

# MARK SOLOMON



January 3, 2025

Dear Councilmembers –

I am writing to express my strong interest in the appointment to Seattle City Council to represent District 2. With my extensive history of leadership, public service, community involvement, and problem solving, I am confident in my ability to contribute positively to the Council's mission of serving the people of Seattle.

The reason I seek the appointment is simple; Seattle is my home, and I want to take care of my home. I have a deep understanding of the various challenges faced by our communities. While I have a long list of accomplishments in service to this District, I will highlight a few of them here:

- Co-chaired the committee that successfully got Jefferson Golf Course renamed to the Bill Wright Golf Complex
- Spearheaded efforts to address gun violence in the Rainier Beach Community
- Coordinated responses to neighborhood crime and disorder concerns at Jose Rizal Park
- Coordinated responses to disorderly activity at Mount Baker Beach, Coleman Park and Stan Sayers Pits
- Worked with Columbia City businesses to reduce property crime and enhance personal safety

My priorities in serving on The Council include:

- Bringing the Comprehensive Plan across the finish line
- Passing legislation regarding after hours venues to ensure they operate safely and that we reduce the gun violence that has erupted at these establishments
- Working with stakeholders to address crime, disorder and human suffering in the Little Saigon neighborhood

I believe these goals are achievable when we work in collaboration and center community in our approaches.

I acknowledge Councilmember Morales' service and dedication to the District. I am committed to filling the vacancy left by her departure until the special election, when the community decides who will fill out the remainder of her term. I do not intend to seek election to the position. I approach this appointment to be a caretaker, to focus on the legislative priorities before the Council, rather than trying to do the work *and* campaigning to retain the position. Being an effective legislator is a full-time plus commitment, as is running an effective campaign. I will not be distracted, nor have my attention divided, as my focus will be on getting the work done. With my extensive experience working within Seattle City government, I am well positioned to effectively lead on Day One.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the possibility of contributing to the betterment of our city and working alongside you as a member of the Seattle City Council.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark A. Solomon', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Mark A. Solomon

# MARK SOLOMON

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Over 34 years' experience engaging District 2's diverse stakeholders to address community public safety and quality of life concerns.

## CURRENT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Crime Prevention Coordinator** 1990 – PRESENT  
**Seattle Police Department, Seattle, WA**

Work closely with community groups, businesses, faith-based entities, advocacy groups and public agencies in formulating crime prevention and public safety strategies. Facilitate engagement with government and community-based resources to achieve goals. Build inclusive partnerships between the Seattle Police Department (SPD) and the diverse communities it serves.

## PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Founding Partner/Senior Consultant** 2001-2014  
**Obsidian Security Group, Seattle, WA**

(Concurrent with Seattle Police Department)  
Provided security consultation to individuals and businesses on threats, vulnerabilities, risks, security needs and improvements. Hired, trained, supervised, and evaluated security contractors. Secured and oversee implementation of client contracts. Managed day-to-day administrative, accounting and budgeting functions.

## PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Intelligence Analyst/Chief of Intelligence** 1985-2012  
**United States Air Force, multiple locations**

(Concurrent with Seattle Police/Obsidian Security)  
Supervised, trained and evaluated teams of Intelligence analysts, administrative staff, and network administrators. Developed and administered Intelligence training programs. Deployed worldwide in support of US military operations. Served as Chief of Base Operations and Acting Air Group Commander while deployed to Afghanistan.

## SKILLS

- Demonstrated Leadership in multiple capacities
- Interagency coordination and facilitation
- Community engagement
- Problem solving
- Strong verbal and written communication

## EDUCATION

- BA Humanities, Seattle University, 1981
- Squadron Officer School, USAF, 1986 (Leadership Training)
- Air Command & Staff College, USAF, 2000 (Leadership Training)
- Air War College, USAF, 2009-2011 (Leadership Training)

## CURRENT COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Washington State Crime Prevention Association (WSCP): Region 2 Director/Board President, since 2016
- The Breakfast Group: Board Member, since 2017
- National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), Washington State Chapter: Vice President, since 2018
- Beacon Hill Council: Board member, since 2020

## CERTIFICATIONS

- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Professional Designation (2017 - current)
- Navigate 360/ALICE (Active Shooter) Certified Instructor (2018 – current)
- ASIS International Physical Security Professional (PSP) (2022 – current)





All City of Seattle officials and employees are subject to the provisions of Seattle Municipal Code (SMC), Chapter 4.16, (the "Ethics Code"). The purpose of the Ethics Code is to ensure that no public office is used for personal gain; and that the public have confidence in the integrity of its government. An individual with certain financial interests may be prohibited from participating in City business, as specified in the Ethics Code. Please click [HERE](#) to see SMC 4.16.070, a list of prohibited conduct.

1. Do you, or any member of your family, **receive compensation** from any person or entity that engaged in any transactions or activities with Seattle City government in the past five years?

☒ **No** ☐ **Yes**, please complete item 1 on page 2.
2. Do you, or any member of your family, have a **direct financial interest** in any person or entity that engaged in any transactions or activities with Seattle City government in the past five years?

☒ **No** ☐ **Yes**, please complete item 2 on page 2.
3. Have you, or any member of your family, served in the past five years as an officer, director, trustee, or employee of an entity that engaged in any transactions or activities with Seattle City government?

☐ **No** ☒ **Yes**, please complete item 3 on page 2.
4. After referencing SMC 4.16.070, do you have any other relationships, employment history or financial interests that you feel could be an issue with your service on the Council under the Ethics Code?

☒ **No** ☐ **Yes**, please complete item 4 on page 3.

Street Address: [REDACTED]  
Zip Code: [REDACTED]  
Resident at this address since: 2007

LEGC40 000000415

**EXPLANATIONS FOR RESPONSES ON PAGE 1:** (Use additional sheets if necessary. For assistance, please call the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission at 206-684-8500.)

1. Please provide the name and address of each person or entity for which you answered Yes on page 1

**Name:** The Breakfast Group \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Please provide the name and address of each entity for which you answered Yes on page 1.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Please indicate (i) the name of the person holding the position (you or an immediate family member); (ii) the title of the office, directorship, trusteeship or employment held; and (iii) the name and address of the entity.

**Person holding the position:** Mark Solomon \_\_\_\_\_  
**Position held with entity:** A Director on the Board \_\_\_\_\_  
**Entity name:** The Breakfast Group \_\_\_\_\_  
**Entity address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Please describe the relationships, employment history or financial interests for which you answered YES on page 1.

I am on the board of The Breakfast Group (<https://www.thebreakfastgroup.org/>). The Breakfast Group operates a program, Project M.I.S.T.E.R. (Male Involvement & Service To Encourage Responsibility), in numerous Seattle area high schools. This program receives funding from a number of sources, including the Department of Education and Early Learning.