



**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE
2023**

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying:

1. Name: Mr. Sammy Diamaduros
Mrs.
Ms.

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

Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge? If part-time, please note.
(Includes Municipal, Magistrate, Etc.)

Home Address: [Redacted]

County of Residence: Union

Business Address: 108 W. South St., Union, South Carolina 29379

E-Mail Address: [Redacted]

Telephone Number: (home): [Redacted]
(office): (864) 427-5657
(cell): [Redacted]

2. Date of Birth: [Redacted] 1965
Place of Birth: Union, South Carolina
Social Security Number: [Redacted]

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

4. SCDL# or SCHD#: [Redacted]
Voter Registration Number: [Redacted]

5. Have you served in the military? No 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.

6. Family Status:
(a) State whether you are single, married, widowed, divorced, or separated.
Married

- (b) If married, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name and occupation. 06/25/2016
Elizabeth Leigh Diamaduros
Registered Nurse
- (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.
Divorced on 09/24/2009
Sammy Diamaduros, Plaintiff vs. Hope Xanthakos Diamaduros, Defendant
Sixteenth Judicial Circuit (Union County)
1 year continuous separation
- (e) State the names of your children and their ages. If your children are old enough to work, include the occupation of each child.

[Redacted]

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) University of South Carolina-Union; 1982 – 1983 (high school dual credit)
 - (b) Wofford College; September 1983 – May 1987; Bachelor of Arts with a double major in Economics and Government
 - (c) University of South Carolina-Columbia; 1984 – 1986 (summer school courses)
 - (c) University of South Carolina School of Law; September 1987 – May 1990; Juris Doctor
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.
I focused on school and was not involved in many activities. I did clerk one summer with the office of Leigh Leventis.
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.
South Carolina; 1991, 2
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.

- (a) Assistant Solicitor Sixth Judicial Circuit; Criminal law; fall of 1990 to fall of 1992
- (b) Whitney, White & Diamaduros; I was in private practice with William E. Whitney, Jr., Thomas H. White IV and Pete G. Diamaduros; 1992 – 2000
- (c) White, Diamaduros & Diamaduros; I was in private practice with Thomas H. White IV and Pete G. Diamaduros; 2000 – 2014
- (d) The Diamaduros Law Firm; I am in private practice with Pete G. Diamaduros; 2014 – present

General nature of my practice: When I began my career from the fall of 1990 until the fall of 1992, I was an Assistant Solicitor for the Sixth Judicial Circuit which included Lancaster, Fairfield and Chester counties. I prosecuted cases in General Sessions Court and handled numerous trials and a large volume of guilty pleas. I also prosecuted juvenile cases in Family Court.

Thereafter, I went into private practice which the name of our partnership changed over the years, but the general character of my practice did not.

- I handle Family Court matters including DSS, DJJ, and all matters in Family Court such as divorce, child custody, child support, adoptions, termination of parental rights, equitable division of marital property, abuse and neglect cases and all other matters involved in Family Court. I have also served as a mediator and guardian ad litem numerous times in Family Court.

- I handle criminal matters in Magistrate Court, Municipal Court and General Sessions Court.

- I handle general civil matters including personal injury cases in Magistrate and Common Pleas Court and workers compensation cases.

- I handle real estate matters, deeds, wills, power of attorneys, and other general matters.

- I have served as Union County Attorney for Union County, South Carolina since May of 2000 to present and handle a wide range of issues pertaining to County legal matters and County affairs.

Office management - When I began my law practice with Whitney, White & Diamaduros, I was hired as an employee and was not over management or escrow matters, but I did eventually become a partner with that law firm and thereafter, my partners and I were all equal managers, and we all participated in administrative decisions and management of trust accounts; however, Pete Diamaduros was mainly over balancing and reviewing the trust account and managing the finances of the firm. When our firm changed to White, Diamaduros & Diamaduros and The Diamaduros Law Firm,

we equally did the same managerial, administrative and management of trust accounts as stated above.

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.

When I graduated from law school, I served as Assistant Solicitor in the Sixth Judicial Circuit from the fall of 1990 until the fall of 1992 whereby I handled numerous Department of Juvenile Justice cases in Family Court in addition to General Sessions Court in Lancaster, Fairfield and Chester counties. The volume of cases we handled in both Family Court with juveniles and General Sessions Court was large due to the fact that we had a small staff and covered all three counties.

From 1992 until today, I have been in private practice for over 30 years and have vast experience in all areas of Family Court practice throughout my career. I estimate that I appear several times per month before a Family Court Judge. I will not attempt to estimate the number of cases I have handled because it would be extremely large due to the fact that I have continuously handled Family Court cases throughout my career. With respect to divorce and equitable division of property, I have handled a large volume of cases in these areas and have dealt with every ground for divorce and handled numerous equitable division cases with a wide variety of disputes covering virtually every issue. With respect to child custody cases, I have handled many child custody cases, some of which were contested, some agreed upon and some settled at mediation. With respect to adoptions, I have handled many adoptions during my career, and the vast majority were intra-family adoptions, but I have recently handled an adoption that was a more complex non-family adoption. With respect to abuse and neglect cases, I have handled many such cases, and I have been both retained and appointed to handle these cases. These cases have involved abuse and neglect of juveniles and cases dealing with vulnerable adults. With respect to juvenile justice, early in my career, I prosecuted a large volume of juvenile justice cases in Lancaster, Fairfield and Chester County, and I have handled juvenile justice cases as a defense attorney and had several trials in Family

Court involving juveniles. I have also served as a mediator for Family Court cases, and I have served as a guardian ad litem many times.

As a result of serving as a general practitioner attorney throughout my career and handling a wide range of Family Court matters, I believe that my experience will allow me to do well as a Family Court Judge. I feel that I have handled the most common legal issues that are addressed day to day in Family Court. I have handled Family Court matters for in excess of 30 years in front of many different judges in numerous counties which has allowed me to have vast experience and see many different styles, tactics and opinions of different judges and attorneys throughout my career. I am also sure that there will be numerous complex issues that we rarely see or did not see in our day to day practice that I may not have experience in, but I do understand that there are numerous legal resources and research that will need to be utilized throughout my career if I become a Judge.

In conclusion, I believe that my 30 year plus career of being a general practitioner lawyer and handling a large volume of Family Court matters throughout my career has allowed me to gain a legal knowledge and experience to move forward in any endeavor in Family Court.

- (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.
- (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: zero
 - (b) state: approximately 50 appearances per year
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: 10%
 - (b) criminal: 20%
 - (c) domestic: 30%
 - (d) other: 40%
14. During the past five years
- (a) What percentage of your practice was in trial court, including cases that settled prior to trial? 50%
 - (b) What number of cases went to trial and resulted in a verdict? Approximately 5 - 10
 - (c) What number of cases went to trial and resolved after the plaintiff's or State's case? Zero
(Resolved may include settlement, plea, by Judge's order during a motion hearing, etc.)
 - (d) What number of your cases settled after a jury was selected but prior to opening statements? zero

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

For sitting judges seeking a judgeship different than your current position, During the five years prior to your election to the bench, what percentage of your practice was in trial court, including matters that settled prior to trial?

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) SC DSS vs. Boulware, 809 S.E.2d 223, 422 S.C. 1 (2018)

This was a Family Court matter involving the abuse and neglect of a child brought by DSS and involved the natural parents, Ruth and Darryl Armstrong as relatives, and Edward and Tammy Dalsing as foster parents. This case went on for several years, and I was only involved in it for a short time, but I did represent Darryl & Ruth Armstrong at trial which lasted approximately three days and had numerous attorneys, guardian ad litem and parties involved. The Family Court found that the Petitioner/Foster Parents Edward and Tammy Dalsing did not have standing to go forward, so the case was a success for my clients. However, the case was appealed to the South Carolina Supreme

Court and due to the fact that I do not have an extensive history in appellate work, I did not handle the appeals of this case to the South Carolina Supreme Court where it was later reversed. The Court concluded that Petitioners/Foster Parents did have standing to pursue a private adoption and the case continued from there with the Courts.

(b) Clark v. South Carolina Dept. of Pub. Safety, 362 S.C. 377, 608 S.E.2d 573 (2005)

This was a case that I handled with Suzanne E. Coe whereby we sued on behalf of the Estate of Amy Danielle Clark who was tragically killed in a head on collision by a drunk driver who was being pursued in a high speed chase by law enforcement. Suzanne E. Coe and I sued on behalf of the Estate of Amy Danielle Clark, and the jury returned a 3.75 million dollar verdict for Clark against the Department of Public Safety and Charles Clyde Johnson, the Defendant driver. The jury concluded that Johnson was 80% at fault and the Department of Public Safety was 20% at fault, and the department's liability was reduced to \$250,000.00 as was required by the Tort Claims Act. I was involved throughout the trial process and participated with my co-counsel Suzanne E. Coe for this case. Even though she was lead counsel at trial, I participated and handled the closing arguments. After the verdict, the State appealed to the Court of Appeals and eventually the Supreme Court with numerous law enforcement agencies joining in support of the Department of Public Safety. We eventually won the case on appeals and the verdict was upheld. I was involved with the appeal process, but Suzanne E. Coe prepared the documentation and made the arguments in front of the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court. This was an extremely complex case and involved numerous parties that were in and out of the case throughout the case which began in 1997 and concluded with a Supreme Court decision in 2005.

(c) State vs. Rick Keisler (98-GS-44-160)

This was a case where Mr. Keisler and other defendants were charged with lynching resulting from a fight where several defendants allegedly beat up one victim. This trial lasted approximately two days and had four defendants and four defense lawyers presenting evidence during this trial. At the end of the State's case, we obtained a positive verdict for Mr. Keisler and the judge granted a directed verdict and the case against Mr. Keisler was dismissed during the trial. I find this case interesting due to the fact that there were four defense lawyers and prosecutors all cross examining different witnesses and many different techniques and styles were used during that trial.

(d) Wille Edward Randall, Jr. & Heather Daum Randall vs. AGS, a minor under 14 years (22-DR-44-47)

This was a case where DSS had removed a child from the home of the parents due to neglect and placed the child with my clients, Willie and Heather Randall. After the Randalls had the child for over one year, we filed for adoption of this child and were successful in getting an adoption granted to them. This case was an outside adoption and required that we follow all procedures of the statute due to the fact that it was not an

intra-family adoption. This case was important to me due to the fact that I have handled very few adoptions that were not intra-family adoptions and due to the fact that C4 Ministries, a Christian based group that helps people in Union County, was involved along with many others, and the result was joyous to all involved. When the adoption was granted, there was approximately twenty people in court to witness this wonderful event of the adoption being granted for this minor child. I received great joy in handling this case and learned a lot of details about adoption.

(e) State vs. Bailey (13CP44142)

This was a DUI case against the Defendant whereby he had a wreck in the front yard of the City of Union Police Department while they were in a meeting. He was subsequently arrested for driving under the influence with videotapes showing numerous sobriety tests that were not favorable to the Defendant. This case did not actually go to trial, but a motion hearing was set in Magistrate Court, which took several hours, and there was a large volume of complex arguments for dismissal including technicalities, video requirements, evidentiary matters, etc. The Magistrate subsequently dismissed the charge against the Defendant, and the State appealed, and the case was heard in Common Pleas Court in front of the Honorable John C. Hayes III, and he affirmed the dismissal, and I prepared a nine page Order. This case was memorable to me due to the fact of the complex issues involved and due to the fact that it was appealed by the State, and we were successful at both levels.

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) Clark v. South Carolina Dept. of Pub. Safety, 362 S.C. 377, 608 S.E.2d 573 (S.C. 2005); Common Pleas Court; January 18, 2005;
 - (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 of South Carolina vs. Bailey ; Common Pleas Court Sixteenth Judicial Circuit; 09/03/2013; 2013CP4400142 (appeal from Magistrate Court)
 - (b) State v. Melton; Common Pleas Court Sixteenth Judicial Circuit; 1997; no citation (appeal from Magistrate Court)
 - (c) State vs. Warren; Common Pleas Court Sixteenth Judicial Circuit; 1994; no citation (appeal from Magistrate Court)
 - (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.

No. I have served as special referee numerous times and served as an arbitrator on a three man panel for property claims.

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)
- (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.

- (a) South Carolina; 1991
- (b) U.S. District Court; 1992

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.

No

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

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.)

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.

I am not a member of any of these organizations, and I have never sought any ratings from any of them. I am unaware of any ratings.

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) President of the Union County Bar Association; approximately five years
 - (c)

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.

No

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.

No

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.

In 2005, my brother and I started Diamond Realty, LLC and purchased four rental houses, and we operated this business until 2007 when we sold the LLC.

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.

No

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.

No

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.)

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.

No; No; No.

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.

No.

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?

N/A

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.

No.

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.

N/A

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.

N/A

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.

N/A

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.

No. I have had several speeding tickets during my lifetime, but I do not believe the fine for any ticket imposed was over \$125.00.

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

No

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.

Yes

(a) Susan White, et al vs. Provident Bank & White, Diamaduros & Diamaduros in 2004

This case was a lawsuit brought by Plaintiff against the bank and my law firm which was dismissed against us, and we were removed from the case. This dealt with a real estate loan closing that I handled for the Plaintiff whereby I did the legal work necessary to place a second mortgage on her residence for Provident Community Bank. The lawsuit was brought in regard to a business/restaurant that she was opening. I had absolutely nothing to do with the documentation or loan process on the restaurant and business, and after some discovery was taken, we were dismissed from the action with no liability.

(b) Andre Chick vs. Pete Diamaduros / White, Diamaduros & Diamaduros, Ben Harrison, Charles Hodge, Thomas Pendarvis, Hodge Law Firm (2009)

This case was settled and was a civil matter that I was not directly involved with, but my partner and other attorneys handled this case.

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.

We have had malpractice insurance for my entire career. (We have no tail policy.)

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.

No.

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.

No; No.

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.

No; None.

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?

Yes.

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.

No.

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) Phillip G. Russell II
[Redacted]
 - (b) J. Carlisle Oxner III
[Redacted]
 - (c) Kristi Vanderford Woodall
[Redacted]
 - (d) William B. Darwin, Jr.
[Redacted]
 - (e) Joshua Simpson
[Redacted]

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

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

Facebook – [Redacted]

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 use Facebook as a way to stay connected with family and friends, and I post pictures of special occasions, holidays, birthdays, etc. I have always avoided controversial and political issues and would continue to do so.

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) University of South Carolina - Union Educational Board
 - (b) Piedmont Citizen Committee on Judicial Qualification
 - (c) Union Rotary Club
 - (d) Union County Bar Association (current President)
 - (e) St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, Spartanburg, South Carolina

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.

I believe my experience practicing law for over 30 years and prosecuting cases in Family Court for two years will greatly benefit me if I became a judge. Also, I think it is important that for over 30 years now, I have been in private practice and have continuously handled Family Court cases during my entire career which has allowed me to have vast experience. Furthermore, I think being divorced in 2009 and having three children has made me understand the emotional aspect of going through a divorce in addition to the legal side of being involved in a divorce. During my divorce, we had joint custody, child support, division of property and assets, and I think it helped me understand both sides of the legal process and allows me to have more compassion for the true feelings that are involved while people go through divorces which are difficult for all parties involved.

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 _____, 2023.

(Notary Signature)

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