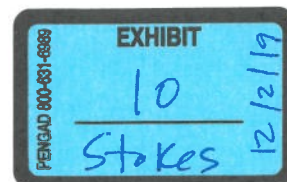


JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE



Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Ninth Judicial Circuit Family Court, Seat 5

1. Name: Mrs. Julianne M. Stokes

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

Home Address: [REDACTED]

Business Address: 11 State Street, Charleston, SC 29401

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: (home): [REDACTED]
(office): (843) 720-7416
(cell): [REDACTED]

2. Date of Birth: [REDACTED] 1981
Place of Birth: Lexington, South Carolina
Social Security Number: [REDACTED]

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

4. SCDL# or SCHD#: [REDACTED]
Voter Registration Number: 104911705

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.

I have not served in the military.

6. Family Status: In the space below, (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 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; and (d) 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 May 27, 2006 to Joshua P. Stokes, attorney, separated

Julianne M. Stokes vs. Joshua P. Stokes, Case No. 2019-DR-10-2126 in Charleston County Family Court. Record is sealed. Will obtain no-fault, one-year separation divorce in 2020.

Three children:



7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.
 - (a) University of South Carolina, August 1999-December 1999, transferred to Presbyterian College
 - (b) Presbyterian College, January 2000-May 2003, B.S. in Political Science
 - (c) Walter F. George School of Law, Mercer University, August 2003-May 2006, 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) Legal internship with Phillips & Phillips, LLC in Macon, Georgia, summer 2003 and summer 2004
 - (b) Legal internship with Andrews & Shull, PC in Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, summer 2005

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.
 - (a) South Carolina, 2006, 1 examination

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 has 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) 2006-2009: Associate attorney practicing family law with Andrews & Shull, PC. Handled my own time-keeping and reviewed invoices and trust account statements monthly. Actively litigated numerous divorce, custody, and modification actions, including taking depositions, attending mediations, and sitting second chair in Family Court trials.
 - (b) 2009-2010: Associate attorney practicing family law with Shull Law Firm, LLC. Actively litigated numerous divorce, custody, and modification actions. Handled my own time-keeping and reviewed invoices and trust account statements monthly. Actively

litigated in the family court and was certified as a Family Court Mediator and guardian ad litem (continuing to present).

- (c) 2011: Partner practicing family law with Shull & Stokes, LLC. Reviewed monthly bills and trust account statements monthly. Actively litigated numerous divorce, custody, and modification actions. Litigated an 11-day custody trial during this year.
- (d) 2011-2019: Partner practicing family law with Stokes & Haselden, LLC. Managing partner handling all financial management of trust accounts. Litigated and mediated hundreds of private divorce, custody, and modification actions, and served as guardian ad litem during litigation and trial of numerous matters. I also served as arbitrator for divorce issues.
- (e) May 2019: Former law partner took position as magistrate judge and left private practice. Now solo practitioner litigating and mediating family law matters with Stokes Family Law & Mediation, LLC. I also serve as court-appointed guardian ad litem. Handle all financial management of trust accounts.

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.

(a) Divorce and equitable division: For the past 13 years I have represented litigants in divorce actions, including division of assets and debts and spousal support issues. My involvement ranges from contested motion hearings to multiple-day trials to lengthy arbitrations involving complex financial components, such as off-shore accounts and intricate business interests. I frequently work with financial experts in the more complicated cases, as there are often businesses to be valued and tax consequences to be considered. While most of my cases settle at mediation, effective resolution requires preparation and knowledge of the marital estate and how its division might impact my client and his/her income stream.

(b) Custody: The bulk of my practice involves litigation and mediation of child-related issues. I frequently serve as court-appointed guardian ad litem in private custody actions, including preparation of final reports for and testimony at trial. I also serve as a mediator in custody and visitation matters. Last year I successfully tried a six-day custody case which had previously been deemed "complex." Prior to that, I settled a custody trial after four days of testimony, and litigated to completion an 11-day custody trial with my law partner.

(c) Adoption: I have served as guardian ad litem in private adoption actions and have represented adoptive step-parents and biological parents relinquishing his/her rights in private adoption matters.

(d) Abuse and neglect: I have been involved in DSS actions as counsel for a defendant accused of abuse or neglect. These cases were resolved prior to any merits hearings.

(e) Juvenile justice: While I have not appeared as counsel for juveniles in the family court, I am familiar with the statutes and caselaw involved in handling these matters and intend to conduct additional observations of juvenile hearings.

- (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, 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: None.
- (b) state: 1-5 times per week. This week, for example, I had one contested and four uncontested hearings in Charleston County Family Court.

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: 0%
 - (c) domestic: 100%
 - (d) other: n/a

14. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench involved matters that went to a jury, including those that settled prior to trial?
- (a) jury: 0%
 - (b) non-jury: 100%

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

Sole counsel.

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) Amanda M. Byfield v. Nathan F. Albertson, Case No. 2015-DR-2429, Charleston County Family Court. I represented the Defendant/Father in this child custody modification action. At the time Mother filed the lawsuit, the parties' older daughter had refused to visit Father for almost two years. The parties' younger daughter was beginning to refuse visitations. Mother sued to suspend Father's contact with the children and for an order allowing her to relocate with the children to the United Kingdom. I obtained an order appointing a joint expert, Dr. Allison Foster, to conduct a custody evaluation. Dr. Foster concluded that Mother was psychologically abusing the children through her campaign of denigration against Father. Following the release of Dr. Foster's report, I was able to negotiate for the younger daughter to begin exercising alternating weekly time with her father, thereby allowing her to establish a healthy bond with her newborn sister (from Father's second marriage). We were scheduled for a weeklong custody trial, but resolved the matter by agreement the morning trial was to commence. I authored the agreement, which included an intensive reunification program in Florida for Father and the parties' older daughter; the involvement of a parenting coordinator to oversee the family's aftercare; and a no-contact provision between Mother and the older daughter immediately following the reunification program. We also obtained a change of custody from Mother to Father.

- (b) Nathan F. Albertson v. Amanda M. Byfield, Case No. 2017-DR-10-2491, Charleston County Family Court. One year following the resolution of the case referenced above, Father was exercising substantial parenting time with both of his daughters. Mother refused to continue working with the parenting coordinator. As Mother's time with the older daughter gradually increased, however, that daughter began to decompose emotionally around Father. Ultimately, after spending one full week with her Mother for the first time since the reunification program, the older daughter (then age 17) refused to return to Father. I filed an emergency action, which was deemed complex. We sought and obtained an emergency ex parte order requiring the older daughter to return to her father's care. When she refused, the Court determined Mother was unfit to have custody of the children and DSS commenced an action against both parents. The older daughter remained in foster care until her emancipation, and I worked with both DSS and various mental health experts for the following year while the case was pending. Mother exercised supervised visitation with the younger daughter pending a merits hearing. After a six-day trial, my client was granted sole custody of the younger daughter, with Mother having minimum visitation and no long holidays. I was also granted attorney's fees. In an award of attorney's fees for my client, the Court indicated in its Final Order, "Plaintiff's counsel in this case enjoys the hard-earned reputation of being competent, ethical and extremely professional."
- (c) Patricia Ong v. Jerry Ong, Case No. 2012-DR-10-4340, Charleston County Family Court. I represented the Plaintiff/Wife in a divorce from her husband on the ground of adultery after 35 years of marriage. Husband owned interests in multiple commercial real estate companies with complex investments. His stream of income, as well as the value of the assets, were both at issue. We agreed to binding arbitration of the financial issues and after a four-day hearing, which included direct and cross examination of multiple experts, I successfully obtained substantial alimony and more than fifty percent of the marital estate, as well as legal fees, for my client.
- (d) Tanya Lewellyn v. Justin James, Case No. 2009-DR-10-1253, Dorchester County Family Court. I represented the Plaintiff/Mother in a custody modification action spanning over two years. After multiple depositions and voluminous discovery, we attended four days of a weeklong trial. With encouragement from the trial judge, we ultimately settled the matter with a detailed final agreement. At the time of trial, I was nursing an eight-week-old baby, but I was able to successfully litigate and ultimately resolve a high-conflict custody matter.
- (e) Gitter v. Gitter, Case No. 2008-DR-10-2865, Charleston County Family Court. I represented the Defendant/Mother in this 11-day custody modification trial. Mother was represented by several other attorneys prior to retaining my law firm shortly before trial. I prepared for approximately two dozen witnesses, including experts. Following trial, my client transitioned from supervised time with her daughter to unsupervised, regular weekend contact. This case was impactful due to the tremendous amount of preparation for court and the substantial time in the courtroom.

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) Nancy W. McGowan v. Philip A. McGowan, M.D. et al., S.C. Court of Appeals. This was an appeal filed from the Charleston County Family Court by the opposing party during the pendency of the underlying divorce case. I successfully negotiated the voluntary dismissal of this interlocutory appeal after initial briefs but prior to any oral argument.

(b) In the case of post-trial appeals, I have associated appellate counsel and have remained actively involved in the appellate process, but not as counsel of record.

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.

I have not handled criminal appeals.

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.

I have not held judicial office.

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.

State of South Carolina, 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) Moderator and course organizer, South Carolina Bar guardian ad litem training and update seminar in 2018, 2019, (planning 2020)

(b) Presenter, Charleston County Bar Association "What Works for Your Practice" (in area of family law), 2018

(c) Presenter, South Carolina Bar guardian ad litem training, 2017

(d) Presenter, South Carolina Bar guardian ad litem training, 2014

(e) Presenter, South Carolina Bar's Hot Tips from the Coolest Domestic Law Practitioners, 2013

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

Please see attachment.

23. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.

I prepared written materials for the various continuing legal education seminars referenced above in #21. I also served as editor of South Carolina Family Law Mediation, a Guide for Mediators and Attorneys authored by Sean Keefer, with an anticipated publication date of 2019 by the South Carolina Bar.

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.)

Please see attached a Final Order which I authored after receiving a memorandum of instruction from the trial judge. Also attached is a sample of one of my guardian reports.

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.

Selected as Super Lawyers Rising Star in the area of family law in years 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016.

26. List all bar associations and professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices you have held in such groups.

(a) South Carolina Bar Association – Family Law Section
(b) Charleston County Bar Association
(c) South Carolina Women Lawyers Association
(d) South Carolina Resolution of Fee Disputes

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.

I have not held public office previously.

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.

I have never been a candidate for any public office previously.

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.

I have not been engaged in any profession other than the practice of law.

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.

I am sole proprietor of my law firm, Stokes Family Law & Mediation, LLC. In addition to practicing law, serving as guardian ad litem, and acting as mediator in various cases, I maintain thorough and accurate financial records and ensure client trust accounts are balanced.

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.

I have never been employed as a lobbyist or acted in the capacity of a lobbyist's principal.

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.

Please see attachment.

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.

None of the above are applicable.

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.

I have not accepted any thing of value from any lobbyist or lobbyist's principal.

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?

I have no expenditures related to my candidacy.

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.

- (a) Samuel Rivers, Jr., \$250 by Stokes & Haselden, LLC
- (b) Sylleste Davis, \$100 by Stokes & Haselden, LLC
- (c) Peter McCoy \$100 by Stokes & Haselden, LLC
- (d) Peter McCoy, \$1,000 in 2015 and \$1,000 in 2018 by McCoy & Stokes, LLC (Husband's law firm)
- (e) Sandy Senn, \$500 by McCoy & Stokes, LLC (Husband's law firm)
- (f) Greg Hembree, \$500 by McCoy & Stokes, LLC (Husband's law firm)

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.

Neither I nor anyone on my behalf have solicited or collected funds for my candidacy.

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.

My husband practices in the family court, so I would not hear any of his cases. I am renting office space from attorney Jerry N. Theos, with whom I also serve as co-counsel in various family court actions. I do not believe it would be appropriate for me to hear Theos Law Firm cases due to the potential appearance of impropriety.

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.

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 which are 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.

I have not been investigated to my knowledge.

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 not been sued by any clients or had any grievances, fee disputes, or other complaints filed against me.

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 maintained malpractice insurance consistently since being licensed to practice law. \$5,000 deductible, \$500,000/claim and \$1,000,000/aggregate.

49. Have you ever, in South Carolina or any other jurisdiction, as a lawyer, judge, or other professional, been 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 sanction, discipline, or finding of misconduct of any kind.

[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.

I have not been investigated by the Department of Social Services or enrolled on the Central Registry.

Note: The flash drive with your application materials contains (1) Section 2-19-70(c); (2) JMSC Rule 24, (3) Memo of Guidance, and (4) informal opinions and letters concerning pledging prohibitions, with which third parties acting on your behalf, as well as you, must comply.

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.

I have not.

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.

I have not.

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?

I am familiar with the 48-hour rule.

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.

I have not, nor has anyone on my behalf, contacted any member of the JMSC about my candidacy or intention to become a candidate.

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 packet.*

(a) Mark O. Andrews, Esq.
Andrews Mediation & Law Firm, LLC

[REDACTED]

(b) The Honorable Lisa Kinon (Family Court, Retired)

[REDACTED]

(c) Margie A. Pizarro, Esq.
Pizarro Law Firm, LLC

[REDACTED]

(d) Rev. Cameron Smith

[REDACTED]

(e) Howie Witz, CLU, ChFC
Vice President, The Witz Weichsel Group
Merrill Lynch

[REDACTED]

56. Are you active on or a member of a social media or Internet site or have you, to your knowledge, been featured or depicted on a social media or Internet site, such as, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.? If so, 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 have profiles on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Pinterest and Instagram, primarily for networking and business-building. While not required, I would discontinue the use of social media upon being elected due to avoid the potential for appearances of impropriety.

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, any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere.

(a) Trustee, James Island Presbyterian Church, Charleston, SC

(b) Treasurer, James Island Charter High School Board of Directors

(c) Member, James Island Yacht Club Ladies Auxiliary

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.

From a young age I recognized the importance of public service. My mother and father met as parole officers for the Department of Juvenile Justice, and later my father was a director at DJJ in Columbia prior to taking a position as administrator for the Laurens County School District. My mother earned a degree in Special Education and taught for over 30 years. Watching my parents serve in public education in a low-income school district opened my eyes to many families' challenges. It was not unusual for our family to deliver clothing or food to a student my mother knew was in need. I was also raised to volunteer my time and talents with our local community. For example, I volunteered in a classroom with special needs children, with the hospital auxiliary, and without various church fundraisers and community outreach activities.

I attended Presbyterian College, where our school's motto is "Dum Vivimus Servimus" ("while I live, I serve"). We were encouraged to give back wherever and whenever possible. In addition to volunteering with Special Olympics, I was elected Chair of our school's Honor Council. At that time, PC's Honor Code was enforced by its student led counsel, to include making decisions involving expulsion from the school for alleged violations. It was there I first realized that justice is a balance between accountability and compassion.

Throughout my adolescence and young adulthood, I also observed my grandfather, the Honorable Julius H. Baggett (Circuit Court, Retired), give back to his community through his time on the bench. He was known best, perhaps, for his fiery temperament, but also for his empathy toward litigants and criminal defendants often accused of heinous crimes – but always innocent until proven guilty in his courtroom. He exemplified impartiality, while upholding the rule of law and being careful not to legislate from the bench.

Each of these stages of my life influenced my desire to attend law school, where I immediately felt pulled toward the practice of family law. It is difficult to imagine another area of law wielding the possibility of upheaval to the family dynamic more so than a divorce, youth arrest, or abuse/neglect situation. My desire in law school, and now, is to help people wherever situated and in whatever way equipped I might be. While I have a thriving family law practice and truly enjoy the litigation, mediation, and guardian ad litem work I do on a daily basis, I cannot ignore the call I feel to public service. I believe that my 13 years of practice have prepared me for this tremendous step. A litigant's day in court is a day which could change his or her life forever. It is critical that our finders of fact and law be well-equipped, well-respected, and beyond ethical reproach. I am well qualified in each area needed to ensure the ends of justice are met. It would be an honor to serve the State of South Carolina in the capacity of 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 July, 2019.

(Notary Signature)
Janet S. Hadaway
Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission Expires: _____