

# SANTA CLARA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE

7 PM-9 PM, Regular Meeting, in person and via Zoom

South Bay Labor Council, 2302 Zanker Rd, San Jose

*(Our meeting is open to the public, but we reserve the right to remove guests who disrupt the meeting. Video and audio recording is not permitted without prior approval)*

## AGENDA FOR Thursday, April 2, 2026

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

*Land Acknowledgement*

### 2. ROLL CALL

### 3. WELCOMING OF VISITORS

*Arab American Heritage Month  
statement by the Democrats for  
Palestinian Rights – Bay Area*

### 4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

### 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Thursday, March 5, 2026
- b. Thursday, March 19, 2026

### 6. OLD BUSINESS

### 7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Election to fill SCCDCC vacancy (AD 24)
- b. Endorsement: District Attorney race
- c. Resolution Recognizing April as National Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- d. Request to Endorse Regional Transit Measure (SB 63)
- e. Request to support State/Public Banking bill (AB 2243)
- f. Recommendation to Oppose statewide ballot initiative to exempt 60+ year olds from property tax
- g. Update from endorsed candidates

### 8. REPORTS

- a. Executive Board/Chair: Bill James
- b. Vice Chair: Jean Cohen
- c. Treasurer: Angelica Ramos

- d. Secretary: Helen Chapman
- e. Political Director: James Kim
- f. Issues: Daniel Cao
- g. Outreach: Clarence Madrilejos
- h. Finance: James Kim
- i. Communications: John Comiskey
- j. Gender Equity and the Status of Women: Tomara Hall
- k. Diversity & Inclusion: Rebeca Armendariz
- l. Youth Representative: Maddy Chang & Vivek Sharma
- m. Clubs: Buu Thai
- n. Regional Directors
- o. DNC: Otto Lee and Jason Park
- p. Ad Hoc Committee on Housing and Homelessness

### 9. ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS

### 10. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

April 15, 2026, at 6pm

### 11. ADJOURNMENT

Register to attend via Zoom

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_-sIPJ-IGT82k\\_FOW5q265A](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-sIPJ-IGT82k_FOW5q265A)

## **Resolution Recognizing April as National Sexual Assault Awareness Month**

**WHEREAS**, victims of sexual violence include individuals of all ages, genders, races, ethnicities, and backgrounds, with marginalized and vulnerable populations disproportionately impacted; and

**WHEREAS**, sexual violence is widely underreported due to fear of retaliation, stigma, trauma, and lack of trust in systems of accountability, often resulting in lifelong mental, physical, and emotional impacts on survivors and their families; data from the National Sexual Violence Resource Center demonstrate the pervasive reach of sexual violence, with nearly half of women in the United States experiencing some form of contact sexual violence in their lifetimes, including more than one in five reporting rape or attempted rape; more than one in six men experiencing sexual violence; and disproportionately high rates impacting American Indian and Alaska Native women (more than four in five), individuals with intellectual disabilities (one in three), and transgender individuals (nearly half); and

**WHEREAS**, social media and digital platforms have increased opportunities for perpetrators to target young and vulnerable individuals, underscoring the urgency of strengthening prevention, education, and awareness efforts; and sexual assault remains a significant public safety and public health concern in Santa Clara County, where while concerted efforts have been made to prevent and respond to sexual violence and to promote community education and survivor support services much work remains to be done;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that April is recognized as National Sexual Assault Awareness Month to support survivors and affirm our commitment to trauma-informed care; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that collaboration is encouraged among local agencies, healthcare providers, schools, and community organizations to prevent sexual violence and improve survivor outcomes; and that residents, community leaders, and institutions are called upon to amplify awareness and prevention efforts, emphasizing our collective responsibility to build a safe, healthy, equitable, and inclusive community for all residents.

Submitted by DAWN

## **National Arab American Heritage Month**

Democrats for Palestinian Rights - Bay Area Club

SCCDP Central Committee Meeting, April 2, 2026

In April we celebrate National Arab American Heritage Month, honoring the culture, heritage, and history of the Arab world and recognizing the contributions of Arab Americans.

An estimated 3.7 million ethnic Arabs live in the United States, with approximately 533,000 in California and about 60,000 in Santa Clara County. Arab Americans have been a part of America since before it was a nation, with the first significant wave of Arab immigration in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The second was a direct result of the Palestinian Catastrophe (The Nakba), which began in 1948. Subsequent Arab immigration has been a result of wars -- for example, after the US invasion of Iraq and Israel's continued brutal occupation of Palestine.

Arab Americans trace their ancestry to 22 countries in the Middle East and North Africa: Algeria, Bahrain, the Comoro Islands, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. They are Christians, Jews, Muslims, Druze, followers of other religions, as well as non-believers.

Upon arriving in the United States, Arab Americans have embraced and assimilated into American society while influencing its culture through their traditions, music and cuisine. They have made significant contributions to literature, science, medicine, business, arts, fashion, film and entertainment, education, government, sports, and politics.

Notable Arab Americans include consumer advocate Ralph Nader; Omar Yaghi, PhD, who won the 2025 Nobel Prize in Chemistry; Donna Shalala, U.S. secretary of Health and Human Services under Bill Clinton; actor and philanthropist Danny Thomas, founder of St. Jude's Children's Hospital; singer Paul Anka; radio personality Casey Kasem; actor Tony Shalhoub; comedian Ramy Youssef; and Apple founder Steve Jobs, to name a few.

Arab Americans have also served in the U.S. military, fighting in every American conflict. The first Arab to die fighting for our country was Private Nathan Badeen during the Revolutionary War.

As we honor the contributions of Arab Americans, we also recognize the struggles of so many in the community. Arab Americans frequently encounter discrimination through harassment, hate crimes, Islamophobia, racist rhetoric, and violent attacks. Many have

lost employment, and others have lost contracts simply for having an Arab-sounding name. Humanity has been lost on the backs of Arab America.

Palestinian Americans and their supporters have been especially targeted. There has been a McCarthyesque repression of support for Palestinians by our own government, school districts, and other organizations. Federal agents have detained immigrants who criticize the genocide in Gaza, while schools have harassed students, parents, and teachers for their associations with Palestine; failed to address Palestinian students' and families' legitimate safety concerns; and have suppressed any mention of Palestine in the classroom. Teachers and professors who openly oppose the genocide in Gaza, Palestine have lost their jobs, as have workers in the technology sector, Hollywood and the media. We encounter this anti-Palestinian racism even within the Democratic Party, as some Democratic elected politicians deny the existence of Palestine and Palestinians in history, as well as refuse to recognize a Palestinian state, which indirectly supports Israeli annexation of Palestine.

Today, we bear witness to the war against Iran, which impacts many of the Arab countries, as well as the devastation in Lebanon, Yemen, Sudan, Syria, and in Palestine, where ethnic cleansing and genocide are live-streamed globally on social media. What we are witnessing affects our diverse Arab American community profoundly, not only because of the enormous loss of life, but all the more so because it is funded with our tax dollars, enabled by our weapons, and supported by our elected officials.

As Democrats, we all must pledge to embrace cultural and ethnic diversity while fighting injustice, racism, and hate in all forms, especially as our Arab American community continues to be dehumanized, targeted, and attacked without protection or support from elected officials and our administration.

During National Arab American Heritage Month, we honor the past, present and future of the Arab American community, and we dedicate ourselves to ensuring that Arab American voices are heard, their safety is ensured, and their contributions are celebrated.

Please enjoy chicken shawarma, falafel, and Palestinian dates, as a small window into Arab comfort food from the Levant region.