

SF League of Pissed Off Voters 2026 Primary Questionnaire

Hello candidates! Thank you for filling out the League's questionnaire. Please complete the questionnaire by 5pm on Friday, February 27th if you wish to be considered for the League's endorsement. Please use this form rather than formatting it into a Word document or PDF. If you have any questions, you can contact us at TheLeagueSF@gmail.com.

Email *

[Redacted]

Name

Oliver Ma

Office You Are Running For

Lieutenant Governor

Campaign Contact

Armando Garcia

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Phone Number

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Website

oliverma2026.com

Motivation

Why are you running for *this* office?

I am Oliver Ma, an immigrant, organizer, and civil rights lawyer. I am running a progressive campaign for California Lieutenant Governor to fight for unions and working families.

I moved to the US at 7, and grew up in Southern California. My family never saw the legal system as something to get justice from, always, something to be afraid of. To fight for my community, I went to Harvard Law School. In law school, I worked for two years in eviction defense, where I represented mostly immigrant families against slumlords. I fought racist cops, held my breath through asbestos activated basements, and canvassed buildings with heat shut off during the winter. For a year, I also led the Sword and Shield coalition, a group of 7 Boston housing justice organizations. In my role, I organized biweekly coalition calls, where we strategized for rent control and to organize tenant unions.

I am a leader in the Kern Rapid Response Network, where I train volunteers to become legal observers, rapid responders, and to accompany people to their ICE check ins. I also organize know your rights workshops, and work with statewide partners to plot the shut down California's immigration detention centers. On Saturdays you'll often find me in an immigration detention center visiting my detained friends, or volunteering with the UFWF to help people apply for asylum or DACA renewals.

I am running for Lt. Governor so California steps up and defends its immigrant and farmworker communities, make housing affordable, healthcare for all, and divest our State from the genocide and apartheid in Palestine. We should be re-investing back into our communities, instead of bombing kids abroad. I've never held office before, this is my first time running. But, I see that as a unique opportunity. I'm not a career politician - I've spent my career on the frontlines suing the Trump administration, defending immigrant communities, and fighting for housing justice. I believe that is the type of leader we need in office.

What are your values, and how did you get them?

When my family and I moved to the US at 7 years old, I experienced everything a typical immigrant family would experience. I translated documents for my family, dealt with racism, I set appointments, & translated phone calls. Unfortunately, I also experienced my grandmother get racially profiled and detained by immigration and customs enforcement. This was one of the most formative experiences I had growing up, and it defined my values and principles. To fight for my family and my community, I went to Harvard Law school to become a civil rights lawyer. I believe that candidates and elected officials should not take any corporate PAC money, should always stand by what is right, and never be afraid to take on a fight that is right.

What communities do you represent, and how do they hold you accountable?

For the past 3 years I've been serving as a board member with the Kern Rapid Response Network, where I train volunteers to become legal observers, rapid responders, and to accompany people to their ICE check ins. I also organize know your rights workshops, and work with statewide partners to plot the shut down of California's immigration detention centers. On Saturdays you'll often find me in an immigration detention center visiting my detained friends, or volunteering with the UFWF to help people apply for asylum or DACA renewals.

Additionally, when I was at Harvard Law - I worked for two years in eviction defense, where I represented working families against slumlords. I fought racist cops, held my breathe through asbestos activated basements, and canvassed buildings with heat shut off during the winter. For a year, I also led the Sword and Shield coalition, a group of 7 housing justice organizations. In my role, I organized biweekly coalition calls, where we strategized for rent control and to organize tenant unions. In this role, I would lead weekly community meetings and help organize canvases at buildings who are ripe for tenant unions.

In 2023 I graduated from law school and moved to Kern County to work at the ACLU of Southern California, as a civil rights lawyer specializing in immigrant rights. In this role, I have had the honor of working closely with the UFW and the UFWF. I represented the UFWF in UFWF v Kern, a case challenging Kern County's practice of coercing people into accepting plea deals without advisal of immigration consequences. I also represented the UFW in UFW v Noem, a case that challenged and successfully enjoined lawless immigration raids in Kern County.

What three endorsements are you most proud of?

California DSA - I am the first candidate to be endorsed for statewide office by the California DSA

United Auto Workers (UAW) Region 6 - as the only union member in this race, I am extremely proud of this endorsement.

United Chinese Americans (UCA) - I'm proud to have the support of the community that helped elevate me.

What are the top three issues you will work on, and what is your plan for achieving your goals?

1.) Protecting Immigrant Families. California is home to more immigrants than any state in the country. I have spent the last couple of years of my career taking ICE to court and defending families against deportation with the ACLU of Southern California. I have sued the Trump administration (and won!) for the abuse that ICE thugs have been committing to our communities. As Lt. Governor, I'll hold ICE accountable for these illegal raids by co-sponsoring legislation that will force Police to hold ICE thugs accountable for violating the law. Additionally, I plan to shut down for profit detention centers, and support community rapid response networks. Families belong together, and California must lead in protecting them.

2.) Affordable homes & stable rents. The median rent in California is over \$2,800 a month—more than half the average paycheck. That's not sustainable. I will fight to prevent corporate slumlords from buying up entire neighborhoods, fight to expand rent control statewide, and protect tenants from unjust evictions. Corporate landlords like Blackstone own thousands of homes in California, only to rent them out to us, and this should not be the case. As Lt. Governor, I would also chair the California Commission on Economic Development. This position is where I would push legislation that would make housing more available to our communities to buy, instead of renting. There currently is a bill that caps corporations from owning more than a thousand homes, and I believe this number should be 0.

3.) Divest from apartheid and invest in justice. The UC schools alone hold more than \$32 billion in assets tied to the apartheid in Palestine. I believe California's investments should reflect its values. That means divesting from those that profit from oppression – including the genocide in Gaza. Those dollars should work for you – funding schools, keeping clinics open, and making sure no one lives one paycheck away from losing their home.

What local and state commissions or policy bodies have you served on?

NA

What political organizations are you a member of (e.g., democratic clubs)?

Democratic Woman of Kern. Kern County Young Democrat Leaders. Kern County DSA. AVANCE Democratic Club.

What for-profit or non-profit boards have you served on, including political organizations?

During my undergrad at UC Berkeley, I founded a student-led non profit called ALLY. ALLY trains asian youth to combat racism, serve their communities, and apply to higher education. Since 2016, I have trained thousands of young asian americans, many of which now work for many elected leaders across CA and in DC. Now, ALLY has 7 chapters across California.

What campaigns have you worked on?

NA

What recent candidates and ballot measures have you supported financially?

NA

What is one concrete thing about the League of Pissed Off Voters (for example, something we have done, said, or published) that you appreciate and that would make you proud to have our endorsement?

One thing I appreciate about the League of Pissed Off Voters, is how bold and proud you all are on your messaging. I think what I appreciate the most is how you all "educate our friends on the issues, excite pissed-off progressive voters, and remind sellout politicians that we're paying attention." That's exactly what this campaign is about. We are about taking all the pissed off progressives and showing them that a better world is possible, if we build it together.

Statewide Office

What is a top legislative achievement or policy you are most proud of delivering for California?

I mentioned this earlier, but in 2023 I graduated from law school and moved to Kern County to work at the ACLU of Southern California, as a civil rights lawyer specializing in immigrant rights. In this role, I have had the honor of working closely with the UFW and the UFWF. I represented the UFWF in *UFWF v Kern*, a case challenging Kern County's practice of coercing people into accepting plea deals without advisal of immigration consequences. I also represented the UFW in *UFW v Noem*, a case that challenged and successfully enjoined lawless immigration raids in Kern County. Kern County was the first location in the entire US where the illegal immigration raids took place last year. I'm proud to have stood with my community.

What are the unique challenges California faces and how will you address them if elected/re-elected?

In what ways would your work in this office align with, or be different from, the last person elected to this office?

How will you use your office to help the state address chronic wildfires and other impacts of climate change?

I believe we must invest in renewable energy and real climate solutions, including major funding for wildfire resilience and prevention. Oliver will push for stronger support for California firefighters, with the resources, staffing, and equipment they need to protect communities as fire seasons get longer and more severe.

Will you support overturning the Costa-Hawkins Act, allowing cities to control their own rent control policies?

California needs stronger tenant protection laws. As Lieutenant Governor, I will fight for statewide rent control by repealing Costa-Hawkins, repealing the Ellis Act, supporting the right to counsel for tenants, and banning no-fault evictions - so families can stay housed and communities can stay whole.

Do you have a realistic strategy for repealing Prop 13?

I believe PROP 13 is good law when it applies only to ordinary people. Where PROP 13 does not get it right, is when it is applied to mega corporations like Disneyland, who own thousands of acres of land. We need to revise PROP 13 so that we exclude corporations and they can start paying what they owe. I will champion this initiative as Lieutenant Governor and work closely with Congress and the Senate. As president of the State Senate, I will co-sponsor and push legislation that makes this happen. With this funding, we can fight to push CALCARE, tuition-free higher ed, and for housing that is affordable for everyone.

What is your opinion of the statewide initiative process?

What is your opinion of California's redistricting process?

PROP 50 passing in California was a necessity for our democracy. I wholeheartedly supported PROP 50 and campaigned to get it passed, so in this instance I agree with the process in which it was processed and passed. In general, I believe our States should limit redistricting and outright avoid gerrymandering at all costs. California did it right by making it a choice that people get to vote on, States like Texas should do better.

What role do you see AI playing in our public sphere?

In an ideal world, AI will be used for the benefit of humanity. Unfortunately, that is not the case right now. We are seeing investors use AI for profits, big pharma are using AI to deny claims at a higher rate, and AI is being used amongst our youth to bully and harass their classmates, and employers are using AI for surveillance that invades privacy and chills organizing in the workplace. We need stronger regulations on AI - AI is scaling at an incredibly fast rate, with no actual regulations and limits.

Endorsements and Support - June 2026

Who will you support in the June 2026 election?

US Congress, District 11

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Supervisor, District 2

.....

SFUSD School Board

.....

SF Superior Court, Seat 16

.....

Governor

.....

Attorney General

Rob Bonta

.....

Insurance Commisioner

Jane Kim

.....

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Nichelle Henderson

Past Props

How did you vote on specific ballot measures in past elections?

Nov 2024 Prop 32: Raise Minimum Wage

Yes

No

Nov 2024 Prop 33: Allow Local Rent Control / Repeal Costa Hawkins

Yes

No

Nov 2024 Prop 36: Treat Misdemeanors as Felonies

Yes

No

Upcoming Measures

How will you vote on upcoming ballot measures?

Nov 2026 Statewide Billionaire Tax

Yes

No

Jun 2026 CA Public Financing of Elections

Yes

No

In Closing

What is your favorite San Francisco restaurant and what would you order there?

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Is there anything else you want to tell us?

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