

ACLU People Power Washington

2020 Police Reform

Candidate Questionnaire



Candidate Name	Jessica Bateman	
Position Sought	State Rep. LD 22, Pos. 2	
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Part I – Yes/No Questions

Please answer the following questions		Yes	No	Additional Comments
1	Do you support statewide policy for:	x		
	Banning chokeholds	x		
	Banning tear gas	x		
	Use of body cameras	x		
2	Do you support abolishing qualified immunity for police?	x		
3	Do you support de-escalation standards and accountability for police?	x		
4	Do you support independent, civilian review of complaints of police use of force?	x		
5	Do you support eliminating investigation and discipline of use of force against civilians as topics for collective bargaining by law enforcement unions?	x		
6	Do you support decertification for serious misconduct by law enforcement officers?	x		
7	Do you support ending police use of and access to surplus military equipment?	x		

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Part II – Free Response Questions

What is your idea of public safety?

We must reimagine a new form of public safety, which I believe is more aligned with public or community health. We must invest in programs, services, and supports that cultivate community health and safety. Our communities desperately need affordable housing, quality healthcare (including mental health), livable wages, and access to opportunity.

We must build accountability into our law enforcement agencies by building upon the work of I-940, which improves police training in de-escalation tactics, mental health, and the rendering of first aid. It also removes Washington's de facto immunity from prosecution for unjustified use of deadly force by police.

We must build accountability into every law enforcement agency by increasing accountability and transparency in police union contracts, creating independent police oversight with subpoena and other investigative powers, implementing body cameras, demilitarizing the police by barring law enforcement from purchasing military equipment, and further limit the use of deadly force by police.

Have you taken the [#ElectedsForJustice pledge](#)? If so, what actions do you intend to take to support the 5-part plan? If not, what points are barriers to your support, and why?

I have taken the pledge and fully support the actions laid out in the plan by working with the coalition of stakeholders pursuing these changes, signing-on in support and voting in support of the actions. I'm more than willing to help in any way that I can.

Under current state labor law, Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs) with law enforcement unions are often a barrier for meaningful police reform. What efforts do you support that differentiate police unions from other labor unions so that change can happen without eroding other workers' rights?

There are specific rights police officers receive in their contracts that are not consistent with rights of other workers, such as the window of time they receive before being interviewed after use of force. Also, nurses and other represented workers that are licensed have their licenses revoked if certain egregious circumstances occur. Police officers are notoriously afforded the ability to move to other jurisdictions with virtually no repercussions to their future employment. Due to the inherent power police have in their job duties, we must outline basic principles that are required of the profession. Similar to other professions whose workers could potentially cause harm, these workers unions could still negotiate terms for fair and competitive employment.

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Are there police reform/accountability measures that are not addressed here that you think would be productive to pursue?

The list you provided is comprehensive, but I'm very interested in learning more as these discussions unfold over the next couple months in advance of the 2021 session.

I affirm that all the information provided in response to this questionnaire is true, complete, and correct to the best of my ability, and that no relevant matter has been omitted.

Signature	Jessica Bateman	Date: 9/30/20
Printed Name	Jessica Bateman	