

Candidate Qualification / Position Statement For *Coalition for a Better Memphis* Website

The CBM will post your completed statement on our website, www.bettermemphis.org, exactly as it is submitted. It is important that your information be complete – please use extra space if needed and feel free to attach a resume or any supplemental information. Please email the Statement to peggy@bettermemphis.org by June 6, 2008.

Name: Mike Wissman _____

Website: www.mikewissman.com (temporarily under construction) _____

Candidate for: Shelby County School Board – District 2 _____

Why do you believe you are qualified to run for this position? Not only am I a concerned Citizen and parent, but I am very involved in my community. Since the fall of 2006, I have been attending the school board meetings and talking with members of the board. I am aware of the issues the board has faced over the last couple of years, and my communication with community leaders keeps me up to date on concerns and events throughout District 2. _____

Three specific things you would like to accomplish if elected: _____

1. Freeze school boundaries between the City and County. People move into specific areas for various reasons, with schools being a main factor. _____
2. Legislate for Special School Districts. _____
3. Improve teacher benefits, with a focus on retirement. _____

Have you ever been delinquent on your property taxes? Yes _____ No X _____

Have you filed for Bankruptcy? Yes _____ No X _____

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes _____ No X _____

Explanation of any of the above items _____

List other elected positions you have run for and the outcome of the election:

2006 – State Representative District 99 – Runner-up in the Republican Primary to Ron Lollar in a field of eight candidates. _____

Current Employment

Company: Memphis Fire Department (City of Memphis) _____

Length of Employment: 7 years _____

Brief Job Description: Fire Fighter/EMT – handle emergency/non-emergency calls for fire, rescue, and medical related issues throughout Memphis. _____

Education

Please list all schools you have attended from High School on.

<u>School</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Graduation Date</u>
Bartlett High	Yes	1989
University of Memphis	Bachelor of Professional Studies	2005
Shelby State	Emergency Medical Technology	1994

Additional information as it regards to education: My degree focus is in administration. I am also continually taking classes and C.E.U.'s to maintain certifications for my state license. _____

How long have you lived in Memphis? I've lived in Shelby County almost my entire life.

Where did you grow up? Bartlett _____

Marital Status/Children: Married: wife Wendy & son Wade _____

Please identify up to five organizations that are actively supporting your candidacy.

1. Memphis Firefighters Association L1784 _____
2. Shelby County Fire Association L2585 _____
3. Bartlett Firefighters L3583 _____
4. Arlington Firefighters L4218 _____
5. Defenders of Freedom _____

Please list your association memberships and identify any leadership positions you have held in the past.

1. University of Memphis Alumni Association _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Please list your civic and community memberships.

1. Northeast Shelby County Republicans _____
2. Shelby County Republican Club _____

3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Other Contact Information:

Campaign Chair: Myself _____

Treasurer: Amy Smith _____

Any other information you would like to share with the voters:

I stay very involved in my community by attending school board meetings, public forums, PTA meetings, civic organizations, and other school activities directly involving schools throughout District 2. I feel I am well prepared for the issues and concerns in District 2 and the rest of Shelby County. _____



The following scenario was developed by the Center for Ethical Leadership at Christian Brothers University. It is designed to determine how you process information and make decisions. There is no right or wrong answer.

Lost File – Ethical Dilemma Pitting Individual versus Community

You have been involved in a very tight election, opposing a very popular incumbent. About two weeks prior to election day, the local newspaper runs a very negative article about your opponent and some “shady” dealings occurring during his tenure in office. Although the

allegations do not point to any illegal activity, the reporter does imply that a particular financial transaction shows questionable decision making.

Your opponent denies the allegations and insists the transaction is above board. He claims he cannot locate the files associated with this particular incident and, therefore, cannot defend his actions with anything other than his honor, reputation, and good name. The press continues to have a field day over this issue, tearing up your opponent and leaving you in the enviable position of not having to comment on the situation.

You win the election by a surprisingly large margin. Exit polls show it was your opponent's inability to produce evidence proving there was no wrongdoing that swayed voters your way. Your opponent walks away from the election not only defeated at the polls but also in public opinion and reputation.

About three months into your new position you are working on a case that causes you to rummage through some of your predecessor's old files. There you find the "smoking gun"... the evidence that clears your opponent of any wrongdoing. You are unsure if the information was accidentally or intentionally misfiled.

- (1) What will you do with this information? I will bring it to the attention of the necessary parties involved. This information needs surface so all parties involved can clear their name and rectify the situation.
- (2) Will you consult anyone before deciding what to do? If so, whom? I don't feel there is a need in this situation.
- (3) When making your decision about what to do, whose needs did you consider? The former incumbent, and the public. He served his community and put his name and reputation on the line, and he deserves to clear his name. I would expect someone to do the same for me.
- (4) Was this an easy decision for you to make? If not, what were some of the issues that went through your mind that caused conflict? It was a very easy decision to make. Remember the Golden Rule: "Do on to others as you would have done to you."

Optional – Attach a resume.

Please email the completed Statement and any additional information to: peggy@bettermemphis.org by June 6, 2008.