

**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying:
Circuit Court, At-Large, Seat 9

1. NAME: Ms. Tanya A. Gee
BUSINESS ADDRESS: 1230 Main Street, Suite 700
Columbia, SC 29201
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (office): 803-540-2176
2. Date of Birth: 1977
Place of Birth: Grand Rapids, MI
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 to Christopher Ray Koon on June 26, 2002. Two children.
6. Have you served in the military? I have not served in the military.
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) Winthrop University - Fall 1995 to Spring 1999 - BA, magna cum laude;
 - (b) USC School of Law - Fall 1999 to Spring 2002 - JD, cum laude.
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.

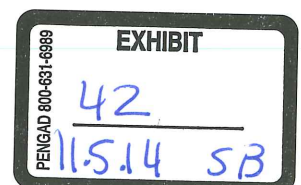
SC, 2002; I am not licensed to practice law in any other state, and I have not taken the bar exam in any state other than SC.
9. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at college, graduate, and law school. Give the dates you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.

While attending Winthrop University, I took part in the following activities:

 - (a) Writing tutor for fellow classmates and all-purpose tutor for elementary school students who lived in Pilgrim's Inn, the local homeless shelter;
 - (b) Volunteer for the York County Public Defender's Office for one year and hired as a trial assistant the following year, working approximately 15 hours/week;
 - (c) Worked 10-20 hours per week at CVS pharmacy all four years of college while maintaining a full course load.

While attending USC School of Law, I took part in the following activities:

 - (a) Law Review (Assistant Student Works Editor during 3L year);
 - (b) USC Law Pro Bono Board (President 3L year);
 - (c) Public Interest Law Society (President 2L and 3L years);
 - (d) Volunteer Guardian Ad Litem;
 - (e) Reading Tutor at Logan Elementary School;
 - (f) Member of Women in Law;
 - (g) Student Member of John Belton O'Neall Inn of Court;



- (h) Selected as a Fellow for University of Michigan's Bergstrom Child Welfare Law summer program, and spent summer after 1L year working at the SC Department of Social Services, Office of General Counsel, to fulfill my fellowship obligations;
- (i) Law Clerk for SC Applesed Legal Justice Center (2001-02).
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</u> |
|---|-------------|
| (a) 2009 Annual Judicial Conference | 08/19/09; |
| (b) SCAJ 2010 Annual Convention | 08/05/10; |
| (c) 2010 Judicial Conference | 08/18/10; |
| (d) 2010 Hot Tips from Coolest Domestic Lawyers | 10/01/10; |
| (e) Workers' Comp Law | 10/15/10; |
| (f) Ethics and Technology | 11/23/10; |
| (f) It's All A Game: Top Trial Lawyers Take On Civ Pro | 02/08/11; |
| (g) 2011 Annual Judicial Conference | 08/17/11; |
| (h) 2011 Hot Tips from Coolest domestic Lawyers | 09/16/11; |
| (i) Abuse & Neglect Cases | 11/18/11; |
| (j) It's All a Game: Tope Trial Lawyers Tackle Evidence | 02/17/12; |
| (k) Master in Equity Bench/Bar | 10/12/12; |
| (l) Powerful Witness Prep | 11/09/12; |
| (m) JBO Inn of Court CLE | 11/13/12; |
| (n) Bankruptcy Practice in the District | 11/16/12; |
| (o) Family Court Bench/Bar | 12/07/12; |
| (p) S.C. Bar Convention | 01/23/14; |
| (q) Bridge the Gap | 03/10/14; |
| (r) Bridge the Gap | 08/04/14. |

11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs?
- (a) I have lectured at the 2014 SC Bar Program "Bridge the Gap" for new lawyers on the topic of Appellate Practice;
- (b) I have presented case law updates to the family court bench and bar at the 2014 SC Bar Conference;
- (c) I have presented case law updates to the family court bench and bar at their annual bench/bar meeting in December of 2013;
- (d) I have presented bankruptcy law updates to lawyers who practice in the district in November of 2012;
- (e) I have presented case law updates to the masters-in-equity and lawyers who appear before the masters in the annual masters-in-equity bench/bar CLE in November of 2012;
- (f) I have lectured paralegals and administrative assistants regarding the procedures for filing appeals in April of 2012;
- (g) I have presented a case law update on evidence to trial attorneys for the SC Bar's popular "It's All a Game" CLE in February of 2012;
- (h) I have lectured at the Children's Law Office CLE on appellate issues for appointed attorneys in Abuse and Neglect cases in November of 2011;

- (i) I have presented a case law update to domestic attorneys at a SC Bar sponsored CLE in September of 2011;
 - (j) I have provided two civil law case updates to the appellate court and circuit court judges (and their law clerks) at the annual judicial conferences in 2010 and 2011;
 - (k) I have lectured to the family court attorneys on the topic of petitions for supersedeas at the S.C. Bar sponsored “Hot Tips” CLE in October of 2010;
 - (l) I have lectured on the nuts and bolts of filing appeals to criminal lawyers at a CLE sponsored by the Attorney General’s Office in September of 2010;
 - (m) I lectured to workers’ compensation attorneys on appellate issues in May of 2008;
 - (n) I lectured on the “art” of opinion writing to staff attorneys and law clerks at numerous seminars for appellate court attorneys from 2003 through 2010;
 - (o) I have guest-lectured in classes at both USC Law and Charleston Law School about appellate procedures, preservation of error, legal writing, oral argument, and standard of review;
 - (p) I have spoken to high school and middle school students about practicing law and the role of the judiciary.
12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
- (a) Noticing Appeals, co-author of ongoing blog on appellate issues, www.noticingappeals.com;
 - (b) Why Compromising after the Battle Sometimes Makes Cents, author; Winter Edition of the SC Workers' Compensation Educational Association's Newsletter, Chronicles. Reprinted Nov. 28, 2011 by workcompcentral.com, found here: <https://ww3.workcompcentral.com/columns/show/id/85bf0ab4428a0f751ecac05dcab2907bj>;
 - (c) SC’s Safe Haven for Abandoned Infants Act: A “Band-Aid” Remedy for the Baby-Dumping “Epidemic”, author; 53 S.C. L. Rev. 151 (Fall 2001).
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 SC in 2002;
 - (b) Also admitted to practice before the Federal District Court in 2012.
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.

Upon graduating from law school, I went to work for the Honorable Kaye G. Hearn, who was the Chief Judge of the SC Court of Appeals at the time. I began work in August of 2002, not as a law clerk, but as her “lawyer administrative assistant.” In January of 2003, I was elevated to a law clerk position. I remained in that position until July of 2007. While working for Chief Judge Hearn, I read appellate briefs and records in criminal, civil, family, workers’ compensation, and administrative law case; I researched the legal issues raised in these appeals; I wrote bench memoranda to assist the judges in their decision-making process; I orally presented cases to and fielded questions from the judges assigned to the case; and ultimately, I assisted with the drafting of opinions.

By August of 2003, I became Chief Judge Hearn's senior law clerk. As senior law clerk, I was responsible for training new law clerks and administrative assistants and editing their work, in addition to my duties listed above. When necessary, I also helped the staff attorneys' office with post-conviction relief petitions, appellate motions, and petitions for supersedeas. I wrote a Law Clerk and Staff Attorney manual and was responsible for updating the Court's Scope of Review Outline. I also was responsible for creating orientation notebooks for six new appellate judges. Though not part of my duties, it was my pleasure to help organize over a dozen free CLEs for Judicial Department employees and to help with the Department's annual Harvest Hope Food Drive and March of Dimes events.

In August of 2007, I was appointed by the judges to be Chief Staff Attorney for the Court of Appeals. As Chief Staff Attorney, I was responsible for supervising and training ten staff attorneys, presenting motions to judges, and writing orders. I also spent some time working as a temporary law clerk to the Honorable C. Tolbert Goolsby, Jr., when he sat as a special circuit judge.

On February 2, 2010, I was unanimously elected by the judges on the Court of Appeals to serve as the Clerk of Court. In that position, I was responsible for the administration of the Court, including nine active judges and one retired judge, their chambers, the staff attorneys' office, the docketing office, and all support personnel. As clerk, I was the "face and voice" of the Court and handled all correspondence between the Court and outside parties.

After working for approximately ten years at the Court of Appeals in positions ranging from administrative assistant to Clerk of Court, I sought and obtained a job in private practice, working for my current employer, Nexsen Pruet. At Nexsen Pruet, I am a member of the Business Litigation Group, though my practice includes employment law, malpractice defense, family law, election law, and administrative law, in addition to business litigation. I am also a member of the Appellate Practice Group.

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 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.

Criminal Experience

With the exception of my experience working as a trial assistant for the York County Public Defenders' Office prior to law school, which I will discuss below, my experience in criminal matters has been appellate in nature.

In 2013, Chief Judge Few collaborated with the SC Commission on Indigent Defense, the Attorney General's Office, and the Supreme Court to launch an "Appellate Practice Project." Participants in this project were appointed to represent convicted criminal defendants in their appeals. Chief Judge Few asked me (along with other lawyers

experienced in criminal appellate matters) to serve as a consultant to those participating in this project. As a consultant, I read records, discussed issues, researched law, and ultimately edited briefs prior to their filing.

From 2002 through 2010, while working as a law clerk and as Chief Staff attorney for the SC Court of Appeals, I handled hundreds of criminal appeals, ranging from guilty pleas to probation revocations to post-conviction relief actions to full-blown trials resulting in sentences of life without parole. This involved reading the guilty plea and trial transcripts in each of those cases. In addition to writing bench memoranda and opinions myself, I was also responsible for editing the other staff attorneys' work before it was submitted to the judges. From 2010 until 2012, when I served as Clerk of Court, I read and edited every criminal opinion published by the judges of the Court of Appeals.

As chief staff attorney, I was responsible for supervising other attorneys' review of all criminal appeals filed pursuant to Anders v. California. These appeals, which are referred to as Anders appeals, are filed when attorneys appointed to represent indigent defendants believe the appeal they have been assigned has no merit and should be dismissed. When such an appeal is received by the Court of Appeals, the staff attorneys are responsible for reviewing the entire Record on Appeal to determine whether any issue of arguable merit exists. While the great majority of Anders appeals are frivolous, as the appointed attorney attested, I discovered some issues that had merit, were sent back to the attorney for briefing, and ultimately resulted in a reversal.

Prior to attending law school, I worked approximately 15 hours a week for the York County Public Defenders Office, first as an intern and then as a trial assistant. During that time, I shadowed attorneys as they visited their incarcerated clients, I helped prepare questions for direct and cross-examination, and I attended trial in a paralegal-like capacity.

Civil Experience

Since entering into private practice, I have developed wide-ranging experience in civil matters. I have argued motions before trial judges and participated in trials, including making opening and closing statements, questioning witnesses on both direct and cross examination, and admitting documents into evidence during trial. Shortly after entering into private practice, I became involved in several election law cases, as a result of the Supreme Court's opinion in Anderson v. S.C. Election Commission. These cases were expedited, and several of them were tried (and appealed to the Supreme Court) between June 2012 and October 2012.

In addition to election cases, I have worked on class actions, contract disputes, professional negligence cases, insurance cases, and employment disputes.

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.

To my knowledge, I have never been rated by the listed organizations. In 2009, I was an inaugural recipient of the "Leadership in the Law Award" presented by SC Lawyer's Weekly.

16. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the past five years?
- (a) federal: I have physically appeared in federal court one time, in a Voters' Rights Act case. However, I appear in federal court by way of filings regularly.

(b) state: Since January of 2014 to present, I have physically appeared in state court monthly/bi-weekly, and I appear in state court by way of filings frequently. From February 2013 until January of 2014, I underwent intensive, inpatient chemotherapy and surgery, and although I continued to work from the hospital, I did not make physical court appearances, except one appearance at the Court of Appeals in September of 2013. Prior to February 2013, I appeared in court bi-weekly.

17. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, domestic, and other matters during the past five years?

- (a) civil: 50%;
- (b) criminal: 5%;
- (c) domestic: 35%;
- (d) other: 10% (administrative law).

Those percentages are based on my practice at Nexsen Pruet. If I were to include the cases I handled while at the Court of Appeals, the number of criminal cases would eclipse all other categories of cases.

18. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the past five years involved matters that went to a jury, including those that settled prior to trial?

- (a) jury: 5-10%;
- (b) non-jury: 90-95%.

Those percentages are based on my practice at Nexsen Pruet. If I were to include the cases I handled while at the Court of Appeals, the percentage of jury v. non-jury matters would be approximately 50-50.

Did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel in these matters? Associate Counsel

19. 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.

Parsing out which five cases are the most significant to me is a particularly difficult question because all of my clients and their cases are significant to me for different reasons. Below are five cases that are particularly memorable for the reasons provided.

- (a) Tempel v. S.C. Election Com'n, 400 S.C. 374, 735 S.E.2d 453 (2012):

This case is significant to me because it involved a temporary restraining order, a trial, and an appeal to the Supreme Court (which was then followed by a trial in federal court before a three-judge panel, pursuant to the Voters Rights Act). At issue was whether my client, Paul Thurmond (who was then a candidate for the state Senate) had properly filed his Statement of Economic Interests. Unlike other candidates who had been decertified prior to the primary election, Thurmond's name remained on the ballot, and he won the primary election. At trial, the circuit court determined Thurmond had not properly filed his election paperwork; however, we successfully argued that the remedy was not to remove Thurmond's name from the general election ballot, as plaintiff sought, but to have a special primary election. The SC Supreme Court affirmed this remedy.

- (b) Dorchester County Democratic Party v. Dorchester County Republican Party, Appellate Case No. 2012-21269 (S.C. Sup. Ct. Order Sept. 5, 2012)

This was also an election case involving the issue of whether my client, Sean Bennett, now a State Senator, had properly filed his Statement of Economic Interests. Like the Tempel case described above, this case involved a circuit court trial and appeal to the SC Supreme Court. This case is significant to me because on appeal, I successfully filed a motion to dismiss, arguing that the protestor bringing the action had not exhausted his administrative remedies. This short-circuited a lengthy and expensive appellate process for my client.

(c) Bessinger v. Pinckney, Election Protest before the SC Election Commission (November 2012)

This case is significant to me because it was my first appearance before a quasi-judicial body and the first case I tried as sole counsel. At issue was whether my client, Senator Pinckney, lived in his district. After a trial before the commission, which included several witnesses and numerous documents entered into evidence, the Commission ruled unanimously in favor of Senator Pinckney.

(d) Heather C. v. Kevin C., 2013 WL 8541486 (Ct. App. 2013)

In this case, I represented a father, Kevin C., who had been accused of molesting his daughter. The accusation was made in the midst of a contentious divorce. Father vehemently denied the accusations and after passing two lie detector tests, no criminal charges were ever brought against him. In order to resume visitation with his children, he entered into a settlement agreement with Mother and the Department of Social Services that allowed him to visit with his children in the presence of a therapist. After entering into this agreement on the record, Mother appealed and refused to allow therapeutic visitation to begin. While the case was on appeal, a petition for supersedeas was filed against my client after I was diagnosed with cancer, and I successfully defended the petition by drafting a return from my hospital room. Oral arguments for the appeal were scheduled in September of 2013, and although I was too sick to argue the case, I appeared at the hearing because the case was so important to me. The Court of Appeals ruled in favor of my client and affirmed the settlement agreement.

(e) Hansen v. Fields Co., Appellate Case No. 2011-190886 (Opinion Pending, Argued Feb. 4, 2014 before the SC Supreme Court)

Although I do not yet know the outcome of this case, the issue raised on appeal will flesh out the extent to which a business can be held liable for the torts of its promoters. The issue in the case is whether the trial court erred in failing to grant a directed verdict in favor of my client, Beechwood Development Group, LLC, with regard to all of the causes of action asserted against it by the plaintiff. The jury returned a verdict of over \$1 million against my client, and I have argued on appeal that the verdict should be reversed because the wrongs alleged were all committed by a promoter of the LLC, before the LLC even existed. I believe the result of this case could have a tremendous effect on economic development in SC.

20. 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. If you are a candidate for an appellate court judgeship (please attach one copy of briefs filed by you in each matter).

(a) Kerr v. BB&T, _____ S.E.2d _____, 2014 WL 1386873 (S.C. Sup. Ct., decided April 9, 2014);

(b) Amisub of SC v. SCDHEC, 403 S.C. 576, 743 S.E.2d 786 (S.C. Sup. Ct., May 29, 2013);

- (c) Johnson v. Johnson, 2014 WL 2721686 (S.C. Ct. App., April 30, 2014);
 - (d) Cunningham v. Anderson County, 402 S.C. 434, 741 S.E.2d 545 (S.C. Ct. App., Feb. 27, 2013);
 - (e) Jarrard v. Federal Express, App. Case No. 2011-204646, (S.C. Ct. App. Order, Feb. 25, 2013).
21. List up to five criminal appeals that you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported. If you are a candidate for an appellate court judgeship (please attach one copy of briefs filed by you in each matter).
- (a) State v. Craig, App. Case No. 2013-001690 (awaiting disposition) – Served as “mentor” to appointed attorney, Greg Placone, as part of the Appellate Practice Project;
 - (b) State v. Thompson, App. Case No. 2012-213141 (awaiting disposition) – Served as “mentor” to appointed attorney, Michael Schott, as part of the Appellate Practice Project;
 - (c) State v. Cardwell, App. Case No. 2012-213368 (awaiting disposition) – Served as “mentor” to appointed attorney, Melissa Fried, as part of the Appellate Practice Project.
22. Have you ever held judicial office? No.
24. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office?
I was unanimously elected by the judges of the Court of Appeals to serve as Clerk of Court in February of 2010. I timely filed my Statement of Economic Interests with the State Ethics Commission.
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.
Not applicable.
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?
I worked as cashier, lead cashier, and then shift supervisor for Revco Pharmacy, which then became CVS Pharmacy, from 1994 until 1999.
28. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? No
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.
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? No.
36. Have you ever been investigated by the Department of Social Services? Has your name ever been enrolled on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect? No.
37. 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?

I have been covered by malpractice insurance since April of 2012, through my law firm, Nexsen Pruet. Nexsen Pruet has a self-insured retention. For details about the amount of the coverage, please contact the firm's General Counsel, James G. Long, III, at 803-253-8224. I have never been covered by a tail policy.

38. 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.?

I maintain a blog through my firm on appellate court issues, which can be found at www.noticingappeals.com. I also maintain the firm's "Noticing Appeals" Twitter account.

I have personal Facebook and LinkedIn accounts. On Facebook, I mostly post stories about my children, and I have always refrained from making political comments. I have a LinkedIn account, but other than occasionally looking for people's contact information, I rarely log onto LinkedIn.

When I was undergoing treatment for cancer from February 2013 through November of 2013, I maintained a CaringBridge site. My page still exists, but I have not updated it since January of 2014. The site can be viewed at: <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/tanyagee>

I was also featured on the "Writers Who Kill" Blog, in a post written by Paula Benson. That interview can be found here: <http://writerswhokill.blogspot.com/2013/08/tanya-gee-my-hero.html>

If I were elected to the judiciary, I would continue to be mindful of what I post on social media. I would never post anything that is political in nature nor anything that might call into question my integrity or impartiality.

39. 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.
40. 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.
41. 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.

I have no knowledge of any such formal charges or informal allegations against me or any other candidate.

42. 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.

I have no knowledge of any such formal charges or informal allegations against me or any other candidate.

43. 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.

44. 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.

45. 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.

46. Have you requested a friend or colleague to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf? If so, give details. Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf?

I have long dreamed of becoming a judge, and many people are aware of that dream. Often times in the past – before this seat was announced – friends would introduce me to legislators and playfully say, “She’s going to run for a judgeship some day!”

Since this seat has opened I have not requested any friends or colleagues contact members of the General Assembly on my behalf. As friends learn that I have picked up an application for this seat, they have offered to “help me in any way they can,” and I have explained that, at this point, I can only introduce myself to members of the General Assembly and that pledges cannot be sought until much later in the process.

47. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? No.

48. 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.

49. 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) SC Bar Association;
- (b) Richland County Bar Association;
- (c) John Belton O’Neill Inn of Court.

50. 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) Ebenezer Lutheran Church, Member;

- (b) Sarcoma Warriors, Board Member;
- (c) Liberty Fellowship, Class of 2012;
- (d) Compleat Lawyer Award (two time recipient, Bronze and Silver levels);
- (e) State Newspaper's Twenty under Forty.

51. 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.

Last year, I battled cancer, and in my initial attempts to articulate "other information" relevant to my judicial application, I naturally turned to that experience because it was such a watershed event in my life. Undoubtedly, battling sarcoma and losing my right hip has changed my perspective on life. I received tremendous support from a generous community, and I have a much more refined sense of what is important and what is not. However, the trouble with writing about cancer is that you can't bluff cancer. If I'm being honest with myself, when it comes to my potential performance as a SC circuit court judge, I was molded and shaped long before experiencing the challenges of cancer. So instead, I would like to use this space to say a few words about my parents, their lives, and the lessons I've learned from them.

Neither of my parents came from much, but they are wildly successful in all the ways that matter. Everyone within their sphere of influence is a better person for having known them. I know that I am.

My dad grew up in a large family, the twelfth of thirteen children. His father ran away from home at an early age and never learned to read or write. My dad clawed his way out of poverty by joining the United States Army. He joined in the midst of the Vietnam War, deciding to volunteer rather than wait to be drafted. He surprised himself and everyone else by scoring extraordinarily well on aptitude tests, and based on those high scores, he was stationed in Germany guarding nuclear missiles. In Germany, he met my mom, and two years later, at the ages of 19 and 20, my mom and dad married. Shortly afterward, they made a home for themselves in the United States.

Initially, my dad found work at a steel mill. While he was at work, my mom stayed home and learned English by watching Sesame Street during the week. Tragedy struck shortly after my parents married when my dad's parents and his younger brother died in a house fire.

Through this adversity, my parents moved forward. My dad went from the steel mill to a packaging plant, where he worked throughout my sister's and my childhood. There, my dad rose through the ranks, working as a sweeper, a baler, a printer, and a die cutter. When he realized he could advance no further without a college education, he began working the nightshift so that he could attend college during the day. I was in the fourth grade at the time. In the afternoon, he and I would sit at the kitchen table doing homework together. Mine finished long before his, but I would sit there anyway to keep him company. Sometimes, I would type his papers for him using an electric typewriter. Several years later, my dad earned an Associate's Degree. His hard work paid off: he became a supervisor, and I learned the importance of education, work ethic, and perseverance.

My mom is brilliant and nurturing. The young woman who barely spoke English soon became fluent, and she moved on from Sesame Street to the Reader's Digest Book Club. Her bookshelves are stuffed three books deep, and most of her books are falling apart

at the seams. I loved nothing more than snuggling into her side as she read to me and still swear that she could read a cookbook out loud and make it interesting.

Whenever I was stressed or anxious, my mom would always know just the right thing to say. If a friend disappointed me, my mom would encourage me to treat my friend as if she were the person she ought to be because in doing so, my mom would tell me, I would help my friend become the person she was capable of being. When I was disheartened or ready to give up, my mom would put encouraging notes in my lunch bag, such as: "Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken-winged bird that cannot fly." I later learned these bits of wisdom actually came from Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and Langston Hughes, but nevertheless, my mom's wisdom was always pitch perfect, despite being plagiarized.

My parents have always had high expectations and unconditional love for my sister and me. They taught us that we were born with gifts that we did not earn and that we had a responsibility to give back. The four of us lived in a two-bedroom, one bathroom home, and I only ever remember feeling lucky and rich. By all standards other than actual money in the bank, we were both.

From my parents, I have a good appreciation of the obstacles many in our state must overcome from birth. I know that life can beat us down, often through no fault of our own. And I know what a titanic struggle it sometimes requires to overcome these challenges. While my parents have ultimately been successful, I know there were plenty of moments when it all hung in the balance, when hard work and dedication almost weren't enough. When litigants come before me, I believe I will be able to appreciate the circumstances of their lives. However, I also know and understand what is possible. I know that, in most cases, the unfair circumstances in life can be overcome. I have very little patience or tolerance for excuses. There is a fine line between empathy and excuses, and the best judges know the difference. I believe that, if called upon for service to my state, the circumstances of my own life have prepared me to make that critical distinction.

52. References:

- (a) Ms. Jo Ann Burnside
Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
1st Cooperative Federal Credit Union
808 Knox Abbott Drive
Cayce, SC 29033
(803) 796-0234
- (b) The Honorable George M. Hearn, Jr.
Hearn & Hearn, Attorneys at Law
1206 3rd Avenue
Conway, SC 29526
(843) 248-3172
- (c) The Honorable William L. Howard
25 Calhoun Street
Post Office Box 993
Charleston, SC 29402-0993
(843) 724-6692
- (d) Dr. Scott E. Porter
Greenville Health Systems Orthopaedics

105 Doctors Drive
Greenville, SC 29605
(864) 797-7060

- (e) The Honorable William W. Wilkins
55 East Camperdown Way
Greenville, SC 29601
(864) 370-2211

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

Signature: Tanya A. Gee

Date: August 5, 2014

October 27, 2014

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Jane O. Shuler
Post Office Box 142
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Re: Amendment to Judicial Application

Dear Ms. Shuler:

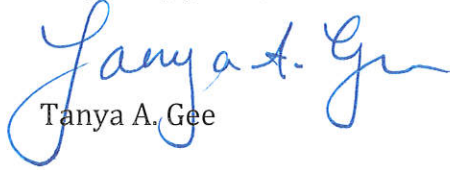
Please accept this letter as an amendment to my 2014 Personal Data Questionnaire to correct the following inadvertent errors/omissions in my originally filed document.

Charleston
Charlotte
Columbia
Greensboro
Greenville
Hilton Head
Myrtle Beach
Raleigh

- My date of birth, which is listed under question #2 on the personal data questionnaire is July 15, 1977.
- My SLED background check has revealed that I have been sued three times in my former role as Clerk of Court for the South Carolina Court of Appeals. Accordingly, I would like to amend my answer to question #34 on the PDQ from “no” to “yes.” I do not know many details about the lawsuits except that all three were civil rights actions, they were filed against me and others, and they were dismissed (without prejudice) for failing to serve process. The plaintiffs in the lawsuits were Dr. Maria Faltas (dismissed November 14, 2012), Mr. William G. Harden (dismissed April 25, 2012), and Mr. Henry W. Martin (dismissed September 5, 2014).
- Question #37 of the PDQ asks for details of my malpractice insurance. I respectfully request that this information not be made public. I am insured through my law firm, Nexsen Pruet, LLC. Nexsen Pruet has a self-insured retention policy of \$350,000, a primary insurance policy of \$10,000,000, and a secondary insurance policy of \$20,000,000. I have never been covered by a tail policy.

Ms. Jane Shuler
October 27, 2014
Page 2

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tanya A. Gee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "T" and a long, sweeping underline.

Tanya A. Gee

TAG/lt