

## 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
<b>Mike</b>		<b>Heavey</b>

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

**State Representative, 34<sup>th</sup> District, Position 2**

3. Are you the incumbent?       Yes       No

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

**25 years**

5. How long have you resided in King County?

**25 years**

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party: **Democrat**

#### CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name:      **Friends of Mike Heavey**

Address:      **2348 Alki Ave SW; # 206**

City/State/Zip:      **Seattle, WA 98116**

Campaign Phone:      **206-938-0325**

Campaign Fax:      **N/A**

Campaign E-mail:      [\*\*info@mikeheavey.com\*\*](mailto:info@mikeheavey.com)

Campaign Website:      [\*\*www.mikeheavey.com\*\*](http://www.mikeheavey.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)
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

Office Title	Year of Run
N/A	N/A

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## 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.)

As a fourth-generation Seattleite, I am proud to call West Seattle my home. Having grown up in the 34<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, I am long familiar with the issues facing the community. And as the only candidate with experience in both the private and public sectors, I understand that innovative solutions and tactics are necessary to make progress on the big issues of transportation, the environment, public safety, education, and our economy.

I spent my early childhood attending St. Joseph School where I was taught the value of community service and social justice – values reinforced by my parents as well. My father, Michael Heavey, served as a State Senator from the 34<sup>th</sup> District and I spent many summers doorbelling and engaging with the community. I later attended Seattle Preparatory School and, at age 14, I had the opportunity to serve as a page in the Washington State Legislature for Senator Pat Thibadeau. This experience fully escalated my interest in public service and government.

Following high school, I attended college in Alabama – aided by a community service grant that offset my tuition costs and allowed me the opportunity to participate in inter-collegiate athletics. In addition to playing soccer in college, I gave back to the community by tutoring and organizing soccer camps for low-income youth and working at local food banks. I earned a Bachelor's degree in Political Science with a minor in Criminal Justice.

I returned to Washington state shortly after graduation to begin working for one of the country's largest tech companies as a fraud analyst. Specializing in tracking e-commerce fraud, my work prevented the loss of millions of dollars of corporate and personal funds and I helped dismantle several international fraud and identity theft rings.

Following my work in e-commerce fraud, I went to work for a large security company as a lead consultant providing analysis, training, and recommendations to consumers seeking to keep their homes, businesses, and families safe. With the economy in flux, the security industry was hit hard and I witnessed many businesses and colleagues suffer from the impact of the recession.

Experiencing firsthand the effects of economy, I decided to engage in public service and help make a

difference in King County. I joined Dow Constantine's 2009 campaign for King County Executive and served as Dow's field organizer. My experience on the campaign reinstated my passion for government.

Following the election of Dow Constantine as King County Executive, I was hired to serve as Director of Outreach and Constituent Relations for King County Council in District 8. I work closely with constituents in the district and serve as the lead staff person on law, criminal justice, and public safety. I am currently working on issues related to youth violence, the South Park Bridge, the Vashon library, and adding open space to county land for recreational purposes.

I believe that my experience is what is needed in our leaders in Olympia in order to get things done. I have a proven track record of protecting homes, families, and businesses from fraud and crime as well as a firm commitment to social justice and progressive Democratic ideals.

The 34<sup>th</sup> District has a long history of electing strong, energetic leaders to office. I am running for State Representative to carry on that tradition and to ensure government represents our progressive values.

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

I believe that strong and effective leaders need to value the community they represent – by working hard, listening, caring, and thinking critically and innovatively about solutions to fix difficult problems. To this end, I believe that my personal characteristics lend me the traits necessary to be a great leader in the 34<sup>th</sup> District.

I have long been told that I am a workhorse. That when I put my mind to something, I see it through with 110%. I think that this is a trait that goes unrecognized by many people who serve in the legislature, but one that is definitely needed.

I am also very proud of my ability to listen. I think that one of the most respectful gestures an individual can do is truly listen. And in politics, this does not happen often enough. I believe that my ability to fully listen and understand an individual's situation, concern, or complaint is a personal characteristic that will assist me greatly.

Thinking through a problem and fully analyzing its implications before reaching a solution is a great skill I possess. In my work in both the private and public sector, I find this ability of mine is of true value. Furthermore, not only am I able to think critically about issues but this often leads to new, original, and innovative solutions. This characteristic will be an asset in public office – especially when facing economic or budgetary constraints.

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.

I am passionate about public service. Having been raised in a family where public service was exemplified (my father served as State Legislator for fourteen years), I have experienced and learned about the nuances of government since I was a child. And, as a fourth generation native of Seattle and a resident of West Seattle, I know the community and the issues that are important to the district.

In the private sector, with a background in criminal justice, I have worked in fraud analysis for one of the country's largest tech companies where I am proud to have played a key role with the dismantling of international fraud and identity theft rings. With this knowledge, I moved to work for a large security company where I served as a lead consultant that provided analysis, training, and recommendations on keeping consumers' homes, businesses, and families safe. I am proud of my work in this role and found it both exciting and challenging. I am skilled at managing multiple projects and once and managing a body of work – this job required both of these skills.

In the public sector, I currently work for as the Director of Outreach and Constituent Relations for the King County Council in District 8 and am the lead policy staff person for Councilmember Jan Drago on law, criminal justice, and public safety. In this role, I have the opportunity to communicate directly with constituents on the issues that matter most to them: public safety, the South Park Bridge, the Vashon library, preserving Maury Island, and adding open space to county land for recreational purposes. This work requires me to be a critical and innovative thinker – two skills I believe that I possess. Serving in government highlights the important role of serving the public good. As a result, much of my current work builds on many years of hard work and dedication of folks who have served before me. It is important to me to embrace my role as public servant, put the final touches on longtime projects, and recognize the great honor of laying the groundwork for future public servants like the projects mentioned above. I am proud to see how government can deliver for its constituents and proud of the daily role I play in helping government work for the people of King

County.

Prior to working for King County Council, I served as a field organizer for King County Executive Dow Constantine's 2009 campaign. I am very proud of my work to mobilize the vote in the critical swing areas of East King County to help elect Dow Constantine as King County Executive. My work on Dow's campaign allowed me to highlight my skills as a public orator, communicator, and listener.

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.

Since I was a child, I have been active in my faith community. I am a member of the St. Joseph Parish, a volunteer with the church and serve as a Eucharist Minister and Lector at Sunday Mass. Through the St. Joseph Parish, I am engaged in numerous service projects with the Youth Adult Ministry and have had the opportunity to help other communities and countries. In high school, I made three consecutive trips to Mexico to participate in building single-family dwellings for homeless families.

I also serve as a Committee Member of the Essentials Group and served in the deliberative body that oversees the day-to-day operations of the group. This group's main outreach revolves around at-risk youth who have been admitted to local substance abuse rehabilitation facilities.

In college, I received the a Metro-Service Grant through the Foley Center at Spring Hill College which provided scholarship for weekly tutoring of youths in low income areas. I witnessed firsthand generational poverty and gained knowledge of overcoming the marginalization of the poor by raising the level of community involvement in the educational system.

I also have participated in Duwamish Alive! clean up activities throughout the 34th district. Most recently, I participated, as part of a team, at Roxhill Bog where we eliminated invasive non-native species that hinder the habitat's recovery.

Overall, I believe that an elected official must be a reflection of the common values of their respective district. My experience highlights these values- volunteerism that makes our neighborhoods, schools, and environment better, stronger, and safer for the communities they serve.

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

Just as the title would indicate, I believe that the most important duty of a State Representative is to *represent the people in one's Legislative District*. To do this, a State Representative must connect with the community, listen to the issues, think critically about the problem, and develop innovative solutions to address our biggest challenges.

In order to represent the community well, a State Representative must also assist people with constituent services. Assisting your constituents with issues or problems they might be experiencing with different government agencies is exactly the role of an elected official. The onus is on the elected official to demonstrate how government can help improve people's lives or help those in need. An effective elected official helps their constituents cut through government red tape or connects them with an agency official who expedites issues towards resolution.

In essence, a successful and effective elected official responds to their constituent's needs in whatever form that takes. The hallmark of developing a key understanding of the constituency's needs is by listening. Individual citizens, key civic leaders, and stakeholder groups all provide the context for which policy could be developed or expanded and they should be included in the legislative process. Many legislators today are simply not known for listening or collaborating or being inclusive with their communities. I disagree with that style and have seen how government works best when its constituencies are involved, active, and have faith in the process. With the involvement of our constituents, we can move forward with legislation that ensures that each taxpayer dollar is spent on services that will help constituents – like alternative modes of transportation, improving our education system, protecting our environment, and public safety.