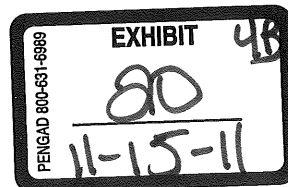


**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION  
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying:  
Circuit Court, Twelfth Judicial Circuit, Seat 1

1. NAME: Mr. Michael Nettles  
BUSINESS ADDRESS: 180 N. Irby Street, MSC XX  
Florence, SC 29501  
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (office): 843-292-7433
2. Date of Birth: 1959  
Place of Birth: Lake City/Florence County, South Carolina
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
5. Family Status: Married on May 17, 1986, to Donna Jean Nettles. Never divorced, three children.
6. Have you served in the military? No
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) 1977-81 Wofford College, Bachelor of Arts in Economics;
  - (b) 1981-84 University of South Carolina School of Law, Juris Doctrate.
8. 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. If you took the bar exam more than once in any of the states listed, please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state. South Carolina
9. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at college, graduate, and law school. Give the dates you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.
  - (a) Wofford College – Member of the football team in 1979
  - (b) USC School of Law – Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity
10. Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years. Include only the title and date of any continuing legal or judicial education course completed.
 

<u>Conference/CLE Name</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>
(a) 2006 Annual Judicial Conference	08/23/06;
(b) 2006 Annual Solicitor’s Conference	09/24/06;
(c) National Judicial College General Jurisdiction 10/16 through 10/27/06;	
(d) 22 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Criminal Law Update	01/26/07;
(e) 5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Civil Law Update	01/26/07;
(f) 2007 Annual Judicial Conference	08/22/07;
(g) SCDTAA Annual Meeting	11/01/07;



- (h) 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual SC Criminal Law Update 01/25/08;
- (i) 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Civil Law Update 01/25/08;
- (j) 2008 Judicial Conference 08/20/08;
- (k) SCDTAA Annual Meeting 11/13/08;
- (l) 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Civil Law Update 01/23/09;
- (m) 24<sup>th</sup> Annual SC Criminal Law Update 01/23/09;
- (n) Recent Developments in Peer 01/24/09;
- (o) 2010 Judicial Conference 08/18/2010;
- (p) Sporting Clays CLE: Ethics with 10/28/10;
- (q) Criminal Law Section 01/21/11;
- (r) Trial & Appellate Advocacy Section 01/21/2011;
- (s) Circuit Court Judges' Conference 05/04/11.

11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs?

- (a) I addressed the Solicitor Convention concerning new developments in Criminal Law in 2007;
- (b) I addressed the Public Defender Convention concerning Differential Case Management 2009;
- (c) I participated in Panel Discussions on Ethics CLE in 2010;
- (d) Guest Lecturer at Business Law course at Francis Marion University 2008 and 2009.

12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each. None

13. 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 in 1984;
- (b) Also admitted to practice before the Federal District Court and Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in 1984.

14. Describe chronologically your legal experience since graduation from law school and include a list of all law firms with which you have been associated. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years.

I was engaged in the general practice of law in Lake City, South Carolina as a partner in the firm of Nettles, Turbeville & Reddick, for twenty years. Over the last five years, I handled 959 cases (680 criminal, 176 civil, 37 real estate transactions, 26 domestic cases.) As the years progressed, two of my partners have practiced real estate exclusively and my sister has practiced domestic law exclusively. In the early years of my practice, there was a more equal division of caseload. During the last five years of my practice, I only handled domestic matters and real estate transactions for ongoing clients.

15. What is your rating, if any, by any legal rating organization, such as, Best Lawyers, Chambers, Legal 500, Martindale-Hubbell, Who's Who Legal, Super Lawyers, etc.? If you are currently a member of the judiciary, list your last available rating, if any. BV
22. Have you ever held judicial office?
- (a) Circuit Court for Twelfth Judicial Circuit, Seat 1
- (b) Elected 2/2/05 and began serving 1/3/06
23. If the answer to question 22 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) Mitchell v. Fortis Insurance, 385 S.C. 570, 686 S.E.2d 176 (2010)  
In this case, a policyholder brought causes of action for Breach of Contract and bad faith rescission against insurance company. The jury awarded \$15,150,000.00. Numerous orders were issued and many evidentiary rulings were affirmed, however, the Supreme Court reduced the verdict to \$10,150,000.00
- (b) Willis v. Wukela, 379 S.C. 126, 665 S.E.2d 171 (2008)  
South Carolina Supreme Court affirmed my ruling, clarifying S.C. Code Section 7-13-350 and its application.
- (c) Estate of Stokes v. Pee Dee Family Physicians, 389 S.C.343, 699 S.E.2d 143 (2010)  
This case clarifies the wrongful death statute and establishes that this statute does not extend the statute of limitations. This decision was affirmed by the South Carolina Court of Appeals.
- (d) Bazen v. Badger R. Bazen Company, Inc., 388 S.C. 58, 693 S.E.2d 516 (2009)  
This case clarifies the calculation of average weekly wages within the Workers' Compensation statute.
- (e) James Nathaniel Bryant, III v. State of South Carolina  
I have enclosed the text of an order that I drafted denying applicant's request for Post Conviction Relief in this Capitol Murder trial. This order is pending before the South Carolina Supreme Court.
24. 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? None
25. 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
26. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? No

27. 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? No
28. 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 an officer and director of M & D Properties wherein my wife and I own rental property.
29. A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission.
30. 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. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest. None
31. 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? No
32. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? No
33. 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? No
34. Have you ever been sued, either personally or professionally, that is, have you ever been named as defendant or respondent in any court of law?
- (a) Charles O. Hall v. Michael Nettles, et al  
October 13, 2006. This is a federal action filed by a *pro se* individual who is incarcerated in the South Carolina Department of Corrections. I was one of 18 defendants, three of which were Circuit Court Judges. I have never been served with this lawsuit and have no independent recollection of Charles Hall. I cannot glean from the pleadings the nature of the cause of action nor what claim he has against me.
- (b) Jerva Edward James v. State of South Carolina, Michael Nettles, et al  
July 2, 2008. 3:08 CV 02413-HFF  
Jerva Edwards is a *pro se* Plaintiff who filed this lawsuit alleging he served time in excess of his sentence. Although this lawsuit is filed in Federal Court, I have never been served with the pleadings.
- (c) T. Terrell Bryan v. Michael Nettles, et al  
January 7, 2010. 4:10 CV 00027-TLW  
This is a *pro se* civil action filed alleging irregularities in Plaintiff's indictment. Although this lawsuit was filed, I have never been served with the pleadings.
- (d) David Washington v. Michael Nettles, et al  
March 2, 2007. 4:07 CV 00619-RBH

This is a *pro se* Plaintiff who brought a lawsuit concerning an automobile accident. He named me, Judge Thomas A. Russo, Magistrate Cox, the Clerk of Court and others. I have never been served with this lawsuit and cannot glean from the pleadings what his cause of action is or how I am involved in this controversy.

- (e) United States of America v. Kenneth Wade Stone, Michael Nettles, et al  
August 1992. 92-CP-21-1199

This was a foreclosure action against Kenneth Wade Stone. By virtue of attorney's fees awarded in a domestic action, I was named as a creditor.

- (f) Ora Galbreath v. Michael Nettles  
May 2, 2003. 03-CP-21-844

The Defendant is not me. There are three people named Michael Nettles in Lake City alone. This must be one of them.

- (g) Eric Sebnick v. Michael G. Nettles  
September 9, 2004. 04-CP-21-1647

This is a personal injury lawsuit that was filed out of a minor automobile collision that took place in a parking lot. I was at fault. The case was settled for a portion of the chiropractor's bills incurred by the Plaintiff.

36. 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? No
37. 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)? No
38. 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
39. S.C. Code § 8-13-700 provides, in part, that "[n]o public official, public member, or public employee may knowingly use his official office, membership, or employment to obtain an economic interest for himself, a member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. None
40. S.C. Code § 8-13-765 provides, in part, that "[n]o person may use government personnel, equipment, materials, or an office building in an election campaign." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. None
41. 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

42. List the amount and recipient of all contributions made by you or on your behalf to members of the General Assembly since the announcement of your intent to seek election to a judgeship. None
43. 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? 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
44. Have you requested a friend or colleague to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf? Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf? No
45. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? No
46. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? No
47. 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) Florence County Bar Association, Member and Treasurer in 1989;
  - (b) South Carolina Bar Association, Bar Number 4198.
48. 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.
- Florence Country Club
49. 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.
- I was a volunteer coach in the Lake City Recreation Department, coaching baseball, softball, and football. I am very active in the Lake City First Baptist Church. I teach the Young Men's Sunday School Class and direct and participate in the Foreign Mission program.
50. References:
- (a) W. Henry Johnson, President,  
W. Lee Flowers and Co. Inc.  
Post Office Box 1629, Lake City, SC 29560  
(843) 389-2731
  - (b) Richard W. McCutcheon, Senior Vice President  
The Citizens Bank  
Post Office Drawer 1059, Lake City, SC 29560  
(843) 374-2058
  - (c) K. G. "Rusty" Smith, Jr., Chairman

Florence County Council  
Post Office Box 369, Lake City, SC 29560  
(843) 210-7368

- (d) S.K. Brockington, Jr., Chief  
South Lynches Fire Department  
346 S. Ron McNair Blvd., Lake City, SC 29560  
(843) 374-8690
- (e) Shane A. Patrick, Pastor  
Lake City Baptist Church  
135 South Church Street, Lake City, SC 29560  
(843) 374-8521
- (f) James W. Cook  
Post Office Box 1294, Lake City, SC 29560  
(843) 373-3939

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: Michael G. Nettles

Date: August 1, 2011