

**Tennessee Trial Court Vacancy Commission**  
***Application for Nomination to Judicial Office***

1/17/23

Name: Jennifer Fawn Noe  
\*(Jennifer Fawn Noe is my maiden name and the name on my law license and Social Security number. Jennifer Noe Hurt is my married name, appearing on my driver's license, passport, and voter registration.)

Office Address: 102 Boyd Street, Ashland City, TN 37015  
(including county) Cheatham County

Office Phone: 615-792-5635 Facsimile: 615-792-2591

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Home Address: [REDACTED]  
(including 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](http://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.

Partner at The Law Office of Balthrop, Perry, and Noe, PLLC

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

1994, BPR# 016833

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 only, 1994, BPR #016833, license is 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).

Upon graduation from law school, I started as a solo practitioner with Johnson and Noe in Ashland City in 1994 until the death of James Johnson. I then joined what is now the Law offices of Balthrop, Perry, and Noe, PLLC in Ashland City in 1997. I am a partner in the firm along

with two other attorneys. Being in a small town, I have practiced numerous types of law, including personal injury, probate, domestic, juvenile, criminal, bankruptcy, municipal, civil, employment, appellate, some corporate and real estate. I am a title insurance agent as well with Old Republic National Title Insurance Company, in which capacity I issue title insurance policies and perform real estate closings. I obtained a mediator's license for domestic cases in 2012. Since 1997, I have been the city attorney for the Town of Ashland City. I additionally represent the Town of Pleasant View. I previously represented the Town of Kingston Springs. In practicing municipal work, I have gained experience of the law, including, but not limited to, employment law, contract law, and environmental law. Through such work, I have proficiency in dealing with state agencies and in representation of a governing board versus an individual client.

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.

Currently, my practice is comprised of the following practice areas: probate, domestic, municipal, real estate, general civil, and criminal. The percentages are generally: municipal – 35%; domestic – 30%; probate – 15%; real estate – 10%; general civil – 5%; criminal – 5%.

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 practice has been primarily in the courts in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District including Chancery, Circuit, General Sessions, and Juvenile Court. I have also practiced in Robertson County, Montgomery County and Davidson County. I have done appellate work in the Middle District Court of Tennessee. Early in my legal career, I practiced in the Bankruptcy Court, Middle TN District. I have some limited experience in Federal Court. I have also worked with the regulatory offices with Tennessee Department of Transportation and Tennessee Department of Environment Conservation. With representing municipalities, I have experience advising with the Boards of Mayor and Councilmen, Planning Commissions and Board of Zoning Appeals.

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

I just had a ruling from the Court of Appeals in the case of Hidden Lakes Resorts Homeowners Association v. Charles Moore et al, Docket 2022-01323-COA-R3-CV, which was a very interesting case with a multitude of complex legal issues from planning and zoning, building

permits, bonds, homeowners' association, real estate law issues, including foreclosure, and developers' responsibilities. This matter took 8 days to try in which the trial record and exhibits consisted of numerous volumes. I represented the Town of Ashland City which was brought in as a third-party defendant. The case had some issues of first impression for the Court to review.

Of other interest, I have had the experience as the City Attorney and Ethics Officer of the Town of Ashland City handling the criminal indictment of the Mayor for the Town of Ashland City after an investigation by the State. I also worked with our District Attorney on a possible ouster suit. This presented issues similar to representing a corporate board in which one member was accused of criminal behavior and the ethical dilemmas that went with the representation of an entire board.

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

Although it is not legal experience, I did work for the State of Tennessee Department of Children Services for four years while in law school, investigating child abuse cases. This experience was enlightening, giving me a different perspective and insight for both criminal trials for child abuse cases as well as identifying and addressing abuse issues in domestic cases.

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

I have not submitted any applications.

### 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 attended Belmont University from 1985 to 1986 and transferred to Middle Tennessee State University where I received a Bachelor in Science in 1990. I majored in Criminal Justice and Psychology with a minor in Political Science. Middle Tennessee State University offered a program in which you were able to start taking graduate courses prior to actually graduating with an undergraduate degree. I did this program my last year from 1989 to 1990. The masters program was in criminal justice. I did not complete my masters degree due to starting at Nashville School of Law in August of 1990. I graduated from Nashville School of Law in 1994 with a Doctor of Jurisprudence. I passed the bar exam in 1994.

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

12. State your date of birth.

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

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

I have lived in Cheatham County all of my life with the exception of my time at college and two years in Robertson County. I have lived at my current address since 1997.
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15. State the county in which you are registered to vote.

Cheatham
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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.

I do not have any military service.
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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
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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
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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.

As I recall, I have received two separate informal complaints from the Board of Professional Responsibility which were dismissed upon me responding to the complaint. I have requested from the Board a copy of my transcript but as of date I have not received it. Both complaints would have been over twenty years ago.

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.

I am currently on the advisory council for Habitat for Humanity for Cheatham County, and I served as Chairwoman for two years until December 31, 2023. I also served on the Board for Habitat for Humanity for Greater Nashville for two years. I am a member of the Cheatham

County Chamber of Commerce. I am also a member of Alpha Omicron Pi Sorority where I have been a member of the Nashville Alumni Association. I also serve as a mentor for Nashville School of Law. I am a member of Pleasant View United Methodist Church.

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.
- If so, list such organizations and describe the basis of the membership limitation.
  - 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.

I am a member of the Tennessee Bar Association, where I have served on the House of Delegates for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District since 2015. I am also on the Local Government Practice Section Committee with the Tennessee Bar Association previously having served as chair of the Committee. The Committee is responsible for planning our yearly continuing legal education. I am a member of the Cheatham County Bar Association where I served as president for many years. I am a member of Tennessee Municipal Attorney's Association, in which I have held various leadership roles throughout the last twenty- five years, including president.

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.

My law firm has received recognition and been voted locally as the Best Law Firm and or as the Finalist since 2018 including 2024 in the Main Street Awards of the Cheatham County Exchange newspaper. My firm has also received recognition and voted as the Best Real Estate Title Company and or as the Finalist since 2018 including 2024 in the Main Street Awards of the Cheatham County Exchange newspaper.

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.

I have been appointed as the City Attorney for the Town of Ashland City since 1997 and since 2019 for the Town of Pleasant View. I was also appointed by the Town of Kingston Springs as Co-City Attorney with my law partner from 2015 to 2023.

**ESSAYS/PERSONAL STATEMENTS**

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

I am seeking this position because I feel that I have a diversified legal background that is essential to this position. This experience of thirty years allows me to bring to the bench the knowledge of the law along with the desire to serve the judicial district and its residents by applying that experience and knowledge to fairly and efficiently discern facts and make rulings in cases before me.

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 addition of this new fourth judicial position will help alleviate the current backlog of cases for the five-county district and bring prompt justice to litigants. Currently, we do not have a Judge that resides in Cheatham County. As a lifelong Cheatham County resident, I believe my appointment would provide a better balance of judicial representation for the district. Further, as my practice has been primarily in our judicial district for thirty years practicing domestic, criminal, civil, probate, municipal, and real estate cases, I am uniquely qualified to hear the myriad of case types that our judicial district has and am familiar with the structure of the courts and clerk systems in each county.

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)*

I will uphold the law even if I do not personally agree with a statute or rule. As an example related to this, pursuant to TCA 36-6-106 (a)(13), is the Court's discretion to give the reasonable preference of a child if twelve years of age or older in custody matters. I have experienced numerous cases where the child has been pressured by one or both parents and promised material items for their testimony. I do not always believe that a thirteen-year-old is mature enough to handle the magnitude of this decision as they do not always understand persuasion, influence, or intimidation by their parent. It can also put a tremendous amount of stress on a child and the family unit. However, I have had cases where the child was mature and able to articulate a sound and valid reason why they had a preference for one parent versus the other parent. I have



accepted the statutory provision that allows for the testimony to occur.

**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 David Wolfe, Circuit Court Judge 23 <sup>rd</sup> Judicial District [REDACTED]
B. Judge Phillip A. Maxey, General Session/Juvenile Judge of Cheatham County [REDACTED]
C. Attorney Dora Salinas, [REDACTED]
D. Dr. Janie Berryman, psychologist [REDACTED]
E. Phillip Johnson, Lobbyist for Johson Government Relations and former State Representative for 78 <sup>th</sup> District from 2002-2012 [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 [Court] \_\_23<sup>rd</sup> 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: June 10, 2024

[Signature]  
Signature

When completed, return this questionnaire to John Jefferson at the Administrative Office of the Courts, 511



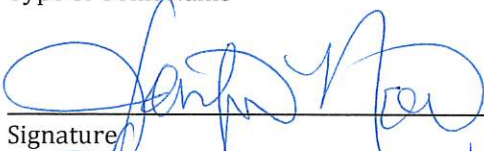
**TENNESSEE TRIAL COURT VACANCY COMMISSION**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS**  
511 UNION STREET, SUITE 600  
NASHVILLE CITY CENTER  
NASHVILLE, TN 37219

**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.

Jennifer F. Noe  
Type or Print Name

  
Signature

June 10, 2024  
Date

016833  
BPR #

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

State of Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance, Title Insurance License #995735

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