



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

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Court of Appeals, Judge, Seat 9

1. Name: The Honorable Jan B. Bromell Holmes

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.)

Presently serving as Family Court Judge, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Seat 1. Also appointed to serve as Acting Judge of Court of Appeals from July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

Home Address: [Redacted]

County of Residence: Georgetown

Business Address: 401 Cleland Street, Ste. 238, P.O. Box 479, Georgetown, SC 29442

E-Mail Address: [Redacted]

Telephone Number: (home): [Redacted]
(office): (843) 545-3035
(cell): [Redacted]

2. Date of Birth: [Redacted], 1970

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

Married on September 20, 1997 to Cleveland Bernard Holmes who is Owner and Operator of CTM Trucking.

Never divorced, two 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) Fisk University 1988-1992 Bachelor of Art Degrees in English and Political Science Magna Cum Laude
 - (b) North Carolina Central University School of Law 1992-1995 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.
- (a) Moot Court Board. While in law school at North Carolina Central, I joined the Board. Annual competitions were held in which individuals were grouped into teams of two. Members from the North Carolina District Court and Court of Appeals served as judges for the competition. My two (2) member team won the competition in 1994.
 - (b) Durham County Public Defender's Office Intern Summer of 1993 to December, 1994.
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.

Admitted to practice law in South Carolina in 1995. Took 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) Since my graduation from law school on May 13, 1995, I worked for Morant and Morant Law Firm located at 1022 Prince Street in Georgetown, SC from September 1995 to July 1997. I performed title searches, closed real estate loans, handled social security disability cases, personal injury cases, prepared wills, prepared deeds and handled family court cases. I had no administrative or financial duties.

(b) From July 1997 to June 2007, I ventured out and opened my own law firm, Jan B. Bromell, P.A. Seventy five (75%) of my practice consisted of domestic matters. I prosecuted and defended child support and child custody cases, divorce, alimony, separate maintenance and support, adoption and termination of parental rights, appointed and retained on juvenile cases, appointed and retained on abuse and neglect matters, name change, annulment, equitable distribution, and orders of protection. Twenty-four percent (24%) of my practice consists of civil matters. I handled real estate transactions, performed title searches, handle social security disability cases, personal injury cases, prepared power of attorney, contracts, wills and deeds. One percent (1%) of my practice consisted of criminal cases. I was responsible for administrative and financial duties.

(c) Elected as Family Court Judge Seat 1, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit on February 7, 2007. Began work July 2, 2007 and working continuously since.

(d) Appointed to sit as Acting Justice on the South Carolina Supreme Court by Chief Justice Donald W. Beatty to hear and dispose of cases on November 15, 2017, December 14, 2022 and April 20, 2023. I reviewed the record of appeal, appellant and respondent briefs, heard oral arguments and determined along with all other justices the outcome of cases scheduled on the particular days.

(e) Appointed to sit as Acting Judge of South Carolina Court of Appeals by Chief Justice Donald W. Beatty beginning July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

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. N/A

(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. N/A

(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. N/A

(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. N/A

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: Only once in 2006. Case scheduled for trial on 09/20/06, but settled.
- (b) state: 5 to 10 times per month for domestic hearings/trials, roster meetings for civil matters, civil trials, roll call for criminal matters, criminal trials, probate court chemical dependency or estate hearings, master in equity hearings.

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: 24%
- (b) criminal: 1%
- (c) domestic: 75%
- (d) other:

14. During the past five years
- (a) What percentage of your practice was in trial court, including cases that settled prior to trial? 25%
 - (b) What number of cases went to trial and resulted in a verdict? 1%
 - (c) What number of cases went to trial and resolved after the plaintiff's or State's case? 0% (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? 0 %

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? 50%

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) Gallant-Taylor vs. Taylor, 2002 DR 22 156 was an annulment action based on non-consummation of marriage and fraud. The parties met in 1995 and never engaged in sexual intercourse while dating. Plaintiff Wife was a Christian and Defendant Husband was a Minister. The parties believed that sexual intercourse was an act reserved for married couples. Thus, the couple agreed not to engage in intercourse until married. The parties were married on December 29, 2001 in Georgetown County. Throughout the marriage, Defendant Husband offered excuses as to why he could not engage in sexual intercourse with Plaintiff Wife. Defendant Husband's continuous refusal to engage in sexual intercourse with Plaintiff Wife led to the parties' separation on May 3, 2002 in Columbia, SC. Plaintiff Wife filed an action for annulment. The court found based on the testimony of Plaintiff Wife that: (1) the parties agreed that intimacy was appropriate when two parties were married; (2) the Plaintiff Wife expected that the parties would consummate their relationship once they were married; (3) the Plaintiff Wife was reasonable in expecting that the parties would consummate their relationship once they were married; (4) the parties never engaged in sexual relations during marriage; (5) the Plaintiff is entitled to have her marriage annulled based on non-consummation of marriage and (6) the Plaintiff is entitled to have her marriage annulled based on fraud.

- (b) Stephens, Respondent vs. Stephens, Appellant Unpublished Opinion No. 2002-UP 077 was significant because the Court of Appeals agreed with my position that the trial court erred in apportioning the marital debts of the parties. At the time of the commencement of marital litigation, the total credit card debt of the parties was \$24,927.30. Of this total debt, the trial court ordered Husband to pay \$22,065.07 and ordered Wife to pay \$2,862.23. The trial court, in its order, failed to address any of the factors as they relate to apportionment of marital debt. The Court found the Husband at fault in the break up of the marriage and Wife was granted a divorce on the grounds of physical cruelty. Although fault is one factor for the court to address in equitably dividing marital property, it does not justify a severe penalty. *Morris vs. Morris* 335 S.C. 525, 517 S.E.2d 720 (Ct. App. 1999). The Wife argued that because she was given the marital home by the Husband and there exists a mortgage of \$13,000.00 on the home, the award is fair. However, the Wife received the marital home as part of the settlement agreement. There was no indication that the Court considered this debt in apportioning the debt. The Court of Appeals was unable to discern from the record the family court's basis for its apportionment of the credit card debt. The case was remanded for further consideration and discussion of the factors set forth in S.C. Code of Laws Ann. § 20-7-472 (Supp). The Court of Appeals further stated that the court may adjust the apportionment of the debt if it deems such an adjustment is appropriate.
- (c) *Moore vs. Moore* 2002 DR 22 156 was a two day contested trial concerning custody of the parties' minor children, alimony and attorney fees. A guardian was appointed to represent the interests of the minor children. I represented the Defendant Father. The Court awarded custody of the parties two minor children to the Father. In determining custody, the Family Court considered the character, fitness, attitude and inclination on the part of each parent as they impact or relate to the child. *Paparella v. Paparella* 340 S.C. 186, 531 S.E.2d 297 (Ct. App. 2000). The Court found the Father to be more actively involved in the children's daily life. The Court also found the Father to be the primary caretaker of the minor children. The Court was guided in awarding custody to the primary caretaker by the cases of *Smith v. Smith* 294 S.C. 194, 363 S.E.2d 404 (Ct. App. 1987) and *Epperly v. Epperly* 312 S.C. 411, 440 S.E.2d 884 (1994). Mother was denied alimony. The factors were not proven. Mother was also ordered to pay a portion of Father's attorney's fees based on the factors in *Glasscock vs. Glasscock* , 304 S.C. 158, 403 S.E. 2d 313 (1991) and clarified in *EDM v. TAM* 307S.C. 471, 415 S.E.2d 812 (1992): the difficulty of the matter, favorable results obtained, reasonableness of time and costs incurred, ability of the Mother to pay attorney fees and inability of the Father to pay attorney fees if no assistance is provided.
- (d) *Harrell vs. Gubicza* 2004 DR 26 2251 was a two day contested trial concerning custody of the parties' minor child. A guardian was appointed to

represent the interests of the minor child. I represented the Plaintiff Father. The Father brought this action to save his daughter from the immoral environment of the Defendant and Defendant's Mother home. The parties were never married and the child was born out of wedlock. The law states that custody of a child born out of wedlock is with the mother. However, an acknowledged father may petition the court for custody or visitation. At such proceeding, the best interest of the minor child is the determining factor S.C. Code of Laws Ann. § 20-7-953 (B) (1976). Absent an agreement or court order regarding child custody, both parties are equally entitled to the custody of the minor child. S.C. Code of Laws Ann. § 20-7-100 (Supp). In this case we had a child born out of wedlock to young parents who had not had the issue of custody decided between them. At the temporary hearing, custody of the minor child was awarded to the Plaintiff because of the affidavits submitted on his behalf as well as the fact that the Defendant did not appear. At the conclusion of the merits hearing, the Court undertook the awesome task of looking into the past of each party and predicting which of the two available environments would advance the best interest of the child and bring about the best adjusted mature individual. *Cook v. Cobb* 271 S.C. 136, 142, 245 S.E.2d 612, 615 (1978). The Court awarded custody of the minor child to the Father.

- (e) *Pushia vs. Pushia* 2005 DR 22 470 was a divorce matter wherein the Plaintiff Wife sought alimony. The parties were married for twenty years. For most of the marriage, the Plaintiff Wife was a homemaker. The Defendant Husband's monthly income was \$5869. The Plaintiff Wife's imputed monthly income was \$893. The Defendant Husband was ordered to pay child support for the parties' two minor children in a semi-monthly amount of \$392.50 plus the 5% court costs. The Court found that although the Plaintiff Wife was a homemaker, she had a high school education, nursing degree, was very computer literate, skilled in word processing and had the probability of good opportunity. The court considered the following in awarding rehabilitative alimony: (1) the duration of the marriage; (2) the age, health, and education of the supported spouse; (3) the parties' accustomed standard of living; (4) the ability of the supporting spouse to meet his needs while meeting the needs of the supported spouse; (5) the time necessary for the supported spouse to acquire job training or skills; (6) the likelihood that the supported spouse will successfully complete retraining; and (7) the supported spouse's likelihood of success in the job market. Plaintiff testified that she desired to go back to school to obtain a dual degree in Medical Office Clerical Assistant and Office Systems Technology at Horry Georgetown Technical College. While pursuing this career, Plaintiff Wife would need financial support to assist her with the college expenses and the household expenses. The Court further considered the additional schooling required by the Plaintiff Wife as well as the time necessary for the Plaintiff Wife to look for and obtain employment after school to sufficiently support herself. The Court awarded the sum of \$1000

per month for 5 years, beginning June 15, 2006 and continuing the 15th of each month thereafter. The Court believed this amount to be sufficient rehabilitative alimony for the Defendant Husband to pay and for the Plaintiff Wife to receive. The amount would allow the Plaintiff Wife to meet her expenses at approximately the same level during the marriage. The Defendant Husband was the principal wage earner and provided the family with a comfortable standard of living. Defendant Husband earned \$60,000 per year most of which was earned at his principal employment with International Paper Company. The Court found that Defendant Husband would have no difficulty maintaining his standard of living by payment of \$1000.00 to Plaintiff Wife on a monthly basis. The award was intended to encourage Plaintiff Wife to become self-supporting after the divorce from Defendant Husband. I believe this to be the trend of the court in these type cases.

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) Sheryl L. Stephens, Respondent v. Michael Anthony Stephens, Appellant. Appeal from Georgetown County Haskell T. Abbott, III, Family Court Judge. Unpublished Opinion No. 2002-UP-077. submitted November 14, 2001-Filed February 11, 2002. Affirmed in Part; Remanded in Part. In this case, I represented the Appellant.
 - (b) Ralph Hoffman, Appellant vs. Lola Watts, Respondent, Appeal from Georgetown County Master in Equity, Benjamin H. Culbertson. Affirmed. Unpublished Opinion. In this case, I represented the Respondent.
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. None
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.
 - a. Elected by SC General Assembly February 7, 2007 as Family Court Judge , Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Seat 1. Re-elected February 2013 and February 2019 to same position.
 - b. Appointed to sit as an Acting Justice on the Supreme Court of South Carolina to hear and dispose of matters on November 15, 2017, December 14, 2022 and April 20, 2023.
 - c. Appointed to sit as an Acting Judge on the South Carolina Court of Appeals from July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.
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) High v. High, 697 S.E.2d 690 (S.C. Court of Appeals) Decided July 28, 2010

This was a divorce action with an agreement on equitable distribution of marital property and debt. The contested issues were child custody and attorney fees. The matter was appealed. The Father appealed my order granting Mother sole custody of the couple's two children, arguing the family court erred in: (1) refusing to qualify Teressa Harrington, LPC as an expert witness; (2) prohibiting the introduction of statements made by the couple's minor daughter to Harrington; (3) refusing to admit Harrington's records into evidence; (4) making certain findings of fact relevant to the issue of custody which were not supported by the record; (5) failing to consider important factors contained in the record in its award of primary custody to Mother; (6) awarding Mother sole custody based on the fact that Mother was historically the caregiver of the minor children; and (7) granting Mother custody based on the primary caretaker factor. The Mother cross-appealed arguing that the family court erred in (1) hearing Father's untimely motion to alter or amend, and (2) failing to award her attorney's fees and costs. The Court of Appeals affirmed my ruling.

(b) In the Interest of Spencer R. a juvenile under the age of seventeen, 692 S.E.2d 569 (S.C. Court of Appeals) Decided April 25, 2010.

This was a juvenile delinquency matter in which Spencer R. was charged with pointing and presenting a firearm. This case was my first juvenile trial as a family court judge. What was difficult about this case is that the State charged the juvenile in one petition for pointing and presenting a firearm at three different people. I didn't understand why the State didn't file three petitions, one for each person. It was clear to me that the juvenile intended to point and present a firearm at one of the individuals, but not the other two. However, because of how the petition was filed, I thought that I had to find the juvenile delinquent on the petition. The juvenile appealed his conviction for presenting a firearm, alleging the family court erred in finding sufficient evidence to support his conviction. The Court of Appeals affirmed the conviction of one of the individuals and reversed the conviction of the other two individuals. I am particularly proud of this case because prior to my ruling, there was no case law in the State of South Carolina which defined presenting a firearm.

(c) Simmons vs. Simmons, 392 S.C. 412 (2011), 709 S.E.2d 666 Decided May 9, 2011.

This was a difficult case for me. The parties divorced in 1990 and entered into a family court-approved settlement agreement that was determined to be void in part. A central part of the parties' agreement required Husband to give Wife one-third of his Social Security benefits if he began receiving them at age 62 or one-half of those benefits if he began receiving them at age 65. The Social Security benefits were to "be construed only as a property settlement, and shall not in any way be considered or construed as alimony." Husband attained the age of 62 in 1994 and 65 in 1997, but he failed to pay Wife any portion of his Social Security benefits. In December of 2003, Wife filed a petition for a rule to show cause, seeking to compel compliance with the agreement. Husband responded by filing a Rule 60(b)(4), SCRPC,[2] motion, asserting that the family court lacked subject matter jurisdiction to order division of his Social Security benefits. The family court dismissed Husband's subject matter jurisdiction challenge, and Husband appealed. The

court of appeals reversed. *Simmons v. Simmons*, 370 S.C. 109, 634 S.E.2d 1 (Ct. App. 2006). The court found that the Social Security Act, specifically 42 U.S.C. § 407(a) (2010), preempted and expressly precluded the parties' agreement to divide Husband's Social Security benefits. As a result, the court voided that portion the agreement. The appeal presented the question of whether the family court may revisit, in whole or in part, the now partially voided agreement. I ruled in 2008 that I lacked subject matter jurisdiction to reconsider the 1990 court- approved agreement. The Supreme Court reversed and remanded for reconsideration of the court-approved agreement.

(d) *Scott Meyers v. SCDSS 2022–UP-141* filed March 17, 2022

Scott and Catherine Meyers appealed my order dismissing their petition to adopt their niece based on the fact that they did not satisfy the requirements of the ICPC. On appeal, they argued the family court erred in finding the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) applied to the action because they are related to minor child. The Court of Appeals found that the ICPC applies and statutorily bars the Meyers from adopting the minor child. My ruling was affirmed.

(e) *In the Interest of Justin B., a Juvenile Under the Age of Seventeen*, 747 S.E.2d 774 (S.C. Sup. Ct. decided August 28, 2013)

This case was also significant to me in that it involved sexual abuse committed between siblings. On May 3, 2009, Justin B's adoptive mother witnessed him sexually molest his adoptive sister and notified police. In August 2009, he was indicted for CSC–First in violation of section 16-3-655(A)(1) of the South Carolina Code. S.C. Code Ann. § 16-3-655(A) (Supp. 2012). Pursuant to a negotiated plea deal in which the juvenile agreed to plead guilty if allowed to do so in family court, the juvenile was brought before me on a juvenile petition in November 2009. He admitted guilt and was subsequently adjudicated delinquent. I committed the juvenile for an indeterminate period to the Department of Juvenile Justice, not to exceed his twenty-first birthday, and required him to undergo counseling. He was also ordered to register as a sex offender as required by section 23-3-460 of the South Carolina Code, and to comply with section 23-3-540's electronic monitoring requirements. *Id.* §§ 23-3-460, -540. The Juvenile appealed challenging the active electronic monitoring requirements of section 23-3-540 of the South Carolina Code Section 23-3-540 that individuals convicted of certain sex-related offenses, including criminal sexual conduct with a minor in the first degree (CSC–First), submit to electronic monitoring for the duration of the time the individual is required to remain on the sex offender registry. S.C. Code Ann. § 23-3-540(A)–(H) (Supp.2012). An individual found guilty of CSC–First is required to register as a sex offender bi-annually for life. *Id.* §§ 23-3-430, -460 (Supp. 2012). Section 23-3-540 also provides that ten years from the date electronic monitoring begins, an individual may petition the chief administrative judge of the general sessions court for the county in which the offender resides for an order of release from the monitoring requirements. *Id.* § 23-3-540(H). However, those persons convicted of CSC–First may not petition for this review. *Id.* Thus, these sex offenders must submit to monitoring for the duration of their lives.

Justin B argued that, because he is a juvenile, this imposition constitutes cruel and unusual punishment in violation of the federal and state constitutions. The Supreme Court found that electronic monitoring is not a punishment, and rejected Justin B's claim. However, the Supreme Court allowed the juvenile to have periodic judicial review to determine the necessity of continued electronic monitoring. My decision was affirmed as modified.

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) Admitted to practice before the State Courts of South Carolina on November 13, 1995;
 - (b) Admitted to practice before the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina on January 26, 2006.
21. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? If so, briefly describe each course or lecture.
- (a) I have presented at New Judges School for Newly Elected Family Court Judges on the topic of Domestic Matters in 2021 and on the topics of Child Custody, Visitation and Contempt in 2022 and 2023.
 - (b) I have presented in the 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021 and 2023 Horry County Bar Family Court Seminar-Procedural for Family Court practitioners.
 - (c) I was a panelist at the Attorney General's Youth Summit on Human Trafficking on June 27, 2018.
 - (d) I have presented at the National Business Institute One Day Seminar entitled "What Family Court Judges Want You to Know" on October 28, 2011.
 - (e) I have presented at the Children's Law Center Volunteer Guardian ad Litem Conference entitled Permanency Planning for Children on October 7, 2011 to volunteer guardian ad litem.
 - (f) I have presented at the Children's Law Center "Training for Attorneys Appointed in Abuse and Neglect Cases in the 15th Judicial Circuit on November 13, 2009.
 - (g) I presented at the 2013 South Carolina Solicitor's Association Annual Conference on Juvenile Delinquency matter to Juvenile Solicitors on September 22, 2013
 - (h) I have presented at the SC Bar CLE entitled Fifteenth Circuit Tips from the Bench: What Your Judges Want You to Know on November 18, 2016.
22. Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from the past five years.
See attachment.

23. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
- (a) I have prepared written materials for seminars of which I have presented.
 - (b) Family Court Bench/Bar Best Practices Manual for South Carolina Department of Social Services Abuse and Neglect Cases. As Board Member assisted in editing the manual prior to distribution for use in DSS Abuse and Neglect cases.
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.) See attachments.
- a. Stephens vs. Stephens, 2000 DR 22 103, Appellant's brief
 - b. Harrell vs. Gubicza 2004 DR 26 2251, Final Order
25. What is your rating or membership status, if any, by any legal rating organization; such as, Best Lawyers, Chambers, Legal 500, Martindale-Hubbell, Who's Who Legal, Super Lawyers, Million Dollar Advocates Forum, etc.? If you are currently a member of the judiciary, list your last available rating, if any. I don't recall.
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 Conference of Family Court Judges (President, 2022-2023, Vice President, 2021-2022) and (Secretary/Treasurer, 2020-2021)
 - (b) Family Court Advisory Committee (2020-Present)
 - (c) South Carolina Bar Association (1997-Present)
 - (d) Georgetown County Bar Association (1997-Present)
 - (e) Coastal Women Lawyers
 - (f) South Carolina Bar Pro Bono Board (Past Member)
 - (g) Coastal Inn of Court (2017-Present)
 - (h) South Carolina Family Court Inn of Court (2021-Present)
 - (i) Family Court Bench/Bar (2009-2017)
27. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? No. 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.
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. None

29. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates. 2022 Judicial Merit Selection Commission Screening, Court of Appeals, Seat 2.
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. Yes

Holmes and Holmes Trucking, Inc. March 2005-2009. I was co-owner along with my husband. This business was a logging business in which my husband operated an 18-wheeler truck on a part-time basis. I really had no duties with respect to the business.

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.)

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

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? No. Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? No. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? No. If so, give details. Also, proof of satisfaction of any liens or defaults must be submitted with your application package.
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? No. If so, please specify the item or items you received, the date of receipt, and the lobbyist or lobbyist's principal involved.

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. None. If you have spent over \$100, have you reported your expenditures to the House and Senate Ethics Committees?
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. None. If you are a sitting judge, please include such contributions since your last screening. None.
38. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? No. If so, please specify the amount, solicitor, donor, and date of the solicitation.
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. None. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest.
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; None
 - (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 None
 - (c) which was sold, leased, or rented to a state or local public agency in South Carolina. None

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; None
- (b) nature and value of any public improvements; None and
- (c) South Carolina state or local public agency which purchased or is leasing or renting such property. None

Attach a copy of any contract or agreement.

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. None. Identify the property, its amount or value, and the name of the agency. Attach a copy of any contract or agreement.
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.

None. If you prefer, you may attach broker or account records containing the requested information instead of listing it here.

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? No. If so, please give the details, including the name of the attorney or litigant and the thing of value you received.
44. For sitting judges, have you used the services of your staff, for which you did not pay, while campaigning for this office? No
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? Yes. If so, give details but do not include traffic violations subject to a penalty of \$125 or less. Careless Operation charge approximately 20 years ago \$250.00 fine. 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.
46. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? No. If yes, explain.
47. Have you ever been sued by a client? No. Have you ever been a named party (personally or professionally) in or had a pecuniary interest in any civil or criminal proceedings? Yes. If so, give details, including, but not limited to, dates, and resolutions.

(a) While on the Board of Directors of the Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce, I was sued, individually as well as a member of the Board of Directors, along with all other Board of Directors by another board member. The case was filed as Case # 2000 CP 22 177 Perry Johnson, Plaintiff vs. Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce, Mary Michel individually and as President of the Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce, M. P. Swenson individually and as Chairman of the Board and as Representative of all members of the Board of Directors of the Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce, Dan Scheffing, as Successor Chairman of the Board and as Representative of all members of the Board of Directors of the Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce, Nikki Ewing, David Schronce, Allen Altman, Drew Johnson, Russ Campbell, Jan Bromwell-Holmes, Gail Restar, Mike Andrews, and Linda Ketron, individually and as members of the Board of Directors of the Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce, Defendants.

The suit was really a petty matter between Perry Johnson, Treasurer of the Board and the President, Mary Michel. I am not sure what transpired between Mr. Johnson and Ms. Michel. Ms. Michel made comments to the press concerning Mr. Johnson and Mr. Johnson, in turn, made comments to the press about Ms. Michel. Mr. Johnson was removed from his position as Treasurer during one of the board meetings. He became angry and subsequently filed suit seeking relief based on defamation of character and intentional infliction of

emotional distress. An attorney was hired by the Chamber of Commerce to defend the suit. I'm really not sure if any money was paid to Mr. Johnson, but the suit was settled and dismissed with prejudice.

48. If you are in private practice, are you covered by malpractice insurance and, if so, how long have you carried malpractice insurance? N/A 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. N/A
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? No If so, give the details and the resolution. Has your name ever been enrolled on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect? No If so, give the details.
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? No 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? No If so, give details.
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? No. Describe the campaigning you have done for this election and include a list of those individuals you have asked to campaign on your behalf and, to the best of your knowledge, those who have campaigned for you on their own initiative. I have visited the State House to greet members.
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? No. If so, give details.

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) Mrs. Renee N. Elvis
Horry County Clerk of Court
[Redacted]
- (b) Mr. Phillip E. Thompson
Sheriff of Horry County
[Redacted]
- (c) Dr. Treda Keith-Nelson
[Redacted]
- (d) Mrs. Mary Jo Burgess
[Redacted]
- (e) Mr. Dorsey Strickland, Esquire
[Redacted]

56. Are you active on or a member of a social media or Internet site such as, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, etc.? No

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

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 do not use social media or any other internet sites that would affect me serving in my judicial capacity.

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) Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (Parliamentarian 2016-2018) Member of the Year for 2009
- (b) St. Paul AME Church, Steward (2005-Present), Finance Committee(2005-Present) Christian Education Department (2004-Present), Women's Missionary Society (1995-Present) Youth Choir Director (2016-Present).

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 have come into contact with thousands of people over the past fifteen years as a Family Court Judge as well as the preceding twelve years prior to my judgeship as an attorney. Throughout my life, I have lived by the golden rule “do unto others as you would have them do unto you”. I have treated all individuals with the utmost respect. These individuals came from many walks of life. I am naturally inclined to attentively and objectively listen to all parties in a dispute. I am inherently fair, courteous, diligent, patient, humble and compassionate. I possess the intellectual capacity to interpret legal principles, apply them to the facts of each case and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading to my conclusions. I have been patient, dignified, open-minded and diligent in disposing of my cases. I have handled the pressure of a rigorous schedule. I have maneuvered the uncertainties of returning to our new normal by being flexible in accommodating a different courtroom format such as continuing the use of virtual hearings when warranted. The totality of my life experiences has equipped me to become an outstanding Court of Appeals Judge. I’m looking forward to expanding my horizons.

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: _____