

PRESS RELEASE FROM MIKE HAMMOND

Knoxville, Tennessee:

Today I am announcing I am running for reelection in 2026 as Knox County Criminal Court Clerk.

At the same time, after much consideration, I am withdrawing my name as a candidate for the 2026 Knox County Mayoral election.

The decision is both personal and professional. My annual physical exam led to a diagnosis of very early-stage prostate cancer. A recent trip to New York's Sloan Kettering Cancer Center for a second opinion shows the cancer is indeed early stage and very treatable. My doctors and I are working on a treatment plan.

Because of this unexpected diagnosis, it has prompted me to look at my life and what is important. There is no question my number one priorities are my health and my family, which includes my wife Dawn, and our family which consists of 7 children and ten grandchildren. Another priority is my strong desire to serve Knox County. Therefore, I have decided my focus should be on my present role, where my team has made wide-ranging improvements to benefit the court system and our citizens.

I will aggressively seek the approval of Knox County voters to support me in remaining in this office, which in their service I'm privileged to hold.

On another personal note to men, please get that PSA test!!!

Thank you, and I look forward to continuing to serve as Knox Count Criminal Court Clerk.

For further information, contact Maddie Tuggle (865) 364-8659.

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