

2016 Candidate Questionnaire

**SECTION I**

**BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION**

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
John	D	Eddy

2. Office sought (include office, jurisdiction, position/district number):

**Washington State House of Representatives, 43<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District, Seat 1**

3. Are you the incumbent?  Yes  No

4. How long have you resided in this district/city?

**I've lived in the 43<sup>rd</sup> since 2010, in a small 1915 Craftsman in Roosevelt, and in Seattle since 2002 both as a liveaboard on the ship canal and as a renter in Ballard.**

5. How long have you resided in King County?

**I've lived in King County since 2001.**

6. Is the office sought partisan or nonpartisan?  Partisan  Nonpartisan

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

**CAMPAIGN CONTACTS**

Campaign Name: Eddy for the 43rd

Address: 809 NE 71<sup>st</sup> St

City/State/Zip: Seattle, WA 98115

Campaign Phone: 206 369 3701

Campaign E-mail: [John@eddyforwashington.com](mailto:John@eddyforwashington.com)

Campaign Website: [www.eddyforwashington.com](http://www.eddyforwashington.com)

**POLITICAL BACKGROUND**

1. Beginning with the most recent position, please list public offices you have held. Include positions on appointive boards or commissions.

Public Office	Elective or Appointive?	Dates Held	Leadership Role (if any)

2. If you ran for public office but were not elected, please list those races below:

Office Title	Year of Run

## SECTION II

In this section, we are seeking responses that reflect the four ratings criteria: involvement, effectiveness, character, and knowledge. These are defined as follows:

- **Involvement:** What has the candidate done previously in family, neighborhood, community, volunteer work, employment or public life to suggest readiness to accomplish challenging objectives? How do these activities demonstrate readiness for the challenges unique to the office sought?
  - **Effectiveness:** Has the candidate demonstrated promise of being productive in the office sought? Has the candidate shown the ability to work with other people?
  - **Character:** Do the candidate's personal traits show the ability to take on the responsibilities of campaigning for and holding the public office she or he is seeking? Is the candidate a leader, participant or observer? Is the candidate trustworthy, reliable and candid?
  - **Knowledge:** Has the candidate demonstrated the willingness and ability to learn and adapt? Does the candidate understand the duties and challenges of the office sought? Does the candidate have a firm grasp of the issues important to his or her constituency and their potential effects?
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1. In one page or less, why are you running for this office? (Note: the interview committee will be given a copy of this statement before your interview; at the beginning of your interview you will have the opportunity to expand on this statement in any way you wish.)

**Being a white male, I recognize that I am not exactly under-represented when it comes to politics.**

**But despite that, I feel as if I am, mostly because I like to think I'm just a normal person, with complicated, non-binary opinions. Today's political climate seems to eschew the centrist, complicated thought for simple binary decisions without ever looking at the opposing side's points to recognize some value.**

**Politicians of every stripe play to the base and to the simple answers because that is what gets the press and what can be exchanged during a 7-second voice clip in the news.**

**I want to try to bring compromise back into politics. It isn't about being indecisive instead of divisive, it is about finding ways to not compromise your values while getting things done.**

**I also want to make this region a better place, both at a city, county, state, even at a interstate level with our neighbors.**

2. Describe your most important personal characteristics or traits as they relate to the office you seek.

**There are three primarily that jump to mind.**

**For most of my life, I've done product support for software companies, ferreting out the root of the problem at hand. This dogged determination is key, I feel, for anyone seeking political office. But it can't stand alone. Doggedly determined isn't a "feature," it is the modifier that gets used for the real characteristics that helps them sink or swim.**

**One of those is that I have maintained a balance of fair play and abiding of the rules. When a rule is unjust, a legislator should not simply say "Let's just ignore that," instead they should say "This is absurd and we should change it," while being able to quickly provide a fix for the short term until the law can actually be repaired.**

**Lastly, I have a tremendous desire to "just get along," not in the sense of backing down, but to seek actual compromise as has existed in politics before. The gradual shift of the view of the political parties from having a Republican platform and a Democrat platform to having a Conservative platform and a Liberal platform is poisoning the system. There can be compromise between a Republican and a Democrat because they are not ideals, but a framework. Compromise between a Conservative and a Liberal will always be harder because the compromise will lead to having each side give up on some part of their closely held ethics.**

**I have always considered myself a "middle of the road" person. Nothing is ever black and white, but too many candidates, and too many politicians speak only to the black and white, without allowing for nuance.**

3. Please describe, in sufficient detail, one to three accomplishments or contributions of which you are most proud. These examples should illustrate skills and capabilities you think apply to the office you are seeking. These accomplishments may have occurred at any time in your personal, professional, or public life.

**First and foremost, my proudest accomplishment is this very campaign, regardless of the outcome.**

**I seek office because I am finally tired enough of "politics as usual" and the feeling that politicians are their own class of people. Rather than continuing to bemoan that situation, I decided to seek office to make the change myself.**

**I plan to stick to my ideals, namely that of taking no contributions, as I continue through this race, under the full recognition that this may hurt me in the end, but I know I am not alone in thinking that there is too much money in politics. I can understand why running for a statewide office, such as Senator or Governor, or a national office, such as President, may cost a considerable sum (but even then, today's numbers are absurd), but why should an area with such a small footprint such as the 43<sup>rd</sup> require so much money to seek to represent?**

**I am self-funding my campaign and intend to keep my costs as low as possible. I am not seeking to put out mailers (waste of paper) or lawn signs (the fact they remain up long past the election has been a source of ire for years).**

**I am also not taking time off from my job to do this, because that is one other thing I feel is important. Doing your job and honoring your commitments. The failure of the Legislature on the budget front is maddening, especially to anyone who has a job where making plans and ensuring they are handed in on time isn't considered exception, it is considered part of the job.**

4. Please list or describe current and past activities in the community in which you have acquired skills that relate to the office you seek. Include your role in the activity and the year(s) in which you were involved. Involvement consists of many areas such as family, neighborhood, community, employment, or public life.

**The primary activity has been two sides of my work. As I said earlier, the majority of my time employed, I've been engaged in some form of technical support. In that job, you learn how to quickly understand what is being asked along with the technical level of the person asking you so that you are able to instruct the person how to fix what is wrong. This requires quick wits, intelligence, and relatability.**

**Further, another part of that job was being able to take feedback from our customers and drive them to engender change within the organization or within our products, to be a voice for that customer, often regardless if we agreed with their ideas or not, and to provide a level of transparency to the customer. One of the things I would like to do during my time in the Legislature (should I be so lucky) is provide a daily accounting with regards to my time, my votes, and any Committees.**

5. Please describe the duties of the office you seek. Which are the most important duties and why?

**There is, in my opinion, a single duty of the office of a state legislator: To find balance between representing what is best for their constituents and what is best for the greater populace.**

**Pork barrel legislation has always, and likely will always, be a part of politics, but it is one I am against. While I believe my representative should seek to do what is best for my neighbors and myself, I do not believe we should punish those outside of our area in doing it.**