

MEMORANDUM

October 3, 2017 **UPDATED January 8, 2018**

TO: Interested Parties

FR: Jonathan Brown

RE: California Congressional District 39 Primary Election Polling

According to our recent poll¹ of likely 2018 primary voters (Democrats/NPP/3rd Parties only) in California's 39th Congressional District, Phil Janowicz has run an effective campaign thus far. He is the best known of the field of Democratic candidates and leads among them in an initial ballot test. Most importantly, when voters hear profiles of all five Democratic candidates – all of similar length – Janowicz continues to lead the field, as shown in the table below.

If his campaign is able to communicate effectively, Janowicz stands a very good chance of emerging from the primary as Rep. Ed Royce's general election opponent (**UPDATE: With Royce's retirement, Janowicz is well positioned to lead the Democratic field**).

Table 1 – CD 39 Primary Vote

	<i>Initial Vote</i>	<i>Post-Profile Vote</i>
<i>Ed Royce</i>	13%	11%
<i>Phil Janowicz</i>	10%	15%
<i>Sam Jammal</i>	7%	11%
<i>Gilbert Cisneros</i>	5%	7%
<i>Mai-Khanh Tran</i>	4%	11%
<i>Andy Thorburn</i>	2%	5%

The idea that ethnic bloc voting will be a factor in this election is far from given. In the initial vote that preceded any information about the candidates other than their names, ballot designations and party affiliations, we find Janowicz leading all candidates among Latinos, including Gilbert Cisneros. Among Asian voters – even these non-Republicans – Royce leads with better than 20%, while Dr. Mai-Khanh Tran only receives 6% support. (**UPDATE: The likelihood of additional Asian-American candidates from both parties like Democrat Jay Chen, Royce's 2012 opponent and Republicans Ling-Ling Chang, a former State Assemblywoman and Young Kim, a former State Assemblywoman and Royce staffer will complicate Tran's path**).

Janowicz benefits from his background as a professor at Cal State Fullerton which is a good match for the issue priorities of the primary electorate and tethers him to a well-regarded local institution to which many voters have a direct connection.

Further, Janowicz has an advantage over the rest of the field because he was the only candidate (of those tested) who lived in the district prior to this year. Better than half of voters (53%) say they have doubts about voting for any of the four candidates who lived elsewhere on Election Day 2016 and were ineligible for vote against Ed Royce, while only one-in-three (36%) say they have no doubts.

¹ METHODOLOGY – Between September 28 and October 1, 2017, Sextant Strategies & Research conducted a live telephone survey of 350 non-Republican voters who are likely to cast a ballot in the Jun 2018 primary election based on past voting history. These results are weighted to reflect the demographic makeup of the likely voter universe. The margin of error for these results are +/-5.2% at the 95% confidence level.