

**UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NON-JUDICIAL NOMINEES

**Scott F. Leary
Northern District of Mississippi**

PUBLIC

1. **Name**: State full name (include any former names used).

Scott Forrest Leary

2. **Position**: State the position for which you have been nominated.

United States Attorney, Northern District of Mississippi, U.S. Department of Justice

3. **Address**: List current office address. If city and state of residence differs from your place of employment, please list the city and state where you currently reside.

United States Attorney's Office
Northern District of Mississippi
900 Jefferson Ave.
Oxford, MS 38655

4. **Birthplace**: State date and place of birth.

1962; Memphis, Tennessee

5. **Education**: List in reverse chronological order each college, law school, or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, and the date each degree was received.

University of Mississippi, 1988 - 1991
JD - May 1991

University of Mississippi, 1981 - 1984
Bachelor of Science, Engineering - December 1984

6. **Employment Record**: List in reverse chronological order all governmental agencies, business or professional corporations, companies, firms, or other enterprises, partnerships, institutions or organizations, non-profit or otherwise, with which you have been affiliated as an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or employee since graduation from college, whether or not you received payment for your services. Include the name and address of the employer and job title or description.

September 2008 - June 2025
United States Attorney's Office
Northern District of Mississippi
900 Jefferson Ave.
Oxford, MS 38655
662-234-3351
Deputy Criminal Chief, June 2022 - June 2025
OCDETF Lead Prosecutor, June 2010 - June 2022
Assistant United States Attorney, Sept. 2008 - June 2010

July 2002 - September 2008
Assistant United States Attorney
United States Attorney's Office
Western District of Tennessee
167 N. Main Street, Suite 800
Memphis, TN 38103
901-544-4231

October 1999 - July 2002
Mississippi Attorney General's Office
Assistant Attorney General - Prosecutor, Public Integrity Division
Walter Sillers Building
550 High Street, Suite 1200
Jackson, MS 39201
601-948-3103

January 1997 - October 1999
Kerioth Corporation
General Counsel
361 Township Ave., Suite 200
Ridgeland, MS 39157
601-368-9950

January 1996 - January 1997
Brunini, Grantham, Grower & Hewes
Associate - Litigation
190 E. Capitol Street, Suite 100
Jackson, MS 39201
601-948-3101

September 1993 - January 1996
Mississippi Attorney General's Office
Assistant Attorney General - Prosecutor, Public Integrity Division
Walter Sillers Building
550 High Street, Suite 1200
Jackson, MS 39201
601-948-3103

May 1991 - September 1993
Forman, Perry, Watkins & Krutz
Associate - Litigation
210 E. Capitol Street
Jackson, MS 39201
601-960-8600

September 1990 - May 1991
University of Mississippi Law School
481 Chucky Mullins Dr.
University, MS 38677
Attended: 1988 - 1991

May 1990 - May 1990
Forman, Perry, Watkins & Krutz
Summer clerkship
210 E. Capitol Street
Jackson, MS 39201
601-960-8600

September 1989 - May 1990
Student - University of Mississippi Law School
481 Chucky Mullins Dr.
University, MS 38677
Attended: 1988 - 1991

May 1989 - September 1989
Martin, Tate, Morrow & Marston
Summer clerkship
6410 Poplar Ave.
Memphis, TN 38119
901-522-9000

September 1988 - May 1989
University of Mississippi Law School
481 Chucky Mullins Dr.
University, MS 38677
June 1987 - August 1988

Arlington Corporation - purchased by Service Corporation International (SCI)
V.P. Acquisitions
Service Corporation International
1929 Allen Pkwy
Houston, TX 77019
713-522-5141

October 1986 - June 1987
Columbia Health Investments - I believe purchased by Hospital Corp. of America (HCA)
Associate Acquisitions
Hospital Corporation of America
One Nashville Plaza
Nashville, TN 37203
615-344-9551

November 1985 - October 1986
Commerce Union Bank - purchased by Sovran Bank in 1987
Commercial Real Estate Lending Officer
501 Commerce Str.
Nashville, TN 37203

January 1985 - November 1985
Arthur Andersen Company
201 St. Charles Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70170
504-581-5454

7. **Military Service and Draft Status:** Identify any service in the U.S. Military, including dates of service, branch of service, rank or rate, serial number (if different from social security number) and type of discharge received, and whether you have registered for selective service.

I have not served in the military. I registered for selective service.

8. **Honors and Awards:** List any scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

2003 - 2024: USAO Professional Rating	Outstanding
2024: U.S. Asst. Attorney General Award	RICO Prosecution Operation R's Behind Bars Simon City Royals Case
2021: Deputy Criminal Chief	USAO ND MS

2018: OCDETF Directors Award	Lead Prosecutor: RICO Prosecution Operation Crankenstein Aryan Brotherhood RICO Case
2017: ATF National Honor Award Washington, D.C.	Lead Prosecutor: RICO Prosecution Operation Crankenstein Aryan Brotherhood RICO Case
2016: Top ranked OCDETF District in the United States	Northern District of Mississippi No. 1 out of 93 OCDETF Districts (I was OCDETF Lead Prosecutor from NDMS from 2010-2021)
2015: Spartan Award	Drug Enforcement Administration Sustained Career Achievement
2014: OCDETF Case of the Year Southeastern Region	RICO Prosecution Operation Petticoat (RICO)
2012: Special Achievement Award	USAO ND MS OCDETF: Operation Egg Bowl Prosecution
2010: OCDETF Lead Counsel	USAO ND MS
2008: Distinguished Service Award	Memphis Police Department Organized Crime Unit
2008: United States Attorney's Award	USAO WD TN Prosecutor of the Year
2007: Sustained Superior Performance Award	USAO WD TN
2006: Sustained Superior Performance Award	USAO WD TN
2005: Special Achievement Award	USAO WD TN
2004: Special Achievement Award	Immigration Customs Enforcement Prosecution of Graylon Wright International Drug Smuggler
2004: Special Achievement Award	USAO WD TN
2003: Distinguished Service Award	United States Attorney's Office Western District of Tennessee

2002: Distinguished Service Award

MS Attorney General
Prosecutor: Cyber Crime Unit
Public Integrity
Division

1997: Case of the Year (Southern Region)
Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics

MS Attn. General Prosecutor

1995: Case of the Year (Southern Region)
Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics

MS Attn General Prosecutor

University of Mississippi - Law School
Attended: 1988 - 1991 (JD - May 1991)
Magna Cum Laude
Law Journal - Managing Editor
Moot Court Board

9. **Bar Associations:** List all bar associations or legal or judicial-related committees, selection panels or conferences of which you are or have been a member, and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups.

Mississippi Bar (#8985) Prosecutor's Section

10. **Bar and Court Admission:**

- a. List the date(s) you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

TN No. 022357 2002 - 2009
Left TN bar when moved to Mississippi

MS No. 8985 1991 - 2025

- b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.

- b. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response to 11a above currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

No.

12. Published Writings and Public Statements:

- a. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited, including material published only on the Internet. Supply four (4) copies of all published material to the Committee.

I attempted to identify all books, articles, letters to the editor, editorial pieces and other published material, including a review of my personal files and searches of publicly available electronic databases. Despite my searches, there may be other materials that I have been unable to identify, find, or remember. I have not identified anything in response to this request.

- b. Supply four (4) copies of any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed in the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. If you do not have a copy of a report, memorandum or policy statement, give the name and address of the organization that issued it, the date of the document, and a summary of its subject matter.

I attempted to identify any reports, memoranda, or policy statements I have prepared or contributed to, including a review of my personal files and searches of publicly available electronic databases. I have not identified anything in response to this request.

- c. Supply four (4) copies of any testimony, official statements or other communications relating, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, that you have issued or provided or that others presented on your behalf to public bodies or public officials.

I attempted to identify any testimony, official statements, or other communications related, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, including a review of my personal files and searches of publicly available electronic databases. I have not identified anything in response to this request.

- d. Supply four (4) copies, transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered by you, including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place where they were delivered, and readily available press reports about the speech or talk. If you do not have a copy of the speech or a transcript or recording of your remarks, give the name and address of the group before whom the speech was given, the date of the speech, and a summary of its subject matter. If you did not speak from a prepared text, furnish a copy of any outline or notes from which you spoke.

I attempted to identify transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered, including a review of my personal files and searches of publicly available electronic databases. I frequently speak without notes or speak from a handwritten outline. I did not retain the majority of the handwritten outlines and have attached all that I could find. Despite my searches, there may be other materials I have been unable to identify, find, or remember. I have located the following:

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 2008 - 2024 | <u>Fourth Amendment Lectures</u>
Numerous Fourth and Sixth Amendment lectures to local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. The outline is contained herein as Exhibit "A". (Power Point & Notes). |
| 2008 - 2024 | <u>Cross Examination Lectures</u>
Numerous lectures to state and federal prosecutors on cross examination. Over the years, I outlined material I obtained from numerous sources, which provided the basis for my lectures. The outline is contained herein as Exhibit "B". (Notes). |
| 2018 - 2024 | <u>Money Laundering Lectures</u>
Numerous lectures to state and federal prosecutors on money laundering. The power point outline is contained herein as Exhibit "C". (Power Point). |
| 2020 - 2024 | <u>Project Safe Neighborhood Lectures</u>
Presentation to state and local law enforcement as well as to the Mississippi Prosecutor's Association, concerning the Project Safe Neighborhood and federal prosecution alternatives for state crime. The outline is contained herein as Exhibit "D". (Notes). |
| 2016 - 2018 | <u>Aryan Brotherhood RICO Prosecution</u>
Numerous lectures to state and federal law enforcement on the OCDETF RICO prosecution of the Aryan Brotherhood of Mississippi (Operation Crankenstein). The power point is included herein as Exhibit "E". (Power Point) |

- 2018 OCDETF Regional Presentation
Presentation at the 2018 OCDETF Regional Conference in Atlanta, GA, concerning the drug trafficking organizations in the Southeast Region. The outline is contained herein as Exhibit “F”. (Notes).
- 2017 - 2020 Drug Market Intervention Plan Lectures
Numerous lectures to law enforcement, as well as community leaders, concerning the Clarksdale Mississippi drug market intervention plan (DMI). Drug market intervention concerns generating community involvement in local law enforcement endeavors. The outlines of such presentations are included herein as Exhibit “G”. (Notes).
- 2020 - 2022 Increased Opioid Trafficking
Numerous lectures to state and local law enforcement on the increase in opiate trafficking. The talking point outline is contained herein as Exhibit “H”. (Notes).
- 2010 - 2020 Basic Criminal Law
Criminal law presentation to criminal law students at the University of Mississippi law school. The outline is contained herein as Exhibit “I”. (Notes).
- 2007 - 2010 Craig Petties DTO RICO prosecution
Numerous lectures to law enforcement, including the 2008 OCDETF Regional Conference in New Orleans, LA, concerning the OCDETF RICO investigation and prosecution of the Craig Petties drug trafficking organization (Operation Petticoat) and its connections to the Sinaloa Cartel. The power point is included herein as Exhibit “J”. (Power Point).

- e. List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines or other publications, or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and four (4) copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

I attempted to identify all interviews given, including through a review of my personal files, and searches of publicly available electronic databases. Despite my searches, there may be other materials that I have been unable to identify, find, or remember. I have located the following:

June 22, 2016, Newsweek Article: Aryan Brotherhood of Mississippi
(Attached hereto as Exhibit “K”)

13. **Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations:**

- a. List chronologically any public offices you have held, other than judicial offices, including the terms of service and whether such positions were elected or appointed. If appointed, please include the name of the individual who appointed you. Also, state chronologically any unsuccessful candidacies you have had for elective office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

I have not run for public office nor was I appointed to a public position.

- b. List all memberships and offices held in and services rendered, whether compensated or not, to any political party or election committee. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a political campaign, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, dates of the campaign, your title and responsibilities.

I have not held a position in nor played a role in a political campaign.

14. **Legal Career:** Answer each part separately.

- a. Describe chronologically your law practice and legal experience after graduation from law school including:

- i. whether you served as clerk to a judge, and if so, the name of the judge, the court and the dates of the period you were a clerk;

I have not clerked for a judge.

- ii. whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and dates;

I have not practiced alone.

- iii. the dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been affiliated, and the nature of your affiliation with each.

September 2008 - June 2025
United States Attorney's Office
Northern District of Mississippi
900 Jefferson Ave.
Oxford, MS 38655
662-234-3351

Deputy Criminal Chief, June 2022 - June 2025
OCDETF Lead Prosecutor, June 2010 - June 2022
Assistant United States Attorney, Sept. 2008 - June 2010

July 2002 - September 2008
Assistant United States Attorney
United States Attorney's Office
Western District of Tennessee
167 N. Main Street, Suite 800
Memphis, TN 38103
901-544-4231

I was an OCDETF and violent crime prosecutor for the USAO
WDTN. I left on good terms and transferred to Oxford, MS.

October 1999 - July 2002
Mississippi Attorney General's Office
Assistant Attorney General – Prosecutor, Public Integrity Division
Walter Sillers Building
550 High Street, Suite 1200
Jackson, MS 39201
601-948-3103

I prosecuted drugs, cyber-crimes and public corruption cases for
the Mississippi Attorney General's Office, and I left on good
terms.

January 1997 - October 1999
Kerioth Corporation
General Counsel
361 Township Ave., Suite 200
Ridgeland, MS 39157
601-368-9950

Kerioth was a small commercial real estate development company,
and, among other things, I managed commercial real estate
transactions. I left Kerioth on good terms.

January 1996 - January 1997
Brunini, Grantham, Grower & Hewes
Associate - Litigation
190 E. Capitol Street, Suite 100
Jackson, MS 39201
601-948-3101

I left Brunini on good terms to work with a firm client, Kerioth
Corporation, in commercial real estate.

September 1993 - January 1996
Mississippi Attorney General's Office
Assistant Attorney General – Prosecutor, Public Integrity Division
Walter Sillers Building
550 High Street, Suite 1200

Jackson, MS 39201
601-948-3103

I was a drug and public corruption prosecutor for the Mississippi Attorney General's Office.

May 1991 - September 1993
Forman, Perry, Watkins & Krutz
Associate - Litigation
210 E. Capitol Street
Jackson, MS 39201
601-960-8600

I left Forman, Perry, Watkins & Krutz on good terms to be a prosecutor with the Mississippi Attorney General's Office.

- iv. whether you served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings and, if so, a description of the 10 most significant matters with which you were involved in that capacity.

I have not served in such a capacity.

- v. Whether you have held any judicial office, including positions as an administrative law judge, on any U.S. federal, state, tribal, or local court and if so, please provide the name of the court, the jurisdiction of that court, whether the position was appointed or elected, and the dates of your service.

I have not held a judicial office.

b. Describe:

- i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date when its character has changed over the years.

From July 2002 through June 2025, I have been an Assistant United States Attorney. My prosecutorial focus has been significant conspiracy cases, but I have also prosecuted child exploitation, public corruption and financial crimes. Through this time, there has been a natural progression into greater responsibility and management roles.

From October of 1999 through July 2002, I was a state prosecutor for the Mississippi Attorney General's Office. During this time, I prosecuted drug trafficking, cyber-crime and public corruption cases. I also spent a year investigating and convicting the cold case murder of a four-year-old little girl. The murderer was convicted.

From January of 1997 through October of 1999, I was general counsel for a small real estate development firm, Kerioth Corporation. I learned how

to close commercial transactions.

From January of 1996 through January of 1997, I was employed at the Brunini firm. I primarily worked on a procurement fraud case concerning the Engels Shipyard in Pascagoula, Mississippi.

From September of 1993 through January of 1996, I worked at the Mississippi Attorney General's Office learning how to be a prosecutor. I worked drugs and public corruption.

After I graduated law school, I worked for the Foreman Perry law firm in Jackson, MS (May 1991 - September 1993). I primarily wrote briefs, produced discovery, conducted depositions and handled a few hearings.

- ii. your typical clients and the areas at each period of your legal career, if any, in which you have specialized.

For the last 23 years my client has been the United States. My specialty is protecting our citizens through the prosecution of criminal organizations and large-scale drug traffickers; with the occasional child exploiter, fraudster and corrupt public official.

- c. Describe the percentage of your practice that has been in litigation and whether you appeared in court frequently, occasionally, or not at all. If the frequency of your appearances in court varied, describe such variance, providing dates.

- i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:
 - 1. federal courts: 80%
 - 2. state courts of record; 20%
 - 3. other courts;
 - 4. administrative agencies

- ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:
 - 1. civil proceedings; 20%
 - 2. criminal proceedings: 80%

- d. State the number of cases in courts of record, including cases before administrative law judges, you tried to verdict, judgment or final decision (rather than settled), indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

My career has primarily involved large conspiracy cases. I cannot remember the number of cases I have tried to jury verdict, but I approximate around forty. In most of those cases I was lead counsel. I began trying cases before the Hinds

County, Mississippi, Youth Court as a guardian ad litem representing underprivileged kids. I tried approximately 10 to 15 cases in youth court. While prosecuting for the Mississippi Attorney General, I tried criminal cases in numerous circuit courts throughout the state. I specifically recall trying criminal cases in the 10th Circuit Court District (Lauderdale County); the 11th Circuit Court District (Quitman County); the 12th Circuit Court District (Forrest County); the 15th Circuit Court District (Lamar County); the 17th Circuit Court District (Panola County); and the 21st Circuit Court District (Madison County). For approximately six years I prosecuted criminal cases in the United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee. While in Tennessee, I tried cases alone. For the last seventeen years, I prosecuted criminal cases in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi. As previously stated, my practice primarily involved large conspiracy cases, but also included child exploitation, financial crimes and public corruption.

i. What percentage of these trials were:

- | | |
|--------------|-----|
| 1. jury: | 90% |
| 2. non-jury: | 10% |

e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States. Supply four (4) copies of any briefs, amicus or otherwise, and, if applicable, any oral argument transcripts before the Supreme Court in connection with your practice.

I have not argued orally before the Supreme Court.

15. **Litigation:** Describe the ten (10) most significant litigated matters which you personally handled, whether or not you were the attorney of record. Give the citations, if the cases were reported, and the docket number and date if unreported. Give a capsule summary of the substance of each case. Identify the party or parties whom you represented; describe in detail the nature of your participation in the litigation and the final disposition of the case. Also state as to each case:

1. United States v. Zipora Hudson, Montreal Hudson, et al.
Case No. 3:24cr0005
United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi
The Honorable Mike P. Mills
2023 – 2025

I was lead counsel in a two-year investigation involving millions of dollars in governmental fraud. There were dozens of unsuspecting victims in this case. Zipora Hudson and Montreal Hudson chose to go to trial in January 2025. I was again lead counsel at trial, handling opening and closing statements and directing the majority of witnesses. Both Zipora and Montreal Hudson were convicted for wire fraud conspiracy and money laundering conspiracy. Restitution is in excess of \$3,500,000.00.

Co-counsel: Sam Wright
900 Jefferson Ave.
Oxford, MS 38655
662-234-3351

Primary Defense Counsel:

Bill Travis (Zipora Hudson)
8619 U.S. 51N,
Southaven, MS 38671
(662) 393-9295

Paul Chiniche (Montreal Hudson)
265 North Lamar Blvd, South Suite W,
Oxford, MS 38655
(662) 234-4319

2. United States v. Fares Manni, Richard Shorter, et al.
Case No. 3:17cr00047
United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi
The Honorable Mike P. Mills
2016 - 2018

In 2016, the United States Marshals Service established a task force to address an interstate cargo theft operation in Tennessee and Mississippi. The investigation revealed that a cargo theft organization (led by Richard Shorter) was stealing semi-truck trailers in the Southeast, laundering the cargo through warehouses in Nashville, TN, and ultimately shipping the stolen merchandise to be re-sold by a co-conspirator (Fares Manni) in Michigan. A significant undercover operation ensued which resulted in the conviction of all involved. Several co-conspirators proceeded to trial and subsequently pled guilty before the case was given to the jury. I was lead trial counsel.

Primary Defense Counsel: Kevin Horan (Fares Manni)
1500 Gateway St
Grenada, MS
(662) 226-2185

Primary Defense Counsel: Kenneth Coughlan (Richard Shorter)
New Smyrna Beach, Florida
(662) 816-0552

3. United States v. Eric Parker, Frank Owens, et al.
Case No. 4:14cr0141
United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi
The Honorable Glen H. Davidson

2013 - 2016

The Aryan Brotherhood was a national race-based neo nazi prison gang that gained a foothold in Mississippi (the "Aryan Brotherhood of Mississippi" or "ABM"). The ABM had a militaristic structure, with a rigid hierarchy and strict constitution. The ABM existed within the Mississippi prison system and in the "free world." It was run out of the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC), led by three incarcerated generals or "spokes." Incarcerated and free world ABM members were subject to all orders given by the spokes. Individual prisons were each run by a facility captain. The Mississippi free world was divided in three regions, with each region having a regional captain, treasurer, sergeant-at-arms, and soldiers. Failure to abide by ABM rules, or failure to obey an order from an ABM superior, would subject an ABM member to discipline or death.

The ABM was involved in narcotics dealing, gun trafficking, money laundering and crimes of violence, including assault, kidnapping and murder. Due to the scope of the enterprise, the ABM was designated an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) case, and a Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act prosecution was initiated. ABM spoke Perry Mask was assigned Regional Priority Organizational Target (RPOT) status. Several court-authorized wire and electronic intercept were obtained on ABM members which resulted in a nationwide investigation. The case led to approximately 40 convictions. Two ABM spokes, Eric Parker and Frank Owens, proceeded to trial on murder charges and were convicted. I was the lead prosecutor in the trial, handling opening and closing statements and directing a majority of the witnesses. Prosecution team members were threatened and had 24-hour security protection for several weeks. I also argued the case before the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. The conviction was affirmed.

Co-counsel: Kelly Pearson
Deputy Chief for Litigation
Violent Crime and Racketeering Section
U.S. Department of Justice: Criminal Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001
(c) 202-494-1321

Primary Defense Counsel:

William Sumrall (Eric Parker)
Sumrall & Welch, PLLC
401 East Capitol Street, No. 100
Jackson, MS 39201
(601) 769-9343

Josh Turner (Frank Owens)
1403 E Jackson Ave,

Oxford, MS 38655
(662) 801-3838

4. United States v. Quincy Terry, Timothy Bankston, et al.
Case No. 2:10cr00048
United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi
The Honorable Sharion Aycock
2009 - 2011

Quincy Terry was a sophisticated drug trafficker. He operated a trucking company that shipped drugs into the Northern District of Mississippi from throughout the country. Terry was responsible for numerous murders throughout our district. An OCDEF case was initiated on Terry. A task force was created, and I coordinated the state and federal investigation. Court authorized wire and electronic intercepts were obtained, which resulted in the dismantling of the Terry Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO). Timothy Bankston, a co-conspirator in this case, chose to go to trial and was convicted. I was lead prosecutor in this trial and handled opening and closing statements as well as directed the majority of witnesses.

Primary Defense Counsel: Kevin Horan (Quincy Terry)
1500 Gateway St
Grenada, MS
(662) 226-2185

Primary Defense Counsel: Justin Cluck (Timothy Bankston)
4000 N Silverbell Rd,
Tucson, Arizona, 85745
(520) 724-7770

5. United States v. Lonzo Griffin
Case No. 2:10cr160
United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi
The Honorable Sharion Aycock
2009 - 2011

The Lonzo Griffin DTO trafficked in significant quantities of cocaine, imported from Texas into the Northern District of Mississippi. Millions of dollars in cocaine were imported into Mississippi through sophisticated hidden compartments in vehicles. In 2009, an OCDETF case was initiated, and a multi-state investigation ensued for over a year. Numerous court authorized wire and electronic intercepts were obtained and the DTO was ultimately dismantled. Approximately 15 defendants were convicted in drug trafficking and money laundering charges. Five people went to trial, including Lonzo Griffin. I was the lead prosecutor at trial, arguing opening and closing statements and directing a majority of witnesses. All of the defendants were convicted.

Co-counsel: AUSA Clyde McGee
900 Jefferson Ave.
Oxford, MS 38655
662-234-3351

Primary Defense Counsel: Lonzo Griffin Lonnie Knowles
1001 Texas St Suite 720,
Houston, TX 77002
(713) 523-3131

6. United States v. Tony Cooper
Case No. 4:09cr129
United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi
The Honorable Neil Biggers (deceased)
2009 - 2010

Tony Cooper was a corrupt law enforcement officer that did immense damage in the Northern District of Mississippi. I worked with the FBI in conducting a significant undercover operation in building the case on Cooper. Cooper was a sheriff's deputy taking bribes from local drug traffickers. Additionally, Cooper ran a protection racket so that drug traffickers could distribute narcotics without fear of apprehension. As a corrupt law enforcement officer, Cooper chose to go to trial and was convicted. I was the lead prosecutor, directing a majority of witness as well as arguing opening and closing statements.

Primary Defense Counsel: Johnnie Walls Jr.
Clarksdale, MS
(deceased)

7. United States v. Jason Owens
Case No. 2:09cr0006
United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi
The Honorable Daniel Jordan (Judge for Southern District of Mississippi)
2009 - 2010

Jason Owens was a significant distributor of child sexual abuse material in the Northern District of Mississippi. I was the lead prosecutor at trial and coordinated the testimony of numerous experts who were utilized in order to explain Owens' distribution techniques. The jury found him guilty.

Primary Defense Counsel: John Daniels
149 North Edison Street, Suite A
Greenville, MS 38701
(662) 378-2626

8. United States v. Phillip Stafford, et al.
Case No. 2:05cr20160
United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee
The Honorable J. Daniel Breen
2004-2005

Phillip Stafford operated a major methamphetamine manufacturing facility in the Western District of Tennessee. I was lead counsel in an OCDETF investigation that utilized undercover agents and lasted over a year. Stafford chose to go to trial and was convicted. I was again lead counsel at trial, handling opening and closing statements and directing all witnesses. Stafford proved to be a very dangerous defendant and one of our confidential informants was shot.

Primary Defense Counsel: Randolph Alden
Social Security Administration
Chief Administrative Law Judge
135 Circle Lane
Knoxville, TN 37919-4874
800-772-1213

9. United States v. Graylon Wright, et al.
Case No. 2:02cr20473
United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee
The Honorable Jon Phipps McCalla
2002-2004

The Graylon Wright DTO was an international cocaine smuggling operation responsible for importing cocaine into the United States from Jamaica. A coordinated investigation was conducted involving Jamaican authorities, the Office of International Affairs in the Department of Justice Criminal Division, and ICE agents

in the Western District of Tennessee. Four defendants were indicted. Graylon Wright chose to go to trial and was convicted. I was lead counsel, handling opening and closing arguments and directing all witnesses.

Primary Defense Counsel: Handel Durham
The Falls Building
22 N Front St #760
Memphis, TN 38103
(901) 543-0866

10. State of Mississippi v. Peggy Sloan Starnes
Case No. 2002-KA-00709-SCT
Lauderdale County Circuit Court
The Honorable Larry Roberts
2000-2002

The Starnes prosecution concerned the 13-year-old cold case murder of a four-year-old girl from Mississippi, Angela Schnoor. She was smothered by her stepmother and, unfortunately, at the time of death the case never proceeded to grand jury. I received the case 13-years after the murder and initiated an investigation into the facts surrounding her death. The investigation lasted for over a year and involved experts from around the country. Peggy Sloan Starnes, Schnoor's stepmother, was ultimately indicted for murder. She chose to go to trial and was convicted, receiving a life sentence. I was the lead prosecutor, handling opening and closing arguments and directing the majority of witnesses.

Co-counsel: Lisa Howell
Lauderdale County Court Judge
2600 Courthouse BLVD
Meridian MS 39301
601-482-9756

Primary Defense Counsel: Bill Jacobs
Jacob & Kieronski, LLP
1010 19th Ave., Suite 10
Meridian, MS 39302
601-693-6994

16. **Legal Activities:** Describe the most significant legal activities you have pursued, including significant litigation which did not progress to trial or legal matters that did not involve litigation. Describe fully the nature of your participation in these activities. List any client(s) or organization(s) for whom you performed lobbying activities and describe the lobbying activities you performed on behalf of such client(s) or organizations(s). (Note: As to any facts requested in this question, please omit any information protected by the attorney-client privilege.)

United States v. Ralph Lunati, et al.
Case No. 2:07cr20337
United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee
The Honorable Samuel Mays, Jr.
2005-2007

Ralph Lunati owned and operated Platinum Plus, an infamous adult entertainment establishment that had garnered a national reputation. It was the largest such establishment in the Western District of Tennessee and was involved in sex trafficking and child exploitation. Lunati owned other similar establishments in the district, but Platinum Plus was his flagship operation. I was lead counsel in the investigation involving the FBI and Memphis Police Department Organized Crime Unit. A significant undercover operation involving Lunati's facilities was initiated and undercover officers were implanted in Lunati's operations for over a year. Ten co-defendants pled guilty without proceeding to trial. Lunati went to prison and his facilities were forfeited.

Primary Defense Counsel

Leslie Ballin (Ralph Lunati)
200 Jefferson Ave,
Memphis, TN 38103
(901) 525-6278

Steve Farese (Jason Youngblood)
200 Jefferson Ave,
Memphis, TN 38103
(901) 525-6278

17. **Teaching:** What courses have you taught? For each course, state the title, the institution at which you taught the course, the years in which you taught the course, and describe briefly the subject matter of the course and the major topics taught. If you have a syllabus of each course, provide four (4) copies to the committee.

I have not taught any courses. From time to time, I have been asked to serve as a guest lecturer at educational institutions on various topics. I have described those lectures in response to Question 12(d) above. Specifically, I have been a guest lecturer at the University of Mississippi Law School.

18. **Deferred Income/ Future Benefits:** List the sources, amounts and dates of all anticipated receipts from deferred income arrangements, stock, options, uncompleted contracts and other future benefits which you expect to derive from previous business relationships, professional services, firm memberships, former employers, clients or customers. Describe the arrangements you have made to be compensated in the future for any financial or business interest.

I have no arrangements in the future to be compensated for any financial or business interest.

19. **Outside Commitments During Service:** Do you have any plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during your service with the court? If so, explain.

No.

20. **Sources of Income:** List sources and amounts of all income received during the calendar year preceding your nomination and for the current calendar year, including all salaries, fees, dividends, interest, gifts, rents, royalties, licensing fees, honoraria, and other items exceeding \$500 or more (if you prefer to do so, copies of the financial disclosure report, required by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, may be substituted here).

Dept. of Justice: United States Attorney's Office
 Northern District of Mississippi

21. **Statement of Net Worth:** Please complete the attached financial net worth statement in detail (add schedules as called for).

Please see attached.

22. **Potential Conflicts of Interest:**

- a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, affiliations, pending and categories of litigation, financial arrangements or other factors that are likely to present potential conflicts-of-interest when you first assume the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you would address any such conflict if it were to arise.

None. During the nomination process, I consulted with the Department of Justice's ethics office and Designated Ethics Officer to identify any potential conflicts. If I am confirmed, I will continue to consult with that office and will recuse myself from any matter in which recusal is required.

- b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern.

None. If confirmed, I will continue to consult with the Department of Justice's ethics office and will recuse myself from any matter in which recusal is required.

23. **Pro Bono Work:** An ethical consideration under Canon 2 of the American Bar Association's Code of Professional Responsibility calls for "every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, to find some time to participate in

serving the disadvantaged.” Describe what you have done to fulfill these responsibilities, listing specific instances and the amount of time devoted to each. If you are not an attorney, please use this opportunity to report significant charitable and volunteer work you may have done.

Pro Bono work is limited for federal prosecutors. My family has its own charitable endeavor. I am very proud of my wife, Mary, who also received her JD from the University of Mississippi in 1991. In 2010, she founded a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides weekend food for children in need, "Lovepacks." Lovepacks works closely with Lafayette County and Oxford public schools to identify children that go hungry on the weekends. Once identified, Lovepacks delivers the food to individual teachers who, in turn, covertly place the food in the children's backpacks. Lovepacks has become a family mission. With the help of volunteers, we now feed over 150 children a week, with an annual budget of over \$50,000. We hear stories of children who will not miss school on Friday for fear of going hungry over the weekend. The program has changed our lives.

AFFIDAVIT

I, Scott F. Leary, do swear
that the information provided in this statement is, to the best
of my knowledge, true and accurate.

08/04/2025
(DATE)



[Signature]
(NAME)

Kada U. Stephenson
(NOTARY)