

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

Name: Bobby Simmons

Website: bobbysimmonsforsheriff.com

Candidate for: Sheriff of Shelby County

Why do you believe you are qualified for this position? **I have thirty-five years experience and training in law enforcement with the Shelby County Sheriff's Office. I have worked in the ranks as a jailer and patrolman, and then as Captain or Commander in almost every division of the Department. My combination of law enforcement experience, executive planning, and public service experience make me uniquely qualified to be Shelby County's next sheriff. There is no substitute for first hand experience, and I have actually been at the scene, prepared in the actions of the job. I have been a member of the Homeland Security committee in the National League of Cities since 2007.**

Name three specific things you would like to accomplish if elected:

- 1. Increase the number of reserve/volunteer personnel to carry out the tasks of neighborhood watch, senior citizens crime watch, and emergency services.**
- 2. Increase the number of children who participate in early crime prevention programs**
- 3. Network with local municipalities to eliminate the idea that crime has boundaries**

Have you ever been delinquent on your property taxes? NO

Have you declared bankruptcy? NO

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? NO

List other elected positions you have run for and the outcome of the election: **I was elected as an Alderman in Bartlett in 2004 and re-elected for that same position in 2008. I have also been elected as an Executive Board Member for the Shelby County Credit Union for five terms and have served as president of that board twice. I have been elected as president of the Daybreak Neighborhood Association in Bartlett and remain an active member of that association. I am on the Executive Board for the Fraternal Order of Police in Shelby County and I am a committee member of National League of Cities Homeland Security. In 1973, I was the founder and president of the Deputy Sheriff's**

Association. Currently I serve on the executive board for the Fraternal Order of Police in Shelby County.

Current Employment

Company: I am recently retired from the Shelby County Sheriff's Office and I serve as an elected official in Bartlett which is a part-time position.

Length of Employment: I worked for the Sheriff's Office for thirty-five years. I have been an Alderman in Bartlett for five years.

Brief Job Description: I worked in patrol, the jail, crime prevention, Metro DUI, Homicide, Civil Courts, Criminal Courts, and Shelby County Schools Officer Outreach. As an alderman, I serve on a board that maintains the city budget, parks, streets, zoning, police and fire, public safety, just to name a few, and setting tax rates for the ninth largest city in Tennessee.

Education

1974 Northwest College Certification Traffic Institute and Public Safety

1980 Monte Eagle Public Safety and Training Institute

1985 University of Louisville certification in crime prevention and law enforcement

2000 University of Memphis Public Speaking Certification

2005 University of Tennessee Elected Officials certification in city management

In my ongoing professional development with the sheriff's office, I received training in the use of various weapons for the protection of myself and the citizens I serve. I attended administrative courses in office protocol and writing directives for those under my command. I have been trained to be an affective communicator both in writing and speaking. I have had weeks of training from the FBI academy in using the most effective strategies in apprehending criminals and making arrests. Advanced training in identity theft, homicide investigations, and crime scene security are all a part of my professional education. Experience has been my best teacher and I believe the streets of Shelby County and the citizens—both good and bad—have taught me what it takes to be a great leader.

I have lived in Shelby County all my life in Memphis and Bartlett and I grew up in a Catholic household with a mother and four sisters. We attended Catholic grammar schools and I also attend Treadwell Jr. High and then Tech High School. I was in a serious motorcycle accident my senior year and was hospitalized for several months in an attempt to keep my left leg from being amputated. I left high school as an injured athlete, forgoing scholarship offers to play football and went on to take the GED the summer after my class graduated. I received my GED diploma on the first attempt. My life's ambition was to work for the Sheriff's office, and with my leg in such a shape, I feared this dream would vanish. My physical papers were signed as acceptable and I entered the service of the Shelby County Sheriff's Office in November 1972. I am married to Sherry and together we have six children and nine grandchildren. My son Troy is also with the department and is currently a top K-9 officer. His partner, Dodger, has become quite famous in his own right. We are very proud of all of our children and grandchildren and the professions they have chosen.

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

- 1. Fraternal Order of Police, Danny Renshaw, 901-494-9164**
 - 2. Firefighters, Pete Cooper, 901-550-3192**
 - 3. Northeast Shelby Republicans, Lee Mills 901 386-8449**
 - 4. Educators in Memphis and Shelby County, Beth May, K.C. Woody, 867-6000**
- Others to be announced.**

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

- 1. Daybreak Homeowners, former president**
- 2. Fraternal Order of Police, Executive Officer**
- 3. Bartlett Exchange Club, President**
- 4. Shelby County Credit Union, Board of Directors**
- 5. Deputy Sheriff's Association, former president**

- 6. Memphis City Schools, Adopt-a-school Klondike Elementary, fundraiser coordinator**
- 7. Raleigh-Egypt High School, former booster club president**
- 8. Bobby and Sherry attend St. Anne's Catholic Church and Ellendale Baptist**

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

- 1. Bartlett Exchange Club**
- 2. TSSAA/ MIAA**
- 3. Shelby Youth Sports**
- 4. Northeast Shelby Republican Club/ Republican Party of Shelby County**
- 5. Adopt-a-School Memphis City Schools**
- 6. Morning/evening Traffic Announcer Christian Radio**
- 7. Shelby County Credit Union programs for membership**
- 8. Mike's Bikes for disadvantaged youth**
- 9. Dream Factory providing wishes for terminally ill or handicapped children**
- 10. Kids and Cops Christmas Program**

Other Contact Information:

Campaign Chair: **Paula Sedgwick, 491-9166**
Treasurer: **Sherry Simmons, 573-2632**
Outreach: Ed Eason, **901-483-4781**
Contact Bobby at bobbysimmonsforsheriff.com
Facebook group is Bobby Simmons for Sheriff

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

Be alert, be aware, be alive, and “B” for Bobby!