



JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
Statement to be included in Transcript of Public Hearings

Retired Judge

Full Name: Edgar Warren Dickson

Business Address: P.O. Box 1805, Orangeburg S.C. 29116

Business Telephone: Cell# 803-837-1777

1. Have you met the mandatory minimum hours requirement for continuing legal education courses for the past reporting period? Yes
2. Do you have any plans to return to private practice? No
3. Are you engaged in any legal activities other than your service as a retired judge, such as acting as an arbitrator or mediator? No, but I am scheduled to take mediation training.
4. Are you involved in any active investments from which you derive additional income that might impair your appearance of impartiality? No
5. Are you a member of any organization or association that, by policy or practice, prohibits or limits its membership on the basis of race, sex, religion, or national origin? If so, please identify the entity and explain if this organization practices invidious discrimination on any basis. No
6. Have you engaged in any partisan political activity since your retirement? Please describe. No
7. What do you feel is the appropriate demeanor for a judge? When do these rules apply? I believe a judge shall be thoughtful, calm,

courteous, inquisitive and intuitive. A judge should be fair and impartial. People appearing in court should feel comfortable and believe they are being treated fairly and justly. These rules apply all the time because the actions of a judge are always on display.

8. In your position as a retired judge, what methods do you employ to ensure that deadlines for the timely issuance of orders are met? You have to keep a calendar and a list or a reminder.
9. Do you feel that it is ever appropriate to be angry with a member of the public, especially with a criminal defendant? Is anger ever appropriate in dealing with attorneys? Anger is never appropriate. Anger may be justified but judges risk losing perspective and control of a courtroom if they become angry.
10. How would you handle a situation in which you became aware of misconduct or appearance of infirmity of a lawyer or fellow judge? I would have to report it. However, I would be inclined to first contact the attorney or judge, bring it to their attention, and allow them to self-report.
11. What is your philosophy regarding *ex parte* communications? Are there circumstances under which you could envision *ex parte* communications being tolerated? There should never be *ex parte* communications. In circumstances where *ex parte* communications are allowed by law a hearing should be held as soon as possible thereafter.
12. If you disclosed something that had the appearance of bias, but you believed it would not actually prejudice your impartiality, what deference would you give a party that requested your recusal? Would you grant such a motion? I would give such a motion considerable deference because the Court should avoid even the appearance of impropriety. Whether I would grant the motion depends upon the circumstances but I would be inclined to grant such a motion.

13. What standards have you set for yourself regarding the acceptance of gifts or social hospitality? Judges should not accept gifts except in conjunction with participating in ordinary social hospitality. Additionally, any gifts in a social setting should be nominal and inconsequential. Judges must maintain decorum when accepting ordinary social hospitality.
14. In order that we might advise court administration on steps that need to be taken, are there any limitations on your sight, hearing, or mobility that should be addressed by the court administrator? No

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ANSWERS TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.



Sworn to before me this 20th day of July, 2022.



(Signature)



(Print name)

Notary Public for South Carolina

My Commission Expires: 06/04/2030