



## CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Name: **Shay Franco-Clausen**

Age: **43**

Family: **Married to a Police Officer, raising 3 children of my own and two more at risk youth.**

Hometown: **San Jose**

Lived in San Jose since: **My whole life**

Education: **Associates in Mass Communications and Public Relations**

Occupation: **Director of Government and Public Relations**

Employer: **Silicon Valley F.A.C.E.S.**

Political experience: **Campaign manager for Ash Kalra Assembly District 27, Field Representative for CA Assembly District 27**

Notable affiliations:

### **Active Memberships:**

Junior League, Member

\*Sierra Club, Member

Santa Clara County Democratic Club, Member

Santa Clara County Democratic Party, Executive Board Member

Progressive Bay Progressive Alliance, Member

DAWN, Member

Sierra Club, Member

NAACP Silicon Valley, Member

Sangam Arts, Board member

Building Peaceful Families, Board Member

Capital Club, Member

BWOPA, Member

**\*Endorsement Groups:** [Sole Endorsement] Santa Clara County Democratic Club, South Bay Labor Council, Silicon Valley Progressive Alliance, BWOPA, Bangladesh American Democratic Coalition, DAWN , Equality California, Victory Institute, Sierra Club, Oak Grove Teachers Association, League of Conservation Voters, East Side Union School District CTA, San Jose Fire fighters, IBEW Local 332, South Bay Progressive Alliance, Local Laborers, BAYMEC.

1. **What do you see as the greatest challenges when it comes to providing residents with a livable, affordable and safe community?**

The prices, the demand and the opportunities are the three main factors that have caused the housing crisis. I believe the best way to solve this problem is through responsible business plans that ensure local hires creating more funding circulation in the city of San Jose. Secondly we have to bring a housing pricing plan that truly reflects that needs of the community. The land usage, zoning and collaboration from the community need to be stronger to make the best choices.

2. **What is the biggest opportunity for your district or city during the next four years?**

The biggest areas of opportunity for this district over the next four years will focus on increasing the amount of officers patrolling our neighborhood and in turn creating safer streets. Revitalizing and utilizing the open spaces and parks in the district. Lastly in the housing crisis, is the biggest hurdle and will require the County and City to work better together to create housing options.

3. **Describe your commitment to your district or city leading up to your bid for office.**

I think that commitment can be measured with the current and previous work that an individual has dedicated to uplifting the community. I have the most diverse background with the strongest history of public service.

I am currently on the School Site Council for Willow Glen Middle School where my son attends school, amongst many of my roles. I have adopted a mile of the Guadalupe River for creek clean ups and protect our natural water sheds. I have been a mentor for youth in local high schools, colleges and more.

I have had the honor of being the involved with organizing and being the Keynote Speaker at the 2016 “Women’s March.” This March, I was the DJ at the 2018 March For Our Lives” in March, with my students. I have volunteered my

time as a DJ to local high schools and events, as I always find a way that to give back to my community including:

- Vice Chair, Santa Clara County Commission on the Status of Women
- Commissioner, Santa Clara County Human Trafficking Commission
- Northern California Rep., Association of California Commission for Women Girls
- Committee Member, San Jose Evergreen Bond Oversight Committee
- Former Board Member, Silicon Valley PRIDE
- Former Board Member, DAWN - Democratic Activists for Women Now

#### AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS:

Mentor of the Year Award (2011)

BLAST After-School Program

Community Partner of the Year (2014)

San Jose Job Corps

APALI CLP Leadership Program, Graduate (2015)

De Anza College

Emerge CA Leadership Program, Graduate (2016)

Northern California Cohort

Equality California Leadership, Graduate (2016)

Phenomenal Woman of the Year (2016)

Building Peaceful Families Nonprofit

49'ers Community Quarterback Award (2016)

The 49ers Foundation

Party for Progress "LGBTQ + Rights" Changemaker (2017)

New Leaders Silicon Valley

Victory Institute Fellow (2017)

Partnership Equity Award (2017)

A statewide honor from the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence

Empowerment Award (2017)

YWCA Silicon Valley's 27th Inspire luncheon featured Shay with 2017 YWCA Empowerment Award to a survivor, community champion or advocate!

4. **Silicon Valley and the Bay Area are at the center of global, technological advancement. How do you see technology's role in changing the lives of both longtime residents and transplants?**

Technology is not the only thing that the Bay Area has to offer. I believe that technology has created a divide between the residents and the incoming "transplants." I think that the pace that technology has come in the communities has created a lot of damage. Technology has been the driving force to migration to the area, and therefore has been a key factor in the raising housing market. I believe that we need to pace ourselves better so that we are better equipped with priorities aligned so that we do not continue race the nation in technological advances. I think that technology has a lot to offer the community as long as we don't compromise them as we advance forward lets not leave the community that built it behind.