

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
Shawn	C	Sullivan

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

Washington State House of Representatives, 30th District, Pos. 1

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

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

3 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

7 years

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

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

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Friends for Shawn Sullivan

Address: P.O. Box 24747

City/State/Zip: Federal Way, WA 98093

Campaign Phone: (253) 335-4948

Campaign Fax: _____

Campaign E-mail: votesullivan@gmail.com

Campaign Website: www.voteshawnsullivan.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)

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 am running for the Washington State House of Representatives in the 30th District because business as usual is not good enough. Our economy is fragile, voters like myself want a say in how we are taxed, schools are not properly funded and healthcare is a mess. With all of that in mind, recent decisions by the state House and Senate have failed to represent our thoughts, our needs, and our values. We want a say in taxation. Our economy needs stimulation, not further burdens. We have a right to have our voice heard before decisions are made to our health care. The bottom line is, we need better representation, and we need it now.

I will bring accountability and common sense to a government that has lost touch with our communities. We all work hard to earn our paychecks and we have to live within our means. Why should government be any different? I will not cut funding to our schools, our police, our fire departments or to transportation. At the same time I will ask for more accountability. I will give the state auditor more power to force agencies to abide by his recommendations. I will reform Employment Security and the Workers' Compensation system. I will not reduce the benefit amount, as we all have family members who need the help, but I will reform other costly aspects to reduce costs on businesses.

I will use the Priorities of Government Process. It worked in 2003 with bipartisan support, but our current legislative body did not mention using it in 2010 when they had the majority. I will work to support voter initiatives overturned by our elected officials, because they reflect what voters want to see in government.

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

I am a hard working innovator. I understand that I do not know everything, but I am very adept at taking a problem, learning the cause, and providing alternative solutions that work. I am not afraid of failure and recognize that programs fail. When programs fail, I will work tirelessly to change the process and find sustainable solutions. I will not continue to fund a program that does not work, unless it can work with significant changes that have demonstrable results.

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 2007, I was approached by Dave Sabey and asked was asked about my skills and training in the latest in high definition technology. When I responded that I had very little training, he gave me control of the technology platform at Seattle Science Foundation (SSF). I had a short time to learn the entire system and make it work seamlessly.

I took his challenge head on and four months later I understood the system. I knew how to repair it and integrate new products that were not designed to work together. I created innovative solutions to very complex problems, and in six months we were able to do things we did not imagine possible.

We successfully tested a prototype uncompressed high definition video conferencing unit from SSF to Japan. We taught doctors in Vladivostok Russia new non invasive heart surgery techniques. After a year at SSF, I was able to teach the system to new staff and returned to Sabey to work on new special projects.

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.

My current activities that directly apply to the position I seek include being a Big Brother in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Program, my Masters in Public Administration from the University of Washington, my role as the Coordinator of Technical Operations for Seattle Science Foundation, and Communications Manager for the state chamber of commerce.

As a Big Brother I have insight into the needs of underprivileged children in our school system. More than half of our local students receive state assistance for school lunches.

My Executive MPA program at the University of Washington directly applies to the position I seek. We are currently working on how to change the process to inspire efficiency in government agencies. I have a sound foundation on state budgets and how they are implemented and created. I have learned about personal and mission integrity, and how it is an integral part of representing people as an elected official.

As a Coordinator of Technical Operations I gained knowledge of the health care system. I partnered with doctors, technicians and IT professionals to teach physicians around the world new procedures and techniques using high definition videography.

While employed at the state chamber of commerce, I interviewed hundreds of small business owners around the state. I understand their challenges with state government. I know the frustration around Labor and Industries and Employment Security. I know where the changes need to start and how to make the system work better for employees and employers.

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

The duties of the Washington State House of Representatives are to provide services the private sector is not in the position to provide. This includes education, transportation, police, fire and some human services. It is the primary duty of the state to provide basic education and that should be the first priority. Education is the backbone of a strong economy. It is also the state's responsibility to make sure our citizens are protected and provide adequate transportation infrastructure.