

**Recommendations for Voters
Orange County and Statewide Offices
By Craig P. Alexander, Esq.
Election on November 6, 2018
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For those of you who do not know me, I am an evangelical Christian and an attorney who is involved in local Orange County politics. I am a former President of a local California Republican Assembly (“CRA”) chapter and a former elected member of the Orange County Republican Central Committee. I review candidates, initiatives and measures from a pro-life, pro-traditional family, less taxation and less government point of view. Due to space limitations and the large number of issues & candidates, I will be giving only brief commentary on some persons and initiatives / measures. For some races there may be more positions or seats up for election than I may have recommendations. This means I simply do not have a recommendation for all those offices / seats.

I hope you find them helpful. If you wish to contact me and ask about any of my recommendations, please feel free to e-mail me at craig@craigalexanderlaw.com and I will do my best to respond to you. Also, for more election information *I highly recommend* you visit my friend Robyn Nordell’s web site at: <http://www.robynnordell.com/>

JUDGES!!!

Many of you have asked me about Judges on the ballot. Great Question! I recommend everyone go to Robyn Nordell’s Orange County page: <https://robynnordell.com/countyorange.aspx#judicial> which includes judicial retention races. For those in Orange County I recommend Robyn’s site for each county to find your own: <https://robynnordell.com/counties.aspx>

The following is a very good short note about the effect of the “Top Two Primary” (Prop. 14) law on this (and future) “primary” elections:

CA Open Primary / June election (Prop 14) and its implications. In the races for Congress and state offices, voters can cross over in the June “Primary” election and vote for a candidate of another party. It is possible that the “top two” for the November election could come from the same party, which occurred in some races in 2012, 2014, 2016 and now again in 2018.

What's at Stake This Year? Or why you need to vote and get your family and friends to vote!

This year's election is giving us a stark contrast between the two major political parties Democrat and Republican. In the two years since Donald Trump's election to the Presidency we have witnessed a "resistance" movement by Democrats and their allies that has thrown out all sense of bi-partisanship, compassion, respect for differing

opinions or compromise on important policy decisions. The Democratic Party at its highest levels has embraced the following:

1. **"Medicare for all" which is government run health care** at both the federal and state levels. This would increase your tax burden by at least twice (double) and maybe even three times what you currently pay now. **All of the local Democratic candidates for Congress support this.** Gavin Newsom (the Democratic candidate for Governor) has made it a main goal of his campaign promises to institute this in California, including medical coverage for illegal aliens.

2. **The abolition of ICE** (the federal agency that enforces our immigration laws). Democrats are committed to this dangerous proposal and they have offered no real plan for a replacement for ICE. Locally Democrats have passed laws to restrict our police and local authorities from cooperating with ICE and other federal immigration agencies. This "Sanctuary Law" also protects criminal illegal aliens who commit violent crimes against our citizens.

3. **Reversal of the Trump Tax Cuts and De-Regulation.** After eight years of slow or no growth under Former President Obama (who called it the "new normal"), President Trump and the Republicans in Congress have passed historic tax cuts and abolished reams of business killing regulations. Result: across the board almost all Americans have more money in their pockets, have more opportunities for employment or starting their own businesses & unemployment is down - WAY down. Unemployment among African Americans and Hispanics is at its lowest levels since those statistics have been gathered. Democrats say these tax cuts are bad for the economy and for workers whose tax cut bonuses (per Nancy Pelosi) are "peanuts". The facts prove the Democrats are wrong.

4. **Judicial Nominations of Conservative Constitutionally minded judges stopped.** As I write this we are seeing the unfolding of the debacle of the confirmation of Judge Bret Kavanaugh to the United States Supreme Court. Democrats want courts to impose their policy preferences on us via the Court's (since they can't do most of them via the legislative process). In addition, one of the main things that caused conservatives (like me) to vote for Donald J. Trump for President was his promise to appoint only conservative judges to the federal bench - and he has kept that promise. Democrats want to stop that by blocking those judicial candidates (including using smear campaigns by our own Diane Feinstein) not to mention blocking President Trump's administration appointees.

5. **Continued Taxpayer Funding for Planned Parenthood.** All of the local Democratic Congressional Candidates believe you should help Planned Parenthood continue their abortion practices on your tax dollar.

6. **Continued Attitude that anyone who votes Republican and especially for President Trump is a "racist." "deplorable" or "dregs of society" person.** I don't think I need say more about that.

7. **Impeach Trump!** (then Pence, then Kavanaugh, then anyone else Maxine Waters dislikes). This seems to be the Democrats main rant every time they get the microphone. If the Democrats get control of the House of Representatives, the next two years will be nothing but votes to impeach the President and anyone some Democratic leaders don't like.

8. **Keeping Your Gas Taxes (and vehicle registrations) High!** They support the irresponsible increase in your gas and registration taxes. (Vote YES on Prop. 6 to lower them - more about that under the Propositions below). Not only do the Democrats want you to pay more to the Federal government in taxes, they want you to pay more at the pump for gas with a large part of those funds going to the failed high speed rail project.

There are other policy differences between the Republicans and the Democrats, but this overview I hope gives you an idea of what is at stake this election. We can move forward with a pro-America and pro-growth agenda or a return to a poor economy and grid lock government. Also, in my opinion, staying at home (and not voting) is a vote for Democrats.

With that introduction I offer you my voter recommendations:

U.S. Congress & Senate

<u>Office</u>	<u>Craig's Recommendation</u>
U.S. Senate	No Recommendation – thanks to the Top Two Primary we only have two Democrats on the ballot. Dishonest Diane Feinstein or ultra-liberal activist Mr. De Leon. Both are equally bad choices for conservative voters.
	U.S. Congress:
39 th	Young Kim (https://www.kimforcongress2018.com/)
45 th	Mimi Walters (https://www.mimiwalters.com/)
46 th	Russell Lambert (https://russlambertforcongress.com/)
47 th	John Briscoe
48 th	Dana Rohrabacher (http://www.rohrabacher.com/)
49 th	Diane Harkey (https://www.harkeyforcongress.com/) - Note Diane has my utmost support and recommendation. She has a great record of helping taxpayers!

State:

<u>Office</u>	<u>Craig's Recommendation</u>
Governor	John Cox (https://johncoxforgovernor.com/)
Lt. Governor	No Recommendation (both are Democrats)
Sec. of State	Mark Meuser (markmeuser.com)
Attorney General	Judge Steven Bailey (baileyforag.com)
Controller	Konstantinos Roditis (http://roditisforcontroller.com/)
State Treasurer	Greg Conlon www.gregconlon.com
Ins. Commissioner	Steve Poizner www.stevepoizner.com (no longer a Republican but far better than the Democrat radical Ricardo Lara).

Superintendent of Public Instruction	Marshall Tuck (https://marshalltuck.com/) This is one of those rare times I am recommending a non-Republican. He is not a conservative but he is a strong supporter of public charter schools!
State Bd. Of Equalization 1 st District	Ted Gaines – he is a proven conservative who deserves our votes!
State Bd. Of Equalization 2 nd District	Mark Burns
State Bd. Of Equalization 3 rd District	G. Rick Marshall
State Bd. Of Equalization 4 th District	Joel Anderson – he is a proven conservative who deserves our votes!
55 th Assembly District	Phillip Chen
65 th Assembly District	Alexandria “Alex” Coronado (http://coronadoforassembly.com/)
68 th Assembly District	Steven Choi
69 th Assembly District	No Recommendation
72 nd Assembly District	Tyler Diep (https://www.tylerdiep.com/)
73 rd Assembly District	Bill Brough (https://billbrough.org/) Bill is my Assemblyman and I am proud to have him represent us!
74 th Assembly District	Matt Harper (http://www.votemattthewharper.com/) Matt is one of our best representatives in the Assembly.
34 th State Senate	Janet Nguyen
36 th State Senate	Pat Bates (http://www.batesforsenate.com/) Pat is one of the best – glad she represents us in the State Senate!

CA Supreme Court Justices, County, Cities & Special Districts:

Office	Craig’s Recommendation
District Attorney	Tony Rackauckas (https://ocdistrictattorney.com/)
Sheriff	Don Barnes (https://www.barnesforsheriff.com/)
Races for Justice of the Supreme Court	I have no recommendations for the judicial races. I suggest you go to Robyn Nordell’s web site as she will have several resources like Craig Huey’s voter recommendations. (https://robbynordell.com/)
City of Aliso Viejo	David Harrington and Garrett Dwyer
City of Costa	District 5 Allan Mansoor

Mesa	
City of Dana Point	
District 1	Joe Muller
District 2	Richard Viczorek – Note: this is the District I live in. There are three candidates for this seat. One is a former city councilman. I have had interactions with this former city councilman and I do not find him to be credible or honest. On the other hand I find Richard Viczorek (a U.S. Marine Reserve Officer) to be honest and reasonable. He has done a good job as our city councilman and Mayor.
District 3	Jamie Fredrico – it is reported that Mr. Fredrcio is not pro-life. He is the best candidate in this race even if I do not agree with him on this important issue.
City of Fullerton	District 3, Greg Sebourn
City of Irvine Mayor	Don Wagner – my highest recommendation!
City of Irvine	Anthony Kuo
City of Newport Beach	District 3 Marshall Duffy Duffield, District 4 Kevin Muldoon, District 6 Scott Peotter.
City of San Clemente	Laura Ferguson – I have known Laura a long time and she is an intelligent, honest and a great person. She is not pro-life and on this issue she and I disagree. That being said, I still support her as she is a person of high integrity and she will make a great city councilperson bringing fresh ideas and transparency that is needed in San Clemente.
City of Laguna Niguel 4 year seats	Only the two incumbents are running. Both are good people.
City of Laguna Niguel 2 year	Sandy Rains – by far the best candidate.
Rancho Santa Margarita	Anne Figueroa and Brad McGirr
City of Santa Ana, Ward 6	Cecilia Iglesias – my highest recommendation!
City of Yorba Linda	Peggy Huang
Anaheim Union H. S. District	Area 1: Linda Lobatos, Area 2: Harald Martin, Area 5: Vernon Beckett (these are the best of the group running)
Santa Ana Unified School District	Angie Cano
South Coast Water Dist.	Bill Green
Moulton Niguel Water District	Kelly Jennings / Don Froelich Note: do NOT vote for Joel Bishop.

Before jumping directly into the Propositions let me pause about the first four – all Bond initiatives. Often, including in the official voter pamphlet, the proponents of bond initiatives tell us this is free money – no increase in taxes. That is simply **not** true. It is like a credit card that our children and grandchildren must pay both the principal and the interest debt we create. Plus they have nice sounding arguments like “helping veterans” or “the homeless” or even “the homeless veterans.” But the truth is these initiatives often provide that the State can use the funds raised for things other than “veterans”, etc.

Here is the total additional indebtedness Propositions 1 to 4 will cause:

Proposition	Bond Amount	Estimated Total cost with interest
1	\$4 Billion	\$5.9 Billion
2	\$2 Billion	\$3.6 Billion
3	\$8.9 Billion	\$17.3 Billion
4	\$1.5 Billion	\$2.9 Billion
Total	\$16.4 Billion	\$29.7 Billion

The above is IN ADDITION to the **hundreds of billions in bond indebtedness** voters have already passed for the last thirty years! We do not need any further bond debt as a state. In addition, the “housing” bonds are solving an artificial problem created by the same legislature that wants you to pass the bond initiatives. They cause housing to be so much more expensive with regulations and red tape. A better solution is to cut red tape and regulations to allow more construction at less cost.

Propositions for California (statewide):

Proposition	<u>Craig’s Recommendation</u>
Prop. 1 Housing Bonds	<i>No</i>
Prop. 2 Housing Bonds (for homeless)	<i>No</i>
Prop. 3 Bonds for Water, etc.	<i>No</i>
Prop. 4 Bonds for Children’s Care	<i>No</i>
Prop. 5 Transfer of Property Tax Base	<i>Yes! Very taxpayer friendly.</i>
Prop. 6 Repeal the Gas Tax!	<i>A double YES! Roll back (repeal) gas and automobile registrations taxes and fees!!!</i>
Prop. 7 Yearlong Daylight Savings Time	<i>No Recommendation</i>

Prop. 8 Regulate Kidney Dialysis	<i>No – this is a giveaway to unions to make dialysis care more expensive and scarce.</i>
Prop. 9	<i>Removed from the ballot by order of the California Supreme Court</i>
Prop. 10 Expands Rent Control Authority	<i>No – Rent control is a failure everywhere it has been attempted. We need more housing via less government regulations not more government controls.</i>
Prop. 11 Private Sector EMTs and work rules	<i>No recommendation</i>
Prop. 12 Farm Animals	<i>NO! Did you notice that the price of eggs (and other groceries) tripled over the last few years? Why? Prop. 2 in November 2008 taking effect in 2015 made it very, very expensive for farmers to make a decent profit to raise chickens and other farm animals by regulating the size of chicken pens and other farm animal pens and cages. This proposition would make farm products even more expensive.</i>

A Note about local measures: There is a long list of local measures on the ballot in Orange County of various cities and school districts. Many of these are measures for bonds and tax increases. All are dressed up to try and convince you to vote for them. “Repair school buildings,” “provide for fire and police protection,” “911 services,” etc., etc. All of them have a common theme: elected officials want you to bail them out for their bad budgeting decisions – the vast majority of which are overspending on government employee salaries, benefits and retiree pension promises that should never have been made. I urge citizens to **vote No** on these tax increases (bond initiatives are really tax increases) and tell their elected leaders to either do proper budgeting, really represent taxpayers or leave office and let someone else take that elected position. Only one local measure I am covering deserves a yes vote – Newport Beach’s Measure T is NOT a tax increase request but to institute a requirement of the city to ask its voters for permission to incur certain kinds of debt.

Local Initiatives / Measures:

G - Los Alamitos USD bond	No
LL – Lowell Joint USD Bond	No
I – Santa Ana USD Bond	No
O – City of Garden Grove tax increase	No

P – City of Laguna Beach tax increase	No
T – City of Newport Beach	Yes – this is not a request for a tax increase but a measure to require the City’s voters to approve certain kinds of financing of future public projects. The measure is to correct past misuse and unwise financing decisions by a past city council that placed the City in very large debt.
U – City of Placentia tax increase	No
W – City of San Clemente tax increase	No
X – City of Santa Ana tax increase	No (Note: the official argument against this tax increase is by perennial candidate and odd ball Steve Rocco. That does not mean opposition to this tax should be set aside due to his being the opponent in the official voter pamphlet. The increased tax burden is still a bad idea for Santa Ana residents.).
BB – City of Seal Beach tax increase	No
CC – City of Tustin tax increase	No