



**Wellstone Progressive Democrats of Sacramento
CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE
General Questionnaire: 2013-2014**

All completed questionnaires will be accessible to Club members.

I. CAMPAIGN PROFILE

Name	Eric Guerra
Office sought	Sacramento City Council District 6
FPPC/FEC #	#1374232
Campaign address (Including city, state and ZIP)	1017 L Street #282; Sacramento, CA 95814
Campaign email	VoteEricGuerra@gmail.com
Campaign phone	916-439-4525
Campaign website	EricGuerra.org
Occupation	Legislative Policy Director
Employer	Assemblymember David Chiu
Campaign manager	Chris Chaffee

Elected or appointed offices currently/previously held:

Chair of the Sacramento County Planning Commission – appointed by Supervisor Phil Serna

Former Trustee, California State Universe System, appointed by Governor Gray Davis

Former SHRA Redevelopment Advisory Committee Member for the 65th Street/Transit Village

Former Member, University Enterprises, Inc.

Former Member, Allied Health Workforce Advisory Committee, California Hospital Association



Optional: Affiliations, clubs, community organizations (local/statewide)

President-Elect, Sacramento State Alumni Association
Board Member, Chicano Latino Youth Leadership Conference
Board Member, Joe & Isabela Serna Policy Center (CSUS)
Executive Board Member, California Democratic Party
Elected Central Committee Member, Sacramento County Democratic Party
Immediate Past President, Tahoe Park Neighborhood Association
Past Vice President, Latino Democratic Club

Attach your latest biography, a list of current endorsements, any campaign literature and social media information.

II. INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS

Answer 'Yes' or 'No' or explain as requested

1. Have you ever been registered as anything other than Democratic, including decline to state? If so, explain.

NO

2. Do you agree with the Statement of Principles of the Progressive Caucus of the California Democratic Party in its entirety? ([See Statement of Principles here](#))

Yes (X)

3. Briefly describe why you are running for this office and what sets you apart from your opponents.

My family and I grew up as undocumented immigrant farmworkers with few options of upward mobility or a defined path to citizenship. It was my move to the City of Sacramento to attend Sacramento State that gave me the opportunity to succeed and gain my citizenship.

After working my way through Sac State as a janitor and graduating with a Degree in Engineering, I was to find a good job, buy a home, and help my family move up. I'm running for City Council to ensure that the residents of Sacramento have the same opportunities to succeed that I was afforded when I moved here. I also want to be a representative for those in Sacramento that too often are ignored.

4. Where would you place yourself on the political spectrum: libertarian, conservative, moderate, liberal, progressive, etc., and why do you identify yourself that way?

Progressive. I believe in standing up for working families and the powerless, groups too often ignored in our democracy.

III. ISSUE QUESTIONS

Provide a brief & clear response.

5. What role should government play in our lives, and what limits should be placed on government, if any?

I believe that government must offer a social safety net for our society, ensuring that the least amongst us are protected. The government's reach though should be limited based on the Bill of Rights and everyone living within the United States should have the laws applied to equally with an individual's due process rights protected. I also believe that campaign spending should not be viewed as a 1st Amendment right, it should be limited.

6. Do you believe in the separation of religious institutions/organizations and state? Specifically, do you believe it is acceptable to teach "intelligent design" in public schools or to put up religious monuments on public property? Is it OK for religious institutions/organizations that engage in political activity and/or engage in discriminatory practices to maintain tax-exempt status?

I believe in the separation of church and state. Intelligent design should not be taught in school – it is not based on science, it is based on faith. I do not believe that religious institutions or organizations that engage in political activity or discriminatory practices should maintain their tax-exempt status.

What values and/or interests do you believe should guide U.S. foreign policy? When, if ever, should U.S. forces be sent to intervene in other countries? When, if ever, should the United States impose economic sanctions on other countries or on specific leaders in them? What are the appropriate roles of international law and the United Nations? Should military spending be increased, reduced, or kept at current levels?

The United States should be guided by securing our safety at home. We should only intervene when there is a clear and present danger to the United States.

I also believe we should reduce our spending on the military-industrial complex and shift the savings to increased spending on domestic programs to extend the social safety net.

7. Do you support marriage equality, and if so, what is your vision for LGBTQ rights beyond marriage equality?

Yes, I support marriage equality. I believe the LGBTQ community should be afforded all the rights and privileges offered in the United States.

8. Would you support mandatory diversity and sensitivity training for private as well as public employees?

Yes.

9. What will you do to ensure that women have equal pay, equal access to jobs and full control over their bodies?

I will continue to fight for passage of the Equal Pay Act and pass resolutions supporting at the City Council level if I'm elected. I will also continue to fight discriminatory practices.

10. Do you support seniority rights for workers? Do you support project labor agreements? Do you have any relationships to organized labor?

I support organized labor, senior rights, PLA's and allowing unionization through the card checks. I have worked with organized labor on legislation in the Assembly for over a decade. I also believe that a leading cause of reduced worker wages is the reduction in union representation.

11. Are you supportive of a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants already living in the United States? If so, what would that pathway to citizenship entail? Are you supportive of the federal DREAM Act? The state DREAM Act?

Yes, I am supportive of a pathway to citizenship. I was an undocumented migrant workers and received my citizenship under the 1980's amnesty program. We need to create a real pathway to citizenship NOW.

I am also wholeheartedly in favor of the Dream Act. I helped draft it and worked to secure its passage in California. It is one of my proudest achievements.

12. What are your views on civil liberties as they relate to: 1) the effects of gang injunctions; 2) the right to protest under the 1st Amendment; 3) the 2nd Amendment and the right to bear arms, and 4) the right to privacy and surveillance by law enforcement?

Gang injunctions are a breach of individual's free speech and right of assembly.

The right to protest under the 1st Amendment must be protected, but there are limits to it. Certain protections need to be applied to people seeking

medical care. The right to free speech should deprive an individual's ability to seek medical care and/or counseling.

The 2nd Amendment has been extended too far. I believe in gun control laws to reduce the number of guns on the streets and reduce gun violence. The 2nd Amendment needs to be limited for the safety of our communities.

The right of privacy, which has extended abortion rights to women, must be protected, especially given the reach of technology. Law enforcement should have to get a search warrant to encroach on a person's privacy.

13. Suppose an employee over which you had responsibility became a whistleblower, going to the media with damaging information that he or she alleges was not properly dealt with via normal channels. What actions would you take? Would you support civil or criminal penalties for this person?

I believe whistleblowers should be protected from civil and criminal penalties.

14. What is your view on the current administration's use of indefinite detention to hold people deemed to be threats to national security, and use of extrajudicial assassination to kill people deemed to be "unlawful combatants" (e.g. drone strikes)? What is your view on the use of so-called "enhanced interrogation" techniques?

I don't believe in torture or indefinite detentions. Both undermine the United States internationally and are a breach of the right to due process.

15. What reforms, if any, do you believe should be made to the current campaign finance system? Would you support support the ratification of an amendment to the U.S. Constitution ending corporate personhood, regulation of corporate campaign contributions or public financing of campaigns?

Throw out Citizens United. Place a cap on the amount anyone, individual or corporation, can contribute to a campaign. Allow for true public financing of political campaigns.

We must find a way to get rid of the corrupt influence money plays in our current political system.

16. What reforms of the criminal justice system would you like to see? Do you support capital punishment, LWOP (life without parole) for adults or juveniles, three strikes, or solitary confinement?

We need to reform our criminal justice system as minorities disproportionately make up the population of our jails. I do not believe in capital punishment, LWOP for juveniles, or solitary confinement.

17. What practices or policies would you support to promote a well-rounded quality public education for students and attract and retain quality educators in our schools? What is your view on the creation of charter schools?

I believe we need to increase funding to K-12 and our university system and give teachers more resources to allow them to better educate our kids.

I am against the proliferation of charter schools, which is happening throughout California.

18. What action would you take to address climate change? How would you balance environmental sustainability, energy policy and social justice?

I would push for increased renewable energy requirements of our utilities, apply a gas tax to invest in public transportation, work to reduce corn subsidies, and push for a greener building code in Sacramento.

19. How do you feel about the privatization of public resources and services, e.g. water, water treatment, parks, schools, parking structures, libraries, law enforcement, fire emergency and emergency medical services, Social Security, military, roads, bridges, etc.?

Public resources should not be privatized.

20. What is your stance on the implementation of the Affordable Care Act? With the ACA now a reality, what is your position on health care for all?

The ACA is a good first step, but we need a universal health care system where profits are removed from the health care industry.

21. What are your views on international trade policies, and free trade in particular?

They too often lead to reduced wages and jobs being shipped out of the US. I believe that future free trade policies should have stronger worker protections.

22. What solution(s) would you propose to solve budget shortfalls and how would you prioritize the needs of your constituents? Would taxes be part of that solution?

I believe we must focus on investing in neighborhood services over subsidizing private businesses. I believe in taxes as long as they are linked to vital neighborhood services like – schools, roads, public safety, etc.

23. What is the most important issue in affecting your constituents and what will you accomplish while in office to address that issue?

Poverty and low wages are a huge issue in District 6. One way to combat these problems is through passage of a minimum wage ordinance at the City or County level. This will be a first-step in reducing poverty in Sacramento.

Signed: Eric Guerra

Dated: February 10, 2015