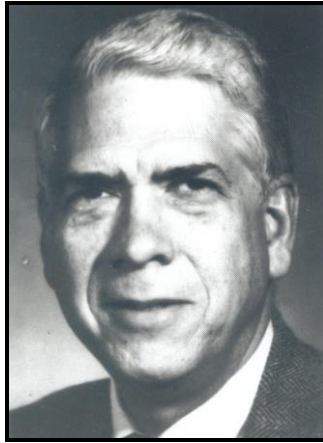


1994 Engineer of Distinction



DeWitt Ezell, Jr.

B.S. Electrical Engineering, TPI, 1960

President, Tennessee South Central Bell
Nashville, Tennessee

Citation

DeWitt Ezell, Jr. is president of South Central Bell in Tennessee. A Nashville native, Mr. Ezell earned his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Tennessee Polytechnic Institute in 1960. After brief associations with DuPont Cellophane in Old Hickory, Tennessee, and NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, he began his telephone career as an assistant engineer with Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company in Nashville in 1962.

Mr. Ezell has distinguished himself and his alma mater during a very impressive career with the local Bell company (which later became South Central Bell in this part of the country). His earliest responsibilities involved fairly routine authorizations of the telephone company's engineering plans for outside plant deployment. But he exhibited unique abilities for project management and cost control, and quickly rose through the ranks of the company's engineering division. In 1976, Mr. Ezell's talents led him away from pure engineering when he was promoted to Division Staff Manager in South Central Bell's Investments and Economics Department at company headquarters in Birmingham, Alabama.

Mr. Ezell returned to Nashville in 1982, having been named Assistant Vice President of Corporate & Community Affairs for South Central Bell in Tennessee. A year and a half later, it was back to Birmingham on a lateral assignment as AVP of Public Affairs for South Central Bell in Alabama. In this assignment, he had responsibility for the company's rate-setting process and compliance with Alabama's state regulatory commission.

In late 1990, Mr. Ezell was elected an officer of South Central Bell and returned to Tennessee for his current assignment as state president. He directs the company's endeavors throughout Tennessee and is responsible to the corporation's stockholders for the company's economic performance in Tennessee.

In addition to his many corporate responsibilities, Mr. Ezell maintains a heavy slate of community activities. He is chairman of the boards of the Cumberland Museums and the Tennessee Minority Purchasing Council. He is also chairman of "Success By Six," an initiative of United Way of Middle Tennessee. Mr. Ezell has been elected to the local Boards of NationsBank, United Way, INROADS, the PENCIL Foundation, Leadership Nashville Alumni, Boy Scouts of America, the Tennessee Foundation of Independent Colleges, the

Tennessee Association of Business, the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce, Y-CAP, the Tennessee Regional Transportation Authority Board, the Metropolitan Nashville Public Education Foundation, and the Nashville Institute of the Arts. He is campaign chairman for the restoration campaign of the Hermitage Association, and also serves on the President's Advisory Council at Tennessee State University, and the National Steering Committee for the Capital Campaign at Tennessee Tech.



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