

Tennessee Trial Court Vacancy Commission
Application for Nomination to Judicial Office

04/15/16

Name: Scott Cameron Williams

Office Address: 312 Mansfield Court, Franklin, Tennessee 37069 (Williamson)
(including county)

Office Phone: [REDACTED]

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Home Address: [REDACTED] Franklin, Tennessee 37069 (Williamson)
(including county)

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INTRODUCTION

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 word processing 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 word processing 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. Submit by the noon deadline date an original (unbound) completed application (with ink signature) to the Administrative Office of the Courts.** In addition, submit a digital copy with electronic or scanned signature via email to debra.hayes@tncourts.gov, or via another digital storage device such as flash drive or CD.

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

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND AND WORK EXPERIENCE

1. State your present employment.

Farris Bobango, PLC

2. State the year you were licensed to practice law in Tennessee and give your Tennessee Board of Professional Responsibility number.

1980 ; Tennessee BPR No. 007200

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.

Tennessee (October, 1980; license active); Tennessee BPR No. 007200

Virginia (October, 1982; license active); Virginia State Bar No. 0022385

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).

Farris Bobango, PLC; Rudy, Wood, Winstead, Williams & Hardin, PLLC; Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, PLLC; Community Bancshares, Inc.; Dominion Bankshares Corporation; Commerce Union Corporation; Pickett, Lyle, Seigel, Drescher & Croshaw, P.C.; Lawson & Irving, P.A.

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.

General Corporate/Commercial/Civil law practice, including real estate, bankruptcy and employment – 60%; State and Federal Litigation – 40%

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 particular area of emphasis has been corporate law/financial services law, with approximately one half of my career having been spent as “house counsel” with financial services organizations, and the remaining one half of my career in the private (civil) practice of law.

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

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

During my time spent in leadership at O’More College of Design and as Chair of the Board of Kings Daughters School, I spent a great deal of my time (pro-bono) as employment counsel to those boards. This experience gave me an opportunity to understand, in depth, the legal needs of not-for-profit organizations.

10. List and describe all prior occasions on which you have submitted an application for any state or federal judicial position.

None.

EDUCATION

11. 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.

1. Furman University (August, 1973 through June, 1977); attained B.A. degree (cum laude) in political science/government; Pi Gamma Mu (honorary social sciences fraternity); All-University Court.
2. University of Tennessee College of Law (August, 1977 through June, 1980); attained J.D. Degree in professional legal studies.
3. Louisiana State University Graduate School of Banking (May, 1995 through May, 1997); attained Master's Certificate in Finance and Business Management

PERSONAL INFORMATION

12. State your date of birth.

██████████ 1955

13. How long have you lived continuously in the State of Tennessee?

35 years

14. How long have you lived continuously in the county where you are now living?

12 years

15. State the county in which you are registered to vote.

Williamson (Tennessee)

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.

None

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.

None.

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, corporation, or other business organization)?

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.

No.

23. 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.

Chair – Board of Trustees; O’More College of Design (Franklin, TN);

Chair – Board of Trustees; The Kings Daughters School (Columbia, TN);

Chair – The Maury County Public Education Foundation;

Charter member, Past President and Director – Columbia Breakfast Rotary Club

24. 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.

ACHIEVEMENTS

25. 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.

American Bar Association; Tennessee Bar Association; Nashville Bar Association; Maury County Bar Association; Virginia State Bar – all are lifetime professional memberships

26. 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.

Have written for/contributed to several legal publications on the topics of banking regulation, financial management, the Uniform Commercial Code, and financial services litigation

27. 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.

None.

ESSAYS/PERSONAL STATEMENTS

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

Personally and professionally, this position represents the culmination of a lifetime as a professional lawyer, spent being asked if I planned to be a Judge "...when I grew up ...", and having the opportunity to reach out for the brass ring. I believe that in our state, the general populace views trial judges as "honorable men and women", and that my efforts as I've grown in the profession of law, will aid and strengthen me as such an honorable man, and allow me to demonstrate that to me fellow 21st Judicial District citizens.

29. 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)*

The 21st Judicial District is spread out over Williamson, Hickman, Lewis and Perry Counties, encompassing the "semi-urban" to the open and beautiful rural country of our state. It is a great virtue of our state that those of us who practice law from day to day in it, have nearly as much opportunity to represent rural residents as urban ones in our practices, and that opportunity contributes to the overall wisdom of our State bar. Unfortunately the overall urban or rural feel of a community has very little to do with the types (and feel) of crime that goes on in such a community, and on the civil side of the law, the issues are also the same from "Mountain City to Memphis". Because of this background, I believe that my background as an East Tennessean is as much an asset to my judicial search, as would have been a background as a cotton farmer.

30. 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)*

Yes, absolutely. Legislatures are designed for the purpose of creating the laws within which our society must live, although it is the judges of our land who must review and interpret those laws, once enacted, to give them meaning. However, while there is much joking among those living in our state about how much "room for interpretation" there seems to be in the body of laws that governs us as a people, I am confident that the "strict constructionists" among us (as applicants for judicial vacancies in the 21st Judicial District) hold the majority of opinion that the role of judges is to rather strictly interpret legislative language, largely because during our time in representing the private citizens of our state, we have been called upon to argue our own interpretations of the language of statutes created and passed by our legislature, and even the

most creative among us have a good bit of difficulty in influencing others that well-written legislation means anything altogether OTHER than what a group of pragmatists decides that it does mean, despite the overall political and emotional view that each such person may take.

REFERENCES

31. 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.

Paul G. Summers (former Attorney General for the State of Tennessee); [REDACTED]

T. Randy Stevens (Chair & CEO, First Farmers & Merchants Bank of Columbia); [REDACTED]

William (Bill) Prevost (President/CEO, Quickway Distribution Services, Inc.); [REDACTED]

Timothy L. Amos (former EVP & General Counsel of Tennessee Bankers Association); 615-[REDACTED]

Greg Gonzales (Commissioner – Tennessee Department of Financial Institutions); [REDACTED]


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 Circuit Court of the 21st Judicial District of 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: July 3, 2018.


Signature

When completed, return this questionnaire to Debbie Hayes, Administrative Office of the Courts, 511 Union Street, Suite 600, Nashville, TN 37219.



**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.

SCOTT CAMERON WILLIAMS
Print Name


Signature

July 3, 2018
Date

007200
BPR #

Please identify other licensing boards that have the license and the license number.

Virginia Supreme Court (license to practice law
granted in 1982; VA State Bar No. 0022385