

2021 Official Candidate Statement

City & Borough of Juneau, Alaska

Troy Wuyts-Smith

Candidate: Assemblymember District 1



Name: Troy Wuyts-Smith

Office Sought: Assemblymember District 1

Residence Address: 226 Saint Ann's Ave, Douglas, Alaska 99824

Mailing Address: 226 Saint Ann's Ave, Douglas, Alaska 99824

Email Address: info@troyforalaska.com

Website: www.troyforalaska.com

Age: 34

Occupation: Supervisor at Alaska Airlines. Small Business Owner of Crowned LLC.

Spouse's Name: Glenn Wuyts

Place of Birth: McKeesport, PA

Length of Residency in Juneau: South Douglas since 2018

Communities lived in & dates of residency: South Douglas since 2018

Education: Bachelor's Degree in Political Science/ English Minor. Saint Vincent College

Military Service: Son of Vietnam Veteran

Political and Government Positions: Douglas Advisory Board

Business and Professional Positions: Small Business Owner

Biographical Information *[limited to 150 words or less.]:*

I was born February 24th, 1987 in McKeesport, Pennsylvania. I have 2 brothers (Jarod and Bruce) and 1 sister (Cameron). My father (James) is a Vietnam Veteran and my mother (Brenda) is a nurse. Growing up in a military family provided great discipline and shaped me into a respectful, caring person. I grew up in a competitive household as all of my siblings were successful athletes.

I've been married for 5 years to my husband, Glenn, who is an immigrant from Belgium. He is a Physical Therapist and Real Estate Agent. We have a 4 year old Akita (Woodrow) who is a certified emotional support animal.

I studied Political Science at Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, PA where I also served as the captain of the tennis team. Shortly after college, I started a career in hospitality which led me from NYC to Iceland and eventually back to the states.

Position Statement *[limited to 250 words or less.]:*

I have spent my life advocating for causes that I have personal connections to. Most notably, while living abroad in Iceland from 2013 -2016, I challenged parliament to overturn the ban denying gay men the right to donate blood. Those hard fought efforts landed me an invitation to the presidential residence for a meeting with former President Ólaur Grímson. Shortly after, I met with Iceland's former Prime Minister, Jóhanna Sigurðardóttir, and mayor of Reykjavík, Dagur Eggertson. Being invited to discuss law reform with world leaders made me realize that I was born to serve.

From that point on, I pushed forward with endless efforts to advance LGBTQ+ rights and equality in all forms. My story has developed into a lifelong effort to advocate for causes of utmost importance. At the age of 12, I became a sexual assault survivor. At the age of 16, I survived a brutal racial hate crime. At the age of 17, I survived a suicide attempt. Now, at the age of 34, I am certain of my greatest strength— survival. I am a survivor.

We must recognize mental health as a public health crisis and tackle the surrounding issues that are linked to it: the opioid crisis, suicide, and homelessness. These issues greatly effect our economy. We must push our community to become more sustainable and only shop at our local businesses. We must take appropriate measures to ensure the safety of our people and keep our businesses and schools open! We cannot afford another