

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR KING COUNTY

IN RE THE MATTER OF RECALL

NO. 20-2-10455-8 SEA

CHARGES AGAINST CITY OF

MOTION FOR EXPEDITED RULING

SEATTLE MAYOR JENNY DURKAN

(HARVEY)

Petitioners move for an expedited ruling by the Superior Court in this case. This recall case is an ever-evolving situation, and it is clear that Mayor Durkan will appeal to the Supreme Court if she fails to convince this Court to strike all charges. Petitioners also intend to appeal to the Supreme Court if all charges are stricken.

Petitioners ask this Court to read the declarations filed today in this Court, from Black Lives Matter, Seattle-King County, et al v. City of Seattle, and to pay particular attention to the documented injuries and to the repetition — in every eyewitness declaration — that Seattle Police Officers gave no order to disperse. Officers were responding to neither threat nor violence against them, rather performing coordinated attacks, causing terror and injury. These are difficult declarations to read and images to view, certainly, they were painful experiences.


Review in the Supreme Court will be de novo, as such while this Court's ruling is a critical part of the procedure, it also will move on from here to another court. Following this, there is still the delay of signature gathering, then King County Elections processing, and then voting.

A day by day delay here, in the Superior Court, delays day by day justice being done for these protesters. Delay here postpones the chance for the Seattle voters to lend their voices in a recall election. This petition does not pre-determine a removal via recall, the Mayor will have ample opportunity to redeem her image in the eye of the voters, she need not delay in that regard by continued filings before this Court. Despite this fact, the Mayor has continued to ignore pleas from the public she serves, going so far as to file for a TRO against the very constitutional protections the people of her city have asked her to respect. Mayor Durkan continues to transparently disregard constitutional rights and makes no move to start a process by which the use of crowd control weapons during the age of COVID-19 may be considered. The Mayor chooses instead to scapegoat the Consent Decree while ignoring the fact that policy changes may be initiated and moved through the consideration process laid out by this very Decree.

As Petitioners argued in our Response to Mayor Durkan's Motion for Reconsideration, this recall is the specific way in which the voters of Seattle can directly hold their Mayor accountable for her action and inaction, and her disregard for her duty to uphold the US Constitution. Mayor Durkan is the only person in the city who can remove Chief Best or take control of the SPD, and she has chosen not to do so, despite continued pleas to protect her own citizenry. Mayor Durkan, therefore, demonstrates no central respect to laws that govern her City, nor the rights of those within its borders.

Petitioners, therefore, ask that the Superior Court rule with all speed.

Signed this 28th day of July 2020 at Seattle, Washington.

By: 
Elliot Grace Harvey