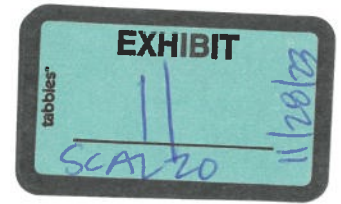


JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE
2023



Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Family Court, Tenth Circuit, Seat 1

1. Name: Ms. Heather Scalzo

Name that you are known by if different from above
(Example: A Nickname): Not applicable.

Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge? If part-time, please note.
(Includes Municipal, Magistrate, Etc.) No

Home Address: [Redacted]

County of Residence: Greenville

Business Address: 349 E. Main Street, Suite 200, Spartanburg, SC 29302

E-Mail Address: [Redacted]

Telephone Number: (home): [Redacted]
(office): 864-598-9172
(cell): [Redacted]

2. Date of Birth: [Redacted] 1974
Place of Birth: Greenville, SC
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? 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. No.

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. Not applicable.
- (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 September 8, 2001 to Christopher Dominic Scalzo, attorney.
Never divorced or widowed. Four children.

[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) Emory University, Atlanta, GA, August 1992 to May 1996, B.A. in English
(University College of Oxford University, England, Summer 1994)
 - (b) Borough of Manhattan Community College, New York, NY, September 1997 to December 1997, I took a Physics course because I was considering taking the MCAT again.
 - (c) Rutgers University, School of Law, Newark, NJ, August 1999 to May 2002, J.D.

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.
 - (a) Child Advocacy Center, 2000-2002, Upon graduation, I received the Sera Ramcharitar Memorial Prize for my work on behalf of women, children, and families.
 - (b) International Law Society, 1999-2002, Vice President
 - (c) School-wide Mock Trial Competition, 2000-2001, Best Brief, 2000
 - (d) Regional Moot Court Competition Team, 2001
 - (e) Appellate Advocacy Course, Teaching Assistant, 2001
 - (f) Research Assistant for Rutgers Law Professor Bernard Bell, 2000
 - (g) Externship, New Jersey Attorney General's Office, Division of Youth and Family Services, Summer 2000

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, 2002
I took the bar exam once.

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) Attorney-Advisor, Social Security Administration Office of Hearings and Appeals, Greenville, SC, June 2003 – June 2005
I drafted disability decisions for Administrative Law Judges.
- (b) Attorney, Heather Scalzo Attorney at Law, Greenville, SC, June 2005 – June 2015
My practice was almost exclusively juvenile criminal defense, except for a short period of time (August 2005 to November 2006) when I also handled Social Security appeals cases on a contract with another lawyer. I managed the administrative and financial activities of my solo practice.
- (c) Juvenile Justice Resource Attorney, Children’s Law Center, University of South Carolina School of Law, December 2014 to December 2019
I did trainings and presentations on juvenile justice issues to public defenders and Department of Juvenile Justice staff. This was a part-time position.
- (d) Attorney/Partner, Byford & Scalzo, LLC, Greenville, SC, June 2015 to May 2022
During my seven years in this practice, I steadily increased my domestic relations practice from doing almost exclusively juvenile defense and school disciplinary hearings to doing 80% domestic relations (divorce, custody, adoptions, abuse and neglect) in 2022.
From March 2018 to December 2019, I had a contract with the Anderson County Public Defender’s Office to handle their probation violation cases. This necessitated my being in court an average of two to three days per month in Anderson County.
From July 2018 to June 2022, I had a contract with the SC Commission on Indigent Defense to represent clients in (DSS) abuse and neglect proceedings in Greenville County.
I assisted my law partner in the administrative and financial activities of the practice.
- (e) Principal, Offit Kurman, Spartanburg, SC, June 2002 to present
My practice is almost exclusively high conflict custody cases and high net worth equitable division cases. I have some abuse and neglect cases, juvenile delinquency cases, and the occasional probate litigation and school disciplinary case.

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.

I am well-versed in all practice areas in Family Court.

Divorce/Custody/Equitable Distribution: Currently, my caseload is almost exclusively high conflict custody cases and high net worth divorce and equitable

division cases. My cases involve financial experts, psychologists, custody evaluators, and therapists. As an example, I have the following pending trials for 2023-24: a five-day trial for divorce, child custody, and equitable distribution, a three-day trial for divorce and equitable distribution of property, a three-day trial for custody modification, a two-day trial for custody modification, a one-day trial for custody modification, and a one to two day trial for alimony modification. I had a three-day custody trial earlier this year. I have the requisite experience and knowledge to preside over divorce, custody, and equitable division cases.

Adoption: I have represented biological parents, foster parents, step-parents, and kinship caregivers in adoption proceedings as well as termination of parental rights proceedings. I have filed actions to withdraw consent to relinquish parental rights and had contested multi-day trials to resolve them. I have filed actions for private termination of parental rights and adoption and have represented foster parents in adoption cases where the Department of Social Services filed the termination of parental rights. I have the requisite experience and knowledge to preside over adoption cases.

Abuse and neglect: I had a contract with SCCID from 2018 to 2022 to represent indigent caregivers in DSS actions. I was in court two to three times a week during this four-year period. I averaged a trial about every month for merits hearings and termination of parental rights cases. I continue to handle abuse and neglect cases. This past year I had a five-day trial for an abuse and neglect action that was combined with a petition to withdraw consent to relinquish parental rights. I have the requisite experience and knowledge to preside over abuse and neglect cases.

Juvenile Defense: I was a part-time juvenile public defender for 14 years. For 13 years (2005 to 2018) I was in Greenville County and for one year Spartanburg County (2021 to 2022). I have represented juveniles charged with all manner of offenses, from status offenses to drug offenses to criminal sexual assaults and homicides. I have handled five waiver cases, one as co-counsel and four as sole counsel. As a result, I have been asked to conduct juvenile waiver trainings for multiple organizations over several years. I have the requisite experience and knowledge to preside over juvenile cases.

From June 2005 to June 2022, I appeared before a Family Court judge on average two times a week. Currently, I appear in court a few times per month and have a statewide practice; at one point this year, I had cases pending in ten counties.

- (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: none
 - (b) state: From June 2018 to June 2022, I was in court two to three times per week. For the past year, I have been in court a few times per month.
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: 0%
 - (b) criminal: juvenile criminal 18%, adult criminal 1%
 - (c) domestic: 79%
 - (d) other: school discipline, probate 2%
14. During the past five years
- (a) What percentage of your practice was in trial court, including cases that settled prior to trial? Almost all. I also handle school disciplinary hearings, which are not in trial court.
 - (b) What number of cases went to trial and resulted in a verdict? Because mediation is mandatory in family court, most of my cases settled. In the past five years, I have tried to verdict at least twenty cases.
 - (c) What number of cases went to trial and resolved after the plaintiff's or State's case? (Resolved may include settlement, plea, by Judge's order during a motion hearing, etc.) Most of my cases that go to trial go to a verdict.
 - (d) What number of your cases settled after a jury was selected but prior to opening statements? No jury cases.

During the past five years, did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or co-counsel? I was almost exclusively 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) DSS v. [Redacted]

In 2022, I was appointed (through the SCCID contract) to represent [Redacted] in an abuse and neglect action. [Redacted], a Texas resident, gave birth to a baby in Texas and placed her baby at birth with [Redacted], a South Carolina couple. Several weeks after the couple returned to South Carolina with the baby, they took the baby to the hospital and the baby was found to have serious injuries. DSS then brought an abuse and neglect action against the couple, who, at that time, were only prospective adoptive parents, and added [Redacted] as named party because the adoption was still pending. I reviewed the case and determined it was necessary to challenge [Redacted] consent to relinquish her parental rights in the adoption. The adoption action and DSS action were consolidated, and, after a five-day trial, I succeeded in getting [Redacted] baby returned to her. The court found [Redacted] consent was not freely and voluntarily given. This was based on several factors. One of those factors was that [Redacted], who did not speak English, was not provided a certified translator and she was not given copies of the consent in Spanish. This was a significant case because it was legally complex, in that it dealt with termination of parental rights, withdrawal of consent, and abuse and neglect. It was also a complex case to litigate, involving testimony by multiple medical professionals, law enforcement officers, DSS personnel, as well as the parties and their lay witnesses. In addition, the trial itself, while highly contested, was enjoyable because I worked alongside six other attorneys, each with their own position to advocate and a fabulous judge who ensured that we were able to get our respective positions on the record.

(b) Casea David v. Timothy Hall, Elizabeth Langley

In 2023, I represented Ms. Langley, the aunt of two children who had been in her care for over seven years. Ms. David, the biological mother, was seeking to have the children returned to her because she'd recently gotten sober. After a three-day trial, the judge returned the children to their mother, finding that she was now fit to care for them again. This was a significant case for me. To start with, it was in a county several hours from my home and office, requiring me to navigate the challenges of trial preparation without the support of home and office. But more importantly, it was significant because, although she was not successful in the lawsuit, my client told me I was the first of the four attorneys she'd had in two years who fought for her.

(c) State v. Juvenile A.

In 2021, my juvenile client was charged with murder and attempted murder. The state was alleging my client shot two people during a drug transaction and moved to waive him to General Sessions to be prosecuted as an adult. My client, however, maintained he was defending himself because the two people were robbing him at gunpoint. After a two-day waiver trial, I was successful in keeping my juvenile client within the jurisdiction of family court. I was ultimately able to negotiate a guilty plea to one count

of voluntary manslaughter and my client was given an indeterminate sentence. This case was significant because it was legally and factually complex. In addition to the complexity of any waiver hearing, this case presented a challenge on whether my client could maintain a self-defense claim despite defending himself from two armed robbers. It was also significant because the ramifications to my client being waived to adult court were at the highest ends of an adult criminal sentence but because he was a model inmate in detention with no write-ups for over a year while simultaneously earning his high school diploma, I was able to present a strong and successful case for him to remain in Family Court.

(d) State v. Juvenile C.

In 2011, at age 14, my client was charged with the murder of a homeless man who had significant ties to the community. The state petitioned to waive jurisdiction to General Sessions and prosecute my client as an adult. I handled the waiver hearing as sole counsel and was successful in keeping the case in Family Court. I then negotiated an agreement to a plea of guilty to involuntary manslaughter for which my client received an indeterminate sentence as a juvenile. This case is significant because it was the first complex case I did as sole counsel. It is also significant because I had to examine a DSS caseworker and law enforcement officer, both of whom were reluctant witnesses for the defense, to provide the trial judge with the fullest picture of this child's experience and environment through his history with both DJJ and DSS involvement.

(e) Does v. Does

This is a case where my clients, who are the maternal grandparents of a child who has lived with them since birth, have filed for termination of parental rights of both parents, each of whom live outside of South Carolina. The mother filed an action in her home state (the father did not respond) seeking to withdraw a prior custody determination made by her home state's probate court. While that was pending, she filed a motion in our case contesting jurisdiction and seeking to dismiss my clients' action. This case required a UCCJEA conference because of the prior custody determination in mother's home state. Ultimately, I was successful in having the South Carolina Family Court terminate the parents' rights and allow the grandparents to adopt. This was a significant case because it had legal complexities stemming from the involvement and rulings of a second state but also because assisting grandparents with gaining stability for the grandchild they had raised since birth was personally rewarding.

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) Reginald Swain v. Daniel Allen Bollinger and Jane Doe, S.C. Supreme Court, January 5, 2022, 435 S.C. 280, 866 S.E.2d 923 (2022)

(b) Lani and Amanda Johnson v. Shianne Leigh Jarrett, S.C. Ct. App., August 3, 2022, 2022-UP-324

(c) SCDSS v. Laci Smith, S.C. Ct. App., April 1, 2022, 2022-UP-171

(d) SCDSS v. Heather Lynn Dean and Joseph Kasey, S.C. Ct. App., May 14, 2021, 2021-UP-169

(e) SCDSS v. Danielle Gay and Samuel Ogg, S.C. Ct. App., decision pending, Appellate Court No. 2022-000904

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 v. Gerald Haltiwanger, S.C. Ct. App., April 13, 2016, Appellate Court No. 2013-002460
 - (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. No.
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. Not applicable.
- (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.
- South Carolina, November 2002
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 taught the Juvenile Justice class (1 hour and a half) through the SC Bar's Law School for Non-Lawyers at Greenville Tech in spring 2023 and fall 2022. This class is an overview of juvenile justice.
 - (b) I taught the Child Protection class (1 hour and a half) through the SC Bar's Law School for Non-Lawyers at Greenville Tech in spring 2023 and fall 2022. This class is an overview of child protection proceedings.
 - (c) I presented "Waiver Hearings for Clinicians" to DJJ's psychologists in the spring of 2023. This presentation is an overview of the law relating to cases where the state is seeking to transfer or waive a juvenile to General Sessions for adult prosecution.
 - (d) I presented "How Truancy, Suspensions, Expulsions, & Other School Issues Affect the Child Custody Case" at the 2023 SC Bar's Annual Guardian ad Litem Training. This topic dealt with the mechanics of school issues and how they relate to child custody.
 - (e) I presented "Motions Practice" with a co-presenter to juvenile public defenders at SCCID's Juvenile Defense Essentials Training in February 2023. This topic informs attorneys how to use motions to advocate for their client.

I have been a frequent presenter and trainer for juvenile public defenders and DJJ staff through my position with the Children's Law Center at the USC School of Law. I am also certified by the National Juvenile Defender Center in their Juvenile Training Immersion Program (JTIP) curriculum featuring forensic training exercises ("on your feet" practices and interactive break-out sessions). In 2014, I became the first certified JTIP trainer in the state of SC. As a trainer, I adapt the lessons to relevant South Carolina law. The following list is not exhaustive.

- (f) I taught the JTIP lesson "Motions Practice as a Juvenile Defender" on March 29, 2019 (1 hour and a half) with a co-trainer for defense attorneys.
- (g) I taught the JTIP lesson "Ethics Issues for Juvenile Defenders" on March 29, 2019 (1 hour) with a co-trainer for defense attorneys.
- (h) I taught the JTIP lesson "Challenging ID Testimony" on March 29, 2019 (2 hours) with a co-trainer for juvenile defense attorneys.
- (i) I was a guest lecturer for a family law class at Greenville Senior High Academy for Law, Business and Finance on March 15, 2019.
- (j) I presented "Pitfalls of DJJ Practice" in August 2018 at the South Carolina Association of Justice Annual Convention (15 minutes). This topic gave helpful hints on representing juveniles in criminal matters.
- (k) I presented "Competency to Stand Trial" (2 hours) on April 13, 2018 with a co-trainer for SC public defenders.
- (l) I presented a JTIP lesson, "Disposition Advocacy," (2 hours) on April 13, 2018 with a co-trainer for SC public defenders.
- (m) I taught, with a co-trainer, "Advanced Legal Training for Community Staff," a two-hour class on legal terminology, DJJ policies related to community intake and probation, testifying in a court hearing, and responding to subpoenas under DJJ policies, for DJJ staff on April 3, 2017 and May 15, 2018.
- (n) I was a break-out group leader on the JTIP lesson "Fourth Amendment Challenges" at the Southern Juvenile Defender Center Regional Summit on June 2, 2017 (45 min).
- (o) I taught, with a co-trainer, "Advanced Courtroom Training for Clinicians," a two-hour class on legal terminology, testifying in a court hearing, and responding to subpoenas under DJJ policies for DJJ social workers and psychologists in February 2016 and February 2017.
- (p) I taught a class entitled "Waiver Training for Clinicians" on March 21, 2016 with a co-trainer for DJJ staff.
- (q) I taught "Role of Juvenile Defense Counsel: Ethics in Practice" with a co-trainer on March 6, 2017 for South Carolina public defenders. This topic dealt with the ethical pitfalls attorneys face when representing juveniles.
- (r) I taught the JTIP lesson "Dispositional Advocacy for Juvenile Defenders" with a co-trainer at the South Carolina Public Defender's Conference in September 2016.
- (s) I presented juvenile defense basics at the Greenville County Bar End of Year CLE in February 2016.
- (t) I taught "Legal 101 for Juvenile Correctional Officers", a three-hour class for new correctional officers at DJJ encompassing Constitutional issues, legal terminology, case law, statute and DJJ policies impacting officers about two to three times a year from 2016 to 2019.

- (u) I taught “Legal Update and Prison Rape Elimination Act,” a two-hour update certification class for correctional officers at DJJ encompassing statutes and policies impacting officers at DJJ about two to three times a year from 2015 to 2018.
 - (v) I was on a panel with other juvenile justice attorneys at the 2015 SC Bar Convention in Columbia.
22. Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from the past five years.
Continuing education report provided as a separate attachment.
 23. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each. Not applicable.
 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.)
I have submitted two writing samples for which I am the sole author.
 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 have not sought membership or rating in any legal rating organization.
 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
 - (b) Greenville County Bar
 - (c) National Juvenile Defender Center (now, The Gault Center) certified trainer, 2014-present
 - (d) South Carolina Supreme Court’s Family Court Docketing Subcommittee, 2011-2019
 - (e) Southern Juvenile Defender Center, Advisory Committee, 2013-2018
 - (f) South Carolina Justice Act Task Force, 2012-2017
 - (g) South Carolina Public Defender Association, 2005-2018, Juvenile Public Defender of the Year, 2012
 - (h) South Carolina Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, 2021-present
 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. Not applicable
29. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates. I ran for Family Court, At-Large Seat 1 in 2019-20. I was found Qualified.
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.
- (a) Orchard Books, NY; marketing assistant, June 1996 to December 1996
This was my first job out of college. I worked with authors of children's book to set up author visits at schools and libraries. I loved this job but it was a temporary position.
 - (b) HarperCollins Publishers, NY; marketing coordinator, December 1996 to April 1997
I worked for the adult picture book division (cookbook, coffee table books, etc) in the marketing department where I was the liaison between the art department and sales team. My entire division was laid -off.
 - (c) Various temporary jobs in marketing and advertising in New York, including Bozell Worldwide and Penguin Books; May 1997 to August 1997
 - (d) Tiffany & Co., NY; personal shopper and then marketing coordinator, September 1997 to July 1999
I worked as a personal shopper in the Fifth Avenue flagship store, where I assisted clients with purchases. When a position opened in the Marketing Department, I moved to the Madison Avenue office where I assisted the International Marketing Director. Tiffany had, at that time, a booming business in Japan, Guam, and Hawaii and those were my assigned markets. I left to attend law school.
 - (d) Westlaw, Student Representative 2000-2002
I assisted fellow law students in legal research in the law school computer labs.
 - (e) Administrative/Legal Clerk, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Newark, NJ 2000-2002
 - (f) In summers during college, I worked as a camp counselor (1993) and a restaurant hostess (1995).
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.
- Lawmas Holdings, LLC; I am a member of a member-managed LLC which owns and manages real estate. Currently, the only real estate owned and managed by the company is 414-B Pettigru Street, Greenville, SC. I assist in the management and finances of the company. I have an indeterminate term of service.
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.

A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission.

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.

Yes. A tax lien was assessed against me by the State of South Carolina Department of Revenue (SDOR) in May 2004. To the best of my recollection, the disputed tax was from the year 2001 when I was in law school in New Jersey. The tax assessed was \$483.00. I had filed taxes in the state of New Jersey that year and believe that the dispute with South Carolina was where I had filed. The lien was filed as satisfied in the Register of Deeds office on September 24, 2004. I have attempted to get an expungement letter from the SCDOR but due to the age of the case, I was unable to get one.

A tax lien was initiated by authorities based on a missed filing for dissolution of a family business. This was rectified when the appropriate filing was made.

I have never filed for bankruptcy.

I have never defaulted on a student loan.

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, I have not.

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?

No, I have no expenditures.

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.

I have not made any contributions nor, to my knowledge, has any of my immediate family members, or any business with whom I am associated.

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.

E. Jennings Byford and I were law partners from 2015 until 2022. In addition, Ms. Byford and I are members of Lawmas, LLC, which is a real estate holding company. The company owns 414-B Pettigru Street, Greenville, SC. We have two renters of the property, The Byford Law Firm, whose sole owner is E. Jennings Byford, and Jennifer Mook, Attorney at Law, whose sole owner is Jennifer Mook.

I would recuse myself from hearing any case involving Ms. Mook or Ms. Byford.

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.

Not applicable.

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.

Not applicable

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

On November 26, 1994, at the age of twenty, I attempted to use an id with an altered birthdate to get into a bar on my friend's 21st birthday. I received a ticket for "False Information on a Driver's License Application," although I had not actually put false information on a driver's license application itself. The court date was during my college final exams, so I mailed the fine of \$233.00. The Municipal Court's office had not imputed the fine at the time of my court date and so a bench warrant was issued for my arrest. This was later recalled when the mistake was corrected.

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.
- (a) No, I have never been sued by a client.
- (b) I was a named defendant in a civil proceeding, Hanold v. Watson's Orchard Prop. Owners Ass'n, Inc., 412 S.C. 387, 772 S.E.2d 528 (S.C. App., 2015). A neighbor sued the property owners' association and all the property owners in the neighborhood in a dispute over the restrictive covenants. I was not personally involved in the suit. The Supreme Court granted cert and upheld the appellate court's decision about the voting rights of property owners under the neighborhood covenants.
- (c) I am a named defendant in a civil proceeding, Pelham Industries, LLC v. Timothy Conroy, et al, 2019-CP-23-07064. This suit concerns a parcel of property within my

neighborhood and access to the property. As in the former lawsuit, the property owners' association and all the property owners are listed defendants. The case is ongoing. I have not been personally involved, although I do have an attorney, Trey Suggs, who is representing a number of the neighbors, as well.

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.

My current law firm, Offit Kurman, provides malpractice insurance for all of its attorneys. I have carried malpractice insurance consistently since 2015.

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 and 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 and 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, I have not requested any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on my behalf. I have not asked any individuals to campaign on my behalf. I am not aware of any individuals who are campaigning for me.

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) Wanda Adams, Esq.

[Redacted]

(b) Leslie Hull-Kimball

[Redacted]

(c) Kenneth Shabel, Esq.

[Redacted]

(d) J. Benjamin Stevens, Esq.

[Redacted]

(e) Sarah Darbee Smith, Esq.

[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]

Instagram: [Redacted]

LinkedIn: [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 primarily to stay connected with long-distance friends and family as well as to keep up with events in the community and my children's schools. I use LinkedIn for professional connections.

If I were a judge, I would limit my social media use and at all times comport myself with the conduct as outlined by the Judicial Canons.

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) Junior League of Greenville, Member, 2008 to present
 - Served on Board of Directors: Fund Development Vice President, 2015-2016 and Strategic Planner, 2018-2019
 - Nearly New Shop Chair, 2013-2014; Led a committee that oversees the business operations of the Nearly New Shop, a second-hand store with annual sales of over \$200,000. As Chair, I was involved in all aspects of running the business, including hiring and firing employees and managing store operations. I served on the committee for two years prior to becoming Chair.
 - Property Management Chair, 2014-2015, 2017-2018; Responsible for routine and emergency maintenance of the two buildings owned by the Junior League of Greenville. I was tasked with getting quotes for roofing, flooring, plumbing, security, etc. for presentation to the Board.
 - Advisor to the Property Management Chair, 2022-2023
 - (b) Kappa Kappa Gamma, Alumni Chapter Advisor, Furman University Chapter; 2015-2019, I served as an advisor for the college chapter.
 - (c) Buncombe Street United Methodist Church, Missions and Outreach Committee, 2019-2020; Greeter; Sunday School Teacher/Assistant

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.

About ten years ago, several people in the family court system told me that I should run for judge as they believed I had a good judicial temperament. As a person of faith, I contemplated this and asked God for a sign that I should run. What a surprise to pull into the Lowe's parking lot and see a bush on fire! Was this literal burning bush a sign? Of course, it wasn't but it was a reminder of my faith. So, I continued to prayerfully consider whether to run and decided in 2019 that I would run for an at-large Family Court seat. Although I was not elected, I have neither lost hope nor faith in the importance of the process of running for judge. There is value in the journey to being elected a judge, and having been through an election before, I believe I have what it takes to be an excellent family court judge.

As for my faith, the story of my life has been evidence that, regardless of wins or losses, God is at work in my life. My father died in June 1976. I was just shy of two years old and the youngest of three girls. My mother was a homemaker, having stopped working as a teacher when my oldest sister was born. My father had been a psychiatrist in Greenville. He was the first in his family to go to college (Furman) and then put himself through medical school (Wake Forest). His parents were sharecroppers in Horry County who later saved to buy their own land. Unfortunately, all the years of him working in the fields without sunscreen led to his getting melanoma, which took his life. When he was dying, my

father told my mother he wanted his daughters to have a father. That dying wish gave my mother peace to move forward.

My mother was introduced to a widowed physician who was new to Greenville and had lost his wife around the same time my father had passed. He had two young girls, one older than me and one younger. This man and my mother married in January 1978 after dating a short six weeks! They have been married ever since. Fortunately, this man wanted to be a father to me and my two older sisters, and so he adopted us. My mother adopted his two girls. Altogether, we became a family of seven and then eight when, several years later, they had my youngest sister.

My life was forever changed by having an adoptive father who became “Dad.” I am thankful that he chose me to be his daughter. He has been the most supportive and caring father I could ever have imagined. I would not be the person that I am without his wisdom and influence.

In my professional career, I am reminded often that children have little power to change their life situations; the adults do. My parents – my biological father, my mother, and my adoptive father – all wanted the very best for me. But that is not always the case for many children in South Carolina.

Family Court judges have immense power to make positive changes in children’s lives, whether it is through ordering termination of a parent’s rights, granting an adoption, requiring supervised visitation, granting a divorce, ordering sole or joint custody arrangements, finding a child delinquent and imposing services to assist the child, or any number of things. Many of these things have their beginnings in tragedy and trauma. So, when these cases come before the Family Court, the parties are looking for solutions, help, and even closure. It takes compassion, understanding, a sense of fairness, and a commitment to the law and to justice to exercise the role and responsibilities of a Family Court judge. I believe I possess these qualities. In my personal life and my professional life, I am the same: compassionate and fair, a rule-follower, a seeker of justice. I would be honored to serve the families of South Carolina as a Family Court judge.

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: _____