



Judge Crystal M. Rookard
Administrative Law Judge, Seat #5

AMENDMENT TO PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE 2022

Submitted in July 2022

Prior Question & Answer:

12. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the five years prior to your election to the bench?
- (a) federal: 0%
 - (b) state: 0%

[SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE] Please specify whether you are simply supplementing the prior answer or striking that answer and replacing it with what is provided in the amendment.

If more than one question needs to be amended, continue with the above format.

Please be advised I am supplementing my response to question #12. See below.

12. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the five years prior to your election to the bench?

I have served as an associate municipal court judge since 2015. From 2015 – beginning of 2020, I presided over hundreds of contested cases in criminal, traffic, domestic violence, and quality of life court, bond court and preliminary hearings. Since 2021 – present, I primarily preside over bond court and preliminary hearings.

From 2000 – 2017, I handled various employee grievances pursuant to the State Employee Grievance Procedures.

From 2000–2005, I handled inmate litigation including appeals, before the Richland County Circuit Court and the Administrative Law Court. **The conservative estimate is that I handled around 1,000 inmate appeals before the Administrative Law Court.**

- (a) federal: 0%
- (b) state: 0%
- (c) From 2015 – present, preside as a part-time substitute judge in municipal court

[SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE]

[DATE] November 13, 2022 *Crystal Rookard*

Please mail your supplemental response to the following address:

Judicial Merit Selection Commission
P.O. Box 142
Columbia, SC 29202

Judge Crystal M. Rookard

Administrative Law Judge, Seat #5

AMENDMENT TO PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE 2022

Submitted in July 2022

13. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, domestic, and other matters during the five years prior to your election to the bench?
- (a) civil: 50%
 - (b) criminal: 50%
 - (c) domestic: 5%
 - (d) other: 0%

[SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE]

Please specify whether you are simply supplementing the prior answer or striking that answer and replacing it with what is provided in the amendment.

Please note I am correcting the percentages previously submitted.

13. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, domestic, and other matters during the five years prior to your election to the bench?
- (a) civil: 60%
 - (b) criminal: 35%
 - (c) domestic: 5%
 - (d) other: 0%

[SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE]



[DATE] November 13, 2022

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Judicial Merit Selection Commission
P.O. Box 142
Columbia, SC 29202

Crystal Rookard

Administrative Law Court, Seat #5

AMENDMENT TO Personal Data Questionnaire

Application due date was July 2022

Prior Question & Answer:

14. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the five years prior to your election to the bench involved matters that went to a jury, including those that settled prior to trial?

(a) jury: 50%

(b) non-jury:

Did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel in these matters?

Chief counsel in my role as General Counsel for Lander University and Midlands Technical College.

[SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE]

Please specify whether you are simply supplementing the prior answer or striking that answer and replacing it with what is provided in the amendment.

Please note I am striking the prior answer and replacing it with the answer provided below.

14. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the five years prior to your election to the bench involved matters that went to a jury, including those that settled prior to trial?

(a) jury: 50% new answer 20%

(b) non-jury: new answer 40%*

*Since 2015 I have served as an associate (substitute) municipal court judge. In this capacity I conduct hearings and adjudicate cases in criminal court, domestic violence court, homeless court, quality of life court and traffic court, preside over bond court, rule on motions, draft orders and conduct legal research, as necessary. In municipal court, there are bench trials in which I listen to testimony and review evidence presented by both parties, then make the decision. I have interacted extensively with attorneys, law enforcement, pro se litigants, those represented by legal counsel and victims.

Since 2000 – present, I have served as legal counsel for three state government agencies. I possess extensive state government legal experience applicable to the SC Administrative Procedures Act to include: auditing issues, contract review, drafted and negotiated agreements with local hospitals and healthcare facilities, employee grievances, including arbitrations, mediations and hearings before the State Employee Grievance Committee, budget issues, law enforcement issues, easements/real estate issues, ethics/compliance, freedom of information, governance, healthcare/nursing issues, review/draft legislation, privacy and records management, transactional matters involving copyright and technology transfer, policies and procedures, and publications as needed, higher education law, human resource management: benefits, class/compensation, criminal background checks, disability, leave, payroll, recruitment, retirement, temporary employment, unemployment issues, and providing legal advice to supervisors, board members, and executive-level management.

*From 2000 – 2005, 50% of my practice involved serving as the Deputy General Counsel for the SC Department of Corrections (SCDC). I defended the Department against inmate litigation. The inmate litigation was appealed to the Administrative Law Court. I drafted and filed briefs, prepared documents to be submitted into the record and interacted with staff members of the Administrative Law Court. **The conservative estimate is that handled around 1,000 inmate appeals before the Administrative Law Court.** I handled inmate cases involving prison disciplinary appeals, sentence calculations, custody, and liberty interests. Handled appeals pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act as needed. Also, I represented SCDC against inmate litigation filed in circuit court in Richland County, SC.

Also, I have working knowledge of the state employee grievance process. I have handled employee grievance hearings before the state employee grievance committee. I conducted employee grievance investigations, handled employee mediations/arbitration and hearings this included hearing preparation: oral arguments, legal document prep, witness preparation, opening/closing arguments, and questioning witnesses on direct/cross-examination.

Throughout my legal career in state government, I have handled legal matters involving the SC Department of Employment and Workforce, SC Procurement Services, State Accident Fund, Worker's Compensation Commission, Division State of Human Resources, Office of Insurance Reserve Fund, Public Employee Benefit Authority. Additionally, I have handled legal matters involving the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission, the SC Technical College System, State Board of Education, Commission on Higher Education, the Department of Probation Parole and Pardon, DSS, DHEC, LLR, etc.

Did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel in these matters?

Chief counsel in my role as General Counsel for Lander University and Midlands Technical College.

If more than one question needs to be amended, continue with the above format.

Prior Question & Answer

27. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the office or offices involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. Also, state whether or not you have timely filed your report with the State Ethics Commission during the period you held public office.
Yes

Please note I am striking the prior answer and replacing it with the answer provided below.

27. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the office or offices involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. Also, state whether or not you have timely filed your report with the State Ethics Commission during the period you held public office.
~~Yes~~ No

[SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE]



November 13, 2022

Please mail your supplemental response to the following address:

Judicial Merit Selection Commission
P.O. Box 142
Columbia, SC 29202

[CANDIDATE NAME] Judge Crystal M. Rookard

Administrative Law Judge, Seat #5

AMENDMENT TO PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE 2022

Submitted in July 2022

Prior Question & Answer:

16. List up to five civil appeals you have personally handled, prior to your election to the bench. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision, and the citation if the case was reported.

- (a) From 2000–2005, I handled inmate litigation including appeals, before the Richland County Circuit Court and the Administrative Law Court. The inmate appeals to the Administrative Law Court involved civil related matters. However, I do not recall the specific names of the cases.
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)

[SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE] Please specify whether you are simply supplementing the prior answer or striking that answer and replacing it with what is provided in the amendment.

Please be advised I am supplementing my response to question #16. See below.

16. List up to five civil appeals you have personally handled, prior to your election to the bench. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision, and the citation if the case was reported.

- (b) From 2000–2005, I handled inmate litigation including appeals, before the Richland County Circuit Court and the Administrative Law Court. **The conservative estimate is that I handled around 1,000 inmate appeals before the Administrative Law Court.** The inmate appeals to the Administrative Law Court involved civil related matters. However, I do not recall the specific names of the cases.
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)

[SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE]



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[CANDIDATE NAME] Judge Crystal M. Rookard

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Submitted in July 2022

17. List up to five criminal appeals that you have personally handled, prior to your election to the bench. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported.

(a) From 2000–2005, I handled inmate litigation including appeals, before the Richland County Circuit Court and the Administrative Law Court. These inmate appeals involved criminal related matters. However, I do not recall the specific names of the cases.

(b)

(c)

(d)

(e)

[SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE] Please specify whether you are simply supplementing the prior answer or striking that answer and replacing it with what is provided in the amendment.

If more than one question needs to be amended, continue with the above format.

Please be advised I am supplementing my response to question #17. See below.

17. List up to five criminal appeals that you have personally handled, prior to your election to the bench. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported.

(a) From 2000–2005, I handled inmate litigation including appeals, before the Richland County Circuit Court and the Administrative Law Court. The conservative estimate is that I handled around 1,000 inmate appeals before the Administrative Law Court. These inmate appeals involved criminal related matters. However, I do not recall the specific names of the cases.

(b)

(c)

(d)

(e)

[SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE]



[DATE] November 13, 2022

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