

# ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPLICATION FOR BOARD APPOINTMENT

<p>It is the applicant's responsibility to keep the information on this form current.          To advise the County of any changes please contact Christine Coble          by telephone at 808-5300 or by e-mail at CobleC@leoncountyfl.gov</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Applications will be discarded if no appointment is made after two years.</p>		
Name: Louise Reid Ritchie		Date: Aug. 4, 2009
Home Phone: 850-385-4954	Work Phone:	Email: LouiseRitchie@aol.com
Occupation: independent consultant	Employer: Self	
<p>Please check box for preferred mailing address.</p> <p>Work Address:                                    1001 Lasswade Dr.          City/State/Zip Tallahassee, FL 32312</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Home address: Same		
<p>Do you live in Leon County? <b>YES</b> If yes, do you live within the City limits? <b>Yes</b></p> <p>Do you own property in Leon County? <b>Yes</b> If yes, is it located within the City limits? <b>Yes</b></p> <p>For how many years have you lived and/or owned property in Leon County? <u>17</u> years</p>		
<p>Are you interested in serving on any specific Committee(s)? If yes, please indicate your preference</p> <p>1st Choice: <b>Human Relations Advisory Committee</b> 2nd Choice: _____</p>		
<p>If not interested in any specific Committee(s), are you interested in a specific subject matter? If yes, please check those areas in which you are interested, or describe other areas not listed:</p> <p>Human Services ___ Housing ___ Health Care ___ Science ___ Library Services ___ Growth Management ___          Tourist Development ___ Transportation ___ Bicycle/Pedestrian ___ Parks &amp; Recreation ___          Code Enforcement ___          Other Areas _____</p>		
<p>Have you served on any previous Leon County committees? <b>No</b></p>		
<p>If Yes, on what Committee(s) have you served? _____</p>		
<p>How many days per month would you be willing to commit for Committee work? <b>1-2</b></p> <p>And for how many months would you be willing to commit that amount of time? <b>9 months or more</b></p> <p>What time of day would be best for you to attend Committee meetings? <b>Before 7 p.m.</b></p>		

**(OPTIONAL)** Leon County strives to meet its goals, and those contained in various federal and state laws, of maintaining a membership in its Advisory Committees that reflects the diversity of the community. Although strictly optional for Applicant, the following information is needed to meet reporting requirements and attain those goals.  
Race: African American Sex: Female Age: 58 Disabled? No

Persons needing a special accommodation to participate in an Advisory Committee should contact Christine Coble by telephone at 606-5300 or e-mail at CobleC@mail.co.leon.fl.us

In the space below briefly describe or list the following: any previous experience on other Committees; your educational background; your skills and experience you could contribute to a Committee; any of your professional licenses and/or designations and indicate how long you have held them and whether they are effective in Leon County; any charitable or community activities in which you participate; and reasons for your choice of the Committee indicated on this Application. Please attach your resume, if one is available. I have strong skills in human resources and diversity issues, a broad familiarity with Tallahassee, where I have worked as a FAMU professor and as a consultant, and lived and volunteered for 17 years, and I have a long term interest in supporting the rights of males and females of all races, ages, ethnicities, abilities, disabilities and sexual orientations.

I have a doctorate in psychology and have worked in the human resources field as a U.S. Navy officer and psychologist, a consultant to a Fortune 500 company, and at major corporations. I also have facilitated diversity training in those places as well as in activities sponsored by VolunteerLeon, the city of Detroit, and at statewide conferences for educators, health officials, and volunteers. I have made presentations on diversity issues to Harvard University and Kellogg Foundation. I'm a member of Leadership Tallahassee Class 24, a member of the Democratic party executive board, have been an officer of the Waverly Hills Neighborhood Association, and am a board member and active member in community service and human rights organizations here including those focusing on the disabled and LGBTQ communities.

References (you must provide at least one personal reference who is not a family member):

Name: Jeri Bush, director VolunteerLeon Telephone: 606-1970  
Address: 918 Railroad Ave. Tallahassee, FL, 32310

Name: Barbara Boone, Exec. Director Leadership Tallahassee Telephone: 521-3112  
Address: 100 North Duval St., Tallahassee, FL, 32301

**IMPORTANT LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

AS A MEMBER OF AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE, YOU WILL BE OBLIGATED TO FOLLOW ANY APPLICABLE LAWS REGARDING GOVERNMENT-IN-THE-SUNSHINE, CODE OF ETHICS FOR PUBLIC OFFICERS, AND PUBLIC RECORDS DISCLOSURE. THE CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLATING THESE APPLICABLE LAWS INCLUDE CRIMINAL PENALTIES, CIVIL FINES, AND THE VOIDING OF ANY COMMITTEE ACTION AND OF ANY SUBSEQUENT ACTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. IN ORDER TO BE FAMILIAR WITH THESE LAWS AND TO ASSIST YOU IN ANSWERING THE QUESTIONS BELOW, YOU MUST COMPLETE AN ORIENTATION BEFORE YOUR APPLICATION IS DEEMED COMPLETE.

- Have you completed the Orientation? No
- Are you willing to complete a financial disclosure form, if applicable? Yes
- Will you be receiving any compensation that is expected to influence your vote, action, or participation on a Committee? NO
- Do you anticipate that you would be a stakeholder with regard to your participation on a Committee? No
- Do you know of any circumstances that would result in you having to abstain from voting on a Committee due to voting conflicts? No
- Do you or your employer, or your wife or child or their employers, do business with Leon County? No
- Do you have any employment or contractual relationship with Leon County that would create a continuing or frequently recurring conflict with regard to your participation on a Committee No

All statements and information provided in this application are true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Louise R. Ritchie

   Please return Application to Christine Coble, Agenda Coordinator  
Leon County Board of County Commissioners  
301 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

**LOUISE REID RITCHIE, Ph.D.**  
1001 Lasswade Drive  
Tallahassee, FL 32312-2862  
(850) 385-4954 (h); (850) 385-4955 (fax) e-mail: LouiseRitchie@aol.com

## **Experience**

May 1999-present

Independent Consultant. Have helped organizations with their diversity, journalism, public relations, and leadership programs. These have included:

July 2005-November, 2005: Special Assistant to Florida A&M University President Castell Bryant for a project addressing the academic underachievement of African American males. Included making legislative recommendations to Florida state Sen. Tony Hill for a bill he *introduced into the 2006 Legislature, and making presentations in Daytona, Jacksonville and Tallahassee, assisting in organizing a town hall meeting in Tallahassee, and participating in a Tallahassee press conference.*

October, 2000- October, 2001

Executive Director, Black College Communication Association Student Newspaper Institute, which was funded by a one-year Freedom Forum grant to strengthen the student newspapers at more than 20 historically black colleges and universities. Organized conferences, a job fair, awards and training activities, provided grant writing assistance and established liaisons with professional organizations such as the American Society of Newspaper Editors and with media companies including The Washington Post and Reuters.

Organized summit meetings in Washington, D.C., and New Orleans that were held in conjunction with the College Media Advisers Inc. organization. Arranged for the New York Times Company to co-sponsor the two-day summit meeting, "Training Extraordinary Journalists for Extraordinary Times" that was held in New Orleans in October 2001. There the New York Times' graphics director, recruiting editor and two reporters discussed their September 11th coverage, and its applications to journalism education. This was one of the first training presentations about September 11th coverage that any major American publication had provided. It led to the New York Times' agreeing to provide ongoing training for BCCA.

The 2000 summit meeting led to College Media Advisers' receiving a grant to establish a training collaborative relationship between mainstream college journalism programs and BCCA' member programs. The program is designed to help historically black universities' student newspapers expand their coverage and increase their frequency, and it is designed to help mainstream college newspapers expand their staff and news content diversity.

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May 1998-May 1999

Founding Director, Florida Institute for Leadership Excellence at Florida A&M University. The concept grew out of my three-year Kellogg Leadership Fellowship and was funded by a \$123,000 Title III federal grant that I wrote. Created a leadership center that was designed to develop a multidisciplinary cadre of visionary leaders with the ethics, insights and skills for the 21st century. The program provided honors freshmen with travel to the Dominican Republic, internships with state legislators, and a weekly series of seminars on issues that included professionalism, technology, and multicultural awareness. Participants in the program have gone on to receive a variety of honors including a Fulbright Fellowship to do malarial research in Mali.

August 1993-May 1999:

Associate professor, School of Journalism, Media and Graphic Arts, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, Fla. Created and coordinated the Knight Scholars Leadership program, which during 1998 provided leadership training at the Academy of Leadership at the University of Maryland and at The Washington Post for honors students in the Journalism Division. Have taught courses in news and feature writing, language skills, use of information resources and a survey course introducing students to the mass media. Served as adviser to the Famuan student newspaper. Established a series of workshops in which nationally renowned professional journalists taught students about various aspects of professional development. Instrumental in The Washington Post's making a commitment to send seven staff journalists to work with Florida A&M students during spring semester, 1994. Led an effort that resulted in Florida A&M's becoming a training center for the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund's copy editing program in 1996, becoming one of only six sites in the country. Served as associate director of the program in 1996 and 1997. Under my direction, The Famuan increased its publication frequency during the 1996-1997 school year, becoming what is believed to be the most frequently published student newspaper at any historically black college. It also won numerous awards, which are detailed below.

September 1992-August 1993:

Human resources consultant, Knight Ridder Newspapers, Inc., Miami, Fla. Assisted in recruiting, training and development, especially focusing on diversity programs, for Knight Ridder's 29 newspapers and 61 business information systems. At the request of Knight Ridder CEO James K. Batten and in collaboration with the Newspaper Association of America, Florida A&M, and the Tallahassee Democrat, I established a project at Tallahassee's Rickards High School that has become a national model for attracting minority students to newspaper business careers.

L. Ritchie Vita Pg. 3

September 1990-August 1992:

\* Executive Assistant to the Publisher, Detroit Free Press. Assisted Publisher Neal Shine with projects involving the community and oversaw the paper's efforts to build and train a more diverse staff. Partial list of duties included:

\* Created and coordinated "A Gift of Reading," a nationally award-winning project. The program has spread to at least 17 states and has distributed more than a million new books to disadvantaged children, and has also funded children's literacy programs.

\* Developed and ran an innovative apprenticeship program for local high school students interested in journalism (My 22 former apprentices have won more than 16 national journalism scholarships and fellowships and have gotten permanent jobs at major papers.)

\* Oversaw the paper's efforts to assist 20 Detroit public high schools journalism education programs. Assisted with local journalism camps and coordinated Free Press journalism scholarships.

\* Headed Detroit Free Press contributions committee that reviewed Detroit community grant proposals to the Knight Foundation and approved Free Press Charities grants totaling \$800,000.

\* Recruited staff

1987-August 1992:

Columnist, Detroit Free Press. Wrote national award-winning "Family Ties" column, which was distributed to 350 newspapers via the Knight-Ridder Tribune News Service.

1986:

Detroit Urban League, substance abuse prevention coordinator. Established as an independent contractor the Urban League's program in substance abuse prevention, believed to be one of the first such prevention programs in the country focusing on the black community. Lectured widely and trained community leaders.

1979-86:

United States Navy. Clinical psychologist and Navy lieutenant in Norfolk and Bethesda. May have been the first black woman clinical psychologist in the U.S. Navy. Directed a tri-services training program in substance abuse treatment. Supervised 12 substance abuse counselors. Treated more than 1,000 substance abusers and their families.

1978-81:

Psychology externships and consultant jobs in Washington, D.C.