## Board and Commission Application

## Step 1

Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Boards and Commissions

## Public Statement

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public board or commission, the information provided will be available to the County Council, County Executive, and the public. All board and commission members are expected to be fair, impartial, and respectful of the public, County staff, and each other. Failure to abide by these expectations may result in revocation of appointment and removal from the appointive position.

Title	Mx.
First Name	Eve
Last Name	Smason-Marcus
Today's Date	5/4/2022
Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	Field not completed.
Stop 2	
Step 2	
1. Name of Board or	Justice Project Stakeholder Advisory Committee

Committee

Justice Project Stakeholder Advisory Committee	Individual with experience in criminal justice system
2. Do you meet the residency, employment, and/or affiliation requirements of the position for which you're applying?	Yes
3. Which Council district do you live in?	District 1
4. Are you a US citizen?	Yes
5. Are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county?	No
7. Have you ever been a member of this Board/Commission?	Νο
8. Do you or your spouse have a financial interest in or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency that does business with Whatcom County?	No
You may attach a resume or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & interest in response to the following questions	Field not completed.

9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education	I currently work as a housing case manager with Northwest Youth Services and serve youth 18-24 in supportive housing at 22N. I have lived in Bellingham for 14 years and have spent many years organizing around issues of homelessness, racial injustice and inequity, transformative justice, and educational opportunities in our community. I have been on the board of the Whatcom Human Rights Taskforce since 2019 and most recently joined the board of the Whatcom Peace and Justice Center a few months ago. I was arrested and taken into the jail in February of 2016 and spent a night in the jail. I experienced verbal abuse and taunting from the correction officers. I was left alone in a cell without any functional lighting. The food I was given was covered in mold and inedible. I spent the next few months in and out of courtrooms and lawyer meetings as well as the next few years trying to recover financially from the impact. I know there are other community members with more comprehensive experiences with the criminal legal system, but if there are vacancies left unfilled I feel my experience with the criminal legal system and in our community are important to bring to this committee.
10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission	I am interested in serving on this board because I care about Whatcom County and want us to be building a future that ensures the safety and wellbeing of everyone, especially those that have been continuously left behind, marginalized, and over- policed, including Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, LGBTQ+ community, immigrants, undocumented folks, unhoused neighbors, poor and working class people, young people, and more. I believe my experience with the criminal lega system, years of organizing around issues of human rights and social justice, and being a non-binary Jewish person in Whatcom County are relevant to this committee's work and aren't always experiences that are brought into these spaces. Beyond my own experience with the criminal legal system, I work with youth who are very familiar with the criminal legal system in Whatcom County and witness it failing them every day. If my experiences can impact the services and resources available for our community for the better than I want to share them and participate in this process.
Signature of applicant:	Eve Smason-Marcus