



Crystal Rookard

Administrative Law Court, Seat #3

AMENDMENT TO Personal Data Questionnaire

[DATE ORIGINALLY SUBMITTED]

Application due date was July 22, 2020

[QUESTION NUMBER] [TEXT OF THE QUESTION YOU ARE AMENDING]

**Prior Question & Answer:**

14. What percentage of your practice in trial court during 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: 50%

(b) non-jury:

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

Chief counsel in my role as General Counsel for Lander University and Midlands Technical College.

[SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE]

**Please specify whether you are simply supplementing the prior answer or striking that answer and replacing it with what is provided in the amendment.**

Please note I am striking the prior answer and replacing it with the answer provided below.

14. What percentage of your practice in trial court during 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: 50% new answer 0%

(b) non-jury: new answer 40%\*

Since 2015 I have served as an associate (substitute) municipal court judge. In this capacity I conduct hearings and adjudicate cases in criminal court, domestic violence court, homeless court, quality of life court and traffic court, preside over bond court, rule on motions, draft orders and conduct legal research, as necessary. In municipal court, there are bench trials in which I listen to testimony and review evidence presented by both parties, then make the decision. I have interacted extensively with law enforcement, pro se litigants, those represented by legal counsel and victims.

Since 2006 – present, I have served as legal counsel for three state government agencies. I possess extensive state government legal experience applicable to the SC Administrative Procedures Act to include: auditing issues, contract review, drafted and negotiated agreements with local hospitals and healthcare facilities, employee grievances, including arbitrations, mediations and hearings before the State Employee Grievance Committee, budget issues, law enforcement issues, easements/real estate issues, ethics/compliance, freedom of information, governance, healthcare/nursing issues, review/draft legislation, privacy and records management, transactional matters involving copyright and technology

transfer, policies and procedures, and publications as needed, higher education law, human resource management: benefits, class/compensation, criminal background checks, disability, leave, payroll, recruitment, retirement, temporary employment, unemployment issues, and providing legal advice to supervisors, board members, and executive-level management.

\*From 2000 – 2005, 50% of my practice involved serving as the Deputy General Counsel for the SC Department of Corrections (SCDC). I defended the Department against inmate litigation. The inmate litigation was appealed to the Administrative Law Court. I drafted and filed briefs, prepared documents to be submitted into the record and interacted with staff members of the Administrative Law Court. I handled inmate cases involving prison disciplinary appeals, sentence calculations, custody, and liberty interests. Handled appeals under the Administrative Procedures Act as needed. Also, I represented SCDC against inmate litigation filed in circuit court in Richland County, SC.

Throughout my state government career, I have handled legal issues involving various state agencies such as DHEC, DSS, Department of Revenue, SCDPPP, etc.

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

Chief counsel in my role as General Counsel for Lander University and Midlands Technical College.

If more than one question needs to be amended, continue with the above format.

**Prior Question & Answer**

27. 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. Yes

Please note I am striking the prior answer and replacing it with the answer provided below.

27. 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. Yes No

[SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE] *Crystal Bookend*  
[DATE] *11/13/2020*

Please mail your supplemental response to the following address:

Judicial Merit Selection Commission  
P.O. Box 142  
Columbia, SC 29202