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For more information, contact:

George Allen
Office: 206.389.7268; cell: 206.859.9062
georgea@seattlechamber.com

Alki Foundation Releases Candidate Recommendations

Recommendations reflect organization's "job growing" priorities and positions

Seattle – June 8, 2009 – The Alki Foundation, the political education affiliate of the Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce, today announced recommendations for candidates in contested primary races for Seattle City Council, Seattle Mayor and King County Executive.

The candidates recommended best reflect The Alki Foundation's 2009 position statement, which prioritized issues central to advancing a competitive regional business climate, sustaining essential government services and supporting overall economic recovery. Candidates were also evaluated on their commitment to developing an economic and regulatory environment that fosters capital investment and job growth over the long term.

The recommendations result from a comprehensive candidate evaluation co-chaired by George Griffin of G3 & Associates and Natalie Quick of The Fearey Group. Final recommendations were approved by Alki's board of trustees. All candidates who filed were invited to participate in the process and Alki conducted 28 interviews starting May 12. Decisions were based on written questionnaire responses, in-person interviews with members of the Alki board and interaction at Alki's May 7 forum. Consideration was also given to candidates' professional and community service records.

"Jobs and economic growth are preconditions for community health," said Michael Luis, chair of The Alki Foundation and principal, Michael Luis & Associates. "The government and nonprofit sectors rely on a strong economy. These entities cannot recover from their severe budget problems or service overload until the economy recovers."

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Suite 2500
1301 5th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101
(206) 389-7262
Fax (206) 903-3440



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“Smart policy and wise leadership are the only things that will get us back to supporting all the quality of life and community goals that we hold so dear. Now, more than ever, we need elected leaders who will help get our businesses back to employing folks and infusing money into the economy, and subsequently help the public sector establish the financial footing that allows for investments,” Luis added.

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Recommendations were made for contested seats only. The Alki Foundation may deliberate and subsequently release recommendations for Port of Seattle Commission, King County Council, King County Tax Assessor and Seattle City Attorney after the August 18 primary.

Alki Foundation 2009 Primary Recommendations

Seattle City Council, Position 2

Richard Conlin

Seattle City Council, Position 4

Sally Bagshaw

Seattle City Council, Position 6

Jessie Israel

Marty Kaplan

Seattle City Council, Position 8

Robert Rosencrantz

Jordan Royer

Seattle Mayor

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