

PREMIUM SHELBY COUNTY

Billingsley announces intentions to run for county commission

By [Abigail Warren](#), Daily Memphian

Updated: April 07, 2025 10:07 PM CT | Published: April 07, 2025 8:11 AM CT



Mark Billingsley plans to run for the Shelby County Board of Commissioners District 4 seat in 2026. (The Daily Memphian file)

Mark Billingsley hopes to return to the county Board of Commissioners and plans to seek the District 4 seat in 2026.

Billingsley, a Republican, announced his intentions on KWAM radio Monday morning, April 7. Billingsley was appointed to the commission in January 2014. He

was elected to the position later that year and reelected in 2018. He served as chairman during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“I will be formally filing to run in December,” Billingsley said in an email. “My 9 years on the Shelby County Commission afforded me the opportunity to strengthen Shelby County in the midst of great challenges. I believe we need serious and experienced leadership.”

Commissioners can serve two consecutive terms before they must vacate their seats. However, they can seek election to the board again at a later time.

Billingsley plans for to seek the seat Republican Brandon Morrison holds. She is in her second consecutive term and cannot run again in 2026. Three other Republican commissioners — David Bradford, Amber Mills and Mick Wright — must also vacate their seats.

Democratic commissioners Mickell Lowery, Edmund Ford Jr. and Michael Whaley are also term-limited.

“It’s critical our next Shelby County commissioners are prepared to deal with other unprecedented challenges in 2026 and beyond,” his email stated.

Billingsley is the executive director of the Alliance Foundation raising funds to tackle mental health issues in Shelby County. He was a reserve police officer and served on the crime commission. He was the director at Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare Foundation and served on Regional One’s board. He served as Christian Brothers University’s vice president of advancement for six years, and he led the Memphis Area Home Builders Association.

Politically, he was a Germantown alderman from 2008-2012. However, he wants to return to the county office, feeling he has the skill set to tackle those issues.

“Shelby County has specific areas of focus that include public safety, education, healthcare and economic development,” he said in a text. “I have proven, professional expertise in each of these areas and want to lead Shelby County for its future.”

Billingsley said he’s proven himself to work with people on both sides of the aisle.

When he previously served on the commission, his district included primarily Germantown. New district lines took effect in 2022, and District 4 now includes parts of East Memphis and a portion of Germantown.

He wants to work with municipal mayors. He also wants to communicate to the Legislature and the governor the funds needed to help Shelby County.

“People are voting with their taillights,” he said. “They are leaving, and I want them to have better opportunities in Shelby County for young and old.”

TOPICS

SHELBY COUNTY COMMISSION SHELBY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MARK BILLINGSLEY SUBSCRIBER ONLY