

Tennessee Trial Court Vacancy Commission
Application for Nomination to Judicial Office

1/17/23

Name: Christopher Scott Jones
Office Address: 5100 Poplar Avenue, Suite 708
(including county) Shelby County, Memphis, TN 38137
Office Phone: 901-275-6637 Facsimile: Not applicable
Email Address: scott@cscottjones.com
Home Address: [REDACTED]
(including county) Shelby County [REDACTED]
Home Phone: Not applicable Cellular Phone: [REDACTED]

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 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.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND AND WORK EXPERIENCE

1. State your present employment.

Solo Practitioner:

Since November 2020, I have maintained a solo civil practice serving clients in Shelby, Tipton, and surrounding counties. The practice concentrates on estate planning, family and juvenile law, business and contract matters, landlord-tenant disputes, land use and zoning regulation, and preliminary evaluation of tort claims. In addition, I am appointed as a part-time public defender in the 25th Judicial District, representing indigent respondents primarily in Juvenile Court proceedings and occasionally in General Sessions criminal matters. This work emphasizes procedural fairness, client advocacy, and fidelity to applicable law and ethical obligations.

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

Admitted to the Tennessee Bar in 2020

Tennessee BPR No. 038337

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.

- a. Tennessee – TNBAR No.: 038337
Admitted November 12th, 2020
Active
- b. Arkansas – ARBAR No.: 2020301
Admitted December 9th, 2020
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. There has been no denial of admission, suspension, or placement on inactive status by the Bar of any State.

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).

Following completion of legal education in May 2017, a limited practice license was obtained under Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7, Section 10.04, and utilized for approximately 18 months. During that time, legal work was performed under the supervision of William W. Jones IV, with a focus on estate planning, family law, and civil litigation.

After the expiration of the limited license, legal employment paused so as to focus solely on passage of the Uniform Bar Examination. From June 2019 through the July 2020 administration of the exam, part-time clerkship assistance was provided to attorney Gary Jewel, supporting litigation matters during the COVID-19 pandemic. Upon bar admission in 2020, a solo civil practice was established in Memphis, which has been maintained since that time. Additionally, appointments have also been accepted in the 25th Judicial District as a public defender, primarily in Juvenile Court.

Outside of the legal field, past roles have included service as an Assistant Site Coordinator for the Memphis in May International Festival (2007–2010; 2018–2019), working with municipal agencies, vendors, and regulatory officials to ensure public safety, logistical coordination, and regulatory compliance. Additional experience includes work with a private entity contracted to assist the City of Memphis in the liquidation of municipal assets at the impound lot, as well as prior operational support for a national event marketing firm.

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.

The present practice is a solo civil practice with primary concentration in estate planning (20%), business law and governance (20%), and contracts and agreements (20%). These matters involve drafting, advisory services, negotiation, and limited litigation. Family and juvenile matters, including uncontested divorces, custody agreements, and Juvenile Court representation in dependency, neglect, and contempt cases, account for approximately 20 percent of the practice. Landlord-tenant disputes and lease-related work constitute about 10 percent, while land use and zoning representation, including permitting, site plans, and environmental court proceedings, accounts for approximately 5 percent. An additional 5 percent of the practice involves preliminary evaluation of personal injury claims, including automobile accidents and premises liability, with viable cases referred out as appropriate. Across these areas, the practice emphasizes strategic analysis, document clarity, and focused advocacy.

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.

Since admission to the bar in 2020, regular experience has been developed across a range of Tennessee trial courts in both rural and urban jurisdictions. Court appearances have occurred in Shelby County Circuit, Chancery, General Sessions, Juvenile, Environmental Court, and before the Divorce Referee; Tipton County Circuit, Chancery, General Sessions, and Juvenile Courts; Fayette County General Sessions (including traffic matters) and Chancery Court; and Davidson County Probate Court. Additional appearances have been made in Bartlett, Germantown, and Collierville Municipal Courts. Most proceedings involve contested motion practice, evidentiary hearings, or bench trials, with uncontested dockets comprising a small percentage of the caseload. On average, one to two in-court matters are handled each week. More than 140 appointments have been accepted under the Administrative Office of the Courts indigent representation program, primarily in Juvenile and General Sessions Courts. In private practice, approximately 120 client matters have been handled across civil, criminal, probate, and estate categories. In total, I have handled approximately 230 cases over my legal career.

Appellate experience includes multiple cases appealed from General Sessions to Circuit Court, as well as one matter dismissed in favor of the client before the Tennessee Court of Appeals in 2025. That appeal was resolved based on written submissions without the need for oral argument, following expiration of the opposing party's procedural timeline. While direct appellate litigation comprises a smaller portion of the overall practice, it reflects familiarity with procedural preservation, briefing, and issue framing. Prior legal education included formal coursework in appellate advocacy, and recent experience has reinforced working knowledge of appellate process and strategy.

Administrative and quasi-judicial appearances have included matters before the Shelby County Land Use Control Board, the Office of Planning and Development, the Zoning Board of Adjustment, Shelby County Code Enforcement, the Shelby County Health Department, and the Tennessee Board of Nursing. Legislative and policy advocacy has included representation before the Shelby County Commission and its subcommittees in land use, zoning, and permitting disputes on behalf of local business owners and community interests.

The practice also includes a substantial transactional component, encompassing contract drafting and negotiation, entity formation, and estate planning. Transactional matters constitute a significant portion of day-to-day responsibilities and support both individual and organizational clients.

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

Permit Application No. SUP 14-219 – Memphis Stone & Gravel*Shelby County Commission (2014–2019)*

Although not acting in the capacity of legal counsel, I played a sustained and active role as a citizen advocate in helping defeat the long-protested special use permit sought by Memphis Stone & Gravel to operate a commercial gravel mine near the rural Rosemark community in Shelby County. Over several years, I coordinated public engagement, supported local counsel with strategy and messaging, and directly liaised with the Shelby County Commission to articulate the environmental, traffic, and public welfare concerns held by a large segment of District 1 constituents. The application was ultimately rejected by the Shelby County Commission following public hearings. This experience reflects an ability to understand and influence quasi-judicial proceedings in zoning and land use, while maintaining civically engaged leadership in matters affecting public interest.

Case No. PD 2022-003 CO – Barret Road Planned Development*Shelby County Commission (2022)*

In this matter, I served as legal counsel to both the property owner and the business operator of the historic Barretville General Store in a successful application for a planned development under Chapter 9.6 of the Unified Development Code. The application sought approval of an outdoor entertainment pavilion and expanded gravel parking lot. My responsibilities included drafting and presenting the application, managing all public hearing appearances, and addressing public opposition grounded in traffic, sound, and land use concerns. The application received a unanimous recommendation from the Land Use Control Board and was approved by the Shelby County Board of Commissioners in May 2022. The matter required legal precision, political coordination, and sensitivity to the historical and residential character of the community. This project showcases the ability to deliver structured advocacy and achieve successful administrative outcomes on behalf of small business clients.

W2024-00925-COA-R3-CV – James A. Wilkins, Sr. v. Thomas Jackson*General Sessions – Circuit Court – Tennessee Court of Appeals (2023–2025)*

This matter originated as a forcible entry and detainer action in Shelby County General Sessions Court but quickly evolved into a multi-tiered dispute over the rightful ownership and possession of a commercial property. I represented Mr. Jackson, the occupant and good-faith purchaser of the property, in contesting claims made by the plaintiff, who asserted superior title and contractual rights. Judgment was entered in my client's favor in both General Sessions and Circuit Court. The plaintiff then appealed to the Tennessee Court of Appeals, where I preserved all relevant issues for

review and prepared the appellate brief. The case was ultimately dismissed in my client's favor due to procedural expiration of the appellant's obligations. Though no oral argument occurred, the litigation required sustained legal advocacy, careful record development, and strategic framing of property and contract law issues. It reflects appellate competency, disciplined trial-level preparation, and the ability to manage civil litigation from inception through final disposition.

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

Since bar passage in late 2020, I have routinely mentored individuals preparing for the Uniform Bar Examination. Each year, I have worked with one or two applicants, offering structured guidance through study planning, practice questions, and accountability meetings. Several of these candidates had experienced unsuccessful attempts, and I have focused on helping them push past discouragement and continue their pursuit of a career in the legal field. In addition, I have supervised student interns from the University of Memphis Bachelor of Paralegal Studies program, allowing them to gain practical experience in case preparation, document drafting, procedural research, and client communication as part of their academic requirements.

I also serve as a part-time public defender in the 25th Judicial District. In that role, I represent indigent respondents in Juvenile Court and, at times, in General Sessions proceedings. This work emphasizes access to justice, accountability to the court, and professional responsibility in high-volume legal environments.

My practice also reflects a strong integration of technology with traditional legal values. While I consider myself an old soul in many respects, I have always embraced evolving technology. I remember the sound of dial-up internet, but I also appreciate the efficiencies that modern tools can bring to law practice. I use legal technology platforms to enhance document drafting, case management, research, and secure client interaction. This includes the use of artificial intelligence systems to assist with background research, citation checking, and formatting, while maintaining full professional control and responsibility over all outputs.

The process of guiding others through the Uniform Bar Examination has also served to reinforce my own understanding of foundational legal doctrines. That continued exposure has helped me maintain fluency in a broad range of legal principles, in contrast to the narrowing effect that may occur when a practitioner works in a single area for an extended period. It is this breadth, combined with service and discipline, that I bring to the bench if given the opportunity.

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

Not applicable

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.

I received my Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Memphis in May 2010, with a concentration in History and a particular academic interest in military and political history. My undergraduate studies also included a brief period of part-time coursework at Southwest Tennessee Community College.

I initially attended Mississippi College School of Law in 2011 but returned in 2014 to complete the program, a path that strengthened my personal resilience and professional focus. I earned my Juris Doctor degree in May 2017. My legal education included international coursework in Beijing, Shanghai, Seoul, and Berlin, and encompassed a broad curriculum including Federal Appellate Advocacy, Bankruptcy, Family Law, Intellectual Property, International Law, Election Law, Sports and Entertainment Law, and Expert Witness Testimony. I was named to the Dean's List in my final year and was active in several student organizations, including the Family Law Society, Sports and Entertainment Law Society, Christian Legal Society, and Phi Alpha Delta.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

12. State your date of birth.

October 20, [REDACTED]

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

I have been a lifelong resident of Tennessee, with the exception of the time I resided in Jackson, Mississippi while attending law school. I returned to Tennessee upon graduation and have resided in Atoka, Tennessee (located in Shelby County) since June 2017.

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

I have resided continuously in Shelby County since June 2017. Although my mailing address is in Atoka due to the absence of a nearby post office, my physical residence is located within the boundaries of Shelby County.

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

Shelby County, TN

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.

1. Since becoming licensed, I have responded to one formal complaint submitted to the Tennessee Board of Professional Responsibility. The complainant alleged that I failed to complete an expungement and improperly invoiced for services. Following a full investigation, the Board determined that I had acted properly and dismissed the

complaint. The complainant then appealed that decision. After review, the Board's Chief Disciplinary Counsel affirmed the original dismissal, again finding no violation or misconduct. No sanction, reprimand, or corrective action was issued at any stage.

2. Additionally, in 2024, my indigent representation records were audited by the Administrative Office of the Courts. The audit concluded without any findings, referrals, or formal action.

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.

Not applicable

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.

Not applicable

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.

Not applicable

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.

I am a current member in good standing with the following professional legal organizations:

- Tennessee Bar Association
- Memphis Bar Association
- Tipton County Bar Association
- National Bar Association, Ben F. Jones Chapter

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.

In December 2024, I was recognized by peers in the Tipton County legal community with an informal but meaningful distinction as "Most Likely to Win a Case by Citing Case Precedent or T.C.A. Code." Though given in the spirit of collegial holiday recognition, the award reflected appreciation for my consistent efforts to ground legal arguments in statutory authority and case law. It remains a source of quiet professional pride.

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.

Not applicable

ESSAYS/PERSONAL STATEMENTS

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

I seek a position on the Circuit Court for the 30th Judicial District, where I regularly appear in matters involving torts, contract disputes, declaratory actions, and other civil litigation. My practice aligns with the court's jurisdiction both in complexity and scope, and I understand the demands of managing an active trial docket in Shelby County. In addition to my litigation experience, I mentor newer attorneys and law students, which keeps me engaged in the foundational principles of multiple practice areas and sharpens my approach to emerging legal issues. I would bring a steady temperament, strong procedural discipline, and a respect for the role of the court as a neutral arbiter. My background has prepared me to manage both the courtroom and the case flow with diligence and structure. I would serve the bench with consistency and a clear understanding of the law's function in resolving disputes.

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)*

I seek a position on the Circuit Court for the 30th Judicial District, which handles a wide array of civil matters including torts, contracts, and estate litigation. The bench is composed of respected jurists with varied experience, and I would bring a perspective shaped by broad, trial-level civil practice and regular appearances in courts throughout the district. My work spans family law, probate, and chancery, allowing me to view disputes with both technical clarity and practical insight. I also mentor younger attorneys, which reinforces my command of foundational legal principles across disciplines. I would serve with steady temperament, restraint, and a deep respect for the boundaries of judicial power. The court should reflect the diversity of experiences found in the communities it serves. My addition would help maintain that balance while bringing a consistent, methodical, and principled approach to decision-making.

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. A judge must apply the law as it exists, not as they might wish it to be. Judicial integrity depends on remaining impartial, even when the law compels outcomes that are personally difficult or unpopular.

As appointed counsel in Juvenile Court, I regularly represent indigent clients in dependency and neglect matters. In these cases, I have advocated for the return of children to parents whose lifestyles or moral character I personally found troubling,

even if not legally disqualifying. In one case, I fought for a father's reunification with his child despite believing she was not someone I would entrust with my own. The law requires proof of specific harm or statutory grounds, and none were met. While I questioned her judgment and fitness in a broader sense, I recognized that my role was to apply the legal standards, not impose personal ideals.

That tension is common in courtrooms. I have also defended criminal clients where the facts were distasteful but the burden of proof was not met. In each instance, I respected the rule of law over individual sentiment.

As a judge, I would uphold that same discipline. The law must be predictable and consistently applied, even when the result does not align with my personal views. That is what protects the public, the litigants, and the reputation of the judiciary itself.

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.

A. Judge M.O. Eckel, III
Tipton County General Sessions & Juvenile Court Judge
Cell: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Senior Chancellor for the 4th District of Mississippi
Cell: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

C. Judge Rodger G. McLane
Panola County Texas, Judge
Cell: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

D. Shelby County Commissioner Amber Mills
Shelby County, Tennessee Commissioner District 1
Cell: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

E. Cary E. Vaughn
CEO/President Love Worth Finding Ministries
Cell: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[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, Division 3, for the 30th Judicial District at Memphis, for the state 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: June 11th, 2025.



Signature

When completed, return this questionnaire to John Jefferson at the 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.

Christopher Scott Jones

Type or Print Name



Signature

06/11/2025

Date

(038337)

BPR #

Please identify other licensing boards that have issued you a license, including the state issuing the license and the license number.

Supreme Court of the State of Arkansas (2020301)

TIPTON COUNTY GENERAL SESSIONS & JUVENILE COURTS
M. O. ECKEL, III, JUDGE



1801 SOUTH COLLEGE STREET, SUITE 100, COVINGTON, TENNESSEE 38019

June 06, 2025

Tennessee Trial Court Vacancy Commission
c/o Administrative Office of the Courts
511 Union Street, Suite 600
Nashville, TN 37219

Re: Judicial Reference for Mr. C. Scott Jones – Circuit Court of Shelby County

Dear Members of the Commission:

It is with professional respect and personal confidence that I write in support of Mr. C. Scott Jones's candidacy for the judicial vacancy in the Circuit Court of Shelby County. Having observed Mr. Jones in my courtroom on numerous occasions, I offer this letter as a personal endorsement of his qualifications, integrity, and readiness for judicial office.

Mr. Jones is a practitioner whose professional conduct exemplifies the Core Evaluation Criteria established by your Commission. He has appeared before me both as retained counsel and as a part-time public defender in the 25th Judicial District. In each instance, he has demonstrated unwavering diligence, consistent preparedness, and an evident command of both substantive and procedural law. His efforts have not only advanced the interests of his clients but have contributed meaningfully to the orderly administration of justice.

In my judicial capacity, I have seen Mr. Jones draw attention to procedural deficiencies in case files—not in a way that seeks advantage, but in a manner that supports the integrity of the proceedings. He has assisted the court by providing capable and respectful representation to indigent defendants and has consistently maintained a professional demeanor with all courtroom participants. His advocacy is zealous but never disruptive, and his temperament remains measured and courteous, even in adversarial settings.

His breadth of legal experience is considerable, spanning estate planning, family and juvenile law, business and contract matters, landlord-tenant disputes, land use and zoning issues, and personal injury evaluations. As a solo practitioner serving clients across Memphis, Shelby County, and Tipton County, Mr. Jones brings a diverse civil background, balanced by his criminal defense work as a public servant. This combination offers him a well-rounded perspective that would serve the bench exceptionally well.

Mr. Jones is also known in our legal community for his sound judgment, reliability under pressure, and commitment to continual improvement—evidenced by his use of innovative legal technologies to enhance client service. His involvement with professional organizations, including the Tennessee, Tipton County, and Memphis Bar Associations, as well as the Ben F. Jones Chapter of the National Bar Association, speaks to his civic engagement and dedication to the legal profession.

In conclusion, I believe Mr. Jones embodies the qualities of integrity, impartiality, judicial temperament, and legal acumen essential to the role of Circuit Court Judge. His demeanor in the courtroom, fidelity to the law, and commitment to public service give me every confidence in his readiness to assume judicial office. Please note that this reference is offered in my personal capacity and reflects my individual views pursuant to the Tennessee Code of Judicial Conduct, Rule 1.3, Comment [2].

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this recommendation.

Respectfully,



Judge M.O. Eckel, III



FOURTH DISTRICT CHANCERY COURT

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

AMITE • FRANKLIN • PIKE • WALTHALL

POST OFFICE BOX 575

MEADVILLE, MISSISSIPPI 39653

PHONE 601-384-3833 • FAX 601-384-4349

ctadministrator@franklincourtms.org

DEBBRA K. HALFORD
SENIOR CHANCELLOR

STACYE CAMPBELL
COURT
ADMINISTRATOR

June 9, 2025

Tennessee Trial Court Vacancy Commission
C/O Administrative Office of Courts
511 Union Street, Suite 600
Nashville, TN 37219

Re: Recommendation of C. Scott Jones

Commissioners:

I have had the privilege of knowing C. Scott Jones for over a decade, making his acquaintance while he was a law student. Thereafter, my husband and I had the pleasure of hosting him in our home on numerous occasions when he assisted as a volunteer in various community and church events. We have come to respect him not only as a legal professional, but also as a person of character, consistency, and thoughtfulness. Over the years, I have seen him navigate both personal and professional challenges with maturity and integrity.

Scott approaches his work with seriousness, respect for the law, and genuine concern for those he serves. We have observed those same qualities in the volunteer activities in our community as he graciously served. He is the kind of person who listens carefully, thinks deeply, and leads quietly. Based on my personal knowledge, I believe he possesses the intellect, temperament, work ethic, and ethical grounding that would serve him well on the bench.

If further information is needed, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Chancellor Debra Halford



County of Panola

110 S. Sycamore • Room 216-A
Carthage • Texas 75633
Phone 903-693-0391 • Fax 903-693-2726

County Judge
Rodger G. McLane

County Commissioners
Billy Alexander, Pct. #1
David Cole, Pct. #2
Craig Lawless, Pct. #3
Dale LaGrone, Pct. #4

June 10, 2025

Tennessee Trial Court Vacancy Commission
C/O Administrative Office of Courts
511 Union Street, Suite 600
Nashville, TN 37219

RE: Recommendation of C. Scott Jones

Dear Commissioners,

Without hesitation I write to you urging the nomination of C. Scott Jones to fill the vacancy on Shelby County's Circuit Court.

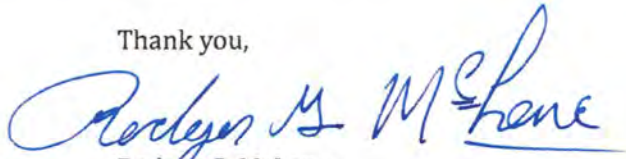
I met Scott as a law student more than a decade ago. We quickly became friends and he provided stable and sincere guidance for a younger law student far from home. Our friendship matured through the years into professional comradery spanning multiple state lines. His nuanced understanding of legal doctrines and his appreciation for human nature always brings a unique perspective to roundtable discussions or a quick phone call to bounce an idea of a friend.

From personal experience, I know that Scott's appreciation and dedication to the practice of law and his conservative roots will translate into a bountiful return for the people of the 30th Judicial District of Tennessee. Scott and I have talked about the immense responsibility one carries in a judicial capacity, and I believe he truly appreciates the requirements of office. Scott understands that a public official is never truly off work and that the office holder transforms into the embodiment of judicial authority, sound decorum, and tasteful judgment. I have no fear that Scott will fully encapsulate the ethos of a member of the Tennessee judiciary.

In sum, I fully encourage and urge the nomination of C. Scott Jones to the vacancy in question. I have no doubt that Scott will fulfill all expectations and requirements of office and make each of the Commissioners proud.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,


Rodger G. McLane



Shelby County Board of Commissioners

AMBER MILLS

Commissioner

District 1

June 9, 2025

The Honorable
Governor Bill Lee
C/O The Tennessee Trial Court Vacancy Commission

RE: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FOR C. SCOTT JONES

To Whom it May Concern:

Please accept this personal letter of recommendation for Attorney C. Scott Jones for the judicial vacancy in the Circuit Court of Shelby County.

I have personally known C. Scott Jones for several years and have come to know him as someone deeply rooted in our shared community. We first connected while working together to oppose a proposed gravel mining operation that would have directly impacted the area we both call home. Since then, I have also witnessed Scott's involvement in a zoning matter that carried significant weight for local residents and small businesses.

During these efforts, Scott demonstrated qualities that I believe are essential for judicial service. He is measured and respectful in his communications, even in difficult or contentious circumstances. He listens carefully, speaks with clarity and purpose, and makes thoughtful decisions grounded in fairness and principle. His integrity is steady, his work ethic is strong, and he carries genuine sense of responsibility to the people he serves. Based on my personal knowledge, I believe he would bring sound judgment, impartiality, and a deep commitment to public service to the Circuit Court bench.

Please note my recommendation for C. Scott Jones is in my personal capacity and not made on behalf of the Shelby County Board of Commissioners.

Thank you for your consideration and I firmly believe that like the Honorable Valerie L. Smith, C. Scott Jones will be an outstanding asset to the citizens of Shelby County on the bench for the 30th Judicial District.

With Warm Regards,

Amber Mills

I have known C. Scott Jones for more than thirty-five years, having first met him when he was a young student at Tipton-Rosemark Academy. Over the course of our long-standing relationship, I have watched him grow into a principled, dedicated, and deeply thoughtful professional. He has always demonstrated maturity beyond his years, a strong moral compass, and a clear commitment to serving others through both his personal and professional life—truly, service above self.

Scott approaches the practice of law with the same core values that have defined him for as long as I have known him: integrity, humility, and discernment. He is steady in difficult moments and carries himself with a natural sense of leadership that never seeks attention but consistently earns respect. It is a privilege to speak to his character, and I do so from a place of longstanding personal knowledge and genuine confidence in his readiness for meaningful responsibility. I'm not only Scott's friend, but his Pastor as well. He has always exemplified a strong foundation of faith.

In addition, Scott has a unique skill set that makes him a very effective attorney. His love of the law and people will ensure his success as a future leader and judge within our community.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and support.

