

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

Name: Melvin Burgess \_\_\_\_\_

Website: Burgess\_commissioner10@yahoo.com \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate for: County Commissioner Dist#2 Pos #3 \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you believe you are qualified for this position? As the Chief Auditor and a member of the Superintendents Executive Cabinet, I have provided direction to the Division of Internal Audit in the development of strategies to support district- wide goals and objectives. The Division of Internal Audit contributes to policy making, long range planning and other initiatives set forth by the Superintendent. \_\_\_\_\_

Serving on a critical financial and operational advisory role in the decision- making process with the district has afforded me an opportunity to improve business processes and educational programs while balancing the distinct needs of an urban school district thruxed into an era of transition marked by pressures on tax bases and reduced revenues. Specifically, I am responsible for providing independent, evidence-based measures, evaluations and reports on adequacy, effectiveness and efficiency of accounting and operational controls, and the general compliance with Memphis Board of Education Policies and Procedures, and State rules and regulations. \_\_\_\_\_

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

An equitable plan is in place for the funding of education for our students in Memphis and Shelby County. **We must get the two school systems to work in concert because the County cannot afford more school bond debt.** \_\_\_\_\_

Form partnerships between county and city government, and municipalities, and determine ways to centralize services currently being duplicated. \_\_\_\_\_

Seeking other revenue sources by proposing a study be performed of the existing tax structure, seeking a more balanced structure that asks the question who live, work, and play

in this county, to pay their fair share. **The pursuit of more diverse, elastic sources of revenue by the county administration must be one of its highest priorities. County Government cannot continue to deal with an over-reliance on property taxes as its main source of revenue.** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

If you answered "yes" on any of the above items, please list the year and provide details. -

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

County Commissioner Dist #2 Pos #2 FYR 2006 \_\_\_\_\_

Results Henri Brooks 4807 \_\_\_\_\_

Melvin Burgess 3538 \_\_\_\_\_

Other 1300 \_\_\_\_\_

### **Current Employment**

Company: Memphis Board of Education (Chief Auditor) \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Employment: 21 yrs \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Job Description: Serve as the Chief internal evaluator of management policies and procedures. Provide direction to the Division of Internal Audit in the development of audit strategies to support district-wide goals and objectives. Responsible for providing independent, evidence- based measures, evaluations, and reports in the adequacy, effectiveness, and efficiency of operational controls and ensure compliance with Board policies/ procedures and Federal/ State rules and regulations. Inform the Board of Commissioners, Superintendent, and State Comptrollers Office of suspected fraud, abuse, or mismanagement. \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Education**

Please list all college/advanced degrees attained.

<u>College/University</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Graduation Year</u>
Grambling State University		Dec 1984

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Additional information relating to your educational background (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

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How long have you lived in Memphis? 41 yrs \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you grow up? Memphis Tennessee / Denver Colorado \_\_\_\_\_

Marital status/children: Married 18 years with (2) daughters Lindsey and Lauren Burgess

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

1. none \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. Director, Tennessee Association of School Business Officials (West Tn.) \_\_\_\_\_
2. Appointed to the Memphis and Shelby County Industrial Development Board \_\_\_\_\_

3. President Grambling State University Alumni Assoc. Memphis Chapter \_\_\_\_\_
4. National Association of Black Accountants \_\_\_\_\_
5. The Institute of Internal Auditors \_\_\_\_\_
6. Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. President Midtown / Downtown Democrats \_\_\_\_\_
2. NAACP \_\_\_\_\_
3. Boys and Girls Club of America \_\_\_\_\_
4. Member Evergreen Historic District Association \_\_\_\_\_
5. Treasurer PTSA Central High School \_\_\_\_\_
6. Member PTA Snowden School \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

Other Contact Information:

Campaign Chair: Melvin T. Burgess Sr. \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer: Darlene LeSueur \_\_\_\_\_

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

If elected I will set up a constituent office in the district to hear the concerns of the citizens.

The office will set up to help bring county government back to the people. \_\_\_\_\_

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