

# Shelby County Board of Commissioners Application For Appointment to Elected Office

## Applicant

### Application for Appointment to Elected Office

First Name	Jennifer
Last Name	Fitzgerald, Esq.
Office Address	[REDACTED]
City	Memphis
State	TN
Zip	[REDACTED]
Office Phone	[REDACTED]
Facsimile	[REDACTED]
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Home Address	
Street Number	[REDACTED]
Street Name	[REDACTED]
Street Type	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Apt #	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Cordova
State	TN
Zip	[REDACTED]

Home Phone



Cellular Phone



## Professional Background & Experience

### Professional Background & Experience

1. Indicate your Present Employment. What is the Principal business of the business?

I am currently employed as a solo practitioner at Fitzgerald, Harris, & Fitzgerald, An Association of Attorneys. The principal business of Fitzgerald, Harris, & Fitzgerald, An Association of Attorneys is the practice of law.

2. List your prior professional or business employment since completion of high school and lasting more than twelve months with dates and names of employers.

Fitzgerald, Harris, & Fitzgerald, An Association of Attorneys, May 2008 until the present.

3. Describe any experience not stated above that you would like to bring to the attention of the Commission.

For the past eight years, I have worked in private practice at Fitzgerald, Harris, & Fitzgerald, An Association of Attorneys, where I have concentrated my legal practice in the area of criminal defense. In my practice, I have represented clients in a broad range of matters ranging from minor misdemeanors to serious felony offenses. In order to zealously advocate for my clients, I have conducted jury trials, preliminary hearings, bond hearings, suppression hearings, and argued various motions involving arrest and search warrant issues. Also, I have counseled and assisted both Petitioners and Respondents in Order of Protection hearings. In all of my advocacy, I adhere to the highest ethical standards and work diligently for my clients and would apply the same professionalism and work ethic to my duties as Judicial Commissioner. Additionally, I have served as Special Judge for every Division of Shelby County General Sessions Criminal Court except Division Fourteen, which is serviced by Judicial Referees. As a Special Judge, I have had the opportunity to preside over preliminary hearings and make probable cause determinations and set fair, just, and legally-principled bonds in matters that were before the General Sessions Criminal Court. These judicial experiences, along with my professional expertise as a criminal defense attorney, have enabled me to develop a knowledge base that is highly relevant to the duties and obligations of a Judicial Commissioner. Further, they demonstrate my familiarity with the inner workings of the Shelby County General Sessions Criminal Court.

## Personal Information

4. How long have you lived continuously in Shelby County?	29
5. State the county in which you are registered to vote.	Shelby
6. List all states in which you have lived in the past 20 years and the dates you lived in each state, including all periods in which you resided in a state more than 50% of the time for a period of at least 12 months.	I lived in Memphis, Tennessee from 1996 to 2000. Upon my graduation in 2000 from Kirby High School, I lived in Jonesboro, Arkansas while attending Arkansas State University between August 2000 and May 2004. I have resided in Memphis, Tennessee since I returned from Arkansas State University in May 2004.
7. State your age, date and place of birth.	34, [REDACTED] Memphis, TN
8. a) Drivers License No.	[REDACTED]
b) Election Commission Voter Registration No.	[REDACTED]
9. Family Status	
a) State the full name and present address of your spouse.	N/A
b) State your spouse's occupation and place of employment.	N/A
c) If you have children, state their name(s), age(s), address(es) and present occupation(s).	N/A
10. Military Service	
a) Branch of Service	N/A
b) Service Number	N/A
c) Dates of active duty	N/A
d) Rank/rate at separation	N/A

e) Decorations, honors, or achievements N/A

f) Was your discharge other than honorable? If so, explain. N/A

11. a) Have you ever pled guilty or been convicted or are you now on diversion for violation of any law, regulation or ordinance? No

12. To your knowledge, are you now under federal, state or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? If so, give details. N/A

13. Have you ever been interviewed by any federal, state or local law enforcement agency for any reason other than minor traffic violation? If so, give details. N/A

14. If you have been disciplined or cited for breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct by a court, administrative agency, disciplinary committee, or other professional group, give details. N/A

15. Has within the last five years, has a tax lien or other collection procedure been instituted against you by federal, state or local authorities or creditors? If so, give details. N/A

16. a) Are you currently a party in any legal No

proceedings?

17. a) Are you now an officer or director of any business organization, or are you otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise? Yes

b) If so, give details, including the name of the enterprise, the nature of the business, the title or other description of your position, the nature of your duties, and the terms of your service. I am currently a principal attorney at Fitzgerald, Harris, & Fitzgerald, An Association of Attorneys. I have been employed there for eight years. The nature of my duties include providing legal representation to defendants in the Criminal Courts of Shelby County, TN. I handle a portion of business operations, i.e., accounts receivables and payables and procurement functions.

c) Do you consider continuation of such business involvement to be a conflict of interest? Yes

18. If your income is not wholly derived from your present employment as noted in #1 above, specify in detail the other sources of your income and the approximate percentage of your total income each source represents. N/A

19. List all organizations to which you have belonged within the last ten years, including professional associations, civic, charitable, religious, educational, social and fraternal organizations. Give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such organizations. Junior Girl Scout Leader, Girl Scouts Heart of the South, 2008-2012 Board of Directors, Downtown Porter Boys & Girls Club, 2010-2012 Social Action Co-Chair, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., 2011-2013 Member, American Bar Association, 2011-2014 Member, National Bar Association, 2013-2014 Member, Tennessee Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, 2013-2014 Program Chair, Delta Gems Mentoring Program, 2014-present Member, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, 2016-present

20. a) Have you within the past ten years Yes.

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.

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

I am a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. It is a community service organization that extends membership to college-educated women.

c) If it is not your intention to resign from such organization(s) and withdraw from any participation in their activities should you be selected for the position for which you are applying, state your reasons.

I do not intend to resign from Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. This organization focuses on community service for local communities. Also, I mentor local high school students through this organization. Further, it would not interfere with my ability to perform the duties of this position.

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### **Education**

21. List each college, law school, and other graduate school which you have attended, including dates of attendance, degree awarded and major.

Arkansas State University, 2000-2004, B.A. in Criminology  
University of Memphis, 2004-2007, J.D.

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### **Achievements**

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

Kenneth Maurice Cox Honoree

23. List presentations you have made to groups and organizations within the past five years. Panelist for Shelby County (TN) Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Stand Your Ground Forum, Domestic Violence Forum for Delta Gems and Embodi, and Career Day at Northaven Elementary

24. 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. N/A

25. Describe any experience you have had with legislative or executive branches of government other than as an elected or appointed official. N/A

26. Describe life experiences, personal involvements, or talents that you have that you feel will be of assistance to the Commission in evaluating and understanding your candidacy for this elected position. (150 words or less). My experience as a criminal defense attorney has adequately prepared me for the position of Shelby County Judicial Commissioner. I am well-versed in the law relative to setting bonds, preliminary hearings, securing arrest and search warrants, and orders of protection. Additionally, I have represented both petitioners and respondents on numerous order of protection hearings. Additionally, I have served as Special Judge for every Division of Shelby County General Sessions Criminal Court except Division Fourteen, which is serviced by Judicial Referees. As a Special Judge, I have had the opportunity to preside over preliminary hearings and make probable cause determinations and set fair, just, and legally-principled bonds in matters that were before the General Sessions Criminal Court. These judicial experiences, along with my professional expertise as a criminal defense attorney, have enabled me to develop a knowledge base that is highly relevant to the duties and obligations of a Judicial Commissioner.

27. 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 Judicial Commissioner

hereby agree to be considered for appointment to the office of

, and if appointed by the Shelby County Board of Commissioners, agree to serve that office.

In the event any material changes occur between the time this application is filed and the public hearing, I hereby agree to file an amended application with the Board of Commissioners for distribution to the commission members.

I understand that the information provided in this application shall be open to inspection upon filing with the office of the Shelby County Board of Commissioners and that the Commission may publicize the names of persons who apply for appointment and the names of those persons the Commission considers for the vacancy in question.

Printed Name Jennifer Danielle Fitzgerald

Date \* 7/21/2016

**Authorization for Release of Information**

I, Jennifer Danielle Fitzgerald

, do hereby authorize the Shelby County Sheriff and/or the Shelby County Attorney and any and all agents or persons authorized by it, to conduct a full review and disclosure of all records concerning myself, whether said records are public, private, or confidential in nature. The intent of this authorization is to give my consent for full and complete disclosure of records of all criminal charges, with the exception of minor traffic offenses, whether disposed of or pending, and any outstanding warrants in accordance with Rule 34 or the Shelby County Board of Commissioners' Permanent Rules of Order.

I also certify that any persons who may furnish such information concerning me shall not be held accountable for giving this information, and I do hereby release said persons from any and all liability which may be incurred as a result of furnishing such information. I further specifically release the Shelby County Sheriff and/or the Shelby County Attorney and/or the Shelby County Board of Commissioners from any and all liability which might otherwise be incurred as a result of collecting or receiving such information.

I have read and fully understand the contents of this Authorization for Release of Information.

Print Full Name of Applicant (include maiden) Jennifer Danielle Fitzgerald

Address [redacted] Cordova, TN [redacted]

Phone [redacted]

Date of Birth \*

[REDACTED]

Drivers License #

[REDACTED]

Date \*

7/19/2016

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