

2009 Candidate Questionnaire

SECTION I

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
Graham	F.	Albertini

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

King County Assessor

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No X

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

38 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

38 years

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Albertini for Assessor

Address: PO box 50134

City/State/Zip: Bellevue, WA 98015-0134

Campaign Phone: 425.747.4336

Campaign Fax: _____

Campaign E-mail: grahamA@comcast.net

Campaign Website: www.grahamalbertini.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)
NA			

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

Office Title	Year of Run
NA	

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 have the experience and qualifications to lead the King county Assessors office. I have been in the appraisal profession for almost 24 years. During that time I lived and worked in King County. In addition to having appraised thousands of properties in the county I have hired, trained, and managed many appraisers - including some who currently work in the Assessors office. I am a state certified residential appraiser. I hold the highest professional residential appraisal designation that the Appraisal Institute has to offer. I was selected "Appraiser of the Year" by the Seattle Chapter of the Appraisal Institute. In addition to my appraisal experience I have been a college instructor at North Seattle Community College since 2001. My appraisal experience, appraisal management experience, and education make me an ideal candidate for the position of King County Assessor.

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

I have passion for what I do, my philosophy is that whatever your job is you should strive to be the best. I have built up a reputation as one of the best appraisers in the county and I would want the Assessors department to be one of the best departments in the country. One of my own goals is facilitate clear and meaningful communication in any interaction that I'm involved in. I will always do whatever is necessary to understand another person's perspective so that together we create a shared understanding of the topic at hand.

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) When I was first promoted to an appraisal management position (age 26) I understood the importance of being honest, impartial, and unbiased when dealing with employees. I also did my best to promote excellence and continuing education. I managed an appraisal department in Bellevue for what was, at the time, the largest Savings and Loan in the country. Our department was audited regularly for internal and governmental code compliance. Any lack of compliance or any appraisal discovered to be unsatisfactory would result in an "exception" (basically a black mark). I worked hard and coached our team until one audit that we had was PERFECT. We had NO exceptions. The auditor said that our appraisal department was the only one in the country that had been given a perfect audit. We were all very proud. The next day the branch manager chastised me for the perfect audit. He said "if you are following all the rules then that means we aren't making as many loans as we could be making." That was a wake up call and I realized that some people want to see what they can get away with while I try to find ways to do what's right.**
- 2) I was proud to work towards and obtain a professional designation from The Appraisal Institute (less than 10% of appraisers have the SRA designation).**
- 3) I was proud to pass the exam to become certified to teach the Appraisal Standards and ethics course which must be passed by all appraisers. There are fewer than 610 people nationwide who are certified to teach the course.**

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've always been the type of person that wants to be involved.

In high school I was on the yearbook staff and was president of the band. In college I was a member of a fraternity and held elective office (secretary). I was also a disc jockey on KCMU and a member of the Greek yearbook staff.

After graduating from the UW I began working full-time but also stayed involved with my fraternity as a member of the Corporation Board where I have held the positions of treasurer and secretary.

When I bought my first condo I immediately was elected treasurer and stayed in that position for over ten years. During this time I also volunteered with the City of Bellevue in their "SUCCESS" program (working one-on-one with a student who needed extra help), their "SAFE RIDES" program (providing safe rides to teens on Friday and Saturday nights), and "VIBES" (Volunteers In Bellevue's Education System – assisting in the schools).

I began drumming with a band again in 1995 eventually touring in Italy, playing at many local venues, and also playing at local jails and prisons. We produced a CD in 2000 which is still available on-line. www.mannaroad.com

I have performed in local comedy clubs, been a contestant on "The Gong Show", been on "Americas Funniest People" and was also seen on the Oprah show as one of "Oprah's funniest viewers".

Being involved and being well rounded is key to running a diverse department of knowledge workers.

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

The Assessor position must interface with the public and other government officials. There are numerous laws which must be complied with and a large diverse staff of knowledge workers that need to be managed. Managing knowledge workers' requires that they be given access to on-going education and be provided with the tools to get their jobs done. I'm a believer in multi-sided performance evaluation, not just the top-down review by the immediate supervisor. What do the employees think of the job their boss is doing? How do co-workers rate each other? The department needs to be well managed on a day-to-day basis but vision for long term opportunities needs to be fostered so that areas of improvement can be discovered and implemented.