

2010 Candidate Questionnaire

SECTION I

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
Marcee		Stone

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

State Representative, Position 2, 34th District

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

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

38 years/51 years.

5. How long have you resided in King County?

51 years

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party: **Democratic Party**

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Friends of Marcee Stone
4742 42nd Ave. SW, Box 287

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: Seattle, WA 98116

Campaign Phone: 206.658.3514

Campaign Fax: _____

Campaign E-mail: manager@marceefor34th.com or marcee@marceefor34th.com

Campaign Website: www.marceefor34th.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)
PCO	Appointed & Elected	2006-2010	34 th District Democrats

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

Office Title	Year of Run
N/A	

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 grew up in my district in the blue collar neighborhoods of White Center and Highland Park from the age of 3 to 19. My stepdad was a King County Deputy Sheriff before he went to work for Boeing. My mom stayed at home and helped out at my school and became the girls' basketball team coach. I became the first person in my family to graduate from college and the first woman in my family not to have had children by the time she was 18. My daughter will be the second person in my family to graduate from college on June 11, 2010.

After I graduated from the University of Washington Bachelor of Fine Arts Program in Drama, I became a professional actor and a member of two different actors unions. I continued to work in the Seattle and Tacoma area until 1981 when I moved to New York to pursue my craft. I became a member of a third actors union while there. I married and returned to Seattle in 1987 with the birth of my daughter. I returned to the district when we bought our first home in West Seattle and have lived here ever since.

I use this background to illustrate my roots in the heart of this community.

I became a community organizer fighting against the placement of a cell phone tower in my neighborhood and two other neighborhoods. This was my first experience with grassroots organizing and we were successful in preventing the placement of those three towers.

This is when I first became alarmed at the infusion of special interest money into local politics. I was unaware that special interests could create "canned" legislation, bring it to a local government, and get it passed to benefit the bottom line of the business itself. In this case, the telecoms had revised city codes in cities all over the country to keep citizens from blocking placement of towers in their neighborhoods because they were out of character with the neighborhood. This happened here in Seattle. In doing my research, I became aware of campaign contributions from telecoms and their CEOs making large contributions to elected leaders and their parties. This inspired me to become involved with Washington Public Campaigns, a statewide organization that advocates for public campaign financing of elections locally, statewide and nationally. I became a speaker for that organization, its board secretary and eventually its board president. It is my belief that reforming the way campaigns work will benefit most progressive causes from the environment to healthcare, transit to tax reform, education to capital improvements.

I also became involved in the democratic party, locally, countywide and statewide. Once, I became a champion of public campaign financing, I took it to our party and it has become a part of our platform and has helped to educate democratic leaders all over the state to the benefits of public campaign financing.

I am running for this office because I feel deeply connected to my community and at this point in my life, I have the time and the capability to understand the needs and pressures on my neighborhoods and on the people who live in them. I aspire to have a partnership with the constituents of the 34th District, not just take my point of view down to Olympia. To advocate for the needs of the district and to collaborate with the citizens of the district: Those are my goals. I love these neighborhoods and the people who live in them and I can think of no higher honor than being their representative in the state legislature.

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

I have been described as a leader, a person who brings people together to get things done. I envision better government, more open and accountable government. I have the steadfastness and tenaciousness to succeed at that. In working towards good government, I won't compromise my principles by taking PAC or corporate contributions in my campaign. This is a more difficult route but speaks to my integrity.

As a coalition builder and community organizer, I have been able to help communities protect and preserve their character, changed state law, and opened the door between an ethnic community and the democratic party. I helped neighborhoods fight against unethical cell phone tower placement. Unions have stepped up to endorse me despite the fact that I won't take PAC money. They know I'm asking them to help me with their boots on the ground and by getting my message out to their membership.

I feel that my perspective is unique in this race as compared to my opponents. I am a working woman who has supported myself, had two different careers, raised a family, educated myself and my daughter. I have been a union member, a tax payer for many years, cared for my mother and in-laws when they were in ill health, been a homeowner and a renter. I've been a citizen activist and democratic activist and never worked in government. I know how to work with government to create real reform. In helping to nurture passage of the Local Option bill in 2008, continuing to work for public campaign financing of our State Supreme Court, I know how to organize. I have a new vision of partnership with the district rather than becoming part and parcel of the bubble in Olympia. I bring real life experience to this race and feel that helps to inform my role as a representative of the citizens of the 34th District.

Through the endorsement process and nominating convention of the 34th District Democrats, I am proud to say I have received the nomination and sole endorsement of that fine organization.

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.

As a leader of Washington Public Campaigns, I was able to help pass legislation in 2008 that eliminated a previous state ban on using public funds for political campaigns at the local level. As board president of this statewide organization, a 501(c)3 and 501(c)4, I led the board, guided our staff, raised money, over saw the budget, and increased our membership by two-thirds. I was a public speaker, testified in committee, wrote letters to the editor, and organized in legislative districts. In January 25, 2008: The WA State House approved EHB 1551 by a vote of 56-38, and sent the bill to the Senate for action.

February 13, 2008: The WA State Senate approved SSB 5278 by a vote of 29-20. This bill had identical language to House bill 1551, but because it had a different bill number and sponsor, it needed to return to the House for a concurring vote.

March 4, 2008: The House voted to approve the Senate version of the bill, in a final vote. The bill was delivered to Governor Gregoire on March 10th, and signed by her on March 17th. The Local Option law is not a mandate, but gives permission for cities, towns, counties and local districts to create their own programs offering public financing for campaigns for local office. It requires that any such program be submitted to local voters for approval or rejection, through a local referendum or advisory ballot.



As state committeewoman of the 34th District Democrats, I helped Linh Thai, former President of the Vietnamese Community Organization of Seattle and Vicinity, to pass a resolution in the 34th District Democrats urging the City of Seattle to recognize the Vietnamese Heritage and Freedom Flag as the community symbol of that vibrant community. This has led to passage in other districts in the City of Seattle and I hope soon that it will lead to passage by the City of Seattle, eventually to King County and the State of Washington. I have been honored by the Vietnamese community for my efforts on their behalf.

From February 2003 to present, ten states, three counties and 76 cities have adopted resolutions recognizing the yellow flag as the “Vietnamese Heritage & Freedom Flag.” Among the ten states, California has the largest Vietnamese American population in the United States and the world. Vietnamese American community accounts as the fourth largest population among Asian Pacific Islanders in Seattle/King County, third largest in the Washington State, and third largest concentration of Vietnamese Americans in the United States.



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.

1989 – 1991 – South Seattle Community College Cooperative Preschool – participant with my daughter

1992 – Our Lady of Guadalupe School, Board of Daycare Program

1999 – Seattle Academy Parent Association

2001 – 2004 – Seattle Academy Parent Association, Chair Parent Education Program

As Chair of the Parent Education Program, I researched topics, arranged for speakers and venues, promoted it within the parent association, and also reached out to other coordinators at other schools and began a network to support each other and to promote our events between the schools. Some of the issues included suicide prevention, nutrition, alcohol and substance abuse and teen sexuality.

2002 – 2004 -- Member of grassroots organization “Residents Against Cell Towers In Our Neighborhoods.”

I fought against unethical placement of cell phone towers in three neighborhoods from West Seattle to Beacon Hill. We eventually stopped the placement despite the telecoms inducing our city council to revise our city code in order to block residents from protesting the placement based on the character of the neighborhood.

2003 – Member of 34th District Democrats

2004 – Kerry Delegate to Democratic County convention

2006 – Delegate to State Democratic Convention

2007 – Elected King County Committeewoman, 34th District Democrats

2008 – Elected PCO

2009 – Elected State Committeewoman, 34th District Democrats, serve on Resolutions Committee

2010 – Delegate to the Washington State Democratic Convention

I work to elect democrats, fundraise for them and advocate for progressive issues across the state through the democratic party. I have held fundraisers for Dow Constantine’s campaign for King County Executive, Joe McDermott’s re-election to the State Senate, and Max Vekich’s campaign for Port of Seattle Port Commission.

2006 – Member Washington Public Campaigns

2007 – Board Secretary WPC

2008 – Board President

As Board President, I oversee the budget, hiring and policy decisions of the organization. Attend events as a public speaker and advocate with the legislature by testifying in committee and by organizing the grassroots to urge their legislators to pass new laws regarding public campaign financing and good government reform.

Since 1987, I have worked in the legal administration field at several prestigious law firms in Seattle. I have worked with top minds in the legal community on complex litigation. I know how to work with demanding professionals and keep my cool under pressure.

I helped my mother and my in-laws downsize and then move into assisted living and eventually hospice care. I am intimately familiar with the ins and outs of this process and the challenges involved in caring for senior family members and their illnesses all while working full time.

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

Wikipedia definition: “During a legislative session, the legislature considers matters introduced by its members or submitted by the governor. Businesses and other special interest organizations often lobby the legislature to obtain beneficial legislation, defeat unfavorably perceived measures, or influence other legislative action. A legislature also approves the state's operating and capital budgets, which may begin as a legislative proposal or a submission by the governor.

Under the terms of Article V of the U.S. Constitution, state lawmakers retain the power to ratify Constitutional amendments which have been proposed by the Congress and they also retain the ability to apply to the Congress for a national convention to directly propose Constitutional amendments to the states for ratification. Under Article II, state legislatures choose the manner of appointing the state's presidential electors.”

It seems to me that the most important duty I would have as a state representative is to represent the citizens of the 34th district. I will owe them a trust and will do my utmost to protect and nurture that trust. Why do I feel this way? Because the electorate as a whole has a low opinion of the job performance of their legislators, locally and federally. I hope that through my pledge to take no contributions from PACs or corporations that, if I'm elected, the citizens of the 34th will know that they are my only special interest.