

PAULY'S PICKS
Tuesday, March 5, 2024 Presidential Primary Election

First a few words about integrity, not Election Integrity, just plain old-fashioned integrity, which is the quality of being honest — intellectually honest — and having strong moral principles. Integrity is moral uprightness. It is the state of being whole and undivided.

An endorsement or recommendation should mean something. Picking the least onerous of the two options is not a recommendation. It is simply settling. Conservatives have been “settling” for the “lesser of two evils” for a long time and our situation continues to degrade. There are many “Sham Voter Guides” that do nothing more than parrot official Republican Party swamp endorsements. They present themselves as independent, when they are merely rubber stamps. Some of them have **never** met the candidates.

At what point do we finally say enough is enough? Refuse to contribute to the swamp. Let's drain it! This isn't a game of football where we are cheering for red v blue. This is about the governance and continued vibrancy of our Constitutional Republic.

Do NOT vote Early! Do NOT vote by mail!
Vote in person! Vote on Election Day! Vote by paper ballot!

UNITED STATES PRESIDENT: DONALD J TRUMP

UNITED STATES SENATOR (Full Term and Partial): JAMES BRADLEY

Bradley was endorsed by CPOC. Personally, I am a big fan of Eric Early and would like to preserve him for another run at California Attorney General, an office for which he is eminently qualified. Denise Gary-Pandol has got some great national security chops. Any of these would be better than Steve Garvey, who is running a vanity campaign, spurred on by the establishment swamp that has been driving the Republican Party into the ground. (I'm having flashbacks to Schwarzenegger being shoved down our throats. Does anyone remember how that went for us?) Garvey was a great first baseman, but he's off-base with this U.S. Senate run.

PAULY'S PERSPECTIVE: California has a top two jungle primary system. In other words, the top two vote-getters, regardless of party affiliation, will advance to the November General Election. I don't want ANY of our Republican nominees to advance because none of them has even a slim chance of winning in November. **A better strategy would be for us to advance two Democrats in November** and allow them to duke it out, spend buckets of money campaigning against each other, and tarnishing each other's reputation with mudslinging. **A little Dem-on-Dem bloodletting would be entertaining.** You may read more PAULY'S PERSPECTIVES at: <https://conservativepatriotsofoc.org/index.php/2024/01/30/presidents-message-january-2024/>

(NOTE: There are two U.S. SENATE races on this ballot for the same seat to succeed Senator Diane Feinstein, who passed away while in office. The partial is to complete her term through the end of 2024. The other is for a full 6-year term beginning January 2025.)

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES

38th District: ERIC J. CHING

Ching has been endorsed by CPOC. We are relying heavily on trustworthy members with first hand knowledge on his history and voting record.

40th District: NO RECOMMENDATION

CPOC voted to recommend NO ONE for this office. Even Voter Guides who feel compelled to recommend someone admit that incumbent **Young Kim** is not a conservative, but think because she has an “R” after her name that she is a better alternative. No, she’s not. ***A false friend is more dangerous than an open enemy.*** The establishment swamp loves her because they despise Trump and so does she. Her Freedom Index Score is a 57. She failed to secure the endorsement of the California Republican Assembly. If you want some interesting reading, view her FEC reports for 2023/2024. Most of the campaign donations are listed as being from WinRed out of Vermont. In other words, we have no idea who is backing this RINO. https://www.fec.gov/data/receipts/?data_type=processed&committee_id=C00665638&two_year_transaction_period=2024

45th District: NO RECOMMENDATION

CPOC voted to recommend NO ONE for this office. I concur, although incumbent Michelle Steel does not suffer from the same depths of defect as her Korean Sister. (Young and Steel are constantly promoting how they are the first Koreans elected to the U.S. Congress. Why should we care? Newsflash: We don’t! Stop with the identity politics. Michelle, there are times when you should tell your husband to back off.) Michelle’s Freedom Index Score is a 63. She also failed to secure the endorsement of the California Republican Assembly, which is unheard of for incumbent Republicans. It’s encouraging to see more conservatives rejecting the lukewarm and the self-serving.

46th District: NO RECOMMENDATION

California’s Republican National Committeeman Shawn Steel, husband and handler of Congresswoman Michelle Park-Steel, recruited Democrat David Pan to run for this seat against incumbent Democrat Lou Correa. Pan has reregistered as a Republican. As the “Republican nominee” Pan will be an ex officio on the Republican Party of Orange County’s Central Committee. What’s really sad is that Steel convinced the party to kick to the curb an actual life-long conservative Republican, who had already pulled papers for this race. They actively discouraged him from running because his last name is Gonzales. It’s very sad what happened...and very racist.

47th District: MAX URKOPINA

It’s exciting to see some new conservative leadership finally emerging from the next generation. Max has been endorsed by CPOC, former Congressman Dana Rohrabacher, who held that seat at one time. He has also been endorsed by one of Trump’s former cabinet officers Richard Grenell and former Congressman John Campbell. Max is a breath of fresh air. You can watch some of his videos and read his policy positions at: <https://www.maxforoc.com/>

We need to say a few words about his opponent Scott Baugh, who the establishment says is the only one who can win that seat because of his name ID as the one-time Chairman of the Republican Party of Orange County. The OC was a red county the he took over the GOP from Mr. Tom Fuentes. Within a few years, Baugh had decimated the Republican edge, destroyed the grassroots, neutralized true conservatives, neglected to build our bench, pushed everyone to register to “vote by mail,” leading to massive election fraud, and then turned the reigns over to his chosen successor to finish the job and take the heat for his failed leadership. Or did he fail? Many believe he was a RINO plant. He played divide and concur within his own ranks. He ran against a seated incumbent Republican Congressman in good standing, sapped that Republican’s campaign war chest and shackled us with a Democrat representing that area. Now, he wants to “save” us from Katie Porter. We would not be in this mess if it was not for Baugh. Anyone who votes to send this swamp-creature to Washington D.C. has not been paying any attention.

NOTE: Even as a newcomer, Max was able to deny Baugh the endorsement of the California Republican Assembly. In fact, Max secured more endorsement votes than Baugh, just not enough to hit the two-thirds threshold.

49th District: KATE MONROE

Another situation where none of the candidates are that great, but Kate knows that our rights come from God and she’s a former Marine. I’m partial to my Marines. Let’s give her a chance and see how she does. Endorsed by California Republican Assembly. Learn more about her here: www.KateforCongress.com

CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE

37th District: GUY SELLECK

He doesn’t need the money. He doesn’t need a job. He’s a highly successful businessman, who understands that living in California is expensive because conducting business here is expensive. Businesses have no choice but to pass that expense on to consumers in the way of higher prices on nearly everything. He knows what needs to be done to fix it. (I’ve seen many candidates claim to be “small business owners,” but, in fact, perform administrative functions in their spouse’s business or sell Mary Kay Cosmetics. Is that the same thing? I don’t think so.) Guy is a lifelong Republican who had financially supported Republican candidates until he became increasingly disappointed by the yield. He urged the Republican Party NOT to endorse any of the candidates in this race, but to let the voters decide, which is how it is supposed to be. The other Republican candidates were recruited by various factions of the establishment swamp that have really let us down. They were fighting over the prized stamp of “SWAMP APPROVED.” But the OC GOP uncharacteristically did the right thing and has not endorsed in this race. Guy is not a career politician, like the others. Some people think he cannot do the job because he has never held office before. Well, neither had Trump. Look at what a magnificent job he did. Guy is a U.S. Air Force veteran and I really like that. None of the other GOP candidates have served in the military. He has a commanding, calm, and humble - yet confident - presence. He’s

just very real and down to earth Guy and concerned enough that he's willing to jump into this race to give the "thinking voter" a real option.

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY

NOTE: *If you would like to see accurate maps of the new assembly district boundaries after the decennial census and redistricting, visit MakeOrangeCountyGreatAgain.com*

59th District: Well...the incumbent is **Phillip Chen**.

Has anyone even seen him since he got elected? After redistricting, he inherited a very safe Republican seat. There is no reason for him to talk with the lowly peasants.

64th District: RAUL ORTIZ JR

An assembly candidate of integrity that we can get excited about. He's willing to fight the necessary battles, not just fill a seat and press the right button during voting.

67th District: ELIZABETH "BETH" CULVER

Beth is one of the earliest and most active members of Conservative Patriots of Orange County (CPOC). She is a fiery, feisty American patriot with endless energy and drive. When Beth realized no one was stepping up to challenge the incumbent representative in her Assembly District, she took the initiative to step up to the plate herself. Beth Culver epitomizes the American spirit that built the Golden State and I am happy to endorse her. Sacramento would not know what hit them.

68th District: NO ENDORSEMENT

70th District: TRI TA

I was an early endorser of Tri Ta when he first ran for this seat. He's holding the line for us.

71st District: NO ENDORSEMENT

I am told that incumbent KATHRYN SANCHEZ is a great conservative, but I have never met her or spoken with her, so I cannot definitively say one way or the other. I haven't heard anything bad. I will say this, since there are so few Republicans in Sacramento, Kate appears to be busting her fanny covering myriad committee assignments. That's a lot of extra work. You can look into her at SanchezForAssembly.com

72nd District: DIANE DIXON

73rd District: SCOTT PEOTTER

Peotter has been at the conservative activist grindstone for a long time. He's one who saw the need for someone to step up to take on a tough race and so he did.

74th District: I'd like to see incumbent **LAURIE DAVIES** step it up. The last newsworthy thing she accomplished was in March 2022. Many of the activists in her

district see her as nothing more than a seat-filler. No doubt it's frustrating to be a Republican in Sacramento, but we need to see some fight. The most impressive thing on her campaign website is the brush-up work in the photo gallery: DaviesForCA.com **(NOTE to Consultant: Maybe rethink the color scheme. It looks like she's running for the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.)**

ORANGE COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Board of Supervisors

1st District: JANET NGUYEN

She's truly hard-working, responsive and approachable. Janet has managed to span the bridge between establishment Republicans and grassroots conservatives without selling her soul. That is not an easy feat. www.JanetForSupervisor.com

3rd District: DON WAGNER, by default

This is not a full-throated endorsement by any stretch, but only because his opponent is truly frightening. Don gives a lot of "lip service" during election season. If he wins, I don't expect we'll get much good out of him for the next four years. He's the poster boy for career politicians. www.ElectDonWagner.com

Board of Education

Trustee, Area 1: JORGE VALDES

An appointed incumbent who has been working well with the reform efforts of the conservative majority.

Trustee, Area 3: Dr. Ken Williams

I've known Ken for a long-time. He's hung in through thick and thin when he was on the short end of the partisan divide, out-numbered by a very liberal majority. He never wavered. He never gave up. A huge feather in his cap, is that he did not leave CPOC in the lurch when fanatical, liberal progressives tried to shut down its Education Reform focused general membership meeting last year. Weaker school board trustees baled at the first sign of controversy fabricated by the radical left. They can learn a thing or two about the Art of War from this seasoned public servant.

Trust, Area 4: TIM SHAW

Only because he's been a reliable vote and Dr. Ken Williams needs the help.

Superior Court Judge

Office No. 3: JASON BAEZ

Office No. 16: RICHARD ZIMMER

Office No. 35: WHITNEY BOKOSKY

It was fairly obvious during the candidate's forum hosted by CPOC and during interactions leading up to that forum. My recommendations align with the OC Bar Association's fitness for office assessments, which you may read here: <https://www.ocbar.org/All-News/News-View/ArticleId/6591/OCBA-Releases-Ratings-of-Candidates-Running-for-Judicial-Office-in-Orange-County>

CENTRAL COMMITTEE, REPUBLICAN PARTY OF ORANGE COUNTY

This is the governing body of our county Republican Party, elected every 4-years, by assembly district. Even though you may **vote for up to six**, in order to increase their chances of winning, I recommend (along with most reputable conservative voter guides) voting ONLY for these America First candidates.

For more information visit: MakeOrangeCountyGreatAgain.com.

59th Assembly District

Anaheim Hills, Brea, Fullerton-east, North Tustin, Orange-east, Placentia, Villa Park, Yorba Linda

DEBORAH PAULY
RYAN BENT
ZONYA TOWNSEND
HOPE HOWELL
JOSEPHINE “JO” REITKOPP

67th Assembly District

Anaheim, Buena Park, Cypress, Fullerton-west, La Palma

BRUCE WHITAKER
MARY REYNOLDS
SCOTT MINIKUS

68th Assembly District

Anaheim, Orange, Santa Ana

STEPHANIE TOWNSEND
GALE OLIVER
PASQUALE TALARICO

70th Assembly District

Los Alamitos, Stanton, Westminster, Garden Grove, Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, Seal Beach, Santa Ana

JIM CUNNEEN
DEAN GROSE

71st Assembly District

Rancho Santa Margarita, Mission Viejo, Ladera Ranch, Unincorporated Areas (Las Flores, Coto De Caza, Trabuco Canyon, Dove Canyon)

SUSAN STIVERS
JOHN GRESKO
WALTER NIRENBURG
LINDA KOELLING
NICK WILSON

72nd Assembly District

Seal Beach, Huntington Beach, Newport Beach, Laguna Beach, Aliso Viejo, Laguna Hills, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest

JANET NGUYEN
GRACEY VAN DER MARK
GEORGE LI
CASEY McKEON

73rd Assembly District

Costa Mesa, Irvine, Tustin

JENNYE BIGELOW
SCOTTY PEOTER
CHRISTINA SHEA
CHRISTOPHER GONZALEZ

74th Assembly District

Laguna Niguel, San Juan Capistrano, Dana Point, San Clemente

STEVE KNOBLOCK
MICHELLE MORGAN
AARON WASHINGTON
CODY MARTIN
GALINA CONNERY
CHRIS KING

CALIFORNIA STATE PROPOSITIONS

Proposition 1: NO

There is only one statewide proposition on the primary ballot. Expect more in the November General. Prop 1 borrows \$6.38-billion **with a “B”** supposedly to build mental health facilities and housing for the homeless. Bond debt places the burden on our children and grandchildren to pay back the loan. Whenever I see BOND, I vote NO.

The state never does what it says it is going to do with the borrowed billions because it cannot manage its way out of a paper bag. Instead, the money is mostly absorbed into the administrative maze and quite often into attorney’s fees to fend off legal challenges with with the bond wording itself or with the implementation of it.

Finally, it infuriates me to see our veterans used as pawns to sell this bond to the unwitting. Prop 1 proponents claim that it will provide housing for homeless veterans. No, it won’t.

LOCAL BALLOT MEASURES

City of Huntington Beach

City leaders have put forth three measures to amend the city’s charter, which require voter approval. It will also require subsequent approval by voters to rescind

these measures. In other words, future city council majorities will not be able to “undo” the will of the voters without putting it back on the ballot.

MEASURE A: YES

This is a local effort to restore integrity to elections, at least within the borders of their own city. It provides for more in-person voting locations, monitors county-placed Ballot Drop-Boxes and requires Voter ID to prove citizenship. This measure should be a template for other municipalities to follow. If enough cities follow Huntington Beach’s lead, maybe Orange County government would get the message.

MEASURE B: YES

Allows only government flags to be displayed on city property. This shuts down the drama of every special identity group to have their special flag displayed during their special month or special day. It can get pretty ridiculous and deflects from accomplishing actual city business during council meetings. It divides and does not unite. Citizens and businesses are free to fly special flags on their personal property.

MEASURE C: NO

I’m not keen on bundling so many big changes into one measure. This proposal adopts a 2-year budget process, expands the mayor’s authority to cancel council meetings, and modifies how vacated council seats are filled, among other minor language clean-up provisions. Approving an annual budget is difficult. Do it anyway.

City of Irvine

MEASURE D: NO

Measure D expands the size of the city council from 5 to 7 members **and** establishes District Voting. That means Irvine will be carved up into seven politically manipulated boundaries. Those are two really big changes to how city government is structured. It’s true that municipality after municipality has fallen to this strategy of the far left, used to wretch control of local governments. Voting by District has had very bad affect and encourages race-based politics, which is so bad for our communities.

Some people think voters should just give in to the inevitable, wave the white flag, and vote YES. Why would anyone recommend that? Make them fight for it. Don’t just give them a surrendered victory. As a wise young man recently told me, we lose 100% of the battles we don’t fight.

City of Westminster

MEASURE E: NO

This is a sales tax increase of .5-percent, which would set Westminster sales tax at 9.25-percent, higher than every municipality in Orange County. A previous sales tax increase implemented 7-years ago did not resolved Westminster’s financial woes and neither will this one. The council needs to buckle down and make the tough decisions to address systemic budget inefficiencies.

School Measures

Orange Unified School District (OUSD) Special Recall Election

**Recall of OUSD Governing Board Member, Trustee Area 4,
Madison Minor: NO**

**Recall of OUSD Governing Board Member, Trustee Area 7,
Rick Ledesma: NO**

Here's the short story: Conservatives took control of the OUSD Board of Trustees during the last election cycle and immediately proceeded to affect the changes they promised and were presumably elected to address. Progressive liberals did not like the outcome of that election and have really disrupted Board meetings ever since. This recall is nothing more than a "do-over." They want a mulligan. That's not how it works. I recommend they wait until the next election, instead of behaving like spoiled children who did not get their way.

This recall effort has been very divisive to the OUSD community. All you have to do is drive through the streets of Orange and see neighbor pitted against neighbor with YES on RECALL signs and NO on RECALL signs facing off down the streets. It's very sad.