

Judicial Merit Selection Commission

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Erin B. Crawford, Chief Counsel
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MEDIA RELEASE

December 3, 2024

The Judicial Merit Selection Commission found the following judicial candidates for the Court of Appeals, Circuit Court, Family Court, and the Administrative Law Court qualified and nominated at the public hearing held November 18-21, November 25-26, and December 2, 2024:

Court of Appeals

Seat 2

The Honorable Kristi F. Curtis, Sumter, SC
Jason P. Luther, Columbia, SC
The Honorable Courtney Pope, Aiken, SC

Seat 3

The Honorable John D. Geathers, Ridgeway, SC

Seat 4

The Honorable Paula H. Thomas, Murrells Inlet, SC

Circuit Court

4th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2

The Honorable Eugene P. Warr Jr., Lamar, SC

5th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1

Ashley A. McMahan, Columbia, SC
Christopher Dolan Taylor, Columbia, SC
William K. Witherspoon, Columbia, SC

7th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1

The Honorable J. Derham Cole Jr., Spartanburg, SC

9th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1

The Honorable Deadra L. Jefferson, Charleston, SC

9th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2

Bryan A. Alfaro, Charleston, SC
Thomas J. Rode, Charleston, SC
R. Bruce Wallace, Mt. Pleasant, SC

10th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1

The Honorable Lawton McIntosh, Anderson, SC

11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable David Shawn Graham , Lexington, SC Derrick E. Mobley , Gilbert, SC Christian Giresi Spradley , Batesburg-Leesville, SC
16th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	Melissa A. Inzerillo , Rock Hill, SC
At-Large, Seat 7	De Grant Gibbons , Aiken, SC William Vickery “Vick” Meetze , Marion, SC Jane H. Merrill , Greenwood, SC
At-Large, Seat 14	The Honorable R. Keith Kelly , Spartanburg, SC
At-Large, Seat 15	The Honorable Maite D. Murphy , North Charleston, SC
At-Large, Seat 16	Charles J. McCutchen , Orangeburg, SC
<u>Family Court</u>	
1st Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Anne Guè Jones , Orangeburg, SC
2nd Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	Shannon M. Chandler , Graniteville, SC Amanda Frances Whittle , Aiken, SC
2nd Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable Angela W. Abstance , Denmark, SC
3rd Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	William A. W. Buxton , Sumter, SC E. Thompson Kinney , Columbia, SC
3rd Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable Angela R. Taylor , Sumter, SC
3rd Judicial Circuit, Seat 3	The Honorable Ernest Joseph Jarrett , Kingstree, SC
4th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	C. Heath Ruffner , Cheraw, SC
5th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable Michelle M. Hurley , Columbia, SC
5th Judicial Circuit, Seat 3	The Honorable M. Scott Rankin , Camden, SC
6th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Coreen B. Khoury , Lancaster, SC
7th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Angela J. Moss , Inman, SC
7th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable M. Todd Thigpen , Roebuck, SC
8th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Bryan C. Able , Laurens, SC Robert W. Cone , Greenwood, SC

	James Conway “Jim” Todd IV , Laurens, SC
8th Judicial Circuit, Seat 3	The Honorable Joseph C. Smithdeal , Greenwood, SC
9th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable Alice Anne Richter , Mt. Pleasant, SC
9th Judicial Circuit, Seat 4	The Honorable Blakely Copeland Cahoon , Summerville, SC
10th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable David J. Brousseau , Anderson, SC
10th Judicial Circuit, Seat 3	The Honorable M. Scott McElhannon , Anderson, SC
11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable Huntley Smith Crouch , Lexington, SC
11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 3	The Honorable Robert E. Newton , Lexington, SC
12th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Alicia Allsbrook Richardson , Britton’s Neck, SC
12th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable FitzLee H. McEachin , Florence, SC
13th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Rochelle Yarborough Conits , Greenville, SC
13th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable W. Marsh Robertson , Greenville, SC
13th Judicial Circuit, Seat 6	Jonathan D. Hammond , Greenville, SC Marcelo Torricos , Simpsonville, SC
14th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Gerald C. Smoak Jr. , Walterboro, SC
15th Judicial Circuit, Seat 1	The Honorable Jan B. Bromell Holmes , Georgetown, SC
16th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2	The Honorable David G. Guyton , Rock Hill, SC
At-Large, Seat 1	The Honorable Kimaka “Kim” Nichols-Graham , Greenville, SC
At-Large, Seat 2	The Honorable Timothy E. Madden , Greenville, SC
At-Large, Seat 3	The Honorable James G. McGee III , Florence, SC
At-Large, Seat 4	The Honorable Monét Pincus , Columbia, SC
At-Large, Seat 5	The Honorable Randall E. McGee , St. Matthews, SC

At-Large, Seat 6

The Honorable David Earl Phillips, Williamston, SC

Administrative Law Court

Seat 2

Kristian Cross, Columbia, SC

The Honorable Bryan S. Jeffries, West Columbia, SC

Samuel L. Johnson, West Columbia, SC

Seat 3

The Honorable Robert L. Reibold, Columbia, SC

The Judicial Merit Selection Commission found the following judicial candidates for Masters-in-Equity and Active/Retired qualified at the public hearing held December 2, 2024:

Masters-in-Equity

Abbeville County

The Honorable Roy R. Hemphill, Greenwood, SC

Aiken County

The Honorable M. Anderson Griffith, Aiken, SC

Beaufort County

James J. Wegmann, Beaufort, SC

Berkeley County

J. Camden West, Moncks Corner, SC

Georgetown County

The Honorable Joe M. Crosby, Pawleys Island, SC

Kershaw County

The Honorable William B. Cox Jr., Camden, SC

Lee County

James Patterson Saverance Jr., Bishopville, SC

Lexington County

The Honorable James Otto Spence, Lexington, SC

Richland County

Stephanie N. Lawrence, Columbia, SC

Ian D. McVey, Columbia, SC

Active/Retired

Circuit Court

The Honorable Donald Bruce Hocker, Laurens, SC

Family Court

The Honorable Timothy H. Pogue, Marion, SC

As a reminder, the record remains open until the final report is issued at 12:00 Noon, Tuesday, January 21, 2025. Accordingly, judicial candidates are not free to seek or accept commitments until that time.

The election is currently scheduled for Noon on Wednesday, February 5, 2025.

Correspondence and questions should be directed to the Judicial Merit Selection Commission as follows: Erin B. Crawford, Chief Counsel, erincrawford@scsenate.gov, (803) 212-6689, or Lindi Putnam, JMSC Administrative Assistant, lindiputnam@scsenate.gov, (803) 212-6623.