

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

Name: Rosalyn R. Nichols

Website: www.voteforroz.com

Candidate for: Memphis City Council District 8, Position 2

Why do you believe you are qualified for this position? I am a native Memphian and a proud graduate of our Memphis City School System having received my H.S. diploma with honors from Booker T. Washington High. My employment history includes experience working alongside some of Memphis well respected entrepreneurs and small business owners as well as working in three major corporations in our city. For over 18 yrs I have worked in community service and advocacy as the founder of a nonprofit which addressed the epidemic of domestic and relationship violence in our community. For 16 yrs now I have served as the organizing pastor of Freedom's Chapel Christian Church having moved from my father's dining room table to our current worship space at 2768 Colony Park Drive. I have been actively involved in organizations including the Board of MIFA, Leadership Memphis Class of 2002, the Memphis Board of Education Community Task Force, and recently the Clergy for Equity in Education. I believe these collective experiences have provided me with a unique breadth and depth of understanding of Memphis from its history, the significance of economic development, the critical importance of education, the vital need for community advocacy and the role of government in supporting and undergirding each of these areas that work to make our community vital, healthy and strong. It is my experience in these various areas, along with a deep passion and commitment to service that I believe qualifies for this position at this time.

Name three specific things you would like to accomplish if elected: I would like to work to provide more opportunities and resources for small businesses, minority and women's businesses. I would like to work to provide resources that help to reduce crime, particularly the crime of domestic violence in our city. I would like to work to restore community confidence in our elected officials.

Have you ever been delinquent on your property taxes? Yes XX No \_\_\_\_\_

Have you declared bankruptcy? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No XX

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No XX \_\_\_\_\_

If you answered "yes" on any of the above items, please list the year and provide details. -  
In 2010 I failed to pay the property taxes on my mother's home at 708 Lucille. Those taxes  
however have no been paid and the property has now been transferred in my name. My  
mother passed in 2007.

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

This is my first run for elected office.

### **Current Employment**

Company: Freedom's Chapel Christian Church

Length of Employment: 10 years as of November 6, 2011

Brief Job Description: I am the organizing Pastor of Freedom's Chapel where I function as  
Chief Executive Officer and Spiritual Leader. I am responsible for the supervision of the  
ministerial, administrative and volunteer staff, creation, oversight and maintenance of the  
church's budget, implementing the vision and mission of the church as well as mobilizing the  
people to carry out the mission.

### **Education**

Please list all college/advanced degrees attained.

<u>College/University</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Graduation Year</u>
<u>LeMoyne Owen College</u>	<u>B.S., Biology, cum laude</u>	<u>1981</u>
<u>Memphis Theological Seminary</u>	<u>M.Div., summa cum laude</u>	<u>1996</u>
<u>Virginia Union University</u>	<u>D.Min.</u>	<u>2004</u>

Additional information relating to your educational background (optional):

How long have you lived in Memphis? 47 years

Where did you grow up? In South Memphis in the Longview Heights Community

Marital status/children: Single, no children

Please identify up to five organizations that are actively supporting your candidacy and provide a contact (with phone number) for each.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. Board Member, MIFA
2. Leadership Memphis
3. National Society of Fund Raising Executives
4. Memphis Board of Education Community Task Force
5. Shelby County Domestic Violence Council

Please list up to 10 current or past civic/community memberships.

1. Clergy for Equity in Education
2. Beta Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
3. Lifetime Memphis of the NAACP
4. YMCA
5. Sisters-in-Motion (SIM)
6. City of Memphis Mayor's Faith Advisory Council

Other Contact Information:

Campaign Chair: Patricia Joyce Ramsey (901) 433-4332

Treasurer: Marc Willis (901) 413-2746

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

If elected to serve I promise to bring a passion matched with a commitment to integrity and service as a member of the Memphis City Council.