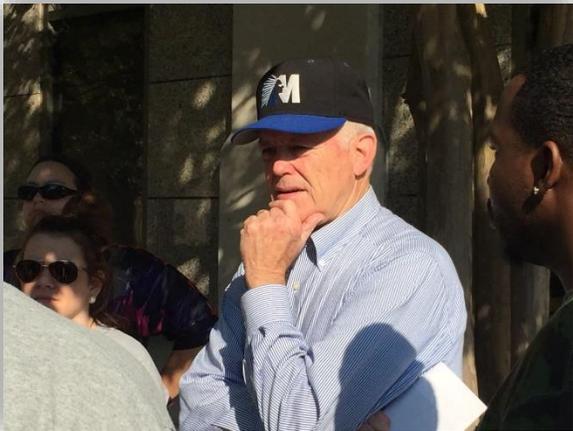


## **Honorable Edward G. Bryant Retires**

On February 28, 2019, Magistrate Judge Edward G. Bryant retired from the Court after ten years of outstanding service to the Western District of Tennessee. Magistrate Judge Bryant served in the Eastern Division location in Jackson, Tennessee, replacing Magistrate Judge S. Thomas Anderson, who is currently Chief Judge of the district.



*Magistrate Judge Bryant speaking to Drug Court participants during a "field trip" regarding the history of civil rights in Jackson, Tennessee.*

Magistrate Judge Bryant has an illustrious and impressive career spanning many years and several different governmental entities.

A native of Jackson, Judge Bryant earned his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Mississippi. He was commissioned through the Army ROTC program in the Military Intelligence Branch but, following law school, was selected to the Judge Advocate General's Corps. Among Captain Bryant's assignments was a tour of duty teaching constitutional law at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Following his service with the Army, Judge Bryant joined the law firm of Waldrop & Hall in Jackson, where he later became a partner.

Judge Bryant was appointed by President George H.W. Bush as United States Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee in 1991 and served for three years. In 1995, he successfully ran for Congress for the Seventh District and was re-elected three times, serving until 2003. He was involved in the

impeachment trial of President Bill Clinton and was chosen to interview Monica Lewinsky at her request, as he was known to be a fair and personable Congressman, possessing impeccable and widely-touted integrity.

Judge Bryant was appointed as a federal magistrate judge for the Western District of Tennessee on December 15, 2008. During his ten years of service to the Court, Judge Bryant has been known for his excellent sense of justice tempered with compassion. In particular, Judge Bryant has been exemplary in his administration of the Court's Drug Court program in the Eastern Division, demonstrating genuine concern for the participants. He has offered unflinching encouragement to the participants by sharing his own life stories as well as his thoughts and advice about the life changes necessary to make these participants successful and happy members of society. One drug court participant was overheard to say, "He gets down on our level when he talks to us and makes us feel like he really cares."

Judge Bryant is also an avid historian. He authored *A History of the Federal Court in Jackson*, which was subsequently published. He has conducted thorough and ongoing research to compile a list of all attorneys who have practiced in Jackson, Tennessee. He has been a guest lecturer and has taught at Union University. Judge Bryant is a raconteur *par excellence* and his greatly-appreciated stories and anecdotes are always interesting, informative, and humorous.

Judge Bryant and his wife, Cyndi, are actively involved in their church and the community, and share a passion for watching and playing tennis. They have three sons and four grandchildren.

Following his retirement from the Court, Judge Bryant plans to continue his career in the legal field.

*By Emily Smith  
February 28, 2019*