

- 1. Please describe your background and your qualifications for this position? What experiences caused you to run for this office. What unique qualities would you bring to this position and what differentiates you from other candidates in your race?**

My background in business and politics and civic contributions, my accomplishments in attacking challenges verified by my seventeen (17) patents in multiple areas confirm my desire to make life better. The fact that I once played professional baseball and have won more cooking contests than any other competitor, and have attacked political corruption with vigor, attests to my courage and competitive nature.

No other mayoral candidate has the varied experience, national and international contacts to move our community into new dimensions than I do!

- 2. What is your vision for the City – how would you use this office to achieve the vision?**

With vigor I will insure a safe atmosphere, be it Beale Street, South Memphis or out east. I see a balance of revenue and spending, with an emphasis on Quality of Life. I see a responsible progression of growth with protection for our Seniors and security for their estates. We need comprehensive approaches to school construction – a major component in taxation and a curb on foolhardy spending. I see a need to preserve the historical treasures left us by previous generations.

- 3. How do you plan on insuring that there is diversity (including race, age, gender and socio-economic) represented in the development of public policy and government?**

Measures are currently in place to meet these goals. There will always be those not satisfied with their ability to control issues. It will be my goal to see that extensive additional effort is expended to insure diversity.

4. What are the three greatest issues facing the City of Memphis today and during the future?

1. Crime and Corruption
2. Educational system
3. Balancing the spending for the necessary amenities with an attempt to lower the tax burden

5. What role should the City of Memphis government play in promoting the economic development for the community? What specific initiatives or actions would you promote and/or support?

Present efforts should continue, but with more support from the Mayor's office. The integrity lacking in the present administration, no doubt, hampers our ability to attract the desired partners. Economic development through new quality employers will help solve the tax imbalance.

6. How would you strengthen and support existing neighborhoods that are within the urban core and what barriers to community redevelopment do you see in these areas today? How do you propose to address the current blight in many of these areas?

I would hope to strengthen the many neighbor organizations and give them the tools and support to monitor their parts of our community. Until the present real estate drought subsides, it would be folly to try and dictate redevelopment when our neighborhoods are inundated with "For Sale" signs.

7. What do you regard as the greatest obstacle or barrier to growth in the City today?

CRIME

- 8. Discuss the current administrative structure and do you have a vision for altering this structure? How would you strengthen a culture of accountability and outcome based on performance standards for Divisions of City Government?**

Much can be done by insuring competence in all division leadership positions, insuring that job standards are met and cronyism is eliminated.

- 9. What would your vision be for the organizational structure of your administration and what procedures would you use to make appointments?**

As stated in question #8, every attempt will be made to place the best people in all positions of accountability. Some from prior administrations will be interviewed as well as all existing appointed employees.

- 10. Give us your thoughts on the Charter Commission. What are the main issues that should be taken in to consideration by this group and what items in the City Charter should be considered for change? Please comment specifically on your ideas around consolidation and/or metropolitan government?**

First – I do not see consolidation in the near future. County and City debts and the diversity of interests and, of course, the race issue are major obstacles to overcome. This coupled with turf protection and concerns of the numerous incorporated towns will require much additional research.

As for the Charter Commission they, I hope, will come up with some substantive changes, as well as retain the better provisions. Questions regarding term limits, the Mayor's contracting authority, residency issues, and City Council oversight of MLGW, PILOTs, River Front development, Center City Commission and the Industrial Development Board will no doubt be discussed.

11. What is the role of this office? What do you think about the relationship between the City Mayor/ City Council and other legislative bodies, Shelby County, Memphis City Schools, MLGW, Chamber, Center City Commission, etc?

1. Mayor's office should initiate ideas and solutions
2. City Council should debate and legislate by resolution
3. Mayor should then administrate

It is important for the Mayor's office to have a cooperative working relationship with the County Mayor and Commission, as well as all decision initiating bodies.

12. How would you as Mayor effectively reduce the crime rate in the City of Memphis? What current strategies would you continue to support and what changes would you propose?

Present initiatives should continue but with more financial and manpower support. As previously stated, CRIME is our most critical problem and has an effect on every aspect of our community.

13. In light of recent events, would you be willing to submit to a background check and allow the results to be published?

YES

14. Discuss the recently passed ethics ordinance/policy at the State and Local levels? Is this sufficient and if not, what changes would you recommend?

It is only a start and should be strengthened especially with expulsion from office and the ultimate penalty.