Tennessee Trial Court Vacancy Commission Application for Nomination to Judicial Office

9/16/22

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<u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Tennessee Code Annotated section 17-4-301 et seq. charges the Trial Court Vacancy Commission with assisting the Governor and the People of Tennessee in finding and appointing the best qualified candidates for judicial offices in this State. Please consider the Commission's responsibility in answering the questions in this application questionnaire. For example, when a question asks you to "describe" certain things, please provide a description that contains relevant information about the subject of the question and, especially, that contains detailed information that demonstrates that you are qualified for the judicial office you seek. In order to properly evaluate your application, the Commission needs information about the range of your experience, the depth and breadth of your legal knowledge, and your personal traits such as integrity, fairness, and work habits.

This document is available in Microsoft Word format from the Administrative Office of the Courts (telephone 800-448-7970 or 615-741-2687; website www.tncourts.gov). The Commission requests that applicants obtain the Microsoft Word form and respond directly on the form. Respond in the box provided below each question. (The box will expand as you type in the document.) Review the separate instruction sheet prior to completing this document. Your complete application, including both the original and digital copies, must be received by the Administrative Office of the Courts on or before the deadline prescribed in the Notice of Vacancy. See section 1(g) of the application instructions for additional information related to hand-delivery of application packages.

THIS APPLICATION IS OPEN TO PUBLIC INSPECTION AFTER YOU SUBMIT IT.

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PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND AND WORK EXPERIENCE

State your present employment.

1.

I am currently in private practice.		
2.	State the year you were licensed to practice law in Tennessee and give your Tennessee Board of Professional Responsibility number.	
I was	s licensed to practice in 1990. My BPR # is 14073.	
3.	List all states in which you have been licensed to practice law and include your bar number or identifying number for each state of admission. Indicate the date of licensure and whether the license is currently active. If not active, explain.	
	licensed to practice only in Tennessee. My Bar # is 014073. The date of my license is April . My license is currently active.	
4.	Have you ever been denied admission to, suspended or placed on inactive status by the Bar of any State? If so, explain. (This applies even if the denial was temporary).	
No.		
5.	List your professional or business employment/experience since the completion of your legal education. Also include here a description of any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law in which you have ever been engaged (excluding military service, which is covered by a separate question).	
for n I beg	gan the practice of law at the Public Defenders office in May 1990 to October 1991. In 1990, ine (9) months, I taught business law and criminal law at a Junior College. In October 1991, gan practicing at the Law Office of Luvell Glanton, to July of 2010. In July 2010, I went private practice on my own until the present day. On January 28, 2014, I became a Rule 31	

Family Mediator, specially trained in Domestic Violence and a General Civil Mediator. On April 28, 2015, I was granted the commission to become a Mediator Trainer by the Tennessee

Supreme Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission. I have worked as a Mediator and I have held trainings as a Rule 31 Mediator Trainer.

6. Describe the nature of your present law practice, listing the major areas of law in which you practice and the percentage each constitutes of your total practice.

My present law practice consists of litigation primarily in the areas of domestic relations, criminal law, probate, and immigration. The percentage currently would be approximately eighty (80) percent domestic relations, ten (10) percent criminal, five (5) percent probate and five (5) percent immigration.

7. Describe generally your experience (over your entire time as a licensed attorney) in trial courts, appellate courts, administrative bodies, legislative or regulatory bodies, other forums, and/or transactional matters.

My experience generally over thirty-two years of my practice involved numerous jury and bench trials, both civil and criminal in Nashville and other Counties. I have argued cases before the Court of Appeals and the Court of Criminal Appeals. My experience over the years involve cases in domestic relations matters in Circuit and Juvenile Court, criminal cases in both General Sessions and Criminal Court, Probate Court matters, personal injury, wrongful death, medical malpractice, workers compensation and immigration law. I was admitted to the United States Court of Veterans Appeal and handled a matter in Veterans Court.

8. Describe any matters of special note involving your practice in trial courts, appellate courts, and administrative bodies.

I have represented hundreds of indigent individuals throughout my years in practice. I have handled numerous cases and donated hundreds of hours of my time towards pro bono work.

9. Describe any other legal experience, not stated above, that you would like to bring to the attention of the Commission.

I have trained Mediators from time to time and CLE credit was given to the attorneys in attendance.

10.	List and describe all prior occasions on which you have submitted an application for any state or federal judicial position.
None	e.
11.	<u>EDUCATION</u> List each college, law school, and other graduate school which you have attended, including dates of attendance, degree awarded, major, any form of recognition or other aspects of your education you believe are relevant, and your reason for leaving each school if no degree was awarded.
Adel	phi University: 1982 – 1986. I received a Bachelors of Business Administration.
Drak	e University School of Law: 1989 – 1989. I received a Doctor of Jurisprudence.
moo Com appo	aw School, I participated in Moot Court. I received the outstanding Freshman award for the court arguments and participated in Constitutional Law Moot Court. I Clerked for the missioner for the State of Iowa in Workers Compensation cases and assisted the then inted Governor's Commissioner, in the drafting of legal opinion for the Board of Workers pensation for the State of Iowa.
	PERSONAL INFORMATION
12.	State your date of birth.
	1964.
10	
13.	How long have you lived continuously in the State of Tennessee?
6 ye	ars.
14.	How long have you lived continuously in the county where you are now living?
One	year and a half.
15.	State the county in which you are registered to vote.
	dson.
Davi	·

16.	Describe your military service, if applicable, including branch of service, dates of active duty, rank at separation, and decorations, honors, or achievements. Please also state whether you received an honorable discharge and, if not, describe why not.				
Not	Applicable.				
17.	Have you ever pled guilty or been convicted or are now on diversion for violation of any law, regulation or ordinance other than minor traffic offenses? If so, state the approximate date, charge and disposition of the case.				
No.					
18.	To your knowledge, are you now under federal, state or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute or disciplinary rule? If so, give details.				
No.					
19.	Please identify the number of formal complaints you have responded to that were filed against you with any supervisory authority, including but not limited to a court, a board of professional responsibility, or a board of judicial conduct, alleging any breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct by you. Please provide any relevant details on any such complaint if the complaint was not dismissed by the court or board receiving the complaint. You may wish to request a report from the appropriate supervisory authority (or authorities) for a complete history.				
on i	r (4) Complaints with the Board of Professional Responsibility that involved me. and they e all dismissed after investigation. There are two (2) additional complaints that may appear my history that was also dismissed after investigation. Those two complaints were filed nst an attorney and the firm I worked with and did not directly involve me.				
20.	Has a tax lien or other collection procedure been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities or creditors within the last five (5) years? If so, give details.				
No.					
21.	Have you ever filed bankruptcy (including personally or as part of any partnership, LLC,				

No.

22. Have you ever been a party in any legal proceedings (including divorces, domestic proceedings, and other types of proceedings)? If so, give details including the date, court and docket number and disposition. Provide a brief description of the case. This question does not seek, and you may exclude from your response, any matter where you were involved only as a nominal party, such as if you were the trustee under a deed of trust in a foreclosure proceeding.

Yes. I filed General Sessions cases against former clients for collection of attorney fees after I successfully assisted them and they refused to pay: 1) Alexis v. Williams, Case No. 96GC 20877, filed in October, 1996. Judgment given to me in the case. 2) Alexis v. Lanier, Case number 96GC 14022, filed July, 1996. The case settled and was dismissed. 3) Alexis v. Babb Jr., Case No. GC 25829, filed in December, 1995. A judgement was given to me in that case and wages garnished. 4) Alexis v. Foster, Case No. 96GC 13129, filed July, 1996. A judgement was given to me in that case. 5) Alexis v. Sims, case number 91GC6226, filed in March 2001. This case was settled and dismissed.

A General Sessions case was filed against a lady who hit my car and drove away. The case was Alexis v. McIntyre Case No. 06GC21348, filed in Nov. 2006. That defendant evaded service and was never found. A Davidson County General Sessions case, Alexis v. Cruz case No. 13GC19517.cc was filed, 11/2013, against me for alleged breach of contracts and malpractice. I filed a counterclaim for Rule 11 sanctions and my fees. The case was dismissed. A Davidson County General Sessions case, Bank of America v. Alexis Case No. 03GC19146 was filed against me in October 2003, to resolve a dispute. That case was settled and non-suited.

Two cases involving my Ex were filed against me, both in Davidson County (10/1/2015) and Florida (3/20/2016) for custody. The Davidson County Case was Glanton v. Alexis, Juvenile Court Docket # 2015-498. The Florida Case, in Family Court, in Ft. Pierce, Florida is Glanton v. Alexis, Case No. 2016 Dr 000776. Both cases filed by my Ex were dismissed. The Davidson County case was non-suited and a new action was filed in Florida which was subsequently dismissed by the Florida Court for forum non conveniens.

I filed a case in Williamson County, Tennessee against my Ex for support in 2016. The case was Alexis v. Glanton, Williamson County Juvenile Court Case No. 36003-94jcl2016 pat-28. That Williamson County Case was settled in Mediation.

I filed a Davidson Circuit Court Case, Alexis v. Stone docket No. 09C1583 in 2009, when I sustained personal injuries in a car accident. That case was settled and no-suited. I filed a Davidson Circuit Court case, Alexis v. Kirollus Docket No. 14C2352 in 2014, when I sustained personal injuries in a car accident. That case was non-suited.

I filed a Chancery Case Alexis v. NES, Docket No. 21-668 IV for aerial trespass and removal

of a pole placed on my property in Davidson County, where no easement existed. The case was compromised, settled and dismissed.

List all organizations other than professional associations to which you have belonged within the last five (5) years, including civic, charitable, religious, educational, social and fraternal organizations. Give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such organizations.

None.

- 23. Have you ever belonged to any organization, association, club or society which limits its membership to those of any particular race, religion, or gender? Do not include in your answer those organizations specifically formed for a religious purpose, such as churches or synagogues.
 - a. If so, list such organizations and describe the basis of the membership limitation.
 - b. If it is not your intention to resign from such organization(s) and withdraw from any participation in their activities should you be nominated and selected for the position for which you are applying, state your reasons.

No.

<u>ACHIEVEMENTS</u>

24. List all bar associations and professional societies of which you have been a member within the last ten years, including dates. Give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups. List memberships and responsibilities on any committee of professional associations which you consider significant.

The Tennessee Bar Association and the American Bar Association. I have not held office.

25. List honors, prizes, awards or other forms of recognition which you have received since your graduation from law school which are directly related to professional accomplishments.

None.

26. List any public office you have held or for which you have been candidate or applicant. Include the date, the position, and whether the position was elective or appointive.

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None.				

ESSAYS/PERSONAL STATEMENTS

27. What are your reasons for seeking this position? (150 words or less)

I have practiced law in Davidson County and other Counties for thirty-two years and I am seeking to bring my years of experience trying numerous bench and jury trials, both civil and criminal to the bench. In the time I have practiced law, I have had the opportunity to appear before numerous Judges, both in Nashville and other Counties, who at one time have also practice law. Those Judges have motivated me to bring my knowledge and experience to the bench. I am now at the stage of my life and career where I too, would like the opportunity to give back to the profession as have the Judges I have practiced before.

To the bench I will bring experience, knowledge, fairness, patience and a deep and sincere respect for the law and legal tradition. In turn, the Court will be a professional atmosphere, where attorneys and litigants, may argue their position and feel that they were respected.

28. Describe the judgeship you seek (i.e. geographic area, types of cases, number of judges, etc. and explain how your selection would impact the court. (150 words or less)

I am seeking to be appointed Judge of the Fourth Circuit Court for Davidson County, Tennessee. The type of case heard are domestic cases. The number of Judges assigned to hear domestic cases are two, Third Circuit and Fourth Circuit. Davidson County has eight (8) Circuit Courts, Four (4) Chancery Courts and six (6) Criminal Courts.

If selected I bring experience in both civil and criminal litigation. The greatest and most consistent part of my experience and practice for thirty (30) years involved domestic relations. My vast experience has involved appearing in numerous courts, in many Tennessee Counties. I have viewed the different styles of the Judiciary and I believe my observation will allow me oversee an efficient court where cases progress in an efficient and timely manner.

29. Will you uphold the law even if you disagree with the substance of the law (e.g., statute or rule) at issue? Give an example from your experience as a licensed attorney that supports your response to this question. (250 words or less)

I will uphold the law regardless of whether I disagree with it. A Judge upon taking the Oath of Office has a duty to apply the law, without regard to whether or not he/she agrees with that law. My personal opinion has never prevented me from zealously advocating for my client according to the law. In my practice, I adhere to my ethical obligation to represent my client to the best of my abilities. As a Judge, personal feelings must be set aside and a Judge must do what the law

requires, and not what they personally think is right. I will continue to adhere to this principle and refrain from letting my personal beliefs interfere with the decisions that must be made, based on the law.

REFERENCES

30. List five (5) persons, and their current positions and contact information, who would recommend you for the judicial position for which you are applying. Please list at least two persons who are not lawyers. Please note that the Commission or someone on its behalf may contact these persons regarding your application.

A. Cyrus Booker Attorney At Law.	Brentwood TN 37027. Phone
B. Stephanie Chatman, Chief Deputy Clerk, Circ	Nashville, TN 37218. Phone ruit Court Clerk's Office, Davidson County.
C. Stanley Davis. Attorney At L	Brentwood, TN 37027. Phone aw.
D. Dr. Conrad Douglas, Me Phone	harry Medical College School of Dentistry Assistant Professor.
E. Theresa Worthington Do Retired Attorney	yle, Franklin TN 37069. Phone and former co-worker.

AFFIRMATION CONCERNING APPLICATION

Read, and if you agree to the provisions, sign the following:

I have read the foregoing questions and have answered them in good faith and as completely as my records and recollections permit. I hereby agree to be considered for nomination to the Governor for the office of Judge of the Fourth Circuit Court for Davidson County, Tennessee, and if appointed by the Governor, agree to serve that office. In the event any changes occur between the time this application is filed and the public hearing, I hereby agree to file an amended questionnaire with the Administrative Office of the Courts for distribution to the Commission members.

I understand that the information provided in this questionnaire shall be open to public inspection upon filing with the Administrative Office of the Courts and that the Commission may publicize the names of persons who apply for nomination and the names of those persons the Commission nominates to the Governor for the judicial vacancy in question.

Dated: October 3, 2022.

Signature

When completed, return this questionnaire to Rachel Harmon at the Administrative Office of the Courts, 511 Union Street, Suite 600, Nashville, TN 3/210

TENNESSEE TRIAL COURT VACANCY COMMISSION ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

511 Union Street, Suite 600 Nashville City Center Nashville, TN 37219

TENNESSEE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY TENNESSEE BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT AND OTHER LICENSING BOARDS

WAIVER OF CONFIDENTIALITY

I hereby waive the privilege of confidentiality with respect to any information that concerns me, including public discipline, private discipline, deferred discipline agreements, diversions, dismissed complaints and any complaints erased by law, and is known to, recorded with, on file with the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Supreme Court of Tennessee, the Tennessee Board of Judicial Conduct (previously known as the Court of the Judiciary) and any other licensing board, whether within or outside the State of Tennessee, from which I have been issued a license that is currently active, inactive or other status. I hereby authorize a representative of the Trial Court Vacancy Commission to request and receive any such information and distribute it to the membership of the Commission and to the Office of the Governor.

hereby authorize a representative of the Trial receive any such information and distribute it to the Office of the Governor.	Court Vacancy Commission to request and
Type or Print Name	Please identify other licensing boards that have issued you a license, including the state issuing the license and the license number.
1	Florida Supreme Court licensed Family Mediator
Ausen R.S. Slin Signature	License No,30692F
10-3-2022	
Date	
0/4073	
BPR#	