



MEDIA ALERT

80 Monroe Avenue · Suite 220 · Memphis, TN 38103
Phone: 901.527.3573 · Fax: 901.527.3582

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 8, 2010

Contact: Dottie McCallen,
901.527.3573 or dmccallen@memphisbar.org

MEMPHIS BAR RELEASES RESULTS OF JUDICIAL QUALIFICATION POLL

Memphis, Tenn.— The Memphis Bar Association today released the results of its Judicial Qualification Poll for the candidates in contested judicial elections on the August 5th ballot. The poll was sent to nearly 3,000 attorneys in Shelby County, including both members and non-members of the MBA. 795 attorneys responded.

The poll asked attorneys to select the one candidate in each race whom they felt was best qualified to serve as judge. If an attorney did not know the candidates’ qualifications or had no opinion, he/she was instructed to mark “no opinion.”

The Memphis Bar Association has conducted a poll of candidates in contested judicial elections for more than 20 years, in the belief that local attorneys are in the best position to know a candidate’s qualifications and that the MBA has a responsibility to inform the voting public of attorneys’ opinions about the candidates.

The poll results follow. They are also available at www.memphisbar.org.

Which candidate is best qualified to serve as Judge of Circuit Court, Division 4?		
	Response Count	Response Percent
Michael G. Floyd	12	1.5%
Gina G. Higgins	124	15.8%
Lorrie K. Ridder	520	66.2%
No opinion	129	16.5%
Which candidate is best qualified to serve as Judge of Circuit Court, Division 8?		
Rhynette N. Hurd	287	36.7%
JoeDae Jenkins	70	9%
Venita Martin	76	9.7%
Robert “Bob” Weiss	149	19%
No opinion	200	25.6%
Which candidate is best qualified to serve as Judge of Criminal Court, Division 3?		
Latonya Sue Burrow	24	3.1%
Bobby Carter	207	26.6%
Claiborne H. Ferguson	17	2.2%
Larry H. Nance	82	10.5%
Gerald Skahan	188	24.1%
Glenn Wright	90	11.6%
No opinion	171	22%

Which candidate is best qualified to serve as Judge of General Sessions Criminal Court, Division 7?		
Bill Anderson, Jr.	79	10.1%
Taurus M. Bailey	25	3.2%
Mischelle Alexander Best	23	3%
William D. "Billy" Bond	115	14.7%
Damita Dandridge	0	0%
Bryan A. Davis	42	5.4%
Erica Gatewood	15	1.9%
Rhonda W. Harris	47	6%
Dennis R. Johnson	14	1.8%
Cathy H. Kent	1	.1%
Sherrie Miller-Johnson	1	.1%
Herb Lane	35	4.5%
Rick McKenna	10	1.3%
Derek Renfroe	11	1.4%
Janet L. Shipman	125	16%
Terrance Tatum	12	1.5%
Tim J. Thompson	23	3%
Randall B. Tolley	9	1.1%
Karen Tyler	0	0%
Carolyn S. Watkins	23	3%
No opinion	170	21.9%
Which candidate is best qualified to serve as Judge of General Sessions Criminal Court, Division 10?		
Chris Turner	153	19.6%
Lee Wilson	376	48.3%
No opinion	250	32.1%

Established in 1874, the Memphis Bar Association is a voluntary association of attorneys and judges upholding high standards of integrity in the legal profession through continuing professional education, supporting legal services to all in the community, and educating the public about law and the administration of justice.

###