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Tennessee Justice Center Welcomes New Board Members

Nashville, TN, Feb. 13, 2026 - Michele Johnson, Executive Director at the Tennessee Justice Center, announced that the organization has appointed **Denise Burke** to their board: "Denise has such extensive experience from McDermott Will & Emery, one of the nation's leading health law firms. We are excited for the ways that she will shape our work for the better," said Johnson.

Before retiring from legal practice, Denise Burke was a partner at the international law firm McDermott Will & Emery, which is consistently ranked as the nation's leading health law firm. For three decades, Denise has been a highly trusted advisor to healthcare providers and private equity companies on a wide range of operational and compliance issues. She has extensive experience in federal and state fraud and abuse matters involving Stark law, anti-kickback laws, and the False Claims Act. Prior to practicing with McDermott, Denise was a partner at Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis.

Denise has received recognition from clients and colleagues with consistent rankings in Chambers USA and Best Lawyers, including being recognized as Lawyer of the Year by Best Lawyers for healthcare in the Memphis and West Tennessee area in 2012, 2022, and 2024. She is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation and a Fellow of the Nashville Healthcare Council. Denise served as a long-term member of the Executive Council of the Tennessee Bar Association Health Law Section, including serving as Chairman.

Denise previously served on the Board of the Common Table Health Alliance, a multi-stakeholder, regional health and health improvement collaborative with a mission to

bridge health inequities for all communities. Denise also served on the Advisory Board of the Memphis Chapter of the National Association of Health Services Executives, an organization working to elevate the quality of health care services rendered to minority and underserved communities, in part by the development and advancement of Black healthcare executives.

Photos: <http://www.tnjustice.org/our-board>

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About Tennessee Justice Center / www.tnjustice.org

For over 30 years, the Tennessee Justice Center has been standing with vulnerable Tennessee families and helping them access basic necessities of life. Since opening our doors in 1996, TJC has used lawsuits, legislation and coalition building to overcome injustice, winning \$8 billion in health care and hundreds of millions in financial and nutrition assistance for Tennesseans. Aside from lawsuits, TJC helps assist seniors and other individuals with TennCare, SNAP and other public benefit programs.