

CANDIDATE PROFILE

BREINA SCHAIN, DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR CONSTABLE (2021)



REASON I AM RUNNING: I am running for the position of Constable mainly due to my dedication, experience and enjoyment of serving the town (where I proudly lived for fourteen years) and utilized my skills acquired from my working career, interest and education. Also, I enjoy meeting my fellow town residents, getting to know them, listening to their needs and being in a roll to respond. I find it fulfilling to be in a position where I can exercise judgement; make decisions which are according to the law, maintain safety and security, while also being able to share knowledge about our town and help people with their issues.

ISSUES THAT INTEREST ME AND WHY: I am especially interested in safety and security due to my career in the Department of Correction. Cultural entertainment and enrichment, such as the Cheshire Symphony Orchestra and the Arts, are very important as I have a background in music (classical, etc.) and singing in choirs since my youth. I appreciate community involvement such as the Fall Festival, Strawberry Festival, patriotic events, and other town gatherings since we can meet our town neighbors and work cohesively for common goals. Environment is a serious interest of mine, being a member of two associations (Sierra Club and the Appalachian Mountain Club) and actively involved in outside volunteer work. I assist with the River Advocates (and previously the Quinnipiac River Watershed Association), to facilitate inner city youth in learning boating skills and to appreciate our environment by helping to clean up our waterways. Also, I have great interest in town growth, character, district design, recreational areas, and government.

EDUCATION: Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education major and Music minor at Southern Connecticut State University , Master's Degree in Community Counseling / thesis in Animal Assistance therapy at Western Connecticut State University. Other coursework has been completed in conjunction with my past jobs.

OCCUPATION: Past to Present: Department of Health and Human Services, Social Security Administration (New Haven) Contact Representative, Credit Bureau of Connecticut (New Haven) clarify problems and assist the public in credit rating information, Better Business Bureau (Wallingford) Mediation and Arbitration Specialist in Auto-Line Department, CT Consumer Protection (Hartford) Product Safety Inspector, CT Department of Correction, total of four prisons: Cheshire Correctional Institution, Webster Correctional Institution and Manson

Youth Institution (Cheshire) and also at York Correctional Center (Niantic) predominantly in the Addiction Services, Religious Services and Counseling fields.

CLUBS/ORGANIZATION: Current member of the Bristol Chorale Society, Medical Response Team member/Safety Committee of the Chesprocott Health District, volunteer with the Cheshire Chamber of Commerce, Friends of the Cheshire Library, Cheshire Land Trust, Cheshire Historical Society and currently with River Advocates Association with Executive Director Mary Mushinsky. I've worked with my certified therapy Shetland Sheepdog, Trevor where we volunteered with Pet Partners Organization in the following places: the Cheshire school district for about a year with young students, nursing home in Southington mainly with Alzheimer patients, with college students in three universities for stress relief at exam times and speaking engagements on Pet Therapy. Presently working with CT State Representative (Deputy Speaker of the CT House of Representatives) Mary Mushinsky in conjunction with other Connecticut Legislatures to initiate and enact legislation to define and recognize the value of certified therapy dogs. Member of the Cheshire Democratic Town Committee and Cheshire Democratic Women's Club.

CIVIC INVOLVEMENT: Charities: United Way, Animal Haven, New England Dog Assistance Services (NEADS), Cheshire Symphony, Sierra Club, Appalachian Mountain Club, numerous Animal Welfare Organizations, National Association of Clocks and Watches, Cheshire Historical Society, and Cheshire Friends of the Library. Past Certified Sexual Assault Volunteer, providing crisis intervention in New Haven on a Community Hot Line. Served on the Cheshire Historical District Commission and formerly on the Cheshire Zoning Board of Appeals in a full-time capacity. Past membership on the Board of Directors in Thresholds Organization (teaching inmates decision making skills), Quinnipiac River Watershed Association, and Western Connecticut State University Alumni Association.

AWARDS/HONORS AND SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS: Member of Pi Lambda Theta, International Honor Society and Education Association. Initiated, designed, and co-wrote a companion manual for inmates to keep in their cells for the Threshold course which was written by a former inmate, who later became a doctor, in order to assist inmates with decision making, life skills, and methods for building self-confidence.

ELECTED OFFICES/COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENTS HELD: Appointed to the Cheshire Historic District Commission (Commissioner) and previously in elected office where I served on the Cheshire Zoning Board of Appeals in a full-time position.

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