

Questionnaire for Candidates Seeking Alameda County Democratic Central Committee

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot: Elizabeth Echols
2. Office sought (include office, jurisdiction, position/district number)
Member, Alameda County Democratic Central Committee (14th AD)
3. What is your current occupation or elected office?
Member, Alameda County Democratic Central Committee (14th AD)
Director, U.S. Green Building Council, Northern California Chapter
4. Are you the incumbent? Yes No
5. How long have you resided in this district and city?
20 plus years (in Berkeley and Oakland)

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name:	Elizabeth Echols
Address:	37 Conrad Court
City, State, Zip:	Oakland, CA 94611
Name of staff contact:	
Campaign Phone:	510-338-1088
Campaign Fax:	
Campaign E-mail:	elizabethechols2010@gmail.com
FPPC#	

STATEMENT

Please provide a statement describing why are you are running, what you hope to do, and any significant accomplishments you have achieved. Please limit your statement to 250 words or less.

The work that the Central Committee does in registering voters, recruiting and endorsing candidates, and turning out the vote makes a real difference in who we have representing us at the state and local level.

In this fall's election, the future of our state hangs in the balance. As the bluest county in the state of California, it is up to us to stem the conservative tide and deliver the votes to regain the Governor's mansion and keep Barbara Boxer in the Senate. In the 2012 Presidential election, the stakes will be even higher.

At the local level, we also must elect progressive Democrats that will fight for equal rights for all and help solve the significant challenges we face in education, health care, affordable housing, public safety, and the environment.

As Finance Chair for the Central Committee, I am hard at work raising money to build capacity and make us even more effective in electing progressive Democrats.

Specifically, I want to:

- Elect progressive Democrats at all levels of government, and take back the Governor's mansion.
- Increase participation in the Democratic Party, particularly among youth, women, people of color and LGBT people.
- Build a strong two-way partnership between grassroots activists and the Democratic Party.

AND

- Leverage technology to expand grassroots organizing and improve communication.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR YOUTH

Please describe in detail at least three of your accomplishments that have improved the lives of young people. These examples should illustrate skills and capabilities that apply to the office you are seeking. These accomplishments may have occurred at any time in your personal, professional, or public life.

As CEO of OpNet Community Ventures, I worked to create economic opportunity for low income young adults through technology training, with a particular emphasis on women and people of color. The program provided young people access to career track employment in information technology and multimedia. The entrepreneurial bent of our program also encouraged many of our graduates to form their own successful businesses. Many of OpNet's graduates went on to make significant contributions to their communities. For instance, one of our graduates taught web design at the homeless shelter where she once lived with her three small children.

As Director of Policy at Google, I collaborated with young people to make a positive impact on the world by increasing access to the world's information. The large majority of the people I worked with at Google were in their 20s. Together we set content policies for Google's global products, such as AdWords, Blogger, and YouTube. At Google and throughout my career in politics and

the non-profit world, I have mentored many young people and have worked together with them to make a difference in the world.

On the Central Committee, I have made it one of my priorities to involve more young adults in the political process. For example, in evaluating candidates for endorsement, I view the need to increase participation by young people as an important factor. In addition, two out of the three times that I have had the opportunity to appoint someone as my alternate on Central Committee, I have recruited and appointed young person.

EXPERIENCE

Please list or describe your current and past activities in the community in which you have acquired skills that relate to the office you seek. Include your role in the activity and the year(s) in which you were involved. Involvement consists of many areas such as family, neighborhood, community, employment, or public life.

Employment Experience:

Director, U.S. Green Building Council, Northern California Chapter (2009-present): Manage the strategic growth and development with focus on public policy, social equity programs and green jobs partnerships.

Director of Policy, Google Inc. (2004 – 2008): Managed the development and implementation of global policies for ads, syndication, trust & safety, and nearly 40 consumer products, including Blogger, Groups, and Picasa.

CEO, OpNet Community Ventures (2001-2004): Managed the strategic development, communications, fund development, program and financial administration for nationally recognized non-profit.

Executive Director, E-Commerce Working Group, The White House (1999-2001): Developed and implemented Clinton-Gore Administration's strategy on Internet and e-commerce issues working with representatives from the White House and fifteen Federal agencies.

Senior Advisor to the Secretary (1998-1999) and Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information (1995-1998), U.S. Department of Commerce: Advised Secretary Daley and Assistant Secretary Irving on global telecommunications and information technology issues.

Political Experience (highlights):

Member, Alameda County Democratic Central Committee (elected June 2006 and re-elected June 2008, previously held appointed and alternate position)

Member, Obama Transition Team (2008-2009)

Co-Chair, Oakland United Democratic Campaign (2008-present)

Member, Democratic State Central Committee (2006-present)

Executive Board Member, National Women's Political Caucus (Alameda North) (2003-present)

Board Member, Alameda County Democratic Lawyers Club (2007-present)

Former California State Co-Chair of Women for Kerry-Edwards (2004)

Volunteer, Democratic National Convention (1996 and 2000)

Volunteer, Gore-Lieberman (2000)

Volunteer, Clinton-Gore Campaign and Transition Team (1992 and 1996)

Volunteer, Dukakis-Bentsen (1988)