



**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE
2022**

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Circuit Court, At-Large, Seat 3

1. Name: Mr. Doward Keith Karvel Harvin

Name that you are known by if different from above
(Example: A Nickname): N/A

Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge? If part-time, please note.
(Includes Municipal, Magistrate, Etc.) I am not currently serving in a capacity as a judge.

Home Address: (Redacted)

County of Residence: Florence County

Business Address: 108 West Main Street, Kingstree, SC 29556

E-Mail Address: (Redacted)

Telephone Number: (home): (Redacted)
(office): (843) 355-5349
(cell): (Redacted)

2. Date of Birth: (Redacted) 1983
Place of Birth: South Carolina
Social Security Number: (Redacted)

3. Are you a citizen of South Carolina? I am a citizen of South Carolina.
Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? I have been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years.

4. SCDL# or SCHD#: (Redacted)
Voter Registration Number: (Redacted)

5. Have you served in the military? If so, give the dates, branch of service, highest rank attained, serial number (if applicable), present status, and the character of your discharge or release. Please provide a copy of your DD214 concerning your discharge.

I have not served in the military.

6. Family Status:

- (a) State whether you are single, married, widowed, divorced, or separated.
- (b) If married, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name and occupation.
- (c) If widowed, list the name(s) of spouse(s).
- (d) If you have ever been divorced or are in the process of obtaining a divorce, state the date, name of the moving party, court, and grounds.
- (e) State the names of your children and their ages. If your children are old enough to work, include the occupation of each child.

Family Status: Married on August 24, 2013 to Charlene Eugenia Harvin.
Never divorced, no children

7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.

(a) I have graduated from South Carolina State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management. I attended this college from 2001 to 2004.

(b) I have graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Law with a Juris Doctor degree. I attended this college from 2005 to 2008.

8. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at law school. Give the years you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.

While in law school, I was hired for paid internships with the Law Offices of Johnson, Toal, and Battiste and an internship with the Law Offices of Ronnie A. Sabb.

9. List the states in which you have been admitted to practice law and the year of each admission. Also list any states in which you took the bar exam but were never admitted to the practice of law. Please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.

I have been admitted to practice law in South Carolina in 2009. I have only taken the bar exam twice in South Carolina.

10. Describe chronologically, since graduation from law school, your legal experience. Please include a list of all positions held in which you worked in a legal capacity. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character changed over the years. Please also describe the extent to which you were involved with the administrative and financial management of each of these entities, including management of trust accounts.

1. 2008-2009 I worked as a Hearing Officer III for the State of South Carolina. This position required me to travel throughout the state and hold hearings. In these hearings, I would gather evidence, make evidentiary rulings, and write orders that articulated my decision.
2. 2009-2011 I worked as an Assistant Solicitor for the Third Judicial Circuit. I handled prosecuting cases in General Sessions Court and Juvenile Court. At the same time, I worked as a plaintiff's attorney for the Law Office of Ronnie A. Sabb. In this capacity, I handled civil litigation matters related to car accidents, slip and falls, and wrongful death cases.
3. 2011-2021 I worked as a Public Defender for the Third Judicial Circuit. I handled defending citizens in General Sessions, Magistrate, Municipal, and Juvenile Courts. In addition, I owned and operated the Law Office of Doward Keith Harvin. In this capacity, I handled civil litigation matters related to car accidents, wrongful arrests, and medical malpractice. I also handled divorce, child support, and child custody cases in Family Court. In 2016, I was certified as a Family Court Mediator.
4. 2021-2022 I worked as a plaintiff's attorney for the Sabb Law Group. I was responsible primarily for handling civil litigation related to wrongful arrests, car accidents, truck accidents, wrongful deaths, slip and falls, civil rights violations, and workers compensation. I also handled criminal defense, family court, and probate court matters.

Justices/judges applying for re-election to their current position may omit Questions 11–17. If you are a full-time judge seeking a judgeship different than your current position, Questions 11-17 should be answered based on your experience prior to serving on the bench.

11. Please answer the following:
 - (a) If you are a candidate for Family Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience within each of the following Family Court practice areas: divorce and equitable division of property, child custody, adoption, abuse and neglect, and juvenile justice. Include information about cases you have handled in each of these practice areas, or if you have not practiced in an area, describe how your background and procedural knowledge has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Family Court judge. Please also indicate the frequency of your appearances before a Family Court judge within the past five years.
 - (b) If you are a candidate for Circuit Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience in criminal matters, including any cases handled over the past five years, and include a brief description of the issues involved. Further, please provide a brief written description of your experience in civil matters, including any cases handled over the past five years, and include a brief description of the types of matters handled, issues involved, and procedural history. Please include information

such as the primary areas in civil court in which you practice, and whether you represent plaintiffs or defendants, or both. You may go back further than five years if you feel it would assist the Commission with its assessment of your experience. If you lack experience in an area, describe how your background and procedural knowledge has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Circuit Court judge, or how you would compensate for your lack of experience in this area. Please also indicate the frequency of your appearances before a Circuit Court judge within the past five years.

- (a) Over the past five years, I have handled many criminal matters that include defending individuals charged with murder, sexual assault, and drug charges. These cases have required me to deal with issues related to suggestive identification, chain of custody regarding evidence, discovery regarding evidence, bolstering , voir dire examinations of expert witnesses, challenges to jury selections, witness competency, and defendant competency or insanity issues.
 - (b) Over the past five years, I have also handled many civil matters as mainly a plaintiff's attorney. In this capacity, I have dealt with issues regarding discovery, motions for summary judgment, motions to compel, wrongful death approvals, minor settlement approvals, expert witness issues, evidentiary matters, service of process, and collateral matters associated with civil litigation.
 - (c) If you are a candidate for Master-In-Equity, please provide a brief written description of your experience in the Master's court, including any cases handled over the past five years, and include a brief description of the issues involved. Please include the frequency of your appearances before a Master-In-Equity or a Circuit Court judge within the past five years.
 - (d) If you are a candidate for Administrative Law Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience before an Administrative Law Judge, including any issues discussed and the frequency of your appearances before the Administrative Law or Circuit Court within the past five years.
12. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench?
- (a) federal: 5%
 - (b) state: 95%
13. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, domestic, and other matters during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench?
- (a) civil: 40%
 - (b) criminal: 40%
 - (c) domestic: 10%
 - (d) other: 10%

14. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the past five years or in 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: 80%
 - (b) non-jury: 20%

During the past five years, did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or co-counsel?

I have most often served as sole counsel during the past five years.

15. List five of the most significant litigated matters you have personally handled in either trial or appellate court, or before a state or federal agency. Give citations if the cases were reported and describe why these matters were significant.

- (a) Cooper vs. Mcleod Physicians, 2020-CP-21-00246
This case was significant because an African American mother was denied adequate healthcare by her treating physicians that led to her child dying at birth.
- (b) Shaw vs. Freshstart, 2018-CP-45-00382
This was case significant because an African American man was severely injured when he slipped and fell down a flight of stairs at an apartment complex. The owners of the complex filed the claim with their insurance company, but the insurance company failed to respond to the claim.
- (c) State vs. Robert Swinton, 2010-GS-45-00204
This case was significant because an African American man was wrongfully accused of committing a Burglary in the First Degree. He was found not guilty at trial.
- (d) State vs. Kenya Priest, 2016-GS-45-0076
This case was significant because an African American man was wrongfully accused and he was found not guilty at trial.
- (e) State vs. Satwaun Henryhand, 2019-GS-21-02335
This case was significant because an African American man was charged with Murder and three counts of Armed Robbery, and the police misplaced the video footage that allegedly showed the defendant committing the crime. Although I objected, the Court allowed police officers to testify as to what they saw on the video recording. This matter is currently being reviewed by the Court of Appeals under case 2022-000975.

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

- (a) Civil appeal of an eviction from Magistrate Court to Common Pleas Court
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)

17. List up to five criminal appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported.
- (a) State vs Rasheed Bell, appeal from Magistrate Court to Common Pleas Court, Pending
 - (b)
 - (c)
 - (d)
 - (e)

18. Have you ever held judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the courts involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. Describe the jurisdiction of each of the courts and note any limitations on the jurisdiction of each court.

I have never held a judicial office.

19. If the answer to question 18 is yes, describe or list five of your most significant orders or opinions and give the citations if they were reported. Also, list citations to any appellate review of these orders or opinions.
- (a) N/A
 - (b)
 - (c)
 - (d)
 - (e)

20. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice.

I was admitted to practice in South Carolina State Courts in 2009 and South Carolina Federal Courts in 2014.

21. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? If so, briefly describe each course or lecture.

- (a) I have taught tort and criminal law classes for the SC Bar Association's Law School for Non-Lawyers seminars.
- (b) I have taught constitutional law classes at local high schools for Constitution Day.
- (c) I have also taught State and Local Government classes as an adjunct professor at Williamsburg Technical College.

22. Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from the past five years.

Please see my continuing legal education transcripts for the past five years attached to this document.

23. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each. N/A
24. Please furnish as a separate attachment, two examples of legal articles, briefs, orders, or other legal writings for which you can claim sole or primary authorship. If you cannot claim sole authorship, please explain the extent to which you are the primary author, to include a description of the other authors and their contributions. The writing samples are for the Commission's use only and will not be published. (If you are a judge and are not seeking a different type of judgeship, this question is inapplicable.)

Please see attached pleadings and order.

25. What is your rating or membership status, if any, by any legal rating organization; such as, Best Lawyers, Chambers, Legal 500, Martindale-Hubbell, Who's Who Legal, Super Lawyers, Million Dollar Advocates Forum, etc.? If you are currently a member of the judiciary, list your last available rating, if any.

The National Black Lawyers Top 100

26. List all bar associations and professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices you have held in such groups.
- (a) South Carolina Bar Association
 - (b) South Carolina Association of Justice
 - (c) South Carolina Black Trial Lawyers Association
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. If not, were you ever subject to a penalty? If so, give details, including dates.

I have served as a member of the South Carolina State University Board of Trustee from 2018 to 2021 and all my reports have been timely.

28. For sitting or former judges, list all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or part-time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor. N/A
29. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates.

In 2020, I was an unsuccessful candidate for a Circuit Court judicial position. I withdrew because of personal reasons.

30. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law, teaching of law, or holding judicial or other public office? If so, give details, including a description of your occupation, business, or profession, the dates of your employment, and the name of your business or employer.

I have worked for Burger King from 2000-2001. I have worked at CSX from 2002-2003.

31. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? Explain the nature of the business, your duties, and the term of your service.

I am the owner of Harvin Investment and Marketing. This company leases commercial buildings to businesses.

32. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a "lobbyist," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a "lobbyist's principal," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(14)? If so, give the dates of your employment or activity in such capacity and specify by whom you were directed or employed.

I have never been employed as a lobbyist.

33. Provide, as a separate attachment, a complete, current financial net worth statement that itemizes in detail:

- (a) the identity and value of all financial assets held, directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to, bank accounts, real estate, securities, trusts, investments, and other financial holdings; and
- (b) the identity and amount of each liability owed, directly or indirectly, which is in excess of \$1,000, including, but not limited to, debts, mortgages, loans, and other financial obligations.

(A net worth statement form is provided with this questionnaire and you must use this format for submission of your financial statement.)

Please see attached net worth statement.

NOTE: The Commission may require written confirmation that financial obligations have been satisfied or that the parties have agreed upon a payment schedule.

34. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? If so, give details. Also, proof of satisfaction of any liens or defaults must be submitted with your application package.

I have defaulted on a small student loan. When we moved, the bills were not forwarded to our new address. Once I learned of the default, I paid it immediately. I have never filed for bankruptcy.

35. Since filing with the Commission your letter of intent to run for judicial office, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other thing of value as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(1) from a lobbyist or lobbyist's principal? If so, please specify the item or items you received, the date of receipt, and the lobbyist or lobbyist's principal involved.

I have not accepted anything of value from a lobbyist or lobbyist's principal.

36. Itemize (by amount, type, and date) all expenditures, other than those for travel and room and board, made by you, or on your behalf in furtherance of your candidacy for the position you seek. If you have spent over \$100, have you reported your expenditures to the House and Senate Ethics Committees?

I have not spent any money in furtherance of my candidacy for this position.

37. List the recipient and amount of all contributions made by you, a member of your immediate family, or by a business with whom you are associated, to members of the General Assembly within the past four years. If you are a sitting judge, please include such contributions since your last screening.

N/A

38. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? If so, please specify the amount, solicitor, donor, and date of the solicitation.

There has not been any solicitation or collection of funds to aid in the promotion of my candidacy.

39. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships you have, or have had in the past, that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position you seek or currently hold. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest.

I do not have any financial arrangements or business relationships that I believe will cause or result in a possible conflict of interest. If an unexpected conflict did arise, I would examine the rules and take appropriate action based on the rules.

40. Describe any interest you or a member of your immediate family has in real property:
- (a) in which there is a potential conflict of interest with your involvement in a South Carolina state or local public agency;
 - (b) in which there have been public improvements of \$200 or more that adjoins property in which there have been public improvements of \$200 or more; or
 - (c) which was sold, leased, or rented to a state or local public agency in South Carolina.

List the interest you hold and the value and location of the property. Identify as applicable the:

- (a) nature of any potential conflict of interest;
- (b) nature and value of any public improvements; and
- (c) South Carolina state or local public agency which purchased or is leasing or renting such property.

Attach a copy of any contract or agreement.

I do not have this this situation.

41. Identify any personal property interest you or a member of your immediate family sold, leased, or rented to a South Carolina state or local public agency. Identify the property, its amount or value, and the name of the agency. Attach a copy of any contract or agreement.

I do not have this situation.

42. For sitting judges, if you currently hold an interest in stock or other securities or have held such an interest, list each stock you currently own or owned during the prior calendar year. If you prefer, you may attach broker or account records containing the requested information instead of listing it here.

N/A

43. For sitting judges, have you ever accepted anything of value from an attorney or litigant in a matter currently or previously before you or your court? If so, please give the details, including the name of the attorney or litigant and the thing of value you received.

N/A

44. For sitting judges, have you used the services of your staff, for which you did not pay, while campaigning for this office?

N/A

45. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation or for suspicion of violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance, or any other law, including another country's law? If so, give details but do not include traffic violations subject to a penalty of \$125 or less. You must include any and all arrests, including, but not limited to, offenses for driving under the influence or similar traffic offenses. Include all arrests that resulted in expungement, which will be redacted. If you have questions regarding whether to include an offense, please contact the Commission.

[All answers have been received and considered by the Commission, and as noted above, any expunged matters are redacted from the record.]

46. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? If yes, explain.

I have never been under investigation for a possible violation of a criminal statute.

47. Have you ever been sued by a client? Have you ever been a named party (personally or professionally) in or had a pecuniary interest in any civil or criminal proceedings? If so, give details, including, but not limited to, dates, and resolutions.

I have never been sued by a client. I have been sued by a creditor because we had dispute about the amount that was owed. The litigation process allowed for us to come to a negotiated agreement that I satisfied quickly.

48. If you are in private practice, are you covered by malpractice insurance and, if so, how long have you carried malpractice insurance? If applicable, have you ever been covered by a tail policy? If so, please explain when you were covered by a tail policy. Also, if applicable, indicate your coverage and deductible for your current malpractice policy.

I am covered by malpractice insurance.

49. Have you ever, in South Carolina or any other jurisdiction, as a lawyer, judge, or other professional, been cautioned with or without a finding of misconduct, sanctioned, or disciplined for lawyer, judicial, or other professional misconduct or has any jurisdiction found that you committed any misconduct? If so, give the details and describe any final disposition. Include any and all confidential and public sanctions, disciplines, letters of caution, or findings of misconduct of any kind. Private or confidential dispositions will be redacted.

[Yes and no responses are redacted for all candidates unless there is a public discipline.]

50. Have you ever been investigated by the Department of Social Services? If so, give the details and the resolution. Has your name ever been enrolled on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect? If so, give the details.

I have never been investigated by the Department of Social Services.

51. Have you directly or indirectly requested the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened, or have you been offered a conditional pledge of support by any legislator pending the outcome of your screening? Have you received the assurance of any public official or public employee that they will seek the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? If so, give details.

I have not directly or indirectly requested the pledge of any member of the General Assembly. I have not requested a conditional pledge from any legislator.

52. Have you requested any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf before the final and formal screening report has been released? Describe the

campaigning you have done for this election and include a list of those individuals you have asked to campaign on your behalf and, to the best of your knowledge, those who have campaigned for you on their own initiative.

I have not requested any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on my behalf.

53. Are you familiar with the 48-hour rule, which prohibits a candidate from seeking pledges until after the draft report becomes final, which occurs on the day and time specified on the Commission's published screening schedule?

I am familiar with the 48-hour rule.

54. Since submitting your letter of intent to become a candidate, have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted any member of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? If so, give details.

Since submitting my letter of intent, I have not contacted any member of the Judicial Merit Selection Committee about my candidacy or intention to become candidate.

55. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five (5) persons from whom you are providing references. Also, provide the Commission with **original letters** of recommendation from each person listed herein, including their signature (preferably in blue ink). **The Commission will not accept a photocopy or electronic submission of a letter of recommendation and failure to include all five (5) original letters of recommendation in your packet when you submit it will render your packet incomplete.** Please **do not** have references mail your reference letters to the Commission directly. *You must return the five (5) original letters of recommendation to the Commission with your application.*

- (a) Warren Anderson, (Redacted)
- (b) James Moore, (Redacted)
- (c) M. Amanda Shuler, (Redacted)
- (d) Scott Evans, (Redacted)
- (e) Edgar R. Donald, Jr., (Redacted)

56. Are you active on or a member of a social media or Internet site such as, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, etc.? Yes.

If so, please list the account names for each account and the relevant platform.

(Redacted), Facebook
(Redacted), Instagram
(Redacted), LinkedIn

How would your use of social media or other similar types of Internet sites be affected if you were serving in a judicial capacity?

I would limit my interaction on those sites and only posts limited information about my plants and volunteer activities.

57. List all civic, charitable, educational, social, and fraternal organizations of which you are or have been a member during the past five years and include any offices held in such a group, and any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere.
- (a) Lions Club
 - (b) NAACP
 - (c)
58. Provide any other information that may reflect positively or negatively on your candidacy, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for nomination for the position you seek. This information may include how your life experiences have affected or influenced the kind or type of judge you have been or plan to be.

Over the past fourteen years, I have been proud to call myself a lawyer here in South Carolina. I have had the opportunity to help citizens during difficult times and volunteer in a myriad of capacity all around South Carolina. This would not have been possible without the great legal community that exist here. I love our legal profession and I humbly present myself to serve as a member of the judiciary.

I have served on the South Carolina Bar Association's Board of Governors, House of Delegates, Diversity Committee, Wellness Committee, and Civil Rights Committee.

I have volunteered for Mock Trial, Protect our Youth Summits, Boys and Girls Club Leadership Summits, Constitutional Law Day, and the USC Palmetto Leader Pro Bono Wills Clinic.

YOUR SIGNATURE WILL BE HELD TO CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ANY PROCEEDING BEFORE A GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE OR ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR CREDIT.

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

Signature: _____

Sworn to before me this ____ day of _____, 2022.

(Notary Signature)

(Notary Printed Name)
Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission Expires: _____