



The Municipal League of King County  
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Seattle, WA 98104  
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## 2008 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

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The Municipal League of King County requests every candidate who participates in the candidate evaluation process to **submit background information prior to his/her interview with a candidate evaluation committee**. The questionnaire is the basis of the League's research and interview process. The League's ratings are non-partisan; they are based on standards of Involvement, Effectiveness, Character, and Knowledge, all of which have been developed and refined over the past 90 years.

A printed version of the questionnaire is available for candidates who prefer to use the traditional format. To obtain a hard copy, please contact the League office. A copy of this questionnaire will be provided to Candidate Evaluation Committee members to help them prepare for your interview. Candidate responses, except the confidential section, will be available to the general public at the League website.

The Municipal League requests the following materials from candidates. Please check to make certain you have sent in your:

- Candidate Questionnaire**  
Sent by:  Email  US Mail  Fax  Not Sending
- Resume (education, employment, and professional activities)**  
Sent by:  Email  US Mail  Fax  Not Sending  
 Check here if you DO NOT want your resume posted on the Municipal League website
- Campaign Materials**  
Sent by:  Email  US Mail  Fax  Not Sending
- Constituent Newsletters and other publications**  
Sent by:  Email  US Mail  Fax  Not Sending
- Photograph**  
Sent by:  Email  US Mail  Fax  Not Sending

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**Note: Electronically submitted questionnaires are strongly preferred. All materials can be emailed to [cec@munileague.org](mailto:cec@munileague.org). They can be processed and made available on-line far more rapidly than handwritten or typed submissions.**

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For non-electronic submissions, please print clearly and legibly and return the application **as soon as possible in order to allow the committee the greatest amount of time to prepare a complete report on your skills and experience.**

**We request that you return the Candidate Questionnaire  
by June 1, 2008**

If you have not yet been contacted to schedule an interview, or if you have questions about the candidate evaluation program, please contact the League office at 206-264-1070.

If you have a disability and require accommodation to participate in the candidate evaluation process, please contact the CEC Coordinator at the League office.

## 2008 Candidate Questionnaire

### SECTION I

#### BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
Jay	R.	Rodne

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

**State Representative, 5<sup>th</sup> District, Pos. 1**

3. Are you the incumbent?             Yes    No

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

**10 Years**

5. How long have you resided in King County?

**12 Years**

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party: **(R)**

#### CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name:            Friends of Jay Rodne

Address:                      P.O. Box 2848

City/State/Zip:              Issaquah, WA 98027

Campaign Phone:            (425) 890-3336

Campaign Fax:              N/A

Campaign E-mail:            [jrodne@comcast.net](mailto:jrodne@comcast.net)

Campaign Website:         Jayrodne.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)
State Rep., 5 <sup>th</sup> District, Pos. 1	Elective	1/04 -- present	Asst. Floor Ldr (2005-2006) Ranking Member, Judiciary Cmte
Councilmember, Snoqualmie City Council	Elective	1/02-1/04	Chair, Public Safety Cmte
Sunshine Committee	Appointive	4/07 -- present	N/A
AG's Eminent Domain Task Force	Appointive	4/07 -- present	N/A
WA Sentencing Guidelines Comm.	Appointive	5/05 – 4/08	N/A
Statute Law Committee	Appointive	5/07 – present	N/A
Office of Civil Legal Aid Oversight	Appointive	5/05 – present	N/A

<b>Committee</b>			
<b>Office of Public Defense Advisory Committee</b>	<b>Appointive</b>	<b>5/05 – present</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Statute Law Committee</b>	<b>Appointive</b>	<b>5/06 – present</b>	<b>N/A</b>

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

<b>Office Title</b>	<b>Year of Run</b>

## 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.)

**Since 2004, I have had the honor of representing the people of the 5<sup>th</sup> Legislative District in the Washington House of Representatives.**

**Throughout my tenure in the legislature, my goal has been to work collaboratively with my colleagues – regardless of party affiliation – to craft sensible and reasonable policy solutions to the pressing problems that we face. Public service is about values and the intangible aspects of character. I have tried to represent my constituents in a manner consistent with my values and core beliefs: respect for others; tolerance; integrity; respect for the rule of law; civility; humility; sense of humor.**

**I am deeply concerned with the level of political discourse and the lack of decorum and civility that permeates our political process. As a combat veteran, I have seen horrific things and witnessed the cruelty and depravity that humans can unleash on their fellow humans. But our American experience, premised on the rule of law, must be different if we aspire to greater heights. Public service and engagement in the democratic process should neither condone nor tolerate the suspension of civility, tolerance, or mutual respect.**

**We live in a pluralistic society and I believe that this is our source of strength. The continued vibrancy and relevance of our political process will require men and women who are committed to transcending parochial or narrow interests for the greater good.**

**I believe in our democratic institutions and the values that our democracy embodies. I am running for re-election because I want to continue to make positive contributions to our political process and to the Washington House of Representatives. Although public service can and often does involve sacrifice (especially for my family), I believe that I still have much to contribute and much to give. I am committed to working for transparent, open and accountable government and to working collaboratively with my colleagues in a manner that embraces and celebrates our uniqueness while drawing strength from our shared experience.**

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

**I believe the fundamental task of a legislator is to work collaboratively with his or her colleagues to craft reasonable and sensible policy solutions through compromise, dialogue and consensus. To be truly effective in this role, one needs to be genuine, have a sense of character, act with humility and hopefully have a sense of humor.**

**In reflecting on my experience as a legislator, my most important personal characteristics that I bring to my service are a sense of authenticity and genuineness, a set of core values and beliefs, a sense of humility and a sense of humor. These are the values that I truly appreciate and admire in my colleagues as well.**

**The bonds and friendships that one can develop with colleagues can be a source of great strength. Ultimately, it is one's ability to relate to people, to develop friendships and to be able to work collaboratively with others that really matters. I believe these are some of my most important personal characteristics.**

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.

**1. During the 2006 session, I worked on very controversial sex offender legislation as a co-sponsor with Rep. Al O'Brien (D-1<sup>st</sup> Dist.). Rep. O'Brien and I were under extreme pressure from elements within our respective caucuses for sponsoring and introducing legislation that some felt was either "soft on crime" or "harsh and draconian." However, Rep. O'Brien and I continued to seek compromise and consensus by building a broad coalition. We were able to craft and pass what we both felt was sensible legislation that struck a proper balance by increasing penalties for serious offenses and maintaining treatment for offenders who committed lesser offenses.**

**2. During the 2005 session, I worked with a broad bipartisan coalition of legislators to dramatically increase funding for indigent criminal defense based on our belief that our system of justice and respect for the rule of law was premised on the fundamental principle that everyone charged with a crime was entitled to a lawyer to defend, regardless of the ability to pay. Our efforts were chronicled in the article "Making Good on Gideon's Promise", that I co-authored with Rep. Pat Lantz (D-26<sup>th</sup> District) and which appeared in the September 2005 edition of the WSBA Bar Journal magazine.**

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.

- **WA State Bar Association (admitted 12/97)**
- **WA House of Representatives 2004, 2006**
- **Recipient, Assoc. of WA Business (AWB) Cornerstone Award for legislative excellence (2004, 2005, 2006, 2007)**
- **Awarded the title of Washington General in 2007 by Lt. Gov. Brad Owen (one of the highest civic designations conferred by Washington State)**
- **Appointed to the Sunshine Cmte (2007-present)**
- **Appointed to the Attorney General's Eminent Domain Task Force (2007)**
- **Appointed to the Washington State Office of Public Defense Advisory Committee (2005-present)**
- **Member, Washington Sentencing Guidelines Commission (2005-2008)**
- **Member, Washington Office of Civil Legal Aid Oversight Committee (2005-present)**
- **Elected to the Snoqualmie, WA City Council (2001-2004).**
- **Adjunct Faculty Member, Civil Procedure, Highline Community College (2001-2002)**
- **Appointed to the Washington State Bar Association's Pro Bono and Court Improvement Committees (2000-2002)**
- **Volunteer Attorney, King County Bar Association's Neighborhood Legal Clinic Program (since 1999)**
- **Member, King County Bar Association, American Bar Association, American Judicature Society, Issaquah Chamber of Commerce, Snoqualmie Valley Rotary**
- **Selected as a 2001 "Rising Star" by the editors and readers of *Washington Law & Politics* (December 2001 edition)**
- **Appointed to the Washington State Bar Association's Task Force on Judicial Selection (2006)**

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

**As I have indicated previously, I believe the fundamental task of a legislator is to work collaboratively with his or her colleagues in the House of Representatives to craft reasonable and sensible policy solutions through compromise, dialogue and consensus, all the while being true to one's values and priorities and the priorities of one's district. To be sure, maintaining close contact with and listening to one's constituents is perhaps the most important duty as this enables the legislator to be a truly effective advocate for the people of the district.**

**To be truly effective in this role, one needs to be genuine, have a sense of character, act with humility and hopefully have a sense of humor.**

**EDUCATION BACKGROUND SUMMARY  
FOR PUBLICATION IN CANDIDATE EVALUATION REPORT**

The Municipal League's Candidate Evaluation Report is distributed to voters in print and on our website. It includes a summary of the candidate's education. Please summarize your education in 120 characters (letters, punctuation, and space all combined). The League will delete material that exceeds the space limit by beginning with the last entry. Suggested order is (degree) (subject) (school) (year, if desired).

**Note:** *If this question is left blank the League will not include education information in your candidate profile.*

**J.D. *cum laude*, Gonzaga University (1997)  
B.A., Creighton University (1988)**

**CIVIC INVOLVEMENT SUMMARY  
FOR PUBLICATION IN CANDIDATE EVALUATION REPORT**

The Municipal League's Candidate Evaluation Report includes a summary of each candidate's civic involvement. Please summarize your civic involvement in the space below. We will make every attempt to include the information in the Candidate Evaluation Report as submitted. Due to space restrictions in the Report, your response is limited to 500 characters (letters, punctuation, and spaces all combined). It is important that you list your involvement beginning with the most important and ending with the least important. If you exceed the length of response permitted, or if the League should find it necessary to shorten responses for publication purposes, deletions will be made beginning with the last item listed.

**Note:** *This information will appear verbatim on the League's Candidate Evaluation Report. If this question is left blank, the Municipal League will not include information on your civic involvement in the Report.*

**X** Check here if you would like the Municipal League to copy the first 500 characters from Question 4 to paste into this section.