

# **King County Police Officers Guild**

## ***Candidate Endorsement Packet***

**This packet includes the following:\*\***

PAC Candidate Letter

PAC Candidate Questionnaire

PAC Potential Interview Topics

\*\*If you find any of these items missing, please e-mail the Guild office immediately for a replacement copy

Dear Candidate;

Thank you for your interest in obtaining an endorsement from the King County Police Officers Guild and requesting this Candidate Endorsement Packet.

You will likely find our interview and selection process more rigorous than some others you may have encountered. The reason for this is simply that we know why our endorsement is sought and what it means to both the candidate and to the voting public. For better or for worse, the public looks upon an endorsement by a law enforcement related organization to be law enforcement's seal of approval for the candidate or issue endorsed. The assumption is made that law enforcement has looked carefully at the candidate, found their personal background to be exemplary, and their record on issues of interest to law enforcement to be consistently pro "law and order." Candidates know that absent a major hot button issue or a decidedly partisan race, the law enforcement endorsement is as good as gold. So, we at the Guild, feel a tremendous responsibility, not only to our members and their collective interest, but to the voting public who rely upon our word when making their personal voting decisions.

We also take seriously the potential damage to the reputation of our Guild should someone we endorsed fail in their moral duty to the public. We acknowledge and understand that there will be occasional instances where a candidate and the Guild will have differing opinions on an issue. The Guild does not require candidates to march in lockstep with it on every issue, only that they conduct their affairs in an exemplary fashion and be with us on the issues that are truly vital to law enforcement in general and to the Guild in particular.

If you are a first time candidate, have not previously received our endorsement, or are running for a different office than the one for which you previously received our endorsement, you will need to complete a new Candidate Questionnaire and go through the personal interview process with our PAC.

If you are running as an incumbent and we endorsed you for that office, you need only send us a letter outlining your record as it relates to issues of mutual concern and requesting our endorsement. Our PAC will then review the request and either make a recommendation based upon it or ask for additional documentation and / or an interview.

Once you have returned the completed PAC Candidate Questionnaire to us, you will need to e-mail Kim Eggert at [kim@kcpog.com](mailto:kim@kcpog.com) to schedule an appointment for a PAC Interview. We need to receive the questionnaire at least ten days prior to the interview in order to give us time to distribute copies of it to our PAC members and to give them time to review it.

Included in this candidate endorsement packet is a Potential Interview Topics and Questions form with which you will want to familiarize yourself prior to the actual interview. Usually we try to schedule these interviews during the early afternoon hours of the second Wednesday of the month, just prior to our regular Board of Directors meeting at the Guild office in Seattle. If these times won't work for you we will try to schedule an alternative time.

During the interview, PAC members will query you about your responses to the items on the questionnaire, address some of the topics mentioned in the candidate packet, and explore other issues including some not directly related to law enforcement. Once the interviews are completed, the members of the PAC will review and evaluate each candidate. It will then, according to its policies and procedures, decide upon a recommendation for an endorsement. Any recommended endorsement will then be announced as an agenda item for the next regularly scheduled General Membership meeting (usually scheduled for the last Wednesday afternoon of the month.) A vote of the members in attendance at that meeting will determine if an endorsement for an office will be made and, if so, which candidate will receive it. We will then notify all of the candidates by e-mail of the membership's decision. An official endorsement letter will then be mailed to the successful candidate allowing them to announce our endorsement and use it in their campaign literature.

Finally, I would like to mention that we would prefer to conduct most communications with the candidates regarding their campaigns via e-mail. This prevents us having to play phone tag, lessens the potential of dropped telephone messages, reduces the confusion that naturally occurs when we are involved with multiple races, and allows us to better track where in the process the PAC is with regard to the endorsements of individual candidates.

Thank you again for your interest in our endorsement process. If you have any questions please e-mail us at the Guild office at [kim@kcpog.com](mailto:kim@kcpog.com)

Sincerely,

Kim Eggert  
Executive Secretary

**King County Police Officers Guild**  
**Political Action Committee**  
*Candidate Questionnaire*

As mentioned in the attached cover letter, this questionnaire is part of your candidate packet. Please complete it carefully and thoroughly. You may attach your typed responses to the questions as necessary. It is important that you return the completed questionnaire to the Guild office as soon as possible so that an interview can be scheduled (if timeliness is of the essence and you feel you do not have time to mail back the questionnaire, you may either drop it off at the Guild office or send it to us as a Word document attachment via email).

1. Full Name
2. Office/Position sought
3. Official name of campaign
4. Campaign address
5. Campaign email address
6. Campaign phone number
7. Other phone numbers
8. Election date(s) – Primary and or General Election(s)
9. Is your race partisan or non-partisan?
10. Political party affiliation
11. Current office held
12. Previous elective offices
13. Current employer other than elective office, if any.
14. Past work experience.
15. Military experience
16. Educational background
17. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or convicted of any misdemeanor or felony in this state or any other state? If so, please give a detailed explanation. This includes traffic related misdemeanors.
18. Affiliations with clubs or other organizations
19. Experience directly relating to the office you are seeking.
20. Do you have any management training or experience? If so, please elaborate.
21. Your personal goals
22. Your political goals
23. Why are you seeking this office?
24. What is the platform of your election?
25. What makes you the most qualified person for this office?

# **King County Police Officers Guild**

## **Political Action Committee**

### ***Potential Topics for Discussion at Interview:***

As mentioned in the cover letter, the PAC will review your preliminary questionnaire and then ask follow-up questions regarding your responses. Members will then ask additional questions in an effort to explore your interest and depth of knowledge in topics important to our Guild. The following are typical of those topics / questions covered during the interview:

1. Why should the King County Police Officers Guild endorse or continue to endorse you for this office? How has your voting record been with regard to supporting law enforcement? What are your justifications for voting the way in which you did?
2. What specifically have you done for law enforcement on key issues (legislation, drafting/proposing of bills, ordinances, budget issues, legal decisions, etc.)?
3. What do you see as the major hurdles for law enforcement for this year and beyond? How do you feel law enforcement in this region has changed or evolved over the past 15 to 20 years?
4. If elected, how do you feel you can affect the major issues surrounding your office? What are your political/personal goals? How do you plan to navigate and manage the bureaucracy in order to accomplish your goals (this does not have to be specifically related to law enforcement issues)?
5. By obtaining our endorsement, what do you hope to say to the voters? Why is this important and how does this support your election platform?
6. What leadership (military, management, previous jobs or offices) have you had that directly relates to the office with which you are seeking? Please be specific as to how it relates to this office.
7. What type of formal management, leadership training (military), or education, if any, do you have? Please be specific as to how this training will apply to the office with which you are seeking.
8. When faced with budgetary shortfalls, how would you make cuts? What criteria are used to calculate or justify making those cuts? What services do you believe government is obligated to provide over and above other services? Do you believe in across the board cuts? Why?
9. What does leadership mean to you? What is the difference between a leader, a manager and a politician? How do you see yourself; as a leader, manager or politician?

10. Do you have any additional comments, concerns, clarifications on responses, or questions for this committee?