

## **BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON TAX REFORM- COMMISSION BIOGRAPHIES**

### **Roszalyn M. Akins**

Roszalyn Akins, of Lexington, has served as an educator in the Fayette County Public School System for 27 years and is now dean of students at Leestown Middle School. She serves as the director of family life ministries and of the women's ministry at the First Baptist Church of Bracktown. Ms. Akins serves as President Council member for the Consolidated District Association of Baptist Churches. In 2006, Ms. Akins initiated an academy for black males, "Future BMW" (Black Males Working). She received a bachelor's degree from Transylvania University and a Master of Arts in education and history at Georgetown College.

### **Jason Bailey**

Jason Bailey, of Berea, is director of the Kentucky Center for Economic Policy (KCEP) and research and policy director of the Mountain Association for Community Economic Development. KCEP is a nonpartisan research institute, which conducts analysis of the state budget and tax system as well as policy issues facing low- and moderate-income Kentuckians. Mr. Bailey serves on the Kentucky Commission on Small Business Advocacy and is a member of the National Advisory Board of the Rural Policy Research Institute. He has a master's degree in public administration with a specialization in public finance from New York University and a bachelor's degree from Carson-Newman College.

### **James H. Booth**

James H. "Jim" Booth, of Inez, developed Booth Energy, producer of 7.5 million tons of coal per year that is delivered to utilities such as Georgia Power, Detroit Edison and American Electric Power. Mr. Booth serves on the boards of the University of Pikeville, Morehead State University, Inez Deposit Bank, Honey Branch Economic Development Authority, Coal Operators Associates, and the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee. Mr. Booth holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Morehead State University.

### **Ulysses S. Bridgeman Jr.**

Ulysses S. "Junior" Bridgeman, of Louisville, is CEO of Bridgeman Foods Inc. He is also owner and president of Manna Inc. and oversees the administration and operation of 160 Wendy's restaurants in five states and 103 Chili's restaurants in seven states. He currently serves on the board of directors of Fifth Third Bank and is capital campaign co-chair for the African-American Heritage Foundation. Mr. Bridgeman graduated from the University of Louisville with a degree in psychology.

### **Rocky Comito**

Rocky Comito of Shepherdsville, Kentucky is the former president of United Auto Workers Local 862 in Louisville, Kentucky. He previously served as an employee of

Ford Motor Company for 34 years. Mr. Comito served on the board of the Metro United Way Labor Committee and was an Advisory Board Member of the Kentucky Labor/Management Conference. Mr. Comito earned a bachelors degree in business administration from the University of Louisville and a Masters degree in Industrial Technology from Eastern Kentucky University.

### **Luther Deaton**

Luther Deaton Jr., of Nicholasville, is chairman, president and CEO of Central Bank and Trust Co. and Central Bancshares Inc., of Lexington. Mr. Deaton is a member of the American Bankers Association Government Relations Council. He also is past president of the Kentucky Bankers Association and past chairman of Commerce Lexington Inc. Mr. Deaton is a graduate of the Graduate School of Banking of the South at Louisiana State University and the National Commercial Lending School at the University of Oklahoma, Norman.

### **Marion C. Forcht**

Marion C. Forcht, of Corbin, is controlling co-owner of Forcht Group of Kentucky, Forcht Bank, N.A., and president of Forcht Insurance Agency Inc. Mrs. Forcht also serves on the boards of Kentucky National Insurance Co., Kentucky Mutual Insurance Co., Kentucky Home Life Insurance Co. and Forcht Broadcasting Inc. She is also corporate secretary of Kentucky Mutual Insurance and Kentucky Home Life Insurance companies. Mrs. Forcht is a graduate of the University of Louisville and holds an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of the Cumberlands.

### **Rick Jordan**

Rick Jordan, of Walton, worked for 40 years in various positions in the manufacturing field at Tappan Appliance Co. and the Magic Chef Co. He served as vice president of Maytag Corp. He also served as former president of American Sign & Marketing and later vice president and general manager over LSI Graphic Solutions Plus. Mr. Jordan is the founding chair of the Gateway Community & Technical College board of directors. He is a past board member of the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Jordan attended Franklin and Ohio State universities before serving a term in the U.S. Armed Forces.

### **Pat Mulloy**

Pat Mulloy, of Louisville, is chairman and CEO of Elmcroft Senior Living, a national provider of senior housing services operating 103 communities in 19 states. Prior to joining Elmcroft Senior Living, Mr. Mulloy served as president and CEO of Louisville-based Atria Inc. Mr. Mulloy served as secretary of the Finance Cabinet from 1992-1994. He currently serves as the chairman of the board of trustees for Bellarmine University and is chairman of the Board of Advisors at Vanderbilt School of Law. He received his law degree from Vanderbilt University.

### **Sheila A. Schuster, Ph.D.**

Dr. Sheila A. Schuster, of Louisville, is executive director of the Advocacy Action Network, an umbrella organization that includes the Kentucky Mental Health Coalition, Kentuckians for Health Care Reform, the United 874K Disabilities Coalition and the Kentucky Medicaid Consortium. Dr. Schuster has served on the boards of directors for a number of mental health, healthcare advocacy and civic organizations in the Louisville area and statewide. Dr. Schuster is a licensed clinical psychologist with graduate degrees from Purdue University and the University of Louisville.

### **Stu Silberman**

Stu Silberman, of Lexington, is executive director of the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence. Prior to joining the Prichard Committee, Mr. Silberman was superintendent of Fayette County Public Schools. His tenure in Fayette County was marked by a commitment to transparency and openness with the public, fiscal responsibility and a community effort called 2020 Vision to redesign education in Fayette County. He has 37 years of experience as an educator. He holds a bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and has an honorary doctorate from Kentucky Wesleyan University.

### **Dr. Lee T. Todd Jr.**

Dr. Lee T. Todd Jr., of Lexington, is a former University of Kentucky president and a professor of engineering. He founded two high-technology companies based on his university research. Projectron Inc. developed and manufactured projection cathode-ray tubes for the flight simulation industry. DataBeam Corp. designed and developed software and systems for the teleconferencing market. Dr. Todd has been very active in national efforts to improve math and science education in American schools and to enhance America's economy based on university innovations. He received his undergraduate degree in electrical engineering from the University of Kentucky and his Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

### **Leslie Weigel**

Leslie Weigel, of Bowling Green, is a former banking executive at SunTrust Banks and is a former consultant to Head Start programs throughout the southeastern United States. Prior to retiring at SunTrust Banks, she served as the senior vice president of change management and investment governance in the office of the chief information officer in Atlanta, Ga. Mrs. Weigel is the former vice chair of the Service One Credit Union Board in Bowling Green. She received her bachelor's degree in political science and Master of Science in childhood development from the University of Delaware. She also obtained a Master of Business Administration from Vanderbilt University's Owen School of Management.

### **John A. Williams**

John Williams, of Paducah, is founder and chairman of Computer Services Inc. (CSI). CSI is a software-as-a-service vendor to more than 5,000 community banks and other financial services organizations, providing a range of products from core processing to Internet-based services. He served as chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis,

Louisville Branch; is a founder and former president of the Association of Financial Technology; and served in various offices in chamber of commerce organizations at the local and regional levels. He has served on numerous government and civic boards with an emphasis on public education and was instrumental in the creation of the Carson Performing Arts Center in Paducah.

### **Joe Wright**

Joseph Wright, of Harned, is a former state senator and was majority floor leader of the Senate. He was also chairman of the Senate Agriculture and Small Business Committee. Mr. Wright served as a member of the Marine Corps Reserves. Mr. Wright is also the former chairman of the Breckinridge County School Board and president of the Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative. He is a full-time farmer and co-owner of Wright Implement Co. Mr. Wright has a bachelor's degree in agricultural business from the University of Kentucky.

### **Cathy Zion**

Cathy Zion, of Louisville, is the president and publisher of Zion LLC, which manages Today's Woman magazine, Today's Transitions magazine and Today's Family magazine. She is a former banking executive who served as vice president of operations at Fifth Third Bank of Kentucky. She currently serves on the BB&T Louisville Regional Advisory Board of Directors, is chair of Kentucky's Commission on Small Business Advocacy and serves on the Louisville SCORE Advisory Board. Ms. Zion graduated from Murray State University with a bachelor's degree in business and journalism and a master's degree in communications.