

JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION Sworn Statement to be included in Transcript of Public Hearings
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**Supreme Court/Court of Appeals
(New Candidate)**

Full Name:

Business Address:

Business Telephone:

1. Do you plan to serve your full term if elected?
2. If elected, do you have any plans to return to private practice one day?
3. Have you met the Constitutional requirements for this position regarding age, residence, and years of practice?
4. What is your philosophy regarding *ex parte* communications? Are there circumstances under which you could envision *ex parte* communications being tolerated?
5. If you disclosed something that had the appearance of bias, but you believed it would not actually prejudice your impartiality, what deference would you give a party that requested your recusal? Would you grant such a motion?
6. What standards have you set for yourself regarding the acceptance of gifts or social hospitality?
7. How would you handle a situation in which you became aware of misconduct or appearance of infirmity of a lawyer or of a fellow judge?

8. Are you affiliated with any political parties, boards or commissions? If so, in what capacity are you serving?
9. Have you engaged in any fund-raising activities with any political, social, community, or religious organizations? Please describe.
10. How would you prepare for cases that were before you?
11. What is your philosophy on “judicial activism,” and what effect should judges have in setting or promoting public policy?
12. Canon 4 allows a judge to engage in activities to improve the law, legal system, and administration of justice. What activities would you plan to undertake to further this improvement of the legal system?
13. Do you feel that the pressure of serving as a judge would strain personal relationships (i.e. spouse, children, friends, or relatives)? How would you plan to address this?
14. Please describe your methods of analysis in matters of South Carolina’s Constitution and its interpretation by explaining your approach in the following areas. Which area should be given the greatest weight?
 - a) The use and value of historical evidence in practical application of the Constitution:
 - b) The use and value of an agency’s interpretation of the Constitution:
 - c) The use and value of documents produced contemporaneously to the Constitution, such as the minutes of the convention:

15. Are you a member of any organization or association that, by policy or practice, prohibits or limits its membership on the basis of race, sex, religion, or national origin? If so, please identify the entity and explain if this organization practices invidious discrimination on any basis.
16. Have you met the mandatory minimum hours requirement for continuing legal education courses for the past reporting period?
17. What do you feel is the appropriate demeanor for a judge and when do these rules apply?
18. Would there be a role for sternness or anger in meetings with attorneys?

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

Sworn to before me this ____ day of _____, 2026.

(Signature)

(Print name)

Notary Public for South Carolina

My Commission Expires: _____