

Chris Nelson, born and raised in Chilton County, and a resident of Shelby County since 2016, wants to be a presence and a voice in the Shelby County Commission. Nelson has never considered himself a politician, but his outrage over Gov. Ivey's private prisons in Brierfield propelled him into the political arena and he hasn't left. The prisons were never built, and now he has new dragons to slay.

After graduating from Jemison High School, Chris attended the University of Montevallo for two years, then obtained his undergraduate degree in Computer Science from the University of Alabama. He returned to Alabama for a Master's degree in Library and Information Studies. He is now a database administrator at Altec Industries. Translated, he knows a lot about computers.

During his campaign against building \$1.3 billion worth of prisons with COVID relief funds, Nelson was a frequent visitor to town / city council and county commission meetings over a wide area, presenting his objections to the prison construction and backing his arguments with careful research. He also came out as a strong supporter of the Warrior Met mine workers strike, and backed the local Starbucks union drive. These experiences, he says, "... showed me the value of showing up and voicing my position."

In addition to holding membership in the Shelby County Democratic Party, Chris organized for many months to finally restart the Chilton County Democratic Party, which had been inactive for years. He is the elected representative of State House District 41 for the Alabama Democratic Executive Committee, as well as a member of the Freedom From Religion Foundation and the Democratic Socialists of America.

If elected to County Commission, Chris' initial concern would be to get clarity on why municipalities want to have their own school systems, instead of supporting schools for all the children of the county.

Chris, his wife, and their two cats live in Calera.