

# 2012 Candidate Guide



Published by the Thurston County Auditor's Office, Elections Division  
2000 Lakeridge Dr SW  
Olympia, WA 98502  
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[www.ThurstonVotes.org](http://www.ThurstonVotes.org)



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## Thurston County Auditor

Dear Candidate,

Congratulations on your decision to run for office. The 2012 Candidate Guide will be a useful tool for you to use at every step of your candidacy. It contains filing information, which offices are open and a description of those offices. In addition, key dates, deadlines for the Primary and General Elections, information and rules for your inclusion in the local voters' pamphlet are included.

Candidate filing week is the first in a series of key dates. Filing week begins the week of May 14 and runs through May 18, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in our office. For your convenience, online filing is available the same week from 9:00 a.m. on May 14 through 4:00 p.m. on May 18. Mail-in filing is also available. See page 5 for more information.

Several things are needed when you decide to file for office. You need to complete a declaration of candidacy form and include the appropriate filing fee when filing for office. We also suggest you submit your voters' pamphlet candidate statement and photo at the time of filing.

Candidates seeking partisan office may designate a party preference at the time of filing. This party designation cannot be changed between the Primary and General Elections. Candidates for partisan offices will appear on the Primary Election ballot and the top two vote getters will move to the General Election. Non-judicial candidates for nonpartisan offices will only appear on the General Election ballot unless more than two candidates file for an office. In this case, the top two vote getters move to the General Election ballot. Judicial races have different rules for appearance on the Primary or General election ballot. See State Judicial Office qualifications on page 9 for more information.

We have a variety of information you will find useful, including precinct maps, voter registration reports: precinct walking lists, voter turnout information, elections results by precinct, and more. See page 19 for a sample form to order voter information. You can also call our office at (360) 786-5408 for further information.

We applaud your decision to run for office. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions concerning the election process.

Sincerely,

Ken Raske  
Chief Deputy Auditor



## 2012 Primary Election - Key Dates

Last Day to File Resolutions	May 11, 2012	(RCW 29A.04.330)
Candidate Filing	May 14-18, 2012	(See page 5)
Candidate Statements/Photos Due	<b>May 21, 2012</b>	(If in the primary)
Candidate Withdrawal Deadline	May 21, 2012	(RCW 29A.24.131)
Voter Registration Deadlines		(RCW 29A.08.140)
Last day to: register by mail/online	July 9, 2012	
update any registration	July 9, 2012	
register in person	July 30, 2012	(Only voters not registered in WA)
Primary Military/Overseas Ballots Mailed	June 22, 2012	(RCW 29A.40.070)
Local Voters' Pamphlet Delivered	July 12-14, 2012	
Primary Ballots Available	July 18, 2012	(RCW 29A.40.070)
Primary Ballots Delivered	July 19-21, 2012	
Last Day to File as Write-in Candidate	July 20, 2012	(RCW 29A.24.311)
Primary Election Day	August 7, 2012	(RCW 29A.04.311)
County Certifies Primary Election	August 21, 2012	(RCW 29A.60.190)
State Certifies Primary Election	August 24, 2012	(RCW 29A.60.240)

## 2012 General Election - Key Dates

Candidate Statements/Photos Due	June 22, 2012	(If not in primary)
Last Day to File Resolutions	August 7, 2012	(RCW 29A.04.330)
Revised Candidate Statements - Only	August 15, 2012	(Top Two from Primary)
Voter Registration Deadlines		(RCW 29A.08.140)
Last day to: register by mail	October 6, 2012	
update/registration online	October 8, 2012	
register in person	October 29, 2012	(Only voters not registered in WA)
General Military/Overseas Ballots Mailed	September 21, 2012	(RCW 29A.40.070)
Local Voters' Pamphlet Delivered	October 11-13, 2012	
General Ballots Available	October 17, 2012	(RCW 29A.40.070)
General Ballots Delivered	October 18-20, 2012	
Last Day to File as Write-in Candidate	October 19, 2012	(RCW 29A.24.311)
General Election Day	November 6, 2012	(RCW 29A.04.330)
County Certifies General Election	November 27, 2012	(RCW 29A.60.190)
State Certifies General Election	December 6, 2012	(RCW 29A.60.250)

# Filing for Office

## Declaration of Candidacy (RCW 29A.20.021, RCW 29A.24)

All candidates are required to submit a Declaration of Candidacy to the appropriate filing officer when filing for public office. The filing officer is the person with whom a candidate files for office or withdraws from candidacy.

A person filing a Declaration of Candidacy for an office shall, at the time of filing, possess the qualifications specified by law for persons who may be elected to the office. The candidate must be properly registered to vote in the district represented by the office at the time of filing. The officer with whom declarations are filed shall review each declaration for compliance with this law.

At the time of filing, a candidate's voter registration data will be checked. If there are discrepancies, corrections to the voter registration file must be completed before the Declaration of Candidacy can be accepted. When filing for an office, candidates are not permitted to use a nickname that denotes a present or past occupation, military rank, the candidate's position on issues or political affiliation, or use a nickname designed to intentionally mislead voters. A candidate's last name must match the last name under which he/she is registered to vote.

A filing fee equal to 1% of the salary of the position for which a person is filing is required. If the annual salary is \$1,000 or less, the fee is \$10.00. If there is no salary, then there is no filing fee. No refunds will be given (RCW 29A.24.091, 131). Please see RCW 29A.24.091, 101, 111, RCW 29A.84.261 for filing petition requirements, procedures, and penalties for improper signing.

## Where and When to File Declarations of Candidacy (RCW 29A.24.070)

Statewide offices, judicial and legislative offices which have districts comprised of voters from two or more counties file with the Secretary of State's Office go to: Legislative Office Building, Olympia, WA 98504

### In Person (May 14 - 18, 2012, M - F 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.)

Candidates who file with the Thurston County Auditor's Office, go to 2000 Lakeridge Dr SW, Building One, Room 106, Olympia, WA 98502.

### Online (May 14 - 18, 2012)

For filing with Thurston County Auditor's Office go to: [www.ThurstonVotes.org](http://www.ThurstonVotes.org) beginning Monday, May 14 at 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Friday, May 18.

### Mail-in (April 30 - May 18, 2012)

Any candidate may mail in a Declaration of Candidacy for an office starting April 30. Any declaration received prior to that day will be returned and the candidate shall be permitted to re-submit his/her declaration during the filing period. Postmarks are not accepted. All mail-in declarations must include the filing fee, if applicable. (RCW 29A.24.081)

### Declared Write-in Candidates (RCW 29A.24.311)

Declared write-in candidates will be charged a filing fee, if applicable, and will be required to file a Declaration of Candidacy no later than eighteen days before the Primary or General Election.

Votes for write-in candidates are tabulated and reported as a combined number for each race. Votes are tabulated for each candidate who files a write-in declaration of candidacy. Other write-ins are tabulated only if the votes will change the outcome of the race.

## 2012 Filing Calendar

Filing for office by mail	April 30 - May 18	(RCW 29A.24.081)
Filing for office in person	May 14 - May 18	(RCW 29A.24.040, 50)
Lot Drawing	May 18, 5:00 pm	(RCW 29A.36.131)
Last day for candidate withdrawal	May 21	(RCW 29A.24.131)
Last day to file as declared write-in candidate for Primary	July 20	(RCW 29A.24.311)
Last day to file as declared write-in candidate for General	October 19	(RCW 29A.24.311)

# Offices Subject to Election 2012

<b>Federal Offices*</b>	<b>Incumbent</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Filing Fee</b>
U.S. Senator	Maria Cantwell (D)	6 Year	\$1,740.00
U.S. Representative District 3	Jaime Herrera Beutler (R)	2 Year	\$1,740.00
U.S. Representative District 10	New District	2 Year	\$1,740.00
<b>State Offices*</b>	<b>Incumbent</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Filing Fee</b>
Governor	Christine Gregoire (D)	4 Year	\$1,668.91
Lt. Governor	Brad Owen (D)	4 Year	\$ 939.48
Secretary of State	Sam Reed (R)	4 Year	\$1,169.50
State Treasurer	Jim McIntire (D)	4 Year	\$1,169.50
State Auditor	Brian Sonntag (D)	4 Year	\$1,169.50
Attorney General	Rob McKenna (R)	4 Year	\$1,517.18
Commissioner of Public Lands	Peter J. Goldmark (D)	4 Year	\$1,216.18
Superintendent of Public Inst.	Randy Dorn (NP)	4 Year	\$1,216.18
Insurance Commissioner	Mike Kreidler (D)	4 Year	\$1,169.50
<b>State Legislature</b>	<b>Incumbent</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Filing Fee</b>
<b>2nd Legislative District*</b>			<b>\$ 421.06</b>
Senator	Randi Becker (R)	4 Year	
Representative Position 1	Jim McCune (R)	2 Year	
Representative Position 2	J. T. Wilcox (R)	2 Year	
<b>20th Legislative District*</b>			<b>\$ 421.06</b>
Senator	Dan Swecker (R)	4 Year	
Representative Position 1	Richard DeBolt (R)	2 Year	
Representative Position 2	Gary Alexander (R)	2 Year	
<b>22th Legislative District</b>			<b>\$ 421.06</b>
Senator	Karen Fraser (D)	4 Year	
Representative Position 1	Chris Reykdal (D)	2 Year	
Representative Position 2	Sam Hunt (D)	2 Year	
<b>35th Legislative District*</b>			<b>\$ 421.06</b>
Representative Position 1	Kathy Haigh(D)	2 Year	
Representative Position 2	Fred Finn(D)	2 Year	
<b>State Judicial</b>	<b>Incumbent</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Filing Fee</b>
<b>State Supreme Court*</b>	<b>All Nonpartisan</b>		<b>\$1,641.21</b>
Justice Position 2	Susan Owens	6 Year	
Justice Position 8	Steven C. Gonzales	Short + 6 Year	
Justice Position 9	Tom Chambers	6 Year	

\* Files with the Secretary of State's Office

No asterisk - Files at the Thurston County Auditor's Office



# Offices Subject to Election 2012

<b>Court of Appeals, Div. 2, District 2*</b> Judge Position 2	<b>Incumbent Nonpartisan</b> David H. Armstrong	<b>Term</b> 6 Year	<b>Filing Fee</b> \$1,563.28
<b>Thurston County County Commissioner</b> District 1 District 2	<b>Incumbent</b> Cathy Wolfe (D) Sandra Romero (D)	<b>Term</b> 4 Year 4 Year	<b>Filing Fee</b> \$1,052.76
<b>Thurston County Superior Court Judge</b> Position 1 Position 2 Position 3 Position 4 Position 5 Position 6 Position 7 Position 8	<b>Incumbent All Nonpartisan</b> Chris Wickham Paula Casey Carol Murphy Tom McPhee Lisa L. Sutton James Dixon Gary R. Tabor Anne Hirsch	<b>Term</b> 4 Year 4 Year 4 Year 4 Year 4 Year Short + 4 Year 4 Year 4 Year	<b>Filing Fee</b> \$1,488.32
<b>Public Utilities District Commissioner</b> District 1	<b>Incumbent Nonpartisan</b> Paul J. Pickett	<b>Term</b> Short + 6 Year	<b>Filing Fee</b> \$ 156.00

\* Files with the Secretary of State's Office

No asterisk - Files at the Thurston County Auditor's Office



## Major Political Party Information

### Thurston County Democratic Party

Chair: Stew Henderson

PO Box 164

Olympia, WA 98507

[www.thurstondemocrats.org](http://www.thurstondemocrats.org)

Email: [info@thurstondemocrats.org](mailto:info@thurstondemocrats.org)

(360) 956-0235

### Thurston County Republican Party

Chair: John O'Callahan

PO Box 275

Olympia, WA 98507

[www.thurstonrepublicans.com](http://www.thurstonrepublicans.com)

Email: [lincoln896@comcast.net](mailto:lincoln896@comcast.net)

(360) 412-8087

# Position Descriptions/Qualifications

## Congressional Offices

Congressional offices are partisan. Candidates will be required to declare a political party preference or choose no party preference when filing for partisan offices. Political party preference will appear on the ballot next to each candidate's name.

**Senator:** A candidate must be at least 30 years old, a citizen of the United States for nine (9) years, and a resident of the state which he/she represents.

(U.S. Const., Art. 1, Sec. 3)

**Representative:** A candidate must be at least 25 years old, a citizen of the United States for seven (7) years, and a resident of the state which he/she represents. (U.S. Const.,

Art. 1, Sec. 2)

## State Executive

All candidates must be registered voters of the state. All state executive offices except for the Superintendent of Public Instruction office are partisan. Candidates will be required to declare a political party preference or choose no party preference when filing for partisan offices. Political party preference will appear on the ballot next to each candidate's name.

**Governor:** The Governor is the chief executive officer of the state. The Governor makes appointments for hundreds of positions, including directors of states agencies. The Governor reports annually to the Legislature on affairs of the state and submits a budget recommendation. The Governor may veto legislation passed by the legislature.

**Lieutenant Governor:** The Lt. Governor is elected independently of the Governor. The Lt. Governor acts as Governor if the Governor is unable to perform the official duties of the office and is first in line of succession if the Office of the Governor becomes vacant. The Lt. Governor is the presiding officer of the state Senate.

**Secretary of State:** The Secretary of State is the state's chief elections officer, chief corporation officer, and oversees the state Archives and Library. The Secretary of State is second in line of succession for the Office of the Governor.

**Treasurer:** As the state's fiscal officer, the state Treasurer's principal duties are to manage and disperse all funds and accounts, be responsible for the safekeeping and interest on all state investments, account for and make payments of interest and principal on all state bonded indebtedness, and maintain a statewide revenue collection system for the purpose of expediting the deposit of state funds into the Treasury.

**Auditor:** The state Auditor conducts independent financial, accountability, and performance audits of 2600 Washington state and local governments. The state Auditor conducts investigations of state employee whistleblower assertions about state agencies and also investigates reports of fraud, waste, and abuse received through the citizen hotline.

**Attorney General:** The Attorney General serves as legal counsel to the Governor, members of the Legislature, state officials, and more than 230 state agencies, boards and commissions, colleges and universities. The office also represents the various administrative agencies and schools in court or administrative hearings. The Office of the Attorney General enforces consumer protection statutes.

**Superintendent of Public Instruction:** As head of the state educational agency and chief executive officer of the state Board of Education; the Superintendent is responsible for the administration of the state kindergarten through twelfth grade education program. The regulatory duties of the office include certification of teaching personnel, approval and accreditation of programs, and apportionment of state and local funds.

**Commissioner of Public Lands:** The Commissioner of Public Lands is the head of the Department of Natural Resources, overseeing the management of 5 million acres of forest, agricultural, range, tidal, and shore lands of the state.

**Insurance Commissioner:** The Office of the Insurance Commissioner regulates insurance companies doing business in Washington, licenses agents and brokers, reviews policies and rates, examines the operations and finances of insurers, and handles inquiries and complaints from the public.

## State Legislature

A candidate must be a registered voter of the legislative district from which he or she is elected.

(WA Const., Art. II, Sec. 7)

Legislative offices are partisan. Candidates will be required to declare a political party preference or choose no party preference when filing for partisan offices. Political party preference will appear on the ballot next to each candidate's name.

**State Senator:** A senator's term is four years. The Senate is made up of 49 members, one from each legislative district in the state. One-half the membership of the Senate is up for election each even-numbered year.

# Position Descriptions/Qualifications

The Senate's only exclusive duty is to confirm appointments made by the Governor. During legislative sessions, the Legislature is called upon to enact or reject legislation affecting public policy in the state, provide for the levy and collection of taxes and other revenue to support state government and assist local government, and appropriate funds for these purposes.

**State Representative:** A representative's term is two years. The House is made up of 98 members, two from each legislative district in the state. The total membership of the House is up for election each even-numbered year. During legislative sessions, the Legislature is called upon to enact or reject legislation affecting public policy in the state, provide for the levy and collection of taxes and other revenue to support state government and assist local government, and appropriate funds for these purposes.

## State Judicial Offices

Judges in Washington are selected in nonpartisan elections. Candidates must be a member of the Washington State Bar. The Supreme Court Justices and Court of Appeals Judges follow the same ballot rules. Both offices will appear on both the Primary and General Election ballot irrespective of the number of candidates filed. On the Primary ballot, candidate order is determined by lot drawing. If any candidate receives a majority (50% + 1) of votes in the Primary Election, his/her name appears alone and unopposed on the General Election ballot. If no candidate receives a majority of votes in the Primary, then the top two candidates will appear on the General Election ballot in the order of most votes received.

**Supreme Court Justice:** Nine justices sit on the state Supreme Court, each serving six-year terms. Three justices are up for election every two years and are voted on statewide. The Supreme Court hears appeals and decides on cases from the Court of Appeals and other lower courts.

**Court of Appeals Judge:** A total of 22 judges serve the court in three, multi-county divisions headquartered in Seattle, Tacoma, and Spokane. Each division is broken up into three districts. Court of Appeals Judges serve six-year terms. Court of Appeals hear and decide on most of the appeals that come up from the Superior Courts.

**Superior Court Judge:** The office will appear on the Primary ballot if two or more candidates file for the position. If only one candidate files for the position of Superior Court Judge, he/she will be deemed elected and issued a Certificate of Election. If two or more candidates file for the position and one receives a majority (50% + 1) of

the votes at the Primary Election, he or she will be deemed elected and issued a Certificate of Election. If no one receives a majority (50% + 1) of the votes in the Primary Election, only the top two vote-getters will advance to the General Election ballot.

Superior Courts are organized by county into 31 judicial districts. Superior Court Judges serve four-year terms. Superior Courts hear felony criminal cases, civil matters, divorces, juvenile cases, and appeals from lower-level courts.

## Thurston County Commissioner:

The County Commission is composed of 3 members from 3 districts, who serve four-year terms. The primary purpose of the board is to serve as legislative authority for county government. The commission is responsible for county policies relating to public safety and health, community development, human services, environmental protection, solid waste, county finance, transportation, parks and recreation, and other state directed duties.

Candidates must live within districts 1 or 2 and be registered voters at the time of filing. These positions are voted on by District 1 and 2 in the Primary Election, and countywide in the General Election. (RCW 29A.20.021, RCW 36.32.040, 050)

The County Commissioner office is partisan. Candidates will be required to declare a political party preference or choose no party preference when filing for partisan offices. Political party preference will appear on the ballot next to each candidate's name. The Commissioner office will be on the Primary Election ballot; candidate order is determined by lot drawing. The top two candidates appear on the General Election ballot in the order of most votes received. (RCW 29A.36.170)

**Public Utility District:** The Public Utility District (PUD) has 3 elected commissioners serving six-year terms. The PUD provides utility services and water planning to the customers of the approximately 150 water systems it currently owns and operates. The PUD is empowered to develop and operate any facilities necessary for the distribution of its utility services.

Candidates must be registered voters in District 1 at the time of filing. This is a nonpartisan position and the office only appears on the Primary Election ballot if more than two candidates file for the position. If there is a Primary Election only voters within District 1 will be allowed to vote for the candidates. In the General Election, all voters in the county will be allowed to vote.

# Thurston County Local Voters' Pamphlet - Rules for Candidate Statements/Photos

## Thurston County Local Voters' Pamphlet Administrative Rules

### F. Rules for Candidate Statements and Photographs

#### Deadline for Submission of Statements and Photographs

Any candidate who wishes to have a statement and photograph appear in the Thurston County Local Voters' Pamphlet must submit such material to the Thurston County Auditor's Office. Statements and photographs are due the Monday following filing week. All material will be date stamped upon receipt.

Candidates advancing from the Primary Election to the General Election shall have an opportunity to revise their statements for inclusion in the General Election Local Voters' Pamphlet. Photos used in the Primary Election Local Voters' Pamphlet will remain the same for the General Election Local Voters' Pamphlet

Deadlines for statement revisions shall be established by the County Auditor's Office and provided to candidates at the time of filing. Candidates who are defeated in the Primary Election shall not have their statements or photographs appear in the General Election Local Voters' Pamphlet.

#### Statement Length

Statements submitted by candidates shall be limited to no more than 150 words and no more than four (4) paragraphs.

The Auditor's Office may attempt to contact candidates to shorten their statements, if time permits, but is under no obligation to do so.

There will be no exception to these limitations.

#### Statement Submission Standards

In order to maintain standards of readability and to ensure accuracy in typesetting this material for publication, the following standards have been established:

1. Candidate statements shall be typed.
2. Contact information is limited to either the candidate or the candidate's campaign information: phone number, physical or mailing address, email address, and/or web address. Facebook, twitter addresses or multiple websites or email addresses will not be allowed due to space limitations. The candidate's campaign contact information should be clearly indicated on the candidate's statement. If the candidate does not provide contact information with his or her statement, the Auditor's Office will use the contact information provided on his or her candidate filing paperwork.
3. The material shall be set in paragraph style. Due to pamphlet space limitations, lists of items which require multiple indentations, including bullets, are not permitted. Items which are submitted as multiple indents will be combined by the Auditor's Office in line format with semicolons separating each item.
4. Words, phrases, and sentences which are emphasized by underlining, capital letters, or bold print will be typeset in italics. We recommend candidates avoid such emphasis, as it reduces the readability of the statement.

# Thurston County Local Voters' Pamphlet - Rules for Candidate Statements/Photos

## Statement Content

The Auditor's Office shall reject any candidate's statement deemed to be libelous or otherwise inappropriate (see Rejection of Statements in section C). Statements submitted must pertain to the individual candidate and his or her candidacy, the office he or she is seeking, and/or the jurisdiction in which he or she lives. It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure all information contained in his or her statement is true and accurate. The Auditor's Office does not check statements for factual accuracy.

Statement content suggestions: Occupation, education, professional qualifications; why the candidate seeks the office; what ideas the candidate has if elected; length of residence in the county, city, town, or district; additional personal information, and community involvement.

## Proofing of Statements

To ensure maximum accuracy in the publication of candidate statements, the County Auditor shall provide a proof copy of each statement to the candidate prior to publication. It is the responsibility of the candidate to sign off on the proof copy and notify the County Auditor of any corrections or misprints immediately if changes are necessary.

Candidates will not be permitted to amend the content of their original statements after a proof has been provided. Only the correction of incidental errors in spelling, punctuation, or syntax in the original statement or errors in typesetting will be allowed.

## Candidate Photographs

Candidates may submit photographs to be included with their statements. To assure the best possible reproduction, all photographs should follow these guidelines:

1. Digital photographs are preferred in either .jpg, .tiff, or .psd formats. Color photos will be converted to black and white. Digital photographs as part of a Word document or PDF are not acceptable.
2. Hard copy pictures shall be no smaller than 3 x 5 inches or larger than 5 x 7 inches. Digital photos should be no larger than 1124 x 1280 pixels or smaller than 740 x 800 pixels.
3. Limited to the head and shoulders of the candidate (frontal view of the candidate). To achieve best contrast, we recommend that you use a photograph with a light (not white) background. Backgrounds should be neutral, with no buildings, landscape, or props, (e.g., flags, uniforms, or judicial robes). Do not include other persons in your photograph.
4. No more than five years old.
5. Free from any insignia or clothing which designates the candidate's present elected office, or any uniform or insignia of any organization which advocates or teaches racial, religious, or any other type of intolerance.

If candidates wish to receive their photos back after publication, they must notify the Auditor's Office at the time of submission.

# Thurston County Local Voters' Pamphlet - Rules for Candidate Statements/Photos

## Statement and Photograph Rules for Candidates Advancing to the General Election

Candidate photographs used in the Primary Election Local Voters' Pamphlet will also be used in the General Election Local Voters' Pamphlet. Primary statements may be revised by those candidates who move forward to the General Election from the Primary Election. The date for revisions will be defined by the Thurston County Auditor.

## Send Statement and Photograph to:

Thurston County Auditor  
Elections Division  
2000 Lakeridge Dr. SW  
Olympia, WA 98502  
Email: [pamphlet@co.thurston.wa.us](mailto:pamphlet@co.thurston.wa.us)

## Local Voters' Pamphlet Statement Deadlines:

Primary	Monday, May 21	4:30 p.m.
General	Friday, June 22	(Candidates not in Primary)
General	Wed., August 15	(Successful Primary Election Candidates - statements only)



## Important Information on Top 2 Primary:

The Top 2 Primary applies to all partisan offices, US Senate and the House of Representatives, State Legislature, statewide partisan offices, and county partisan offices. For partisan offices where only one or two candidates file for an office there is still a primary, unlike nonpartisan offices where there is ONLY a primary if three or more candidates file for an office. The top two advance to the General Election regardless of party; it is possible for two candidates to be from the same party and both candidates advance to the General Election.

# Political Signs - State and County - Excerpts

## State Sign Classifications

In accordance with Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 468-66-050, classification of signs, political signs are considered a Type 3(d) on-premise sign for which no fee or application is necessary. Temporary political signs are signs which express the property owner's endorsement of a political candidate or ballot issue, with the following restrictions:

- Temporary political campaign signs are limited to a maximum size of thirty-two (32) square feet in area.
- Temporary political campaign signs must be removed within ten (10) days after the election.
- Temporary political campaign signs are subject to all other applicable provisions of Chapter 47.42 RCW and Chapter 468-66 WAC that pertain to Type 3 on-premise signs.

In addition to the above restrictions, the posting of advertising signs within the right-of-way of all state highways is illegal. Accordingly, any sign placed within the right-of-way\* of any state highway will be removed by the Department of Transportation.

A campaign sign cannot be designed in a manner that resembles an official traffic control sign.

\*The road right-of-way includes the paved road and strip of land, usually on either side of the road, that is reserved for shoulders, drainage ditches, sidewalks, traffic signs, electrical traffic signal control boxes, utility lines and future road expansion.

## Thurston County Code Title 20.40.020 General provisions

1. No sign shall protrude over the street right-of-way.
2. No sign shall be erected that interferes with the visibility of traffic control devices or street name signs.
3. Signs may be luminous, reflecting or illuminating, but no sign shall be flashing or oscillating.
4. No sign shall be placed so as to cause visual obstruction of a public right-of-way.
5. All signs shall conform to Washington State statutes or building code, if in effect.

## Thurston County Code Title 20.40.035 - Exempt Signs

The following signs shall be permitted and are exempt from the provisions of this chapter, and shall not be included in the computation of sign size area for regulated signs. This shall not be construed as relieving the owner of the sign from the responsibility of its erection and maintenance and its compliance with any other applicable law or ordinance. Exempt signs are:

15. Political campaign signs advertising a candidate or candidates for public elective office, or a political party, or a sign urging a particular vote on a public issue decided by ballot may be erected on any privately owned lot or parcel, excluding right-of-way. Each sign shall be removed within fifteen (15) days after that election. For a successful candidate in a primary election, the sign may remain until the final election but shall be removed within fifteen (15) days after that election. The candidate or committee for which the sign is displayed shall be responsible for its removal and subject to the penalties as provided in this title.

## Contact Info:

Thurston County Dept. of Roads & Transportation  
9605 Tilley Rd SW  
Olympia, WA 98512  
(360) 786-5495  
[www.co.thurston.wa.us/roads](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/roads)

# City of Lacey - Excerpts

## **16.75.020 (AA): Definitions and Abbreviations:**

“Political sign” means a sign advertising a candidate or candidates for public elective office, or a political party, or sign urging a particular vote on a public issue decided by ballot.

**16.75.110 Permitted signs.** The following signs are permitted subject to the applicable limitations as noted.

*Temporary signs.* The following signs are classified as temporary (non-permanent). Temporary signs are permitted subject to the applicable limitations:

5. Political signs. No sign permit is required. Political signs or posters may be placed upon private property only and shall not be larger than ten (10) square feet of sign area and shall not be posted or attached to telephone poles, power poles or other public utility facilities. Such signs must be removed seven (7) days after the election in which the candidate or issue advertised on a sign has been determined. For a successful candidate in a primary election the sign may remain until the final election, but shall be removed within seven (7) days after the election. The candidate or committee for which the sign is displayed shall be responsible for its removal and subject to the penalties as provided in this code.

## **16.75.150 Illegal Signs.**

A. *Termination of illegal signs.* The right to maintain any sign shall terminate and shall cease to exist whenever the sign is:

1. *Abandoned.* No persons shall maintain or permit to be maintained on any premises owned or controlled by him any sign which has been abandoned.

2. *Damaged or destroyed beyond fifty percent.* The determination whether a sign is damaged or destroyed beyond fifty percent (50%) shall rest with the code administrator and shall be based upon the actual cost of replacing said sign; and/or

3. *Structurally substandard* under any applicable ordinance of the city to the extent that the sign becomes a hazard or a danger.

## C. *Violation--Penalty.*

1. Violation of the provisions of this code or failure to comply with any of its requirements shall constitute a misdemeanor and such violation shall be punished as provided by the statutes of the State of Washington for the commission of a misdemeanor. Each day such violation continues shall be considered a separate offense.

2. The erector, owner or user of an unlawful sign or the owner of the property on which an unlawful sign is located and who maintains such violation may each be found guilty of a separate offense and suffer the penalties herein provided. (Ord. 1053 §§1-2, 1997).

## **Contact Information:**

Community Development  
PO Box 3400  
Lacey, WA 98509  
(360) 491-5642  
Email: [codeenforcement@ci.lacey.wa.us](mailto:codeenforcement@ci.lacey.wa.us)

# Bucoda, Rainier, Tenino, & Yelm

Questions regarding campaign signs, city regulations, etc., call the jurisdiction directly:

**Town of Bucoda** - PO Box 10, Bucoda, WA 98530 (360) 278-3525, [bucoda@scattercreek.com](mailto:bucoda@scattercreek.com)

**City of Rainier** - PO Box 258, Rainier, WA 98576 (360) 446-2265, [rainier@ywave.com](mailto:rainier@ywave.com)

**City of Tenino** - PO Box 4019, Tenino, WA 98589 (360) 264-2368, [teninocityhall@comcast.net](mailto:teninocityhall@comcast.net)

**City of Yelm** - Community Development, 105 Yelm Ave W, Yelm, WA 98597 (360) 458-3835, [johnr@ci.yelm.wa.us](mailto:johnr@ci.yelm.wa.us)

# City of Olympia - Excerpts

## Chapter 18.42.300 - Political Sign Standards

- A. *Permits* - not required.
- B. *Maximum size of sign surface*:
1. Residential zones (defined in sections 18.42.120(H) and 18.42.140(L)) - 10 square feet.
  2. Other districts - 32 square feet.
- C. *Height*. Four (4) foot maximum in residential districts (defined in sections 18.42.120(H) and 18.42.140(L)). In any other district, four (4) feet. In other districts, and outside required residential setbacks, maximum height is 10 feet.
- D. *Placement*. Political signs may not be placed in public parks or attached to traffic safety devices, telephone poles, power poles, or other public utility facilities. They may be placed upon private property or within the public rights-of-way, provided that the sign shall be placed no less than ten feet from the paved edge or traveled portions of the roadway and signs placed within twenty feet of a street corner shall not exceed thirty (30) inches in height within the clear sight triangle.

- E. *Removal*. All Political signs must be removed 5 days after the election in which the candidates or issue on the signs has been determined. However, after primary elections, if the candidate or issue is going into the general election, signs may remain until 5 days after the general election. The candidate or committee for which the sign is displayed, shall be responsible for its removal. The candidate or committee for which the sign is displayed, shall be subject to the penalties and fines for violation of these requirements, as set forth in this title. (Ord. 6093 §17, 2001).

### Contact Information:

Community Planning and Development  
Smith Building  
601 4th Ave E  
PO Box 1967  
Olympia, WA 98507  
(360) 753-8314  
Email: cpdinfo@ci.olympia.wa.us

# City of Tumwater - Excerpts

**18.44.070 Exemptions.** The following signs shall be permitted anywhere within the city and are exempt from the permit requirements of this chapter, and shall not be included in the computation of sign size area for regulated signs. This shall not be construed as relieving the owner of the sign from the responsibility of its erection and maintenance and its compliance with any other applicable law or ordinance. Exempt signs are:

(K) Political campaign signs advertising a candidate or candidates for public elective office, or a political party, or a sign urging a particular vote on a public issue decided by ballot may be erected on any privately owned lot or parcel, excluding right-of-way. Each sign shall be removed within fifteen (15) days after that election. For successful candidate in a primary election, the sign may remain until the final election but shall be removed within fifteen (15) days after that election. The candidate or committee for which the sign is displayed shall be responsible for its removal and subject to the penalties as provided in this title;

**18.44.120 Removal.** (B) If any temporary sign shall be unlawfully installed, erected or maintained in violation of

any provisions of this section, the owner or the person or firm maintaining same shall, upon written notice by the administrative official, make such sign conform to the provisions of this chapter, or shall remove it within two business days. Administrative review shall not be authorized for interpretations regarding temporary signs. In the event compliance is not obtained, enforcement action including the imposition of penalties shall be brought by the City Attorney.

**18.64.020 Violation - Penalty.** A. Violations of the provisions of this title, or failure to comply with any of its requirements, shall constitute a misdemeanor. Any person, firm or corporation who violates this title or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than five hundred dollars, and in addition, shall pay all costs and expenses involved in the case. Each day such violation continues shall be considered a separate and distinct offense.

### Contact Information:

Public Works Department  
555 Israel Rd SW  
Tumwater, WA 98501  
(360) 754-4140

# Redistricting

## Background Information:

Every ten years, a census of the the nation's population is conducted. Following the census, congressional, legislative, and county legislative (commissioner) boundaries are changed to ensure each district has a fair distribution of political representation.

Three different groups share redistricting responsibilities: the State Redistricting Commission, local jurisdictions, and county legislative authorities. The State Redistricting Commission is charged with redrawing district boundaries.

The County Commissioners are responsible for adjusting the county's legislative district boundaries: County Commissioner Districts, Port of Olympia District, and precinct boundaries.

The jurisdictions have redrawn their internal boundaries and precincts have been adjusted. New voter identification cards will be sent to all Thurston County voters with any changes in their districts.

## Candidate Information:

If you are a candidate running for County Commissioner or Public Utilities Commissioner and you are filing with the Auditor's Office, please verify that your residence is in the district you are filing.

County Commissioner Districts 1 and 2 and PUD Commissioner District 1 will appear on this year's ballot.

You can verify your districts by going to the Auditor's website: [www.ThurstonVotes.org](http://www.ThurstonVotes.org).

# Campaign Guidelines - Ballot Drop Boxes

## Restrictions on Campaigning at Voting Centers

Thurston County is a vote-by-mail county and has ballot drop box sites throughout the area (see page 17).

Electioneering is forbidden within the Courthouse, which is a voting center. Electioneering also includes the wearing of campaign T-Shirts and buttons.

## RCW 29A.84.510 Acts prohibited . . .

(1) During the voting period that begins eighteen\* days before and ends the day of a special election, general election or primary, no person may, within a voting center:

(a) Suggest or persuade or attempt to suggest or persuade any voter to vote for or against any candidate or ballot measure;

(b) Circulate cards or handbills of any kind;

(c) Solicit signatures to any kind of petition; or

(d) Engage in any practice which interferes with the freedom of voters to exercise their franchise or disrupts the administration of the voting center.

(2) No person may obstruct the doors or entries to a building in which a voting center is located or prevent free access to and from any voting center. Any sheriff, deputy sheriff, or municipal law enforcement officer shall prevent such obstruction, and may arrest any person creating such obstruction.

## Campaign Materials

Campaign materials cannot be placed in or on top of mailboxes without paying postage (U.S. Postal Service, Private Express Statute), nor should campaign materials be placed in newspaper delivery tubes.

**Please** be courteous to these agencies.

\*(Thurston County's Voting Center opens 20 days.)

# 24-Hour Ballot Drop Box Locations

Ballot drop boxes are the most secure method, short of personally delivering ballots to the Auditor's Office, to ensure ballots are received on time. The Thurston County Auditor's Office requests your assistance in getting this message out to voters. When you are out talking to voters, please assure them these boxes are free, safe, and convenient. They are open 24-hours a day for convenience and are emptied regularly by two election staff members. Boxes are opened the day ballots become available and locked promptly at 8:00 p.m. on Election Day so no further ballots may be deposited.

## Lacey Area

**Fire 3, Station 34**  
(Mushroom Corner)  
8407 Steilacoom Rd SE, Lacey

**Fire 3, Station 35**  
3701 Willamette Dr NE, Lacey

**Lacey City Hall**  
420 College St SE, Lacey

**Lacey Top Food**  
(South end of parking lot by Taco Bell)  
5600 Martin Way E, Lacey

**Lacey Post Office**  
(Mailbox Island)  
5815 Lacey Blvd SE, Lacey

**Woodland Retirement and Assisted Living Community**  
4532 Intelco Loop SE, Lacey

## Southeast County

**Lackamas Elementary**  
16240 Bald Hill Rd SE, Yelm

**Rainier City Hall**  
102 Rochester St W, Rainier

**Yelm School Administration**  
(In lot across the street from the building)  
110 First St N, Yelm

## Olympia Area

**Church of the Good Shepherd**  
1601 North St SE, Olympia

**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church**  
1515 Harrison Ave NW, Olympia

**Westside Top Food**  
(Parking lot, near Pier 1 Imports)  
1313 Cooper Point Rd SW, Olympia

**Thurston County Courthouse**  
(Parking Lot)  
2000 Lakeridge Dr SW, Olympia

**NEW:**  
**Crain's Office Supply**  
(Drop box in front)  
1006 4th Ave E, Olympia

## South County

**Bucoda**  
(Across from Liberty Market)  
103 S Main St, Bucoda

**Tenino School District Administration**  
301 Old Hwy 99 N, Tenino



## North County

**Fire 7, Station 1**  
5046 Boston Harbor Rd NE, Olympia

**Fire 8, Station 1**  
3506 Shincke Rd NE, Olympia

## Southwest County

**Grand Mound Center**  
19949 Old Hwy 99 SW, Rochester

**Littlerock Fire 11**  
10828 Littlerock Rd SW, Olympia

**Rochester Fire 1, Station 3**  
18346 Albany St SW, Rochester

## Steamboat Island Area

**Fire 13, Station 1**  
3707 Steamboat Loop NW, Olympia

## Tumwater Area

**Fire 5, Station 1**  
(Black Lake Fire Station)  
5911 Black Lake Blvd SW, Olympia

**Tumwater City Hall**  
555 Israel Rd SW, Tumwater

**Tumwater School Administration**  
621 Linwood Ave SW, Tumwater

### Replacement Ballots:

The Auditor's Office, Building One, Room 106 (Room 152 for the General Election), 2000 Lakeridge Dr SW, Olympia is the **ONLY** location to get a replacement ballot. Before Election Day, the Auditor's Office is open 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday. On Election Day the office is open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

# The Hatch Act and Federal Employees

## Permitted Activities for Employees

- May be candidates for public office in nonpartisan elections
- May register and vote as they choose
- May assist in voter registration drives
- May express opinions about candidates and issues
- May contribute money to political organizations
- May attend political fundraising functions
- May attend and be active at political rallies and meetings
- May join and be an active member of a political party or club
- May sign nominating petitions
- May campaign for or against referendum questions, constitutional amendments, or municipal ordinances
- May campaign for or against candidates in partisan elections
- May make campaign speeches for candidates in partisan elections
- May distribute campaign literature in partisan elections
- May hold office in political clubs or parties including serving as a delegate to a convention

## Prohibited Activities for Employees

- May not use their official authority or influence to interfere with an election
- May not solicit, accept or receive political contributions unless both individuals are members of the same federal labor organization or employee organization and the one solicited is not a subordinate employee
- May not knowingly solicit or discourage the political activity of any person who has business before the agency
- May not engage in political activity while on duty
- May not engage in political activity in any government office
- May not engage in political activity while using a government vehicle
- May not be candidates for public office in partisan elections
- May not wear political buttons while on duty

For additional questions, contact:

US Office of Special Counsel  
1730 M Street NW, Suite 218  
Washington, DC 20036-4505  
Phone 1-800-85-HATCH  
Federal Relay Service 1-800-877-8339  
[www.osc.gov](http://www.osc.gov)

## Rules on Political Activity

Under the law, State and Local Employees in Federally Aided Programs **may not:**

- (1) use their official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with or affecting the results of an election or a nomination for office;
- (2) directly or indirectly coerce, attempt to coerce, command or advise State or local officer or employee to pay, lend, or contribute anything of value to a party, committee, organization, agency, or person for partisan political purposes; or
- (3) be a candidate for public office in a partisan election.

**Caution:** Activity permitted by Federal law may be restricted or prohibited by State or local law or regulation.



# Voter Qualifications

## To register to vote you must be:

- A citizen of the United States.
- Residing at your current address for a minimum of 30 days before Election Day.
- A legal resident of Washington State.
- At least 18 years old by Election Day.

## Felony Convictions:

- If you have been convicted of a felony, you lose the right to vote until it is restored.
- If you were convicted in Washington State Superior Court, your right to vote is restored as long as you are not in prison or placed in community custody for the felony with the Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC).\*
- If you were convicted in another state or in federal court, your right to vote is restored as long as you are not incarcerated for that felony.

\* If you have questions about whether you are on community custody with the Department of Corrections (DOC), please call the DOC at (360) 725-8213, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Did you know that you can register to vote and update your voter registration by visiting our website at:

**[www.ThurstonVotes.org](http://www.ThurstonVotes.org)**

To register to vote online you must have a Washington State ID or Driver License. If you are currently registered in Thurston County, you do not need any ID to update your registration online. (Except for name changes which require an updated signature.)

## Registration Deadlines:

### New Registrants

Individuals who are not currently registered in Washington may register by mail (postmarks accepted) or online 29 or more days prior to the election. Or they may register in-person at the Auditor's Office up to 8 days before Election Day.

### Address and Name Changes

If you were previously registered anywhere in Washington and have moved or changed your name, you must update your voter registration record at least 29 days prior to each election.

## Candidates:

The Thurston County Auditor's Office has voter registration information if you are conducting a voter registration drive.

Contact: Elections Division  
(360) 786-5408

Email: [elections@co.thurston.wa.us](mailto:elections@co.thurston.wa.us)

**instructions**

You must be a United States citizen to register to vote.

**how to register to vote or update a registration**

Please print all information clearly using black or blue pen.

Mail or deliver this form to your County Elections Office. Addresses are on the next page.

**for more information**

**online** www.vote.wa.gov

**call** 1-800-448-4881

**visit** your County Elections Office

This registration will be in effect for the next election if postmarked or delivered no later than the Monday four weeks before Election Day.

If you miss this deadline, please contact your County Elections Office.

You will receive your ballot by mail. Contact your County Elections Office for in-person voting options.

If you knowingly provide false information on this voter registration form or knowingly make a false declaration about your qualifications for voter registration you will have committed a class C felony that is punishable by imprisonment for up to 5 years, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both.

Your name, address, gender and date of birth are public information.

\*optional information

09/2009

# Washington State Voter Registration Form

register online at [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov)

**qualifications**

**if you mark no to either of these questions, do not complete this form**

I am a citizen of the United States of America.  yes  no

I will be at least 18 years old by the next election.  yes  no

**personal information**

last name first name middle

date of birth (mm / dd / yyyy) phone number\*  male  female

residential address (in Washington)

city zip

mailing address (if different than residential address)

city state / zip

email address\*

I am in the Armed Forces (includes National Guard and Reserves)

I am a U.S. citizen living outside the U.S.

**Washington driver's license / state ID #**

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

**if you do not have a Washington driver's license or state ID card, provide the last four digits of your Social Security number**

x x x - x x - □ □ □ □

**oath**

I declare that the facts on this voter registration form are true. I am a citizen of the United States, I am not presently denied the right to vote as a result of being convicted of a felony, I will have lived in Washington at this address for 30 days immediately before the next election at which I vote, and I will be at least 18 years old when I vote.

sign here [ ]

date here [ ]

**former registration**

**if you are already registered and are changing your name or address, fill out this section (this information will be used to update your registration)**

former last name first name middle

former residential address city state / zip

## Thurston County Auditor's Office

Thurston County Courthouse  
2000 Lakeridge Dr SW, Bldg. 1  
Olympia, WA 98502  
(360) 786-5408  
FAX (360) 786-5223

Ballot Processing Center  
2905 29th Ave SW, Suite E & F  
Tumwater, WA 98512  
(360) 786-5749  
FAX (360) 705-3518

TTY: (360) 754-2933  
www.ThurstonVotes.org  
Email: pamphlet@co.thurston.wa.us

## Secretary of State

520 Union St SE (360) 902-4180  
PO Box 40229 Toll Free (800) 448-4881  
Olympia, WA 98504  
www.sos.wa.gov  
elections@sos.wa.gov

## Public Disclosure Information

Public Disclosure Commission (877) 601-2828  
711 Capitol Way, Room #206 (360) 753-1111  
PO Box 40908 pdc@pdc.wa.gov  
Olympia, WA 98504-0908 www.pdc.wa.gov

## Local Television

### TCTV

440 Yauger Way SW, Olympia, WA 98502  
Phone: (360) 956-3100

### TVW

1058 Capitol Way S, PO Box 25, Olympia, WA 98501  
Phone: (360) 725-3999

## Newspapers

### The Chronicle

321 North Pearl Street, Centralia, WA 98531  
Phone: (360) 736-3311 Toll Free (800) 562-6084

### The Nisqually Valley News

106 Plaza Dr NE, PO Box 597, Yelm, WA 98597  
Phone: (360) 458-2681 Fax: (360) 458-5741

### The Olympian

111 Bethel St NE, PO Box 407, Olympia, WA 98507  
Phone: (360) 754-5400

### The Tenino Independent

297 Sussex Ave W, Tenino, WA 98589  
Phone: (360) 264-2500

## Radio Stations

### KAOS 89.3 FM

Evergreen State College  
2700 Evergreen Pkwy NW - CAB 101,  
Olympia, WA 98505  
Phone: (360) 867-6888

### KGY 1240 AM & 96.9 FM

1700 Marine Dr NE, Olympia, WA 98501  
Phone: (360) 943-1240

### KJAZ 96.5 - Jack FM

1000 Dexter Ave N Suite 100, Seattle, WA 98109  
Phone: (206) 805-0965

### KMPS 94.1 FM New Country

1000 Dexter Ave N Suite 100, Seattle  
PO Box 24888, Seattle, WA 98124  
Phone: (206) 805-0941

### KMTT 103.7 - The Mountain

1100 Olive Way, Suite 1650, Seattle, WA 98101  
Phone: (206) 233-8984

### KUOW 94.9 & 1340 AM - NPR

4518 University Way NE Suite 310, Seattle, WA 98105  
Phone: (206) 543-2710  
Toll Free: (866) 820-9919

### KPTK - AM 1090 Progressive Talk

1000 Dexter Ave N Suite 100, Seattle, WA 98109  
Phone: (206) 805-1090

### KRXY 94.5 FM ROXY

2124 Pacific Ave SE, Olympia, WA 98506  
Phone: (360) 236-1010  
Toll Free: (866) 945-ROXY

### KZOK 102.5 FM- Classic Rock

1000 Dexter Ave N Suite 100, Seattle, WA 98109  
Phone: (206) 805-1025

### MIXX 96.1 KXXO

PO Box 7937, Olympia, WA 98507  
Phone: (360) 943-9696