



**WEST LA DEMOCRATIC CLUB
APPLICATION FOR CONSIDERATION OF ENDORSEMENT
AND CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

JOHN MCKINNEY

Election Information

Election Date: 11/3/26

Complete Name of Office Sought & District/Seat Number: Los Angeles City Attorney

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that I am a registered Democrat and that the statements in this document and those in any attachments are true and correct. If any part of this application or any information provided during the endorsement process is found to be false, it may be cause for an immediate revocation of any endorsement. I understand that my application is available to any WLADC member upon request.

<u>John McKinney</u>	<u>John McKinney</u>	<u>8/7/26</u>
Signature of Candidate	Print Full Name	Date

Please provide written answers to the questions below:

1. Why are you running for this office? How are you uniquely qualified?

I am running because Los Angeles deserves a City Attorney who will restore confidence in the office through experienced leadership, fiscal responsibility, and a relentless focus on public safety. My goal is to build a City Attorney's Office that is engaged with the community, protects taxpayer dollars, enforces the law fairly, and helps make Los Angeles a safer and stronger city for everyone.

2. Many voters are unsure of the role of the City Attorney. What is your explanation of what the job entails and what constraints exist on what the CA can accomplish?

The Los Angeles City Attorney isn't the Mayor or the City Council. The office can't make laws, set policy, or appropriate funding. Its job is to enforce the law, prosecute misdemeanor crimes, represent the City in court, and provide legal advice to City leaders. My focus will be on using those powers effectively—improving public safety, reducing costly lawsuits, protecting taxpayers, and ensuring City government is accountable and follows the law.

3. What are your top 3 issues? Include the role that the CA can take in addressing those issues and the specific steps/plans you have.

- a. Public Safety. The City Attorney's Office must prioritize prosecuting repeat offenders responsible for theft, vandalism, organized retail crime, illegal dumping, street racing, open-air drug markets, and other quality-of-life crimes that undermine neighborhoods and businesses. My career as a prosecutor has prepared me to bring a renewed focus to these offenses while supporting diversion where appropriate.
- b. Homelessness. The City Attorney cannot solve homelessness alone, but the office plays an important role in ensuring laws are enforced consistently while protecting both public safety and human dignity. I support what I call compassionate accountability—keeping sidewalks passable, protecting parks and schools, addressing dangerous encampments, and working closely with housing providers, treatment programs, and service organizations to help people move toward stability.
- c. Good Government. Los Angeles has paid enormous sums in legal settlements that could have been prevented. I will implement a proactive risk-management strategy, improve legal oversight across city departments, reduce unnecessary reliance on outside counsel, modernize office operations, and aggressively identify practices that expose taxpayers to avoidable liability. Every dollar saved through better legal management is a dollar that can be invested back into essential city services.

4. How much do you expect your campaign to cost? How much money have you raised? How do you plan to fund the rest of your budget?

\$1.5-2 million, we are on track to hit our fundraising benchmarks

5. Who do you see as your main opponent in this election?

Marissa Roy

6. Please list your top five (5) individual and organizational endorsements.

City Councilmember Traci Park
City Councilmember Monica Rodriguez
City Councilmember Tim McCosker
Former City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo
Blue Wave Democratic Club

7. How long have you been a registered Democrat? Have you been registered as a member of another political party? If so, which party and why?

Lifelong Democrat since 1987

8. Please list any Democratic clubs and/or organizations with which you are a member, including the length of your membership and any leadership position you have held in each Democratic club and/or organization.

None

9. Please list any organizations you are a member of, including the length of your membership and any leadership positions you have held in each organization.

n/a

10. Please feel free to include any other information you would like us to know about you.

I am a lifelong Democrat and have spent my career fighting for equal justice and underrepresented communities.

After my parents died at a young age, I was raised by his sister, Ora Jones, who worked full time while raising John and his siblings. From her, I learned hard work, discipline, persistence, respect for others, and service. I also saw firsthand the systemic issues facing underserved communities, particularly communities of color—drug abuse, violence, incarceration, and aggressive policing were part of life.

With my sisters unconditional support, I eventually graduated from college, moved to LA, earned a Law Degree, and became a Deputy District Attorney to fight to make the justice system better serve communities like his. From a working-class neighborhood shaped by hardship, to standing in court and announcing “For the People”, I believe I live and embody our shared Democratic values of empowerment, equity, and justice.