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Your Details

Basic information about yourself

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<https://truthsocial.com/@PatriciaUsselman>

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Getting to Know You

This next section will give you the opportunity to provide details about who you are as a person, candidate, and member of the community.

Tell us about yourself.

I am a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother, I have shared nearly 34 years of marriage with my husband, Mike. Together, we've raised three remarkable sons, Michael, Dylan, and Levi, and recently welcomed our granddaughter, Violet, into the family. I hold my family and faith close to my heart. My origins are in the Northwest; I was born in Coeur d'Alene and completed my high school education in Wallace, Idaho. Tragedy struck early in my life when I lost my father in the Sunshine Mine disaster of 1972, at just three years old. Being the youngest of five, I quickly learned to navigate life's challenges and to persevere. Setting and surpassing goals has been my lifelong approach. Since the age of 15, I've raised myself, earning a reputation for reliability, drive, professionalism, and initiative. Now, I stand at a pivotal juncture, ready to leverage my life's journey and entrepreneurial triumphs to pursue a greater calling. I've long aspired to engage in politics, and I feel compelled to contribute to my community at this stage.

My professional journey spans 38 years in management, consulting, and successful entrepreneurship, during which I've significantly influenced various businesses with my consultancy and the prosperity of my enterprise. My expertise encompasses leadership, problem-solving, strategic planning, analysis, fiscal prudence, budgeting, cash flow management, banking, bookkeeping, payroll, and the oversight of accounts payable and receivable.

List any relevant experience, leadership, or service.

With over 38 years of experience in management, consulting, and entrepreneurship, I've honed my skills in financial management, strategic planning, and operational efficiency. I have successfully guided businesses to profitability by optimizing operations, troubleshooting issues, and implementing systems that significantly improve operations, boost cash flow, streamline processes, and promote team building.

A significant achievement of mine is the reduction of a million-dollar dental office's accounts receivable from \$440,000 to a healthy one month's production, marking a nearly 70% decrease without significant reliance on external collections. This underscores my capability to enhance cash flow and financial health. This is one of many exemplary examples.

I have been self-employed for over 14 years, successfully managing team members and establishing an exceptional track record. I am fortunate to have received a national award in business excellence and have been recognized locally as the best in my field for three consecutive years. I commit fully to everything I do.

As a dedicated community member and active PCO #9011 for Spokane County, I have a deep-rooted commitment to our community. My previous experience as treasurer for both our local road association and the boys' wrestling club has equipped me with valuable financial management skills. These roles have allowed me to hone my abilities in budgeting, accounting, and financial reporting as well

I am eager to apply my skills and experience to serve and I believe that my strong work ethic, attention to detail, and commitment to fiscal responsibility will make me a valuable asset to Spokane county.

Every position I've held has been in leadership; it's my calling. I possess both the aptitude and the fortitude for it.

Describe your duty to the office you are running for and how you will achieve success.

To achieve success, my focus would be on key areas including Core Duties and Responsibilities: Financial Management, which entails overseeing the county's financial operations such as budgeting, accounting, and reporting. Investment Management, which involves managing the county's investment portfolio to optimize returns and minimize risk. Tax Collection, ensuring the timely and accurate collection of property taxes and other revenues. Cash Management, handling the county's cash flow and banking relationships. Payroll and Benefits Administration, managing the county's payroll and benefits programs. Success would also hinge on implementing Financial Accountability and Transparency, establishing robust financial controls, and conducting internal audits. Enhancing transparency through clear and timely financial reporting, fostering public trust by actively engaging with taxpayers and stakeholders, and identifying opportunities for cost savings and revenue enhancement are also crucial.

Additionally, I would foster a collaborative and supportive work environment, communicate effectively with staff, elected officials, and the public. By concentrating on these key areas, I am confident in my ability to manage the county's finances effectively, protect taxpayer dollars, and contribute to the overall well-being of Spokane County.

What does success look like for this position and what key performance indicators should

voters use to evaluate you?

Success is rooted in financial stability, ensuring the county's long-term fiscal health through prudent budgeting, strategic investments, and effective debt management. Operational efficiency is achieved by streamlining processes, cutting costs, and enhancing service delivery. Commitment to transparency and accountability fosters public trust through open communication, clear financial reporting, and ethical behavior. The successful development and execution of comprehensive financial plans are aligned with the county's strategic objectives and aim to improve residents' quality of life through infrastructure upgrades, public safety initiatives, and economic growth. My performance will be gauged by key performance indicators, including:

- Financial Performance: Adherence to budget, return on investments, debt management, and cash flow operations.
- Operational Efficiency: Prompt financial reporting, process enhancements, use of technology, and efficiency in tax collection.
- Transparency and Accountability: Engagement in public communication, upholding ethical standards, and compliance with laws and regulations.

By concentrating on these pivotal areas, I am dedicated to achieving outstanding outcomes for Spokane County.

What community activities are you engaged in? Have you held leadership roles in any of these organizations?

Being self-employed is time-consuming; when you're not working in your business, you're working on it. Previously, I served as the treasurer for our road association and our son's wrestling club. Additionally, I am a local Spokane County precinct officer, #9011.

Your Political Beliefs

This section contains a series of questions about your alignment concerning broad governmental philosophies as well as some specific issues.

Where do our rights as citizens of the United States come from? Under what conditions can government infringe or suspend them?

Our rights as citizens are derived from the Constitution, primarily outlined in the Bill of Rights. I believe the government should not infringe upon or suspend these rights. There are extraordinary circumstances, however, where the government may feel entitled to do so, such as for national security: during times of war or national emergency. It is essential to note that any government action that infringes on individual rights must have a legitimate purpose and be precisely aimed to achieve that purpose, with such restrictions being open to judicial review to confirm their constitutionality.

Do you consider yourself a constitutional originalist or do you prescribe to it as a living document? Please explain.

I firmly align myself with constitutional originalism, which advocates for interpreting the Constitution according to the original intentions of its authors. This approach prioritizes the document's text and the historical circumstances of its creation. I hold the view that its interpretation should not be altered to align with personal values.

What is the purpose of government? If elected, how will you perform your duties based on that "purpose?"

The fundamental role of government is to safeguard the rights and freedoms of its citizens, uphold social order, and foster the common good. This encompasses: Ensuring Domestic Tranquility: Preserving internal peace, deterring crime, and safeguarding citizens from harm. Providing for the Common Defense: Defending the nation against foreign adversaries and securing national safety. Promoting the General Welfare: Delivering public amenities and services, such as infrastructure, education, healthcare, and social support systems.

Establishing Justice: Guaranteeing the equitable application of laws and the protection of individual liberties.

An appointed official must execute their duties in accordance with these foundational principles: Upholding the Law: Rigorously following all relevant laws, regulations, and ethical guidelines. Serving the Public Interest: Placing the welfare and interests of the populace at the forefront. Promoting Efficiency and Effectiveness: Aiming to optimize the use of public funds and reduce inefficiencies. Accountability and Transparency: Holding themselves answerable to the public and making decisions in a transparent manner. Innovation and Adaptability: Adopting innovative approaches and technologies to enhance public services. Fairness and Impartiality: Ensuring just and unbiased treatment of all individuals, irrespective of their background or beliefs. In fulfilling these duties, an appointed official aid in building a society that is more equitable, just, and thriving.

When does life begin and at what point does the government have a duty to protect it?

Life begins at conception, and it is the government's duty to protect it.

Do you have any criminal convictions, ever filed for bankruptcy, have any active or unresolved tax liens, any conflicts of interest that may jeopardize your candidacy?

NO

Describe how you will make yourself available to your constituents and vote as their representative, adhering to the values and answers you've provided in this questionnaire.

in Making Myself Accessible and Conducting Business I am committed to open and transparent communication with constituents and to ensure accessibility, I will:

Maintain Regular Office Hours: I will hold regular office hours at the county courthouse to meet with constituents, address concerns, and provide information.

Host Community Forums: I will organize regular community forums to discuss important financial issues and gather feedback. Utilize Technology: I will leverage technology to facilitate communication, such as email, social media, and video conferencing.

Responsive Communication: I will promptly respond to inquiries and concerns from constituents, providing clear and informative answers. To conduct the business of the office, I will adhere to the following principles: Fiscal Responsibility: I will prioritize responsible spending, efficient budgeting, and prudent investment strategies to maximize taxpayer dollars. Transparency and Accountability: I will maintain open and honest communication with the public, providing regular updates on the county's financial health.

Ethical Conduct: I will uphold the highest ethical standards and avoid conflicts of interest.

Effective Leadership: I will lead a dedicated team of professionals to ensure the smooth operation of the Treasurer's Office. Data-Driven Decision Making: I will utilize data and analytics to inform decision-making and improve efficiency. By combining accessibility, transparency, and effective leadership, I will work diligently to serve the best interests of Spokane County.

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