

Judicial Merit Selection Commission

Rep. Micajah P. “Micah” Caskey, IV, Chairman
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Peter D. Protopapas
Christian Stegmaier
The Honorable Joseph Monroe Strickland



Erin B. Crawford, Chief Counsel
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MEDIA RELEASE

August 25, 2025

The Public Hearings for the Judicial Merit Selection Commission have been scheduled to begin Monday, November 17, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., regarding the qualifications of the following candidates for judicial positions:

Supreme Court

Seat 2

The Honorable Ralph K. Anderson III, Columbia, SC
The Honorable John Cannon Few, Mountain Rest, SC
The Honorable Blake A. Hewitt, Conway, SC
Jay Lucas, Hartsville, SC

Court of Appeals

Seat 7

The Honorable Stephanie P. McDonald, Charleston, SC

Circuit Court

3rd Judicial Circuit, Seat 2

Will Wheeler, Bishopville, SC

11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 3

The Honorable Debbie McCaslin, Chapin, SC

12th Judicial Circuit, Seat 3

The Honorable H. Steven DeBerry, IV, Pamplico, SC

16th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2

Christopher E. A. Barton, York, SC
Thomas L. Bowen Jr., York, SC
P. John Freeman, Fort Mill, SC
Melissa A. Inzerillo, Rock Hill, SC
Chisa J. Putman, Rock Hill, SC
Leslie Robinson, York, SC
Misti Shelton, Rock Hill, SC

At-Large, Seat 5

The Honorable Milton G. Kimpson, Columbia, SC

Family Court

3rd Judicial Circuit, Seat 2

E. Thompson Kinney, Sumter, SC

4th Judicial Circuit, Seat 3

The Honorable Elizabeth Biggerstaff York, Darlington, SC

6th Judicial Circuit, Seat 2

The Honorable Debra A. Matthews, Blackstock, SC

9th Judicial Circuit, Seat 5

The Honorable Spiros Stavros Ferderigos, Charleston, SC

9th Judicial Circuit, Seat 7

Natasha D. Chisolm, Charleston, SC

Marissa K. Jacobson, Charleston, SC

John Fulton Knobloch, Mount Pleasant, SC

Anthony Philip LaMantia III, Charleston, SC

Kelly Pope-Black, Daniel Island, SC

11th Judicial Circuit, Seat 4

Elnora Jones Dean, Columbia, SC

Rebecca West, Lexington, SC

13th Judicial Circuit, Seat 5

The Honorable Tarita A. Dunbar, Greenville, SC

14th Judicial Circuit, Seat 3

Scarlet B. Moore, Greenville, SC

The Honorable Larry W. Weidner II, Bluffton, SC

14th Judicial Circuit, Seat 4

Scarlet B. Moore, Greenville, SC

Catherine Webb, Saint Helena Island, SC

The Honorable Larry W. Weidner II, Bluffton, SC

15th Judicial Circuit, Seat 3

The Honorable Melissa M. Frazier, Myrtle Beach, SC

Administrative Law Court

Seat 4

Rowland Alston III, Columbia, SC

Erika Easler, Chapin, SC

Jason P. Luther, Columbia, SC

Mandy Powers Norrell, Lancaster, SC

Kelly Rainsford, Columbia, SC

Michael S. Traynham, Columbia, SC

Nicole T. Wetherton, Blythewood, SC

The Honorable Barbara “Bobbie” Wofford-Kanwat, Columbia, SC

Seat 6

The Honorable S. Phillip “Phil” Lenski, Lexington, SC

Master-in-Equity
Berkeley County

The Honorable J. Camden West, Moncks Corner, SC

Active Retired
Circuit Court

The Honorable Joseph Derham Cole (Ret.), Spartanburg, SC
The Honorable Thomas W. Cooper Jr., Manning, SC

The Honorable Thomas L. Hughston Jr., Charleston, SC
The Honorable Steven H. John (Ret.), Little River, SC

Family Court

The Honorable Ronald R. Norton, Murrells Inlet, SC
The Honorable William J. Wylie Jr., Fair Play, SC

Persons desiring to testify at public hearings shall furnish written notarized statements of proposed testimony, in accordance with the Procedural Rules of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission. These statements must be received by **Noon, Monday, November 3, 2025**. The Commission has witness affidavit forms that must be used for proposed testimony. Statements should be mailed or delivered to the Judicial Merit Selection Commission as follows:

Erin B. Crawford, Chief Counsel
104 Gressette Building
Post Office Box 142
Columbia, SC 29202

All testimony, including documents furnished to the Commission, must be submitted under oath, and failure to appear will result in a dismissal of the related complaint. Persons knowingly giving false information, either orally or in writing, shall be subject to penalty.

For further information about the Judicial Merit Selection Commission and the judicial screening process, the website is available at:

<https://www.scstatehouse.gov/JudicialMeritPage/JMSCMainPage.php>

Questions concerning the hearing and procedures should be directed to the Commission at (803) 212-6623.