Memorandum

Date: November 20, 2021
From: Omega Brewer-Gonzalez, Campaign Services Director
To: DPSC Executive Board

Subject: Endorsement Recommendation - Sacramento County DA

The purpose of this memo is to report to the EBoard and Central Committee Members the endorsement recommendations for the Sacramento County DA race. The interview panel interviewed the candidates on Saturday, November 20th, and the results are listed below.

Candidates Interviewed:
Thien Ho & Alana Matthews

Recommendation:
The interview panel recommends the endorsement of **Dual Endorsement or in the case dual endorsement, the committee voted 4-1 to recommend Alana Matthews receive the endorsement.** in his/her candidacy for **Sacramento County DA**.

Rationale:

- Both candidates would bring an important perspective to the office.
- Alana as an outsider/academic/reformer
- Thien as an experienced insider/reformer
- Both candidates are from marginalized communities and have compelling life stories
- Both candidates have extensive experience in the DA's office
- Both candidates are running on a platform of more engagement with marginalized communities, and given their backgrounds, the panel believed this commitment to be genuine and deeply held.
- Both candidates offered specific examples of programs they would start that would create alternatives to prosecution
- Both candidates expressed a commitment to rehabilitation following convicting and incarceration.
- Both candidates were knowledgeable about the breadth and depth of responsibilities covered by the office

To the extent that a difference existed, the panel felt that Alana's message was more "in touch with the times" and that she had a stronger commitment to law enforcement oversight. With that said, the committee also conducted a backup vote in case the dual endorsement was not an option, and that vote (4-1) was to recommend Alana Matthews receive the endorsement.

However, the panel was also impressed by Thien's depth of experience and long career within the department, and his willingness to go against the grain of department culture in support of reforms.

Interview Panel Members:
Samantha Anaya, Muriel Brounstein Dooley, Jay Hansen, Monica Madrid & Michael Vargas

On Monday January 3, 2022, the Executive Board affirmed the committee recommendation, thereby recommending the endorsement of Alana Matthews by a vote of 7-0.