



ELLIS COUNTY
APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

ELLIS COUNTY

APR 16 2025



HUMAN RESOURCES

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY. TO BE CONSIDERED FOR EMPLOYMENT ALL QUESTIONS MUST BE ANSWERED.

PERSONAL

Wray

John

Christian

April 16, 2025

LAST NAME

FIRST

MIDDLE

DOB MM/DD/YYYY

ARE YOU 21 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER?

YES ☒

IF NOT, ARE YOU AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE?

☐

IF EMPLOYED, CAN YOU SUBMIT VERIFICATION OF YOUR LEGAL RIGHT TO WORK IN THE UNITED STATES?

YES ☒

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN CONVICTED OF ANY OFFENSE GREATER THAN A TRAFFIC VIOLATION?

NO ☒

IF YES LIST BELOW:

DATE

OFFENSE

DISPOSITION

DATE

OFFENSE

DISPOSITION

HAVE YOU SERVED IN THE U.S. ARMED FORCES?

NO ☒

HAVE YOU BEEN PREVIOUSLY EMPLOYED BY ELLIS COUNTY?

NO ☒

IF YES LIST BELOW

DATES:

FROM

TO

LOCATION

POSITION

ARE YOU RELATED TO ANYONE EMPLOYED BY ELLIS COUNTY?

IF YES, STATE NAME AND LOCATION: Jackie Wray, Office of Ellis County District Clerk

HOW DID YOU LEARN OF THIS JOB OPENING? Via the County's website

JOB INTEREST – POSITION(S) DESIRED

County Judge

FIRST CHOICE

SECOND CHOICE

DATE AVAILABLE

SALARY DESIRED

WORK HOURS/SHIFT
PREFERRED

FULL TIME
YES ☐ NO ☐

PART TIME
YES ☐ NO ☐

DAYS
YES ☐ NO ☐

EVENINGS
YES ☐ NO ☐

NIGHTS
YES ☐ NO ☐

WEEKENDS
YES ☐ NO ☐

EDUCATIONAL RECORD

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES/CERTIFICATIONS

Please see my attaced resume

| TYPE | STATE ISSUED | DATE ISSUED | EXPIRES ON | NUMBER |
|------|--------------|-------------|------------|--------|
| TYPE | STATE ISSUED | DATE ISSUED | EXPIRES ON | NUMBER |

SKILLS

Please indicate the experience you have by checking the box next to the job skill described below.

| Office Skills | | | | Road and Bridge Worker Positions Only | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| Typing | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ wpm | MS Word | <input type="checkbox"/> | Front End Loader | <input type="checkbox"/> | Dozer | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Shorthand | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ wpm | MS Access | <input type="checkbox"/> | Grade-All | <input type="checkbox"/> | Dump Truck | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| 10-Key | <input type="checkbox"/> | | MS Excel | <input type="checkbox"/> | Diesel Mechanics | <input type="checkbox"/> | Backhoe | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Word Perfect | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Power Point | <input type="checkbox"/> | Motor Grader | <input type="checkbox"/> | CDL | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Multi-Line Phone | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Cash Handling Exp | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please list): _____ | | | | | |
| Other (please list): <u>please see my attached resume</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Language Skills: Which Language: _____ | | | | | Speak | <input type="checkbox"/> | Read | <input type="checkbox"/> | Write | <input type="checkbox"/> |

WORK EXPERIENCE

WHAT OTHER NAME(S) HAVE YOU WORKED UNDER? Please see my attached resume

MAY WE CONTACT YOUR PRESENT EMPLOYER? ☐

LIST YOUR LAST OR PRESENT EMPLOYER FIRST (INCLUDING VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE) FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS

EMPLOYER _____ DATES EMPLOYED: FROM (mo/yr): _____ TO (mo/yr): _____

STREET ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ PHONE _____

POSITION TITLE _____ STARTING SALARY _____ FINAL SALARY _____

SUPERVISOR'S NAME AND TITLE _____ PERSON(S) WE MAY CONTACT FOR REFERENCE _____

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR DUTIES _____

REASON FOR LEAVING _____

EMPLOYER _____ DATES EMPLOYED: FROM (mo/yr): _____ TO (mo/yr): _____

STREET ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ PHONE _____

POSITION TITLE _____ STARTING SALARY _____ FINAL SALARY _____

SUPERVISOR'S NAME AND TITLE _____ PERSON(S) WE MAY CONTACT FOR REFERENCE _____

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BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR DUTIES _____

REASON FOR LEAVING _____

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING THIS APPLICATION FORM:

Ellis County does not discriminate in hiring or any other decision on the basis of race, color, sex, citizenship, national origin, ancestry, or on the basis of age or physical or mental disability unrelated to ability to perform the work required. No question on this application is intended to secure information to be used for such discrimination.

I voluntarily give Ellis County the right to make a thorough, post-offer investigation of my past employment and activities. I agree to cooperate in such investigation and release from all liability of responsibility all persons, companies or corporations supplying such information. I consent to take an employment physical examination, and passing same is a condition of employment, and such further physical examinations as may be required by Ellis County at such times and places as Ellis County shall designate.

I understand that my employment is at will, and that either party is free to terminate the employment relationship at any time without a reason. I also understand that my employment may be terminated for any misstatement or omission of fact appearing on this application form.

If employed, I will be required to complete the Employment Eligibility Verification form (I-9), and show satisfactory evidence of Identity and Employment Authorization as outlined by the Department of Homeland Security. A list of acceptable documents is included with this application. I UNDERSTAND THAT ELLIS COUNTY PARTICIPATES IN E-VERIFY TO VERIFY MY ELIGIBILITY TO WORK IN THE U.S.


Applicant's Signature


Date

RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:

Ellis County
Human Resources
101 W. Main Street, Suite B-103
Waxahachie, TX 75165
humanresources@co.ellis.tx.us

April 16, 2025

Via Hand Delivery

Commissioner Randy Stinson, Precinct No. 1
Commissioner Lane Grayson, Precinct No. 2
Commissioner Louis Ponder, Precinct No. 3
Commissioner Kyle Butler, Precinct No. 4
c/o Ellis County Human Resources
302 North Monroe Street, Suite 338
Waxahachie, Texas 75165

To the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Ellis County:

I am writing to express my desire to be appointed Ellis County Judge. As a native of Ellis County, it would be an honor to serve its citizens as their County Judge during this exciting period of growth and development. I have enclosed for your consideration my resume, my personal and professional references, the Ellis County Application for Employment, and the signed Background Investigation Authorization.

I have a uniquely broad range of skills and experiences that will enable me to be a successful and effective County Judge. As a former State Representative for Ellis County and Mayor of Waxahachie, I am very well versed in efficiently managing public meetings while allowing proper input from elected officials and citizens. I have a proven track record of building consensus and facilitating decision-making, even when the issues under consideration are challenging. I am also familiar with the core roles of county government such as the criminal and civil justice systems, law enforcement and the jail, road and bridge maintenance, adult and juvenile probation, emergency management, and indigent healthcare. During my time as State Representative, I served on the House Committees on Ways & Means, Transportation, Public Health, and Homeland Security and Public Safety. Each of these committees afforded me an opportunity to study matters that are fundamental to the operations and services of county government. More importantly, my prior elected offices allowed me to hone the skills needed to be an effective leader in the public setting.

I am of course aware that one of the key areas of leadership for the Ellis County Judge is preparation of the initial draft of our county's annual budget. I have been through many budget cycles at both the city and state level and my prior budget work has prepared me for the important role of crafting a county budget. I am aware that some of the largest drivers of county spending are state and federal mandates related to jail standards, indigent defense, the judicial system, and numerous others. I can confidently navigate the demands of such unfunded mandates, while carefully balancing fiscally conservative stewardship of taxpayers' money. I operate with an "open door" policy and will welcome the opportunity to have meaningful discussions with department heads and elected officials to formulate a responsible county budget that respects taxpayers and meets the need for important county services.

Ellis County is a special place and people are eager to relocate here to start businesses and raise families. Providing county services for our many new residents and managing responsible development are top priorities for the County Judge and Commissioners' Court. My prior public service and private sector work experience align perfectly with addressing these priorities as the county continues its rapid growth.

I am a native of Ellis County and have lived here for most of my life. My values reflect the values of the vast majority of Ellis County citizens. I am fiscally and socially conservative, and I believe in hard work and personal responsibility. During my time in prior public offices, I prioritized infrastructure needs for a growing population, conservative tax policies, respect for property rights, and minimizing regulations on families and businesses. I look forward to again serving the public and working diligently to keep Ellis County strong and prosperous.

I welcome the opportunity to participate in an in-person interview so that I can further discuss my qualifications and answer any questions you may have. The best method of contacting me is via my cell phone at [REDACTED]. Thank you for considering my interest in the Ellis County Judge position. I look forward to visiting with you about this opportunity.

Very truly yours,



John C. Wray

Enclosures

John C. Wray

Certifications Board Certified, Estate Planning and Probate Law, Texas Board of Legal Specialization

Bar Admissions

- State Bar of Texas, November 1996
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, 1997
- U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Southern, and Eastern Districts of Texas, 1997
- U.S. Tax Court, 2000
- U.S. Supreme Court, 2002
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas, 2006

Civic Activities & Recognitions

- Alternate Member (1997-98), Zoning Board of Adjustments, West University Place, Texas
- Board Member (2003-07), Campaign Chair (2007), United Way of West Ellis County
- Board Member (2004-07), Mid Way Regional Airport
- District Chairman (2005), Bluebonnet District, Circle Ten Council, Boy Scouts of America
- Board Member (2004-07), Education Foundation for WISD
- Member (2005-07), Meals on Wheels Ellis County Advisory Council
- Board Member (2004-07), Treasurer (2004-2006), Chautauqua Preservation Society
- Board Member (2003-04), Waxahachie Crime Stoppers
- Board Member (2006-09), The Waxahachie Foundation
- Board Member (2006-08), Waxahachie Senior Activity Center
- Board Member (2006-07), Waxahachie Cemetery Board
- Board Member (2010-14), Waxahachie Firefighter's Retirement & Relief Fund
- Board Member (2013-14), Waxahachie Community Development (4B) Corporation
- Board Member (2009-14), Waxahachie Chamber of Commerce
- Member (2013-14), Waxahachie Steering Committee for the Baylor Health Care System Foundation
- Member (2006-08), Board of Trustees, First United Methodist Church of Waxahachie
- Member (2020-2023), Chair (2023), Staff-Parish Relations Committee, First United Methodist Church of Waxahachie
- Member (2023-present), Finance Committee, First United Methodist Church of Waxahachie
- Member (2021-2024), Board of Pensions & Health Benefits, Central Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church
- Councilmember (2008-14), Mayor Pro Tem (2010-2013), Mayor (2013-14), City of Waxahachie
- Member (2002-present), Waxahachie Rotary Club
- Chosen "Best Municipal Elected Official" in 2009 & 2019 by Readers of the *Waxahachie Daily Light* and *Midlothian Mirror* Newspapers
- Chosen "Most Influential Person" in 2011 by Readers of the *Waxahachie Daily Light* and *Midlothian Mirror* Newspapers
- Recipient of the "Leadership Award" for 2014 from the Waxahachie Chamber of Commerce
- Recognized as "Legislator of the Year" for 2017 by the Texas State Association of Fire Fighters
- State Representative (2015-2021), District 10, Texas House of Representatives, Committees on Ways & Means; Public Health; Calendars; Transportation; and Homeland Security & Public Safety

Professional & Business Associations

- State Bar of Texas, Real Estate, Probate, & Trust Law Section
- Ellis County Bar Association
- Southwest Association of Bank Counsel
- Fellow, Texas Bar Foundation
- Member, College of the State Bar of Texas
- Member (2011-14), District 7 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas

Reported Cases *Cypress-Fairbanks ISD v. Loggins*, 115 S.W.3d 67 (Tex.App-San Antonio 2003, pet. denied)
Wilson v. McKee, 174 S.W.3d 842 (Tex.App.-Waco 2005, no petition)
Citizens National Bank v. City of Rhame, 201 S.W.3d 254 (Tex.App.-Fort Worth 2006, no petition).

Experience **Wray Willett Stoffer Kosoris, PLLC**
Waxahachie, Texas

May 02-Present Founder/Managing Attorney

- Handle broad spectrum of civil litigation and transactional matters
- Supervise staff including two associate attorneys

Town Square Title Company, LLC
Waxahachie, Texas
Feb 07-Present Co-Founder/Co-Owner

- Full Service title insurance agent and escrow company with multiple branches in four Texas counties

Citizens National Bank of Texas
Waxahachie, Texas
2014-Present Director

- Member, Risk Committee of the Board of Directors
- Member, Audit Committee of the Board of Directors

Davis, Riddout, Jones & Gerstner, LLP
Houston, Texas
May 00 - May 02 Associate

- Preparation and implementation of advanced estate planning including wills, trusts, lifetime gifting programs, charitable gifting programs, family limited partnerships, and split-interest trusts
- Representation of taxpayers in IRS controversies involving tax issues
- Assist closely held businesses with corporate matters including choice of entity, entity formation, general corporate, real estate, and mergers and acquisitions

Cokinos, Boslen & Young, PC
Houston, Texas
Feb 99 - May 00 Associate

- Commercial litigation associate with emphasis on construction and real estate litigation
- Deposition, mediation, motion practice, and first chair trial experience

Pratt & Sanderford, PC
Arlington, Texas
Sep 98 - Jan 99 Associate

- Commercial litigation associate with emphasis on construction and real estate litigation
- Deposition, mediation, and motion practice experience

Phelps Dunbar, LLP
Houston, Texas
Sep 96 - Sep 98 Associate

- Civil litigation associate including personal injury defense (40%) and commercial litigation (60%)

May 95 - Jun 95 Summer Associate

- Researched general civil litigation, insurance coverage, and subrogation issues

Orgain, Bell & Tucker, LLP
Beaumont, Texas
Jul 95 - Aug 95 Summer Associate

- Researched a variety of litigation and transaction issues related to this full service firm's practice
- Received offer for permanent employment

Personal and Professional References

Dr. David Averett

Acting Superintendent of Schools - Waxahachie ISD
[REDACTED]

(972) 923-4631

Dr. Yomi Fayiga

Ellis County Physician

(972) 923-2600

Brian Ford

Executive Vice President - Citizens National Bank of Texas
[REDACTED]

(972) 938-4300

John Rodgers

Fire Chief/EMC - City of Alvarado
[REDACTED]

(817) 790-8884

Col. Sam Schoolfield, USMC (Ret.)

(910) 378-5150

Dr. Kevin Tully

Pastor - First United Methodist Church of Waxahachie
[REDACTED]

(972) 937-4400

Will Metcalf

State Representative - Texas House District 16

(512) 463-0726

(936) 539-0068

Ross Weaver

Manager - Town Square Title Company

Councilmember - City of Midlothian
[REDACTED]

(972) 935-0800

Jason M. Willett

Partner - Wray Willett Stoffer Kosoris PLLC
[REDACTED]

(972) 938-1850

Patrick M. Wilson

Former Ellis County and District Attorney
[REDACTED]

(972) 848-9311