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Thank you for considering me to be a monitor in the case of ACLU vs. Memphis currently before the court. I would like very much to serve as the monitor in this case and I hope you will find that I am qualified to help the city of Memphis improve the relationship it has with the community. I have read the Order Memorializing Sanctions and Opinion and Order that has been issued by the Court. I feel confident I can successfully monitor the progress of the City of Memphis and insure the Court's orders are implemented.

I graduated from the Military College of South Carolina, The Citadel in 1983. In 1992 I graduated from Widener University Law School.

During law school I was on the Law Review and Moot Court Honor Society. I was also President of the Student Bar Association and volunteered at the civil law clinic. My third year, I took most of my classes in the evening so I could work full time as a law clerk.

Upon graduation from law school I took a job at the Richland County Public Defender's office in Columbia, SC. Within a little over a year I was moved to the violent crimes task force. I tried felonies for the remaining two years I was a Public Defender.

After I left the Public Defender's office in late 1995 I started a private practice that initially was doing only criminal but we developed a successful civil practice. By the time I left private practice to become the United States Attorney for South Carolina we had been involved in several successful multi-district class action lawsuits. During this time I was appointed to several death penalty cases. I tried more than 5 capital cases. Two went to the United States Supreme Court. Those cases being State v. Wesley Shafer and State v. Bobby Lee Holmes. The first case the United States Supreme Court reversed the sentence and the second they reversed the conviction. Both clients ultimately received life sentences.

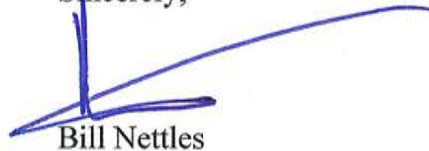
In 2010 I was nominated and confirmed to be the United States Attorney for the District of South Carolina. One of my primary focuses was to implement community policing as a method to improve the relationship between law enforcement and the community they served. The first of these programs was implemented in North Charleston, South Carolina. NBC Dateline did an episode chronicling the innovative program and its success. <https://youtu.be/BXEh31yxRN0>. Based on the success of the program in North Charleston, the program was replicated in many communities in South Carolina and throughout the country. Implementing this program around the state allowed me the opportunity to meet and work side by side with many sheriffs and chiefs.

After a little more than six years, I left being United States Attorney and returned to private practice. Both the Mayor, and the Chief of Police for North Charleston asked me to head up the North Charleston Police Community Group. This group was started in the wake of officer Slager shooting an unarmed man pursuant to a traffic stop. A bystander captured this shooting on video resulting in significant unrest in the community. The purpose of the group is to examine the policies of the department, suggest and implement programs and procedures designed to improve the relationship between the department the community they serve. In my capacity as lawyer for the group I have been asked to work to bring about change in the department. This has required me to work extensively with the community and law enforcement. I am happy to report that the community group has made several suggestions to improve the relationship between the community and law enforcement. Many of the suggestions have been adopted.

I would like very much to serve as the monitor in ACLU-TN v. Memphis. I have experience working with law enforcement and the communities they serve. My diverse legal experience allows me to work with both the law enforcement community and the community. The City Attorney, the Mayor and the Chief of Police of North Charleston will all be happy to discuss my ability to work with law enforcement and bring about the change necessary to improve their relationship with the city of North Charleston. I can also provide names and contact information for several other chiefs and sheriffs around the state that will be happy to attest to my ability to work with law enforcement to bring about systemic change within their organizations.

Thank you for considering me for this position. I will be available to answer any questions and will be happy to provide documentation from law enforcement, the community and the bench of my ability to effectively serve as a monitor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a vertical line that curves into a horizontal line, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Bill Nettles