Do you support or oppose affirmative action?	Support	
2. Do you support or oppose privatization of essential government services?	Support-(Some for example non-profits)	
3. Do you support or oppose expanding rent control to post-1979 buildings?	Support	
4. Do you support or oppose San Francisco's sanctuary city policy?	Support	
5. Do you support or oppose affordable housing?	Support	

6. Did you support or oppose Lowell High School returning to being merit based?	Abstain	
7. Did you support the emergency action of securing hotel rooms and shelter homeless San Franciscans from COVID-19?	Support	
8. Did you support calling for economic relief to support undocumented workers during the COVID-19 pandemic?	Support	
9. Do you support or oppose reentry housing?	Support	
10. Do you support or oppose benefits for essential workers?	Support	
11. Do you support or oppose recall elections when no crime has been committed?		Oppose
12. Do you condemn anti-Asian racism and xenophobia and urge stronger governmental response to prevent and address attacks of the Asian American Community?	Support	
13. Do you support or oppose reparations?	Support	
14. Do you believe that public transit should be free?	Support	
15. Do you support the creation of a local municipal bank in San Francisco?	Abstain*	
16. Do you support expanding affordable childcare to low- and middle-income families?	Support	
17. Do you support or oppose oversight over the Housing and Community Development Department?	Support	
18. Do you support the Black Lives Matter movement?	Support	
19. Do you support overturning Costa Hawkins to support the right for localities to pass rent control laws?	Support	

20.	Do you support overturning the Ellis Act?	*	
21.	Should there be a moratorium on market rate housing in communities that have experienced elevated rates of displacement?	Support	
22.	Do you believe that surplus public lands should be prioritized for 100% affordable housing?	Support	
23.	Do you support civil or criminal penalties for people sleeping, sitting, or lying on the streets?		Oppose
24.	Do you support the practice of forced removal and relocation of homeless encampments or homeless "sweeps"?		Oppose
25.	Do you support expanding Navigation Centers throughout the city?	Support	
26.	Do you support or oppose a new juvenile hall being built?	*	
27.	Do you support teachers and professional staff earning commensurate wages?	Support-	
28.	Do you support banning natural gas in all new residential and commercial construction projects, including single family homes?	Abstain*	
29.	Do you support expansion of charter schools?	Abstain*	
30.	Do you support employee rights to organize and collectively bargain and support enforceable organizing agreements?	Support	

If you need to add further explanation or qualification to any of your support-or-oppose answers above, you may do so here: