

## JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE 2023

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

1. Name: Ms. Elizabeth Fulton Morrison

Name that you are known by if different from above

(Example: A Nickname): Liz Morrison

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: Charleston County

Business Address: 111 Coleman Blvd., Suite 301, Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

E-Mail Address: [Redacted]

Telephone Number: (home): [Redacted]

(office): (843) 720-3471 (cell): [Redacted]

2. Date of Birth: [Redacted] 1985

Place of Birth: Greensboro, NC 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. Married
  - (b) If married, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name and occupation. 04/13/19, George Edmondston Morrison, Attorney
  - (c) If widowed, list the name(s) of spouse(s). N/A

- (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. **No**
- (e) State the names of your children and their ages. If your children are old enough to work, include the occupation of each child. [Redacted]
- 7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.

East Carolina University, 2003-2007, *Magna Cum Laude*, B.A. Communication Charleston School of Law, 2009-2012, *Cum Laude*, 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.

President, Student Bar Association (2011 – 2012)

Treasurer, Student Bar Association (2010 – 2011)

Member, James L. Petigru Inn of Court (2011-2012)

Hearing Officer, Charleston Housing Authority (2011-2012)

Externships: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (2010), Charleston City Council (2011-2012)

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, 2012

I have only taken the SC Bar exam and passed the first time.

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.

Hall Booth Smith, P.C., Mount Pleasant, SC Senior Associate / Partner (2020 – present)

December 2017 - Present

Civil Litigation practice focused on landlord-tenant, general liability, transportation, insurance coverage, professional negligence and medical malpractice. Also provide general representation and counseling to local businesses including contractors, property managers, landlords and those in the retail and hospitality industry. Since making partner, I am responsible for ensuring collections from clients, establishing scope of representation and payment. As a partner, I also participate in approving compensation for all employees and focus on staff hiring needs for the South Carolina office.

Litigation practice with a focus on general municipal and magistrate matters, business litigation, insurance coverage, including first party bad faith and contractual indemnity, appellate work, residential and commercial landlord tenant disputes, premises liability, personal injury, including exposure to toxic mold, workers compensation, and construction defects.

Corrigan & Chandler LLC, Charleston, SC Associate Attorney

**November 2012 – April 2014** 

Civil Litigation practice with a focus on construction defect litigation, insurance defense, business disputes, horizontal property regimes, and premises liability. Drafted subpoenas, minor settlements and discovery requests, including non-privileged document review.

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

### 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.

<u>Criminal Experience last five years</u>: Early on in my career, I handled some criminal matters at the municipal court level, which required court appearances wherein the matter was either amicably resolved or the matter was adjudicated by a judge. In the last five years of my practice, which is nearly all civil, I have represented clients who either have criminal charges pending in connection with the civil matter, or another party in the case has criminal charges pending, which has required me to monitor the criminal action and/or collaborate with a client's criminal attorney. Generally, the criminal charges involved are criminal sexual misconduct, Felony DUI, reckless driving, and/or assault and battery. I am familiar with the discovery process in criminal court, and the differing evidentiary standards from circuit court as well as the procedural process prior to trial.

<u>Civil Experience last five years</u>: Over the last five years, my civil experience has become more expansive with cases ranging from landlord/tenant, motor vehicle accidents, premises liability actions, professional negligence, medical malpractice, first party insurance actions, dram shop actions, §1983 claims, education law, dog bites, mechanics liens, wrongful death, negligent security and sexual assault. In the last five years, I have tried three cases to verdict and resolved countless others at various stages in litigation, most often at mediation.

<u>Parties Represented</u>: Generally, I represent defendants (individuals, businesses, UIM carriers) but take on 1-2 Plaintiff cases a year, typically in commercial landlord tenant cases or life insurance bad faith cases.

Appearances before Circuit Court Judge in the last five years: I routinely appear before Judge Price and Judge McCoy in Charleston County. I also have several cases in the Fourteenth Circuit and have appeared before Judge Bonds and Judge Mullen. The last case I tried was before Judge McKinnon and I have an upcoming trial before Judge Young. Other judges I have appeared before include Judge Jocelyn Newman, Judge DeBerry, Judge Curtis, Judge Murphy, Judge Gibbons, Judge Pope, Judge Goodstein, Judge Dickson, Judge Culbertson, Judge Seals, and Judge Burch.

- (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: 1-2 times per year.
  - (b) state: 1-2 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: 90 percent
  - (b) criminal: 0
  - (c) domestic: 5 percent (representing therapists and psychologists subpoenaed in domestic matters)
  - (d) other: 5 percent (business formation, LLR licensures, ABL licensing)
- 14. During the past five years
  - (a) What percentage of your practice was in trial court, including cases that settled prior to trial? 90 percent
  - (b) What number of cases went to trial and resulted in a verdict? 3 cases 2018, 2019, 2022
  - (c) What number of cases went to trial and resolved after the plaintiff's or State's case? 0—However in 2017, 2 trials resolved after Plaintiffs tried their case. (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?  $\mathbf{0}$

During the past five years, did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or cocounsel? Magistrate Court: Sole Counsel – 2 times Circuit Court – Co-Counsel – 3 times

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? N/A

- 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) <u>Huck v. Oakland Wings, LLC</u>, 422 S.C. 430, 813 S.E.2d 288 (Ct. App. 2018)(representing the Plaintiffs, this case established procedures for disclosing pre-trial set-off/settlement of other parties)
  - (b) Charleston Elec. Services., Inc. v. Rahall, 427 S.C. 317, 831 S.E.2d 122 (Ct. App. 2019)(On behalf of Defendant in a contribution/indemnity action, the Court of Appeals declined to find a "special relationship" exists between an adult child and their elderly mother to create a duty of care)
  - (c) Key v. Ansonborough House, 732 F. App'x 224 (4th Cir. 2018)(affirming in an unpublished opinion that for purposes of HUD, a parking fee does not constitute rent as contemplated under 42 U.S.C. § 1437(a)(1), and Ansonborough House was allowed to collect the parking payment as a separate fee).
  - (d) Patti Silva v. Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Company (Civil Action No. 3:17-163-RMG, 2017) (Certified Question to the SC Supreme Court finding that absence of an eyewitness to the incident leading to death of Plaintiff's decedent barred recovery under S.C. Code Section 38-77-140 for uninsured motorist coverage).

- (e) Fields v. Crane Transport, LLC, et. al (C.A. No. 8:20-cv-00659)(D.S.C. Anderson Division) (trucking fatality where the plaintiff burned alive at the scene after striking defendant's truck that was legally stopped on I-85. Liability was heavily disputed. This case involved several issues concerning discovery, specifically financial discovery, a motion to "trifurcate" and resolved within 2 weeks of trial).
- 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) AML, et. al v. Wright Directions, LLC, S.C. Court of Appeals, Case No. 2023-000791 (pending)
  - (b) (b). Gregory Muxlow v. Natasha Anglin, et. al, S.C. Court of Appeals, Case No. 2020-00129 (voluntarily dismissed on March 29, 2022)
  - (c) <u>Charleston Elec. Services., Inc. v. Rahal</u>l, 427 S.C. 317, 831 S.E.2d 122 (Ct. App. 2019)
  - (d) Huck v. Oakland Wings, LLC, 422 S.C. 430, 813 S.E.2d 288 (Ct. App. 2018)
  - (e) <u>Jonathan Barber v. Ansonborough House Corp.</u>, SC Court of Appeals, Case No. 2017-002150 (dismissed on November 21, 2017)
- 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) 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. 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. N/A
- 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 State Court – 2012 District Court of South Carolina – 2013 Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals - 2018

- 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.
  - 2023 PLUS Healthcare & MedPL Webinar: Sexual Abuse and Molestation Claims Discussed trends and defense strategy for sexual abuse claims in the medical profession.
  - 2020 COVID-19: Current State of Immunity and Potential Liability For Healthcare Providers, DRI Webinar Discussed the PREP Act and its impact on

liability for claims involving vaccines and other federal directives in response to Covid-19 .

- 22. Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from the past five years. **See attached.**
- 23. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.

"Time is Not on Your Side: Avoiding Pitfalls When Filing Motions to Alter or Amend under Rule 59(e), S.C.R.Civ.P.," South Carolina Lawyer Magazine, March 2017

- 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 attached.
- 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.

Legal Elite of the Lowcountry, insurance law, Charleston Business Magazine, 2017 and 2020-2023

Best Lawyers in America, One to Watch, 2020 - 2023

- 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) Charleston County Bar Association, 2012 present
  - (b) DRI, 2017 2019, Member Trucking Law Committee
  - (c) South Carolina Bar Foundation, Ambassador, 2015 2020
  - (d) South Carolina Bar House of Delegates, Ninth Circuit Delegate, 2018 present
  - (e) South Carolina Lawyers Fund for Client Protection, 2017 2021
- 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. **None**
- 28. For sitting or former judges, list all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or part-time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected

judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor. N/A

- 29. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates.
  - 2013 unsuccessfully ran for Charleston County City Council, District 4
- 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.

After college and prior to law school (2007-2009), I worked as a marketing coordinator for Wisniewski Blair & Associates, n/k/a HGA Architects, an architecture and interior design firm in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. My primary job as marketing coordinator included procurement searches, responding to state and federal RFPs, updating website copy, and planning business development events.

- 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.

  None.
- 32. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a "lobbyist," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a "lobbyist's principal," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(14)? If so, give the dates of your employment or activity in such capacity and specify by whom you were directed or employed. **No.**
- 33. Provide, as a separate attachment, a complete, current financial net worth statement that itemizes in detail:
  - (a) the identity and value of all financial assets held, directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to, bank accounts, real estate, securities, trusts, investments, and other financial holdings; and
  - (b) the identity and amount of each liability owed, directly or indirectly, which is in excess of \$1,000, including, but not limited to, debts, mortgages, loans, and other financial obligations.

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

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

34. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? If so, give details. Also, proof of satisfaction of any liens or defaults must be submitted with your application package. No.

- 35. Since filing with the Commission your letter of intent to run for judicial office, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other thing of value as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(1) from a lobbyist or lobbyist's principal? If so, please specify the item or items you received, the date of receipt, and the lobbyist or lobbyist's principal involved. **No.**
- 36. Itemize (by amount, type, and date) all expenditures, other than those for travel and room and board, made by you, or on your behalf in furtherance of your candidacy for the position you seek. If you have spent over \$100, have you reported your expenditures to the House and Senate Ethics Committees? N/A
- 37. List the recipient and amount of all contributions made by you, a member of your immediate family, or by a business with whom you are associated, to members of the General Assembly within the past four years. If you are a sitting judge, please include such contributions since your last screening.

Personal – Rep. Spencer Wetmore - \$25, September 2022. Husband - Rep. Spencer Wetmore - \$50, June 2020; \$20, Aug. 2020; \$250, Jan. 2022

- 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. **None**
- 40. Describe any interest you or a member of your immediate family has in real property:
  - 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; and None
- (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. None

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. **None** 

- 42. For sitting judges, if you currently hold an interest in stock or other securities or have held such an interest, list each stock you currently own or owned during the prior calendar year. If you prefer, you may attach broker or account records containing the requested information instead of listing it here. N/A
- 43. For sitting judges, have you ever accepted anything of value from an attorney or litigant in a matter currently or previously before you or your court? If so, please give the details, including the name of the attorney or litigant and the thing of value you received. N/A
- 44. For sitting judges, have you used the services of your staff, for which you did not pay, while campaigning for this office? N/A
- 45. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation or for suspicion of violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance, or any other law, including another country's law? If so, give details but do not include traffic violations subject to a penalty of \$125 or less. You must include any and all arrests, including, but not limited to, offenses for driving under the influence or similar traffic offenses. Include all arrests that resulted in expungement, which will be redacted. If you have questions regarding whether to include an offense, please contact the Commission.

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

- 46. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? If yes, explain. 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. I have never been sued by a client. In 2018, I sued my former employer over unpaid wages, which we resolved amicably out of court.
- 48. If you are in private practice, are you covered by malpractice insurance and, if so, how long have you carried malpractice insurance? If applicable, have you ever been covered by a tail policy? If so, please explain when you were covered by a tail policy. Also, if applicable, indicate your coverage and deductible for your current malpractice policy. I have continuously been covered by malpractice insurance since entering private practice in 2012, which was handled by each respective firm I looked for. I would assume that when I left each firm there may have been tail coverage. As I currently work for a 350+ attorney law firm with offices in multiple states, I do not have any

# specific information about the limits and deductibles concerning my malpractice coverage.

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
- 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
- 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**
- 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 <u>original letters</u> 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 <u>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.</u> Please <u>do not</u> 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) The Honorable Lauren Ellison Fox, [Redacted]
- (b) Alissa Lietzow, Esq., [Redacted]
- (c) Lauren Gresh, Esq., [Redacted]
- (d) Elizabeth Wieters, Esq. [Redacted]
- (e) Michael E. Spears, 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]
Twitter: [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 do not actively engage on Social Media sites with the exception of Instagram, which is private and LinkedIn, which is to keep in touch with professional contacts. I do not comment on pending legal matters.

- 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) Lowcountry Street Grocery, Advisory Board Member 2018 present
- 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 am not a native South Carolinian, and I have always been concerned that not being born and raised in this state could be a potential barrier to being elected to the bench. However, having lived here for the last 14 years and practicing law for the last 11 years, I have had an amazing opportunity to travel around South Carolina and represent clients in several different venues. Charleston has been my home since 2009 and I could not imagine living anywhere else. In fact, I unsuccessfully ran for City Council in 2013. That experience was very eye-opening as I had the opportunity to meet and hear from my fellow residents their opinions about issues that mattered to them and their less than cordial opinions about a then-28-year-old running for public office. Even though I did not win my race, I experienced a renewed faith in the

electoral process as well as a renewed commitment to service to those in my community.

For me, the legal profession is not just a job, it is a calling. I do not come from a legal background, and I am proud to be the first lawyer in my family. My mom taught special education for thirty years and my dad was an intensive probation officer. Neither had much advice to give me about going to law school other than to be prepared for student loans. They have been happily married for 45 years and continue to be a great source of inspiration and provide great advice. They raised my older sister and I to work hard and to keep focus on personal and professional growth. This philosophy inspired me to put myself through law school, secure legal employment in an unfamiliar town with no connections during a recession, survive an apartment fire six months into my legal career, all of which ultimately led me to forging a life and career in South Carolina.

In the last 5 years, I have gotten married, survived breast cancer and become a mother. All of these life events have pushed me forward in my legal career and made me more empathetic and understanding of others. I always thought about running for a judicial seat as a "someday" goal, but with the creation of this new seat, I took it as a sign to throw my name in to the hat. I love being in the courtroom and I love trying cases. There is something about the entire process and then hearing the verdict, that always reinforces my faith in our society. Of course, I may not always agree with every verdict, but I have always understood them. Yet, some of my favorite days are when I attend a motion hearing where there are several attorneys present and you get the opportunity to observe and learn from others, which always includes the presiding judge. I have never had a bad experience before any circuit court judges, although I have received some pointed criticism that I have tried to learn from.

I recognize that my criminal experience is lacking, but I am confident that I will be able to learn what is necessary to preside over these matters and will also make it a priority to do all that I can to ensure a more streamlined resolution of outstanding matters.

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 ARI MY KNOWLEDGE.	E TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF
Signature:	

Sworn to before me this	day of	, 2023.
(Notary Signature)		
(Notary Printed Name)		
Notary Public for South Car My Commission Expires:	olina 	