Black Lives Matter Seattle King County 2020 endorsement opportunity and process

Black Lives Matter Seattle King County and the Washington Black Lives Matter Alliance congratulate you on your primary election and advancing to the general election.

We are writing to invite you to complete our short candidate questionnaire for the 2020 general election. We will be encouraging our community and allies to be voting for candidates who are supportive of advancing Black Liberation, an equal justice system for all, and community prosperity.

We are asking candidates to complete an online questionnaire, and as a backup, the questions are below. Only candidates who complete the questions will be eligible for endorsement.

The deadline for submitting your answers is Saturday, October 10, at 5:00 PM. For any questions and if you encounter technical difficulties, please contact [EMAIL REMOVED]

Endorsements will be announced on Wednesday, October 15.

About Black Lives Matter Seattle King County

Black Lives Matter Seattle-King County is a social advocacy organization fighting for the protection and liberation of Black Life through advocacy and direct action.

We believe that all Black Lives matter, regardless of actual or perceived sexual identity, gender identity, gender expression, economic status, ability, disability, religious beliefs or disbeliefs, immigration status, or location.

The Washington Black Lives Matter Alliance is a statewide collective of people and organizations using our voice, our vote, and our power to fight for Black Lives.

Black Lives Matter Seattle King County Political Demands

We demand that racism be declared a public health crisis in Washington state.
We demand a 50% defunding of the Seattle Police Department.
We demand some of the budget formerly devoted to policing be shifted to culturally responsive, community-centric mental health and wellness services.
We demand a justice system that delivers equal treatment under the law.
We demand King County fulfill its promise to, by 2025, transform into a community resource the youth jail unit at Judge Patricia H. Clark Children and Family Justice Center.
We demand fully funding education in Washington State with a capital gains tax by 2021.

Black Lives Matter Seattle King County Endorsement Questions

If elected, give examples of how your priorities will support the liberation and protection of Black Lives
locally and across the state?  
Do you believe racism is a public health crisis? Explain your answer.  
Do you support defunding the police? Explain your answer.  
What is your position on charging officers with bodily harm-related crimes when excessive force is used?  
Explain your answer.  
How does your racial identity shape your perspective of public policy? Explain your answer.  
Do you support the restoration of voting rights for Washingtonians who are incarcerated or have been previously incarcerated or owe fees and fines? Explain your answer.

Non-responses to the questionnaire will be evaluated as responses to the questionnaire.  
Thank you for your participation in our candidate endorsement process, and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Ebony Miranda, Chair  
They | Them  
Advocacy and Policy Committee  
Black Lives Matter Seattle King County

Email address *  
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If elected, give examples of how your priorities will support the liberation and protection of Black lives locally and across the state? *

There are plenty of laws on the books already. We need to stress to the Black community to stop having children before being married, stop packing guns, and finish high school as a stepping stone to either getting a job in the trades or going onto higher learning.

Do you believe racism is a public health crisis? *

NO! Why is it okay for the Black community to use racial terms on other groups? Time for everyone to stop the name calling.
Do you support defunding the police? *

NO! Defunding the police is not reform. Without the police you are now going to see more weapons on the street. How is that safer? You want police reform? Ask your local city council (such as Seattle) why they don't change the police union contract to reform how the police are regulated. Ask Sawant that question.

What is your position on charging officers with bodily harm-related crimes when excessive force is used? Explain your answer. They should be held to account. *

An impartial review of the situation should be carried out.

How does your racial identity shape your perspective of public policy? Explain your answer. *

I see myself as an American and as a member of the Human Race.

Do you support the restoration of voting rights for Washingtonians who are incarcerated or have been previously incarcerated or owe fees and fines? Explain your answer. *

Voting rights should only be restored once the term of the sentence has been fulfilled including the payment of fees and/or fines. As they say, if you can't do the time (and fines), don't do the crime(s).