

#103

**COMPLETE**

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Page 1: ALL CANDIDATES: Welcome

**Q1**

Your information

Name	<b>Amy Cast</b>
Email Address	<b>info@amycast4nsd.com</b>
Phone Number	<b>206-601-7909</b>

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**Q2****Yes**

I have read instructions at the top of this page

Page 2: ALL CANDIDATES: Campaign Contact Information

**Q3**

Campaign contact information

Candidate first name	<b>Amy</b>
Candidate last name	<b>Cast</b>
Campaign email	<b>info@amycast4nsd.com</b>
Campaign website (optional)	<b><a href="http://amycast4nsd.com/index.html">http://amycast4nsd.com/index.html</a></b>

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**Q4****Respondent skipped this question**

Candidate name pronunciation (optional)

**Q5**

Candidate pronouns (optional)

she/her

**Q6** Respondent skipped this question

Campaign Manager information (optional)

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**Q7** Respondent skipped this question

Campaign Treasurer information (optional)

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**Q8** Respondent skipped this question

Campaign Consultant information (optional)

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**Q9** Respondent skipped this question

Other Campaign Contact information (optional)

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**Q10** Respondent skipped this question

Other paid staff or full-time volunteers (optional)

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**Q11**

Additional Campaign contact information (all optional)

Facebook Page (campaign)

<https://www.facebook.com/ReElectAmyCastForNSD>

Other URL 1

<http://amycast4nsd.com/images/AmyCastPhoto2.jpg>

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**Q12** Use Other URL 1

URL to Headshot (optional)

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Page 3: ALL CANDIDATES: Yes / No Questions

**Q13** Yes

Are you a Democrat?

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**Q14**

## Yes/No Questions

	Yes / No / Qualifie d
Have you ever been a member of another political party?	<b>No</b>
Have you ever been found in violation of a Public Disclosure Commission, Federal Election Commission, or Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission regulation?	<b>No</b>
Do you have a code of conduct for staff and volunteers?	<b>No</b>
If you have paid campaign staff, would you support them joining a labor union?	<b>Yes</b>
Is there anything from your past that might hamper your success as a candidate?	<b>No</b>
Do you support employees of your jurisdiction (e.g. your city's employees, the Port's employees, etc.) exercising their collective bargaining rights without fear of retaliation; including the right to bargain and strike for better working conditions and pay?	<b>Yes</b>
Are you willing to have yourself, your staff and your peers undergo training to understand and combat institutional racism and implicit bias?	<b>Yes</b>
Are you willing to have yourself, your staff and your peers undergo training to understand and combat sexual harassment?	<b>Yes</b>
Will your campaign be accepting contributions from corporate fossil fuel PACs?	<b>No</b>
Will your campaign be accepting contributions from corporate pharmaceutical PACs?	<b>No</b>
Will your campaign be accepting contributions from corporate health insurance PACs?	<b>No</b>
Will your campaign be accepting contributions from corporate building industry PACs; including the Building Industry Association of Washington (BIAW) and National Association of Home Builders?	<b>No</b>
Will your campaign be accepting contributions from police guilds or sheriffs' organizations?	<b>No</b>
Will you denounce contributions that you don't support from companies who support your campaign anyway?	<b>Yes</b>
Have you previously participated or will you be participating in a candidate training program like Institute for a Democratic Future or Emerge?	<b>No</b>

**Q15**

Respondent skipped this question

For any yes/no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

**Q16**

Please describe your background (education, employment, community and civic activity, labor union affiliation etc.)

I've been motivated to give back to this wonderful community since moving into our neighborhood in 1994. As my husband and I raised our 3 sons here, I've volunteered in ways large and small. I also enjoy the 'small' ways I can interact with students and neighbors such as organizing neighborhood events, presenting to students at Career Day at Timbercrest or coaching DECA finalists at Woodinville High. I am a passionate supporter of public education, and consider it an honor to serve the students of Northshore since 2013.

Professionally, I received my Bachelor of Science degree from Binghamton University in Business Management, and worked for many years at McCaw Cellular then AT&T Wireless. I started my own web design and marketing firm in 1998, and work with a multitude of small businesses locally and nationwide. In addition, I am a paid leadership consultant for the Washington State School Director's Association and am honored to create and facilitate leadership trainings for school boards across Washington state. In my consultant position at WSSDA, I am also proudly part of the Leadership Development team that is tasked with creating diversity, equity and inclusion training programs for school directors in Washington state in compliance with SB5044.

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**Q17**

Please describe your history of involvement (if any), with particular emphasis on the last five years, in local, regional, and/or state politics.

My political focus for the last five years has been to support my work as a school board director in Northshore. I have been serving as the Northshore School Board's legislative representative since 2017, and it's been my honor to partner with the legislators in the 45th LD (as well as the 1st LD and the 46th LD) on matters regarding public education in our district and the state. As the legislative representative in Northshore, I also represent the school board within strategic advocacy groups within WSSDA and coordinate with school directors across the state.

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**Q18**

Please describe the progress of your campaign and goals. How do you plan to win?

I have only just registered on the PDC website and have not truly begun campaigning. However, as I anticipate a challenger in this race, I have already updated my campaign website and will be formally announcing my campaign on May 17th when I file.

This past year has been a tumultuous one in public education, and I plan on campaigning on my experience, my passion for engaging all community members (even when it involves a difficult conversation), and most importantly on my vision for how to help our schools, educators and students recover from the effects of the pandemic. I believe I have the correct background, aptitudes, attitude and relationships to help guide Northshore out of this crisis.

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**Q19**

What issues do you think deserve more attention from media or elected officials? How would you seek to remedy that through your campaign or when elected?

I have been dismayed at how this year of trauma has been portrayed in such a binary fashion over the last 12 months, how the solution to helping our students recover is as simple as the snap of a finger or a simple policy statement. In addition, there has been an incredible amount of misinformation and disinformation about what Northshore (and other districts) have or have not done during the pandemic. Campaigning affords me the opportunity to correct the record, to prioritize supporting the whole child over the next several years, and allows me to portray a positive, civil example of leadership.

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**Q20**

How do you plan to involve all residents and engage all communities in the decision making process? How would you work with people who lack trust in our institutions?

I have learned that there are 2 key truths to effective community engagement: 1) you must go to groups in the community, you can't expect them to come to you (especially traditionally marginalized groups); and 2) challenging conversations are the ones that move the needle the most. It's the same with decision making. For example, our board hosts a Spanish-language Conversations with the Board evening every year, with daycare for young ones and at a location that is convenient for the families. I use these sessions as one way to seek input.

And, often, I need to just listen. This past summer, I attended a Black Lives Matter rally in Bothell that was hosted by several alumni of Northshore. They spoke their truths, explaining their experiences within our schools that caused them pain and heartbreak. While I was prepared to hear difficult stories (as they were unfortunately similar to stories I have heard before), I had a strong desire to start debating with them. "But! We've hired a new Director of Ethnic Studies! But we've worked hard to hire educators of color! But! But!". Instead, I listened deeply, and at the end went up to the speakers, introduced myself, and thanked them for their frank stories. They need my actions, more than my words, and I hope that it is my actions that help to build trust in the community, and realize that for some members of the community it will be easier than others. And that's very fair.

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**Q21**

COVID has increased existing inequities. How will you use your office to support the most vulnerable? How would you promote an equitable recovery and create opportunity for all?

My observation is that there are many cracks in our community and within families as a result of this crisis. Some are large, gaping fissures that are very obvious, some are more like paper cuts - difficult to see, but incredibly painful. I think we have a long road ahead of us, helping students, families and educators recovering from the trauma of the last year. But there is a key area where we can focus.

Our support for our students, families and educators needs to be relationship driven. As a result of our district's equity work over the last 5 years, we have begun to build relationships at the building level with marginalized students and families. By building on these relationships and focusing on the whole child – and not just where their standardized test scores happen to be at – we will actually help the student recover in a holistic, long lasting way. Similarly, we must continue to support our educators and understand how this crisis has also impacted them in a multitude of different ways.

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**Q22**

If elected, how will you use your position to address racial inequality, and advance an anti-racist agenda? How specifically would you support the Black Lives Matter movement?

If re-elected, I will continue to use my position to directly address racial inequality in Northshore and the broader community. In June 2020, our board issued a resolution in support of Black Lives Matter, and expressed explicit support for Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action (<https://www.nsd.org/n/~board/district-news/post/school-board-adopts-resolution-no-818-black-lives-matter>).

This work most directly began for me in 2015, when after a significant racist event at a school (which was not properly addressed by the school administration), I listened to over two hours of testimony from students, parents, educators and community members who recounted their racist experiences within Northshore. Before that day, I had thought that I was doing enough to advance justice, but it was clear that I was not (and as a collective, our board was not). Through my own training and growth, the training we do as an entire board, and the broader educational advocacy I support as part of WSSDA's Leadership Development team, I continue to look for concrete ways - through policy, my oversight role, and as a community leader - to keep advancing the cause of racial justice.

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## Page 5: ALL CANDIDATES: Jurisdiction and Position

**Q23****School District Director**

Position Sought

**Q24****Northshore School District**

Jurisdiction

**Q25****5**

Position number

## Page 6: KING COUNTY OFFICES ONLY: Questions for King County Executive and King County Council

**Q26****Respondent skipped this question**

Yes/No Questions for King County

**Q27****Respondent skipped this question**

For any yes/no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

**Q28****Respondent skipped this question**

How have you worked to combat climate change and promote climate justice? How would you use your elected office to ensure King County drastically lowers net carbon emissions by 2030 and achieves carbon neutrality by 2050?

**Q29****Respondent skipped this question**

King County plays an important role in providing many health and human services, as evidenced in the County's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. What has King County done well in its response to COVID? What would you continue, expand, and change? Do you support increased funding for many health and human services? How would you fund those services - even after the pandemic is over?

**Q30****Respondent skipped this question**

How would you advocate for alternatives to incarceration in the County's criminal legal system? How would you make zero youth incarceration a reality in King County?

**Q31**

Respondent skipped this question

What would you do to ensure that businesses owned by people of color have a fair shot at County contracts?

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**Q32**

Respondent skipped this question

"Structural racism is not always caused by racist actors – it is caused by institutional arrangements overlaid on historical policies that continue to perpetuate racialized outcomes." - Stephen Menendian How would you use your position to work to dismantle these arrangements including, but not limited to, exclusionary land use policies?

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Page 7: MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES ONLY: Questions for ALL Mayor, City Council, and City Attorney Candidates

**Q33**

Respondent skipped this question

Yes/No Questions for municipal candidates

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**Q34**

Respondent skipped this question

For any yes/no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

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**Q35**

Respondent skipped this question

Our region is growing quickly. How will you ensure that existing residents and newcomers alike have equitable access to affordable housing, public transit, and neighborhood amenities such as parks and schools? How will you protect current residents, and especially our most vulnerable communities, from displacement caused by this growth? How will you provide for and protect those displaced?

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**Q36**

Respondent skipped this question

How have you worked to combat climate change? How would you use your elected office to ensure your region drastically lowers net carbon emissions by 2030 and achieves carbon neutrality by 2050?

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**Q37**

Respondent skipped this question

What specific actions will you take to address the homelessness crisis in King County, both in the short term and long term? How do you plan to implement these solutions?

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**Q38**

Respondent skipped this question

"Structural racism is not always caused by racist actors – it is caused by institutional arrangements overlaid on historical policies that continue to perpetuate racialized outcomes." - Stephen Menendian How would you use your position to work to dismantle these arrangements including, but not limited to, exclusionary land use policies?

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**Q39**

Respondent skipped this question

Jurisdiction Check

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Page 8: SEATTLE-ONLY: Questions for SEATTLE-ONLY municipal candidates

**Q40**

Respondent skipped this question

Yes/No Questions for Seattle municipal candidates

**Q41**

Respondent skipped this question

For any yes/no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

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**Q42**

Respondent skipped this question

What actions would you take to address homelessness? Please consider addressing land use, revenue, regional collaboration, the role of social services, the role of the police and justice system.

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**Q43**

Respondent skipped this question

Seattleites are divided on how to fund and what to fund within police work and public safety. How would you help bring the community together and adjust the Seattle Police Department (SPD) budget as needed? By approximately what % would you adjust the SPD budget?

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**Q44**

Respondent skipped this question

How will you prioritize transportation infrastructure for biking, pedestrians, transit, commercial vehicles, and cars? Which do you view as most important to prioritize funds for?

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**Q45**

Respondent skipped this question

Do you support utilizing Seattle's newly granted authority to implement a 1% flat income tax?

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Page 9: PORT ONLY: Questions for PORT Candidates

**Q46**

Respondent skipped this question

Yes/No Questions for port candidates

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**Q47**

Respondent skipped this question

For any yes/no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

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**Q48**

Respondent skipped this question

As the Port recovers from the economic impact of the pandemic, how will you use your position to ensure that future growth and activity among tenant operations is inline with limiting climate impacts and encourage environmental stewardship to be a good neighbor and steward of our environment? How would help alleviate today's present and real issues, specifically homelessness?

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**Q49**

Respondent skipped this question

Since the pandemic and recent trade tariffs, the Seaport and Airport revenue and user statistics have plummeted. However, their capital investment was based on previous growth trends. As Port Commissioner, how will you help the Port to address these new economic realities?

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**Q50**

Respondent skipped this question

The Port has operations and activities on tribal and indigenous land. How would you use your position to elevate indigenous people and encourage more equity and opportunity for BIPOC Communities? Give us some specific examples of your plans in this aspect. How would you handle your approach to women-and minority-owned businesses.

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**Q51**

Respondent skipped this question

Considering the health impacts and socio-economic ramifications of increased airport activity, how would you balance the future growth of SeaTac airport with the interests of the residents of airport-adjacent communities?

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Page 10: SCHOOL BOARD ONLY: Questions for SCHOOL BOARD Candidates

**Q52**

Yes/No Questions for school board candidates

	Yes / No / Qualified
Do you support increased instruction time and a concurrent reduction of student testing?	<b>Yes</b>
Do you support the right of parents to opt their children out of standardized testing?	<b>Yes</b>
Do you support linking teacher evaluations to standardized test scores?	<b>No</b>
Do you support charter schools and/or vouchers for private school education?	<b>No</b>
Do you support amending the Washington State Constitution to allow a simple majority of voters to approve school bonds?	<b>Yes</b>
Do you support supplemental funding for International Baccalaureate & Advanced Placement testing for low-income students?	<b>Yes</b>
Do you support increases in salary for teachers who attain additional relevant degrees and certification?	<b>Yes</b>
Do you support COVID vaccination for school staff prior to returning to in-person learning?	<b>Yes</b>
Would you support continuing and expanding art, music, physical education, and library classes?	<b>Yes</b>

**Q53**

Respondent skipped this question

For any yes/no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

**Q54**

How has the pandemic changed your perspective on educational equity? What will you propose to address the educational consequences of the COVID pandemic? What specific policies will you seek to ensure that all staff and students can safely return to in-person school safely during the COVID pandemic? How will you work to bridge the digital divide both now and after return to in-person education?

It was apparent before the pandemic that institutional barriers exist for too many of our students, but the pandemic provided a topsy-turvy way to view them. The built-in paradoxes that we now need to address include: how to support students coming back to buildings when we have heard from several of our students that they feel safer at home because they don't have to worry about microaggressions during the day? How can we improve our school culture while many students are just looking for a return to "normal"?

As for returning safely to buildings, we have been very deliberate in choosing operational strategies including surveillance testing of staff and students, and ensuring vaccines are available to staff (if they choose). One of my goals for this spring is to bring vaccine clinics to our high schools to help our older students get the vaccine (if they choose).

We are lucky to have a very generous community who approved a technology bond that supports digital devices for each student. And I continue to partner with state and federal legislators to work on providing increased broadband connectivity across our district.

**Q55**

What policies or changes will you seek to ensure that all students— regardless of their gender, race, class, disability, or ethnicity—receive an education that enables them to reach their fullest potential? What would you do to advance anti-racist and indigenous curriculum? What do you see as your role in disrupting the school-to-prison pipeline?

Northshore has created and implemented a detailed equity policy, and our board has created a regular reporting structure to receive annual updates on the progress against specific goals in the policy. It is a living document that has trickled down to school-specific goals and growth, with each school having a racial and educational justice team.

To support anti-racist and indigenous curriculum, I am a strong supporter of incorporating ethnic studies into our system from K – 12. To get this work moving, Northshore now has an Asst. Director of Ethnic Studies.

I have a very direct role in disrupting the school-to-prison pipeline. An area of intense focus of our equity work is reducing discipline rates for marginalized populations, and I am proud of the improvement we have made in that area. My understanding around this work deepened in 2017 after I was a guest of the Black Prisoners' Caucus at the Monroe Correctional Facility. The members of the Caucus put on a several hour school-to-prison pipeline presentation for educators and administrators that was incredibly illustrative.

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**Q56**

What should schools and school districts do to support the physical and mental health of all students; including LGBTQ+ students and students with disabilities? Please provide specific examples. Also, what actions would you take to remedy student access to and pay inequity among school nurses, paraeducators, and school office staff?

Schools, in a way, are the infrastructure our society uses to provide supports and services to our children. While education is our primary mission, our community also depends on our schools to support the physical and mental health of our students. I am very proud that during my term on the Northshore school board, we have worked hard to provide mental health counselors for all school buildings. But I am very aware that the need after this year in crisis is greater than ever. I continue to partner with our legislators to ask for full funding of the work of the Staffing Enrichment Workgroup, which recommends a significant increase in funding for mental health and school psychologist supports. The work of the Staffing Enrichment Workgroup also addresses the inequity in funding for school nurses, paraeducators and other important staff members.

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**Q57**

What would you do to advocate for ample and equitable funding for k-12 education including special education, school nurses, counselors, mental health professionals, and paraeducators?

As I relayed in the question above, I continue to advocate with state and federal partners for the fully funding of our educational system. In Special Education services alone, Northshore is underfunded by \$15M per year. The funding for our current system of mental health providers is a patchwork of grants and partnerships that is not sustainable in the long term. If it was not for the generosity of our community and their support for our local enrichment levy, we would not be able to continue our current staffing levels of nurses, counselors or paraeducators. But that is precisely the problem: these staffing positions and programs should be included in \*basic\* education funding from the state and not through our enrichment levy.

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**Q58**

Has the disruption of regular schooling and introduction of distance learning in the last year caused you to re-evaluate any aspect of traditional instruction and the structure of schooling? Are there changes you would like to see implemented?

The one area I keep coming back to in my head are the developments around education-on-demand. For several of our students, having the ability to do their learning on their schedule enhanced their overall wellbeing, especially during this time of crisis. Going forward, I would like to see an option within our district to continue a robust education-on-demand system that might operate in a similar vein to other alternative learning systems, but could be tapped if a student experienced upheaval in their life (like a serious medical issue, or sudden family issues that was causing them to have attendance struggles.)

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Page 11: JUDICIAL ONLY: Questions for JUDICIAL Candidates

**Q59****Respondent skipped this question**

Have you served full-time or pro-tem as a judge or justice? What did you learn from that experience and how will you use that learning to help improve equity and fairness in the justice system?

**Q60****Respondent skipped this question**

How have you helped tackle climate change issues from within your courtroom daily activities to an overall sustainable plan?

**Q61****Respondent skipped this question**

How has COVID-19 experience changed your perspective/behavior/actions on access to justice within your courtroom?

**Q62****Respondent skipped this question**

How would you advocate for more equity in our State's justice system? How can we make it more open, transparent and responsive?

**Q63****Respondent skipped this question**

How are you going to make sure you don't allow bias (including, but not limited to, racial bias) while serving on the bench and/or in the courtroom?

**Q64****Respondent skipped this question**

Do you believe judges can be biased and if so in what ways, please provide examples?

**Q65**

Respondent skipped this question

Do you see addressing bias and racial disparity in the court system as activism? Why or why not?

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**Q66**

Respondent skipped this question

Do you think that judicial training focused on racial competency is activism? Why or why not?

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**Q67**

Respondent skipped this question

Do you think racial disparity exists in the court system and more specifically on the bench?

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**Q68**

Respondent skipped this question

What will you do as a judge to eliminate and mitigate bias on the bench?

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**Q69**

Respondent skipped this question

What committees, commissions, workgroups do you currently or have previously served on?

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**Q70**

Respondent skipped this question

Have you received or are you seeking political or financial support from any police officer, police guild/union or elected law enforcement official?

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Page 12: ALL CANDIDATES: Submit Questionnaire

**Q71**

I, candidate, affirm that all the information provided in response to this questionnaire is true, complete and correct, to the best of my ability, and that no relevant matter has been omitted. (Use Prev and Next buttons to review.)

Candidate full name (as signature)

**Amy Cast**

Date

**April 20, 2021****Q72**

Candidate

Information in this questionnaire was input by:

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**Q73**

(If information input by someone other than candidate) I affirm that all responses were reviewed and approved by the candidate. (Use Prev and Next buttons to review.)

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Respondent skipped this question

**Q74**

Share with King County Democrats

King County Democrats may post this questionnaire to a password-protected folder for access by King County Democrats Endorsements Committee members and Executive Board.

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**Q75**

Share with LD Dems and YD Endorsement Committee members

King County Democrats may share this questionnaire to a password-protected folder for access by members of the Endorsements Committees of Legislative District (LD) Democratic organizations and Young Democrats (YD) organizations.

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**Q76**

(OPTIONAL) Share with PCOs and/or Members

Democratic organizations overlapping the jurisdiction of my campaign whose rules require sharing questionnaire responses to Precinct Committee Officers (PCOs) or Membership may share this questionnaire with those groups.

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**Q77**

(OPTIONAL) Share with Public

Respondent skipped this question

**Q78**

Email Copy

Please email a copy of my completed submission to the campaign email address. I understand it may take 24-48 hours (or more) for my completed submission to be emailed.

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