

**COALITION FOR A BETTER MEMPHIS**  
**Shelby County Commissioner Candidate Questionnaire**  
**Election Date: May 4, 2010**

**AN ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THIS FILE CAN BE RECEIVED BY SENDING AN EMAIL  
TO [peggy@bettermemphis.org](mailto:peggy@bettermemphis.org)**

**Name: Sidney Chism**

**District for which you are running: District 3, Position 2**

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**Section 1: Qualifications and Background (2 questions)**

**Section 2: Vision and Strategies (4 questions)**

**Section 3: Improving the Education System (4 questions)**

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<b>1. QUALIFICATIONS AND BACKGROUND</b>
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- 1. Describe your qualifications for holding the office of Shelby County Commissioner. (Please answer in the space below and attach a resume.)**

**I have been active in the community for more than 30 years, contributing to various civic projects and working on behalf of Shelby County.**

- 2. What events or experiences caused you to decide to run for this office?**

**Being a member of the Teamsters my entire adult life, I have always worked on behalf of the common man/woman and tried to be their voice of understanding. Having this experience caused me to realize the greater need for this type of representation.**

NAME: SIDNEY CHISM

**2. VISION AND STRATEGIES**

**1. In your opinion, what are the three greatest issues (problems or opportunities) facing Shelby County in the next four years?**

- 1. Funding for the Regional Medical Center**
- 2. Debt reduction**
- 3. Crime**

**2. Shelby County's debt is seen by many people as a threat to county government. How would you propose that the county pay down its debt? How would you prevent additional debt in the future?**

**I believe we must first cut programs that we know are not working while also searching for ways to save on expenditures we currently have. Furthermore, in order to pay down our current debt, we must discover a way to generate new revenue. It is implausible to pay more towards debt without generating new income.**