

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
Mark	D	Hargrove

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

**Washington State House of Representatives, 47<sup>th</sup> District, Position 1**

3. Are you the incumbent?                      X Yes     No

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

**29 Years**

5. How long have you resided in King County?

**29 Years**

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party: Republican

**CAMPAIGN CONTACTS**

Campaign Name:                      Hargrove for House

Address:                                      P.O. Box 7341

City/State/Zip:                              Covington, WA 98042

Campaign Phone:                              (360)469-4612

Campaign E-mail:                              Mark@MarkHargrove.org

Campaign Website:                              www.MarkHargrove.org

**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)
Precinct Committee Officer	Elective	2007 - 2015	
State Representative, 47 <sup>th</sup> District, Position 1	Elective	2011 - Present	Assistant Ranking Transportation Committee

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

Office Title	Year of Run
Washington State House of Representatives, 47 <sup>th</sup> District, Position 1	2008

## 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.)

Sandy, my wife of 37 years, and I have lived in the Covington area for 29 years, educating our daughters in the Kent public schools. My wife and daughters have all taught or coached at Auburn High School. As such we are connected to our neighbors throughout the 47<sup>th</sup> legislative district. We genuinely care about our neighbors and want to make sure our government is serving them well

After serving my first three terms in the legislature, I can see how our government system is not functioning well. A quick look at the history of our state's rate of spending increase over the past 30 years reveals how one party control of both houses of the legislature and the governor's office for most of that time has been well above the combined rates of inflation and population growth. And yet we see what should be the priorities of government not being funded properly.

I can see how well-meaning legislators have grown government in an attempt to fix everything in our society, but have inadvertently hurt the small businesses that employ most of our citizens and stifled the freedoms that made our country great. We can reduce their regulatory and tax burden to help those job creators thrive.

And I can also see how well-meaning legislators, in the name of expediency, have created a system that fosters partisanship, where a legislator never gets to hear both sides of an issue, until seconds before the vote. I know this can be fixed, and am working toward that goal, no matter which party is in the majority.

While I have enjoyed working with the Democrat majority and have been effective, even as a member of the minority, I am prepared to be a part of the new leadership team in the next legislative session, with a vision to get our state back on track financially and make sure my neighbors are pursuing their own happiness through meaningful work.

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

**As an Eagle Scout, Air Force Academy graduate and Air Force pilot, integrity has been drilled into me throughout my life. I will not compromise my principles for the sake of expediency or being a team player. But I am still able to work effectively with people of all persuasions. As an example of this, in my first legislative session, I was told that a Democrat committee chair said this of me, "I think he's very conservative, but I like him."**

**As a Boeing instructor pilot, I have spent months living in various cultures around the world. I have a better grasp of the cultural backgrounds of those different from myself than most Americans. And I have been able to work together with all sorts of people to achieve positive results.**

**I have flown multi-million dollar airplanes, full of hundreds of passengers, between unfamiliar third world airports or the busiest international airports, in all sorts of weather, with newly trained pilots and air traffic controllers both with weak English skills. There is a certain amount of stress and quick decision making required in these situations.**

**As a math instructor at the Air Force Academy Prep School, I learned first-hand what it is like to teach high school level mathematics to students of various levels of understanding.**

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.

**I am most proud of my family. We are close knit, and even though my daughters are adults, we still spend a lot of time with them and their husbands. They are all involved in all my campaigns. I share credit with my wife in making the right decisions as our girls were growing up so that they matured into model citizens.**

**Many times over my Boeing career I have had my student pilots tell me that the training I provided them was the best and most enjoyable they have received during their careers. I think I have an ability to meet people where they are and bring them to a new understanding and enjoy the experience.**

**I am proud to be an Air Force Academy graduate. The academic, athletic, and military training I received there was difficult to complete and prepared me well for so many challenges I have faced throughout my life.**

**I should mention that in each of these accomplishments, there are three reasons I have succeeded. And it is these three reasons that make me the right man to be a State Representative. 1. I depend on God for his care and guidance. I'm much more effective listening to the creator of us all than trying to figure things out all by myself; 2. I have built relationships with so many people who are smart and hard-working and will do anything for me. Relationships are key to success in life; And 3. I work extremely hard to accomplish goals. In the course of my campaigns, I have personally knocked on 44,000 doors. I am committed to working that hard in the legislature as well.**

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.

**For several years in the mid 90's, my wife and I organized a hot dinner for 100-150 people every Wednesday evening at our church. We were able to feed everyone for \$5 per family and always break even. This involved careful planning and budgeting, organizing a volunteer crew each week and the stress of getting everyone fed and to their activities on time. We've used these same skills for other meals for large crowds over the years.**

**For several years in the early 90's, my wife and I led a youth group of Kentwood High School students. Again this involved a lot of team building, planning, organizing and budgeting for weekly meetings, weekend outings and weeklong camps in Canada.**

**As a founding member of SPIU (the Boeing instructor pilot's union, part of SPEEA), I know first-hand the motivation for and the challenges of forming a union and the process of repeated contract negotiations. Additionally, as the secretary/treasurer for several years, I understand the importance of meticulously caring for our finances and proper reporting of our finances to the government.**

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

**My primary responsibility is to represent my constituents in legislative decisions. I have found that by making clear what priorities and principles I adhere to, that my constituents are not surprised by my decisions. It is easiest if a decision on any issue is a matter of principle. Because if I just stick to my principles that I was elected on, I will be representing my constituents well.**

**I also have a duty to tell my constituents what is really going on in our government. I believe the better informed they are, the better they are able to have a government of the people and by the people.**

**And I have a responsibility to help my constituents in a variety of other ways. Therefore, I try to keep the lines of communication as open as possible. I have had a constituent come to me with an idea for legislation that I was able to get passed into law. I've also helped constituents get in contact with appropriate government agencies, get licenses, and even help a spouse get transferred to a prison where his family could visit him.**

**I'm on duty 24 hours a day, every day of the year. I always identify myself as their State Representative to every waitress, business owner, or person I meet on the street, so they know I'm available. I publish my personal cell phone, take anybody's call and personally answer all my email. I don't mind being stopped in Costco to talk politics anytime!**