




City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

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| Appointee Name: Sasha Wasserstrom | | |
| Board/Commission Name: Seattle Renters' Commission | | Position Title: Member |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <input type="checkbox"/> Reappointment | City Council Confirmation required? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | |
| Appointing Authority: <input type="checkbox"/> City Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i> | Term of Position: * 3/1/2026 to 2/28/2028 <input type="checkbox"/> Serving remaining term of a vacant position | |
| Residential Neighborhood: West Seattle | Zip Code: 98116 | Contact Phone No.: |
| Background: <i>I am applying to serve on the Seattle Renters' Commission because I believe the voices of renters must not only be heard — they must shape policy. In Seattle, where renters make up the majority of our residents, housing policy too often feel reactive, delayed, or disconnected from the urgency many of us experience month to month.</i> <i>I am motivated to serve because I believe the Commission plays a critical role in ensuring that renter protections are not symbolic gestures but durable, enforceable, and responsive to real conditions on the ground.</i> <i>My background in public policy and coalition leadership has shown me how critical it is to bridge lived experience with institutional process. I want to help ensure that renter perspectives are translated into clear recommendations, measurable accountability, and policies that reflect the full diversity of Seattle's neighborhoods and identities. Serving on this Commission would be an opportunity to contribute meaningfully to the future of a city where renters are not an afterthought, but central to how we define equity and stability.</i> | | |
| Authorizing Signature (original signature):  Date Signed (appointed): 03/25/2026 | | Appointing Signatory: Katie B. Wilson Mayor of Seattle |

*Term begin and end date is fixed and tied to the position and not the appointment date.

SASHA WASSERSTROM

| Pronouns: They/them

Political Strategist | Coalition Builder | Legislative Advocate: Bridging Community Power and Public Systems

HIGHLIGHTS OF QUALIFICATIONS:

- **Experienced policy and organizing leader** in overseeing day-to-day operations of issue campaigns and serving as a strategic partner to executive leadership in high-stakes advocacy and political organizations.
- **Deep familiarity with Washington State's legislative process**, including daily presence in Olympia during session, policy drafting, testimony, coalition alignment, and political analysis.
- **Skilled coalition builder with a track record of aligning diverse stakeholders** by cultivating trust, facilitating strategic dialogue, and anchoring decision-making in the leadership of impacted communities.
- **Proven ability to develop and execute campaign strategy** across communications, organizing, and policy work, translating movement priorities into clear goals, timelines, measurable outcomes and durable political wins.
- **Leads with accountability under pressure**; experienced in volunteer mobilization, advocacy training, and integrating electoral strategy with legislative advocacy.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Policy Director - Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network (WAISN), Seattle WA | 2022 – 2025

Washington State's largest immigrant and refugee advocacy network (350+ member organizations)

Organizational Leadership & Operations

- Served as senior leadership partner to Executive Directors, guide organizational strategy, managing day-to-day political operations, and ensuring alignment across policy, communications, and organizing teams.
- Led meetings with legislators, agency officials, and coalition partners; prepared briefings, testimony, district-specific political analysis, and strategic guidance for public events and legislative hearings.
- Supervised staff and consultants across political strategy, research, communications, and organizing; hired, onboarded, and coached team members while maintaining accountability to timelines and campaign goals.
- Oversaw internal systems for campaign planning, coordination, and quality control in highly regulated and politically sensitive environments, working with leadership to manage risk and maintain organizational standards.

Campaign Strategy & Political Execution

- Led multi-year statewide advocacy and policy campaigns resulting in more than \$300M in adopted public investments for immigrant healthcare, housing stability, and legal services.
- Developed district-informed campaign strategies, assessing legislative dynamics, mapping power across caucuses and committees, and identifying electoral implications of policy priorities.
- Developed integrated campaign plans across communications, organizing, and policy work, setting strategic goals, timelines, and performance benchmarks to ensure coordinated execution.
- Worked in Olympia during legislative sessions, attending hearings, taking committee notes, supporting lobbying efforts, and advancing proposals from introduction through budget adoption.

Movement, Power-Building & Coalition Leadership

- Built and sustained large, cross-sector coalitions linking grassroots organizations, labor partners, faith leaders, and elected officials to advance shared political objectives in polarized environments.
- Centered community leadership in political spaces by preparing advocates for testimony, facilitating legislative meetings, and developing messaging rooted in lived experience and democratic participation.
- Strengthened trust and alignment among diverse partners by creating structured decision-making processes and shared accountability for campaign outcomes.

Communications & Public Engagement

- Organized multiple statewide advocacy days engaging 300–500+ immigrant leaders and allies in coordinated legislative engagement at the state capitol, training first-time advocates, coordinating legislative meetings, and cultivating a culture of joyful political participation.

- Built and mobilized grassroots power to apply strategic pressure during key legislative and budget moments, coordinating rapid-response actions, public testimony, and district-level engagement aligned with broader campaign goals.
- Oversaw integrated political communications strategy, aligning narrative strategy, digital outreach, and field activation to support coordinated campaign goals and organizational priorities.

Ph.D. Candidate & Graduate Student Instructor - University of California-Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz CA | 2017-2022

Dissertation: U.S. misinformation politics, public trust, and policy behavior

- Conducted multi-method political research examining how government involvement in post-truth politics shapes public narratives, trust, and policy behavior.
- Developed expertise in democracy reform, public trust, and political behavior that informs applied electoral and legislative strategy.
- Taught and lectured ~200 undergraduates annually; designed curriculum and facilitated seminars translating research for diverse audiences.

Earlier Research & Strategy Roles (including electoral and field experience): Department Organizer (UAW 2865-UCSC), Supervisor of Marketing Science (Omnicom-Hearts & Science), Senior Research Analyst and Project Manager (IPG - Initiative and Universal McCann), Junior Research Analyst (Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research), Assistant Campaign Director (Grassroots Campaigns Inc.)

Audience Insight, Research & Strategy Roles

- Led and supported audience research, message testing, and segmentation analysis to inform advocacy, policy, and public engagement strategies.
- Designed mixed-method research plans, surveys, and reporting tools to support decision-making across political and organizational contexts.
- Analyzed public opinion and narrative trends to identify opportunities, risks, and strategic openings for campaigns.

Additional Leadership & Training Experience

- Managed field staff and volunteers in issue campaigns, overseeing daily operations, performance metrics, and voter engagement efforts across targeted districts.
- Supervised staff and volunteers across organizing and outreach efforts, building leadership capacity and strengthening operational discipline.
- Facilitated trainings and delivered presentations for diverse audiences, translating strategy, research, and policy into practical action.

EDUCATION

M.A (ABD.) *Political Science*, University of California, Santa Cruz. Dissertation topic: U.S. Misinformation Politics.
 B.A. *English Literature* (minor in *Political Science*), Georgetown University.

TECHNICAL & RESEARCH SKILLS | LANGUAGES | FELLOWSHIPS

- Skills: political strategy and program evaluation; mixed-methods research design; policy tracking and coalition infrastructure; database and CRM tools; power-mapping; media monitoring; project management.
- Languages: Spanish (intermediate), Greek (conversational), French (reading only).
- Fellowships: 2026 Washington Institute for a Democratic Future Fellow.

PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS & INTERESTS

Outside of my work, when I'm not immersed in legislative strategy or cultural analysis, you'll usually find me outside hiking, rock climbing, trail running, or mountain biking in the mountains and forests here in Washington.

Seattle Renters' Commission

15 Members: Pursuant to Ordinance 125280, all members subject to City Council confirmation, 2-year terms

Appointing Authority for SRC Member Positions

- 6 City Council-appointed (Positions 1 through 6)
- 7 Mayor-appointed (Positions 7 through 12 and Position 15)
- 2 Commission-appointed (Positions 13 and 14)

Roster: (last updated 3/25/26)

| *D | **G | RD | Position No. | Position Title | Name | Term Begin Date | Term End Date | Term # | Appointed By |
|------|-----|----|--------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------|--------------|
| 6 | F | 4 | 1. | Member | Liz Fite | 3/1/26 | 2/28/28 | 1 | Council |
| 3 | F | 3 | 2. | Member | Julissa Sanchez | 3/1/25 | 2/28/27 | 1 | Council |
| 5, 6 | FT | 3 | 3. | Member | Adora Blue | 3/1/26 | 2/28/28 | 1 | Council |
| 6 | F | 2 | 4. | Member | Kate Rubin | 3/1/25 | 2/28/27 | 2 | Council |
| | | 7 | 5. | Member | Alanna Diggs | 3/1/26 | 2/28/28 | 1 | Council |
| 6 | M | 4 | 6. | Member | Allan Francis | 3/1/25 | 2/28/27 | 1 | Council |
| 6 | M | 3 | 7. | Member | Sam Wolfson | 3/1/26 | 2/28/28 | 1 | Mayor |
| 6 | F | 3 | 8. | Member | Lydia Felty | 3/1/25 | 2/28/27 | 1 | Mayor |
| 1 | F | 3 | 9. | Member | Elisabeth Benham | 3/1/26 | 2/28/28 | 1 | Mayor |
| | | 2 | 10. | Member | Kasey Burton | 3/1/25 | 2/28/27 | 1 | Mayor |
| | | 1 | 11. | Member | Sasha Wasserstrom | 3/1/26 | 2/28/28 | 1 | Mayor |
| 3 | M | 3 | 12. | Member | Daniel E. Lugo | 3/1/25 | 2/28/27 | 1 | Mayor |
| 2 | M | 3 | 13. | Member | Andrew Ashiofu | 3/1/26 | 2/28/28 | 1 | Commission |
| 6 | F | 2 | 14. | Member | Karen Taylor | 3/1/25 | 2/28/27 | 1 | Commission |
| | | 6 | 15. | Get Engaged Member | Agni Bhattacharya | 9/1/25 | 8/31/26 | 1 | Mayor |

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9)

| | Male | Female | Transgender/ Non-Binary | NB/ O/ U | Asian | Black/ African American | Hispanic/ Latino | American Indian/ Alaska Native | Other | Caucasian/ Non- Hispanic | Pacific Islander | Middle Eastern | Multi- racial |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---|----------|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Mayor | 2 | 2 | | | 1 | | 1 | | | 2 | | | |
| Council | 1 | 4 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | 4 | | | |
| Other | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | |
| Total | 4 | 7 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 7 | | | |

Please Note: Information in this table may not accurately reflect the number of commissioners and/or demographics on the commission due to missing information and multiple selections.

Key:

- *D List the corresponding Diversity Chart number (1 through 9)
- **G List gender, M= Male, F= Female, T= Transgender, NB= Non-Binary O= Other U= Unknown
- RD Residential Council District number 1 through 7 or N/A

Diversity information is self-identified and is voluntary.