

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
Raymond	E.	Carter

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

House of Representatives, 34th Legislative District, Position #1

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

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

4 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

40 years, though not consecutively

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party: **Reluctantly Republican**

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Ray Carter

Address: 5946 38th Ave SW

City/State/Zip: Seattle, WA 98126

Campaign Phone: 206 923 0510

Campaign Fax: _____

Campaign E-mail: info@reluctantlyrepublican.org

Campaign Website: http://reluctantlyrepublican.org

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)

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

Office Title	Year of Run

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'm a bad Republican and a worse Democrat. Much too liberal on some issues for many in the GOP, and far too conservative on many others for the Democrats, I hold my quiet little doubts that even the Libertarians would gladly have me.

I'm running because I believe that, win or lose, it's important that voters have a choice. That every uncontested election, every race without a candidate at all, corrodes our democracy and our rights just a tiny bit. A tiny, cumulative, bit...the sort that stacks up over time, until folks stop caring and stop believing that their vote makes a difference.

I'm running because our states current leadership has led us into a fiscal pit and seems more interested political strategy and self-preservation than fixing the problem. Because for fiscal, security, and practical reasons we need to get serious about moving at least the state fleet to non-oil driven vehicles. Because the State has no business dictating who marries who as long as all involved are fully informed consenting and competent adults – its sole role is solemnizing arrangements, and ensuring that fraud is kept to a minimum.

I'm running to support dismantling the Washington State Liquor Control Board and treating citizens like the adults they are. To help develop a sustainable balance between pure environmentalism and a sustainable economy, and between both and public safety. I'm running to support reducing the intrusiveness of state and local government in the lives of private individuals.

I'm running to find a way to insulate Higher Education from the whimsy of party politics, and to enhance their responsiveness to the will of the citizenry. To support and enhance the cleanest and most transparent possible elections.

I won't be spending vast sums of money on this race. There will be a donation button on the website but past some rather minimal campaign expenses, donations will either be returned or donated to charity (West Seattle Food Bank?). I won't be out doing much glad-handing or baby-kissing. And I won't be filling your mail boxes or email with spam. It's about respect.

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

A combination of passion and diplomacy for the issues and for civil rights – all of them, and not just for the folks we like or the rights that are politically convenient...and I'm told I'm fairly determined about things.

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.

In 1996, as co-chair of Pride, I was able (with the help of others) to introduce the concept of sponsorship as a funding mechanism to the now-defunct organizers, the Freedom Day Committee and that same year lead the event to a \$10,000 surplus after donations to community groups. In the organization of the day, corporate entities were involved with deep suspicion – through a combination of persuasion, compromise, and other tactics we were able to crack open the door to a more stable funding source for the event.

More recently, at my current employer I've introduced a number of modern technologies and practices that have increased sales and created efficiencies in a stressed business environment, and to some extent shifted the business philosophy more in the direction of a long term view.

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.

Parliamentary Procedure -

1980(?)-1987 Beginning at age 15, involvement in the Masonic youth organization DeMolay, which operates using classical Roberts Rules. Ascended within the organization to a "District Governor" role, and finished my involvement sitting as scribe/parliamentarian.

1983 Participated as a public speaker in hearings leading to the defeat of the Auburn School District of that era attempting to reverse the long-standing tradition of holding High School Graduations on Troy Field.

1996 having been drawn into Pride organizing/politics in Seattle in 1995, elected co-chair in 1996 in a semi-parliamentary organization. Led meetings, supported others in leading sub-committee meetings, acted as primary interface of the event with City of Seattle and outside organizations. Public speaking, diplomacy, and parliamentary process all loomed large in this role.

1997 Successfully opposed attempt by NAMBLA to infiltrate Seattle Pride events using public speaking, letters to the editor, fiscal protests, and coalition-building to win the day.

2003 NSCC ended up drawn back into Student Gov't w/ intent of slashing student fee's. Ended up more parliamentary advisor and confidante than anything.

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

The duties of a member of the WA House of Representatives are to introduce, deliberate upon, and either vote for or against a wide variety of legislation introduced in either the State House or Senate. House and Senate members serve both to seek out improved circumstances for Washington residents, and prevent diminished circumstances – their primary tools are legislation and on rare occasions, public opinion.

Committee service can be described as a set of secondary tools intended, and used with greater or lesser success, to filter the wheat from the chaff of legislative ingenuity before proposed legislation hits the full floor of either of the legislative bodies comprising the Legislature.