



Candidate Endorsement/Approval Questionnaire (revised 2-17-20)

Please complete this questionnaire carefully and thoroughly. You may attach your typed responses to the questions as necessary. It is important that you return the completed questionnaire to the 23rd Legislative District Democrats Chairperson as soon as possible so that an interview can be scheduled at an Executive Board meeting. We prefer that you submit the questionnaire via email to chair@kitsap23rd.com.

PART A: *(Part A of your completed questionnaire will be made available to members prior to the vote to endorse or approve and to other interested individuals via our regular communications and our website only for candidates/issues endorsed or approved by the membership.)*

1. Full name and home address.

Shane R. Seaman
21121 Little Rude Ave NW
Poulsbo WA 98370

2. Office/Position sought.

Kitsap County District Court Judge Position 3

3. Are you seeking endorsement or approval?

Endorsements and/or approval

- Are you seeking any other endorsements? Yes
If Yes, please list the endorsements you are seeking:

Kitsap County Democrats
Kitsap County Women Democrats
Kitsap County Republican Party

(I will be seeking more as I go, as I am seeking to be a representative in a non-partisan race for all of Kitsap County)

- Have you been endorsed by any other organization? Yes No
If Yes, please list the names of the organizations that have endorsed you:

I have just submitted my request this past week. I have many personal endorsements right now, including many local Democrats.

4. Official name and address of campaign.

Campaign for Shane Seaman for District Court Judge
P.O. Box 2261 Poulsbo WA, 98370

5. Campaign contact information (email, phone numbers, etc.)

360-485-0070
Shaneseaman4judge.com
Shaneseaman4judge@gmail.com / sseaman4judge@gmail.com
Facebook and Instagram- shaneseaman4judge

6. Election date(s) - Primary and/or General Election(s).

General November 8, 2022

7. Is your race partisan or non-partisan?

Non-partisan

8. Political party affiliation, history of participation and membership.

I have been the Court Commissioner for the City of Bremerton for the past 9 years. Under the Canons for Judicial Conduct, I am required to remain neutral and impartial, thus I am not affiliated with any political party.

9. Current and previous offices held.

I have not held any prior offices

10. Current employer other than elected office, if any.

Trial Lawyer- Owner of Cross Sound Law Group PLLC- Poulsbo
Court Commissioner, Bremerton Municipal Court (started 2013)

11.Past work experience.

Jefferson County Prosecutors Office- Felony Prosecutor
Knauss and Seaman Law Firm- conflict public defender, dependency cases and civil litigation (started Judge Pro Tem Work in Jefferson District Court 2007).
Seaman Law Firm- civil litigation, dependency cases (started Judge Pro Tem in Kitsap County 2012, Bremerton Court Commissioner 2013).

12.Military experience.

- United States Coast Guard 1996-2001. Seaman, Yeoman, Office Manager

Maintained administration for 2nd largest Coast Guard airport facility and worked with security force that maintained safety and security of U.S. Coast Guard 900-acre airport facility with over 1500 personnel. Responsible for coordination of emergency response of fire department, medical unit and security force. Coast Guard Achievement Medal and Enlisted Person of the Quarter

- United States Coast Guard Reserve 2001- Yeoman

Legal Yeoman District 13/Seattle Legal Office- Assisted Legal Staff in administrative duties. Researched UCMJ issues, prepared correspondence, maintained legal library and case management. Worked with attorney on wills, notary services and powers of attorney. Participated as Bailiff in Court Martial cases

13.Educational background

South Kitsap High School, Olympic College, Excelsior College BA, Business (2001),
Gonzaga University Law (2004) Graduated Cum Laude. Washington Judicial College
2013 (for Court Commissioner position)

14.Affiliations with clubs or other organizations.

District Court and Municipal Judges Association
Washington State Bar Association
Federal Bar Association, Western District of Washington
Kitsap County Bar Association
Jefferson County Bar Association (former president)
North Kitsap Poulsbo Rotary
North Kitsap Poulsbo Rotary Foundation (president 4 years)
Morrow Manor Domestic Violence Shelter

Poulsbo Chamber
“OlyCap” Board
Kitsap Children’s Musical Theater
North Kitsap High School Band
North Kitsap Soccer Club Coach
Kitsap Dispute Resolution Center
Jefferson/Clallam Pro Bono Board
Guest Lecturer Northwest School of Wooden Boat Building

15. What major issues will be addressed in the office you are seeking? Briefly explain your positions on these issues.

A judge has to play a different role than that of a legislator or executive branch official. Judges cannot make decisions based upon an expressed view or preference of the electorate, that also means, a judge or judicial candidate should not ask for support based upon a preference for certain political issues. However, I believe it’s appropriate to share that I have some principles that I follow: It is important to make sure a fair hearing is given, by living the ideals that equity and inclusion is trying to achieve, no person shall be treated unequally. I believe in another principle; people deserve respect and to be heard. I believe access to justice is important and Courts play a unique role in protecting rights of all, regardless of their socioeconomic status. A Court has a basic responsibility to ensure public safety and to help prevent repeated criminal behavior and to consider the social and economic conditions that contribute to crime.

16. What experience do you have that is directly related to the office you are seeking?

I am the Bremerton Municipal Court Commissioner, a job I’ve held since 2013. I was appointed by Judge James Docter and recently re-appointed by Judge Tracy Flood. In this position I have gained a reputation for treating people respectfully while holding people accountable. I believe in due process and giving accountability. During COVID I helped worked to keep the Court open, so that litigants, persons seeking protection orders still had access to justice, a necessary service. As Court Commissioner, I handle 8-10 calendars a month, from criminal hearings, traffic and parking, administrative appeals and protection order hearings. These are the same type of case for District Court, thus I am already presiding over similar cases.

I started working as a Judge Pro Tem in 2007. I’ve presided over a dozen jury trials and I tried cases as an attorney to both juries and to the bench, so I am very comfortable in

Court. I have worked in Jefferson County District, Poulsbo, Bainbridge Island, Port Orchard and Bremerton Municipal Courts. I currently work as a Judge Pro Tem for Kitsap District Court, presiding over a calendar almost weekly. In all I have worked on the bench either as a Court Commissioner or Judge Pro Tem for 15 years at the same level of Court that I am seeking office for. During that time, I have dealt with pro-se litigants, difficult cases, and I have worked hard to give everyone a fair hearing. I work well with all the staff and believe that the clerks are extremely important.

17. Do you have any management training or experience? If so, please elaborate.

Yes. Owner of Cross Sound Law Group, at max three fulltime attorneys, one of counsel attorney, three support staff. Knauss and Seaman, at max three attorneys, five support staff. Extensive management training with U.S. Coast Guard. Management. As a Court Commissioner, I have attended annual trainings with the District Court and Municipal Court Judge Association for the last nine years, including the recent training on implicit biases, inclusivity, and other community values that the Supreme Court has made a point to emphasize.

18. Why are you seeking this office? What do you hope to achieve and what qualifications do you have toward that goal?

To serve the people of Kitsap County with dignity, respect and an adherence to the principles that all persons deserve respect and to be heard, believing that when the evidence and law supports, accountability will occur.

To understand what it takes to justly and equitably hear a litigant's case takes experience and time.

To be principled enough to hold people accountable who have violated the law, requiring a personal dedication to seeking truth.

Having litigated cases at every level of the Court system in Washington State (Federal District Court for the Western District of Washington, Municipal Court, District Court, Superior Court, Court of Appeals Division II and the Washington State Supreme Court), and will use my extensive Trial Court experience and Appellate Court experience to serve fulltime and to commit to acting justly and fairly for all Kitsap County.

19. Is there anything else you would like to add?

Our local judiciary should not contribute to the divisiveness. At the national level the law books have gone out the window. The public confidence that America is a nation of laws has been shaken. Courts now appear to make political decision, and we have lost trust in our judiciary. I have been endorsed by local politicians, many of them democrats, and judges for a reason. I am known for being principled, holding people accountable, but

doing so graciously, giving a fair hearing, and treating all persons with dignity and respect. I firmly believe in due process, and I balance that against victims' rights. I am a supporter of therapeutic courts, and taking steps to reduce recidivism.

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Shane Scaman

