

JAMES L. ROBERTS, JR.
CIRCUIT JUDGE
POST OFFICE BOX 485
PONTOTOC, MISSISSIPPI 38863

December 26, 2011

The Honorable John R. Young
District Attorney
P.O. Box 212
Corinth, MS 38834

Dear Johnny:

Three weeks ago today, on Monday December 5, 2011, I empaneled the last Grand Jury of the year in this District, and of your tenure, in Alcorn County.

Prior to the oaths and qualifications, I noted to the 70-80 persons present that you were soon ending your 36 years and 9 months tenure as District Attorney in the First District, and that you had been an Alcorn County resident for all that time.

I also noted that the District Attorney in the First District has been an Alcorn County resident since Soggy Sweat in 1956, until now, excepting J.D. Doty's service from 1963 to 1968, and Glen H. Davidson's service from January 1, 1975 until April 1, 1975. So, of the last 56 years, Alcorn County has had the resident District Attorney for 50 years and 9 months.

Your 36 years and 9 months, and the 7 years each for Soggy Sweat and Neal Biggers, constitute quite a record.

I complemented you and your entire staff, past and present, for a job well done, and noted Alcorn County should be proud.

Your tenure is a record for the First District and, perhaps, for the entire State, and I decided some comment was in order for all of this.

Much of the information here is from personal recollection, as well as from The Pontotoc Progress archives, and from a very few personal conversations with Gary Carnathan and others. I think and believe the information is correct, and I want it to be but, if not, it is certainly subject to correction.

Attached and made a part of this letter are:

1. First Circuit District Attorneys since 1924;
2. Your assistants and staff whom I could remember and gather since April 1, 1975 (and, undoubtedly, someone is omitted, but not purposely);
3. Candidates for District Attorney in the First Circuit beginning with the 1975 Special Election (hopefully, no one is omitted);
4. First District Circuit Judges from 1930 until the present.

One Circuit Judge and Chancellor served the First District until 1968, when the second post for each was created.

Third posts were created in 1974, and the incumbent District Attorney, Neal Biggers, was elected to the new Judgeship, effective January 1, 1975 and, upon his resignation as District Attorney to take the oath as Judge, Governor Bill Waller appointed Glen H. Davidson, who had served as Biggers' only assistant, to serve as Interim District Attorney. With all deference, I believe Glen could have been elected District Attorney had he chosen to be a candidate. With his experience and dedication, there was no break in service, and his assistants, as I recall, were John L. Hopkins, now of M.D.O.C., and David W. Houston, III, now a longtime Bankruptcy Judge.

In the Special Election, held on a Saturday by Governor Waller's direction, you were a candidate, along with State Representative Michael D. Cooke, of Lee County, and Thomas J. Gardner, III, a Tupelo attorney. You defeated Cooke in a run-off, and were sworn in on April 1, 1975.

On that date, Bill Waller served as Governor of Mississippi, President Gerald R. Ford occupied the White House, Mississippi's two United States Senators were James O. Eastland and John C. Stennis, and the First Congressional District seat was occupied by Jamie L. Whitten.

Glen Davidson undoubtedly saved everyone by continuing his service as an Assistant District Attorney for some period of time and, at some point, Thomas J. Gardner, III, and C. Michael Malski, became assistants, each serving part time, as the law then permitted.

It was my privilege to serve as Pontotoc County Prosecuting Attorney from 1972 until 1984 and, as County Prosecutors served as assistant District Attorneys in their counties then, I was able to view all this action in my county, especially the personalities

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and key players. I shall always treasure the opportunity of learning from Prosecutors Biggers and Davidson, and Judges Senter, Wicker, Biggers and others. As you will recall, I muchly enjoyed working with you and all your staff, and all of us learned many lessons, maybe unneeded, from Sheriff Jim Hubbard, and others similarly situated.

Through the years, as you were learning and, until some of us learned better, the thought was that you could be defeated, but the result seemed to be that your former opponents were going onto the bench.

This commenced when your 1975 Special Election opponent, Thomas J. Gardner, III, was elected in a Special Judicial Election in 1980 to succeed former Judge L.T. Senter, Jr., who had gone on the United States District Court Bench in 1979. Governor Cliff Finch, who had , apparently, promised the vacant Judgeship to more than one attorney, and found himself in some bind, persuaded, with help, his friend, Aberdeen attorney Ralph Pogue, to serve as interim Judge. Pogue, who did not want the job, was immensely popular, and absolutely refused to be a candidate, though he might have been formidable in a race.

Thomas Gardner and Billy W. Shelton were in the Special Election Judges race, which Gardner won and he took the oath of office in January 1981. The courtroom was packed for Tommy's investiture, with Senior Judge Wicker presiding, and the Gardner Family present. Guy Mitchell, Jr., epitomizing respectability, and I, perhaps at the other end of the spectrum, spoke. Dudley Carr, probably as President of the Lee County Bar, and an iconic figure, made a few remarks, noting that Judge Pogue, who did not attend the ceremony, was last seen traveling South at a high rate of speed to escape both the job and the festivities.

Judge elect Gardner telephoned me at midnight prior to the Investiture and nervously inquired as to the nature and content of my remarks, as if I would have known that far in advance. He reminded me of the seriousness of the occasion, and I responded in like fashion at the Investiture by announcing that I was sure his parents (both present) were pleased that he had finally made something of himself at age 45. Sarah Elizabeth (Sadie) Gardner, then not quite three, and a blue eyed, blond haired beauty, smiled and cooed like a turtle dove when I mentioned her's and Sue's names. And so, Judge Gardner continues, the longest serving First District Circuit Judge in history, and one of the longest in the State.

Your 1979 Regular Election opponents were Charles R. Brett, of Tupelo, and Frank A. Russell, of Fulton, and you defeated Frank in a close run-off.

Judge Russell was appointed Circuit Judge in early 1984 by Governor Allain to replace Judge Biggers, who had joined the United States District Court earlier that year.

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Charles R. Brett was elected Lee County Court Judge in 2002, where he continues his service today.

In 1983, I wanted to either get in or out of prosecution, and you helped me get out in another close race. When I was appointed Commissioner of Public Safety a few months later, you supposedly said you might have let me win if you had known that I would be appointed, but if you did say that, undoubtedly, you were joking.

Subsequently, I have been privileged to serve as First District Chancellor, Justice of the Mississippi Supreme Court (for which you are largely responsible), Pontotoc Municipal Judge, and Circuit Judge.

In the 1987 and 1991 elections, you were unopposed, and you won the 1995 General Election over Republican Michael G. Thorne.

You won the 1999 General Election over Republican Julian W. Fagan, III, and you were unopposed in 2003.

In 2007, you defeated Democrat J. Trent Kelly in the Primary, and in the 2011 General Election, Kelly as a Republican, was victorious.

Four of us who opposed you on the ballot have gone on to Judgeships: Gardner; Russell; Brett; and Roberts.

Your assistants who have gone on the bench by election or appointment include: Gardner, as Circuit Judge; Michael Malski as Chancellor and as Amory and Nettleton Municipal Judge; Richard D. Bowen, as Circuit Judge; Paul S. Funderburk, as Tupelo Municipal Judge and as Circuit Judge; and Jim Seth Pounds, as Circuit Judge.

In a category all alone is Judge Glen H. Davidson, who served as United States Attorney for the Northern District from 1981 to 1985, and became a United States District Judge in 1985, where he now serves in Senior Status with Judge Biggers. The late Senior U.S. District Judge Senter, unfortunately, passed away in May of this year.

Also in a class of his own is former Assistant Timothy A. Ford, who served numerous terms in the Mississippi House, including four terms as Speaker.

Former Assistant James Clay Joyner now serves as an Assistant United States Attorney, as does former Assistant Robert W. Coleman, II.

Most of your Assistants, if not all, subsequently distinguished themselves in law practice and public service of all kinds, including representing numerous boards and

agencies, both public and private, and they shall continue to do so.

You have worked with at least 28 Assistants and, maybe more; you have worked with 12 Circuit Judges.

Returning to those who have served as District Attorney since 1924 (eleven on my list, plus Mr. Kelly), I have been privileged to know eight of the eleven and, of course, I know Mr. Kelly.

Marshall T. Adams, then a resident of Pontotoc County, had an office in the Pontotoc County Courthouse, and his name and title remained on the courthouse window panes until the 1960's. He supposedly had announced he would not seek re-election in 1935 and, on the strength of this, Floyd W. Cunningham did announce. Mr. Adams changed his mind and notified Mr. Cunningham of the change, expecting Mr. Cunningham to withdraw; he did not!

Mr. Adams, a legendary lawyer, farmer, and businessman-banker, sired three children, including the late Chancellor George Fletcher Adams, and he was a member of the Ole Miss M Club. He died, I believe, in his 102nd year, after a remarkable life.

Raymond T. Jarvis succeeded Floyd W. Cunningham, who did not run for re-election, in 1944, and Jarvis, in a tough campaign, defeated Judge Johnston for Judge in 1946.

Governor Fielding Wright, who had succeeded to the Governorship in 1946 on the untimely death of Governor Thomas L. Bailey, appointed J. S. Finch, of Booneville, as Interim District Attorney in January, 1947, for a sixty day term, and Mr. Finch did not seek election.

W.P. Mitchell of Tupelo, a young and energetic, local prosecutor and WW II veteran, defeated J.L. Prude, originally of Pontotoc, in the Special Election, and took office on March 1, 1947.

Mr. Mitchell served two full terms thereafter, and was himself defeated for re-election in 1955 by a young and energetic, local prosecutor and WW II veteran named N.S. (Soggy) Sweat, Jr., of Corinth, who later delivered the famous "whiskey" speech.

In his seventh year of service in 1962, Sweat was elected Circuit Judge, defeating Judge Jarvis in a campaign somewhat reminiscent of the 1946 event.

Governor Ross Barnett appointed Pontotoc attorney J. D. Doty as District Attorney, effective January 1, 1963, to succeed Sweat, and Doty was elected over

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opposition later in 1963 for a full term.

Doty did not run for re-election in 1967, opting instead to make a successful and unopposed race in 1968 for the newly created second Chancellor's post, where he served through 1974.

In the 1967 race for the open District Attorney's post, Alcorn County Prosecutor Neal Brooks Biggers, Jr., ultimately triumphed over Charles Wilbanks of Alcorn County, James E. Bost of Pontotoc and, perhaps, others.

Biggers was a most effective full time District Attorney, and the first to have an Assistant, Glen H. Davidson. Biggers served through 1974, in which year he was elected over opposition to the newly created Third Circuit Judges Post in the District, and he resigned as District Attorney to become Circuit Judge on January 1, 1975, at which time Governor Waller appointed Glen H. Davidson as Interim District Attorney.

For the nearly ninety years preceding this letter, there appears to have been something of a two term limit on the District Attorney's office, prior to your election. Marshall T. Adams was defeated in a bid for a third term, Floyd W. Cunningham did not seek a third, W.P. Mitchell was defeated after ten months and eight years (Mitchell being the only one other than you to serve more than two terms), and Sweat and Biggers each served seven years with each leaving to serve as Circuit Judge.

You have long since laid to rest the unofficial tradition of moving out, up and/or along after two terms!

Of the District Attorneys I have listed, I neither knew nor met Messers. Finley, Cunningham and Finch. In one way or the other, I did meet and/or know to some degree Messers. Adams, Jarvis, Mitchell, Sweat, Doty, Biggers, Davidson and you. With several of you, I have been privileged to work, share meals and stories, and socialize about the news of the day and other matters.

I knew Jarvis only superficially in that from 1960 until the end of his term as Judge, he sometimes came into the grocery store where I worked as a teenager after school, on Saturdays, and in the summers. As I recall, he was always alone, reserved and courteous, and I began to understand his issues.

There are numerous stories which I wish to capture and memorialize in writing some day, and I hope you, and others, shall do likewise.

The District Attorney's office, and that of Circuit Judge, are closely interrelated as to both duties and personalities, and I wish to add a few more comments.

In 1938, Circuit Judge Thomas H. Johnston, at least a two termer, was defeated by a young Tupelo attorney, Claude F. Clayton, the youngest Circuit Judge ever elected in the First District and, maybe, in the State. Judge Clayton, maybe 29 at election, served 1939 and until November, 1940, when his National Guard Unit was activated (he was a Major). Judge Clayton took a leave of absence, as the law permitted, and a 34 year old, fine Pontotoc lawyer, William H. Inzer, was appointed Interim or Acting Circuit Judge by Governor Paul B. Johnson, Sr. Judge Inzer finished that term as Circuit Judge and, in the 1942 Judicial Elections, was a candidate for Chancellor in a crowded and hotly contested race.

The able and personable Judge Inzer was successful in the Chancellor's race for the open seat, finished his term as Circuit Judge, was sworn in as Chancellor, and buried his father who had died December 31, 1942. Judge Inzer's mother died at his birth, or shortly thereafter, and the Judge and his father were close.

Two months into his term as Chancellor in March 1943, Judge Inzer took a leave of absence and entered the United States Army as a private, being discharged as a Major in 1946, at which time he resumed his duties as Chancellor.

Pontotoc's Alvis Mitchell, a very knowledgeable and distinguished practitioner then in his sixties, served as Acting Chancellor by Governor Johnson's appointment during Judge Inzer's absence.

In 1964, Judge Inzer was unopposed for election to the Mississippi Supreme Court, where he was serving as Senior Presiding Justice at his untimely death at age 72 in March, 1978. He had served almost 38 consecutive years as a Judge of one kind or another, plus four years as Pontotoc County Prosecuting Attorney, and he seems to have been universally beloved. In a touch of irony, the Judge's only child, William H. Inzer, Jr., died December 31, 2002, at age 55, and 60 years to the day after his grandfather's death.

I have gathered considerable information about Judge Inzer's life and career, including his membership in the Ole Miss M Club, which I hope to compile in some readable form sometime.

Former Circuit Judge Thomas H. Johnston was re-elected in the 1942 Judicial races, but was again unseated in the 1946 campaign by an able young District Attorney, Raymond T. Jarvis, of Booneville, then in only his third year of service as District Attorney.

Judge Johnston's ads complained that the young Jarvis could not seem to calculate precisely what he wanted to do since he had just run for District Attorney. The

voters thought otherwise and, again, sent Judge Johnston into Judicial retirement, this time for good.

As the 1962 Judicial Election year approached, Judge Jarvis, in his sixteenth year of Judicial service, undoubtedly knew he was in trouble, both personally and politically. His campaign ads, particularly in the run-off, were pointed, personal and desperate. He spoke of trouble, both personal and financial, and begged for only one more term to get all his affairs in order. He said his run-off opponent, N.S. Sweat, Jr., then a highly popular seven year District Attorney, was young, unmarried with no children, and could not possibly understand the problems dealt with by the courts.

In addition to Judge Jarvis and District Attorney Sweat, the other candidates included: Hollis Brown of Fulton, a former Special Judge; Cayson Rankin of Nettleton, bearer of a prominent political name as the nephew of the longtime, late former Congressman John Rankin (of the "Civil War was fought over Tupelo" fame); and William S. Turner, a prominent Aberdeen attorney.

In the run-off, District Attorney Sweat received sixty percent of the vote, sending Judge Jarvis into a retirement he did not want, but one the District had to have. I have long believed Judge Jarvis' decline to be one of two of the sadder events of the First District in terms of officials.

The 1946 and 1962 Judicial races deserve their own studies and writing.

In 1968, the second Circuit Judge Post was created, and Aberdeen Attorney L.T. Senter, Jr., was successful in a field which included Pontotoc's James E. Bost.

Judge Senter took Office in January, 1969, and became Senior Circuit Judge in August, 1970, when Judge Sweat resigned to become a Professor of Law at the University of Mississippi School of Law. Judge Sweat instituted the first clinical education program there with an internship for students with prosecutors. He was knowledgeable, experienced, a wonderful speaker, and beneficially impacted countless lives. My schedule did not permit me to participate in the internship, but I knew Judge Sweat well, and he managed to eat several meals at my home, a treat I shall always treasure.

State Senator Thomas Frederick Wicker, of Pontotoc, was appointed by Governor John Bell Williams to fill the vacancy created by Judge Sweat's resignation, and Judge Senter administered the oath of office to Judge Wicker in August, 1970, in the nearly all remodeled courtroom in Pontotoc. A large crowd of family and friends were in attendance, including me, because, as a senior law student, I just knew I ought to be there. I have never regretted the event, as it was my Senator in my hometown moving

up!

Judge Wicker, an uncommon storyteller, sportsman and community activist, served more than twenty years, retiring at the end of 1990. His retirement generally unanticipated, caused a flurry of inquiries as to why. One such inquirer was told that it was a matter of health, and the inquirer said he was unaware that Judge Wicker had health problems. Judge Wicker responded that, so far as he knew, he had no health problems, which seemed like a good time to quit. Pretty good logic!

Judge Wicker's twenty years and four months of service, the longest in First District history at his retirement, are now second to Judge Gardner's thirty-one, who seems to have never been able to find suitable, alternative employment.

In 1974, the third Circuit Judge Post was created, and District Attorney Neal Biggers was elected in a contested race, taking the oath in January, 1975.

Senior Judge Senter left in 1979 to become a United States District Judge, and he was succeeded by Interim Judge Ralph Pogue and, subsequently, Thomas J. Gardner, III, of whom I have earlier written. This original Post Two has had only three occupants in its forty-two year history.

Judge Biggers left in 1984 to become a United States District Judge, and he was replaced by Fulton attorney Frank A. Russell, by appointment of Governor Allain. Judge Russell left the bench at the end of 2000, and he was replaced by former Assistant District Attorney and Tupelo Municipal Judge Paul S. Funderburk, by appointment of Governor Musgrove. This original Post Three has had only three occupants in its thirty-six year history.

Back to the original Post One, upon Judge Wicker's retirement, the 1990 Judicial Campaign was another one of interest, as it saw the first African American, Pontotoc's Barry Wayne Ford ultimately triumph. Judge Ford, a longtime Pontotoc Municipal Judge, was popular, hardworking, and he left the bench in 2000 to enter a lucrative law practice.

Upon Judge Ford's resignation Governor Musgrove appointed former Assistant District Attorney Richard D. Bowen, of Iuka, to the Circuit Bench, who served until the end of 2002, he having failed of victory in the 2002 "herd" elections. The 2002 elections saw Judges Gardner and Funderburk re-elected, and prominent Fulton attorney Sharion H. Aycock elected in a historic vote as the first female Circuit Judge in the District.

Chancellor Jacqueline C. Mask was the first female trial Judge in the District, as she was elected Chancellor in 1998 and, as a Supreme Court Justice, I was privileged to

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administer the oath of office to her in January, 1999.

Judge Aycock, creative, energetic, and innovative, joined the United States District Court Bench in October, 2007, in another historic move for her, and Governor Barbour appointed me as her replacement in December, 2007, where I have been privileged to be elected and re-elected. Divine Providence, health and circumstances permitting, I have no immediate plans for retirement.

As noted, Judge Ford, Chancellor Mask, and Judge Aycock have all made First District history, for which they are congratulated and commended!

In 2006, the Fourth Circuit Judges Post was created, and the races that year returned to the "post" system after several years of "herd" campaigns. Candidates were Corinth attorney Danny L. Lowery, Iuka attorney John R. White, and Assistant District Attorney Jim Seth Pounds, of Booneville, who was ultimately successful. Judge Pounds received the oath in January, 2007 (I was there), along with new Chancellor John A. Hatcher, and Judge Pounds has served with fidelity and loyalty, dedicating himself to the disposal of cases, the Drug Court, scheduling, his family and Mississippi State University.

Judge Pounds is the only occupant of the Fourth Post in its now six year history.

Most worthy of mention is United States District Court Chief Judge Michael P. Mills, of Fulton, with whom I was privileged to serve at the Mississippi Supreme Court, and whose son, Chip, is an Assistant District Attorney.

Mississippi Court of Appeals Judge Donna Barnes is a resident of Tupelo, and former Pontotoc and Tupelo attorney, Joseph E. Winston is a Social Security Administrative Law Judge, retired, as well as the same at the Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission.

I also remember the late United States District Judges Orma R. Smith, of Corinth, and Allen Cox, of Baldwin.

It is proper to remember the hardworking officers of the Court in addition to the Bench and Bar, including the Circuit Clerks, Sheriffs and other law enforcement officers, MDOC personnel, the administrators and, especially, the dedicated Court Reporters, who deserve a writing of their own.

Both the Chancery and Circuit sides created administrator offices in late 1990, effective in early 1991, and the first Chancery administrator was former Prentiss County Chancery Clerk, Phillip Cole. The first Circuit Administrator was former Monroe County

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Circuit Clerk, Charlotte B. Williams, who served until she was appointed Clerk for the Mississippi Supreme Court. I was privileged to administer that oath to her in the Lee County Justice Center in 1997, I think.

Charlotte returned as administrator upon the untimely death of her successor as administrator, Mac Miller, a former District Attorney Investigator, in a motorcycle accident.

After some others, Angela Stewart serves well as the Deputy Administrator, along with the Staff Attorneys, and as you know, all these folks work very closely with your office and staff.

I trust by now you are still reading and reflecting upon the many stories you need to write, and I hope you will. There are numerous ones upon which I hope to expand, including the 1992 Supreme Court race, which you forced me to enter, a Christmas Eve visit in 1974 with Governor Waller, and a March 1971, trial in Pontotoc County Circuit Court.

Risking, but not intending, arrogance, I plan to write about my career, and attempt to defend the scurrilous charges that I have been unable to hold a job. It is true that I have been privileged to move around, and I have thoroughly enjoyed the transitions while not always fully appreciating them.

I especially appreciate being a Pontotoc Countian, as well as a product of the First Judicial District, both Chancery and Circuit sides, and I will always cherish the experiences I have had and heard and read. By the way, a decade ago, I produced an extensive writing about the Chancery side, but it was never acknowledged nor did I receive a response of any kind from the then Chancellors. As a result, I am now thinking of a more focused Chancery product.

It is true that you are only the third District Attorney in roughly a century of the First District to suffer defeat, but you are in excellent company with Marshall T. Adams and W.P. Mitchell. Both lived very long lives, and experienced great success in virtually their every undertaking. As a relative youngster compared to them, I encourage you to do the same.

As the victor in 10 of 11 campaigns, you have much of which to be proud, and nothing of which to be ashamed.

Advice is cheap, and often best when unsolicited; accordingly, rent you a suitable office, and spend some time there. As nice as Susan is, she will not want you underfoot all the time, and you need to write, consult, maybe practice some law and/or lobby,

where you have vast experience.

Also, as much as you and your granddaughter love each other, she has to be educated, spend time with her friends and engage in girl stuff. Bear in mind that she does not have the time to continually humor a slowly but never the less aging grandfather.

You can only play so much golf, visit so many friends, and, you know, find some productive things to do – you have much to offer.

Now this writing, intended to be historical and serious, and I truly hope it is, does not contain any serious country music song-writing material, such as loose women, whiskey, beer joints, hunting camps of any kind, fish frys, stews of any kind, trains, pickups, alleged liaisons which are absolutely untrue, unalleged liaisons which are absolutely true, heartaches by the numbers, and those who believe their mother's husbands are their fathers. While this list could go on for a long while, maybe we can all address some or all of these items in the future.

The following story, perhaps apocryphal, offers instructive advice on abrupt conduct, which might need to be avoided.

More than sixty years ago in a small rural community only a few miles outside of town lived a hardworking couple married only to each other for quite some time.

They earned their living from the land and animals, as was customary. The bewhiskered husband, tough and weatherbeaten, possessed a thick, tough beard which he had worn for years.

Every month or so, the husband went in to town to purchase staples and get a bath (whether he needed one or not) and haircut at the local barbershop.

On one such occasion, for some unknown reason, he decided to surprise his wife with a bath, haircut and cleanly shaven face. Arriving home a bit later than usual, well after dark, his tired wife had already gone to bed. Not wishing to awaken her, he sat on his side of the bed to remove his boots and outer clothing and, while doing so, was startled to hear his wife's familiar voice saying: "You better hurry up! Old whiskers'll be here any minute!"

Abrupt change abruptly made sometimes produces abrupt results, and while this story does not apply to you and Susan, it does make a point, albeit a bit crudely.

This writing has been hastily done, but I decided to do so as a result of your

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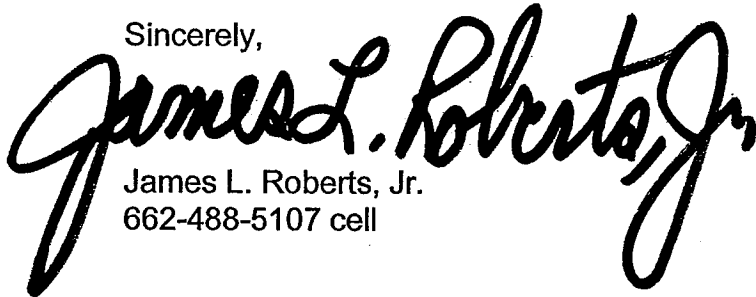
lengthy impact on the First District, and I hope you and others who read this will send corrections, additions and amplifications for future efforts. I hope it will inspire you and others to write, especially for those who follow.

I shall always appreciate your offering me an Assistant's position in 1980, I think, and had I been smarter, I would have accepted had I understood I might have been able to serve as both County Prosecutor and Assistant District Attorney, as some have done. However, that was then, and I did not, but I remain grateful.

Trent Kelly has my best wishes for successful service as he and his staff embark upon a new era.

Thank you for 36 years and 9 months service. Rose joins me in extending best wishes to you and Susan and your family, staff and friends.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James L. Roberts, Jr." in a cursive, flowing style.

James L. Roberts, Jr.
662-488-5107 cell

Enclosures
cc: Many

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Attachment 1

DISTRICT ATTORNEYS
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
MISSISSIPPI
1924-2016

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>	<u>YEARS</u>
JAMES A. FINLEY	?	1924-1928
MARSHALL T. ADAMS Defeated for re-election	PONTOTOC	1928-1936
FLOYD W. CUNNINGHAM Did not run	PRENTISS	1936-1944
RAYMOND T. JARVIS Elected Circuit Judge	PRENTISS	1944-1947
J.S. FINCH Interim - Did not run	PRENTISS	1-1-1947 - 3-1-1947
W.P. MITCHELL Defeated for re-election	LEE	3-1-1947 - 1956
N.S. SWEAT, JR. Elected Circuit Judge	ALCORN	1956 - 1-1-1963
J.D. DOTY Appointed - elected Chancellor and elected	PONTOTOC	1-1-1963 - 1968
NEAL BROOKS BIGGERS, JR. Elected Circuit Judge	ALCORN	1968-1975
GLEN H. DAVIDSON Interim - Did not run	LEE	1-1-1975 - 4-1-1975
JOHN R. YOUNG Defeated for re-election	ALCORN	4-1-1975 - 2012
J. TRENT KELLY	LEE	2012 - 2016

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Attachment 2

DISTRICT ATTORNEY ASSISTANTS
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI
4/1/1975 - 2012

Glen H. Davidson
Thomas J. Gardner, III
C. Michael Malski
Richard D. Bowen
Paul S. Funderburk
Timothy A. Ford
Rowland H. Geddie, Jr.
Samuel M. Reedy
John M. Creekmore
James P. Johnstone
Robert W. Coleman, II
Ronald D. Michael
Jim Seth Pounds
Gregory A. Meyer
Tyler L. Moss
Arch W. Bullard
James Clayton Joyner
Heather B. Joyner
Denville Crowe, Jr.
David L. Daniels
Dennis H. Farris
Paul C. Gault
M.P. (Chip) Mills, Jr.
Larry G. Baker
Kimi K. Kitchens
Michael D. Goggans
Kimberly I. Brown
Sidra P. Winter

STAFF

Susan Young
Denise Harrison
Linda White
Michael Larue

Jerry Crocker
Marilyn Reed
Brien Chamblee

Edwin Coleman
S.C. (Buddy) Spight
Mac Miller

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CANDIDATES FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI
1975-2011

1975 SPECIAL ELECTION

MICHAEL D. COOKE

THOMAS J. GARDNER, III

JOHN R. YOUNG - Defeated Cooke in run-off

1975 REGULAR ELECTION

JOHN R. YOUNG

1979 REGULAR ELECTION

CHARLES R. BRETT

FRANK A. RUSSELL

JOHN R. YOUNG - Defeated Russell in run-off

1983 REGULAR ELECTION

JAMES L. ROBERTS, JR.

JOHN R. YOUNG - Won (not easily)

1987 REGULAR ELECTION

JOHN R. YOUNG

1991 REGULAR ELECTION

JOHN R. YOUNG

1995 GENERAL ELECTION

JOHN R. YOUNG - D - WON

MICHAEL G. THORNE - R

1999 GENERAL ELECTION

JOHN R. YOUNG - D - WON

JULIAN W. FAGAN, III - R

2003 REGULAR ELECTION

JOHN R. YOUNG

2007 REGULAR ELECTION

J. TRENT KELLY - D

JOHN R. YOUNG - D - WON

2011 GENERAL ELECTION

JOHN R. YOUNG - D

J. TRENT KELLY - R - WON

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FIRST DISTRICT CIRCUIT JUDGES 1930 - 2012
MISSISSIPPI

	<u>YEARS</u>	<u>NAMES</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>
I.	1930 - 1938	THOMAS H. JOHNSTON	ALCORN ?
	1938 - 11/1940	CLAUDE F. CLAYTON	LEE
	11/1940 - 1942	WILLIAM H. INZER	PONTOTOC
	1942 - 1946	THOMAS H. JOHNSTON	ALCORN ?
	1947 - 1963	RAYMOND T. JARVIS	PRENTISS
	1963 - 8/1970	N.S. SWEAT, JR.	ALCORN
	8/1970 - 1990	THOMAS FREDERICK WICKER	PONTOTOC
	1991 - 2000	BARRY WAYNE FORD	PONTOTOC
	2000 - 2002	RICHARD D. BOWEN	TISHOMINGO
	2003 - 2007	SHARION H. AYCOCK	ITAWAMBA
	2007 - -	JAMES L. ROBERTS, JR.	PONTOTOC
II.	NEW POST CREATED 1968		
	1969 - 1979	L.T. SENTER, JR.	MONROE
	1980 - 1981	RALPH POGUE	MONROE
	1981 - -	THOMAS J. GARDNER, III	LEE
III.	NEW POST CREATED 1974		
	1975 - 1984	NEAL BROOKS BIGGERS, JR.	ALCORN
	1984 - 2000	FRANK A. RUSSELL	ITAWAMBA
	2001 - -	PAUL S. FUNDERBURK	LEE
IV.	NEW POST CREATED 2006		
	2007 - -	JIM S. POUNDS	PRENTISS