

JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION  
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE  
FOR RETIRED JUDGES/JUSTICES

NAME: The Honorable G. Thomas Cooper, Jr.

BUSINESS ADDRESS: P.O. Box 192  
Columbia, SC 29202

BUSINESS TELEPHONE: 803-576-1783

2. Date and Place of Birth: November 2, 1940; Wilmington, Delaware

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 September 1, 1979, to Hope Howell Cooper. Divorced in 1978; Patricia Dawkins Cooper; Family Court, Kershaw County; One year separation, three children.

6. Briefly describe your continuing legal or judicial education since your last screening. Include only the title and date of any continuing legal or judicial education course completed.

<u>Conference/CLE Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
S.C. Bar Convention Civil & Criminal Law Updates	2010;
Circuit Judges Conference CLE Sessions	
S.C. Bar Convention Civil & Criminal Law Updates	2011;
Circuit Judges Conference CLE Sessions	
S.C. Bar Convention Civil & Criminal Law Updates	2012;
Circuit Judges Conference CLE Sessions	
S.C. Bar Convention Civil & Criminal Law Updates	2013;
Circuit Judges Conference CLE Sessions	
Circuit Judges Conference CLE Sessions	2014.

7. Have you practiced law or served as a mediator or arbitrator since your retirement from the judiciary?

I have mediated several cases in the Columbia area.

8. List your positions of employment on and/or appointment to the bench chronologically. You are not required to list dates of employment or appointment prior to your last screening.

Circuit Judge 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit 2009-12; Retired/Active Judge, 5th Judicial Circuit 2013-Present.

9. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise?

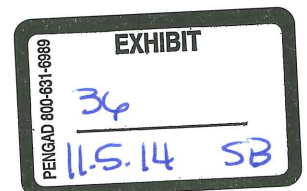
No.

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

11. Since your last screening, have you 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.

12. Since your last screening, have you, to your knowledge, been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? No.

13. Since your last screening, has a tax lien or other collection procedure been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Since your last screening, have you defaulted on a



- student loan? Since your last screening, have you filed for bankruptcy? No.
14. Since your last screening, have you been sued, either personally or professionally? No.
16. Since your last screening, have you been criticized, whether informally or in a matter taken to a disciplinary authority, for the manner in which you treated litigants or attorneys before you on the bench? No.
17. Describe your personal policy for the acceptance of food, meals, beverages, lodging, transportation, entertainment, social hospitality, or other things of value from an attorney, a group of attorneys, or from other individuals.

Pursuant to Canon 4 of the Code of Judicial Conduct, I will only accept "ordinary social hospitality." I have not, and will not, dine or otherwise socialize with parties or attorneys that have matters pending before me. I do accept invitations and/or meals from various bar groups. I am always conscious of the "appearance of impropriety" when in the company of litigants or attorneys.

18. Have you ever accepted anything of value from an attorney or litigant in a matter currently or previously before you or your court? No.
19. Provide any other information which 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. Only my 14 years of service on the bench.
20. For the last fully completed calendar year, itemize the income, expenses, fees, payments, or additional benefits exceeding \$500, in the aggregate, received by you or a member of your immediate family from SC state and local entities. List the type, source, and amount or value of the benefit. Be sure to list any expense reimbursement you received separately from your income. None
21. 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 SC state or local public agency;
  - (b) in which there have been public improvements of \$200 or that adjoins property in which there have been public improvements of \$200; or
  - (c) which was sold, leased, or rented to a state or local public agency in SC.
- None.

List the interest you hold and the value and location of the property. Identify as applicable the:

- (a) nature of any potential conflict of interest;
  - (b) nature and value of any public improvements; and
  - (c) SC state or local public agency which purchased or is leasing or renting such property.
- None.
22. Identify any personal property interest you or a member of your immediate family sold, leased, or rented to a SC 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.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT MY ANSWERS ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature: Gafford Thomas Cooper, Jr

Date: July 17, 2014