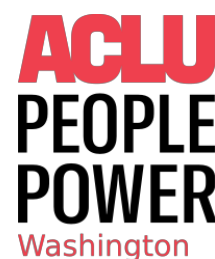


# ACLU People Power Washington

## 2020 Police Reform

### Candidate Questionnaire



<b>Candidate Name</b>	Sharon Tomiko Santos	
<b>Position Sought</b>	State Representative, 37 LD, Pos. 1	
<b>Campaign Contact Information</b>	Mailing address: 4547 Rainier Ave. S. PMB #502 Seattle, WA 98118	Phone: (206) 326-9042 Fax: none
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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:			
	Banning chokeholds	Y		
	Banning tear gas		N	I would support tightening restrictions on when tear gas is used.
	Use of body cameras	Y		My position on this issue is evolving from opposition to the use of body cameras based on privacy and disclosure concerns I share with the ACLU to greater support for the use of body cameras for police accountability purposes.
2	Do you support abolishing qualified immunity for police?	Y		
3	Do you support de-escalation standards and accountability for police?	Y		

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4	Do you support independent, civilian review of complaints of police use of force?	Y		
5	Do you support eliminating investigation and discipline of use of force against civilians as topics for collective bargaining by law enforcement unions?	Y		
6	Do you support decertification for serious misconduct by law enforcement officers?	Y		
7	Do you support ending police use of and access to surplus military equipment?	Y		

## Part II – Free Response Questions

What is your idea of public safety?

I view public safety as one of the cornerstones of the social covenant that undergirds our system of governance, and this social covenant is based on the notion of the “consent of the governed.” As applied to the idea of public safety, this means that those who are assigned the duty to ensure public safety are given this charge by the public at-large and are, therefore, accountable to the public at-large. The gaping disconnect between our civilian law enforcement agencies and our civil society, especially among our communities of color, is a reflection of the brokenness of our social covenant. I believe that we must repair this brokenness by restoring our *understanding* of the relationship between our civilian law enforcement agencies and our civilians as one based on the “consent of the governed” and, then, by seeking to develop *actual* relationships between our communities and members of our public safety force.

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?

Yes, I have taken the Electeds for Justice pledge. As the longest serving Member of Color in the Legislature and as a Representative of the Legislative District that has the longest history of dealing with the impacts of unrestrained and racially biased policing on communities of color, I will continue to use my lived and learned history of knowledge and experience to provide guidance to the development of legislation: to de-militarize the police by banning the acquisition of surplus military grade equipment and by reforming police hiring practices that prioritize the hiring of combat veterans for civilian law enforcement positions; to strengthen civilian police training, including regular de-escalation and emergency medical training as well as requiring continuing education in anti-bias, civil rights, and community policing; to increase accountability and oversight of law enforcement officers through civilian oversight, peer intervention, certification reform, and technology; and to identify and improve strategies deploy public safety resources in a manner appropriate to the public safety incident.

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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?

As I am not an expert in labor law or collective bargaining, I must defer to my colleagues to identify specific efforts that can help distinguish police unions from other labor unions in order to advance meaningful police reform without harming the rights of workers who are not involved in law enforcement. With this caveat, I would nonetheless expect that provisions of any contract subject to collective bargaining should exclude elements that limit or reduce public review and accountability for the actions of employees that, in the exercise of their duties, result in the death or harm of a civilian member of the public. I believe that a police officer who causes harm or death to a civilian member of the public in the exercise of his or her duty to protect the public should be willing to be subject to such review and accountability in order to justify his or her actions as much as it may be to incriminate him or her.

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

In the spirit of addressing the social covenant, I believe that one important way to build authentic relationships between the members of our civilian law enforcement agencies and our communities is by ensuring that our law enforcement personnel are *from* the communities policed. This is not only about recruitment but also about creating affordable housing opportunities for new civilian law enforcement officers and about establishing partnerships with youth-serving organizations which facilitate the development of sustainable one-on-one relationships between officers and young people (not SROs).

**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		Date: September 21, 2020
Printed Name	Sharon Tomiko Santos	