



**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CONFIRMATION HEARING
CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
MARCH 6, 2018
AGENDA
2:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT

- 1. ORDER CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF SHARON D. GIPSON AS CITY ATTORNEY, CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.**
- 2. ORDER CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF WILMA JONES SCOTT AS DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.**

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS, MAYOR, DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

ORDER CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF SHARON D. GIPSON AS CITY ATTORNEY, CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

WHEREAS the Mayor has appointed Sharon D. Gipson, Esq. as City Attorney for the City of Jackson, Mississippi, effective January 22, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the appointment came before the City Council for confirmation as required by Section 21-8-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered the appointment, and a majority of the Council present and voting has determined that the appointment should be confirmed.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED by the City Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, that the appointment of Sharon D. Gipson as City Attorney for the City of Jackson, Mississippi, is hereby confirmed.

ATTORNEY SHARON D. GIPSON

P.O. BOX 474 ~ HOLLY SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI 38635
601-291-9691 ~ sdg_esq@yahoo.com

EDUCATION: **University of Mississippi School of Law * Oxford, Mississippi**
Juris Doctor, May 1999; Mississippi Bar February 1999

University of Southern Mississippi * Hattiesburg, Mississippi
BS: Major: Radio, Television & Film, Minor: Speech Communication,
December 1986

**LAW SCHOOL
ACTIVITIES:**

Special Prosecutor, Public Law Interest Clinic, Criminal Law Association,
Black Law Students Association, Who's Who Among American Law
Students, Outstanding Student in Criminal Procedure

CERTIFICATION:

State of Mississippi (All courts: Circuit and Chancery), Supreme Court
and Court of Appeals of the State of Mississippi, United States Court of
Appeals for the Fifth Federal Circuit, United States Northern and
Southern Districts of Mississippi; Graduate National Criminal Defense
College; Graduate Leadership Greater Jackson; Juvenile Defender
Training; Alderman for Ward 2 of the City of Holly Springs, Mississippi;

**PROFESSIONAL
CIVIC**

**ORGANIZATIONS/
ACTIVITIES:**

Mississippi Bar Association; National League of Cities; Mississippi
Municipal League; Mississippi Prosecutor's Association; American Trial
Lawyers Association; Magnolia Bar Association; Hinds County Public
Defenders Association; Anderson Chapel CME Church Trustee; Tornado
Disaster Relief Center Manager; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc, Upsilon
Upsilon Omega Chapter, President; Leadership Greater Jackson, &
Leadership Greater Jackson Alumni Association; Pontotoc County Foster
Care Review Board; Upper Level Challenge; Mentee of Honorable
Chokwe Lumumba; Hurricane Katrina Activities; Jena 6 March; Scott
Sisters' Rally; Voter Registration Activities; Various Press Conferences

EXPERIENCE:

Alderman, Ward 2, City of Holly Springs, Mississippi

July 2013- Present

- Elected to serve the largest Ward in the City of Holly Springs
- Research and draft legislation and strive to improve economy
- Address and resolve community and employee concerns
- Review, plan and adopt budget
- Review contracts, bids and proposals
- Inform and involve the public through town hall meetings, social media, and the media
- Plan, coordinate and facilitate community activities and festivals

The Gipson Law Firm PLLC, Holly Springs, Mississippi

August 2005 – Present

- Manage and Operate General Law Practice
- Serve clients with Family Law, Criminal Defense, DUI, Personal Injury, and Probate/Estate, Litigation, Municipal Law, Divorce, Adoption, Child Support, Contract,

Youth Court, Election Law, Employment Law, Guardian Ad Litem Services, Entertainment Law, Corporate, Small Business and other areas of law

- Provide excellent, affordable confidential representation
- Serve a diverse pool of clients including nationally known individuals
- Fight for Justice for clients involved in the criminal system
- Public Speaker and organize and present workshops
- Political/Election Consultant

Office of the City Attorney, Jackson, Mississippi

October 1999-August 2005

- Served as Advisor to City Council, Litigator, Transactional Attorney, Chief Prosecutor, and Water Hearing Administrator
- Created a Manual and Provided Training to City Council Members, Mayor's Office, Employees and Police Department
- Advised City Council, Mayor's Office, Civil Service Commission, Human Resources, Election Commissioners, Community Improvement, Planning/Zoning Boards and other departments
- Established procedures for tracking information and improved accountability
- Establish Drug Court and created more aggressive procedures for Environmental Court
- Resolved customer and resident disputes as the Water Hearing Administrator
- Managed Prosecutor's Office and supervised employees

SELECT CASES

Rameel Sharpe vs. COJ, Federal Court; Blanche Anne Ray vs. COJ, Federal Court; Joe Kelly vs. COJ, Federal Court; Frederick Powell vs. COJ, Circuit Court; Estate of Otha Stewart vs. COJ, Circuit Court; Consequela Banks vs. COJ, County Court; Jackson Advocate vs. COJ and Gannett Rivers, Supreme Court; Linda Brune vs. COJ, Fifth Circuit; Margaret and Ollie Brown vs. COJ, Circuit Court; Frank Melton vs. Upper Level, Chancery Court



ATTORNEY SHARON D. GIPSON

Attorney Sharon D. Gipson is a courageous, tenacious attorney with almost twenty years of legal and government experience. She lives by the principals found in Proverbs 31:8 to "Speak for those, who cannot speak for themselves...". Sharon's desire to serve the community led her to be elected as an Alderman for the City of Holly Springs, Mississippi where she proudly advocated for the citizens of her ward from May 2013 until June 2017. Thus, she has garnered experience in municipal law as an attorney and as a board member. Given this experience, Sharon has a unique understanding of the responsibility and nature of the City Attorney position.

Attorney Gipson received her Juris Doctorate from the University of Mississippi School of Law in May 1999, and was licensed immediately following graduation due to successfully completing the February 1999 Bar Examination. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Southern Mississippi where she obtained a Bachelor of Science in Communication.

Attorney Gipson dedicatedly served the City of Jackson from 1999 until 2005 in the Office of the City Attorney. During her tenure, Sharon provided legal counsel in all three divisions, including the Transactional, Litigation and Prosecution Division. Sharon served as the Chief Prosecutor for the Capital City of the State of Mississippi, where she prosecuted misdemeanor criminal cases. In this capacity, She also provided training to the City of Jackson Police Department and was instrumental in establishing the City's Drug Court. Sharon was also the principal advisor to the Jackson City Council, City Clerk, Mayor and other municipal departments. As the advisor to the City Council, Sharon also created a City Council Manual containing relevant law for city governance and information to ensure successful City Council Meetings. Additionally, Attorney Gipson conducted hearings and consultations as the Water Hearing Administrator. And as a litigator, Sharon defended the Capitol City in State Court and Federal Court.

As an attorney in private practice, Attorney Gipson has represented clients facing misdemeanor and felony charges. Attorney Gipson has also protected the rights of clients in Civil Litigation, Contract, Municipal, Personal Injury, and Family Law matters. She is an alumna of the National Criminal Defense College and has leadership and professional experience via several organizations such as the Mississippi Bar Association, Magnolia Bar Association, Mississippi Public Defenders Association, American Trial Lawyers Association, Mississippi Bar Child Advocacy Committee, Mississippi Municipal League, and the National League of Cities.

She has served her community as an Anderson Chapel C.M.E. Church Trustee Board Member and as a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, where she served as a Chapter President, Parliamentarian, and also assisted Regional Committees. Additionally, she is a graduate of Leadership Greater Jackson.

Sharon enjoys volunteering and serving others. Sharon's community service has included sponsoring Beautification Days, Juneteenth Celebrations, Coat Drives, Expungement Clinics, Voter Registration Drives, Town Hall Meetings and volunteering during and after natural disasters with the American Red Cross. Sharon has received community service awards from distinguished organizations such as Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated. And as the legal consultant on the former weekly talk show "I Have Something to Say", Sharon had the opportunity to contribute legal opinions from a spiritual perspective as a service to the community.

Attorney Sharon D. Gipson has a wealth of experience and is ready to zealously serve as the chief legal advisor for the City of Jackson, Mississippi. Sharon is prepared to dedicatedly serve and to utilize the skills and talents of the personnel in the City Attorney's Office to propel, maintain and uphold the goals and mission of serving the deserving residents of the City of Jackson.

Office of the City Attorney

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455 East Capitol Street
Post Office Box 2779
Jackson, Mississippi 39207-2779
Telephone: (601) 960-1799
Facsimile: (601) 960-1756

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

This ORDER CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF SHARON D. GIPSON AS CITY ATTORNEY, CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI is legally sufficient for placement in NOVUS Agenda.



Sharon D. Gipson, *City Attorney*

Date 2/7/18

ORDER CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF WILMA JONES SCOTT AS DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
12/10/17

WHEREAS the Mayor has appointed Wilma Jones Scott as Director of Personnel Management, effective December 10, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the appointment of Wilma Jones Scott as Director of Department of Personnel Management came before the City Council for confirmation as required by Section 21-8-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered the appointment, and a majority of the Council present and voting has determined that the appointment should be confirmed.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED by the City Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, Wilma Jones Scott is appointed Director of Department of Personal Management for the City of Jackson, Mississippi.

WILMA JONES SCOTT

wilmascott@bellsouth.net

105 Red Oak Court

(601) 948-8413

Madison, Mississippi 39110

(601) 668-3636

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1987 To Present U. S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

2006 – present Jackson Area Director – EEOC/Jackson, Mississippi

*Responsible for the overall operation of the Jackson Mississippi Area Office and the supervision of a staff of 23, including 12 Senior Federal Investigators and support staff.

*Provide direction and support in carrying out the agency's statutory enforcement programs in an efficient and effective manner.

*Responsible for meeting yearly enforcement goals involving intake, investigations, mediation, resolutions, and litigation.

*Responsible for creating the office's organizational structure that enables the carrying out of enforcement activities that resolve allegations of approximately 2,000 charges of discrimination a year filed under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, The Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Americans With Disabilities Act, the Equal Pay Act and GINA.

*Ensure that appropriate relief through no fault negotiated settlement agreements, mediations, and successful conciliations are obtained.

*Responsible for developing cases for probable litigation. Final signatory on all charges where no violation is found and in findings of cause that are not litigation vehicles.

*Create and maintain a seamless working relationship between legal and enforcement that ensures the attainment of enforcement goals and objectives.

*Primary spokesperson for the dissemination of public information to external sources and oversees the design, preparation and conduct of external projects and programs.

*Develop and oversight of agency outreach activities that promote the mission of the Commission.

Accomplishments:

The Jackson Area Office has consistently led the District in submissions of litigation vehicles that have had a significant impact in helping to lessen discrimination in underserved areas in the state of Mississippi.

- Selected as one of the Commission's National Trainers for New and Advanced Investigators since 1996. Developed training modules; conducted diversity training, Change Agent training, and Labor/Management Partnership training.
- Selected by the EEOC Chair to serve on the 2013 Strategic Planning Committee.
- Jackson Area Office received the 2nd highest ranking for effective office management from EEOC staff in EEOC Offices across the country.
- Since 2006, the Jackson Area Office has contributed significantly to the District's overall enforcement goals and made noteworthy contributions to the District's litigation goal.
- Developed working partnerships with community based organizations, Congressional Representatives, State and Local governments, to conduct staff training, satellite outreach, and educational training for underserved areas of the state.
- Served as co-chair of the Agency's Labor/Management Partnership council for the Baltimore District Office.
- Co-authored book on Affirmative Marketing In Housing for the City of Park Forest, Illinois
- Received Community Achievement Award from the NAACP 2014

2004-2006 Enforcement Manager – Equal Opportunity Commission Baltimore

District Office - Managed the processing, investigation, settlement and conciliation of employment discrimination cases. Supervised a staff of 10 federal investigators and support personnel. Coordinated staff training and development, designed and implemented District's outreach program.

2002-2004 EEOC – Program Analyst/Field Programs and Acting Deputy

Director, Communications and Legislative Affairs. - Responsible for advising and assisting the Acting Director and key staff officials in the development, coordination, and execution of the overall plans, policies, and procedures for carrying out EEOC communications and Legislative program activities. Supervised the development of a field media pilot project to seven field offices resulting in an increase in media contacts, press releases and agency coverage from the written and electronic press. Responsible for helping to create a clear and concise vision of the agency to the general public and constituent groups.

1992 – 2002 EEOC – Federal Investigator – Supervisor (Houston Texas/Baltimore, MD)

1987 - 1992 Federal Investigators - Houston, Texas

EDUCATION

Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, Alabama/University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
BA/Political Science

Park Forest South University, Park Forest, Illinois - Graduate
hours/Communications/Journalism

Certification – Conflict Resolution/Negotiation Training, Baltimore, MD

Federal Sector Mediation Certification & Trainer

Change Agent Training

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OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

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This **ORDER CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF WILMA JONES SCOTT AS DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.**

is legally sufficient for placement in NOVUS Agenda.



Sharon D. Gipson, City Attorney

Date 2/7/18