

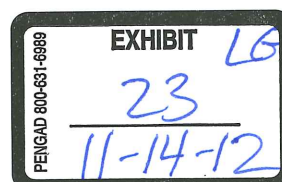
JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying:

Family Court, At Large, Seat 4

1. NAME: Mrs. Caroline W. Streater
BUSINESS ADDRESS: 2712 Middleburg Drive, Suite 106
Columbia, SC 2920
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (office): 803-576-2594
2. Date and Place of Birth: 1964; Gainesville, FL
3. Are you a citizen of SC? Yes
Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? Yes
5. Family Status: Married on May 14, 1994, to Campbell Laney Streater. Never divorced; three children.
6. Have you served in the military? No.
7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.
 - (a) The College of Charleston- BA (1982-86)
 - (b) USC School of Law – JD (1986-92)
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, 1989
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.
10. Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years.

Conference/CLE Name	Date(s)
(a) SCSCJA Legislative Seminar	March 5, 2008;
(b) SCSCJA Charleston Seminar	July 28-29, 2008;
(c) SCSCJA Annual Conference	Sept. 4-5, 2008;
(d) SC Supreme Court Magistrate's Training	Nov. 7, 2008;
(e) LRADAC DUI Law Update and Mandatory ADSAP	Feb. 20, 2009;
(f) SCSCJA Legislative School	March 4, 2009;
(g) SC Supreme Court Magistrate's Training	Oct. 30, 2009;
(h) SCSCJA Legislative School	March 10, 2010;
(i) SC Association for Justice Annual Conference	Aug. 4 – 8, 2010;
(j) SCCA Mandatory School for Magistrates	November 5, 2010;
(k) NJA Advanced Evidence for Judges	July 25, -July 28, 2011;
(l) SCCA Intensive Training for Magistrates	August 15, 2011;



- (m) SCCA Summary Court Judges Fall Program November 4, 2011.
11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs?
- (a) Moderator, SC Bar CLE on Perspective of Victims of Abuse (1995);
 - (b) Presented before the Family Court Judges on a number of occasions on a risk assessments and disposition options for juvenile offenders;
 - (c) Presenter, ABA Sponsored Conference, Resisting the Abolition of Childhood: In Defense of Children in the Juvenile Court (1999);
 - (d) Presenter, Annual Conferences for both Public Defenders and Solicitors on juvenile justice issues (1998);
 - (e) Guest lecturer at the USC, School of Law and the College of Criminal Justice, as well as Coker College;
 - (f) Guest lecturer for the SC Criminal Justice Academy in the areas of child abuse investigations and juvenile procedures;
 - (g) Presented at a number of professional conferences and forums on the areas of child abuse investigations and prosecutions as well as juvenile justice issues;
 - (h) Presented legal updates to sworn law enforcement officers employed by the Department of Juvenile Justice as part of their mandatory annual training;
 - (i) Participant in mock trial training for DSS employees conducted by the USC Children's Law Office;
 - (j) Lectured on several occasions beginning in 2006 on the issue of bail and bonds during the SC Court Administration Orientation School for Summary Court Judges;
 - (k) Presented on a variety of legal topics to summary court judges attending summary court seminars;
 - (l) Presented on the Magistrate Court System as part of the SC Bar's pro bono clinic series and the Richland County 101 series;
 - (m) Presented to lawyers, judges, and police officers throughout the state on DUI trials;
 - (n) Adjunct professor since 2011 at Midlands Technical College, have taught semester long courses on the Court System, Criminal Law, and the Criminal Justice System; and
 - (o) Lectured twice a year for SC Court Administration beginning in 2011 on the SC Rules of Evidence during the SC Court Administration Orientation School for Summary Court Judges.
12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each. Not applicable
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.

Admitted to practice before the State Courts of SC in 1989

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.
- (a) August 1989: Law Clerk, The Honorable C. Anthony Harris, Circuit Court Judge.
Research assigned legal issues on both criminal and civil matters before the judge
Schedule hearings
Prepare draft orders for the judge's review
Review orders drafted by attorneys;
 - (b) August 1990: Twelfth Judicial Circuit Solicitor's Office, Assistant Solicitor
Represented the State in criminal prosecutions;
Represented the State in drug forfeiture proceedings;
Represented the State in abuse and neglect proceedings and prosecuted juvenile justice delinquency petitions before the family court.
 - (c) May 1994: SC Commission on Prosecution Coordination, Special Prosecutor
Prosecuted criminal cases though out the state involving special victims;
Advised solicitors and law enforcement on criminal prosecutions involving special victims;
 - (d) December 1995: The Department of Social Services, Aiken County, Staff Attorney
Represented the department in abuse and neglect proceedings before the family court;
Assisted in the prosecution of certain cases in General Sessions Court;
Coordinated with agency representative in civil actions in state and federal court actions
 - (e) November 1997: The Department of Juvenile Justice Assistant Counsel
Advised staff on state and federal laws impacting juvenile justice
Advised the agency on general legal matters
Represented the agency in employment matters
Coordinated with agency representative in civil actions in state and federal court actions
 - (f) April 2005: Magistrate, Richland County
Preside over assigned criminal matters within the magisterial jurisdictional limit
Preside over assigned civil matters within the magisterial jurisdictional limit
Responsible for scheduling preliminary hearings in Richland County

14.(a) If you are a candidate for Family Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience within each of the following Family Court practice areas: divorce and equitable division of property, child custody, adoption, abuse and neglect, and juvenile justice. Include information about cases you have handled in each of these practice areas, or if you have not practiced in an area, describe how your background has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Family Court Judge.

As a prosecutor for more than four years with the Twelfth Circuit Solicitor's Office, I handled abuse and neglect proceedings in Family Court as well as juvenile delinquency petitions in addition to my other responsibilities. After moving to Columbia, I served as a statewide prosecutor specializing in prosecuting crimes against children. In many of these cases, there were companion family court proceedings in which I was involved. As a staff attorney for the Aiken Department of Social Services, I prepared and presented abuse and neglect petitions, as well as petitions for termination of parental rights. While employed as staff counsel with the Department of Juvenile Justice (1997 through 2005,) I advised employees and prosecutors throughout the state on juvenile delinquency law as well as other laws impacting the children served by the agency. I was often consulted in the interpretation of Family Court orders. Every one of the cases I listed in response to question # 19 below involved a Family Court proceeding. During my tenure in the above positions, I also had significant interaction with Guardian Ad Litem and have a profound respect for their responsibilities in the Family Court system.

Throughout my employment with both DSS and DJJ, there were opportunities in which the SC law on both child custody and adoption were implicated. As a result, I was familiar with those provisions and the case law interpreting them. Additionally, in 1998, my husband and I had the distinct pleasure of adopting a child who had previously been the subject of a DSS proceeding. Today, she is a thriving teenage girl who has brought immeasurable love and joy to our lives.

As a magistrate, I have significant experience with SC's domestic abuse law and its application through restraining orders, orders of protection and criminal proceedings. These experiences have provided me with a deeper understanding of these laws and their application.

A distinctive and important responsibility for a Family Court Judge in any case is determining the facts of the case to which the judge then applies the relevant law. Since 2005, I have presided as a Richland County Magistrate where a large portion of my daily responsibilities include presiding in both civil and criminal bench trials. In these trials, I determine and apply the law to the facts as I find them. This has provided me with invaluable experience in assessing witness' credibility as well as determining the value and weight of the evidence introduced.

Prior to serving in my current position, I had no practical experience in many areas of the law, including landlord tenant law, the Uniform Commercial

Code and the Consumer Protection Code. A significant portion of the magistrate's civil jurisdiction includes cases which require the application of these laws. I have worked hard to become proficient in these areas so that my decisions are based on sound legal principles. This task is made even more difficult when you consider that most of the litigants that appear before a magistrate appear pro se and the magistrate does not often have the luxury of considering well researched and eloquently argued positions from the litigants. I believe my intellect and work ethic would serve me in becoming proficient in the laws regarding divorce and equitable division of property.

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.

I am not rated in Martindale-Hubbell

16. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the last five years?

(a) federal: 0;
(b) state: 7.

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

(a) Civil: 20%;
(b) Criminal: 5%;
(c) Domestic: 60%.
(d) Other: 15%

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

(a) jury: 0%;
(b) non-jury: 100%.

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

(a) The State v. George Lewis, 478 S.E.2d 861 (Ct of Appeals 1996). The defendant was indicted on several counts of sexual abuse while operating a day care facility. At the trial level, this case presented some difficult legal issues, including the competency of young victims, severability and the defendant's 6th Amendment right to confront his accusers. Ultimately, the jury convicted the defendant as to one victim. I believe that the trial itself provided the victims' families and the community with some degree of closure, despite the verdict. The Court of Appeal's opinion on this case provides an analysis of the law regarding a defendant's rights under the 6th Amendment Confrontation Clause balanced against the risk of further trauma to a child victim. The conviction was reversed.

- (b) The State v. Gary Grovenstein, 517 S.E.2d 216 (S.C. Supreme Ct 1999). The defendant was indicted and found guilty of sexually assaulting children. The trial of the case required addressing and explaining complex issues such as delayed reporting of abuse and recantation to a jury. The jury returned a guilty verdict. This case was appealed on the grounds that the defendant did not receive a fair trial because an alternate juror was accidentally allowed to remain with the jury during some portion of the deliberation. The Court of Appeals reversed the conviction. The Supreme Court later reversed the Court of Appeals and upheld the conviction.
- (c) The State v. Donnie Wayne Sheffield, 96UP018. The defendant was indicted and convicted for sexually assaulting a young child. This conviction was ultimately reversed on the issue of the court's admission of a co-conspirator's statements. The child sustained permanent severe injuries from the sexual assault but was not old enough to verbalize how the injuries were sustained. This made prosecution difficult. Because of the mother's complicity, this case highlighted for the inherent sadness present when a child, abused and traumatized by a member of their family, must suffer further trauma through the removal of their family support system and participation in the criminal justice process. All of these steps were taken by the system for the protection of the child victim.
- (d) The State v. Terrell Wayne Thompson, II, (94-GS-21-1100). This was my first experience with prosecuting under the homicide by child abuse statute. There were significant legal considerations regarding circumstantial evidence and lesser-included offenses and at that time there was no state precedent yet established with respect to this statute. Additionally, the nature of the crime made it personally difficult for me and many of the personnel involved in the prosecution of this case.
- (e) Aiken County Department of Social Services v. John and Diana H. This case was an abuse and neglect matter where the children had been taken into emergency protective custody by law enforcement. It was significant for several reasons. When I assumed responsibility for representing the department, this case was one that had failed to process through the court system in a timely manner. The children had languished in foster care with no permanent plan. Criminal charges against one of the parents were pending. Additionally, the mother had borne another child in the intervening time and was caring for that child. Balancing the presumption of family reunification with the children's right to be safe required complex analysis in crafting the department's recommendations and trial strategy and ultimately in the judge's decision.

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).

SC Department of Social Services v. Connie Sevier, Daniel Sevier, Gary Grovenstein, and Bobby Randall, SC Court of Appeals, June 30, 1997, UP 97-UP-402.

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. N/A

22. Have you ever held judicial office?

I was appointed to fill an unexpired term as a Richland County Magistrate beginning April 2005, and reappointed on April 2007 and April 2011. Magistrate jurisdiction in civil matters is limited in most cases to those actions where the claim or counterclaim does not exceed \$7,500.00. In landlord tenant matters, where the claim is based on back due rent, there is no monetary limit. In criminal cases, a magistrate's dispositional jurisdiction is limited, with some exceptions, to those crimes which carry penalties of a fine or forfeiture not exceeding five hundred dollars, or imprisonment not exceeding thirty days, or both.

23. If the answer to question 22 is yes, describe or list five of your most significant orders or opinions and give the citations if they were reported. Also list citations to any appellate review of these orders or opinions.

(a) Palmer vs. Davis 2005CV401011032;

(b) Gainesville Industrial Electric Co. vs. JDs Company 2005CV401012584;

(c) Thompson vs. KJ Auto Sales 2005CV401011232;

(d) Daniels vs. Sherman 2006CV4010574;

(e) Smith vs Williams and Williams 2011CV401091195.

24. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? No

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.

I have occasionally contracted with the USC Children's Law Office to assist in mock trial training for DSS employees. I have also served as an adjunct professor for Midlands Technical College. In that capacity, I have taught classes on Criminal Law, the Court System and the Criminal Justice System.

26. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office?

Yes, in 2004, I filed as a candidate for the Fifth Circuit Family Court Seat #1. I was found to be qualified but not nominated by the Commission in the report issued on January 18, 2005. In 2010, I filed a letter of intent to

seek election to the At Large Circuit Seat # 9 but ultimately withdrew my candidacy in October 2010.

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?

During college and law school, I held various serving positions in several hotel and restaurant establishments.

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.

I am unaware of any financial or business relationships that I might have or have had that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position I seek. During my tenure as a magistrate, my husband has been employed with SLED, the USC, and the Fifth Judicial Circuit Solicitor's Office. I have always recused myself from hearing any matter that involved him directly or any employee supervised by him. Additionally, I recuse myself from all contested matters involving either department during his employment with them. On any other cases involving either department, I make the connection known on the record and then allow both parties an opportunity to consult and decide whether to request that I recuse myself. Additionally my husband was self employed for a period of approximately two years and his services are often retained by lawyers that appear before me. If I was aware or made aware of this type of relationship in a matter before me, I advised all parties on the record and allowed them to confer to decide whether they wish to ask that I be recused. If either party requests recusal, I grant the request and try to ensure that another judge is available to hear the matter so that the parties do not have to suffer any undue delay in the matter.

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? No Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? No. 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?

Yes. Civil Action 96-CV-40-33 filed in Richland County Magistrate Court on September 3, 1996, settled. Action arose out of water damage alleged by the Plaintiff caused by a burst pipe in a condominium owned by my husband and me. Homeowner's insurance company settled case on February 18, 1997.

36. Have you ever been investigated by the Department of Social Services? No. 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? Not applicable
38. 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.
39. 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.
40. 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."

I am not aware of any charges or allegations against me or any other candidate for violations of these provisions

41. 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."

I am not aware of any charges or allegations against me or any other candidate for violations of these provisions

42. 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
43. 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
44. 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? No. 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.
45. Have you requested a friend or colleague to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf? No. Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf? No.

46. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? No.
47. 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.
48. 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 Summary Court Judges Association;
 - (b) SC Bar Association;
 - (c) SC Children's Justice Act Task Force;
 - (d) SC Executive Institute, Alumni.
49. 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) Congaree Girl Scout Troop Leader;
 - (b) Forest Lake Presbyterian Church- Trustee; Elder; Sunday School Teacher; Childhood Enrichment Center Board; Outreach Ministry Moderator; and Service and Benevolence Ministry Moderator;
 - (c) Forest Lake Elementary School PTO;
 - (d) Dent Middle School PTO;
 - (e) Richland Northeast High school PTO;
 - (f) Forest Lake Elementary School Educational Foundation, Treasurer;
 - (g) Forest Lake Elementary School, Mentor;
 - (h) Rockbridge Swim and Tennis Club.
50. 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.

The summary court is where most citizens experience their only contact with the judicial system. As a magistrate, I believe one of my primary jobs is ensuring that litigants appearing before me completely understand the process, their rights, and the potential outcomes of their court appearance. It is my personal goal that every party walks away from their court experience believing that they have had an opportunity to be heard and treated in a respectful manner. In seven years, I have presided over many disputed matters. Although the litigants may not agree with the outcome, I strive to ensure that they understand the ruling and its consequences. I believe this approach has been effective. I take pride in the fact that, to date, I have never had to respond to a complaint filed against me by a litigant.

The opportunity to participate in the criminal justice system from the issuance of a warrant through the trial of a case and ultimately the imposition of sentence provides me with a unique vantage point. I believe this experience

has made me a more discerning judge, allowing me a broader perspective in much of what I do on the bench.

Identifying and applying the relevant law to the problem at hand and understanding that there are real consequences to the affected people as a result of that analysis is both challenging and humbling. I believe it imperative for any judge to not only understand and correctly apply the law but also appreciate its impact upon the litigants. While I must be impartial, this understanding allows me to be an empathetic judge.

51. References:

- (a) Lesa Timmerman
2915 Pickett Street
Columbia, SC 29205
(803) 896-9342
- (b) Ellen Skidmore
Forest Lake Presbyterian Church
6500 North Trenholm Road
Columbia, SC 29206
(803) 787-5672
- (c) Robert McCurdy
1403 Gieger Avenue
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 734-1838
- (d) Allison Carter
421 Wando Park Blvd. Suite 100
Mt Pleasant SC 29464
(843) 284-1083
- (e) Heddy Ramicone
First Citizens Bank
4801 Forest Drive
Columbia, SC
(803) 931-1237

YOUR SIGNATURE WILL BE HELD TO CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ANY PROCEEDING BEFORE A GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE OR ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR CREDIT.

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

Signature: Caroline Streater

Date: August 8, 2012

October 16, 2012

Caroline Streater
Magistrate, Waverly District
Richland County
2712 Middleburg Dr., Suite 106
Columbia, SC 29204

JJ Gentry
Staff Attorney
SC Senate Judiciary Committee
104 Gressette Building
Po Box 142
Columbia, SC 29202

Dear Mr. Gentry,

I am writing to request an amendment to the Personal Data Questionnaire I previously submitted to the Judicial Merit Screening Commission. I would appreciate your amending my answer to Question #7 to reflect the correct graduation date from the University of South Carolina School of Law from 1992 to 1989. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information.

Sincerely,



Caroline W. Streater