

MONA SMITH



January 6, 2025

City Clerk
Seattle City Council
600 4th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Via Email Only – Councilvacancy@seattle.gov

Dear City Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my interest in being appointed to vacant Seattle City Council District 2 position. Attached please find my resume. My intent is to act as a caretaker public servant and serve until the results of the next election in November 2025. I believe that by not running for election to the full term, the people of District 2 will benefit from a robust, incumbent-less, primary debate in advance of the next election. With over 40 years of experience in legal practice, policy development, and advocacy, I am confident in my ability to contribute effectively to the Council, my district in which I have lived for the past 20 years and advance the City's objectives.

As the Principal and Managing Attorney at Mona Smith, PLLC, I have honed my skills in corporate governance, compliance, and litigation. My extensive experience in managing entity formations, drafting and negotiating contracts, and representing clients in complex civil and commercial litigation has equipped me with a deep understanding of the legal and regulatory landscape. Additionally, my work in estate planning and real estate transactions has provided me with a comprehensive perspective on the diverse needs of our community.

Beyond my legal practice, I have been actively involved in public policy and advocacy. As a member and past chair of the Greater Seattle Business Association's (GSBA) Public Policy Council, I have:

- Created infrastructure policies, procedures, and guidelines for the Policy Council's advocacy work;
- Advocated for LGBTQ+ rights, and analyzed proposed legislation.

My role on the LGBTQ+ Victory Fund's Victory Campaign Board has allowed me to support LGBTQ+ political candidates throughout the country and develop campaign strategies, further demonstrating my commitment to public service and community engagement.

My tenure as a Commissioner and Past Co-Chair of the City of Seattle's Labor Standards Advisory Commission has given me valuable insights into labor issues, worker protections and consequences for the small business community. I have collaborated with community stakeholders to address these issues and develop policy recommendations, showcasing my ability to lead and work collaboratively.

I am particularly drawn to the Seattle City Council District 2 position because of my passion for public service and my desire to make a positive impact on our community. I am committed to leveraging my legal expertise and strategic vision to contribute to the Council's efforts in promoting equity, sustainability, and economic growth.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss how my background, skills, and experiences align with the goals of the Seattle City Council. Please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED] to schedule a meeting. Attached please find my completed Financial Interest Statement and Address Verification form. Please note that I am out of the country from January 12 through January 24, 2025.

Sincerely,



Mona Smith

MONA SMITH



SUMMARY

Dynamic attorney and community leader with 40+ years of experience in legal practice, policy development, and advocacy. Demonstrated success in driving policy initiatives, fostering collaborative relationships, and delivering impactful results. Committed to public service and community engagement, seeking to leverage legal expertise and strategic vision to contribute to the Seattle City Council and advance the City's objectives.

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

MONA SMITH PLLC, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

2004 - Present

Principal and Managing Attorney

- Manage entity formations, corporate governance, and government compliance. Structure and prepare corporate articles, bylaws, operating agreements, partnership agreements, shareholder agreements, corporate resolutions, and policies. Counsel clients on best practices for business operations and compliance with statutory and regulatory law.
- Analyze and draft contracts, agreements and memoranda of understanding including service, consignment, and product distribution, sales agreements, product and service warranties and licenses. Counsel and represent clients on employment issues, including EEOC claims, wage claims, termination, policies and procedures, and labor standards compliance. Negotiate and resolve business disputes protecting client interests, intellectual property, and proprietary information. Collaborate with outside counsel.
- Provide representation in corporate acquisitions, including multi-million-dollar asset and stock purchase and sales, analyzing corporate structures and governance and prepare purchase and sale agreements, lending and security agreements, hold harmless and indemnification agreements.
- Led teams in all facets of state and federal court complex civil and commercial litigation focusing on business, commercial, intellectual property, employment, liens, insurance, and real estate disputes.
- Review, analyze, negotiate and prepare real estate purchase and sale agreements and commercial leases. Draft real estate partnership agreements.
- Provide estate planning representation preparing trusts, wills, powers of attorney, health care directives, and separate property agreements.

LUCAS & LUCAS, P.S., ATTORNEYS AT LAW, BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

1998 – 2004

Senior Litigation Associate

- Litigated civil and commercial cases in state and federal trial and appellate courts.

PRESTON GATES & ELLIS, LLP, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

1998

Contract Attorney

- Conducted discovery document review and analysis in intellectual property antitrust lawsuit for a major software company.

LAW OFFICES OF MONA SMITH, NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS **1990 – 1997**
Principal and Managing Attorney

- Criminal and civil litigation.

WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LEGAL SERVICES, HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS **1985 – 1990**
Supervising Attorney

NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES, LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS **1984 - 1985**

PUBLIC POLICY / ADVOCACY

GREATER SEATTLE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (GSBA), PUBLIC POLICY COUNCIL **2004 – Present**
Council Member and Past Council Chair

- Create Council infrastructure documents including public policy charter, vetting policy, and legislative agendas, incorporating business, LGBTQ+ civil rights, and other issues of concern for GSBA members.
- Advocate on issues impacting the LGBTQ+ community, including passage of the marriage equality act, mental health parity coverage, and inclusion of sole proprietors in small business insurance pools.
- Analyze proposed legislation and policies to determine actual function and potential unintended consequences of bills. Prepare written bill analysis and talking / bullet points for position and advocacy discussions.
- Collaborate with committees and coalitions to develop collective positions and strategies.
- Lobby officials at local, state, and federal levels of government. Testify at committee hearings and prepare written testimony, letters, statements, and editorials.

LGBTQ VICTORY FUND, VICTORY CAMPAIGN BOARD **2012 – Present**
Campaign Board Member, Past Co-Chair, Western Caucus Chair and Parliamentarian

- Direct campaign strategies and support LGBTQ+ candidates in achieving electoral success.
- Develop policies and guidelines for the work of the Campaign Board.

CITY OF SEATTLE, LABOR STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMISSION **2016-2020**
Commissioner, Past Co-Chair

- Co-chaired the commission, leading efforts to improve labor standards and worker protections such as recommending an independent worker bill of rights.
- Engaged with community stakeholders to address labor issues and develop policy and educational recommendations.

WASHINGTON UNITED FOR MARRIAGE **2012**
Coordinating Committee

- Developed strategies and execution of plans for passage of marriage equality. Created business tool kit and engaged business community for marriage equality campaign.

WASHINGTON FAMILIES STANDING TOGETHER**2009*****Voter Signature Verification Lead***

- Trained and led team to verify voter signatures. Negotiated resolutions to issues that arose during signature verification with Secretary of State's election representatives.

EDUCATION**NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW**, Juris Doctor, 1984**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS**, Bachelor of Science, College of Community and Public Service, 1981**BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS****STATE OF WASHINGTON**, United States District Courts – Western and Eastern Districts**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**, United States District Courts – Northern, Central and Southern Districts**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**, United States District Court and First Circuit Court of Appeals**COMMUNITY & CIVIC LEADERSHIP/AWARDS**

- **HARRIS WALZ CAMPAIGN**

Arizona Voter Protection Team, 2024; Washington State Out for Harris Walz Campaign, Co-Chair

- **GAY AND LESBIAN VICTORY FUND**

*Victory Campaign Board, 2013-Present**Victory Campaign Board Co-Chair, 2015 – 2016; Western Caucus Chair, 2020-2022, Parliamentarian, 2022-2024*

- **GREATER SEATTLE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (GSBA)**

*Board Chair Award, 2020; Business Leader of the Year Award, 2015**Public Policy Council, 2010-Present**Board of Directors, 2004–2014**Public Affairs Chair, 2010–2014**Public Policy Newsletter Editor, 2010 –2014**Board President, 2009–2010**Public Policy Task Force, 2004-2020*

- **CITY OF SEATTLE**

*Commissioner, Labor Standards Advisory Commission, 2016-2020**Labor Standards Advisory Commissioner Co-Chair 2019-2020*

- **WASHINGTON UNITED FOR MARRIAGE**

*Coordinating Committee Member, 2012**Campaign Voter Signature Verification Lead, 2012*

- **WASHINGTON FAMILIES STANDING TOGETHER**

Campaign Voter Signature Verification Lead, 2009

- **WASHINGTON WORKING GROUP FOR MARRIAGE EQUALITY**

2005-2007

- **KING COUNTY WASHINGTON WOMEN LAWYERS**

Treasurer and Board of Directors, 2004–2008

- **TOWN OF GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**

Cable Television Franchise Commissioner, 1993-1996



All City of Seattle officials and employees are subject to the provisions of Seattle Municipal Code (SMC), Chapter 4.16, (the "Ethics Code"). The purpose of the Ethics Code is to ensure that no public office is used for personal gain; and that the public have confidence in the integrity of its government. An individual with certain financial interests may be prohibited from participating in City business, as specified in the Ethics Code. Please click [HERE](#) to see SMC 4.16.070, a list of prohibited conduct.

1. Do you, or any member of your family, **receive compensation** from any person or entity that engaged in any transactions or activities with Seattle City government in the past five years? ☒ **No** ☐ **Yes**, please complete item 1 on page 2.
2. Do you, or any member of your family, have a **direct financial interest** in any person or entity that engaged in any transactions or activities with Seattle City government in the past five years? ☒ **No** ☐ **Yes**, please complete item 2 on page 2.
3. Have you, or any member of your family, served in the past five years as an officer, director, trustee, or employee of an entity that engaged in any transactions or activities with Seattle City government? ☐ **No** ☒ **Yes**, please complete item 3 on page 2.
4. After referencing SMC 4.16.070, do you have any other relationships, employment history or financial interests that you feel could be an issue with your service on the Council under the Ethics Code? ☒ **No** ☐ **Yes**, please complete item 4 on page 3.

Street Address: [REDACTED]
Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Resident at this address since: 11/2005

Note: If you are appointed to the City Council, you will be required to complete a “Personal Financial Affairs Statement” on a form provided by the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission (SEEC). You can see SEEC Form F1 by clicking [HERE](#).

EXPLANATIONS FOR RESPONSES ON PAGE 1: *(Use additional sheets if necessary. For assistance, please call the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission at 206-684-8500.)*

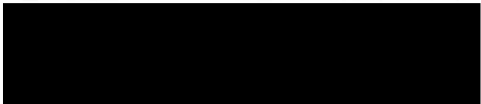
1. Please provide the name and address of each person or entity for which you answered Yes on page 1

Name: _____
Address: _____

2. Please provide the name and address of each entity for which you answered Yes on page 1.

Name: _____
Address: _____

3. Please indicate (i) the name of the person holding the position (you or an immediate family member); (ii) the title of the office, directorship, trusteeship or employment held; and (iii) the name and address of the entity.

Person holding the position:	<u>Nataly Miller</u>	Spouse
Position held with entity:	<u>Customer Service Clerk III</u>	
Entity name:	<u>King County</u>	<u>Recorder's Office</u>
Entity address:		_____ _____

4. Please describe the relationships, employment history or financial interests for which you answered YES on page 1.