

2026 QUALIFIED POLITICAL PARTY

County Offices

DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

by

Joseph A. Tugaw

(Print name exactly as it is to be printed on the official ballot - no amendments or modifications after 5 P.M. on January 8, 2026)

for the office of Wasatch County Council for the Seat F district.

State of Utah

County of Wasatch } ss.

I, Joseph A. Tugaw, declare my intention of becoming a candidate for the office of Wasatch County Council Seat F as a candidate for the Democratic party. I do solemnly swear that: I will meet the qualifications to hold the office, both legally and constitutionally, if selected; I reside at 1481 W Stillwater Dr in the City or Town of Heber City, Utah, Zip Code 84032, Phone No. 801-440-5250; I will not knowingly violate any law governing campaigns and elections; that, if filing via a designated agent, I will be out of the state of Utah during the entire candidate filing period; I will file all campaign financial disclosure reports as required by law; and I understand that failure to do so may result in my disqualification as a candidate for this office and removal of my name from the ballot. The mailing address that I designate for receiving official election notices is

☐ (Optional) I wish to classify my addresses listed above as a protected record. By doing so, you must provide an alternative address or phone number.

Alternative Address OR Phone Number: _____

I am a member of the Democratic political party;

I am seeking the nomination using:

- ☒ The convention process described in Utah Code 20A-9-407;
☐ The signature-gathering process described in Utah Code 20A-9-408;
☐ Both the convention process and the signature-gathering process.

jatugaw@gmail.com
Email Address (one that is closely monitored)

JoeTugawforWCC.com
Website (optional)

Joseph A. Tugaw
Signature of Candidate (must be notarized or be signed in the presence of the filing officer)

Greg D. Smith
Notary Public (or other officer qualified to administer oath)

Subscribed and sworn before me this January 7, 2026
(month/day/year)



1/07/2026

(Date Received)

CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY QUALIFICATIONS

Before the filing officer accepts any declaration of candidacy, the filing officer shall read to the candidate the constitutional and statutory requirements for candidacy, and the candidate shall state whether he/she fulfills the requirements. If the candidate indicates that they do not qualify, the filing officer may not accept their declaration of candidacy (Utah Code Section 20A-9-203).

- Citizen of the United States.
- Have required state license (if applicable)
 - o **County Attorney:** Attorney licensed to practice law in the state who is an active member in good standing of the Utah State Bar (17-68-202).
 - o **County Assessor:** A state-licensed or state-certified appraiser (17-67-201).
 - o **County Sheriff:** Met the standards and training requirements established for law enforcement officers under Title 53, Chapter 6, Part 2, Peace Officer Training and Certification Act, met the waiver requirements in Section 53-6-206, and is qualified to be certified as a law enforcement officer, as defined in Section 53-13-103 (17-72-201).
- Registered voter in Wasatch County.
- Be and remain a resident of Wasatch County for at least one year as of November 3, 2026.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR CANDIDATE FILING DECLARATION

Utah Code 20A-9-201

Please initial:

☒ The filing officer read the **constitutional and statutory qualifications** as listed to me, and I meet those qualifications.

☒ I understand that **my name will appear on the ballot as it is printed** on this declaration of candidacy, and that I may not make any amendments or modifications after **5:00 p.m. on January 8, 2026**.

☒ I understand that an individual who holds a municipal elected office may not, at the same time, hold a county elected office.

☒ I agree to file all campaign financial disclosure reports, and I understand that **failure to do so may result in my disqualification as a candidate** for this office, possible fines and/or criminal penalties, including removal of my name from the ballot.

☒ I provided a valid email, or physical address if no email is available, and I understand this will be used for official communications and updates from election officials.

☒ I understand that I will receive all financial disclosure notices by **email**.

☒ I have received a copy of Section 20A-7-801 regarding the **Statewide Electronic Voter Information Website Program** and its applicable deadline.

☒ I received a copy of the **Pledge of Fair Campaign Practices**, and I understand that signing this pledge is voluntary.

☒ I received a copy of the **current campaign financial disclosure laws**.

☒ I have paid the applicable **filing fee** of \$ 2652.68

☒ I understand that I can withdraw my candidacy at any time by filing a written affidavit with the Clerk/Auditor's office. I understand that I must withdraw at least 65 days before Election Day to have my name removed from the ballot.

____ **County Attorney:** I submitted the following: a letter from the Utah Supreme Court, affirming that I am in good standing, proof of my application with the Utah State Bar, with an affidavit describing the status of my application or an affidavit describing how I intend to comply with the requirements for office of county attorney described in Subsection (3)(b)(i), and my license number with the Utah State Bar or any other state bar associations, if applicable.

____ **County Sheriff:** I submitted a certificate issued by the Peace Officer Standards and Training Division created under Section 53-6-103.

____ If filing via a designated agent, I will be out of the state of Utah during the entire candidate filing period.

* A qualified voter (1) is a citizen of the United States; (2) is a resident of Utah; (3) will, on the date of that election: be at least 18 years old and have been a resident of Utah for 30 days immediately before that election; (4) and has registered to vote.

**A person convicted of a felony loses the right to hold office until (1) all felony convictions have been expunged, OR (2) ten years have passed since the most recent felony conviction AND the person has paid all court-ordered restitution and fines AND the person has completed probation, been granted parole, or completed the term of incarceration associated with the felony.

Signature of Filing Officer

1/07/2026
Date

2026 DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

PLEDGE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

Information entered on this form is a **public record** under Utah Code § 63G-2. This form will be posted on vote.utah.gov. This is a **voluntary** pledge. Candidates are not required to sign this pledge to file a declaration of candidacy.

There are basic principles of decency, honesty, and fair play which every candidate for public office in the State of Utah has a moral obligation to observe and uphold, in order that, after vigorously contested but fairly conducted campaigns, our citizens may exercise their right to a free election, and that the will of the people may be fully and clearly expressed on the issues.

THEREFORE:

I SHALL conduct my campaign openly and publicly, discussing the issues as I see them, presenting my record and policies with sincerity and frankness, and criticizing, without fear or favor, the record and policies of my opponents that I believe merit criticism.

I SHALL NOT use, nor shall I permit the use of, scurrilous attacks on any candidate or the candidate's immediate family. I shall not participate in, nor shall I permit the use of, defamation, libel, or slander against any candidate or the candidate's immediate family. I shall not participate in, nor shall I permit the use of, any other criticism of any candidate or the candidate's immediate family that I do not believe to be truthful, provable, and relevant to my campaign.

I SHALL NOT use, nor shall I permit the use of, any practice that tends to corrupt or undermine our American system of free elections, or that hinders or prevents the free expression of the will of the voters, including practices intended to hinder or prevent any eligible person from registering to vote or voting.

I SHALL NOT coerce election help or campaign contributions for myself or for any other candidate from my employees or volunteers.

I SHALL immediately and publicly repudiate support deriving from any individual or group which resorts, on behalf of my candidacy or in opposition to that of an opponent, to methods in violation of the letter or spirit of this pledge. I shall accept responsibility to take firm action against any subordinate who violates any provision of this pledge or the laws governing elections.

I SHALL defend and uphold the right of every qualified American voter to full and equal participation in the electoral process.

I, the undersigned candidate for election to public office in the State of Utah, hereby voluntarily endorse, subscribe to, and solemnly pledge myself to conduct my campaign in accordance with the above principles and practices.

Joseph A. Ryge
NAME OF CANDIDATE

Wasatch County Council Seat
OFFICE and DISTRICT

Joseph A. Ryge
SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE

1/7/26
DATE



WASATCH — COUNTY —

Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form

Date: January 7, 2026
Name: Joseph A. Tugan
Position (Officer/Board Member/Committee member): County Council Seat 7

Please describe below any relationships, transactions, positions you hold (volunteer or otherwise), or circumstances that you believe could contribute to a conflict of interest between Wasatch County and your personal interests, financial or otherwise:



I have no conflict of interest to report



I have the following conflict of interest to report (please specify other county, nonprofit, and for-profit boards you (and your spouse) sit on, any for-profit businesses for which you or an immediate family member are an officer, manager or director, or a majority shareholder, and the name of your employer and any businesses you or a family member own:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

I hereby certify that the information set forth above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I agree to abide by the County's Conflict of Interest Policy by refraining to vote on or be a party to a discussion on any issue that raises a conflict of interest as described above. I understand that failure to disclose conflicts of interest may result in public scrutiny and board action.

Signature: Joseph A. Tugan
Printed Name: Joseph A. Tugan
E-mail Address: jatugan@gmail.com