

From: Emijah Smith
To: spsdirectors@seattleschools.org
Subject: District 7 Board Candidate Emijah Smith
Date: Thursday, September 5, 2019 2:11:34 PM

Dear Seattle Public School Board Directors,

I have been made aware of information that may have been sent to some of Seattle Public School (SPS) Board Directors about an extremely traumatic incident that happened to me in 2012. With respect to the privacy of my family and to prevent false representation, I am writing to explain the situation.

Dangerous adults came unto my property, my home, unannounced trying to harm my family. First, I am a mother who loves my children. Second, it's my responsibility to protect the safety of my children and my home. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] My entire family was harassed and our physical safety was threatened. I responded to these traumatic circumstances to the best of my ability.

Despite the fact that a protection order was in place to protect my family and my home, and the fact that I called the police in advance of the situation, I was arrested. This incident resulted in a misdemeanor that was dismissed over five years ago. I do not have any felonies on my record. I have been vetted by Seattle Public Schools over those years. My background does not prevent me from working with children, families, and other vulnerable populations.

My family has intentionally chosen to move past this traumatic experience. We chose to move forward as the positive and productive people we are. Our resilience resulted in my daughter graduating high school and the University of Washington. Today, my daughter is doing well.

I am aware that there are misrepresentations of the facts in the information that some SPS Board Directors may have received. I know the truth. My children love me. My family is safe. For that, I am at peace.

The relevance of this experience to my candidacy is that I have deeper sensitivity and insight into the impacts of sexual assault and domestic violence on SPS students and families. As I advocate for my own children, I advocate for the well-being of all children, including students of Seattle Public Schools.

Thank you for your time hearing me in this matter. If you have further questions, feel free to call me. I am happy to talk with you.

Sincerely,

Emijah Smith
[REDACTED]

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