

## **PARDON**

## TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, from 1999 to 2011, in the Criminal Court of Knox County, Zenobia Dobson (TOMIS #320379) was convicted of theft of property \$500-\$1,000 and eleven misdemeanors for theft/shoplifting and assault (case nos. 579966, 730781, A15710, 857966, 857967, A361767, A31766, 506335, 506336, 506337, 506338, and 506339) and served two years in the Knoxville Community Alternative to Prison Program. These convictions and other misdemeanor convictions arose from behavior related to substance abuse; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's constitution and statutory law authorize the governor to grant executive elemency, including the power to issue pardons; and

WHEREAS, this case appears to me to be a proper one for the exercise of executive elemency for the following reasons:

After her last conviction, Ms. Dobson made the decision to reform her life. She participated in a rehabilitation program and took parenting classes. She became active in her children's lives, including in their school and extracurricular activities. Ms. Dobson has worked for nearly 10 years at the Community Action Committee and been involved in her church. In 2015, her son, Zaevion, was killed while shielding friends from gunfire, and since that time, Ms. Dobson has established a foundation in her son's name with the mission of improving the lives of children in underserved communities. She has widespread community support from local and state leaders to pastors and friends. The Tennessee Board of Parole recommended pardoning Ms. Dobson.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by Article III, Section 6 of the Tennessee Constitution and by the laws of the State of Tennessee, do hereby grant a pardon in favor of Zenobia Dobson, pardoning her for her convictions of theft/shoplifting and assault.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed at Nashville, Tennessee on this 2nd day of December, 2021.

GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE