



Gina J. McAlhany, Esquire

Family Court, Ninth Judicial Circuit, Seat 6

Amendment to Judicial Merit Selection Commission Personal Data Questionnaire

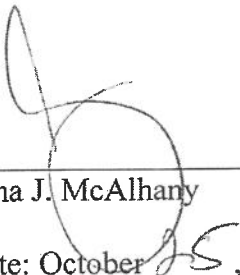
Date Originally Submitted: July 6, 2023

Question #1: Email Address

Supplemental Response:

Striking Answer and replacing with:

[Redacted]



Gina J. McAlhany

Date: October 25, 2023

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Question #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.

Supplemental Response:

Striking Answer in 10(a) and replacing with:

- (a) November 1993 – current day. Solo practitioner and owner of Gina J. McAlhany, Inc. d/b/a Gina J. McAlhany Attorney at Law

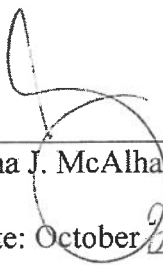
I have been a solo practitioner from the day I began practicing law, maintaining my office in Summerville, South Carolina for the entirety of my practice. I have practiced as a private practitioner exclusively in Family Court and specifically in the Berkeley, Dorchester, and Charleston County Family Courts. I have handled all types of cases in the Family Court including divorce, actions for separate support and maintenance, equitable distribution, custody, visitation, paternity, name changes, termination of parental rights, adoptions, settlement agreements, abuse and neglect cases and juvenile defense work.

On March 23, 1999 I became a certified Family Court mediator, and began mediating more frequently over the past eight (8) years. In 2018, I decided I would no longer serve as an attorney for parties in contested custodial cases as I have grown my mediation practice and would characterize my current practice as fifty (50%) percent mediations and fifty (50%) percent Family Court litigation.

As of June 2023, I have opened one hundred sixty-eight (168) total domestic and juvenile cases, inclusive of eighty-four (84) mediations.

I have always been solely responsible for the financial management of my law firm, including payroll, as well as sole management of my IOLTA trust account. I have always

had a full time legal secretary or paralegal regarding daily administration of my office and assistance with clients and cases.



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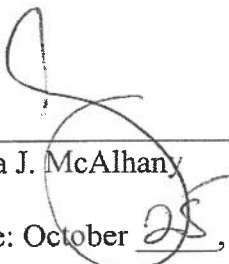
Question #15 List five of the most significant litigated matters you have personally handled in either trial or appellate court, or before a state or federal agency. Give citations if the cases were reported and describe why these matters were significant.

Supplemental Response:

Striking Answer in #15(b) and replacing with:

South Carolina Department of Social Services v. [Redacted] 2012-DR-18-246

I was appointed by the Family Court to represent the Defendant Mother. [Redacted] was charged with murder of her special needs child and her three (3) other children were removed from her custody by the Department of Social Services. Early in the case, I was able to have her three children moved from foster care to a relative placement to allow her supervised visitation. [Redacted] deceased son had a congenital condition which did not allow him to speak nor ambulate and he had a history of seizures. [Redacted] three other children who were removed from her custody were straight "A" students and there was no prior Department of Social Services history, nor criminal history as to her and her children. After multiple hearings, deposition of the pathologist, and a review from a second pathologist, the case was concluded with no required treatment nor findings and her children were returned to her custody. [Redacted] special needs child was loved and was cared for by his mother. It was later determined her son had a seizure and died in his sleep. Ultimately in January 2017, the murder charge against [Redacted] was also dismissed by the solicitor.



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Question #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.

Supplemental Response:

Striking Answer and replacing with:

No, I have never been sued by a client.

Yes, I have been a named party (personally) in the following civil proceedings:

- (a) In 2009, my husband and I were Plaintiffs in a construction litigation case against Sandcastle Builders, as we learned our builder had failed to put piers on the front of our home when we purchased the home in 1997. We were unaware of this defect until we were selling our home and a potential buyer performed a home inspection. We lost this contract and had to remove our home from the market to hire a structural engineer and contractor, to add piers to our home. We settled the case after depositions with Sandcastle Builders liability insurance carrier for the sum of \$40,000 dollars, which was our out-of-pocket costs to have the piers constructed for our home.
- (b) I was named as a party/Defendant in a foreclosure and deficiency action against Defendants William Morris Brandon and Deanna Blair Brandon in the Court of Common Pleas, Case No. 2012-CP-08-3604. I was named as a party by the Plaintiff, South Carolina Federal Credit Union, as I had been awarded attorneys fees to be paid to me by the Defendant William Morris Brandon earned through my representation of his wife, the Defendant Deanna Blair Brandon in their domestic case by the Final Order in the Family Court dated March 5, 2012 in Case No. 2010-DR-08-1858. I did not participate in their foreclosure and deficiency proceedings, received no monies, and there was neither a deficiency judgement, nor any judgement against me.

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Question #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.

Supplemental Response:

Striking Answer in #55(c) and replacing with:

Benjamin A. Lafond, Esquire
The Lafond Law Firm, P.A.
[Redacted]



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Date: October 25, 2023