

## Recall of Seattle Councilmember Sawant Has Started

Legal Recall Election Process Initiated Today

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SEATTLE, WA – A grassroots effort to recall Seattle Councilmember Kshama Sawant began with a Statement of Charges Supporting the Recall Election of Seattle Councilmember Sawant that was filed with King County Elections Director Julie Wise earlier today.

Under the law for recalling elected officials, Director Wise is required to forward a copy of the Statement of Charges to Councilmember Sawant and to King County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Satterberg. Prosecutor Satterburg will then have 15 days to file a motion to determine sufficiency of the recall charges and adequacy of ballot synopsis with the King County Superior Court, which will then assign a Judge and schedule a hearing date and time.

The campaign to recall Sawant was started by the citizens of the City of Seattle District 3 because we feel that Councilmember Sawant's actions and policy positions do not represent the values and views of the majority of those who live in District 3.

This is a grassroots campaign and is being funded by small donors who are donating no more than \$25. Before today's official launch, and only through word of mouth, we have raised over \$15,000 in the past eight days in contributions of \$25 or less. And 88.4% of the contributions are from Seattle residents. In her reelection campaign in 2019, only 55.1% Councilmember Sawant's itemized contributions came from individuals and businesses in the City of Seattle. The recall Sawant effort is NOT being funded by the business establishment or any right-wing groups and all the contributions received thus far are from individuals.

According to Ernie Lou, a Seattle native, District 3 resident, who started the effort, "While, the majority of the citizens in District 3 are very liberal, we strongly feel that Councilmember Sawant's actions and policy proposals are not supported by a majority of District 3 residents. As the legal process moves forward, the campaign will be focused on raising awareness of our campaign and raising money to help in our petition signature gathering effort. "We are confident that the assigned King County Superior Court Judge will allow us to move forward to gather signatures." said Lou.

When the King County Superior Court Judge rules in our favor, the committee will then have 180 days to gather 10,739 valid signatures from voters who live in District 3. That number is based on 25% of the total number of votes cast (42,956) in the November 5, 2019 general election for City of Seattle Council Position #3 (RCW 29A.56.180).

Lou said, "Our target is to gather around 13,000 – 14,000 signatures to ensure that we have enough valid signatures for the recall to be placed on the ballot." Lou also said, "COVID-19

does create some challenges for in person signature gathering so the campaign will rely more on mailing petitions to voters in District 3. That is why raising money is important to pay for the printing and postage for mailing out all these signature petitions.”

While only voters in District 3 are eligible to sign the petition, anyone can donate up to \$25 to help pay for signature gathering.

Please visit our web site for more information and to donate to our campaign at [www.recallsawant2020.org](http://www.recallsawant2020.org)

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SOURCE

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