

SHELBY

DEMOCRAT

POLITICAL MEDIA OF SHELBY COUNTY

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AUGUST 2023

LEXIE CARTER



*Shelby County
Democratic Party
Chairwoman*

SHELBY COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY OFFICERS



WILLIE SIMON
1ST VICE CHAIR



WILL RICHARDSON
2ND VICE CHAIR



GLORTIA BANKS
TREASURER



TIM GREEN
ASST. TREASURER



BETINA HUNT
REC. SECRETARY



PATRICE MINNER
CORRES. SECRETARY



TYJUAN SPENCER
PARLIAMENTARIAN



MICHAEL POPE
SERGEANT AT ARMS



LYNN WHITNEY
SCDP CONSULTANT

TOGETHER, WE CAN WIN!

 **VOTE**

JAMES
KIRKWOOD
FOR CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 3

**Together we can create the
change we need and want for the
communities we love with:**

Community Policing to Reduce Crime
Workforce Development to Reduce Poverty
Community Development to Reduce Blight
Youth Engagement to Reduce At-Risk Behavior

To learn more about candidate James Kirkwood,
visit electjameskirkwood.com



Patrice Robinson, Treasurer
Paid for by the Committee to Elect James Kirkwood

Re-Elect

COUNCILWOMAN

— Michalyn —

EASTER-THOMAS

CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 7



LISTENING ★ DOING ★ LEADING

ACHIEVEMENTS IN DISTRICT 7

- Launched the North Memphis Grocery Project with \$4.5 million in grants
- Directed park spending towards the new Hollywood Splashpad, the coming Douglass Splashpad, a new pavilion for Gooch Park, renovated University Park tennis courts, and community-led programming at Greenlaw Community Center
- Supported the final steps toward completion of the new Ed Rice Community Center and the beginning of the new Frayser Library
- Secured funding for the cleaning of blight along the Chelsea & Evergreen floodwalls
- Initiated the traffic safety improvement effort for school zones in the City of Memphis for our students
- Led the first & only City Council Redistricting Committee to engage citizens directly with the process that occurs every decade
- Allocated over \$850,000 to local non profit organizations to support their work in the community
- And much more to bring progress to District 7 and the City of Memphis!

 @METDISTRICT7

WWW.MICHALYNFORMEMPHIS.COM

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF MICHALYN EASTER-THOMAS, BIANCA COOPER, TREASURER

SHELBY

DEMOCRAT

POLITICAL MEDIA OF SHELBY COUNTY



PUBLISHER
xfe
PUBLISHING INC
LEXIE GAFFER
EDITOR
FELIX WALKER
BRAND LAYOUT/DESIGN

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Much has changed since our last publication. On April 1, 2023, I was elected as the Chair of the Shelby County Democratic Party.

So far, it's been an incredibly fast pace of interesting, yet intriguing challenges. Only days after my election, I joined several Democrats who traveled to Nashville in support of our State Representatives that were being expelled from their elected positions. We were joined by our Memphis delegation and concerned groups from all over the state. The expulsion of Tennessee State Representatives Justin Jones and Justin Pearson spurred a whirlwind of activities, including a Reception and a Unity event in Memphis.

Representative Pearson was first reinstated, on April 13, 2023, on an interim basis by the Shelby County Commissioners. Having won a special Primary election on June 15th, he eventually won general election on Thursday, August 3, 2023.

Under my leadership, we ended years of back and forth court battles to single out certain individuals for selling ballots. While there were competing views, the Shelby County Democratic party ultimately decided that in considering all aspects, it was in the best interest of the SCDP to vacate the lawsuit and end all further related pursuits.

The Shelby County Democratic Party is not just transitioning from one Chairperson to another; we are finalizing a reconstruction that is intended to grow and reunite the vast community of Democrats with our Legislators and the Party.



Shelby County is the largest Democratic Party in Tennessee. It is our goal to join our Democrat neighbors and lead the effort to expand our voter base. We must fight our way back to a majority in the state house. The time is NOW! The Republicans have shown us that they will stop at nothing to force their will, though many of their advances defy reason and go against popular ideology for most Americans.

We are speaking for you! We are working for you! From fighting for local fair redistricting to holding all Democrat elected Officials to abide within our bona fides, we are showing up! We can't do it alone. As we deal with the local issues, we must also focus on other serious issues that demand our attention. The foundation of our Democracy is being challenged in indisputable ways that we could not have imagined in years gone by.

UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL

We can't afford to turn a deaf ear. We must meet these challenges head on because there is so much at stake. I am calling on you to do whatever you can to help our cause because our cause is your cause. We may not even have all the answers but together we can figure it out.

Below is a QR Code that you can use to volunteer. There is also a QR Code you may use to donate today! If you are not registered to vote, there is a QR Code that will assist you in getting registered.

Let's do this!



VOLUNTEER SCDP



DONATE SCDP



REGISTER TO VOTE





TENNESSEE LEGISLATORS



REP JOE TOWNS
DISTRICT 84



REP JESSE CHISM
DISTRICT 85



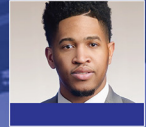
REP JUSTIN PEARSON
DISTRICT 86



REP KAREN CAMPER
DISTRICT 87



REP LARRY MILLER
DISTRICT 88



REP TORREY HARRIS
DISTRICT 90



REP GA HARDAWAY
DISTRICT 93



REP DWAYNE THOMPSON
DISTRICT 96



REP ANTONIO PARKSON
DISTRICT 98



ST SEN RAMESH AKBARI
DISTRICT 29



ST SEN SARA KYLES
DISTRICT 30



ST SEN LONDON LAMAR
DISTRICT 38

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VOTE

WILL FRAZIER

FOR CITY COUNCIL
DISTRICT 2

Early Voting is Sept. 15-30
Election Day is Oct. 5

"IF I DON'T, WHO WILL?"

Friends to elect Will Frazier / Ken Gourdine, Treasurer



*"Congratulations
Chairwoman
Lexie Carter"*

**Judge
Valerie Smith**
Circuit Court Division III

MEET OUR CIRCUIT COURT COURTROOM CLERKS

JAMITA SWEARENGEN

CIRCUIT COURT CLERK



LADARIUS FIELDS
DIVISION 1



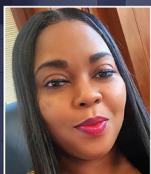
ANNIE WELLS
DIVISION 2



JASMINE ALDRIDGE
DIVISION 3



MALIK HEARON
DIVISION 4



JONIKA N. COX
DIVISION 5



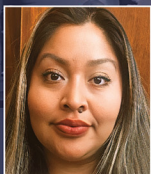
DONNELL ROBERTS
DIVISION 6



SHONKIAH HENLEY
DIVISION 7



MARIO ROSS
DIVISION 8



BERENICE GARCIA
DIVISION 9



GIOVONNIE BAKER
RESERVE CLERK



JARVIS COTTON
DIVORCE REFEREE



MELISSA HILL
DIVORCE REFEREE

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION TO THE WORK OF THE COURTS
YOU ARE APPRECIATED**



JUDGE CAMILLE McMULLEN

Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals

I am deeply honored to have been unanimously elected to lead the judges of the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals. The Court is made of twelve judges who serve the citizens of the State of Tennessee by hearing/adjudicating/deciding cases statewide. We hear all cases, anything from misdemeanors to murder, that are appealed from the trial court level. We review those cases to ensure they have been conducted in accordance with the state and federal constitution. Once we decide a case, we issue a written opinion explaining our decision to the litigants. Our goal is to ensure that the citizens of the State of Tennessee have a fair and impartial judicial system. As the chief judge, I am responsible for the management of criminal cases across the State of Tennessee. This includes setting the calendars and case assignments. One of my priorities will be to continue to educate the public about our role in the judicial system by having special court settings at various colleges and law schools across the State. I would like to thank my colleagues for having the confidence in me to lead the court, and I am excited about this next phase of my legal journey. Having been on the court for over fifteen years, I believe that I have the experience to serve in this capacity. I would also like to thank my family for providing the support needed to fulfill my professional goals.

Congratulations Judge McMullen on becoming Chief Judge of the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals. You are well prepared for this important task. As Tennessee's first African American female judge, I am elated by the leadership that African American female judges are demonstrating. You are blazing an important trail that will benefit all Tennesseans. Congratulations!

~ Judge Bernice Bouie Donald

Congratulations! I am amazed by you! It is an honor to serve our great state along with you.

~ Judge Valerie Smith

Congratulations Judge Camille McMullen on your election to Presiding Judge for the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals. I am very proud of you and the citizens of Tennessee will greatly benefit from your continued leadership in your new role as Presiding Judge of the Court and as a member of the judiciary.

~ Judge Felicia Corbin Johnson

Congratulations Judge Camille McMullen on your election as the Presiding Judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals. Thank you for your many years of service to the State of Tennessee. Our State and court system is blessed by your service and leadership. Best wishes in your new role.

~ Judge Mary Wagner

Congratulations Judge Camille R. McMullen on your elevation to Presiding Judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals and the distinct honor of being the first woman and the first African-American to lead the 12 member appellate court. Thank you for continued service, leadership, and inspiration.

~ Judge Yolanda Kight Brown

Congratulations are most certainly in order as you take up the mantle of Presiding Judge for the Criminal Courts of Appeal. It is a role that will suit you well. God's speed and His guidance knowing that you will lead with His wisdom.

~ Judge Gina C Higgins



VAN TURNER

★ FOR MAYOR OF MEMPHIS ★

#STANDWITHVAN



BACKGROUND

- ATTORNEY
- PAST PRESIDENT, NAACP MEMPHIS BRANCH
- FORMER SHELBY COUNTY COMMISSIONER
- FORMER CHAIRMAN, SHELBY COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY
- 100 BLACK MEN OF MEMPHIS, INC.
- ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC.
- DOUGLAS LODGE NO. 360, F. & A.M., PRINCE HALL
- LEADERSHIP MEMPHIS
- METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH, ORDAINED DEACON

TOP ISSUES

- REFORM THE POLICE, NOT DEFUND
- INVEST IN MEMPHIS INFRASTRUCTURE
- BRING JOBS BACK TO MEMPHIS
- FULLY FUND OUR YOUTH BY PROVIDING AFFORDABLE DAYCARE
- ADVOCATE FOR MINORITY AND WOMEN OWNED BUSINESSES
- WORK TO CONNECT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES WITH TRADE PROGRAMS
- ADVOCATE FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS



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VANTURNER4MAYOR

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PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT VAN TURNER FOR MAYOR

VISIONARY | ADVOCATE | SERVANT

EARLY VOTING: SEPT. 15TH-30TH

ELECTION DAY: OCT. 5TH, 2023



JANIKA *for* WHITE CITY COUNCIL

SUPER DISTRICT 8 POSITION 2

BACKGROUND

- Former judicial law clerk to the Honorable Bernice B. Donald and Honorable Kenny Armstrong
- Memphis Native & Central High Alumni
- Trial lawyer & former law partner at Bailey, Bailey, & White PLLC
- Member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
- Chair of Bloomfield Urban Ministries Board
- Light Of Glory International Church, Member
- National Bar Association Ben F. Jones Chapter
- Tennessee Trial Lawyers
- Memphis Bar Association

ISSUES

- Crime must be at the forefront of our conversations to include more accessibility to active youth programs throughout our city
- Investing in our over 100 year old utility infrastructure while finding alternative resources to compensate this initiative
- Actively supporting our labor unions who advocate for working families.



@JANIKAWHITENOW



WWW.JANIKAWHITE.COM

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF JANIKA WHITE, CHEYENNE JOHNSON, TREASURER





COUNCILMAN
JB SMILEY JR.

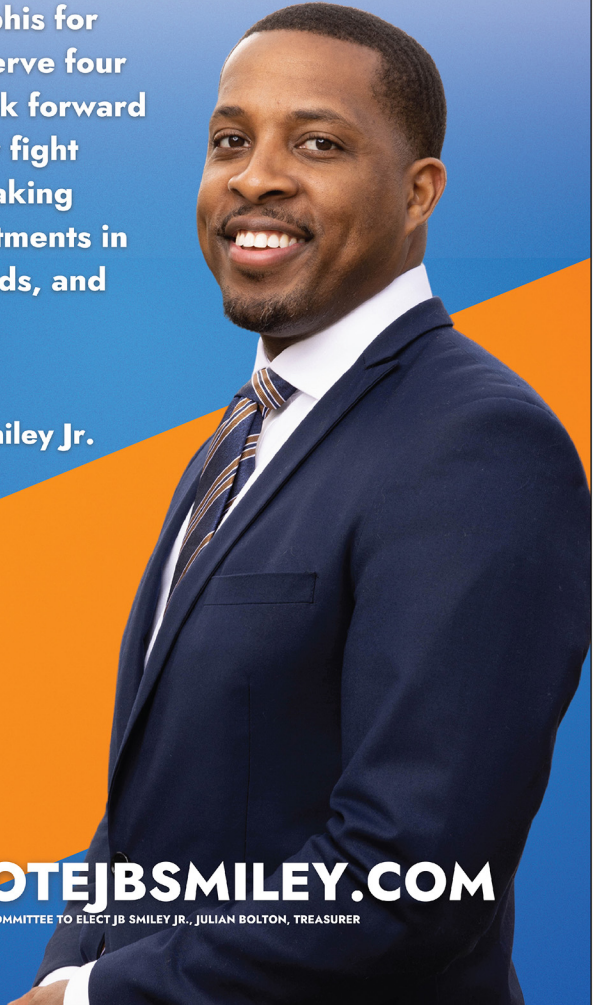
Thank you Memphis for allowing me to serve four more years. I look forward to continuing our fight against crime, making substantial investments in our neighborhoods, and revitalizing our infrastructure.

-Councilman JB Smiley Jr.



WWW.VOTEJBSMILEY.COM

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT JB SMILEY JR., JULIAN BOLTON, TREASURER



BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES & THRIVING COMMUNITIES

VOTE

EARLY VOTING: SEPTEMBER 15TH-30TH, 2023

ELECTION DAY: OCTOBER 5TH, 2023

ABOUT BRIAN E. HARRIS

- NATIVE & LIFELONG MEMPHIAN
- GRADUATE LEGACY MEMPHIS CITY SCHOOLS
- BACHELOR'S DEGREE ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP WITH HONORS & EXECUTIVE MBA WITH HONORS
- 25 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE MANAGING DIVERSE TEAMS & BUDGETS IN EXCESS OF \$600M FOR COMPANIES
- MEMPHIS DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD, FORMER DISTRICT CAPTAIN
- MEMPHIS ALCOHOL COMMISSION BOARD MEMBER 2021- PRESENT
- TOP 40 UNDER 40 AWARD (2017)
- POWER 30 AWARD (2023)
- KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY, INC
- MISSISSIPPI BOULEVARD CHRISTIAN CHURCH, MEMBER
- FAMILY MAN OF TWO CHILDREN, BRIAN HARRIS, II & HAILEY MCKENZIE HARRIS

TOP ISSUES

- EVALUATE MEMPHIS POLICE OFFICER RESOURCES TO ADDRESS RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, SALARIES, OVERALL WELLNESS
- WORK WITH SCHOOLS TO EVALUATE & PROVIDE SOLUTIONS TO ENCOURAGE & KEEP YOUTH IN SCHOOLS & PREPARE THEM FOR COLLEGE OR TRADE PROGRAMS
- REVIEW CURRENT HOUSING AVAILABILITY & IDENTIFY RESOURCES TO DEVELOP MORE QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOUSING
- HELP TO END FOOD INSECURITY THROUGH EXPANDING FOOD PROGRAMS

BRIAN  
HARRIS
MEMPHIS CITY COUNCIL
SUPER DISTRICT **8-3**



   
@BRIANFORMEMPHIS



WWW.BRIANFORMEMPHIS.COM

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT BRIAN E. HARRIS, ROOSEVELT BIRDSONG TREASURER



WILLOW

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP LEARNING
ON WISDOM





Leslie Smith-Thomas

Please join me in Congratulating Leslie Smith-Thomas, the incoming new President of WILLOW (Women In Leadership Leaning On Wisdom). I have been honored to serve the past three years with a distinctive group of wonderful women. Having stepped down to Chair the Shelby County Democratic Party, I am confident and proud that President Leslie Smith-Thomas will continue in the spirit of honoring women's achievements and working together to serve our community.

~Lexie Carter

A few words about our new President...

Leslie grew up as a US Navy brat living up and down both coasts. After college, she chose to make Memphis her home with her husband and daughters. She graduated Summa Cum Laude and is a former teacher of gifted children. After teaching, she began her entrepreneurial journey and opened a math and science company for pre-school children.

Leslie expanded her portfolio into residential and commercial interior design, commercial real estate development, and investment properties. She can often be found working on her buildings either in design, management, or with a hammer in hand. She and her husband are currently partners in a downtown Memphis hotel. She owns Brickwood Hall, an event venue, in downtown Memphis. Her greatest accomplishment is raising four dynamically different daughters.

Leslie is a former Vice President and current President of WILLOW, Inc., the Executive Director of The Dr. Marrio Thomas Foundation, the Vice President of Alzheimers and Dementia Services of Memphis, Inc., a former Vice President of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. Memphis Chapter, and the Graphics Committee Chairman for the Phi Lambda Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.



COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

FELECIA BOYD
CHAIRMAN-OUTREACH
COMMITTEE



TYRA CLEASANT
CO-CHAIR OUTREACH
COMMITTEE

ADRIENNE DAVIS
CHAIRWOMAN-
PUBLIC RELATIONS



CARLA STOTTS-HILL
CHAIRWOMAN-
CREDENTIALS

BRYAN MCBRIDE
CHAIRMAN-BYLAWS
COMMITTEE



LLOYD BROWN
CHAIRMAN- BUDGET
COMMITTEE

LISA POPE
CO-CHAIR-
MULTI-CULTURAL
COMMITTEE

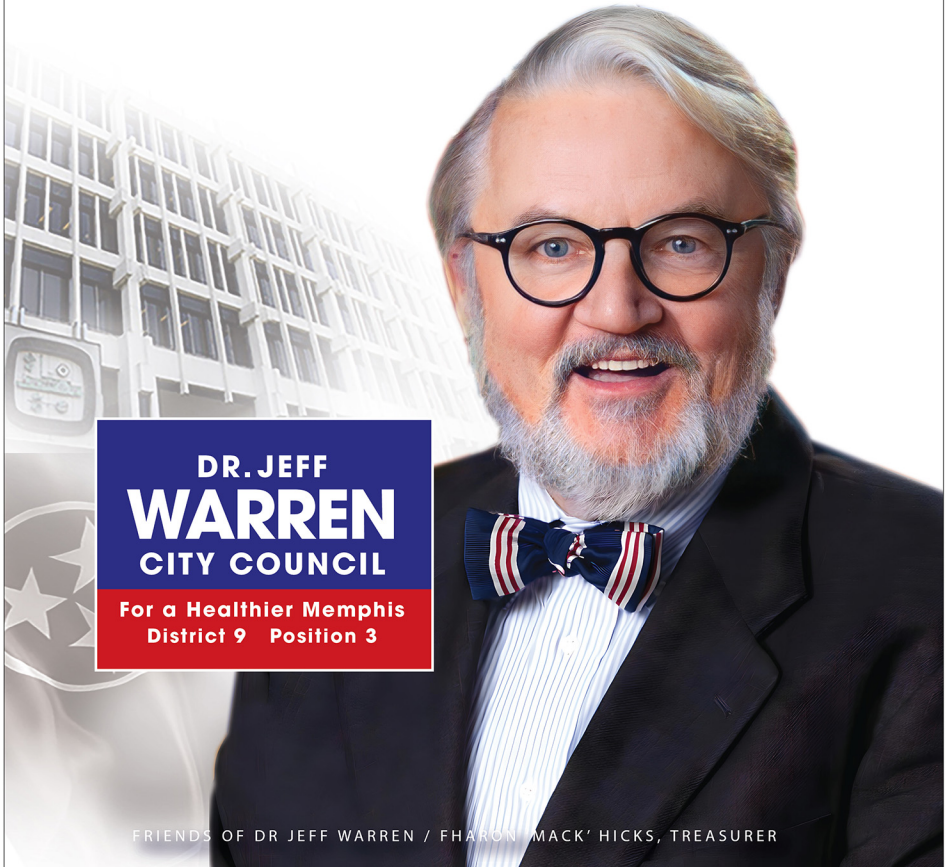


ERNESTINE PEETE
CHAIRWOMAN-
VETERAN AFFAIRS

GREG BLUMENTHAL
CHAIRMAN-
RESOLUTION



THANKS TO THE VOTERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT



DR. JEFF
WARREN
CITY COUNCIL

For a Healthier Memphis
District 9 Position 3

FRIENDS OF DR JEFF WARREN / FHARON 'MACK' HICKS, TREASURER



MEGGAN KIEL

CITY COUNCIL
DISTRICT 5

Moving Memphis Forward. Together.
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Early Voting Sept 15 - 30 | Election Day Oct 5



**A PEARL WITH PASSION
FOR HER COMMUNITY**

PEARL
WALKER
FOR MEMPHIS CITY COUNCIL
★★★ DISTRICT 3

**EARLY VOTING
SEPT 15-30
ELECTION DAY
OCT 5**





CARDELL ORRIN

People for Fairness and Justice launches "Fight For Memphis"

Campaign to shape mayoral race and secure the city's future.

The People for Fairness & Justice (PFJ) PAC has launched the Fight for Memphis campaign to engage voters around the upcoming mayoral election and secure the future Memphis deserves. Building on successful recent justice race victories, the nonpartisan campaign's goal is to shape the race by elevating issues like justice, safety, opportunity and integrity.

"This is a pivotal moment for Memphis, and this campaign is about fighting for the city we know is possible," said Cardell Orrin, Fight for Memphis spokesperson. "We want to ensure voters have the information needed to move our city forward, not backward."

At the campaign's website, FightForMemphis.com, people can sign up to support the effort and donate to the cause. In the coming weeks, the campaign will endorse a candidate who will lead Memphis into the future. The campaign will also discourage voting for candidates whose ideology and policies will continue stagnation, perpetuate the status quo, and contribute to Memphis' challenges.

The campaign's public debut is a digital advertising effort against Floyd Bonner, whose mismanagement of 201 Poplar during his tenure as Shelby County Sheriff led to deaths, illness, and dangerous working conditions for the staff. We can't let 201's crisis become 901's future, so PFJ will share communications materials, volunteer resources, and candidate information to help voters choose a Mayor that will lead us to a brighter future. PFJ believes Memphis is ready to turn the page and write a new chapter. In addition to a digital advertising effort, Fight for Memphis will organize canvassing, phone banking, forums and other get-out-the-vote efforts in the months leading up to the October election. In the crowded field of 17 candidates, we intend to get out the vote for our endorsed candidate to help elect our next Mayor with a larger, more representative group of voters. "This is about realizing the full potential of the city we love," Orrin added. "We encourage all residents who believe in Memphis to join the fight."

THE OPINION EXPRESSED WITHIN THE CONTENTS OF THIS ARTICLE ARE SOLELY THE AUTHORS AND DO NOT REFLECT THE OPINIONS AND BELIEFS OF THE SHELBY DEMOCRATIC PUBLICATION OR THE SHELBY COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY. NOR DOES EITHER GROUP ENDORSE CANDIDATES OUTSIDE OF THE APPROVED DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY PROCESS TO NOMINATE A CANDIDATE!

DEMOCRAT

**Ricky
DIXON**

**City Council
District 3**

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF RICKY DIXON / GEORGIA MALONE, TREASURER

CATERING SERVICES FOR COMMERCIAL AND SOCIAL EVENTS

felecia bean
catering



*Demand elegance,
style and great taste
in everything we do!* Felecia

POSITIONED TO LEAD!

KAREN CAMPER!

MEMPHIS MAYOR

- *First Black House Democratic Leader in Tennessee History*
- *Chair, Tennessee Economic Council on Women*
- *Minority Leader House of Representatives*
- *House Member, Finance Ways and Means, Business and Utilities, Ethics, House Rules, Joint Pension and Insurance Committees*
- *Chair, National Foundation for Women Legislators*
- *Retired Chief Warrant Officer, US Army*
- *Graduate of Southside High School*
- *UT Knoxville Alum*



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JERRED PRICE

CITY COUNCIL SUPER DISTRICT 8
POSITION 3

"PRICE is right for Memphis!"



ENDORSED BY:

Craig Little, Former Commissioner Julian Bolton, James Alexander, Hazel Moore, County Trustee Regina Newman, Rev. Althea Greene, Angela Barksdale, Senator Sara Kyle, Commissioner Erika Sugarmon, & many more!

Endorsed by more community leaders and elected officials than any other candidate!

Proven community servant, proven results for the people!

Election Day: October 5th & Early Voting Sept 15-30th

Proven community servant, proven results for the people!

- ★ Past President of the **Downtown Neighborhood Association**: grew the membership from 67 members to 500+ and fought for restoration of the Mud Island Amphitheater resulting in \$4 million commitment from the city!
- ★ Former Commissioner for **Memphis City Beautiful**, participated in 50+ neighborhood clean ups!
- ★ Helped **Uptown** community organize to fight & win against a parking garage from being built next to their homes!
- ★ Spearheaded the street renaming dedication & ceremony in **Soulsville** honoring James Alexander of the BarkKays!
- ★ Founded the state's first rainbow crosswalk in **Cooper-Young** honoring the LGBTQ+ community.
- ★ Partnered with **Whitehaven** leaders to bring new Christmas tree to Southland Mall & worked with **Westwood** community leaders to advocate for revitalization & clean up of Southwest Twin Drive-In site!

Paid for by Friends of Jerred Price | Norma Lester - Treasurer

JERRED PRICE

CITY COUNCIL SUPER DISTRICT 8
POSITION 3

"PRICE is right for Memphis!"



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more info!



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PAUL YOUNG

FOR MEMPHIS MAYOR


A SHARED FUTURE FOR MEMPHIS

Paul Young is committed to building a Memphis where our streets are safe, our families can thrive and every child has access to a top-notch education.

**ELECTION DAY
OCTOBER 5**

**EARLY VOTING
SEPT 15 - 30**



   @YoungForMemphis

Find out more and join our campaign at YoungForMemphis.com