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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF OAKLAND, NATIONAL COALITION OF 100 BLACK WOMEN OAKLAND/BAY AREA CHAPTER, MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. FREEDOM CENTER AND WOMEN'S MARCH OAKLAND PRESENT

OAKLAND MAYOR CANDIDATE FORUM AND DISTRICT 13 REPRESENTATIVES FORUM OCT. 5 AT CITY HALL

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR FROM AND ASK QUESTIONS OF ALL TEN 2018 CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR OF OAKLAND AND CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES FROM DISTRICT 13

Oakland, CA, September 6, 2018 – The public will have an opportunity to hear from and ask questions of all 10 candidates for Mayor of Oakland in a public forum presented by the **League of Women Voters of Oakland** with the **National Coalition of 100 Black Women Oakland / Bay Area Chapter, Martin Luther King Jr. Freedom Center** and **Women's March Oakland** on Friday, October 5, at 7 pm in Oakland City Hall Council Chambers. Candidates for Oakland Mayor participating in the forum are Cat Brooks, Ken Houston, Saied Karamooz, Peter Liu, Pam Price, Libby Schaaf, Nancy Sidebotham, Jesse A J Smith, Marchon Tatmon and Cedric Troupe. Following the Mayor forum, Barbara Lee and Laura Wells, candidates for US House of Representatives for California District 13, will participate in a forum beginning at 8:40 pm.

The candidates will give opening and closing statements outlining their platforms and answer questions submitted by attendees. The forum will be moderated by Helen Hutchison, California State President of the League of Women Voters. The co-presenting organizations will submit topics and questions of importance and concern to the communities they serve, including the need for civic engagement and education, equity and social justice.

The forums are two of more than a dozen public information events presented by the League in Oakland and Alameda County leading up to the November elections. For more information and schedule updates, visit

<https://my.lwv.org/california/oakland/calendar>. There is no admission charge for the October 5 forum, but attendees should register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/oakland-mayor-candidate-forum>

About the Presenters

League of Women Voters, as a nonpartisan political organization since 1920, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Committed to making democracy work and building community, LWV Oakland equips Oakland residents to participate in the civic life of their communities, to be informed, and to vote. <https://my.lwv.org/california/oakland>

National Coalition of 100 Black Women Oakland / Bay Area Chapter is dedicated to the empowerment of Black women and girls in particular, and the community in general, in the areas of education, health and economics/financial literacy. The Oakland/Bay Area Chapter has a number of signature programs. Our Positive Steps mentoring program for teenage girls provides tools for successful living while helping them develop skills to grow into self-assured young women. The Chapter also supports the educational aspirations of young women and mature women annually through Young Scholars Scholarships and Working Woman Scholarships. Additionally, we educate the community about financial literacy and retirement planning through our Economic Empowerment Program SISTER NOMIC\$. Our health initiative, Sistahs Getting Real About HIV/AIDS, serves the community through education and testing. And, we provide voter education and registration, and inform our members and the broader community of important national and local issues through our legislative advocacy efforts. <http://www.onehundredblackwomen.com/>

The Martin Luther King Jr. Freedom Center promotes the principles of nonviolence and offers an environment where young people actively seek peaceful, nonviolent solutions to the difficult challenges we all face in our communities. The Freedom Center serves individuals, organizations, schools and communities in the Greater Bay Area. www.mlkfreedomcenter.org .

Women's March Oakland harnesses the political power of diverse women and their communities in Oakland and the greater East Bay to create transformative social change. This women-led movement provides intersectional education on a diverse range of issues and creates entry points for new grassroots activists and organizers to engage in their local communities. www.womensmarchoakland.org .

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MEDIA CONTACTS:

League of Women Voters
<https://my.lwv.org/california/oakland>

Coalition of 100 Black Women
<http://www.onehundredblackwomen.com/>

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