

SHELBY COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mozella T. Ross
Attorney at Law

2016 AUG 31 AM 10: 27

Office:
1750 Frayser Blvd., Ste. H
Memphis, Tennessee 38127
(901) 353-3387

Mobile: (901)488-1794

Residence:
2282 Fite Rd.
Memphis, Tennessee 38127
(901)357-1083

August 31, 2016

Shelby County Board of Commissioners
Attention: Qur'an N. Folsom, Chief Administrator
160 N. Main
Suite 600
Memphis, TN 38103

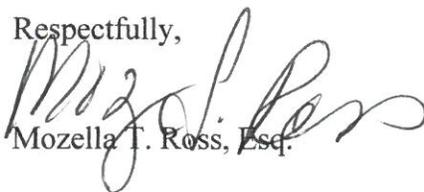
Dear Commissioners,

It is indeed an honor to submit my resume in the consideration of candidates for the appointment of Judicial Commissioner under the delegation of the General Sessions Criminal Court Judges. I am a native Memphian and have practiced law in Memphis, TN for over twenty-five years.

I have a solid reputation in the community with an exponential number of years in all aspects of the practice of both civil and criminal law. I place emphasis on the criminal practice in that I have practiced in General Sessions, State Criminal Court and Federal Criminal Court. I am often appointed to represent indigents in these courts which is a reflection of the trust bestowed upon me from the bench. I am no stranger to the criminal justice system. I have built solid relationships with my fellow colleagues which has aided me in gaining the best outcomes for my clients.

While it is nearly impossible to capture my years of experience in a resume, I would welcome the opportunity to interview formally for the position. Ultimately, I would appreciate your consideration in the selection of the best candidate to fill the vacancy of Judicial Commissioner.

Respectfully,


Mozella T. Ross, Esq.

Mozella T. Ross

Ross47966@bellsouth.net • 2282 Fite Rd., Memphis, TN 38127 • (901)848-8361

Professional Profile

Licensed attorney for more than 25 years in the state of Tennessee with a record of zealously representing clients and achieving the best outcomes in the best interest of the client. Excellent reputation with legal community and the Tennessee Bar; known for high ethical standards, integrity, experienced trial attorney and ability to handle complex cases.

Areas of Practice

Family Law • Criminal Defense • Personal Injury • Child Welfare • Title IV-D • Estate • Litigation • Tort

Practice Experience

Law Office of Mozella T. Ross

Oct. 2010- Present

General Practice Firm

- Represent clients in civil and criminal litigation matters, including:

Personal injury	Divorce and Child Custody matters
Dependency and Neglect	Juvenile defense
Complex litigation	Criminal defense
- Meet with clients and develop litigation strategy based on client needs and assessment of each case.
- Litigate each case, including depositions, discovery, law and motion practice, settlement negotiations, trial work (bench trials and jury trials).
- Appointed as Guardian ad litem to represent the best interests of juveniles in Shelby County Juvenile Court.
- Appointed as counsel to represent parents in Terminations of Parental Rights cases.

Maximus, Inc.

July 2009- Oct. 2010

Title IV-D Attorney

- Litigated cases of child support pursuant to DHS, Title IV for the enforcement in the collection of child support.
- Ensured that child support laws were enforced.
- Utilize various resources and databases to access information.

Shelby County Juvenile Court

July 2007 – July 2009

Title IV-D Attorney

- As a government employee, represented and advocated for the State of Tennessee in the enforcement and collection of child support.

The Ross Law Firm

July 2005- July 2007

General Practice Firm

Mozella T. Ross



- Litigated civil and criminal matters.
- Responsible for overall management of the firm.
- Developed strategic litigation outcomes for each case.

Tennessee Department Of Children's Service Sept. 2002- July 2005

Assistant General Counsel

- Litigated Child Welfare Cases.
- Represented the state in Dependency and Neglect Cases.
- Represented the state in Parental Rights Termination Cases.
- Represented the state in Juvenile Justice Cases.
- Worked with the client to achieve the best outcome in the best interest of children.

Law Office of Mozella T. Ross

Jan. 2000 – Sept. 2002

General Practice

- Represented clients in both civil and criminal defense.
- Represented criminal defendants in complex criminal cases,
- Litigated divorce and other family matters.
- Negotiated settlements in family and civil matters

Shelby County Public Defender's Office

Sept. 1991 – Jan. 2000

Assistant Public Defender

- As a government employee, represented indigent litigants charged with criminal offenses.
- Negotiated plea agreements, tried cases in general sessions and in criminal court (bench trials, jury trial and preliminary hearings). Handled charges ranging from driving on revoked/ suspended license up to and including Murder in the First Degree.
- Advised and counseled clients on criminal defense alternatives.

Previous experience includes:

Adjunct Paralegal Instructor, ITT Technical Institute

Education

Graduate from Tennessee State University, Major- Bachelor of Business Administration, Accounting

Cecil Humphreys School of Law, Juris Doctorate

Accomplishments

Admitted to the Bar 1991

Vice President of Student Bar Association

Bar Affiliations

National Bar Association

Association of Women Attorneys

Memphis Bar Association

Memphis Bar Foundation

Shelby County Board of Commissioners Application For Appointment to Elected Office

Applicant

Application for Appointment to Elected Office

First Name	Mozella
Last Name	Ross
Office Address	1750 Frayser Boulevard, Suite H
City	Memphis
State	Tennessee
Zip	38127
Office Phone	9013533387
Facsimile	9013533017
Email Address	ross47966@bellsouth.net
Home Address	
Street Number	████
Street Name	████
Street Type	████
Apt #	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Memphis
State	Tennessee
Zip	████
Home Phone	██████████
Cellular Phone	██████████

Professional Background & Experience

Professional Background & Experience

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Indicate your Present Employment. What is the Principal business of the business? | The Law Office of Mozella T. Ross engaged in the private 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. | since law school I have worked for at least twelve months in the following places: 1. First Merchantile Trust Company from September 1990 thru September 1991 2. Shelby County Public Defender's Office from September 1991 thru December 1999. 3. Tennessee Department of Children's Services from September 2002 until July 2005. 4. Shelby County Juvenile Court from July 2007 until July 2009. 5. Maximus, Inc. from July 2009 until October 2010. |
| 3. Describe any experience not stated above that you would like to bring to the attention of the Commission. | Any gaps in the time frames listed above, I was engaged in the private practice of law. |

Personal Information

- | | |
|--|---|
| 4. How long have you lived continuously in Shelby County? | since 1987 |
| 5. State the county in which you are registered to vote. | Shelby County |
| 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. | Tennessee |
| 7. State your age, date and place of birth. | 55 years, [REDACTED], Olive Branch, Mississippi |
| 8. a) Drivers License No. | [REDACTED] |

b) Election Commission Voter Registration No. *Field not completed.*

9. Family Status

a) State the full name and present address of your spouse.

[REDACTED]

b) State your spouse's occupation and place of employment.

[REDACTED]

c) If you have children, state their name(s), age(s), address(es) and present occupation(s).

[REDACTED]

10. Military Service

a) Branch of Service *N/A*

b) Service Number *Field not completed.*

c) Dates of active duty *Field not completed.*

d) Rank/rate at separation *Field not completed.*

e) Decorations, honors, or achievements *Field not completed.*

f) Was your discharge other than honorable? If so, explain. *Field not completed.*

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 *NO*

violation of a criminal statute? If so, give details.

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.

NO

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.

NO

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.

City and county property taxes.

16. a) Are you currently a party in any legal proceedings?

Yes

b) If so, give details including the date, court and docket number, and disposition. Provide a brief description of the case.

FED

17. a) Are you now an officer or director of any business organization, or are you otherwise

No

engaged in the management of any business enterprise?

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

Field not completed.

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.

National Bar Association board of directors Bethany Christian Services, board of directors Association of Women Attorneys Tennessee Bar Association

20. a) Have you within the past ten years 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

no

purpose, such as churches or synagogues.

b) If so, list such organizations and describe the basis of the membership limitation. *Field not completed.*

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. n/a

Education

21. List each college, law school, and other graduate school which you have attended, including dates of attendance, degree awarded and major. Tennessee State University attended August 1979 until June 1983, BBA in accounting Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, University of Memphis August 1987 until May 1990, Juris Doctorate

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. Fellow of the Memphis Bar Foundation

23. List presentations you have made to groups and organizations within the past five years. Speaker at women's programs for church.

24. List any public office none

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.

25. Describe any experience you have had with legislative or executive branches of government other than as an elected or appointed official. none

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). I have been a lawyer specializing in criminal offenses since 1991.

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 hereby agree to be considered for appointment to the office of Judicial Commissioner

, 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 Mozella T. Ross

Date * 8/30/2016

Authorization for Release of Information

I, Mozella T. Ross

, 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) Mozella Terry Ross

Address

Phone

Date of Birth *

Drivers License #

Date *

8/30/2016

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)