



King County Democrats

2005 General Candidate Questionnaire

Name	Eric Benjamin	Position Sought	Duvall Mayor
Campaign Address	28305 NE Roney Road	Campaign Manager	Julie Revell Benjamin
City	Duvall	Phone Number	425-985-9471
State	Washington	Fax Number	425-844-2590 (Call First)
Zip Code	98019	E-mail Address	eric@benjaminformayor.com
Precinct	45-2959	Web Page	www.Benjaminformayor.com

Present Occupation Incumbent? How Long?	Pre-Sales Engineer First time candidate	COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION <i>(Leave Blank – For Committee Use Only)</i>
Employer	Clearswift Corporation	
Union Affiliations	Previous member of , SEIU and ILWU	

WHAT RATINGS AND ENDORSEMENTS HAVE YOU RECEIVED?				
Legislative District(s)/Unions		Municipal League	Women's Political Caucus	SeaMEC
Applied				

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.					
#	Question	Yes	No	Qualified*	
1.	Are you a Democrat? Are you known as a Democrat? If not, explain.	X			
2.	Do you support the King County Democratic Platform?	X			
3.	Do you support the right of workers (excluding military) to bargain and strike?			Not all workers	
4.	Do you support affirmative action?	X			
5.	Do you support a woman's right to choose? (Are you pro-choice?)	X			
6.	Do you support public funding for abortions for poor women?	X			
7.	Do you support school vouchers?		X		
8.	Do you support charter schools?		X		
9.	Do you support equal rights for women?	X			
10.	Do you support the Patriot Act?		X		
11.	Do you support the restoration of voting rights to persons convicted of a felony who have served their sentence?			Depends	
12.	How long have you been registered to vote? Have you missed any elections in the last three years?			13 Years and None.	



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If you answer "yes" to any of the following questions please explain on a separate sheet of paper.

		Yes	No
14.	Have you ever failed to pay any taxes or court ordered judgments?		X
15.	Have you ever been found in violation of a Public Disclosure Commission, Federal Election Commission or Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission regulation?		X
16.	Have you ever been convicted of a felony?		X

*** - If you wish to qualify your answer, please provide an explanation on a separate sheet of paper.**

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**PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS
(YOU MAY USE A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER FOR ANSWERS)**

1. Are you a member of another political party? If so, which ones? Have you ever supported or given money to a candidate from another party in a partisan race? If so, whom?
2. Are you a member of your local Democratic District Party? Have you contributed financially to the County Democratic Party? Have you been a Precinct Committee Officer? When/Where?
3. What are the main messages of your campaign? What is your campaign plan? How many doors have you knocked on to date, pieces of mail planned, budgeting, staffing? Why will you win? What is the fundraising goal for your campaign? How much have you raised to date?
4. What is the single most pressing issue facing your jurisdiction, and what actions would you take if elected?
5. Non Partisan Races A. If you do not win the primary, is there any reason you could not support your primary opponent(s) in the general election?
Partisan Races B. If you do not receive the nomination, is there any reason you could not support your Democratic opponent in the general election? Please explain.
6. Do you believe the current structure of taxes and/or fees that generate funds in your area are fair? If not, how would you change it?
7. What is the Davis-Bacon Act? Do you support it?
8. Do you support King County Initiative I-22? Explain your position.
9. The caucus system helps Democratic Party members in a legislative body work together and stick together. Do you support determining leadership positions and committee chair positions *solely within* the ranks of the Democratic Caucus?
10. What role should government play in the healthcare system?
11. What is your position on civil rights for Gay, Lesbian, bisexual and trans gendered people? What is your position on equal rights for same-sex couples when it comes to benefits, civil unions, marriage and parental rights?
12. What creative solutions can you offer to address the problems of the economically disadvantaged?
13. If you are a candidate in a contested primary race, what record of performance, ability, experience, personal qualities, and positions on issues distinguish you from your opponent(s)?
14. What would you like us to know about you?

In the interests of strengthening the Democratic Party and the ability of the Party to support me or any other candidate, I pledge to uphold high ethical standards. I am responsible for the content of literature, advertising, and statements disseminated by my campaign. If my campaign releases information regarding my opponent(s), I pledge that any such release will allow reasonable time for verification by the voters.

Signature	Eric F. Benjamin	Date 8/10/05	
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Please attach a recent resume.

Answers to Questions

1. No, lifelong democrat.
2. Yes, I am a member of the 45th district. Yes both my wife and I have donated to the county and state party. I have never been a PCO.
3. **Putting Duvall First.** My plan is simple, I got into the race because my opponent was running un-opposed and I felt he would do more harm than good to the city of Duvall. My plan of attack is to get my message out by door belling and by direct mail pieces. By the first candidate forum, I plan to have 200 houses door belled. I currently have raised 500 dollars and have received some republican backing from some long time residents of the city.
4. Growth, Fiscal Management and traffic safety. While growth is going to happen we need to actively ensure that we have the infrastructure to support that growth.
We need to ensure that the city continues to have a reserve and we need to continue to fund that reserve account.
Duvall has a state highway that is also called Main Street, the next Mayor needs to address some large safety concerns around speed and pedestrian safety on Main street. If I am elected, I will work very hard to ensure that we deliver on all three of those items.
5. I am running in a non-partisan race with one challenger so we will not have a primary runoff we will go straight to the general election.
6. No I do not believe that the current structure is fair. I believe that our system currently relies too much on the consumer but I also have to admit that I do not completely understand all of the different tax's that we as a state level on the consumers.
7. The Davis-Bacon act is an act that requires any construction project over 2,000 dollars that the federal government is involved in, requires that all construction personnel be paid at least the local minimum wage. I am not sure why everyone would not support this act, I certainly do.
8. Our customers (voters) demand that we are responsive to their desires and what they want us to do. This seems like a very ill advised attempt to change the King county council and executive office to a non-partisan office. While we may not always agree with those representatives, I believe that the voters should have the opportunity to choose their representative and that must include all of the willing candidates that wish to run for those offices.
9. Not sure, if I understand the difference.
10. That is a very hard question to answer, as I don't have all of the information for this issue. However, one of the issues that comes up in this discussions is the cost of prescription drugs, and personally I pay way to much for my medication. I think that the government tries to control this process too much and tries to limit the competition that the pharmaceutical companies have to deal with. I believe that if consumers had the ability to purchase medicines from other countries and through that process were able to save lots of money. Some of our citizens would not have to choose between food and medicine.
11. Through my teen age years, I was raised by my gay uncle and his partner. I have never felt uncomfortable with the gay community and I feel that any gay or trans gender person must have the same rights as any other person. There also should be no discrimination based on sexual preference. None.

12. I think that communities need to do more to understand what the level of need is in their community. Any community based initiatives will have a better chance of working than a government mandated solution.
13. This question does not apply as I only have one opponent but I believe this is a fair question and would like to answer. My opponent and I differ on two main topics. He is a career politician bent on getting higher office, while that is not bad. The problem comes in when all of the decisions that he makes for the city will be based on his career and not on what is best for the city. I am not a politician and have no plans on becoming one. I believe that the mayor should be focused on the job at hand and not trying to build someone's resume for higher office.
14. While I am not a veteran candidate, I have deep ties to the community; I have been a seven year volunteer to the Redmond Police Department, a four year volunteer to the Duvall Police "Citizens on Patrol" program and a two year volunteer to the Duvall WRECK Teen center.

I will always maintain high ethical standards and will always strive to practice what I preach. I also plan to run a positive issue based campaign, not a negative based campaign.

Eric Benjamin

28305 NE Roney Road, Duvall, WA 98019 efbenjamin@hotmail.com 425.844.2590 (h) 425.985.9471 (c)

PROFILE

Senior Technical Trainer and Systems Engineer with 15 years' experience in building, developing and delivering Systems and Training. Effective team lead, communicator and cross-functional liaison. Strong customer service orientation, troubleshooting and problem-solving abilities.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Delivered training program for US market, increasing 2002 profit 125% year over year
- Developed company and client training business plan showing projected ROI of \$146,000
- Produced time savings of 50% for client billings by designing and implementing new e-system
- **Designed and implemented network backbone for new regional office, opening with no faults**
- **Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer (NT 4.0)**

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

SQL Server 6.5, 7.0, 2000
MS Office 2002, MS Project 2000

Oracle RDBMS (6.0 7.1x)
MS Exchange 2000, 5.5

Win32, UNIX,
Win 2000, Win NT 4.0, 95,
98
SunOS 4.1.3, Linux, Dynix

Cisco 2500, Motorola CSU/DSU

Novell Netware 3-4.01

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Clearswift Corporation, **Bellevue, WA**

2000-present

Senior Systems Engineer/Trainer

Company provides e-security products enabling companies to manage email and web traffic

Train clients on software use and optimization. Provide second-level technical support to existing and pre-sales customers on electronic mail product.

- **Developed and delivered post-sale product training course to clients throughout US market**
- **Created and presented business plan for company training department showing strong return-on-investment**
- Successfully configured entire Test Lab using Windows 2000, Windows NT, Linux

Inteliant Corporation, **Kirkland, WA**

1998-2000

Senior Consultant/System Administrator

Company provides consulting, staffing services for the wireless telecommunications industry

Primary technical advisor/support for company's implementation of web-based time and billing client server application. Application linked into existing back-end office (Platinum 4.2a) solution. Managed new hardware and software purchases, support and training.

- Designed and implemented new corporate data center
- Successfully migrated corporate email systems from UNIX (POP3) to Exchange 5.5
- Set up and configured company's Internet and Exchange systems

Ace USA, **Bellevue, WA**

1997-1998

System Administrator

Company designs, develops and manufactures a hardware and software application for the casino industry

Managed support and training, web systems set-up and administration, and Exchange and NT administration. Responsible for new computer hardware and software purchases.

- Successfully migrated corporate email systems from CC Mail to Exchange
- Migrated corporate network from Novell 3.12 to Windows NT 4.0
- Successfully selected and implemented Linux Firewall solution
- Developed and implemented network security policy to protect company's intellectual property

ERIC BENJAMIN

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Ace USA continued...

Technical Support Engineer

Designed and implemented new client networks (Fast Ethernet). Purchased, configured and installed hardware and software at client sites. Designed video distribution network for broadcast TV reception, configured and installed TV system at client sites. Provided initial on-site customer support and system administration training.

Metapath Corporation, Bellevue, WA

1995-

1997

Company develops client server application for the wireless industry

Technical Support/Systems Analyst

Provided end-user support and training including on-site installation and training of UNIX software and hardware. Responsible for Exchange administration, SMTP mail gateway, WWW configuration, Win NT configuration, and Linux systems administration, network cabling, hubs and routers and terminal servers.

Scott & Scott Systems, Seattle, WA

1990-1995

Company develops software for electric utilities

Technical Support/Trainer/Network Administration

Trained engineering clients in use of AM/FM GIS client server software. Global travel involved. Provided network administration, including gateway administration, NT Server and workstation administration, UNIX systems administration, diagnostic troubleshooting and software problem resolution. Selected and negotiated with hardware and software vendors.

Tahoma Technologies, Bellevue, WA

1989-

1990

Company installs and services line of personal computers for business applications

Technical Service Manager

Supervised service employees, designed and implemented work schedules. Configured, installed and repaired client hardware and peripherals. Supported client software: DOS, Windows, AutoCAD and miscellaneous applications.

EDUCATION

MCSE NT 4.0

Wave Technologies, San Diego, CA

Novell Netware

Wave Technologies, Dallas, TX

SVM Training

Sequent, Portland, OR

Systems Admin I & II

Sequent Computer Training, San Francisco

Certificate:

Electronic Technician

Seattle OIC, Seattle, WA

1985