

JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION  
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE



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

1. Name: Mr. William Angus McKinnon

Name that you are known by if different from above  
(Example: A Nickname): Bill

Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge?  
(Includes Municipal, Magistrate, Etc.) No

Home Address: [REDACTED]

Business Address: 1675-1A York Highway, York, SC 29745

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: (home): [REDACTED]  
(office): (803) 628-3043  
(cell): [REDACTED]

2. Date of Birth: [REDACTED] 1973  
Place of Birth: Raleigh, North Carolina  
Social Security Number: [REDACTED]

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

4. SCDL# or SCHD#: [REDACTED]  
Voter Registration Number: [REDACTED]

5. Family Status: In the space below, (a) state whether you are single, married, widowed, divorced, or separated; (b) if married, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name; (c) if you have ever been divorced or are in the process of obtaining a divorce, state the date, name of the moving party, court, and grounds; and (d) state the names of your children and their ages. If your children are old enough to work, include the occupation of each child.

Family Status: Married on December 17, 2016 to Ellen Angelina Whitley McKinnon.

Never divorced, one stepchild.

Stepdaughter: Bristol Grace Smith, Age 6

6. Have you served in the military? If so, give the dates, branch of service, highest rank attained, serial number (if applicable), present status, and the character of your discharge or release. Please provide a copy of your DD214 concerning your discharge.  
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) Princeton University, A.B. in Classics, 1991-1995
  - (b) Univ. of North Carolina-Greensboro, Summer 1993, Summer student only
  - (c) Rutgers University, 1995-1996, took classes while working out of interest (no degree)
  - (d) University of South Carolina School of Law, J.D. magna cum laude, 1998-2001
  
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.
  - (a) South Carolina 2001
  - (b) Washington, DC 2004
  
9. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at law school. Give the years you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.
  - (a) South Carolina Law Review (1999-2001)
  - (b) Christian Legal Society (1998-2000)
  - (c) Math Teacher, Cardinal Newman Middle School (1998-1999, during first year of law school)
  - (d) Tutor for first-year law students (2000)
  - (e) Order of Wig and Robe (Chief Justice, 2000-2001)
  - (f) Phi Delta Phi (unsure of dates, I think 1999-2001)
  - (g) Private SAT and Math Tutor (1998-2001)
  - (h) Compleat Lawyer Award (2001)
  - (i) Dean's Medallion (first in class) (2001)
  
10. Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from the past five years.

See attached
  
11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? If so, briefly describe each course or lecture.
  - (a) I have lectured at the 2008 SCAJ Annual Convention about Email Subpoenas to Third-Party Internet Service Providers
  
12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each. Please furnish as a separate attachment, two examples of legal articles, briefs, orders, or other legal writings for which you can claim sole or primary authorship. If you cannot claim sole authorship, please explain the extent to which you are the primary

author, to include a description of the other authors and their contributions. No published works.

See attached documents.

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) South Carolina, 2001;
  - (b) Washington, DC, 2004;
  - (c) US District Court for the District of SC, 2002
  - (d) US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, 2002;
  - (e) US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, 2003;
  - (f) US Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, 2004.
  - (e) United States Supreme Court, 2014
  
14. Describe chronologically, since graduation from law school, your legal experience. Please include a list of all positions held in which you worked in a legal capacity. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years. Please also describe the extent to which you were involved with the administrative and financial management of each of these entities, including management of trust accounts.
  - (a) Law Clerk to the Hon. Joseph F. Anderson, Jr., Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina (2001-2002).
  - (b) Law Clerk to the Hon. Andrew J. Kleinfeld, Circuit Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (2002-2003).
  - (c) Covington & Burling, Washington, DC, (2003-2004). 100% litigation with a nation-wide practice, split approximately 50/50 between complex corporate litigation (representing defendants) and white collar criminal defense, including defense of securities violations.
  - (d) Lewis, Babcock & Hawkins, Columbia, SC (2004-2006). 100% civil litigation, including complex civil cases in the federal and state courts of South Carolina, and appeals in both the federal and South Carolina appellate courts. My practice included all aspects of civil litigation, and was approximately 2/3 plaintiff-side and 1/3 defense-side.
  - (e) Solo Private Practice, Columbia, SC (2006-2007). 100% civil litigation, almost entirely a single plaintiff-side trust litigation matter involving a prominent family and a significant amount of money.
  - (f) McGowan, Hood & Felder, LLC, Rock Hill, SC (2007-2016). 85% civil litigation, which was entirely plaintiff-side (excepting defense of other lawyers on ethics charges), and 15% criminal defense. My civil practice consisted of about 50% medical malpractice work and the remainder was complex civil litigation in the federal and state courts, including appeals. My criminal defense work was in the state court system only. I also assisted other lawyers with ethics issues, sometimes pro bono and sometimes for a fee. The criminal defense work dropped off significantly in the past eighteen months or so because there were less appointed cases referred to the private bar.
  - (g) Assistant Solicitor, Sixteenth Circuit Solicitor's Office (2015-Present). I started part-time in 2015 prosecuting DUIs, and closed my private practice and went full time in 2016. Since joining the office full-time, my practice is 100% prosecution of criminal offenses in the

general sessions court. I have recently been promoted from general felonies to the drug team.

I have not been involved in administrative or financial management of any of the firms I have practiced with, other than my solo private practice, where I billed hourly and did not have any client funds (I only billed for work performed).

15. Please answer the following (if you are a judge and are not seeking a different type of judgeship, this question is inapplicable):

(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 and procedural knowledge has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Family Court Judge. Please also indicate the frequency of your appearances before a Family Court Judge within the past five years.

N/A

(b) 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 and procedural knowledge 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. Please also indicate the frequency of your appearances before a Circuit Court Judge within the past five years.

My recent criminal experience is as an Assistant Solicitor in the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit. Since late 2016, I have been a full-time prosecutor in General Sessions Court, handling burglaries, assaults, and the general run of felonies (not drug cases, sex cases, or domestic violence – those are handled by specialized prosecutors). Just this week, I was notified I have been promoted to the drug team and will begin drug prosecutions in August. I am responsible for all aspects of the prosecution from charging through trial for these cases, including indictments, arraignments, motions hearings, pleas, trials, and sentencing. During 2015 and early 2016, I was a part-time Assistant Solicitor prosecuting DUIs (mostly in Magistrate Court, but some repeat offenders in General Sessions). Prior to working as an Assistant Solicitor, I handled appointed criminal defense cases in General Sessions Court for about eight years. Approximately half of these cases were drug charges of some sort, with the

remainder ranging from armed robbery to grand larceny to assault and everything in between. I am familiar with the local diversion programs, including Drug Court, AEP, and PTL.

My civil litigation experience includes medical malpractice, insurance law, copyright law, general person injury, school liability, Federal §1983 claims, jail liability, employment law, motor vehicle accidents, and truck accidents with medical malpractice being my primary concentration. I have experience with all procedural aspects, including appeals, jury trials, motions practice, discovery practice, and have taken many, many depositions. My practice was 100% plaintiff (with the exception of ethics defense) at McGowan Hood (2007-2016), but I have represented defendants earlier in my career at Covington & Burling and Lewis, Babcock and Hawkins. I have defended local businesses and large multi-national corporations. I have also defended other lawyers with matters pending before ODC. My civil practice focused on cases with significant damages and/or death cases.

Given the number of matters I have handled as an Assistant Solicitor, I have appeared approximately one hundred or more times before circuit judges in the past five years.

- (c) If you are a candidate for Master-In-Equity, please provide a brief written description of your experience in the Master's court, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the issues involved. Please include the frequency of your appearances before a Master-In-Equity or a Circuit Court Judge within the past five years.

N/A

- (d) If you are a candidate for Administrative Law Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience before an Administrative Law Judge, including any issues discussed and the frequency of your appearances before the Administrative Law or Circuit Court within the past five years.

N/A

16. What is your rating or membership status, if any, by any legal rating organization, such as, Best Lawyers, Chambers, Legal 500, Martindale-Hubbell, Who's Who Legal, Super Lawyers, Million Dollar Advocates Forum, etc.? If you are currently a member of the judiciary, list your last available rating, if any. None I know of – have never responded or cooperated with these groups

\* **Justices/judges applying for re-election to their current position may omit Questions 17–22. If you are a judge seeking a judgeship different than your current position, Questions 17-22 should be answered based on your experience prior to serving on the bench.**

17. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench?



- (a) federal: As assistant solicitor, zero. In private practice, averaged 3-4 per year over the course of my practice.
  - (b) state: As an assistant solicitor, I average 5 or 6 appearances per court week. In private practice, 10 or so per year on average.
18. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, domestic, and other matters during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench?
- (a) civil: as Assistant Solicitor, zero. In private practice, eighty-five to ninety percent.
  - (b) criminal: as Assistant Solicitor, one hundred percent. In private practice, ten to fifteen percent.
  - (c) domestic: as Assistant Solicitor, zero. In private practice, zero.
  - (d) other: as Assistant Solicitor, zero. In private practice, zero.
19. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench involved matters that went to a jury, including those that settled prior to trial?
- (a) jury: ninety-five percent
  - (b) non-jury: five percent

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

20. 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) White v. Palmetto Health Alliance, et al. Complex medical malpractice case involving three different doctors attending an expectant mother for a delivery lasting four days, with severe brain damage to the infant during delivery. Seven figure settlement.
  - (b) Wise v. Doctor's Care, et al. Complex medical malpractice case involving four physician defendants, a hospital, an urgent care clinic, and allegations of comparative negligence on the part of the decedent. Seven figure settlement.
  - (c) Mattel Lead Paint Class Action – Part of Plaintiff's leadership in national class action involving lead paint on toys, resulting in eight-figure national settlement.
  - (d) Dash v. WWE and Floyd Mayweather. Copyright action against World Wrestling Entertainment and boxer Floyd Mayweather for unauthorized use of song in Wrestlemania pay per view. Issues of first impression in the Fourth Circuit regarding damages in copyright law. Dash v. Mayweather, et al., 731 F.3d 303 (4th Cir. 2013)
  - (e) Grier v. Amisub. Medical malpractice case originally dismissed because Notice of Intent to File Suit did not have causation opinion from physician. Dismissal reversed by South Carolina Supreme Court, settling issue of whether causation opinion is necessary in physician affidavit. Case settled after remand. Grier v. Amisub, 397 S.C. 532 (2012).
21. 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.
- (a) Grier v. Amisub, South Carolina Supreme Court, May 2, 2012, 397 S.C. 532 (2012).

- (b) Dash v. Mayweather, et al., U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, September 26, 2013, 731 F.3d 303 (4th Cir. 2013)
  - (c) Hearn v. Lancaster County, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, April 15, 2014, 566 Fed. Appx. 231, (4th Cir. 2014).
  - (d) Layman v. State, South Carolina Supreme Court, May 4, 2006, 368 S.C. 631 (2006) (I wrote the briefs, but did not argue this appeal)
  - (e) Morris v. South Carolina Workers' Comp. Comm'n, South Carolina Supreme Court, August 21, 2006, 370 S.C. 85 (2006) (I wrote the briefs, but did not argue this appeal)
22. List up to five criminal appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported.
- (a) None to the appellate courts, but I did handle an appeal from Magistrate's Court to Circuit Court, State v. Sean Kelly, Court of Common Pleas, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit, March 28, 2016 (not reported, but now on appeal to the South Carolina Court of Appeals and being handled by the Attorney General's Office)
23. Have you ever held judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the courts involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. Describe the jurisdiction of each of the courts and note any limitations on the jurisdiction of each court.
- No
24. If the answer to question 23 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.
- N/A
25. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the office or offices involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. Also, state whether or not you have timely filed your report with the State Ethics Commission during the period you held public office. If not, were you ever subject to a penalty? If so, give details, including dates.
- No
26. 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.
- N/A
27. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates.
- Yes, I was a candidate for the circuit court on two prior occasions; both public hearings were in 2014. I was screened out of the JMSC for a Sixteenth Circuit resident judge seat but another candidate was selected (I withdrew prior to the actual vote), and I was not screened out of the JMSC for an at-large seat

28. 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? If so, give details, including a description of your occupation, business, or profession, the dates of your employment, and the name of your business or employer.
- (a) American Boychoir School, Substitute Teacher/Tour Tutor (1995-1996)
  - (b) Aiken Preparatory School, Middle School Math and Latin teacher, (1996-1998)
29. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? Explain the nature of the business, your duties, and the term of your service.
- No
30. Please explain why you think you meet the professional and academic ability criteria for the seat you seek. I graduated first in my class in law school, and was awarded the Compleat Lawyer ethics award from the law faculty. Following law school, I served as a law clerk for judges of the District of South Carolina and the U.S. Court of Appeals in the Ninth Circuit. As a practicing lawyer, my experience is both broad and deep. I have practiced in a firm of 300 lawyers as well as a small firm and have also been a sole practitioner. I have represented the plaintiff and the defendant in civil cases, and I have both prosecuted and defended criminal cases. I have personally argued cases in the circuit courts of South Carolina, the South Carolina Court of Appeals, the South Carolina Supreme Court, the U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.
31. Provide, **as a separate attachment**, a complete, current financial net worth statement that itemizes in detail:
- (a) the identity and value of all financial assets held, directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to, bank accounts, real estate, securities, trusts, investments, and other financial holdings; and
  - (b) the identity and amount of each liability owed, directly or indirectly, which is in excess of \$1,000, including, but not limited to, debts, mortgages, loans, and other financial obligations.

(A net worth statement is provided with this questionnaire and you must use this format for submission of your financial statement.) A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission

**NOTE: The Commission may require written confirmation that financial obligations have been satisfied or that the parties have agreed upon a payment schedule.**

32. 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 or currently hold. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest. I still have a financial interest in a handful of cases at my former law firm, based on work performed before I closed my private practice. In the event those interests still remain, I would recuse myself from any cases involving McGowan, Hood & Felder until a reasonable time after I no longer had such interests.



33. 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? If so, give details but do not include traffic violations which are subject to a penalty of \$125 or less. You must include any and all arrests, including, but not limited to, offenses for driving under the influence or similar traffic offenses. Include all arrests that resulted in expungement, which will be redacted. If you have questions regarding whether to include an offense, please contact the Commission. [All answers have been received and considered by the Commission, and as noted above, any expunged matters are redacted from the record.]
34. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? If yes, explain. [All answers have been received and considered by the Commission, and as noted above, any expunged matters are redacted from the record.]
35. 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? If so, give details.  
SC instituted a tax lien against me in 2008, based on 2006 state taxes. I had an unexpectedly high state tax bill that year, and had to ask for a payment plan. Despite my compliance with the payment plan, SC filed a lien (apparently this is routine). The lien was paid off the same year. I have never filed bankruptcy or been in default on student loans.
36. Have you ever been sued by a client? Have you ever been a named party (personally or professionally) in or had a pecuniary interest in any civil or criminal proceedings? If so, give details, including, but not limited to, dates, and resolutions.  
I have never been sued by a client. I was a defendant in a civil action resulting from a car accident in New Jersey in 1995. It was Lences v. McKinnon, in Mercer County Superior Court in New Jersey. The case was settled with a payment by my insurer, USAA. I do not remember the amount. The case was filed in 1997 and settled, as best as I can remember, in late 2001.
37. Have you ever, in South Carolina or any other jurisdiction, as a lawyer, judge, or other professional, been sanctioned or disciplined for lawyer, judicial, or other professional misconduct or has any jurisdiction found that you committed any misconduct? If so, give the details and describe any final disposition. Include any and all confidential and public sanction, discipline, or finding of misconduct of any kind. [Yes and no responses are redacted for all candidates unless there is a public discipline.]
38. Have you ever been investigated by the Department of Social Services? If so, give the details and the resolution. Has your name ever been enrolled on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect? If so, give the details.  
No to both questions.

39. 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? If so, please explain when you were covered by a tail policy. Also, if applicable, indicate your coverage and deductible for your current malpractice policy. N/A – not in private practice.  
I have never been covered by a tail policy.
40. 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.? If so, how would your use of social media or other similar types of Internet sites be affected if you were serving in a judicial capacity?  
I am not active on social media sites, though it is possible I am featured or depicted in the posts of other people. I do read and occasionally comment on news sites. I would end my commenting if I served as a judge.
41. 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)? If so, give the dates of your employment or activity in such capacity and specify by whom you were directed or employed.  
No.
42. 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? If so, please specify the item or items you received, the date of receipt, and the lobbyist or lobbyist’s principal involved.  
No.
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. If you have spent over \$100, have you reported your expenditures to the House and Senate Ethics Committees? I have not spent any such monies other than a handful of stamps on thank-you notes for people who have been willing to meet with me.  
I have not spent more than \$100.00.
44. List the recipient and amount of all contributions made by you, a member of your immediate family, or by a business with whom you are associated, to members of the General Assembly within the past four years.  
(a) Rep. Ralph Kennedy \$500  
(b) Sen. Wes Climer \$500  
(c) Sen. Wes Hayes \$500  
(d) Rep. Tommy Pope \$500 (for campaign for US Congress)
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 or have you been offered a conditional pledge of support by any legislator pending the outcome of your

screening? 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? If so, give details.

No to all questions.

**Note: The flash drive with your application materials contains (1) Section 2-19-70(c); (2) JMSC Rule 24, and (3) informal opinions and letters concerning pledging prohibitions, with which third parties acting on your behalf, as well as you, must comply.**

46. Have you requested any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf before the final and formal screening report has been released? Describe the campaigning you have done for this election and include a list of those individuals you have asked to campaign on your behalf and, to the best of your knowledge, those who have campaigned for you on their own initiative.  
Since filing my letter of intent, I have not requested any third parties to contact any member of the General Assembly or campaign on my behalf and am not aware of any such campaigning. I believe some friends may have discussed the opening with legislators prior to the vacancy being announced and prior to my letter of intent. I have met with some members of the legislature to introduce myself.
47. Are you familiar with the 48-hour rule, which prohibits a candidate from seeking pledges until after the draft report becomes final, which occurs on the day and time specified on the Commission's published screening schedule?  
Yes.
48. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? If so, please specify the amount, solicitor, donor, and date of the solicitation.  
No.
49. Since submitting your letter of intent to become a candidate, have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted any member of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? If so, give details.  
No.
50. 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) South Carolina Association for Justice (no longer member as assistant solicitor)  
(b) American Association for Justice (no longer member as assistant solicitor)  
(c) York County Bar
51. 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) National Rifle Association – Firearm Safety and Pistol Instructor
- (b) Westminster Presbyterian Church – Formerly a Deacon and now a Ruling Elder

52. 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. This information may include how your life experiences have affected or influenced the kind or type of judge you have been or plan to be. I served as a Deacon and as a Ruling Elder at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Rock Hill. My job as a deacon was “emergency care” of congregational members. That is, if someone lost their job and couldn’t pay their power bill, or their air conditioner broke in the summer and they couldn’t pay to fix it, I would get that call. I spent a lot of time assisting, counseling, and praying with people struggling with some very difficult circumstances. I do think this experience changed me. I think that as a result of this work, I will be more able to put myself in the shoes of litigants, victims, and defendants. Additionally, I have significant experience with students, having been a teacher and currently a volunteer with the youth group at my church, experience which has given me significant insight into how children are impacted by difficult family situations.

Finally, I think my wide range of experience will help me be more effective as a judge. I have worked at a firm with over 300 lawyers in one office, and been a solo practitioner. I’ve appeared in Magistrate’s Court a few times, and filed cert petitions with the US Supreme Court. I’ve been a law clerk in a trial court and an appellate court. I’ve argued about every type of motion that exists. I’ve defended criminal clients. In order to gain criminal experience, I closed my private practice in 2016 and became a full-time assistant solicitor. I think this breadth of experience will help me better relate to, and work with, all of the various lawyers we have in the Sixteenth Circuit, as well as the members of the public who come before me as litigants or defendants.

53. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five (5) persons from whom you are providing references. Also, provide the Commission with **original letters** of recommendation from each person listed herein, including their signature (preferably in blue ink). **The Commission will not accept a photocopy or electronic submission of a letter of recommendation and failure to include all five (5) original letters of recommendation in your packet when you submit it will render your packet incomplete.** Please **do not** have references mail your reference letters to the Commission directly. *You must return the five (5) original letters of recommendation to the Commission with your application packet.*

- (a) Rev. Dr. Michael Honeycutt, Senior Pastor, Westminster Presbyterian Church. 1320 India Hook Rd., Rock Hill, SC, 29732. (803) 417-9260
- (b) Peter Protopapas, Esq., Attorney, Rikard and Protopapas, 1329 Blanding St., Columbia, SC, 29201. (803) 360-3643
- (c) Philip Jamieson, Esq., Attorney, Philip W. Jamieson, PC, 242 Oakland Ave., Rock Hill, SC, 29730. (803) 984-9935
- (d) Hon. Kevin Brackett, Solicitor, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit, 1675-1A York Highway, York, SC, 29745. (803) 628-3020.

(e) Paul Basha, PE, President and CEO, York Electric Co-op, 1385 Alexander Love Hwy, York, SC, 29745. (803) 984-3999.

54. 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 South Carolina 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 South Carolina.

I own a personal home at [REDACTED] with a value of \$325,000.00.

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) South Carolina state or local public agency which purchased or is leasing or renting such property.

- (a) I am aware of no conflicts
- (b) There is a public sidewalk and city water and sewer, value unknown
- (c) N/A

Attach a copy of any contract or agreement. N/A

55. Identify any personal property interest you or a member of your immediate family sold, leased, or rented to a South Carolina 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.
56. For sitting judges, if you currently hold an interest in stock or other securities or have held such an interest, list each stock you currently own or owned during the prior calendar year. If you prefer, you may attach broker or account records containing the requested information instead of listing it here.  
N/A
57. For sitting judges, have you ever accepted anything of value from an attorney or litigant in a matter currently or previously before you or your court? If so, please give the details, including the name of the attorney or litigant and the thing of value you received.  
N/A
58. For sitting judges, have you used the services of your staff, for which you did not pay, while campaigning for this office?  
N/A



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: \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Notary Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Notary Printed Name)  
Notary Public for South Carolina  
My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_