

## **TERESA ANN HESTER**

**1351 Hueytown Road  
Hueytown, Alabama 35023  
(205) 497-8701 (w)  
(205) 383-9242 (c)**

### **OBJECTIVE:**

Candidate for Jefferson County District Judge, Place 10

### **WORK HISTORY:**

2009 - present	Law Firm of Teresa A. Hester Attorney at Law Admitted to Practice: Alabama State Bar - Alabama Supreme Court United States Federal Court - Northern District of Alabama Legal Experience in Criminal Law, Domestic Law, Wills & Estates
1985-2009	Teacher Concord Elementary School Jefferson County Schools
1999-2009	Part time employee Law Firm of George W. Beasley, Jr. Secretary/Assistant
1984-1985	Teacher Centreville Elementary Bibb County Schools
1983-1985	Sears Regular and Big Ticket Sales Bessemer, Alabama
1976-1980	Perry's Grocery Worked in my Grandparents grocery store

### **EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

2004-2008	Birmingham School of Law Birmingham, Alabama Juris Doctor Valedictorian Honor Graduate
-----------	--

1999-2001      University of Alabama in Birmingham  
Birmingham, Alabama  
Master's Degree in Educational Leadership  
Honor Graduate

1980-1984      University of Montevallo  
Montevallo, Alabama  
Early Childhood and Elementary Education

1978-1980      Brooklane Baptist Academy  
Hueytown, Alabama  
Salutatorian

**PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT:**

Alabama Education Association - former member (1983-2009)  
National Education Association - Former member (1984-2009)  
Kappa Delta Pi Education Sorority  
Jefferson County Schools Mentor Teacher (1999-2000)  
Concord Elementary School Teacher of the Year (2008-2009)  
Alabama State Bar Association  
Bessemer Bar Association  
Jefferson County Lawyer Mentoring Program Co-Director (2010-2011)  
Alabama State Bar Domestic Relations Section  
Special Sitting District Court Judge for Judge Edward Vines -  
August 3-31, 2016  
Special Sitting District Court Judge for Judge Jill Ganus - August &  
October 2012

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

Member of Hueytown Chamber of Commerce  
Bessemer Junior Service League - Past Board Member -  
    Provide supplies to local elementary school, provide food  
    and gifts for families during Thanksgiving and Christmas,  
    provide scholarships to local students  
Volunteer - Jefferson County Volunteer Lawyer Program

**PERSONAL:**

Single Mom of Two Adult Children:  
Mary Beth Hester, Oak Grove, Alabama  
Anne Marie Hester, Fort Collins Colorado  
Member of Pine Grove United Methodist Church - Sunday School  
Teacher, Pianist

**Teresa Hester**, Candidate for Jefferson County District Judge, Place 10  
Judicial Seat handles ½ domestic relations docket and all District Civil Cases

1. Why are you pursuing this office?

Response: **I sincerely believe that I am following God's direction for my life. He had spoken to me about this a few years ago and I kept saying no for many different reasons. When I was told that Judge Edward Vines was not seeking reelection and would be attending seminary, I knew that God knew all along and I should now follow His directives.**

2. Who are your five largest contributors?

Response:

**Ironworkers Local #92  
Rock Creek Pharmacy - Teri Anders  
William A. Darden  
George W. Beasley, Jr.  
Dana Hooper**

3. What is your judicial philosophy?

Response: **I am conservative fiscally and socially in my personal life. I will follow the laws that I am sworn to uphold and use equity when it is allowed in the law. I will treat people equally and fairly.**

4. What are your 3 highest priorities in your judicial practice?

Response:

- A. To protect the interests of children in divorce and in divorced families.**
- B. To start a program which resembles Therapeutic mediation to aid in decreasing tensions in high conflict divorces.**
- C. To treat each and every person who enters the courtroom with respect, dignity and fairness.**

5. Where do you find motivation and inspiration for your job?

Response:

**I strongly feel as a Christian that we are to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ to the people that we meet each day. He has blessed me and put me in a position as a practicing attorney, to witness and share my love for Christ with people who are in need of a Savior. Therefore, my inspiration comes from within and without that inspiration I would be empty and without the courage, strength and ability to do my job.**

6. Approximately how many cases have you been the lead counsel on?

Response:

**Being a solo practitioner, I am lead counsel on every case. I have handled**

**more than a thousand cases. I primarily practice in the areas of Domestic Law, Criminal Law and Probate. Not every case goes to trial. I am proud to say that many of my cases settle prior to trial.**

7. If we were to inquire with opposing counsel with whom you previously opposed in a trial or legal proceeding, what do you think would be their characterization of you? How would you describe yourself?

Response:

**Most attorneys think I am fair but firm. I treat everyone with respect and dignity and at the same time, I represent my client. I would describe myself as knowledgeable of the law. I am honest in my working relationships with other attorneys, the court and treat everyone respectfully.**

8. Describe your current family life.

Response:

**I have been a single mother since February of 2000. My oldest daughter, Mary Beth, lives with me. My youngest daughter, Anne Marie, is a resident of Colorado where she is attending graduate school at Colorado State University. She is seeking a Master's Degree in Music Therapy. Both daughters are graduates of Jacksonville State University. I have not remarried. My family, my daughters and myself, enjoy spending time together. We each play musical instruments and enjoy playing together. We attend church and other community activities together.**

9. What are some of your community activities?

Response:

**I am a member of the Bessemer Junior Service League. We are a non-profit organization that raises money throughout the year to provide scholarships to senior students who attend school in the Bessemer Division of Jefferson County. We have also adopted Jonesboro Elementary School in Bessemer and contribute money and supplies to the school during the year. We also provide clothing and shoes to the school for their closet and for children who are in need. We provide food for families during Thanksgiving and food and gifts to families during Christmas.**

**I also participate in fund raising events for schools and churches in my community.**

10. What church do you attend and what is your pastor's name?

**I am an active member of Pine Grove United Methodist Church. My pastor's name is Marian New. Her telephone number is 205-260-4400.**