Judicial Qualifications Checklist

Statutory Requirements

Family Court Judges

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|  | Candidate is a citizen of the United States | S.C. Code Ann. § 20-7-1370(A) (Supp. 1997). |
|  | Candidate is a citizen of South Carolina. | S.C. Code Ann. § 20-7-1370(A) (Supp. 1997). |
|  | Candidate is at least 32 years old. | S.C. Code Ann. § 20-7-1370(A) (Supp. 1997). |
|  | Candidate has been a licensed attorney for at least the past 8 years. | S.C. Code Ann. § 20-7-1370(A) (Supp. 1997). |
|  | Candidate resides in the circuit for which he seeks election.  | S.C. Code Ann. § 20-7-1370(A) (Supp. 1997).  |
|  | Additional requirements for certain circuits:1. In circuits 5, 7, 10, 12, 13, 15, and 16, at least one family court judge must be a resident of each county in the circuit.
2. In the 9th judicial circuit both counties in the circuit must have at least 2 resident family court judges.
3. In those judicial circuits made up of 3 or more counties at least 1 family court judge must be a resident of 1 of the counties which does not have the largest population in the circuit.
4. No county in the 6th judicial circuit may have more than one resident family court judge.
 | S.C. Code Ann. § 20-7-1370 and § 20-7-1410 (Supp. 1997).  |
|  | General Assembly shall elect a number of family court judges from each judicial circuit as follows:First Circuit: 3 judgesSecond Circuit: 2 judgesThird Circuit: 3 judgesFourth Circuit: 3 judgesFifth Circuit: 4 judgesSixth Circuit: 2 judgesSeventh Circuit: 3 judgesEighth Circuit: 3 judgesNinth Circuit: 6 judgesTenth Circuit: 3 judgesEleventh Circuit: 3 judgesTwelfth Circuit: 3 judgesThirteenth Circuit: 6 judgesFourteenth Circuit: 3 judgesFifteenth Circuit: 3 judgesSixteenth Circuit: 2 judges | S.C. Code Ann. § 20-7-1410 (Supp. 1997) |
|  | Candidate has been a resident of South Carolina for at least the five years preceding the election. | S. C. Code Ann. § 20-7-1370(A) (Supp. 1997). |
|  | Candidate is not serving in the General Assembly and has not served there for at least one year prior to nomination as a judge or from the time the candidate failed to file for election to the General Assembly in accordance with § 7-11-15. (March 30th of the year of the election). | S.C. Code Ann. § 2-19-70 (Supp. 1997). |
|  | Candidate has not served on the Judicial Merit Selection Committee for a period of one year. | S.C. Code Ann. § 2-19-10(G) (Supp. 1997). |