

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
Zachary	J	Zaerr

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

State Representative, 43rd Legislative District Position 1

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

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

Slightly over one year in the district + 4 more months in Seattle (in Westlake).

5. How long have you resided in King County?

Almost one and a half years.

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party: Republican Party

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Friends of Zachary Zaerr

Address: 1100 University Street Apt 1604

City/State/Zip: Seattle, WA 98101

Campaign Phone: 513 317 7545

Campaign E-mail: Zaerrforwashington@gmail.com

Campaign Website: www.Zacharyzaerr.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.)

I'm running for office for a range of reasons that can be summed up into two bigger themes: the political climate today make me fear for our future and because I love Seattle and want to make it as great a place to live as possible. I am fearful of a culture of hate that current presumptive GOP nominee Donald Trump is promoting, and I'm equally fearful of the rhetoric coming out of Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton. There is nobody currently running for President who actually believes in freedom and the free market. Protectionism, mercantilism, socialism, and fascism – these are all accurate terms that could be used to describe certain views of each candidate.

I want to begin the process of changing that culture at a state/local level. I think that an important role I can help play is to begin offering an actual choice to LGBT peoples. For so long the GOP has, in general, been viewed as an anti-gay establishment because of the big government mentality that has invaded the party. I believe that smaller government, a hands off approach to social issues, and generally more freedom are attractive things to most people. When you feel under attack about who you are, you don't really get much of a choice for who you think can be better for the economy.

For the district, I think that we have some major issues that need attending to. The situation with the growing homeless population needs to be taken care of. Mental health problems and addiction run rampant, but we are failing to provide opportunities for help to people in need. Because so many people in government are married to funding their pet projects, we have failed to fully fund education here. I want to make sure that government gets out of peoples lives so they can live life to the fullest. In most cases government tends to be the problem, not the solution. I intend to try and convey that to people.

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

I believe that trustworthiness and analytical decision-making are important traits that I have that would translate well into elected office. In a statewide or national campaign, there is a need to know much more detail on the policy thoughts and past life of candidates. For a state rep candidate, you are dealing with much more specific issues that candidates who have not held public office can't have experience dealing with. Because of that I believe that analytical decision-making processes and trust are of the utmost importance for this race. While you can't know everything about people, you can know how they make their decisions and know that they're going to follow through with what they believe and say.

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.

One of my most favorite accomplishments is my marriage. My wife is my best friend and we have been together since the middle of high school. Marriage is a lot of work, and having gotten married at age 20 was out of the norm and weird to a lot of people. We have grown a lot together and I cherish the opportunity to grow through many stages of life with my best friend.

For work I would say that I have moments of accomplishment on a regular basis. Because I work with suppliers and confidential information I don't want to talk too much about specifics in a semi-public manner, but it is a great feeling when you can build analysis that supports getting a better deal for the company. I am proud that Boeing works in a manner that builds up both sides of the transaction and supports so many jobs and healthy growth for both companies. I was very proud to get a job at Boeing after two internships at the company – validation of your value to the company is a very fulfilling moment.

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.

I believe that everything we do in life prepares us for what comes ahead of us. As I stated in previous answers, I think that your decision-making abilities and trustworthiness are the most important aspects for this office. I have been working since before I was old enough to drive a car in a variety of jobs, and I've learned a great deal from those experiences. I worked at the National Federation of Independent Business in Ohio, helping connect business owners connect with government to make government more effective in helping small business rather than hindering it. At Boeing for the past couple years I've learned a lot about solving problems and attacking issues with a data-driven approach. Growing up I had plenty of jobs for small businesses that helped me understand the way business should and shouldn't operate. I know I can apply all the skills and lessons I've learned throughout my life to any job that I take on, but especially government. I think we so often fail to look at problems in government with a business-savvy lense, but rather just with the intention in mind.

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

The legislative branch in WA exercises their power by making policy and laws for the state (or by getting rid of these laws and policies). The legislative branch builds the budget for the state, which they have failed to do well in recent years. State Representatives, along with their counterparts in the State Senate, should be working toward passing laws to protect freedoms of citizens and provide a climate for healthy business growth. Many elected officials have getting reelected as their most important duty, but it is their job to make hard decisions for the state on their constituent's behalf.