

#RaceOfTheDay

#CASen38

*A voter education initiative brought to you by
500 Women Scientists San Diego Pod*



Today's Race: CA 38

This district covers the northwestern 30.0% of San Diego County. Cities in the district include El Cajon, Escondido, San Diego, and San Marcos.



Candidate Question 1 – Harassment: There are ongoing issues of discrimination and harassment in the STEM fields (e.g.: Salk institute lawsuit). Recent findings from the National Academies suggests that harassment of women in academia is second only to the rates experienced by women in the US military. What have you done or plan to do to address these issues should you be elected?

Jeff Griffith

I am adamantly opposed to the continuing culture of harassment and exclusivity, and I will participate and lead efforts in the State Senate to eliminate long-standing, oppressive conduct. I will review current laws, any pending laws, and any studies to improve current laws.

Brian Jones

This candidate has not responded to requests to participate in our voter guide.

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Candidate Question 2 – Inclusivity: Numerous studies show the benefits gained from organizations building equity and inclusion in their workforce. Lack of inclusivity and equity is an issue particularly in STEM fields and in politics. What have you done or what do you plan to do to address this issue?

Jeff Griffith

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Candidate Question 3 – Environmental Stewardship: California is prone to numerous environmental disasters including drought, wildfire dangers, coastal flooding, etc. These are predicted to be worsened by the impacts of shifts in Earth's climate patterns. What policies and actions will you take if you enter office to help safeguard our state? Are there any specific local plans for our state or our nation that you support? What climate and energy policies do you support?

Jeff Griffith

I am now a Fire Captain, having been a firefighter for thirty years. I am also on Vice Chair of the Board of Palomar Health. I have an abiding interest in the environmental and health damages caused by wildfires and other ravages of our environment. If I can work in the State Senate, I will be even better positioned to make every attempt to enact laws protecting all our resources. I have been and will remain a full supporter of climate and energy research and regulations.

2017, East County Magazine: 'Griffith says he's seen fires 30 years ago that were manageable. "Today they are out of control in the intensity, the size," he observes, adding that fire season is now year-round. He points to record-setting wildfires across California last year, as well as recurring drought. "Our rain totals are off. The type of weather patterns we're seeing are changing," he notes... He states pointedly, "A big part of why fires are getting so big is because of climate change... If nothing is done, it's only going to get worse."

<https://www.eastcountymagazine.org/cal-fire-captain-jeff-griffith-runs-state-senate-fight-public-health-and-safety>

Brian Jones

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2017, East County Magazine: 'Brian Jones, by contrast, is a climate change denier who has taken hefty campaign contributions from oil and utility companies. He voted against both major bills enacted in California to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global warming.'

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Candidate Question 4 – Immigration/Family Separations: Over the past months a heart-wrenching situation of migrant children being separated from their parents has occurred. As scientists we are aware of an extensive body of research on how separating children from their parents can impair mental and physical development. Many San Diego scientists making significant contributions to U.S. excellence in research and development are immigrants, and current policies put this excellence and their well-being at risk. What tools will you bring to this position to help address immigration issues, and how do you plan to use them?

Jeff Griffith

Brian Jones

The family separation policy of our federal government is abhorrent.

In addition, the budget shift of 10 million dollars to Homeland security from FEMA shows the disdain for our safety on the federal level. Immigration is still a federal issue and nothing will improve until there is a change in leadership.

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Candidate Question 5 – Dreamers: Today, there's a generation of immigrants who have lived in the United States since childhood and only know this country as home, yet they do not have the opportunity to become U.S. citizens and fully join society. Through the DACA program, thousands of Dreamers were able to pursue studies in STEM and succeed in these fields. What have you done or plan to do to provide a permanent solution for Dreamers?

Jeff Griffith

I plan to help the Dreamers fulfill their dreams. They are important to all of us. Higher education for all those who want it is one of my priority goals if I become a State Senator.

Brian Jones

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Candidate Question 6 – Scientific Integrity: Politicians are disputing settled science and firing government scientists for political reasons. How will you foster a culture that respects scientific evidence and protects scientists? Can we count on your commitment to support stronger oversight of any efforts to cut science out of public protections and to oppose similar attempts?

Jeff Griffith

Yes!

I will rely on scientific evidence to form my opinions, my votes, and my own legislative agenda.

How could I not?

Brian Jones

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