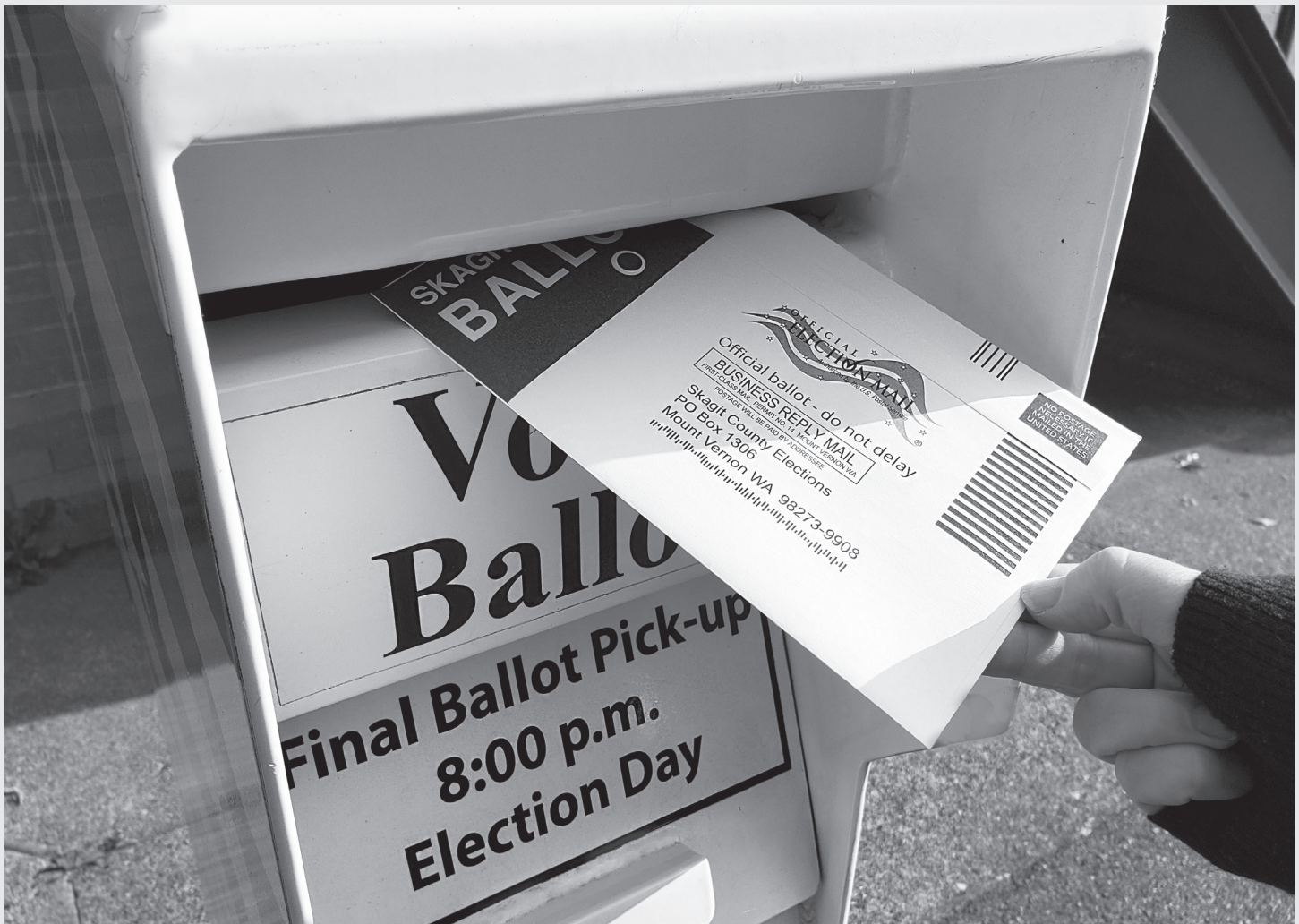


Skagit County Official Local

Voters' Pamphlet

August 4, 2026 Primary Election



Welcome Message

Dear Skagit County Voters,

Your vote is your voice! That's why having information about candidates is important. We hope this printed pamphlet is helpful in making your voting decisions. An online version of the pamphlet is also available on our website, www.skagitcounty.net/elections

This election, candidates will be running for federal, state, and county positions.

As a voter, here are ways to ensure that your ballot is counted:

- Return your voted ballot quickly
- Use a ballot drop box whenever possible
- If you return your ballot via US Postal Service, make sure it is postmarked by Primary Election Day, August 4, 2026
- Sign your return ballot envelope
- If you receive a letter from our office regarding your signature, return it to our office as soon as possible.

The sooner voters return their ballots, the more complete the results will be when we post them on election night!

Thank you!

Skagit County Elections

360-416-1702
PO Box 1306
700 S. 2nd St, Room 139
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
sselections@co.skagit.wa.us

Veá el folleto para votantes en español en línea | Escanee el código QR para ver el folleto para votantes en español en línea

View Spanish voters' pamphlet online or Scan QR code to view the Spanish voters' pamphlet online



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Ballot Instructions

The following instructions are also found on your ballot and the ballot wrap.

Instructions

Vote for one in each contest

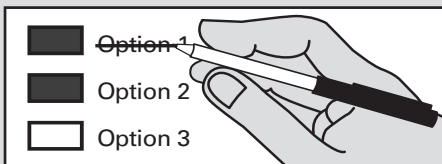


Fill in the box to the left of your choice using black or blue ink.

You may leave a contest blank; your ballot will still count.

If you vote for more than one, no votes will be counted for that race.

Correcting a mistake



Draw a line through the incorrect candidate name or ballot. You may then you may make another choice.

Optional write-in

To vote for a candidate not listed in that contest, fill in the box to the left of the dashed line and print the name on the line.

Who donates to campaigns?

View contributors for candidates and measures

Federal Elections Commission

www.fec.gov
Toll Free (800) 424-9530

Public Disclosure Commission

www.pdc.wa.gov
Toll Free (877) 601-2828

Vote your ballot...

Use a blue or black ink pen to mark your ballot.

You may leave a contest blank, your ballot will still count.

Put your voted ballot in the security sleeve.

Put the security sleeve in the return envelope.

Seal the return envelope.

Sign and date the declaration on the return envelope. If you are unable to sign, make your mark and have it witnessed by TWO people. *Ensure that both people sign the envelope.*

A power of attorney cannot be used to sign a ballot.

Place your ballot in a ballot drop box ...

Deposit your ballot in a drop box. Drop boxes are picked up by Elections department staff, not the USPS. See drop box locations on the next page.

Drop boxes open 20 days before Election Day. They remain open 24 hours a day until 8:00 PM Election Night.

Skagit County Elections strongly encourages using drop boxes.

Or return your ballot by mail...

NO STAMP required if mailed in the U.S.

*Ballots sent by mail **MUST** be postmarked no later than Election Day*

USPS recommends mailing your ballot at least 7 days before election day

Contact Skagit County Elections...

If you've lost, spoiled, or destroyed your ballot; or

To learn about the locations, hours, and services of voting centers and ballot drop boxes, including the availability of accessible voting equipment.

Phone: (360) 416-1702

Email: sselections@co.skagit.wa.us

Web: www.skagitcounty.net/elections

Remember to sign your return envelope!

Ballot Drop Box Locations

Drop boxes open 20 days before Election Day.
They remain open 24 hours a day until 8:00 PM Election Night!

Anacortes - Library

Anacortes Public Library
(behind library near drive-up book drop)
1220 10th St

Anacortes - Skyline

Skyline Beach Club
6041 Sands Way

Bow/Edison

Fire District 5 Fire Station
14304 West Bow Hill Rd

Burlington

Burlington Parks and Recreation Building
(north side of Fairhaven Ave parking lot)
900 E. Fairhaven St

Clear Lake

Clear Lake Park
12925 South Front St

Concrete

Skagit Upriver Services
45770 Main St

Conway

Conway Fire Department
21020 Greenfield St

**No stamp needed to
return your ballot**



Hamilton

Fire District 8/Punkin Center Station
34041 State Rte 20

La Conner

614 E. Morris St

Mount Vernon - Continental

Mount Vernon Police Department
1805 Continental Pl

Mount Vernon - Courthouse

Skagit County Auditor's Office
*(in U-shaped parking lot accessed from 3rd St.
near Kincaid)*
700 S. 2nd St

Sauk-Suiattle

6020 Mountain Goat Way, Darrington

Sedro-Woolley

Sedro-Woolley Post Office
(in alley between Eastern St. and Metcalf St.)
111 Woodworth St

Swinomish

Social Services Building *(in front)*
17337 Reservation Rd

You may also drop your ballot off in person at:

Elections Department

700 S. 2nd St, Rm 139
1st floor near elevator lobby
Mount Vernon, 360-416-1702
Open 8:30-4:30 Week Days

All Offices and Candidates

Skagit County offices and candidates in the August 4, 2026 Primary Election

Congressional District 2

U.S. Representative

Edwin H. Feller
(Prefers Republican Party)

Tomas Scheel
(Prefers Democratic Party)

Devin Hermanson
(Prefers Democratic Party)

Rick Larsen
(Prefers Democratic Party)

Legislative District 10

State Representative Position 1

Clyde Shavers
(Prefers Democratic Party)

Robert (Chili) Hicks
(Prefers Republican Party)

State Representative Position 2

Carrie R. Kennedy
(Prefers Republican Party)

Dave Paul
(Prefers Democratic Party)

Tim Hazelo
(Prefers Republican Party)

Legislative District 39

State Representative Position 1

Sam Low
(Prefers Republican Party)

Kathryn Lewandowsky
(Prefers Democratic Party)

Dusty Wisniew
(Prefers Republican Party)

State Representative Position 2

Robert J Sutherland
(Prefers Republican Party)

Ida Keeley
(Prefers Democratic Party)

Lacey Sauvageau
(Prefers Republican Party)

Steve Ewing
(Prefers Republican Party)

Legislative District 40

State Representative Position 1

Debra Lekanoff
(Prefers Democratic Party)

Cindy Carter
(Prefers Republican Party)


State Representative Position 2

Salomon Rodrigue Mbouombouo
(Prefers Independent Party)

Alex Ramel
(Prefers Democratic Party)

Joseph Segault
(States No Party Preference)

Monte Jay Mahan
(Prefers Independent Party)

 **You will not be voting on every item in this voters' pamphlet. Use your ballot to identify the races to review.**

Skagit County

Assessor

Danny Hagen
(Prefers Independent Party)

Auditor

Jeremy Harrison-Smith
(Prefers Democratic Party)

Mark Hulst
(Prefers Independent Party)

Clerk

Melissa Beaton
(Prefers Democratic Party)

County Commissioner District 3

Joe Burns
(Prefers Democratic Party)

Connie Krier
(Prefers Independent Party)

Keith L. Wagoner
(Prefers Republican Party)

Coroner

Alex Lathum
(Prefers Democratic Party)

Prosecuting Attorney

Erik Pedersen
(Prefers Democratic Party)

Sheriff

Chris Baldwin
(Prefers Independent Party)

Treasurer

Jackie Brunson
(Prefers Democrat Party)

State Supreme Court Justices

Supreme Court Justice Position 1

Colleen Melody
Laura Christensen Colberg
Scott Edwards

Supreme Court Justice Position 3

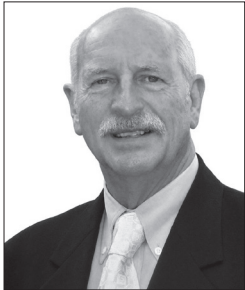
Jaime Michelle Hawk
David Stevens
Mike Diaz

Supreme Court Justice Position 5

Greg Miller
Theo Angelis
Dave Larson
Sharonda Amamilo

Supreme Court Justice Position 7

David R Shelvey
Debra L. Stephens
Karim A. Merchant
Todd A. Bloom



Edwin H. Feller
(Prefers Republican Party)

(360) 739-8994
edwinheller@aol.com
<https://fellerforcongress.com/>

Elected Experience

Edwin Feller is a lifelong 2nd District community member. He has never held public office, remaining entirely uninfluenced by favor-seeking lobbyists, insider trading, or political schemes; bringing only hard work and a commitment to doing the right thing.

Other Professional Experience

Feller worked in the HVAC industry for 60 years, building a reputation for honesty and problem-solving. This sterling character ultimately brought him to the U.S. State Department, where he served sensitive U.S. facilities in 60 countries.

Education

A graduate of Lynden Christian High School, Feller also attended WSU. He offers true independence and decades of real-world experience.

Community Service

The Firs Bible & Missionary Conference

Statement

Edwin Feller grew up on a Whatcom County dairy farm, where he learned the value of hard work, discipline, and fiscal responsibility. His parents taught him to love God; to love America; and to love his neighbors. Politics in our state and our country have become wrapped in partisan ideology. Feller believes true representation is not bound by party, but to the ideals and inspirations of the district we call home.

Washington District 2 deserves more than a life-long ribbon-cutter who shows up like clockwork every two years begging to be re-elected. Feller will bring a common sense approach to Congress focused on responsible economics and accountable public safety. We Washingtonians are in a competition with the rest of the country and the world, and the current leadership in our state and the 2nd Congressional District has us headed in the wrong direction.

He supports robust law enforcement, secure borders, fair elections, and balanced budgets. Feller supports Title IX protections for women and girls. He believes that our first responders deserve respect, appreciation, and support. He adheres to the principles of sovereignty for the individual and the nation, and that the rule of law protects those principles. Feller believes that the affordability crisis is self-inflicted due to taxes being too high, and the government growing too large.

We are innovators. We are hard workers. Our representation must be our partner, not our handler. We can succeed and prosper together. Visit FellerForCongress.com for more information.

Send some Common Sense to DC – Vote Feller for Congress.



Tomas Scheel
(Prefers Democratic Party)

(360) 230-8205
info@tomas4congress.com
<https://tomas4congress.com>

Elected Experience

No prior elected office.

Other Professional Experience

U.S. Air Force veteran with seven years of service as the Lead Avionics Technician and subject matter expert in communication, navigation, and electronic countermeasures at Ramstein Air Base, Germany and Yokota Air Base, Japan. Managed \$160M in facilities and assets. Awarded seven commendations for software development. Small business owner and software developer for over 10 years.

Education

A.A.S., Avionics Systems Technology, Community College of the Air Force

Community Service

Volunteer firefighter; ENGIN volunteer teaching English to Ukrainians; Non-profit leadership supporting squadron morale; Youth soccer coach.

Statement

Is Washington D.C. working for you? Who benefits from rising housing costs, unaffordable healthcare, instability abroad, and the inhumane treatment towards us at home? We see evidence of exactly where the working class stands. We have an opportunity to continue the status quo or choose a representative who will put working Washingtonians first.

The people demand universal healthcare, a clean energy transition, major investments in housing, and an economy centered on working families. We recognize the need for reproductive freedom, access to gender-affirming care, and protection of human rights domestically and abroad. Our immigration system requires reform and ICE must be dismantled, replaced with respect for constitutional rights and human dignity.

I will never accept corporate PAC or foreign lobby money, especially from AIPAC. My decisions will be guided purely by the people I represent.

We do not lack solutions. We lack the follow-through to make them real. I have spent my life in roles where that is unacceptable. As a U.S. Air Force veteran, volunteer firefighter, and small business owner, I have worked in environments where failure has consequences and accountability is not optional.

Your representative must be the most accessible person in the district. It should not be difficult to meet them, speak with them, or hold them accountable. I will remain responsive and available to the people I represent, no matter whether you are a donor or not. You deserve to be able to freely meet your representative.

Public officials must be held to a higher standard, with clear expectations and real consequences. Public service should mean sacrifice, not privilege. As the child and spouse of immigrants, and a fluent Spanish speaker, I believe in building a government that is inclusive, accountable, and works for everyone. I would be honored to earn your vote.



Devin Hermanson

(Prefers Democratic Party)

(425) 312-3954
 devin@devinhermanson.com
 devinhermanson.com

Elected Experience

I am running for this office for the second time and have yet to hold elected office. As AOC and many others have shown, first-time office holders can have major impact. We can't elect the same career politicians and expect a different result.

Other Professional Experience

I've raised hundreds of millions of dollars to fight poverty and created programs that raised over \$1 billion to empower girls and women. I've also launched multiple startups, including one I helped take public.

Education

Whitman College, BA in Art, Boston University, MBA, certificate in Public and Nonprofit Management.

Community Service

Founded DefundMusk.com and public speaker for gender equity.

Statement

Doormat Democrats have failed us; it's time for a change. Two years ago, I ran for this office and was the only candidate warning about the danger our democracy faced and the need to reform the Supreme Court. Nearly 10,000 of you honored me with your votes.

Amazingly, Democrats like the incumbent still fail to understand the current crisis. We need representatives who, as Beto says, will "drive it like it's stolen" when we regain power and fight like hell until we do.

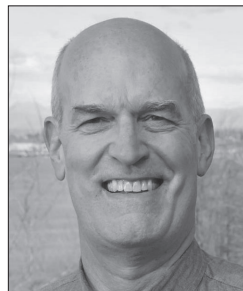
As the founder of DefundMusk.com, I've been working with amazing people to hit billionaires in the wallet, staging ten protests a week, leading the campaign against Sinclair/KOMO when Kimmel was taken off the air, and organizing for a general strike.

Incremental change won't cut it. After we defeat Trump, we're going to tear our broken system down to the studs and rebuild a new America that fulfills the promise of justice and prosperity for you and your family, not oligarchs and corporations. I won't be afraid to tax billionaires out of existence, end aid to Israel until they stop their decimation of Palestine, and impeach Trump and his whole corrupt crew. Unlike the incumbent in this race, I support the Green New Deal and Medicare for All and will never take a dime of corporate cash.

We can lower costs, tackle our homelessness and fentanyl crises, and deliver the high-paying jobs that our community deserves. But first we need new leadership that will stand up to Trump with more than stern letters.

My entire life, I've been told the things I want to do are impossible—and then I do them anyway. We need vision and courage now more than ever. Send me to Congress to be your voice.

Candidate statements have been reviewed and accepted by the Office of the Secretary of State and have been printed as submitted.



Rick Larsen

(Prefers Democratic Party)

(425) 259-1866
 rick@ricklarsen.org
 www.ricklarsen.org

Elected Experience

I began trying to make a difference through public service on the Snohomish County Council, and today, it is my privilege to serve as the Representative for Washington's 2nd Congressional District.

Other Professional Experience

I was previously employed by the Port of Everett and the Washington State Dental Association.

Education

I graduated from Pacific Lutheran University in Washington state and have a master's degree from the University of Minnesota.

Community Service

My parents were an important influence on me, encouraging me to be involved in my local community. Their encouragement continues to be a motivation for my service to our communities.

Statement

It is an honor to represent Washington's 2nd District in Congress. My family has called Northwest Washington home for over 100 years. My father was a union power line worker, and my mom managed the books at home while raising eight kids in Arlington. They embodied the values that unite us: working hard, caring for each other, and serving the community. My wife and I taught these same values to our two sons; we are thankful to say that both have launched their own careers.

My top priority is to lower healthcare, gas, groceries, housing, childcare, and energy costs. Hardworking families should be able to put food on the table, but now, too many are struggling to make ends meet.

Healthcare costs are too high. I believe healthcare is a right, and I will fight to expand access and lower healthcare costs. Housing prices must be brought down by increasing the supply of affordable homes and investing in local infrastructure so communities can build the housing they need.

The administration promised lower prices and less war. Instead, we have higher prices and more wars. From increasing prices through tariffs to waging foreign wars and targeting immigrant communities. I will work to rein in this out-of-control executive.

Creating local jobs is essential to lowering costs. I will continue to bring economic investments to Northwest Washington, create good-paying jobs, and expand access to affordable childcare so working families can succeed. I will continue to combat the opioid and fentanyl threat in our communities by supporting our local law enforcement and ensuring ICE agents follow the same rules as all other law enforcement agencies.

It is an honor to serve Northwest Washington in Congress and to fight for our shared values, and I ask for your support to continue serving our community.



Clyde Shavers
(Prefers Democratic Party)

(425) 394-6765
campaign@electclydeshavers.com
<https://electclydeshavers.com/>

Elected Experience

State Representative (current) – Vice Chair of the House Education Committee (Kindergarten-12th Grade), Member of the WA Artificial Intelligence Task Force

Other Professional Experience

After graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy, Clyde served in the U.S. Navy stationed in the Middle East and Southeast Asia. He graduated from Yale Law School and is a practicing attorney. He lives on Whidbey Island.

Education

U.S. Naval Academy, B.S.; Yale Law School, J.D.

Community Service

Skagit Friendship House, Board Member; Goosefoot, former Board Member; Whidbey Veterans Resource Center, former Board Member

Statement

The economy isn't working for us, and everything is unaffordable. Gas is too expensive, so I voted no on a tax that would have made it cost even more. Property taxes are too high, so for years I've worked on expanding tax exemptions for seniors and veterans. Groceries cost too much, so I co-sponsored legislation to reduce pressure on food prices. Water bills keep rising, so I fought unfair rate hikes. Veterans aren't receiving benefits they earned, so I passed legislation for more Veteran Service Officers.

Every day, I'm fighting to lower costs and make your life more affordable.



Robert (Chili) Hicks
(Prefers Republican Party)

(360) 320-6342
ElectChiliHicks@gmail.com
hicksforwa.com

Elected Experience

Stanwood, WA City Councilman. Elected 2024

Other Professional Experience

With over four decades of leadership experience, Chili retired as a Master Chief Petty Officer following a 21-year U.S. Navy career. He later served as an HR manager at Boeing, as a telecommunications HR executive and a successful small business owner for 30-years

Education

MBA, Saint Leo University; BA, Columbia College; US Navy Senior Enlisted Leadership Academy

Community Service

Stanwood Planning Commissioner, Stanwood-Camano YMCA Board of Directors, Stanwood Salary Commission, YMCA youth coach, Drug Education for Youth (DEFY) Director, VFW Post 12228, American Legion Post 92 & Riders Director and Boeing Employee Veteran Association (BEVA) Founding President

Statement

As a Navy combat veteran, father, grandfather, and small business owner, I am on a mission to rescue Washington. One-party control in Olympia ignores working families. Their reckless spending, waste, and failed policies directly drive up inflation—skyrocketing your daily costs for gas, groceries, and housing—and no one is accountable. True leadership demands common-sense fiscal discipline over politics. I will fight to lower taxes, slash government waste, protect your family budget, and restore accountability. Results matter. I will work tirelessly to protect your paycheck and secure the financial future for our kids and the generations to come.



Carrie R. Kennedy

(Prefers Republican Party)

(360) 218-4547
 carrie4wa@yahoo.com
 carriekennedy4wa26.com

Elected Experience

2024, LD-10/1 Primary election winner. 2022, 2020 US Congressional candidate, CD-2. Elected Precinct Committee Officer.

Other Professional Experience

Administrative assistant, manager, assistant manager to military, civilian departments, organizations, companies. Construction QC, Contracts specialist assistant, ER-Ambulatory intake, Developmental Disabilities admin, Liquor Control clerk, retail buyer, procurement clerk, sales clerk, Central cashier, bookkeeper, English teacher in Japan. Navy Seabee wife, mother, loyal friend.

Education

Monterey Peninsula College, A.A. Degree. College of the Redwoods, Skagit Valley College.

Community Service

Volunteer: Domestic Violence Advocate, Navy Family Service Centers, Command appointed ombudsman, Girls Scouts, parent-school volunteer, softball coach, Harley Davidson ToysForTots, Burn Runs, ABATE, Patriot Guards, Moving Wall. Detention facility.

Statement

As a Constitutionalist, I will defend the rights and freedoms guaranteed to every citizen while keeping govt accountable, transparent and limited. Parents, not bureaucrats, should guide their children's education, health and values. Women's rights, privacy, safety & equal opportunities while ensuring fairness will be vehemently protected. Ensuring responsible budgeting, fiscal responsibility (no income tax, lower taxes), safe communities, supporting law enforcement, and policies strengthening businesses, families, and individual liberties. With honesty and integrity, principled leadership, independent thinking, and respect for law and order, I'll work diligently to restore trust, protecting citizens' freedoms before politics, for future generations.



Dave Paul

(Prefers Democratic Party)

(360) 632-2081
 dave@votedavepaul.com
 www.votedavepaul.com

Elected Experience

State representative, serves as Chair of Postsecondary Education & Workforce Committee and on the Technology, Community & Economic Development & Veterans and Transportation committees.

Other Professional Experience

Dave is a community leader, parent, and educator. At Skagit Valley College, Dave expanded financial aid opportunities and career pathways to living-wage jobs.

Education

BA, Seattle University; MA, Miami University (Ohio); and doctorate, University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign).

Community Service

Supporting job creation and business retention through the Island County Economic Development Council; Board Member and Past President, Oak Harbor Educational Foundation; Member of Rotary; and formerly served on Oak Harbor School District Budget Committee and Sustainable Whidbey Coalition.

Statement

Dave Paul is a trusted, bipartisan leader and educator. As our representative, Dave knows that families are struggling. He's reduced the cost of college education and fixed tuition loopholes that were hurting veterans and military families. He passed legislation that lowered the cost of asthma inhalers and EpiPens. Dave helped eliminate taxes for small businesses and is fighting to fix our upside-down tax code.

Dave is working hard on community priorities, including improved ferry service and housing affordability. Dave works closely with law enforcement to improve public safety and mental health services. Dave is pro-choice and endorsed by Planned Parenthood.

**Tim Hazelo**

(Prefers Republican Party)

(360) 720-0602

VoteHazelo@gmail.com

VoteHazelo.com

Elected Experience

International Association of Machinists Union Steward,
Congressional Candidate 2020, Precinct Committee
Officer

Other Professional Experience

38 years Navy and government contracting, USS
Nimitz, VP-40/69, NAS Whidbey. Deployed from the
Middle East and Asia to counter-narcotics operations in
Central America. Worked as an Intelligence Analyst and
combat simulation technician. Functional test technician
for the Boeing 787, taught aviation maintenance and
manufacturing. Small business owner, money manager,
budget consultant.

Education

Skagit Valley College, Embry Riddle, Central Texas

Community Service

Volunteer/supporter of VFW, Elks, Toys for Tots, Holiday
House, Habitat for Humanity, WAIF, Calvary Chapel, Oak
Harbor youth football, and Counselor at Camp Moran for
Oak Harbor Schools.

Statement

I am proud to run for LD10! I want Washington State to
be affordable for families, seniors, and young adults.
My 38 years of service to our country have put me in
a position to represent our best interests. I believe in
strong communities and healthy economic opportunities.
We must stop unsustainable spending that has led
to ever-increasing taxation, reduce unnecessary and
burdensome regulations that drive up the cost of housing
and expenses, fix our ferry systems, roads, and bridges,
end cashless bail, and continue to support NAS Whidbey.
To ensure prosperity for future generations, vote Hazelo.

Thank you!



Sam Low

(Prefers Republican Party)

(425) 923-9662
electsamlow@gmail.com
VoteSamLow.com

Elected Experience

Your current 2 term Washington State Representative LD 39; Snohomish County Council 3 terms; Lake Stevens Council (Council President/ Mayor Pro Tem); Washington State Transportation Improvement Board (2024-2026 chair); Washington State Traffic Safety Commissioner (2025-2026 chair).

Other Professional Experience

Successful small business owner; Elementary school teacher; Snohomish Health 8 years (Chair 2015); North Sound Behavioral Health Skagit 9 years.

Education

Masters Degree Organizational Leadership- MBU;
Bachelor of Arts Theology- PCBBC

Community Service

Skagit County Boys and Girls Club advocate of the year (2026); Lake Stevens Rotary Club (President 2016-2017); Roadside cleanups; Sky Valley Arts supporter of the year (2022); Basketball coach; Sedro Woolley Food Bank supporter.

Statement

I have already successfully passed 12 bills into state law. (2025-2026) HB1345 allowing rural ADU's; HB1261 Helping Farms; HB2441 helping first responder widows; and previously HB1962 voter roll cleanup; HB1271 Organ bill saving lives; HB1961 Holding animal abusers accountable; HB1987 Workforce housing

Prioritizing public safety, providing tax relief, reducing traffic congestion, and promoting family-wage jobs are why I am endorsed by over 30 current Republican Members of the State House of Representatives, many local elected officials, Law enforcement, labor, 39th leaders Senator Keith Wagoner; Representative Carolyn Eslick, and former LS Council Member Steve Ewing. I humbly ask for your vote.



Kathryn Lewandowsky

(Prefers Democratic Party)

(425) 737-4594
Kathryn4LD39@pm.me
Kathryn4LD39.net

Elected Experience

WSNA Local Unit Chair, St. Joseph's Hospital, 1995
WSNA Grievance Officer, St. Joseph's Hospital.

Other Professional Experience

LPN 1987-1991, Registered Nurse 1991-Present, WSNA Negotiating Team Member. WSNA Local Unit Chair, St. Joseph's Hospital, WSNA Grievance Officer, St. Joseph's Hospital. 1993-1999.

Education

LPN Certificate, Clover Park Technical College, (1987), Associate Degree Nursing, Tacoma Community College, (1991), Bachelors of Science in Nursing, Western Washington University, (2017), Masters in Legal Studies-Purdue Global University (2024).

Community Service

Whole Washington Board Vice-Chair, 2019-present, One Payer States Board Treasurer, 2019-present, Pierce County 4H Horse Leader, 1996-2002, Lcamas Community Center-Volunteer Event Rental Manager, 1997-2000.

Statement

Forty years as a registered nurse — oncology, ICU, hospice, our community hospital — taught me what's breaking. Health care and housing are human rights, not yield-generating assets for hedge funds. Public dams shouldn't shift electricity costs from massive data centers onto families. Rural hospitals shouldn't close while insurers post record profits. In Olympia I'll fight for affordable care close to home, rural hospitals, housing working families can afford, and fair electricity rates for ratepayers. Real healthcare choice for all. Washington's future should be measured by whether ordinary people can build a decent life here. Endorsed by Snohomish County Democrats.

**Dusty Wisniew**

(Prefers Republican Party)

(206) 351-2261

VoteDusty2026@gmail.com

DustyForStateRep.com

Elected Experience

Republican Party Precinct Committee Officer for Granite Falls 4, 2024 - 2025. Republican Party Precinct Committee Officer for Granite Falls 5, 2026

Other Professional Experience

Journeyman Electrician, 2017. Master Electrician, 2022. Electrical Contractor (2025-Present.) Owner of Pinkchip Investment Consulting, LLC (2005-2011)

Education

Pullman High School, 1998-2001. Shoreline Community College, GED, 2002. On-the-job training and CEUs, 2002-Present

Community Service

Volunteer teacher for homeschool cooperative. Volunteer recruiting and training of Republican precinct committee officers.

Statement

Washington used to be a place where working families could build a future. As a young tradesman, I watched new companies come to Washington and create good-paying jobs. People came here because this state believed in growth, hard work, and common sense. That vision is slipping away. The political class in Olympia keeps expecting working families to sacrifice more while delivering less in return. Washington families deserve leadership that understands hard work, respects taxpayers, and fights for a stronger future. I humbly request your support in this fight.

Endorsed by the 39th LD Republicans and the Skagit County Republican Party.



Robert J Sutherland

(Prefers Republican Party)

(425) 512-7784
info@sutherland4rep.com
www.sutherland4rep.com

Elected Experience

Washington State Representative (2019-2023).
Snohomish County Republican Party LD Vice Chairman.
Precinct Committee Officer.

Other Professional Experience

Biochemist. Lung and breast cancer drug development;
DNA Research, Seattle. Developed new DNA extraction
and purification method. My research disproved claims
of a new form of DNA, allowing valuable research funds
to be redirected to more productive cancer research
laboratories.

Education

Biochemistry degree, Gonzaga University, Spokane.

Community Service

US Air Force Veteran. Raised critical funds for Children's
Hospital in Seattle. Gospel Mission Donor. Officer/
Treasurer of a Scottish-American 501(c)3 non-profit.
Boys and Girls Club youth basketball coach. Snohomish
County 4H equine club volunteer. 'Cigars for Veterans'
charitable volunteer.

Statement

Endorsements: Snohomish County Republican Party
Executive Committee; 39th Legislative District Republican
Party. NRA rated "A"

Priorities: Election Integrity reforms. Eliminating state
level property taxes to increase housing affordability.
Reduce traffic congestion by building additional lane
capacity, creating family wage jobs. Improving mass
transit. True \$30.00 car tabs. Greater educational choices
for parents, let education dollars follow the child to the
school of their choice. First, Second Amendment Rights.
Limiting Emergency Powers of the Governor. Solving
homelessness. Adequately fund police to decrease crime
rates. Eliminate the Income and Capital Gains taxes;
Reduce gas tax. Let's build a better community.



Ida Keeley

(Prefers Democratic Party)

(206) 282-1805
ida@idaforwa.com
<https://idaforwa.com/>

Elected Experience

First-time candidate. Lifelong advocate, leading efforts to
protect vulnerable children and youth, support families,
and strengthen communities.

Other Professional Experience

Consultant; Former Juvenile Court Administrator, Superior
Court Program Manager, DCYF State Area Administrator,
Dawson Place Founding Member, Crisis Residential
Center Program Manager

Education

BA, Sociology and Criminal Justice, WSU

Community Service

Past Chair Children's Campaign Fund; YMCA of
Snohomish County, Marysville; Citrine Women's Health
and Wellness; WA Assn of Juvenile Court Administrators;
WA Assn of Court Appointed Advocates. Married to a
high school teacher, and proud parent of two children
and two rescue dogs, Ida volunteers with a local animal
shelter, and her daughter's school.

Statement

After a childhood marked by instability, I chose a path of
service, working alongside communities and the justice
system. Balancing compassion with accountability, I've
dedicated my career to improving broken systems from
within.

With your vote, I'll continue advocating for neighbors
struggling to afford housing, insurance, and childcare.
I'll work across the aisle to fund our schools, address
special needs, and expand career and college pathways.
I'll fight for fair jobs and local businesses that strengthen
our economy. Let's challenge broken systems, unite
around shared values, and listen to people, not the
powerful. Endorsed: Washington State Labor Council|IAM
751|Congresswoman DelBene



Lacey Sauvageau

(Prefers Republican Party)

(425) 293-6032
laceysauvageau@gmail.com

Elected Experience

Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific Contract Negotiations Member March 2026-Present

Other Professional Experience

Washington State Ferries Employee 4 years, Lynnwood Police Department Volunteer 10 years, Former 911 dispatcher for Snohomish County 6 years

Education

Cascade High School, Everett Community College, Central Washington University

Community Service

None listed.

Statement

Lacey Sauvageau will advocate for working families. As a single mom herself, she understands the demands and struggles families face. She will work to lower the cost of fuel, food, utilities, and housing. Her priorities are increased funding for public safety, public transportation, schools, lower taxes and a lower cost of living for all families. We need to adjust policies in Washington to be practical and balance the budget. We need a better future for our children. She will work endlessly until that is accomplished.



Steve Ewing

(Prefers Republican Party)

(425) 345-5083
ElectSteveEwing@gmail.com
ElectSteveEwing.com

Elected Experience

Previously, Lake Stevens City Council, Health District Board, Library Board, and Planning Commission. Endorsed by Mayors Brett Gailey (Lake Stevens), JoEllen Kesti (Sedro-Woolley), Jon Nehring (Marysville), and Don Vanney (Arlington), Russell Wiita (Sultan) Snohomish County Councilmember Nate Nehring, Ron Wesen Skagit County Commissioner, Skagit County Republicans, and Washington Council of Police and Sheriffs (WACOPS).

Other Professional Experience

Expert in public safety and mental health, as DOC Administrative Hearings Officer and former mental health counselor. Endorsed by his union, the Teamsters.

Education

Bachelor of Science-BYU

Community Service

Blood donor (8-gallon pin!); Church leadership (20+ years); 12-step addiction recovery program group leader. Strong support from local business leaders.

Statement

Steve Ewing is our best choice for Representative, endorsed by the entire 39th District delegation: Sen. Wagoner, Rep. Low, and retiring Rep. Eslick. He's an expert in public safety, a father, and a lifelong Washingtonian. As a leader in local government, Steve passed balanced budgets, opposed higher taxes, prioritized public safety, and worked for better roads.

We need to be honest; people are leaving Washington because state government is getting weird. Steve Ewing will stand up for "normal" government--normal good schools, normal better roads, normal balanced budgets, normal affordable taxes. Good news, Steve Ewing is our "normal" choice for Representative.



Debra Lekanoff

(Prefers Democratic Party)

(360) 770-9689
 votedebralekanoff@gmail.com
 www.debralekanoff.com

Elected Experience

Serving as your Representative in Olympia for the last eight years, Debra currently serves on the Healthcare and Wellness, Housing, Rules and Appropriations Committees, Joint Legislative Committee on Water Supply during Drought, Task Force for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and People and Legislative Committee on Economic Development and International Relations.

Other Professional Experience

Debra has over 30 years in public service ranging from healthcare, salmon recovery and protection, climate change, infrastructure, water, treaty rights, education, housing, workforce, and unions.

Education

BA, Business Administration/Finance, Central Washington University.

Community Service

Member of National Caucus of Environmental Legislators, MMIWP Task Force, past board member EarthJustice

Statement

Debra is committed to every kitchen table issue facing Washington families — affordability, healthcare, balanced budgets, housing, public safety, and schools. She works to unite communities and support governments to find solutions while protecting salmon, forests, parks, and the Salish Sea, supporting unions and jobs, defending reproductive freedom, and addressing the fentanyl and homelessness crises together. She's also helped fund three new ferries and accelerated hiring for our ferry system.

Endorsed by Governor Bob Ferguson, Washington State Labor Council, Lummi Nation, Washington Conservation Action, Washington State Nurses Association, Whatcom County Firefighters.



Cindy Carter

(Prefers Republican Party)

(360) 317-3775
 cindy@noincometaxcarter.com
 noincometaxcarter.com

Elected Experience

Proven leadership in state and local politics

Other Professional Experience

Worked 5 years in the Chemistry Department of Seattle's Virginia Mason Hospital Laboratory and held secretarial and office management roles on Orcas Island.

Education

Earned a B.S. Degree in Medical Technology, certified by American Society of Clinical Pathologists(ASCP). Homeschooled her 4 children and supported many other children's education in the community.

Community Service

Cindy has volunteered with many non-profits including the Buck Park Tennis Association, and Buck Park Association. She co-coached girls' softball and held leadership roles at Orcas Island Community Church, demonstrating her commitment to local families, community connections, and Orcas Island's future.

Statement

I am running for the 40th Legislative District to represent the people. My opponent voted for the statewide income tax against the will of the people. I will fight to repeal this unconstitutional tax before it forces every Washingtonian to register their personal financial information with the state. I am committed to bring fiscal responsibility back to the state. My priorities include improving Transportation, especially fixing the ferry and bridge issues, and restoring Washington's education to national excellence. Together, let's put government back in the hands of the people and deliver results to strengthen our families and communities.



Salomon Rodrigue Mbouombouo
 (Prefers Independent Party)
 (714) 414-7054
 cccsalomon@yahoo.com

Elected Experience

Chair, Skagit/Islands Head Start Policy Council (2023–2025). Board Member, Washington State Association of Head Start & ECEAP.

Other Professional Experience

Area Reliability Mechanical Engineer; Community Health Coordination Across Skagit, Whatcom, and San Juan Counties; Rural Access and Outreach Specialist; Co-Founder and Director of a Regional Doula Coordination Program; Doula Dad.

Education

Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, The University of Oklahoma. Pre-Medical Coursework & Research, Western Washington University. Pre-Medical Coursework, Skagit Valley College.

Community Service

Community doula coordination; fatherhood and family support; senior independence outreach; student and family resource navigation; mentorship support for underserved communities; annual Skagit community baby shower; Whatcom future of birth workers.

Statement

Across San Juan, Skagit, and Whatcom, the challenges communities face are deeply interconnected. With my background in engineering and community health, I see our region as a system where one instability can trigger many others. I think of residents working multiple jobs, caring for families, and facing long commutes because housing nearby is out of reach. When transportation fails or childcare falls through, everything, classroom and workplace, collapses. Rising costs tighten everything. Each pressure point amplifies the next. My systems-thinking lens identifies these load-bearing components. I will bring engineering precision to stabilize core pillars that strengthen our entire regional structure.



Alex Ramel
 (Prefers Democratic Party)
 (360) 305-5079
 inquiries@alexramel.com
<https://www.alexramel.com/>

Elected Experience

Third term State Representative. Elected by my peers as Majority Whip.

Other Professional Experience

Clean Energy and Environmental Community Organizer. As Program Director at Sustainable Connections I founded the Community Energy Challenge, creating living-wage jobs, cutting pollution, and reducing energy costs for thousands of people and businesses in Whatcom, Skagit, and San Juan counties.

Education

BA in Environmental Policy and Planning, Western Washington University

Community Service

Past President, Kulshan Community Land Trust: Creating affordable housing for low- and middle-income families. Worker Retraining Advisory Board: during the 2008 recession, helping people build new careers.

Statement

I fight for bold climate action and to lower costs for working families. I helped cap rent increases. We taxed millionaires to provide free lunches for kids, healthcare, and tax relief for small businesses and low-income families. We developed Washington’s energy strategy to reduce pollution and reduce energy costs. I’ve helped fund new ferries, clean energy development, mental health treatment in Whatcom and Skagit Counties, and a record number of affordable homes. Endorsed by Washington Conservation Action and unions representing nurses and firefighters. I’m 100% pro-choice.

I’m voting no on all statewide initiatives and ask you to join me.



Joseph Segault

(States No Party Preference)

(360) 317-8738
Josephsegault@gmail.com

Elected Experience

No information submitted

Other Professional Experience

No information submitted

Education

No information submitted

Community Service

No information submitted

Statement

My name is Joseph Segault, I intend on representing the San Juan Islands, Skagit Valley, and Whatcom County as your District 40 State Representative.

If you are happy with the direction things are moving, then do not vote for me. I am not alright with the economic pressure that is being forced on our local communities, through increased taxes, the rising cost of living, and a lack of representation at the State level. This is our opportunity to implement Positive Change, and have the voice of the people heard in Olympia. If you agree, please consider voting for Joseph Segault.



Monte Jay Mahan

(Prefers Independent Party)

(360) 647-9162
mebham@comcast.net
monte4wa.org

Elected Experience

This will be your first opportunity to have me represent you, the proud residents of District 40, who call San Juan, Skagit, and Whatcom County your home.

Other Professional Experience

24 Years as the Business Owner and Hearing Aid Specialist at Miracle-Ear, Bellingham.

Education

Completed an intensive undergraduate interdisciplinary program in Pre Medical and Natural Resource Conversation, at the University of Florida.

Community Service

I donate hearing aids and all my services to low-income patients in need. Over the years we have been able to help hundreds of people in this area hear better through the Miracle-Ear Foundation.

Statement

We need an Independent vote in our area who has small business knowledge and community knowledge. I have talked to all kinds of local residents every day at my office for 24 years. I lean socially liberal, but if we keep voting straight down the Democrat ticket, you might be getting career politicians who vote without the normal citizens in mind. Recent decisions keep increasing costs that burden our area and decrease people's disposable income. Taxes, utility increases, government salary increases, and over regulation need to be balanced with the reality of what citizens can afford these days.



Danny Hagen
(Prefers Independent Party)

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electdannyhagen@gmail.com
votedannyhagen.com

Unopposed

Biography

Raised on Bow Hill and in La Conner, Danny spent eight years in the office before being elected Assessor in 2022. A Professional Member of the International Association of Assessing Officers, he's President of the Washington State Association of County Assessors and 2nd Vice President of the Washington Association of County Officials. A Leadership Skagit Class of 2018 graduate and seven-year volunteer, Danny chairs the boards of Community Action of Skagit County and Chinook Enterprises, and is a Rotarian and Special Olympics volunteer. He lives in Mount Vernon with his fiancée Falon and their blended family of six kids.

Statement

Serving as your Skagit County Assessor has been one of the great privileges of my career. I've committed to accurate valuations, consistent application of the law, and getting out into the community, with over 60 presentations to more than 2,000 Skagit County residents. That's what I'm committed to building on.

There is an important change residents should know about. Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 6162, signed into law this year, significantly expands the Senior and Persons with Disabilities Property Tax Exemption. The income threshold rises from \$48,000 to \$78,000, a new standard deduction of \$7,500 for individuals and \$15,000 for couples or domestic partnerships will apply, and access is expanded for disabled veterans. Many who didn't qualify before may qualify now.

Our office is leading the state in preparing for this expansion and will begin accepting applications for 2027 this fall. Visit the Skagit County Assessor's Office website to learn more and see if you qualify.

In four years, we've launched an online portal for exemptions, expanded bilingual services, and through technology and improved training, led the state in mass appraisal performance, with a smaller team.

Thank you for the trust you've placed in me and this office.



Jeremy Harrison-Smith

(Prefers Democratic Party)

(360) 399-6452

Hello@JeremyHarrisonSmith.com

www.JeremyHarrisonSmith.com

Biography

I was born and raised in Skagit County and live in Clear Lake with my wife, Johanna, and our five-year-old daughter. As the Governor's Northwest Washington representative, I connect community members, businesses, tribes, and local governments with state resources. As Executive Director of the Scleroderma Foundation Northwest Chapter, I led operations across Washington and Idaho, including budget oversight, donor relations, and workplan development. I've also been a preschool teacher. My community service experience includes civic engagement, Skagit County Elections observing, English-Spanish interpreting, and voter registration.

Education: MA, Social Justice in Intercultural Relations; BA, Sociology and International Relations.

Statement

I have more than a decade of on-the-ground experience in leadership and community roles, serving with *transparency, integrity, and accountability*. As a fluent Spanish speaker, I'm a strong advocate for expanding language access and outreach to make sure services are available to everyone in our community.

As your Auditor, I will *protect our accurate, secure, and accessible elections* and collaborate with our state partners to safeguard Skagit County's vote-by-mail system. I will *modernize financial systems and improve customer service* so residents have reliable access to licensing and public records, meeting the needs of our growing population.

I'm running for auditor because I believe the future of our democracy is at a tipping point, and *we need to guarantee that every eligible voter's voice is heard* and our kids and future generations inherit secure, reliable elections. *I am committed to serving and working for the future of our county.* I would be honored to earn your vote.

Endorsed by: Skagit County Democrats, Skagit County Auditor Sandy Perkins, State Senator Liz Lovelett, Anacortes Mayor Ryan Walters, Mount Vernon City Councilmember Hannah Oliver, Sedro-Woolley City Councilmember Nora Pederson, and other community leaders.



Mark Hulst

(Prefers Independent Party)

(360) 708-2801

friendsofmarkhulst@gmail.com

hulstforauditor.com

Biography

Mark Hulst is a Skagit County native with over a decade of public service experience. He served 12 years on the Mount Vernon City Council, including roles as Finance Chair and Public Safety Chair, working on budgeting, oversight, and operations. His service also includes the Mount Vernon Planning Commission and Skagit Transit Board of Directors. He serves on the board of Volunteers of America Western Washington. He is a local business owner with experience managing operations, budgets, and teams, and has coached youth basketball, reflecting connection to community. He is running to provide experienced, independent leadership focused on effective government.

Statement

I am running for Skagit County Auditor because the public deserves fair elections, accurate results, and an office they can trust. The Auditor's Office should be defined by integrity, professionalism, and service to the public -not politics.

Throughout my career, I have worked in complex organizations where accuracy, accountability, and trust matter every day. I have managed teams, overseen detailed systems, and understand that strong public service depends on clear processes, responsible oversight, and well-trained staff. Effective leadership means building systems that work reliably and treat people with fairness and respect.

The Auditor's Office is responsible for administering elections, maintaining public records, and safeguarding important financial processes. These responsibilities require precision, transparency, and strict adherence to state law. I will ensure our vote-by-mail system is administered accurately, consistently, and professionally -without unnecessary rhetoric or partisanship.

My priorities will include improving operational efficiency, strengthening staff development and ensuring county services are delivered professionally and reliably.

I am committed to fairness, accuracy, and public trust. I will work collaboratively with staff, elected officials, and the community to ensure the Auditor's Office remains professional, nonpartisan, and prepared to serve the people of Skagit County from day one. I respectfully ask for your vote.

Candidate statements are printed as submitted and are not edited for factual or grammatical accuracy by the Auditor's Office.



Melissa Beaton

(Prefers Democratic Party)

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 voteforbeaton@gmail.com
 melissabeatonforclerk.com

Unopposed

Biography

Serves as Skagit County Clerk and on Mount Vernon City Council. Worked for more than two decades in Skagit County Superior Court and served as past president of the Washington State Association of County Clerks. Member of the Skagit County Law & Justice Council. Certified Court Manager through National Center for State Courts. Earned a transfer degree from Skagit Valley College and completed Leadership Skagit, Mount Vernon Police Citizens Academy, and IAFF Fire Ops. Community service includes Skagit Rotary past president and treasurer, Community Action of Skagit County board member and treasurer, and YMCA board and school advisory committee member.

Statement

Raised in Skagit County, I am honored to serve as your County Clerk and would be privileged to continue in that role. My career has been dedicated to the legal community, and I believe public confidence in our justice system is more important than ever.

The Clerk's Office operates within the executive branch, independent of the judiciary, serving as the administrative and financial office of Superior Court. This work is highly technical and vital—ensuring the integrity, accuracy, and accessibility of court records. In this role, I have worked to modernize services and improve access for our community.

While these responsibilities are critical, the work is also deeply human. We serve people during some of the most difficult moments of their lives—navigating family matters, grieving loss, or facing a legal system that can feel overwhelming.

I believe the Clerk's Office is about more than records and procedures. It's about helping people navigate a complex system with dignity, compassion, and respect.

Skagit County deserves a Clerk invested in the community, working to improve access to court services.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve. I would be honored to earn your vote again.

Candidate statements are printed as submitted and are not edited for factual or grammatical accuracy by the Auditor's Office.



Joe Burns

(Prefers Democratic Party)

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joe@electjoeburns.com
electjoeburns.com

Biography

Current Skagit County Commissioner for District 3 and former Sedro-Woolley City Council member. Before public service, I spent two decades in the automotive industry, starting in trade school and serving nine years as shop foreman at Doyle Guffie's Rallye Auto Sales. I then taught auto shop at Sedro-Woolley High School as a union member, helping prepare students for the future. Studied Gas and Diesel Automotive Service Technologies at the College of Southern Idaho and earned the AWC Certificate of Municipal Leadership. Current Sedro-Woolley Lions Club member and former president, Loggerodeo Parade Foreman, and former Helping Hands Food Bank board chair.

Statement

Like any parent, I care about whether my children will be able to afford to live, raise a family, and build a future in Skagit County 20 years from now. Those concerns guide my work as your Skagit County Commissioner.

Before public service, I spent two decades in the automotive industry, where I learned the value of accountability, problem-solving, and doing the job right. Trust and respect are earned through integrity and diligence, a principle I bring to county government every day.

Skagit County should be a place where hard work pays off, local businesses can grow, and young families have a reason to stay. That means protecting taxpayer dollars, planning responsibly for growth, and focusing on solutions to affordability. I believe people deserve local leaders who listen, stay focused on the work, and follow through.

As commissioner, I have helped secure grant funding, supported local agriculture, and strengthened flood protection for our communities. I've traveled across the county, meeting residents where they are and hearing directly from the people I serve.

Endorsed by Rick Larsen, Lisa Janicki, Julia Johnson, and many others. I would be honored to earn your vote to continue serving as your Skagit County Commissioner.

Candidate statements are printed as submitted and are not edited for factual or grammatical accuracy by the Auditor's Office.



Connie Krier

(Prefers Independent Party)

(206) 391-8383
connie4commissioner@gmail.com

Biography

I am a Board-Certified Safety Professional with over 20 years of experience bringing people together to solve problems, improve safety, and strengthen accountability. I have worked with employees, businesses, and government agencies to solve problems and improve efficiency. As President of Stewards of Skagit, I have helped organize citizens to speak up for transparency, safety, and accountability in county decisions. My experience as both a former small business owner and safety professional has taught me that the best solutions come from listening to people, solving root problems, and creating accountability. I will bring that same approach to Skagit County government.

Statement

Skagit County deserves leadership that listens to the people who live and work here — not partisan politics or outside influence.

I am running for County Commissioner because too many hardworking families feel like local government no longer listens to them. Decisions affecting our farms, neighborhoods, businesses, and future should be made with transparency, accountability, and community input, not behind closed doors.

My career has focused on protecting people, solving problems, and helping organizations operate safely and responsibly across Washington state. As a wife of a veteran, mother of two, former small business owner, and community advocate, I understand the importance of strong neighborhoods, responsible government, and protecting the future of our communities.

When neighbors felt ignored, I helped organize citizens through Stewards of Skagit to stand up for transparency and responsible decision-making. We may not all agree on every issue, but we all deserve a local government that listens respectfully, communicates honestly, and remembers it serves the people.

As an Independent, I will answer only to the people of Skagit County, not party leadership. My commitment is simple: work hard, listen first, and put our communities before politics.

**Keith L. Wagoner**

(Prefers Republican Party)

(361) 244-0100

wagonerkl@msn.com

wagonerforcc.com

Biography

Senator 39th Legislative District 2018-present (Minority Whip), Mayor City of Sedro-Woolley 2016-18, Sedro-Woolley City Council 2010-15

Served United States Marine Corps and U.S. Navy for 23 years as a Naval Aviator flying helicopters, including 13 years in overseas locations conducting resupply and Search and Rescue missions. Retired with the rank of Commander. Diplomatic assignment to U.S. Embassy Tokyo, Japan.

Washington State University (freshman year); United States Naval Academy, Annapolis MD. (BS, Physical Oceanography); University of San Diego (MS, Global Leadership)

Fraternal Order of Police 2020 Legislator of the Year, Sedro-Woolley Rotary; Fraternal Order of Eagles #2069, American Legion Post 41

Statement

My twenty-three-year military career as a naval officer coupled with executive experience as mayor and legislative experience as a state senator has provided a unique perspective on leadership and working with others to accomplish mutual goals. In an increasingly divisive political environment, now more than ever, we need people who reflect the values and needs of our rural communities and can provide steady, pragmatic leadership. Growing up in rural Skagit County, working in the fields, instilled a deep and personal connection to our county and its people. My Skagit roots run deep; my wife and I raised our children here. No state senator in the history of the legislative district has brought more of your hard-earned tax dollars back to east Skagit County for projects that improved our community. I understand the importance of promoting our farms and businesses and the need to reduce regulatory and tax burdens at all levels of government. No other candidate has my depth of experience or record of achievements for Skagit County. I humbly ask for your vote that I may continue to serve and improve our communities. I look forward to connecting with you and hearing your ideas for a better Skagit County.



Alex Lathum

(Prefers Democratic Party)

(360) 610-7665

alexlathum.coroner@gmail.com

Unopposed

Biography

Lead Microbiologist, Data Consultant, and Management Analyst, Washington Public Health Laboratory. Laboratory technician, Institute for Environmental Health. Education includes B.S. Physics and Astronomy, minor in Microbiology, University of Washington. B.A. Mathematics, University of Illinois. M.S. Mathematics, Emporia State University. Volunteer musician for local High School musicals.

Statement

I am running for Skagit County Coroner to provide our community with an essential public service. I will ensure the office continues its mission of providing independent, compassionate, and professional medicolegal death investigations, while cooperating fully with all investigative partners. Most importantly, I will ensure that every death is investigated thoroughly and with absolute respect for the decedents and their families.

I bring years of experience as a lead microbiologist and public health professional, directly managing day-to-day laboratory operations under strict state and federal regulations. I have always held my teams and operations to the highest scientific standards. I will prioritize clear, straightforward communication, ensuring families receive needed updates and that our partner agencies stay fully informed. Additionally, I will actively track and carefully analyze Skagit County death statistics, making this data available to the public and health jurisdictions to inform community safety decisions. I would be honored to serve the people of Skagit County and I respectfully ask for your vote.



Erik Pedersen

(Prefers Democratic Party)

pedersenforprosecutor@gmail.com

Unopposed

Biography

Education: Lakeside High School 1983; University of Washington Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration 1987; University of Puget Sound/Seattle University Juris Doctorate 1990;

Professional Experience: City of Aberdeen Prosecutor 1992-1994; 32 years with Skagit County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office: Deputy Prosecutor 1994-1999, Appellate & Senior Deputy 1999-2021, Chief Civil Deputy 2022-2026;

Community Service: Past President Skagit County Bar Association

Statement

As a Deputy Prosecutor for 32 years under 5 prosecutors, I worked to protect the citizens of Skagit County and support efficient local government. The Prosecutor’s Office strives to protect victims and the community by holding offenders responsible, especially violent offenders. We balance the interests of victims and the community with compassionate accountability, recognizing the effects of drug use and mental illness. We are guided by “truth, equity and justice.”

For 25 years, I prosecuted criminal trials and briefed hundreds of appellate cases including multiple homicide cases. I moved to the civil division striving to provide prompt legal advice on numerous issues affecting the county. I helped develop policies to improve efficiency, defended the county in numerous lawsuits and defeated those improperly seeking to undermine county officials.

I have strived to be open and direct, making decisions based upon all the evidence, and be an example of professionalism.

I am ready to take my experience and relationships I have developed to lead for the future. I raised my family here and will work hard to help Skagit County be an amazing and safe place for all residents to live, work, play and thrive. I respectfully ask for your vote.

**Jackie Brunson**

(Prefers Democrat Party)

(360) 391-7184

jackieb4treasurer@gmail.com

Unopposed

Biography

Elected Skagit County Treasurer 2018

Statement

As a lifelong resident of Skagit County, I would be honored to continue serving as your Skagit County Treasurer for another four years. For nearly 34 years, I have proudly served the citizens of Skagit County in a variety of roles, and I remain committed to providing responsible, efficient, and transparent public service.

Since taking office in 2019, I have implemented several improvements within the Treasurer's Office, including electronic excise filing, digitization of records, and cross-training staff to improve customer service and operational efficiency. I have also reduced banking costs and continue seeking innovative ways to streamline processes and better serve taxpayers.

In addition, I currently serve as Legislative Chair for the Washington State Association of County Treasurers. In this role, I work closely with legislators and stakeholders to support practical policies that improve services for taxpayers and provide counties with better tools to assist delinquent property owners.

I will continue to manage county resources with integrity, accountability, and fiscal responsibility while serving the taxpayers of Skagit County with dedication and professionalism.

Thank you for your support.



Colleen Melody

(Nonpartisan)

(206) 745-2010
hello@melodyforjustice.com
<https://melodyforjustice.com/>

Elected Experience

Supreme Court Justice. Colleen Melody works every day to uphold the rule of law, improve access to justice, and protect the rights of Washingtonians.

Other Professional Experience

Colleen was a career civil rights lawyer and public servant. She taught at the University of Washington and brought pro bono cases on behalf of immigrants and veterans. She worked at a pizza shop in high school and waited tables through college.

Education

UW for college and law school, both with high honors.

Community Service

Colleen worked to improve access to services in her rural community, including better resources for seniors, increased healthcare services, and more affordable childcare.

Statement

Colleen grew up in Spokane, the daughter of a teacher and a healthcare advocate. As a civil rights lawyer, she protected Washingtonians whose rights were violated by multinational corporations, special interests, and the federal government. Colleen returned millions in wages owed to workers and protected employees from pregnancy discrimination and sexual harassment. As the leader of the Attorney General's Civil Rights Division, she beat the Trump Administration when it tried to impose its unconstitutional Muslim Ban and separate families at the border.

Now more than ever, state courts must safeguard our rights with independence and impartiality. Washington's laws provide broad protections in privacy, the workplace, housing, healthcare, and education. State courts must be places where victims of crime and discrimination may seek justice with safety and dignity.

Colleen is a working mom who lives in rural Western Washington with her husband and two public-school daughters. She is endorsed by every sitting Supreme Court Justice; retired Justices Yu and Madsen; Governors Ferguson, Inslee, and Gregoire; Attorney General Brown; hundreds of judges and elected leaders statewide, and the Washington State Labor Council.

Your rights matter. Justice Colleen Melody has worked her entire career to protect them.



Laura

Christensen Colberg

(Nonpartisan)

(206) 627-0706
info@laura4position1.com
laura4position1.com

Elected Experience

I've made thousands of judicial decisions as a Snohomish County Superior Court Commissioner *pro tem* and court-appointed Arbitrator, over the past 18 of my 29 years in family law practice. I have come alongside families in all stages of brokenness, navigating the complexities of litigation with compassion and confidence.

Other Professional Experience

Free Methodist Bible Quizzing: Denominational Director (since 2018), Competition Judge (since 1989); Family Law Lecturer, Rigos Bar Review (1997–2013).

Education

Wenatchee High School, Valedictorian; Seattle Pacific University, BA summa cum laude; University of Washington School of Law, JD.

Community Service

Board Member, Shoreline Free Methodist Church (3 years); Elder, LFP Presbyterian Church (6 years).

Statement

I am the *only judicially experienced candidate* for Position 1, having served on the bench more than 20 times as long as all others in this race combined.

Unique among these candidates, I have *zero history of partisan activism*. You can trust me to measure all laws against the Constitution as written, without any political shadows clouding my objectivity. Impartiality is a judge's job, and I am your best hope for it here.

More significantly, your vote for me will put a Justice with *deep family law expertise* onto the Court for the first time since no-fault divorce was legalized in Washington 52 years ago. While the landscape of family law practice has shifted seismically in subsequent decades, our state courts still fall short. Because the Supreme Court—in addition to deciding cases—oversees the procedures and priorities of lower courts, as a Justice I will advocate for “fast-tracking” appeals in family law matters, to bring timely closure to uncertain chapters. Years of legal limbo may be acceptable in other arenas, but for children in crisis you can't undo damage caused by delay.

If you value *experience, impartiality, or family law expertise* on our State Supreme Court, I am your best choice.



Scott Edwards

(Nonpartisan)

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votescottedwards.com

Legal/Judicial Experience

Ballard Spahr/Lane Powell (2010-present) (Practice Chair 2010-2024) (Board 2017-2019, 2023-24); Perkins Coie (1999-2010); Bogle & Gates (1996-1999). Significant experience before Washington courts on constitutional and other complex issues; Ranked as among the top in my field: Super Lawyers, Best Lawyers in America, and Chambers.

Other Professional Experience

Adjunct Professor, University of Washington School of Law (2002-present); Washington State Bar Association; American Bar Association; Council on State Taxation.

Education

University of Washington School of Law (with Honors) 1991; Princeton University (magna cum laude) 1988, Economics - Paul Volcker Award recipient.

Community Service

American Red Cross; St. Cecilia Parish; Scouting America; Bainbridge Island Youth Orchestra; Kids in Concert.

Statement

I am running to bring independence, principled judgment, and respect for the rule of law to the Washington Supreme Court. An independent court protects constitutional rights, ensures equal justice, and serves as a final and balanced check within our system of government. The role of the Supreme Court is to apply the constitution and laws as written, not rewrite them.

For more than 30 years I have represented clients at all levels of Washington's court system, including more than a dozen Washington Supreme Court cases. As a tax and constitutional attorney, I work on complex issues that directly affect Washington families and businesses. I have also taught at the University of Washington School of Law for over 20 years.

I learned the value of hard work, integrity, and public service early, working at my grandparents' restaurant and watching my father serve as Alaska's attorney general. Washington deserves justices who will apply the law predictably, as written, and without favoring any political agenda. My commitment is to protect your constitutional rights and work to make the Washington Supreme Court accountable and worthy of your trust.

Take politics out of the courtroom. Vote Scott Edwards, Position 1.



Jaime Michelle Hawk

(Nonpartisan)

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Legal/Judicial Experience

Judge Jaime Hawk has been a state and national legal leader for over 20 years. As a Superior Court Judge, federal public defender, and ACLU civil rights attorney, she has protected our rights and freedoms.

Other Professional Experience

Adjunct Professor of Law. Supreme Court Minority and Justice Commission. In work before law school, Judge Hawk supported domestic violence survivors and found them safe shelter.

Education

Raised by a single mom, Judge Hawk was the first in her family to attend college, graduating with honors from Gonzaga University Law School.

Community Service

Judge Hawk has advocated on boards for immigrant children, voting rights, veterans, and women’s rights.

Statement

Judge Hawk fought in the courtroom for those who could not afford a lawyer. She handled trials and appeals, and defended Washingtonians against the federal government. She is the first attorney with the ACLU of Washington to become a judge. Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal and Governor Bob Ferguson endorse Judge Hawk.

Judge Hawk is a trusted, experienced legal leader. Senators Murray and Cantwell appointed her to their federal judge selection committee. The American Bar Association selected her to observe Guantanamo Bay military hearings, and later chose her to assist families at the border torn apart by Trump-era immigration policies.

Judge Hawk has presided over hundreds of criminal, civil, and family law cases, as well as appeals from lower courts. She has never had a trial overturned for legal error. She follows the law. More than 100 current and retired judges and justices from across Washington endorse Judge Hawk.

Judge Hawk will bring a strong, independent voice. Endorsed by the National Women’s Political Caucus, local and county Democratic organizations, and the State Labor Council, she understands the concerns of women and working families and will bring that perspective to the Court. Judge Hawk will protect our rights and the rule of law.



David Stevens

(Nonpartisan)

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Legal/Judicial Experience

Superior Court Judge; Senior Felony Prosecutor; Federal Public Defender, Chief Public Defender Colville Confederated Tribes; Federal Prosecutor; International Prosecutor in Pristina, Kosovo; Justice Advisor in Bamiyan, Afghanistan.

Other Professional Experience

Federal Civil Rights Investigator; U.S. Navy Veteran; presenter: legal education seminars in Beirut, Lebanon, Kolasin and Budva, Montenegro, and for the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys.

Education

Juris Doctor, University of Washington School of Law; Bachelor of Arts, University of Washington. Department of State Certificate in Islamic Jurisprudence.

Community Service

Deacon, Mount Olive Lutheran Church; VFW Larry Godwin Post 1694 Honor Guard; Skookum Rotary; UW Law School Mentor; YMCA and UW Law school mock trial judge.

Statement

The duty of the Washington State Supreme Court is to uphold our constitution and to protect our rights and freedoms. Public policy is the province of the political branches and not the courts.

In the last two decades, direct appointment of judges by the governor rather than election of judges by the people has become a longstanding tradition. Our State Constitution mandated the election of judges because direct appointment leads to ideological and political decisions. Appointments were reserved for vacancies. Judge Stevens was elected and not appointed. His election will bring common sense and balance to the Supreme Court.

After High School, Judge Stevens joined the Navy. After his enlistment, he used his veteran’s benefits to attend the University of Washington where he met his wife Pam. After graduating, he worked as a Federal Civil Rights Investigator for the Fair Housing Enforcement Center Seattle fighting racial, ethnic, and religious discrimination. He then went to the UW School of Law. Judge Stevens and his wife live in Shelton close to six of their nine grandchildren.

As a lawyer and judge he has tried more than two hundred jury trials. His supporters include tribes, judges, public defenders, prosecutors, attorneys, and law enforcement.



Mike Diaz

(Nonpartisan)

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Legal/Judicial Experience

Judge, Washington Court of Appeals, Division I (2022-Present); Judge, King County Superior Court (2018-2022), including Chief Judge of the Clark Children and Family Justice Center.

Other Professional Experience

Assistant United States Attorney, Western District of Washington (10 years), where he founded its Civil Rights Unit. Previously in private practice. Adjunct Professor, Seattle University School of Law, Constitutional Law.

Education

Juris Doctor, Cornell Law School; Graduate studies in Classical Philosophy, Princeton University; Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, University of Notre Dame.

Community Service

Chairperson, Washington Supreme Court's Interpreter Commission; Member, Judicial Ethics Board; Volunteer, Spanish Legal Clinic at El Centro de la Raza; youth soccer coach.

Statement

At a time when the rule of law is under assault, I am proud that President Obama nominated me to the federal bench in recognition of my long record fighting for civil rights; a nomination Mitch McConnell refused to even bring to a vote.

That same commitment to equal justice under the law has earned me the endorsement of leaders and the largest unions across Washington: three former Governors (Inlee, Gregoire, and Locke); Attorney General Nick Brown; nine Supreme Court Justices; over one hundred judges; the King County Democrats; and the Washington Education Association. Three bar associations rate me Exceptionally Well Qualified, including Washington Women Lawyers.

I was born in Peru and raised in South Seattle. As a federal lawyer, I founded the Seattle U.S. Attorney's Civil Rights Unit and led efforts to reform Seattle's Police Department. Governor Inlee twice appointed me to the bench: first to the Superior Court, where I presided over 45 trials, and again to the Court of Appeals, where I have authored over 200 opinions, including those protecting Washington's workers, holding corporations accountable, and keeping the public safe.

The independence and integrity of our courts have rarely mattered more. I respectfully ask for your vote.



Greg Miller

(Nonpartisan)

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 millerforjustice.org

Legal/Judicial Experience

Partner and Appellate Group Co-Founder, Carney Badley Spellman (2008–present). Previously: Private Practice; Judge Pro Tem, Seattle Municipal Court; Judicial Law Clerk, Washington Court of Appeals; Municipal Prosecutor.

Other Professional Experience

Martindale-Hubbell: AV Preeminent peer-review rating for highest level of professional excellence; Top Rated Lawyer in Appellate Law, 2013.

Education

Harvard University, B.A., Northeastern University, J.D.

Community Service

King County Bar Judicial Evaluation Committee, 20+ years (Chair, 1999–2000). Founding member, Washington Appellate Lawyers Association (2001). Co-founder, KCBA Appellate Practice Section (2005). KCBA Trustee. KCBA Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Luncheon Committee. Scouting: Pack 144; Troop 166. Youth soccer: coach and disciplinary committee chair. St. James Cathedral Choir.

Statement

As an attorney with 40 years of experience doing appeals in Washington, I'm running to serve on the Supreme Court to help it do justice in each case: fairly, impartially, according to law.

Appeals safeguard the fundamental fairness of our courts. They are usually the only way to correct a court's error. That's why experience matters on the Supreme Court: it needs to "get it right."

I have worked on 135 appeals in courts across Washington — including the Supreme Court. I've helped courts get decisions right for clients of all backgrounds: students, small business owners, house cleaners, physicians, employees, deputies, families. I've won unpaid wages, defended protection orders, and ensured fairness in family disputes, health care, business deals, and trial procedures. The other candidates have little or no experience on appeals, or cases before the Supreme Court. You need not settle for that.

My experience goes beyond the courtroom. I worked to improve health care in jails across Washington. I served as non-partisan counsel in the State Legislature. I've promoted excellence and ethics in the legal profession. I'm fair, independent, trusted. I ask you to send my experience and belief in justice under the law to the Supreme Court.

Candidate statements have been reviewed and accepted by the Office of the Secretary of State and have been printed as submitted.



Theo Angelis

(Nonpartisan)

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 justiceangelis.com

Legal/Judicial Experience

Current Supreme Court Justice appointed by Governor Ferguson following a diverse, award-winning 26-year legal career as a Partner at K&L Gates.

Other Professional Experience

Throughout career, led Appellate and Intellectual Property teams, and pro bono cases representing immigrant children, veterans, refugees, small businesses, and people experiencing homelessness.

Education

BA, Claremont McKenna College; MA, Oxford University; MA, London School of Economics; JD, Yale University

Community Service

Trustee, King County Bar Association; President, Middle Eastern Legal Association of Washington; Member, Attorney General's Youth Internet Safety Task Force; Founders Award, Kids in Need of Defense; ACLU Humanitarian Award; Mentor of the Year, King County Bar Association

Statement

As a Justice and throughout my legal career, I've fought for the rule of law, the rights of all individuals, and to ensure our courts remain fair, independent, and accessible. Before joining the Supreme Court, I frequently volunteered to help people who couldn't afford lawyers. I sued the federal government when they forced children—as young as 4 years old—to appear without lawyers in immigration court. The federal government eventually agreed to pay for lawyers, and the ACLU gave me the Humanitarian Award.

I also represented an Army veteran, a naturalized U.S. citizen, after ICE wrongly detained him for seven months. The Northwest Immigrant Rights Project gave me the Amicus Award for my "groundbreaking work".

I've worked to mentor attorneys to expand diversity in our profession, and with Turkish and Greek ancestry, I am proud to be the first Justice of Middle Eastern descent on our highest court.

I am endorsed by all of my colleagues on the Supreme Court; Governors Ferguson and Gregoire; former U.S. Attorneys Durkan, Gorman, and McKay; over 500 Judges and attorneys statewide; 52 State Legislators; Executive Zahilay; mayors statewide; WA State Labor Council; King County and numerous LD Democrats; and more!



Dave Larson

(Nonpartisan)

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Legal/Judicial Experience

41 years legal experience; trial judge (18 years, Ret.), trial lawyer (23 years). Rated AV Preeminent as a trial lawyer and Exceptionally Well Qualified (Judge and Supreme Court candidate).

Other Professional Experience

Mediator and arbitrator (1990-2008); President, Federal Way School Board

Education

JD, Seattle University School of Law; BA, University of Puget Sound.

Community Service

DMCJA President's Award for Protecting Judicial Independence (2018); Judge William Nevins Award (2014) and Hero of Federal Way Schools (2018, 2022) for Commitment to Civics Education; Best City Leader (2022); Kiwanis (Everyday Hero Award and more); Founder, Aktion Club of Federal Way (service club for adults with developmental disabilities), and more.

Statement

Judge Dave Larson's 41 years of distinguished experience, 18 years as a trial judge, 23 as a trial lawyer, form an unrivaled record making him the most qualified and best prepared candidate for our state's highest court.

Dave will restore trust in our courts by rising above partisan interests, applying the law without fear or favor, and restoring judicial independence. A truly nonpartisan candidate, Dave reaches out to Democrats, Republicans, Labor, Business, and voters across Eastern and Western Washington, because justice that serves only some of us serves none of us. He will protect your individual rights and the judicial independence that is currently under threat.

Dave's innovative criminal justice reforms have been recognized nationwide. He has collaborated with legislative Democrats and Republicans to help our trial courts address crime and addiction with compassion and accountability. However, our Supreme Court's decisions have weakened that response. As a justice, he will help fix current problems and build towards lasting and effective solutions.

Our Supreme Court needs Dave's unique perspective gained from his significant trial judge experience. That experience, integrity, and steady judgment are exactly what's needed to restore trust in, and improve, our courts. Vote Judge Dave Larson for Supreme Court.

Candidate statements have been reviewed and accepted by the Office of the Secretary of State and have been printed as submitted.



Sharonda Amamilo

(Nonpartisan)

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Legal/Judicial Experience

Judge Sharonda Amamilo was elected to the Thurston County Superior Court in 2020, where she presides over criminal and civil jury trials, family and juvenile matters, child welfare cases, and administrative and lower court appeals. Her career includes all aspects of public defense and private practice, representing workers, families, small businesses, and youth in foster care. She also served as a grievance committee chair and participated in collective bargaining at Bates Technical College.

Other Professional Experience

Retired Army Intelligence Warrant Officer.

Education

JD - Seattle University; MBA- Saint Martins University; Graduate Certificate - Data Analytics from Cornell University-online

Community Service

Board President, WA Microenterprise Association

Statement

The role of a Justice is to uphold the rule of law with integrity, fairness, and respect for every individual. Throughout my career, I have worked closely with families and individuals facing some of life's most difficult challenges. Those experiences taught me that court decisions can change the course of a person's life and shaped my commitment to applying the law thoughtfully, carefully, and fairly.

I understand the pressures facing working families, small businesses, children, and vulnerable communities. I approach every case with preparation, humility, care, and respect because people deserve to know they were heard and treated fairly in court. I believe the best judicial decisions are grounded in preparation, thoughtful collaboration, and respect for the rule of law. I also understand the Washington Supreme Court plays an important role in helping ensure courts across our state function fairly, consistently, and with public confidence.

Rated Exceptionally Well Qualified by the Washington State Veterans Bar Association, Pierce County Minority Bar Association, Loren Miller Bar Association, QLaw Foundation, and Joint Asian Judicial Evaluations Committee; and Well Qualified by the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington.



David R Shelvey

(Nonpartisan)

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Legal/Judicial Experience

Legal: For eleven years I have been practicing administrative, civil litigation, personal injury, collections, family law, estate planning, probate, and taxation. Judicial: None - the same as many lawyers have when they take to the bench.

Other Professional Experience

I have my own practice. Veteran.

Education

MBA, City University of Seattle; JD and LL.M. in Taxation, Thomas M. Cooley Law School; and LL.M. in Global Law and Economics, Antonin Scalia Law School.

Community Service

I volunteer as Tacoma Eagles president and serve meals for Catholic Community Services and a local synagogue. I have provided pro bono legal advice to low-income residents, seniors, teamsters, veterans, and nonprofits.

Statement

Hello—I'm back. I'm thee *family lawyer* from Sumner, Washington, who drew national political attention in 2024 by running for Supreme Court Justice. Thank you to the 59,676 Washington voters who supported me in 2024—I'm grateful.

I'm not promising a tariff stimulus rebate check (I'll watch for a meteorite to hit Mt. Rainier first), but I will promise to stand with American small businesses and workers, and I will protect the rights and freedoms of every citizen— young or old, rich or poor. I oppose a state income tax and won't be soft on criminals. I will pursue practical economic solutions to ease the heavy caseloads facing our prosecutors and public defenders.

I live with a mild form of Parkinson's that affects me physically, and I occasionally have symptoms even while medicated (off days). I have learned to judge no one by gender, skin color, language, health condition, or religion. I approach every decision with respect, fairness, and impartiality—guided by sound judgment and common sense.

Above all, I won't let the "exception" become the new "rule." We're in this together. Thank you.



Debra L. Stephens

(Nonpartisan)

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Legal/Judicial Experience

Current Chief Justice and Justice since 2008. Court of Appeals Judge, Eastern Washington (2007). Appellate Attorney & adjunct professor, Gonzaga University (1993-2007).

Other Professional Experience

Board for Judicial Administration Co-Chair, National Association of Women Judges, Judicial Independence Committee Co-Chair, Chief Justices Conference Executive Committee, National Courts & Sciences Institute Director, National Judicial College Instructor, WA Civic Learning Council, former Spokane Community College instructor.

Education

Gonzaga University, J.D., B.A. West Valley High, Spokane.

Community Service

Former school board chair, Upward Bound mentor, Minority & Justice Commission, YMCA Youth & Government, Sacred Heart Children's Hospital, Habitat for Humanity, Past Rotary President, Washington Center for Performing Arts board member.

Statement

As Washington's Chief Justice, I am dedicated to upholding the rule of law and delivering fair and impartial justice. Courts are a critical branch of government, where every person must be treated fairly and with dignity, and decisions must be based on the law and the facts. In an era of growing attempts to politicize the judiciary, I work every day to maintain the integrity and independence of our courts and safeguard access to justice for every person.

As a former constitutional law professor, I respect legal traditions and constitutional principles. As a parent and former school board chair, I understand how court decisions impact the lives of Washington families. As the first woman from Eastern Washington on the Court, I know that lived experience and diverse perspectives matter in making sound decisions.

I have a proven record of expanding access to justice, improving efficiency and transparency, addressing the evolving challenges facing our legal system, and protecting individual rights. I have always enjoyed broad support and am endorsed by my current and former colleagues, judges statewide, WA State Labor Council, elected officials, and education and community leaders. I ask for your vote to continue serving you on our Supreme Court.



Karim A. Merchant

(Nonpartisan)

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Legal/Judicial Experience

As a Public Defender in King County, I spent the first 15 years of my legal career in the trenches of our Justice System, serving as a constitutional check on the Government's power to prosecute and incarcerate. Since 2023, I have continued that mission by operating my own practice.

Other Professional Experience

Member—Washington Defender Association; Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers

Education

Howard University School of Law, J.D. 2007; University of Washington, B.A. 2003; A.A., Bellevue Community College, 2001; Bellevue Public School, 2nd to 12th grade, 1997.

Community Service

Volunteer coach for youth sports; Educating Washingtonians on civics and constitutional law through social media.

Statement

I was born in Cleveland, Ohio to working class immigrants and raised here in Washington since 1987. As a judicial candidate, I bring deep constitutional advocacy, and I understand the struggles facing everyday Washingtonians.

For 18 years, I've represented people from every walk of life: working families, small business owners, parents, veterans, and individuals accused of serious crimes. I have never represented corporations, never represented the government. I've fought for real people when constitutional rights mattered most. My career has focused on protecting the right of the People to be free from unlawful government intrusion. Those protections must apply equally to all, regardless of status, wealth, or background.

I also believe the judiciary must remain independent, impartial, and free from politics. The promise of our Constitution is only meaningful if Judges faithfully interpret and apply the law, ensuring the People receive the government our Constitution guarantees.

You will not find judicial endorsements or a massive war chest here. What you will find is a legal mind grounded in the promise of our Constitution with a commitment to real-world solutions and equal justice for all—I would be honored to earn your vote.



Todd A. Bloom

(Nonpartisan)

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Legal/Judicial Experience

Over two decades of providing legal and professional services to private and publicly-held companies, executives, business owners and Washington families; served as an Arbitrator for FINRA from 1999 to 2020.

Other Professional Experience

Over a decade as tax attorney and senior manager in major accounting firms. Active-duty Navy officer from 2002 to 2013. Additional professional designations: CPA, CFA and CFP.

Education

LL.M. - University of Washington; J.D., M.B.A. - Tulane University; M.A. - Naval War College; B.A. - Simpson College; College of Naval Command & Staff; Warfare Qualified.

Community Service

WSBA - Board of Governors; Nonprofit Finance Council; Adjunct faculty (UW, Tulane); Gallon+ Blood Donor

Statement

Throughout my career, I've worked to solve complex problems thoughtfully, collaboratively, and fairly. And my background has given me a deep appreciation for hard work, sacrifice, and the experiences of everyday people. To pay for school, I worked farm, grocery and restaurant jobs and later earned my commission from the enlisted ranks.

Following 9/11, I was called from the Naval Reserve to active duty, where I served for more than a decade. I placed my civilian career on hold and left my wife and children to deploy to the Persian Gulf. That experience had a big impact on my understanding of duty, accountability, and leadership under pressure. Since returning to civilian life, I've continued my public service through the WSBA Board of Governors. It was there, I was encouraged to seek election to the Supreme Court.

This year's election is a choice--whether to retain the current justices or to give someone new your vote. I believe I represent meaningful new perspective, experience, and common sense which will bring balance to the court.

If elected, I promise to uphold and apply the law impartially and fairly. I respectfully ask for your vote for Supreme Court Justice, Position #7.

Darrington School District No. 330

Proposition No. 1

Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs and Operations Levy

The Board of Directors of Darrington School District No. 330 adopted Resolution No. 453-04-26, concerning a proposition for a replacement levy for education. This proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, replacing an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, for educational programs and operations expenses not funded by the State, including reduced class sizes, counselors, arts, athletics, music, extracurricular activities:

Collection Year	Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2027	\$1.24	\$950,000
2028	\$1.16	\$950,000
2029	\$1.10	\$950,000
2030	\$1.02	\$950,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 453-04-26. Should this proposition be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Written by Darrington School District No. 330

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the Darrington School District to replace an existing educational programs and operations levy that will expire at the end of 2026. The replacement levy will be used to pay expenses of educational programs and operations that are not fully funded by the State of Washington, including: reduced class sizes, school nurse, mental health specialists, school counselors, arts, athletics, music, extracurricular activities, teaching, student support, textbooks and classroom supplies, student transportation, professional development and training, and other school operations. Further information is available at www.darringtonschools.org.

The proposed four-year replacement levy would authorize collection of taxes to provide up to \$950,000 in each of the years 2027 through 2030. The levy rate per \$1,000 of assessed value required to produce these amounts is estimated to be \$1.24 in 2027, \$1.16 in 2028, \$1.10 in 2029 and \$1.02 in 2030. The exact levy rates and amounts to be collected are subject to legal limits at the time of levy. Exemptions from taxes may be available to certain homeowners, contact Snohomish County Assessor 425.388.3433 or Skagit County Assessor 360.416.1780.

Arguments For and Against this measure are on next page →

Argument For

We heard you— *No New Taxes!* This is a no tax increase *replacement* levy. It replaces the existing levy which expires at the end of this year and would result in no additional tax, maintaining the current levy rate. Without this funding our district *cannot* fund the following: Athletics, *Para Educator Staff, and Community Center Rent.*

School levies provide essential funding for District operations, academic programs, extracurricular activities, music, all athletics, Community Center rent/heat, para-educators, substitute teachers, groundskeepers, maintenance staff, and bus drivers. These levy dollars are needed to close the gap between what the District receives from the state and federal governments and what it needs to fund essential District operations. This vote is for a *set dollar amount.* If your property values go up, the school does *not* receive more money.

Our school is the center of our community. It not only educates our children, provides healthy meals, and offers athletics programs leading to higher academic achievement, but also allows space for DJAA activities for children. The District is the second largest employer in Darrington, providing much needed jobs for local residents. Without this critical funding our school is at risk, and our community will be severely impacted.

Healthy Schools = Healthy Community! We have to ask ourselves, What kind of community are we? What kind of community do we want to be? In the past, our community has voted, with pride, to support its school. Let's come together and vote *Yes* for kids and for our community.

Rebuttal of Argument Against

The district heard the community's concerns and is running this levy as a replacement only. A *Yes* vote will result in no additional cost to taxpayers and will maintain important programs like 6th -12th grade sports and small group classroom support. The district has made significant spending cuts to keep the budget in balance. Reducing funding and staff even more will be damaging to students. Vote *Yes* for our kids and our community!

Committee:
Kelli Smith, Angel Blake, and Kriste Solomon

Argument Against

We are deeply grieved to recommend voting *No* on this proposed school levy. It pains us to say it, but the Darrington School District's spending path is unsustainable and must change now. Our community cannot continue down this road.

Sixteen school employees earn over \$100,000 for only nine months of work, excluding benefits (fiscal.wa.gov). Twenty-two percent of the budget already goes toward employee benefits alone, while insurance, utilities, and maintenance costs keep climbing. Darrington is Snohomish County's most impoverished town, with a median household income of about \$66,000. Families and retirees here are struggling daily, making hard sacrifices—the district must finally show the same fiscal discipline.

Academic performance remains deeply concerning despite high spending. Fewer than 60% of students are proficient in math and English (reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us). Only 33% of third graders read at grade level. Children who cannot read proficiently by third grade are four times more likely to drop out. These poor results demand urgent improvement.

The previous levy's failure sent a clear message from the community: real change is needed. Falling enrollment reflects ongoing unresolved parent-district conflicts. The district receives \$24,273 per student annually. Are we getting the results we pay for? We are standing on a fiscal cliff. A "No" vote will force the district to prioritize essentials and control spending. Rather than more taxes simply supporting the administration, please volunteer to support our children academically through tutoring or classroom help. Our children deserve better outcomes, not just bigger budgets. Please vote wisely. Vote *No.*

Rebuttal of Argument For

We still don't feel heard. Where is the concrete plan to raise academic achievement, repair parent trust, and build a sustainable budget? This district appears to prioritize high salaries over results: twenty-three employees earn between \$90,000 and \$180,000 excluding benefits, yet we graduate students who can barely read. A levy failure means a ten percent cut. Before demanding more taxpayer money, the board must put children's education first, not adult jobs. Vote *no* until priorities change.

Committee:
Dale Johnson and Brandon Riste

Hospital District 304 Proposition No. 1 Levy Lid Lift for Health Care Services

The Commission of Skagit County Public Hospital District No. 304, Skagit County, Washington (United General District 304) adopted Resolution No. 2026-04 concerning the district's regular property tax levy. If approved, this proposition would provide additional operating and capital funds for United General District 304 to provide additional healthcare services to its residents and other persons served by United General District 304. It authorizes a maximum regular property levy rate for collection in 2027 of 50 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. The 2027 levy amount will be used for the purpose of computing the limitations for levies in subsequent years.

Argument For

Skagit County Public Hospital District No. 304 (United General District 304) provides impactful disease prevention and health promotion programs to our community.

This proposition would strengthen these efforts by supporting our seniors, enhancing access to nutrition, increasing family services, empowering youth to make positive choices and promoting overall community health. These programs are designed to address both immediate needs and long-term well-being, creating a healthier and more resilient population.

Most of these programs and services currently depend on grant funding from outside our area. Those funds are shrinking and unpredictable. They also come with limits and may not address all of our community needs. This levy would stabilize funding and shift control back to our community. We can decide what services matter most and keep them available.

Vote Yes to provide sustainable and expanded programming for nutrition services, family and youth programs, mental health and senior care. *Vote Yes* to protect local programming. *Vote Yes* for local control. *Vote Yes* to invest in a healthy, resilient and thriving community.

Committee: Healthy Futures Yes for United General District 304
Committee Spokesperson: Valerie Stafford
Contact: 360-466-8754; valerie.stafford@gmail.com
Committee Members: Tina Tate, Rich Wesen

Explanatory Statement

Written by Hospital District 304

Skagit County Public Hospital District No. 304 operates United General District 304 ("District 304") and provides disease prevention and health promotion services to the residents of the public hospital district. In addition, District 304 ensures hospital and other health care services are available locally.

Under state law, public hospital districts are authorized to levy regular property taxes at a rate of up to 75 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value for purposes of operating and maintaining hospital and other healthcare facilities and services and promoting health, wellness and prevention. State law limits the amount that taxes can increase without voter approval. District 304's current levy rate is approximately 9 cents.

District 304's board has determined that it is necessary and in the best interest of the residents served by District 304 to request approval of a levy at the rate of 50 cents per \$1000 assessed value, which would be an increase of 41 cents from its current rate starting in 2027. The levy will provide additional operating funds for essential programs that promote health and wellbeing at every stage of life by supporting seniors, enhancing nutrition access, increasing child and family services, empowering youth, and improving community mental health.

Argument Against

No person in the jurisdiction contacted the Auditor's Office to provide a statement. There are no statements against the ballot measure.

Fire Protection District No. 8 Proposition No. 1 Property Tax Levy for Fire Protection and Emergency Services

The Board of Skagit County Fire Protection District No. 8 adopted Resolution No.5-2026 concerning a proposition to maintain and adequately fund District Operations. This proposition would finance fire protection and emergency medical services by restoring the District's regular property tax levy in 2026 to an amount not to exceed \$1.25 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation and authorize setting the limit factor at 103% for each of the following five years. The maximum allowable levy in the final year shall serve as the base for subsequent levy limitations as provided by Chapter 84.55 RCW.

Argument For

When someone calls 911, *every minute matters*. Skagit County Fire District 8 serves more than 10,000 residents in Lyman, Hamilton, Sedro-Woolley (outside city limits) and surrounding rural communities. Firefighters respond to about 1,100 emergencies each year — and those calls have increased nearly 58% since 2019. Volunteer availability has declined sharply as economic pressures force many to work longer hours, limiting their ability to respond during daytime emergencies.

The district's fire levy rate has gradually fallen from the \$1.25 per \$1,000 voters approved in 2019 to about \$0.89 today. Proposition 1 would restore the levy to the level voters previously approved. Importantly, this is not a general fund tax like many city taxes. Every dollar from this dedicated levy goes directly to emergency response and the operation of your fire district.

This funding would allow the district to hire two additional full-time firefighters to improve response coverage and reduce reliance on outside agencies. It would also help replace aging fire engines and water tenders. The district operates with a balanced budget, carries no debt, and passes independent audits.

Reliable emergency services protect lives, homes, and our entire community. This measure helps ensure Fire District 8 has staffing, equipment, and resources needed to respond quickly when you or our neighbors need help. Please vote Yes on Proposition 1.

Committee Spokesperson: Michael Rooks
Contact: 360-770-9232; maaskrooks@gmail.com
Committee Members: Skyler Anderson, Laila Hanson

Explanatory Statement

Written by Fire Protection District No. 8

Skagit County Fire Protection District No. 8 provides emergency fire protection and emergency medical services to its citizens. Due to the statutory 1% limitation on property tax increases, the Fire District's current levy has dropped to approximately \$.89 per thousand in 2025. The maximum regular levy rate for Washington fire districts is \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

If approved by the voters, this proposition will authorize the District to restore its levy rate to \$1.25 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2026 for collection in 2027 which is the same rate previously approved by the voters in 2019. The proposition will also allow the District to keep pace with inflation by establishing an annual growth factor of 3% per year. The dollar amount levied in the 2031 and collected in 2032 shall serve as the District's future tax levy base.

The Board of Commissioners has determined that this proposition is necessary to provide for public and fire-fighter safety and to maintain an effective level of service. This includes firefighter staffing, and replacing emergency apparatus and equipment in light of rising costs, higher call volumes and the continued growth of our community.

Argument Against

No person in the jurisdiction contacted the Auditor's Office to provide a statement. There are no statements against the ballot measure.

Skagit County Voter update form

I have

- moved
 changed my name
 a different mailing address

Note: If you have moved out of Skagit County, please fill out your new address and sign the declaration. We will forward the information on to your new county.

Printed Name _____ date of birth _____

New physical address _____ city/state/zip _____

New mailing address (if different) _____ city/state/zip _____

- I am currently serving in the military -
 Includes National Guard and Reserves, and spouses or dependents away from home due to service.

Name change - If you have changed your name please:

- fill in your new name
- fill in your old name
- read and sign the declaration

New name (please print)

Old name (please print)

I declare that the facts on this voter registration update form are true. I am a citizen of the United States, I am a Washington state resident, and I am at least sixteen years old. I am not disqualified from voting due to a court order, and I am not currently serving a sentence of total confinement under the jurisdiction of the department of corrections for a Washington felony conviction, and I am not currently incarcerated for a federal or out-of-state felony conviction.

X _____ Date _____
Signature of voter

Skagit County Elections Office
PO Box 1306
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

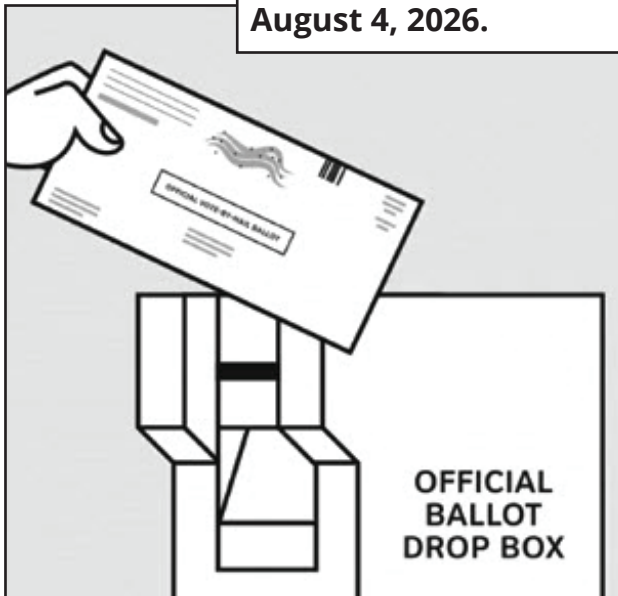
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SEATTLE, WA
PERMIT NO.
PI 338



August 4, 2026 Primary Election




ECRWSS
Residential Customer

**Using a Drop Box?
(No stamp required)
Drop off ballot by 8 p.m.
August 4, 2026.**



**Mailing your ballot?
(No stamp required)
Must be postmarked by
August 4, 2026.**



 skagitcounty.net/elections
 360-416-1702
 sselections@co.skagit.wa.us