



Saturday, May 18, 2024

Your Details

Basic information about yourself

Name	Josh Kerns
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I am a candidate running for...	Spokane County Commissioner, District 3
Website Address	JoshKerns.com

Please list any/all social media account URLs.

<https://www.facebook.com/votejoshkerns>

<https://www.facebook.com/jdkerns/>

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'm a lifelong resident of Spokane County where he attended Mead schools. I earned an Associates Degree from Spokane Community College, then transferred to Whitworth University where I received a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management and later, a Masters Degree in Business Administration.

I became politically active in 2007, then I was appointed as a PCO. I worked on several campaigns during the 2008 election cycle, and continued to volunteer and work on campaigns in every election cycle since.

My involvement in the Republican Party runs deep. I have been a delegate to the precinct caucuses, county conventions, and a state convention. I am an elected PCO, was the treasurer of the Spokane County Republican Party, was the Vice President of the Spokane County Young Republicans, and was named Volunteer of the Year by the Spokane County Republican Party for my work during the 2010

elections.

Prior to serving as County Commissioner, I worked six years for the Washington State Legislature and was the Senior Legislative Assistant to then State Representative Jeff Holy. I managed Rep. Holy's campaign in 2012 and 2014, and prior to that, served in the same capacity for former State Representative John Ahern.

During my six years working for the Legislature, I split time between Spokane and Olympia. I'm a small business owner as well. I own a marketing company with my wife, Nichole. I have gained experience working both for myself and in government to be a strong advocate for small businesses in our community.

My wife and I are high school sweethearts and have been married since 2011. We have a son and daughter.

List any relevant experience, leadership, or service.

I have served as County Commissioner since 2016. I am a small business owner and from 2011-2016 I worked for the Washington State House of Representatives for Rep. John Ahern and Rep. Jeff Holy. I am an elected PCO, former treasurer for the Spokane County Republican Party, and former Vice Chair of the Spokane County Young Republicans. I helped launch the Spokane County chapter of CAPR. As County Commissioner, I have been chair of the board twice, and serve on many local and regional boards.

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

In Spokane County, Commissioners are both the legislative and executive branch of County government. We are responsible for developing and adopting the county budget, maintaining roads and county owned buildings and property. Commissioners adopt resolutions, ordinances, and proclamations. Most importantly, we are accountable to the citizens of the County and are their representative at the County level for all issues that fall under the authority of the County Commissioners.

What does success look like for this position and what key performance indicators should voters use to evaluate you?

Success in this position is keeping the promises you make to the voters and delivering results that improve the quality of life in our community.

I have always looked for ways to deliver the services the County is mandated to in the most efficient way. I look for ways to eliminate waste and adopt budgets that are fiscally conservative and don't rely on tax increases.

It is important that we provide for our Sheriff's Department to combat crime and keep our community safe. During my time as Commissioner, I have never voted to increase property taxes.

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

I have served on many community and regional boards including, but not limited to:

- Aging and Long-Term Care of Eastern Washington Governing Board
- Fair and Expo Center Advisory Board

- Growth Management Act Steering Committee
- LEOFF Disability Board of Spokane County
- Solid Waste Advisory Committee
- Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health
- Spokane Regional Law and Justice Council
- Spokane Regional Transportation Council
- Spokane Transit Authority Board of Directors
- SRLJC Administrative Committee
- Tourism Promotion Area Board
- Visit Spokane Board of Directors
- Washington State Association of Counties Legislative Steering Committee (Alternate)
- Northeast Public Development Authority
- Spokane County Regional Interlocal Leadership Structure

I have served as chair or vice chair on many of these boards.

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 come from God. Government cannot infringe on a citizen's rights or deprive a citizen of life, liberty, or property without due process.

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

I believe the founders of our country meant what they said and wrote when they drafted the Constitution. They did lay out a process under Article V that allows for the Constitution to be amended. A high bar was intentionally set because the Constitution is not a living document and should be held to its original intent.

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

The purpose of government is to protect the citizens God given unalienable rights. I have never voted to infringe on anyone's rights and I always remember, I am here to serve the people of Spokane County, not the other way around.

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

Life begins at conception and life should be protected from conception to natural death.

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.

I make contacting me as easy as possible. My contact information is readily available. All of our Commissioner meetings are now available live online to view and I take constituent meetings regularly if someone wants to meet in person. I also attend events throughout the community to speak with people. I've also knocked on tens of thousands of doors over the years to speak directly with people on their doorsteps about what issues mean the most to them.

Please provide any feedback, comments, or questions that you have for the SCRCC.

Thank you for the opportunity to seek the endorsement of the Spokane County Republican Party.

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