

**Racial Justice Oversight Body - Applicant Summary for Community Representative Seats 1-9 - UPDATED - 11/28/22**

\*Incumbent Member

\*\* Nominated by Racial Justice Coalition

Yellow Highlight -- PPC nominations on 10.24.22

|   | <u>First</u> | <u>Last</u>   | <u>District</u> | <u>Residence City</u> | <u>Work Location</u> | <u>Member Seats</u>              | <u>Current Employer</u> | <u>Recent Volunteer Activity/Affiliation</u>  | <u>Experience/Interest</u>  |
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| 1 | ***Chala     | Bonner        | Out of County   | Out of County         | Richmond             | 1 (also qualifies for 2,4,5,6,7) | The Safe Return Project | Current member of Racial Justice Oversight Body and recently voted Chair of Data Subcommittee. Former member of CCC Community Advisory Board, in which she served 3 years and termed out in 2022.   | Lived in Contra Costa most of her life and recently moved to San Joaquin County because due to affordability for she and her family. Ms. Bonner continues to work in Contra Costa County and is committed to continue to advocate for change in the communities she grew up in. She has served on the Racial Justice Steering committee and co-leads the Racial Justice Coalition. This work is very important to her because she is a formerly incarcerated black woman that wants to make sure that formerly incarcerated people have a voice at the table.   |
| 2 | Lonnie       | Bristow       | 2               | Walnut Creek          | N/A                  | 7                                | Retired physician       | Current mentoring volunteer for Senior Tutors of Rossmoor   | In addition to his background as a practicing physician for roughly 50 years, he has had the further advantage of serving as a mentor to youth at the Boys Ranch facility in Byron for the past 6 years. This "eye-to eye" experience has given him a real advantage in helping additional youth in similar circumstances.  |
| 3 | Y'Anad       | Burrell       | 1               | San Pablo             | San Pablo            | 8                                | CEO of Glass House PR   | Co-Chair, Community Emissions Reduction Plan Committee, Richmond/North Richmond; CPAW Committee Member, CCC Behavioral Health, MHSA; NAACP CA/HI State Conference, Public Relations Committee; Board Member, Richmond Chamber of Commerce; Commissioner, Richmond Housing Advisory Commission; Contra Costa County Arts & Culture Commission; Healthy Richmond Access to Quality Healthcare, Communications Committee | Lived in Contra Costa County (Richmond, CA) for over 25 years and have volunteered in service to the community for over 15 years in the areas of health equity, art and culture and environmental justice, specifically air quality. As a member of the faith community since childhood, she has seen the importance of having the faith community voice heard and seen. Far too often racial justice impact and information does not reach the faith community, while they are one of the largest groups that support hundreds who are impacted by the justice system. As someone who has more than 15 years in the public relations and communications industry, she will ensure the faith community is represented and their opinions, comments, needs and requests are at the table of this oversight body. |
| 4 | Jennifer     | Clamon-Morris | 3               | Discovery Bay         | Oakley               | Not identified                   | City of Oakley          | Byron Unified School District Volunteer Director of Finance for Birthright  | Retired Law Enforcement; Given the societal changes since the late 1990's, there has been an increase in suspected racial inequality and profiling. Post George Floyd, she would like to be part of a commission that works in partnership with law enforcement and the community on closing the gap of transparency and addressing concerns of injustice and inequity.   |

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| 5 | *Gigi   | Crowder   | 3 | Antioch  | All Districts | 8                              | NAMI Contra Costa, Executive Director                     | Current member of the Racial Justice Oversight Body; Member of Measure X CAB; homeless services volunteer; current Chair of the Statewide Mental Health and Spirituality Initiative; Founding Chair of the Alameda County African American Health and Wellness Committee; Volunteer Consultant to the Miles Hall Foundation in Walnut Creek. | Interested in ensuring Measure X funds are allocated in a manner consistent with reimagining public safety and improving health outcomes for all. Interested in prioritizing and redefining safety while promoting community and belonging for all residents, and sharing ideas around key resources and community defined practices that promote equity and reduce the glaring disparities we see in the criminal justice system.   |
| 6 | *Ronell | Ellis     | 5 | Antioch  | Antioch       | 6 (also qualifies for 3,4,5,7) | HealthRIGHT 360   | Current member of Racial Justice Oversight Body; former member of Racial Justice Task Force; Cease Fire; Omega Boys Club; Deer Valley Youth Football; Oakland Probation Department; San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department  | Mr. Ellis is confident that his personal experience as a person involved in the State and local incarceration institutions, along with his formal education in the discipline of Criminology allows him to have a diverse contribution to the board. He is concerned about the public and the community, therefore is willing to commit his efforts to help this board serve the community in a capacity that will be beneficial to all who reside in this county. He is interested in seeing that Justice is equitable and that all people of this county have an even playing field. He was formerly incarcerated for over 15 years at all levels of institutions, County, CDC & Federal. San Francisco County Superior Court Certified Expunged Criminal Record; California State Superior Court Certificate of Rehabilitation; Currently awaiting a Governor's approval for a Pardon; B.A. Degree in Criminology; 28 years of experience working in the current field of Reentry counseling at all levels, CDC, County Jail & Public; 18 year resident of Contra Costa County. |
| 7 | *Carlos | Fernandez | 1 | Richmond | Richmond      | 9                              | Safe Return Project                                       | Current member of the Racial Justice Oversight Body; Current Member of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (Youth Seat); Mentor and organizer in west county;  | Lived 20+ years and worked 5 years in Contra Costa County. Is a youth who is formerly incarcerated and currently serves as a mentor for at-risk youth in Richmond.   |
| 8 | Kevin   | Finklea   | 3 | Antioch  |               | 3,4                            | UPI/US Steel Company                                      | Volunteered for Victory Outreach rehabilitation homes and church, Grace Bible fellowship church, and Rubicon Programs all in Antioch CA  | Having personally experienced the juvenile and adult justice system and having grown from such a place as a young Black American, Mr. Finklea would love and appreciate the opportunity to serve his community through the lens of his intimate experiential knowledge of our juvenile and adult justice system and local culture. He is determined to have a positive impact on our community by helping to reduce racial disparities in the criminal and juvenile justice system with this body of fellow community activists, advocates, and officials of various offices.  |
| 9 | Pamela  | Henderson | 5 | Antioch  |               | 8, 9                           | Founder/President, All Roads Lead 65 Max Foundation, Inc. | Member of Women s Empowerment Leadership Sector 2019   | Ms. Henderson's expertise and skills have allowed her to help teach, mentor and serve clients and respond to the needs that establishes a healthy mindset that focuses on diversity and expanding community support. She believes that together sharing ideas and utilizing her foundation resources would help increase the ability to serve clients and respond to the needs of the community toward social growth.  |

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| 10 | Alisha     | Jackson | Out of County | Out of County | Pleasant Hill | 5, 6,7 | Probation & Reentry Manager for Hope Solutions | AB109 Partners and Providers- meeting attendee; Clean Slate Day- tabled CBO; Welcome Home- Re-entry Community Resource and Employment Fair- tabled CBO  | Ms. Jackson believes it is a responsibility and a civic duty for community-based agencies, such as Hope Solutions, which provide boots on the ground services and support to have a voice in systems change work within the county they serve. Contra Costa County has been an industry leader in the state regarding best practices for programs in support of the re-entry population. Remaining on the forefront requires continued work to improve the equity, efficiency and effectiveness of programs and services. Being able to view resources within the county from a racial justice lens is an invaluable opportunity. It would be her pleasure to connect with like minded and passionate community members in support of individuals returning home to West, Central and East Contra Costa County.  |
| 11 | *Stephanie | Medley  | 1             | El Sobrante   | Richmond      | 5      | RYSE Center                                    | Racial Justice Oversight Body (current, Chair of Diversion Subcommittee); Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (former); JJCC-DJJ subcommittee (current); DA initiated Reimagine Youth Justice meetings (current; Racial Justice Task Force (2017-2018); Youth Justice Initiative Steering Committee (2016-2018); AB 109 Community Advisory Board (2013-2016). | <p>Ms. Medley was born and raised in Richmond and have seen firsthand how community has been deeply impacted by mass incarceration. While she has not experienced incarceration, she has had many friends and family members that were impacted as youth and adults; both of her brothers experienced incarceration. The barriers she has seen involving friends, family, and youth she works with, can and have in fact had long lasting impacts on their lives. Ensuring that the county utilizes smart, fiscally responsible and community-centered healing and equitable strategies to provide the necessary support for youth and adults in the system is her passion and why she would like to continue serving on the Racial Justice Oversight Body.</p> <p>She has been a staff member of the RYSE Center since 2012 and serve as their Director of Education &amp; Justice. She leads program development and advocacy and cultivates cross-sector collaborations to address the needs of youth &amp; young adults impacted by education, economic, and criminal &amp; legal systems. She is passionate about supporting the development and coordination of youth-friendly and culturally appropriate policies, practices, and supports and work to create avenues for young people to navigate their own liberation and transform systems. She has sat on many justice focused advisory boards in the county to support justice reform. She has also participated in the county's partnership between RYSE, the DA, and Impact Justice to implement Contra Costa County's first pre-charge diversion program.</p> |
| 12 | Ocean      | Mottley | Out of County | Out of County | Richmond      | 5,6,7  | Bay Area Legal Aid                             | Former member of the SF Board of Supervisors Safer Schools Sexual Assault Task Force; Pro bono Hotline Attorney for Root & Rebound; Pro bono Family Law Representation for the Justice & Diversity Center of the Bar Association of San Francisco   | Mr. Mottley works for Bay Area Legal Aid in their reentry unit representing clients who are system impacted with criminal and civil legal issues. He is also a member of the affected community as a formerly incarcerated person.   |

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| 13 | *Michael | Pierson | 3 | Brentwood   | Antioch & Walnut Creek | 3                          | Key Counsel, P.C. | Current member of the Racial Justice Oversight Body; Current member of the Contra Costa County Bar Association Board of Directors; Long-time volunteer and mentor with the CHAMPS Foundation; Served as Mock Trial Co-Instructor for Center for Youth Development Through Law; Served as a moderator and/or panelist for various community and legal Race and Equality panels; A guest speaker at various Bay Area community centers for at-risk youth. | Mr. Pierson is a person of color and a resident of Contra Costa County who has been a first-hand witness to the racial and ethnic disparities within the local criminal justice system. As an African American youth growing up in the projects of Oakland, he has personally witnessed and experienced the harsh and unequal treatment of Blacks by law enforcement and the criminal justice system. It was these disparities in the criminal justice system that made him want to be a lawyer so he can help make a difference in his community. He has experienced both sides of the criminal justice system, as a criminal defendant and as a criminal defense attorney.<br><br>He believes that this gives him a unique perspective on the criminal justice system. As the country has reached a boiling point with race and the injustices of the criminal system, he is compelled to do his part to make a difference in my community. He is committed to doing everything in his power to be a part of the solution to these issues, and believes that being on this board/commission will make a difference in the local community. |
| 14 | *Cheryl  | Sudduth | 1 | El Sobrante | NA                     | 7 (also qualifies for 1,2) | NA                | NA  | Ms. Sudduth has been involved with the Racial Justice Coalition & the work of the subsequent Task Force since inception. She has played an integral role in ensuring the final recommendations reflect the needs of the greater community & would like to work towards ensuring the implementation follows the spirit of the recommendations. As a trained mediator & negotiator, multicultural & multilingual, as well as one heavily involved in many different community groups throughout the county, she believes she can represent multiple perspectives while maintaining focus on the purpose of the advisory body.  |

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| 15 | Justin   | Van Zerber | 1 | El Cerrito | Out of County | 5,6,7 | Director of Programs for SupplyBank.org | NA   | <p>Mr. Van Zerber believes the county has the opportunity to be a leader in the way it handles racial justice and he wants to support the growth and development of best practices that allow for continued learning across all parties serving the community. There are clear indicators of racial bias in our justice systems, social services, schools and across our community and he believes with the correct access to information and training can reduce disproportionate representation. He believes the county has an obligation to create a community that treats people fairly and offers them opportunities to be successful, which starts with the way systems and policies are created and he trusts that the Racial Justice Oversight Body can hold departments accountable by enacting actionable steps forward.</p> <p>Mr. Van Zerber has led program management, strategy, operations, and process building at community-based organizations for over 12 years with a track record of generating replicable systems that have a community focused lens and a detailed path forward. During this time, he spent four years strengthening grass-roots employment and job training programs for re-entry youth and young adults, working directly with police, judges, public defenders, schools, and families to advocate for appropriate responses that ensure participants had the resources they needed to be successful. He currently serve as the Director of Programs at a statewide non-profit that bolsters community based program by providing access to basic material needs for vulnerable populations. Through this work he uses data to inform design making and has seen first hand the inequities in the way communities serve different populations. He wants to use this</p> |
| 16 | *Tamisha | Walker     | 5 | Antioch    | Countywide    | 1     | Safe Return Project                     | Current Contra Costa County board appointments: Co-Chair of Racial Justice Oversight Body; Richmond Reimaging Public Safety Taskforce; Local Advisory Committee for Co Co LEAD Plus; DJJ realignment subcommittee, and the Contra Costa Public Defenders Office HIP advisory committee | <p>Ms. Walker would like to continue serving on this board because she has worked for more than 13 years in communities across this county impacted by incarceration and criminalization. As a formerly incarcerated woman, she is committed to ending racial disparity in the criminal legal system while pushing to invest in community-based solutions to keep poor people and people of color out of jails and prisons where possible.</p> <p>She have written, supported, and advanced legislation that promotes equity, access, and inclusion for poor and working families impacted by incarceration and criminalization throughout Contra Costa County. This has led to improving educational systems, economic dignity, community benefits, increased access to healthcare, promoting values-based budgets, increasing second chances, and environmental justice.</p>   |

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| 17 | **Melvin  | Willis  | 1 | Richmond | Countywide | 2 | Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE) | City of Richmond councilmember; previously served on Richmond Planning Commission, the Raise up Richmond Coalition, Housing Now, Richmond Progressive Alliance, Richmond Environmental Justice Coalition, currently serves on the Contra Costa County Racial Justice Coalition, and many other coalitions that focus on <u>Racial and Economic Justice</u> . | Currently Mr. Willis is City Councilmember in Richmond and a community organizer. A rising concern for him in Richmond and Contra Costa County has been the need for more resources for youth programs and services. He wants to serve on the commission to make sure that community concerns are being represented and prioritized while implementing strategies. Over the last four years as a community organizer, he has worked on issues related to youth and criminal justice reform.  |
| 18 | Gwendolyn | Woodson | 1 | Richmond | NA         | 8 | Retired - City of Richmond                                | Steward of Resurrection African Methodist Episcopal Church, and President of its Women's Missionary Society; Volunteer at Anvil House  | Currently Ms. Woodson is a steward at Resurrection African Methodist Episcopal Church as well as its Women's Missionary Society president. In conjunction with one of her congregation's sister churches, Bethel A.M.E. Church, she participated in the recent completion of the Anvil House, a reentry program located in Richmond. Her sons are in their 40's now and live out of state, but during their youth they were involved in the criminal justice system. She also has had two brothers that were incarcerated (both deceased), therefore she has had experience navigating the system. Her motivation is to recognize the disparities in the justice systems and help to implement recommendations for change. |