

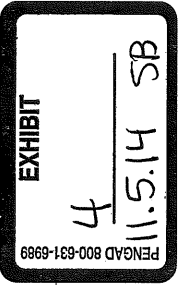
Midlands Citizens Committee Report

Circuit Court, Seat 9

Candidate's Name: Tanya Gee

Fall Screening 2014

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>1. Constitutional Qualifications:</b> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.</p>			X
<p><b>2. Ethical Fitness:</b> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.</p>			X
<p><b>3. Professional and Academic Ability:</b> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.</p>		X	
<p><b>4. Character:</b> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.</p>			X
<p><b>5. Reputation:</b> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.</p>			X
<p><b>6. Physical Health:</b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>		X	
<p><b>7. Mental Stability:</b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X



	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
8. <b>Experience:</b> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.		X	
9. <b>Judicial Temperament:</b> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

**Related Comments:** Ms. Gee has impressive credentials in the area of appellate law. Such attorneys also acquire exceptional knowledge of case law and statute law, and, no doubt, has Ms. Gee. The committee has questions about her lack of trial experience.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Ms. Gee's lack of trial experience prevents her from being well-qualified, but otherwise, she is qualified to serve as a Circuit Court Judge.

  
Steven D. Dennis

September 15, 2014

Tanya Gee  
Candidate Name

**Midlands Citizens Committee Report  
Master In Equity Richland County**

**Candidate's Name: Hon. Joseph M. Strickland  
Fall Screening 2014**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<b>1. <u>Constitutional Qualifications:</u></b> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
<b>2. <u>Ethical Fitness:</u></b> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
<b>3. <u>Professional and Academic Ability:</u></b> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
<b>4. <u>Character:</u></b> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
<b>5. <u>Reputation:</u></b> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
<b>6. <u>Physical Health:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
<b>7. <u>Mental Stability:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>8. Experience:</b> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.</p>			X
<p><b>9. Judicial Temperament:</b> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.</p>			X

**Related Comments:** Judge Strickland has served Richland County with honor and dedication for years. He has a well-earned reputation as one of the pre-eminent Masters in this State.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Judge Strickland is eminently qualified to serve as Master in Equity

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Steven D. Dennis**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**9/15/14**  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**The Honorable Joseph M. Strickland**

**Midlands Citizens Committee Report  
Administrative Law Court, Seat 3**

**Candidate's Name: Hon. Deborah Brooks Durden  
Fall Screening 2014**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>1. <u>Constitutional Qualifications:</u></b> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.</p>			X
<p><b>2. <u>Ethical Fitness:</u></b> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.</p>			X
<p><b>3. <u>Professional and Academic Ability:</u></b> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.</p>			X
<p><b>4. <u>Character:</u></b> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.</p>			X
<p><b>5. <u>Reputation:</u></b> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.</p>			X
<p><b>6. <u>Physical Health:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X
<p><b>7. <u>Mental Stability:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>8. Experience:</b> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.</p>			X
<p><b>9. Judicial Temperament:</b> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.</p>			X

**Related Comments:** Judge Durden is obviously very bright and engaged in her profession. She has excellent knowledge and demeanor. She is well-respected by her colleagues.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Judge Durden is eminently qualified to serve as Administrative Law Judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Steven D. Dennis**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 9/15/14  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
**The Honorable Deborah B. Durden**

**Midlands Citizens Committee Report  
Administrative Law Court, Seat 3**

**Candidate's Name: Harold W. Funderburk, Jr.  
Fall Screening 2014**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>1. <u>Constitutional Qualifications:</u></b> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.</p>			X
<p><b>2. <u>Ethical Fitness:</u></b> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.</p>			X
<p><b>3. <u>Professional and Academic Ability:</u></b> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.</p>			X
<p><b>4. <u>Character:</u></b> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.</p>		X	
<p><b>5. <u>Reputation:</u></b> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.</p>			X
<p><b>6. <u>Physical Health:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X
<p><b>7. <u>Mental Stability:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
8. <b>Experience:</b> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. <b>Judicial Temperament:</b> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

**Related Comments:** Mr. Funderburk has an impressive breadth of knowledge and experience. His direct dealings with administrative law over a long public service career should qualify him for this position. This committee had questions about the tax lien and foreclosures.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Mr. Funderburk is qualified to serve as Administrative Law Judge

Steven D. Dennis

9/15/14  
Date

Harold W. Funderburk, Jr.



**Midlands Citizens Committee Report  
Administrative Law Court, Seat 3  
Candidate's Name: Hon. Carolyn Cason Matthews  
Fall Screening 2014**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>1. <u>Constitutional Qualifications:</u></b> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.</p>			X
<p><b>2. <u>Ethical Fitness:</u></b> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.</p>			X
<p><b>3. <u>Professional and Academic Ability:</u></b> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.</p>			X
<p><b>4. <u>Character:</u></b> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.</p>			X
<p><b>5. <u>Reputation:</u></b> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.</p>			X
<p><b>6. <u>Physical Health:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X
<p><b>7. <u>Mental Stability:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
8. <b>Experience:</b> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
9. <b>Judicial Temperament:</b> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

**Related Comments:** Judge Matthews is well respected amongst both bench and bar. She has all the necessary qualifications to be an outstanding judge.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Judge Matthews is eminently qualified to serve as Administrative Law Judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Steven D. Dennis**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**9/15/14**  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**The Honorable Carolyn C. Matthews**

**Midlands Citizens Committee Report  
Circuit Court, Seat 9**

**Candidate's Name: Ervin Mave  
Fall Screening 2014**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>1. <u>Constitutional Qualifications:</u></b> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.</p>			X
<p><b>2. <u>Ethical Fitness:</u></b> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.</p>			X
<p><b>3. <u>Professional and Academic Ability:</u></b> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.</p>			X
<p><b>4. <u>Character:</u></b> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.</p>			X
<p><b>5. <u>Reputation:</u></b> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.</p>			X
<p><b>6. <u>Physical Health:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X
<p><b>7. <u>Mental Stability:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>8. Experience:</b> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.</p> <p><b>9. Judicial Temperament:</b> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.</p>		X	

**Related Comments:** Mr. Maye is obviously a very good prosecutor. He appears bright and full of energy. Some on this committee question his lack of civil experience and whether he would have difficulty being completely fair to criminal defendants after a lifetime on the other side.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Mr. Maye is qualified to serve as a Circuit Court Judge

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**Steven D. Dennis**

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**9/15/14**  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Ervin Maye**

**Midlands Citizens Committee Report  
Circuit Court, Seat 9**

**Candidate's Name: Jocelyn Newman  
Fall Screening 2014**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>1. <u>Constitutional Qualifications:</u></b> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.</p>			X
<p><b>2. <u>Ethical Fitness:</u></b> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.</p>			X
<p><b>3. <u>Professional and Academic Ability:</u></b> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.</p>			X
<p><b>4. <u>Character:</u></b> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.</p>			X
<p><b>5. <u>Reputation:</u></b> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.</p>			X
<p><b>6. <u>Physical Health:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X
<p><b>7. <u>Mental Stability:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>8. Experience:</b> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.</p> <p><b>9. Judicial Temperament:</b> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.</p>		X	
			X

**Related Comments:** Ms. Newman made a very positive impression on this committee in every way. We can certainly see her as a Circuit Court Judge, but some think she needs more seasoning, both in life experiences and in the courtroom.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Ms. Newman is qualified to serve as a Circuit Court Judge

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**Steven D. Dennis**

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**9/15/14**  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jocelyn Newman**

**Midlands Citizens Committee Report**

**Circuit Court, Seat 9**

**Candidate's Name: Grady Patterson, III**  
**Fall Screening 2014**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>1. <u>Constitutional Qualifications:</u></b> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.</p>			X
<p><b>2. <u>Ethical Fitness:</u></b> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.</p>			X
<p><b>3. <u>Professional and Academic Ability:</u></b> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.</p>			X
<p><b>4. <u>Character:</u></b> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.</p>			X
<p><b>5. <u>Reputation:</u></b> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.</p>			X
<p><b>6. <u>Physical Health:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X
<p><b>7. <u>Mental Stability:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>8. Experience:</b> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.</p> <p><b>9. Judicial Temperament:</b> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.</p>			X
			X

**Related Comments:** Mr. Patterson is a very intellectual attorney with vast civil experience. While he has limited criminal court experience in private practice, he has considerable court martial experience in the Air Force. He is a very impressive candidate.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Mr. Patterson is well-qualified to serve as a Circuit Court Judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Steven D. Dennis**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**9/15/14**  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Grady L. Patterson, III**



**Midlands Citizens Committee Report  
Circuit Court, Seat 9**

**Candidate's Name: Robert Reibold  
Fall Screening 2014**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>1. Constitutional Qualifications:</b> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.</p>			X
<p><b>2. Ethical Fitness:</b> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.</p>			X
<p><b>3. Professional and Academic Ability:</b> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.</p>			X
<p><b>4. Character:</b> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.</p>			X
<p><b>5. Reputation:</b> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.</p>			X
<p><b>6. Physical Health:</b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X
<p><b>7. Mental Stability:</b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<b>8. Experience:</b> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
<b>9. Judicial Temperament:</b> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

**Related Comments:** Mr. Reibold is an impressive attorney with a wealth of civil experience. We question his experience in the criminal field. He is obviously bright, intellectual, and very motivated.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Mr. Reibold is well qualified to serve as a Circuit Court Judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Steven D. Dennis**

9/15/14  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Robert Reibold**

## Midlands Citizens Committee Report

Circuit Court, Seat 9

Candidate's Name: Clifford Scott  
Spring Screening 2014

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>1. <u>Constitutional Qualifications:</u></b> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.</p>			X
<p><b>2. <u>Ethical Fitness:</u></b> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.</p>			X
<p><b>3. <u>Professional and Academic Ability:</u></b> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.</p>			X
<p><b>4. <u>Character:</u></b> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.</p>		X	
<p><b>5. <u>Reputation:</u></b> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.</p>			X
<p><b>6. <u>Physical Health:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X
<p><b>7. <u>Mental Stability:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<b>8. Experience:</b> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
<b>9. Judicial Temperament:</b> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, composity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

**Related Comments:** Mr. Scott is one of the few candidates who has considerable experience in civil litigation and as a prosecutor and defense attorney – that experience is impressive. He is quite intelligent and has a charming personality. This committee had questions about the tax lien.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Mr. Scott is well qualified for the position of Circuit Court Judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Steven D. Dennis**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**9/15/14**  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Clifford Scott**

**Midlands Citizens Committee Report  
Circuit Court Judge at Large, Seat 10**

**Candidate's Name: Hon. James R. Barber, III.**

**Fall Screening 2014**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<b>1. <u>Constitutional Qualifications:</u></b> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
<b>2. <u>Ethical Fitness:</u></b> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
<b>3. <u>Professional and Academic Ability:</u></b> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
<b>4. <u>Character:</u></b> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
<b>5. <u>Reputation:</u></b> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
<b>6. <u>Physical Health:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
<b>7. <u>Mental Stability:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<b>8. Experience:</b> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
<b>9. Judicial Temperament:</b> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

**Related Comments:** Judge Barber has served for many years as an outstanding Circuit Court Judge. He is a dedicated jurist who works hard at his craft. He is respected by all.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Judge Barber is eminently qualified to serve as a Circuit Court Judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Steven D. Dennis**

9/15/14  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**The Honorable James R. Barber, III**

**Midlands Citizens Committee Report  
Master In Equity**

**Candidate's Name: Hon. Martin R. Banks  
Fall Screening 2014**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<b>1. <u>Constitutional Qualifications:</u></b> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
<b>2. <u>Ethical Fitness:</u></b> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
<b>3. <u>Professional and Academic Ability:</u></b> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
<b>4. <u>Character:</u></b> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
<b>5. <u>Reputation:</u></b> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
<b>6. <u>Physical Health:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
<b>7. <u>Mental Stability:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>8. Experience:</b> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.</p> <p><b>9. Judicial Temperament:</b> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.</p>			X
			X

**Related Comments:** Judge Barnes is a bright, engaging man. He has an excellent grasp of his job and the proper demeanor required.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Judge Barnes is eminently qualified to serve as Master in Equity

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Steven D. Dennis**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**9/15/14**  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**The Honorable Martin R. Banks**



**Midlands Citizens Committee Report**  
**Retired Judge**

**Candidate's Name: Hon. G. Thomas Cooper, Jr.**  
**Fall Screening 2014**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<b>1. <u>Constitutional Qualifications:</u></b> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
<b>2. <u>Ethical Fitness:</u></b> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
<b>3. <u>Professional and Academic Ability:</u></b> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
<b>4. <u>Character:</u></b> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
<b>5. <u>Reputation:</u></b> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
<b>6. <u>Physical Health:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
<b>7. <u>Mental Stability:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>8. Experience:</b> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.</p> <p><b>9. Judicial Temperament:</b> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.</p>			X
			X

**Related Comments:** Judge Cooper is one of the pre-eminent circuit judges in South Carolina. He is well known to be intelligent, fair and even-handed. He is obviously dedicated to his profession.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Judge Cooper is eminently qualified to serve as a judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Steven D. Dennis**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**9/15/14**  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**The Honorable G. Thomas Cooper, Jr.**

**Midlands Citizens Committee Report  
Retired Judge**

**Candidate's Name: Hon. Jasper Cureton  
Fall Screening 2014**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<b>1. <u>Constitutional Qualifications:</u></b> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.			X
<b>2. <u>Ethical Fitness:</u></b> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.			X
<b>3. <u>Professional and Academic Ability:</u></b> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.			X
<b>4. <u>Character:</u></b> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.			X
<b>5. <u>Reputation:</u></b> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.			X
<b>6. <u>Physical Health:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X
<b>7. <u>Mental Stability:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>8. Experience:</b> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.</p>			X
<p><b>9. Judicial Temperament:</b> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.</p>			X

**Related Comments:** Judge Cureton has served with distinction and has earned his reputation for fairness, even temperament, and knowledge of the law

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Judge Cureton is eminently qualified to serve as a judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Steven D. Dennis**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**9/15/14**  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**The Honorable Jasper Cureton**

**Midlands Citizens Committee Report  
Fifth Judicial Circuit, Seat 3**

**Candidate's Name: Hon. Robert Hood  
Fall Screening 2014**

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<p><b>1. <u>Constitutional Qualifications:</u></b> A candidate must meet the constitutional or statutory requirements of citizenship, residence, age, and professional experience.</p>			X
<p><b>2. <u>Ethical Fitness:</u></b> A candidate must have the ability to perform adjudicative duties impartially and to deal with litigants, lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom participants objectively and without bias. A candidate should have a sense of humor and must exhibit trustworthiness, moral vigor, and strength of character. A candidate's past action and deeds should demonstrate consistent adherence to high ethical principles and his or her reputation should be above reproach. A candidate must also follow campaigning and pledging laws. At a minimum, a sitting judge will be expected to have complied with the Code of Judicial Conduct's requirements to avoid impropriety, the appearance of impropriety, and partiality.</p>			X
<p><b>3. <u>Professional and Academic Ability:</u></b> A candidate is expected to be well-versed in fundamental legal principles and in procedural and evidentiary rules. A candidate must have the ability to communicate in a style that is both lucid and persuasive and must have the intellectual capacity to interpret established legal principles, apply them to specific factual situations, and clearly and logically communicate the reasoning leading up to his or her conclusion. A candidate's academic record, participation in continuing legal education or other seminars, legal writing, and reputation among professional colleagues to evaluate legal knowledge and ability will be reviewed. On the appellate court level, consideration will be given to a candidate's ability to work well with others and to build or reach a consensus when appropriate.</p>			X
<p><b>4. <u>Character:</u></b> The character of a candidate regarding his or her ethical standards, work habits, and financial responsibility, will be reviewed, as well as a thorough investigation of any complaints, grievances, or criminal allegations made against a candidate.</p>			X
<p><b>5. <u>Reputation:</u></b> Consideration of a candidate's background will include the following: 1) the non-legal experience; 2) the candidate's involvement in community affairs, public office, or pro bono work; or 3) the candidate's views on social issues and his or her desire to affect public policy. A review will be undertaken to ensure a candidate has followed the Code of Judicial Conduct's prohibition against certain extra-judicial activities and rules governing the use of judicial office.</p>			X
<p><b>6. <u>Physical Health:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X
<p><b>7. <u>Mental Stability:</u></b> The demands of the judicial office require a high level of performance, and a candidate must be both mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the office sought with or without reasonable accommodation for any mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.</p>			X

	Unqualified	Qualified	Well Qualified
<b>8. Experience:</b> The extent and variety of a candidate's experience as an attorney or as a judge or both should be considered in light of the nature of the judicial vacancy to be filled.			X
<b>9. Judicial Temperament:</b> A candidate's ability to consistently exhibit exemplary judicial temperament will be reviewed. Among the qualities that comprise such a temperament are patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, firmness, understanding, compassion, and humility. Factors that indicate a lack of judicial temperament include arrogance, impatience, pomposity, arbitrariness, and tyranny.			X

**Related Comments:** Judge Hood is fairly new to his position, but it is obvious that he brings a lot of enthusiasm and knowledge to the job. He enjoys an excellent reputation among the bench and bar.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Judge Hood is eminently qualified to serve as a Circuit Court Judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Steven D. Dennis**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**9/15/14**  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**The Honorable Robert Hood**