



**Candidate Questionnaire for
San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee
Primary Election, June 7, 2016**

Please return this questionnaire electronically to contact_us@phdemclub.org **no later than Monday, April 4th**. Candidates who do not return the questionnaire by the due date will not be invited to appear at our April 12th endorsement meeting. Questionnaires will be made available to our members online.

Candidate name: ALIX ROSENTHAL

Contact person: SAME

Email address: ALIX@ALIXRO.COM

Phone number: 415-377-6722

Web site: WWW.VOTEALIX.COM

Please write a brief response (≤ 200 words) to each question.

1. Why are you running for the DCCC and what do you hope to accomplish if elected or re-elected?

In my 6 years on the DCCC, I have dedicated considerable time and energy to the party, and my main objective is to continue to work hard on the DCCC's party-building activities. As its Treasurer from 2010-12, I balanced the checkbook and made sure that our reporting to government agencies was completed properly. As Second Vice Chair from 2012 to today, I am responsible for running the party's endorsement process for every election and also for issue resolutions that come through the party. I have enthusiastically served as a San Francisco delegate to the state party convention for the last 6 years. I have worked hard to recruit and train Democratic women to run for office, including serving as a trainer for the Emerge Program, and running a slate of women candidates in 2012. I have also written resolutions on a wide variety of topics, from removing the personal belief exemption for vaccinations to urging the Mayor to appoint a mother to the Board of Supervisors. For a complete list of my resolutions, please go to my website at www.votealix.com.

2. Please describe your current and past community activism.

I am a lifelong Democrat, and have been active in countless campaigns at the local, statewide and federal levels, as candidate, volunteer, treasurer, fundraiser and counsel. I have also served in the following roles:

SF Democratic County Central Committee, Treasurer (2010-2012), Second Vice Chair (2012-present)

SF Elections Commission, Member (2001-04), President (2003-04)

National Women's Political Caucus (SF chapter), Board of Directors (2004-07), President (2005-07)

Emerge Program, Graduate (2003), Trainer (2005-present)

Deputy City Attorney, City of Oakland (2004-11)

Candidate for Supervisor, District 8 (2006)

SF Tomorrow, Board of Directors (2007-2009)

Livable City, Board of Directors (2007-2009)

Save Halloween in the Castro, campaign principal (2007)

California Music & Culture Association, Board of Directors (2011-13)

Black Rock Arts Foundation, Advisory Board (2005-09), Board of Directors (2009-15)

Burning Man Government Relations Volunteer (2009-14)

3. Would you support closing the campaign finance loophole that allows candidates running for their party's Central Committee to raise unlimited funds, while other candidates for local elected office are limited to \$500 per donor? Why or why not?

Yes, and as chair of the DCCC Bylaws Committee, I plan to spearhead the proposal if I am reelected.

4. Please name the 3 endorsements of which you are most proud.

State Senator Mark Leno

State Assembly member David Chiu

Board of Supervisors President London Breed

5. Please indicate, and explain, your position on the following past ballot propositions.

- Proposition G (2014), Additional Transfer Tax on Residential Property Sold Within 5 Years of Purchase
 - **Supported!**

I supported Prop G, and voted for it at the DCCC. The opponents of Prop G were realtors and small property owners who didn't want their profits limited. They dumped more than \$1 million into the race, claiming that this tax would drive up rents, that it would hurt small property owners. I didn't buy it. I think it was most likely to prevent people from selling properties quickly after they buy them, and it would likely mean that fewer San

Franciscans would lose their homes. And that's a good thing. Flipping properties hurts San Francisco.

- Proposition F (2015), Short-Term Residential Rentals
 - **Opposed**

I opposed Prop F, but not for the reasons you'd expect. Lowering the number of rental days from 90 to 75 would not be a big deal if it applied to entire units, but applying this cap to guest rooms is a bad idea. If I am living in my house every day of the year, and just renting out a guest room whenever I need the extra cash, I shouldn't be restricted to such a low number of days. The private right of action by neighbors scared me – encouraging neighbors to sue each other seems like a terrible idea. But the main reason I oppose this measure is this: Laws approved by ballot measure can only be amended by another ballot measure, making it nearly impossible to change it. And this is exactly the kind of law that needs to iterate over time. The products and services created by technology companies like Airbnb are constantly evolving – and the laws that regulate them need to be just as nimble. If Prop F passes, it sets these restrictions in stone, and the Board of Supervisors won't be able to amend them. Any revision – no matter how small – will require another election cycle and another contentious and expensive battle for votes.

6. The population of SF is up, but Democratic Party registration and turnout have mostly been down in recent years. What specifically will you do to improve the Party's registration efforts and organization in District 10?

Voter registration is driven by exciting political campaigns. If you look at the records over the last several decades, you will see an up-and-down trend showing that registration is the highest in exciting Presidential election years, and the lowest in off years. It was up in 2012 when Obama ran, and down in 2013 after the Department of Elections culled the voter rolls. I suspect that registration will go up again as we approach the November election, and go down again in 2017 when many of those voters change addresses.

That said, the SF DCCC sends volunteers out to naturalization ceremonies and I'm sure we could use more help in these efforts. I would like to see us work more closely with Democratic Clubs such as PHDC to enlist more volunteers to help with organizing in each district.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to public service. Pending timely receipt of your questionnaire, we look forward to seeing you at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House on April 12th.

Executive Committee, Potrero Hill Democratic Club