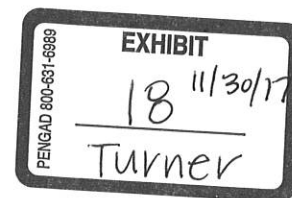


JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE



Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Family Court, Eighth Judicial Circuit,
Seat 1

1. Name: Mr. Matthew Price Turner

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

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

Home Address: [REDACTED]

Business Address: PO Box 668, Laurens, SC 29360

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: (home): [REDACTED]
(office): (864) 984-6565
(cell): [REDACTED]

2. Date of Birth: [REDACTED] 1978

Place of Birth: Greenville, SC

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#: SCDL # [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.

Married on June 8, 2002 to Megan Wadford Turner

Never divorced, two children

[REDACTED]

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) University of South Carolina- attended August 1996-May 2000; received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration (Management and Marketing)
 - (b) Cumberland School of Law- attended August 2000-May 2001; transferred to the University of South Carolina School of Law
 - (c) University of South Carolina School of Law- attended August 2001-May 2003; received a Juris Doctor
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- admitted 2003
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.
N/A
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.
N/A
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.
N/A
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, 2003

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) Turner and Burney, P.C., Associate, August 2003-2007

(b) Turner and Burney, P.C., Partner, 2007 to present

Turner and Burney is a general practice firm. We have offices in Laurens and Simpsonville. I have represented clients in cases in Common Pleas, General Sessions, Probate Court, Family Court, and Magistrate's Court. However, approximately fifty percent (50%) of my caseload is devoted to Family Court cases. I am involved in the management of my practice, including the staff and finances. I am also the attorney responsible for overseeing the firms' trust account.

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.

Divorce and Equitable Division of Property

I have been representing litigants in Family Court since the day I began practicing law. In almost fourteen (14) years of private practice, I have personally been involved in hundreds of family court cases as sole counsel and served as co-counsel in several others. I have handled contested and non-contested matters. I have represented clients in cases where the parties were married less than (one) 1 year and cases where the parties were married more than forty (40) years. I have represented both Husbands and Wives. I have represented clients in actions for separate support and maintenance. I have handled cases involving divorces on the basis of a one-year separation, adultery, habitual drunkenness/drug abuse, and physical cruelty. I have also handled cases in Probate Court and Family Court involving common law marriages.

I have represented clients in cases involving a very small marital estate and cases where the parties had substantial assets. I served as co-counsel in several cases that had marital estates with millions of dollars in assets, including one (1) case with a marital estate of more than ten (10) million dollars. I have dealt with

identifying and dividing various types of assets and debts. I have been involved in cases where experts, such as a Forensic Accountant, were employed to value the marital assets, value businesses, and determine the marital portion of one spouse's retirement account. I have also been involved in cases where one spouse alleged that certain assets were non-marital, which involved issues of transmutation and special equity.

Child Custody

I have represented both Mothers and Fathers in cases involving child custody and visitation matters in cases where the child was born during the marriage as well as cases where the child was born to parents who were not married. I have also represented grandparents and other third parties in child custody and visitation cases. I have represented parents in initial custody actions as well as in custody and/or visitation modification actions. I have been involved in cases where a third party alleged that he/she was a "psychological parent" of the minor child. I have represented parents in cases involving allegations of "coaching" and "parental alienation." I have been involved in cases where counselors and therapists were necessary, including cases where one or both parents were ordered to undergo a psychological evaluation. I have served as a Guardian ad Litem in contested custody actions, visitation actions, and adoptions.

Adoption

I have represented clients in adoption cases, including cases involving the termination of parental rights. I have also served as a guardian ad litem in adoption cases and as the attorney for a guardian ad litem in a contested adoption case. I have explained and witnessed the execution of Consent and Relinquishment Forms for parents wishing to voluntarily terminate their parental rights.

Abuse and Neglect

I have represented parents and third parties in DSS cases who were accused of abusing and/or neglecting a child(ren). I have also been involved in many private actions where one parent was alleged to have physically abused and/or mentally abused the child(ren), including cases dealing with "coaching" and "parental alienation." I also served as guardian ad litem in a visitation case which involved allegations of sexual abuse.

Juvenile Justice

I have defended juveniles in several DJJ cases, including one (1) trial which resulted in a directed verdict for my client. I have also represented many adults in criminal cases and have knowledge of the criminal law and process. I plan to observe DJJ hearings in the future to help me become more knowledgeable about this area of practice in the Family Court and the procedure.

In the past five (5) years, I have regularly appeared before the Family Court. My schedule varies from week to week. I may have one appearance one week and several the next. There are also weeks that I do not have any Family Court appearances.

- (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.
 - (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.
 - (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.
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.
Martindale-Hubbell – BV Distinguished (2010)
- * **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: None

- (b) state: My schedule varies from week to week. I may have 1 court appearance one week and 3-4 the next. Some weeks I do not have any court.
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: 20%
 - (b) criminal: 20%
 - (c) domestic: 50%
 - (d) other: 10%
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: 5%
 - (b) non-jury: 95%

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

I primarily serve as sole counsel in these matters.

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) Owings v. Owings. I served as co-counsel in this case in which we represented the wife. The parties were married close to fifty (50) years and had three (3) grown children. Husband was a successful periodontist and the parties had accumulated millions of dollars in assets during the course of their marriage. This case involved many issues including adultery, alimony, equitable division of assets and debts, and attorney's fees. Wife filed for divorce on the ground of adultery. Husband acknowledged that he was in a relationship, but alleged the affair began after the parties' separation. The parties "separated" when Husband moved Wife into a nursing home so that he did not have to take care of her. Through discovery and the deposition of the girlfriend, we were able to establish that the affair began prior to the parties' separation and that Husband had purchased many gifts for his girlfriend and had taken her on several trips during the marriage. After a two (2) day trial, Wife was granted a divorce on the ground of adultery and was awarded one-half (1/2) of the marital estate, \$4,300 per month in permanent periodic alimony, and a substantial sum in attorney's fees and costs.
- (b) Linton v. Calvert. This case involved the custody of a young child who was born out of wedlock. The parties were also young. I represented the father who filed the action seeking custody of his son. The child was less than one (1) year old at the time the action was filed and had lived with the mother since birth. Father alleged that the mother could not provide a stable home for the child and that she had no routine for the child, was exposing the child to different men, and was placing her personal interests above the child's. Father and mother lived several hours apart. Mother alleged that father sought custody solely because he did not want to have to drive to see his son. At the temporary hearing, mother submitted an affidavit which included many false and/or misleading

allegations. Based upon the same, Mother was granted temporary custody of the child and father was granted visitation one weekend per month. The final hearing was tried over the course of two (2) days. As a result of the deposition of the mother and other discovery obtained, father was able to establish that mother was not credible. Mother acknowledged on cross-examination that she made numerous misrepresentations and false statements in her affidavit submitted at the temporary hearing which the Court relied on in giving her temporary custody. We were able to establish that Father was capable of taking care of the child on a full time basis and capable of financially supporting the child. The Court awarded father sole custody of the minor child. Father was also awarded attorney's fees and costs.

This was a very rewarding case for me due to the fact that we were able to overcome the fact that the father was a young, single man and the child was very young at the time of the litigation. It was also rewarding that we were able to establish that the mother had made many false and misleading statements which led to her obtaining custody on a temporary basis.

(c) Bragg v. Bragg. Unpublished Opinion No.: 2011-UP-428 (Ct. App. filed September 21, 2011)

I represented mother in this post-divorce action. Father filed an action alleging a substantial change in circumstances which he contended warranted an order granting him sole custody of the minor child. This case involved several temporary and/or emergency hearings and a two (2) day final hearing. Throughout the pendency of the action, father asked for temporary custody on three (3) separate occasions. Father alleged that mother had exposed the minor child to the use of illicit drugs and the excessive consumption of alcohol. Father further alleged that mother was involved in relationships with younger men and exposed the child to these relationships on an overnight basis. Father presented several witnesses who testified that mother was exposing the child to numerous young men and having them overnight while the minor child was present. Father's witnesses also testified that mother had supplied underage men with alcohol and that she excessively used alcohol while the child was in her care. We were able to establish that father's witnesses were either not credible or had a personal relationship with the father and were biased. After a two-day trial, the Court found that the child was doing well in school, was in no danger while in the mother's care, and was well taken care of by the mother. As such, the Court awarded sole custody to the mother.

Father appealed the Family Court's decision alleging that the Court erred in failing to find a substantial change in circumstances had occurred warranting a modification of prior order. I represented the mother in the appeal. Pursuant to an unpublished opinion, the Court of Appeals affirmed the Family Court's Order, thereby leaving custody with the mother.

(d) State of South Carolina v. Hunter This was a DJJ action. I represented the Defendant who was charged with lynching. Defendant was a fine, young man who was in the 8th grade at the time the allegations were made. He was in Honors classes and played on the football team. Defendant was accused of attacking a friend in the locker room, along with several other young men, during gym. The victim's mother worked for a local attorney's office and was extremely upset with my client. She was very involved in the case and sought full prosecution of the case. The Defendant was suspended from school for ten (10) days because of the allegations. At trial, I was able to establish that there was

no proof Defendant was involved in the attack despite the State's witnesses prior statements to the contrary. After the State rested, the Trial Judge granted my Motion for Directed Verdict and dismissed the case.

(e) Thomas vs. Thomas I represented the wife in this divorce action. The parties were married for 25+ years and had two (2) grown children. This case involved issues of divorce on the ground of adultery, equitable division of assets and debts, alimony, and attorney's fees. At the temporary hearing, wife was awarded temporary use and possession of the former marital home, alimony, and attorney's fees. Despite the temporary ruling, husband would not agree to pay permanent alimony nor would he agree to divide his retirement and other marital assets with the wife. After a trial on the issues, wife was granted ownership of the former marital home, permanent periodic alimony, the vehicle that both parties sought ownership of, one-half of husband's retirement account, and an award of attorney's fees.

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) Miles v. Miles, 393 S.C. 111, 711 S.E.2d 880 (2011)
 - (b) Duckett v. Goforth, 374 S.C. 446, 649 S.E.2d 72 (Ct. App. 2007)
 - (c) Simpson v. World Finance Corporation of South Carolina, 373 S.C. 178, 644 S.E. 2d 723 (2007)
 - (d) Bragg v. Bragg. Unpublished Opinion No.: 2011-UP-428 (Ct. App. filed September 21, 2011)
 - (e) Lollis v. Dutton. Pending oral argument. Appellate Case No.: 2015-001861. Docket No.: 2013-CP-30-3513

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) State of South Carolina vs. Raymond Franklin. Unpublished Opinion No.: 2014-UP-110 (Ct. App. filed March 12, 2014)

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.
No
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.
No
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 have been practicing law for almost fourteen (14) years and have been in private practice my entire legal career. I have tried cases in Magistrate's Court, Probate Court, Family Court, and Circuit Court. I have tried bench trials and jury trials. I have argued cases at the South Carolina Court of Appeals and the South Carolina Supreme Court. I have represented clients in cases in almost every county in the Upstate of South Carolina and in Newberry, Richland, Beaufort, Sumter, Florence, and Horry counties. I have engaged in extensive research of case law and statutes to prepare for argument and to draft Memorandums for use in the Family Court and Circuit Court. I have also drafted multiple briefs for appeals to the South Carolina Court of Appeals and the South Carolina Supreme Court. At least fifty percent (50%) of my caseload is devoted to Family Court. I have represented hundreds of litigants in divorce actions and custody/visitation actions. I have represented juveniles in DJJ actions and parents and third parties in DSS actions. I have represented parties in adoptions and represented minors and adults in actions to change their names. I have served as guardian ad litem in contested custody/visitation actions, adoptions, and actions brought to change a minor's name. I am a certified Family Court mediator and have served as a mediator in cases involving divorce, division of assets/debts, custody/visitation, alimony, and the request for fees. Other attorneys in my community refer cases to me on a regular basis. Three (3) of the appeals I was involved in were appeals from Family Court orders. One of those cases (Miles v. Miles, 393 S.C. 111, 711 S.E.2d 880 (2011)) was significant in that it established case law holding that the requirement to maintain health insurance on a spouse is an incident of support which is modifiable based upon a substantial change in circumstances or condition.

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.)

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

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

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.
N/A

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.
No

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.

No

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
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.
I am currently covered by malpractice insurance and have been since I began practicing law. Our coverage limits are \$1,000,000.00/\$2,000,000.00. Our deductible is \$5000.00.
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 have a Facebook page and a LinkedIn account. If elected, I would delete my Facebook account. I believe a Judge has to be very careful in using social media to avoid the appearance of being bias and to avoid bringing disrespect to the Judiciary.
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?

N/A

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.

N/A

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

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.

No

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 Bar
- (b) Laurens County Bar; President 2006 - present
- (c) Greenville County Bar
- (d) South Carolina Association for Justice
- (e) South Carolina Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers

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) First Baptist Church, Laurens- current Chair, Board of Deacons
- (b) YMCA of Greater Laurens- member and current Board Member
- (c) Straight Street Youth Ministry-volunteer

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 have always been a driven, goal-oriented person. At a young age, I decided to attend the University of South Carolina, go to law school, and return home to practice law with my father. That is what I did. I am committed to my wife and children, my church, and my job. When I commit to do something, I put in one hundred percent (100%) effort. I pride myself on being a hard worker. To that end, I have no problem working long hours to ensure that the task is completed thoroughly and precisely. If elected to the bench, I will continue to work hard each and every day. I am relatively young and have the energy and motivation needed to be an effective judge.

I have served on various boards in my community and my church. I have served as chair of the YMCA board and am currently the chair of the board of deacons of the First Baptist Church of Laurens. I volunteer at Straight Street Laurens which is a program that gives middle school and high school youth a safe environment where they can spend time together and keep them out of trouble. I have also coached many of my boys' sports teams through the YMCA. My experience coaching and volunteering at Straight Street have given me the opportunity to work with children and youth from all walks of life.

Throughout the years, I have had the pleasure of working with clients through some of the most difficult times they have ever faced. I have represented individuals from all walks of life, from those who are indigent to those who are very wealthy, from those who had little or no education to those who are well educated and successful. I have also been there for friends and family members who have dealt with unfaithfulness in their marriage, divorce, custody cases, and addiction. I have seen the emotional and financial stress that people go through in Family Court cases as an attorney and as a friend/family member. I am a certified Family Court mediator and have mediated various types of Family Court issues

which has given me the opportunity to be a neutral party and view these types of cases from a different viewpoint.

I have always tried to be kind and respectful to others, and to treat them the way I want to be treated. Throughout my life, I have made a point to be courteous to everyone and be open to what they have to say, even when I disagree with them. The experiences I have had, both professionally and personally, have served to strengthen my desire to be open minded and to treat everyone with respect.

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) Jason Hucks

Hucks Financial Services
109 Lovett Drive
Greenville, SC 29607
864-642-2471

(b) Rev. Rickey Letson
300 West Main Street
Laurens, SC 29360
864-984-7500

(c) Brian Harlan
410 Anderson Drive
Laurens, SC 29360
864-984-2626

(d) Danny Smith
Harrison, White, Smith and Coggins, P.C
PO Box 3547
Spartanburg, SC 29304
864-585-5100

(e) David Corley
103 Sherwood Drive
Laurens, SC 29360
864-984-5940

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.

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.

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.

N/A

- 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: _____