**Michael Paul Achey**

**Candidate for the 23rd Legislative District Executive Board, Bremerton Position**

Madam Chairperson and Madam Secretary,

 My interest in local politics is not a new one but is rekindled since relocating to Bremerton from Philadelphia. Here, unlike in a large city, I feel as if I have a chance to let my voice be heard, but more than that; I feel as if my actions will make a real and lasting difference. I am a firm believer that it is the duty of those with a voice to stand up for those that do not. I may not have much experience in the political arena, but I do have experience in helping communities, feeding the needy, and listening to those less fortunate. I have seen first and second hand the worst this country can throw at people and the best that this country has to offer. We need to work tirelessly to bring that dream to ALL Americans, regardless of race, gender, affiliation, or any other self-imposed barrier. I have been recently appointed as PCO for precinct 56 in Bremerton. I have attended every meeting since learning of the position late last year. As an E-Board member, my dedication will not waver but instead soar. Many will call me an idealist. That is not a bad thing, not something to shy away from. It is something to embrace. My passion for political change stems not from self-interest, but from my interest in making the world a better place – for my wife, for my daughter, for all of the people that are being silenced or ignored, and most importantly, for the future.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.