

**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE
2020**

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Circuit Court Judge
Fifteenth Judicial Circuit
Resident Seat 2

1. Name: The Honorable Benjamin Hellams Culbertson

Name that you are known by if different from above
(Example: A Nickname): Ben

Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge? If part-time, please note.
(Includes Municipal, Magistrate, Etc.)

I am a Circuit Court Judge, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Resident Seat 2.

Home Address: [REDACTED]

Business Address: P.O. Box 479; Georgetown, SC 29442

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: (home): [REDACTED]
(office): (843) 545-3030
(cell): [REDACTED]

2. Date of Birth: [REDACTED] 1959
Place of Birth: Laurens, South Carolina
Social Security Number: [REDACTED]

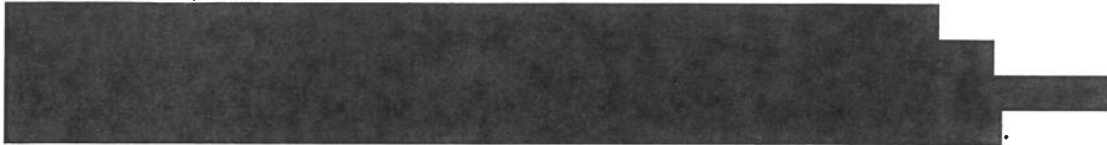
3. Are you a citizen of South Carolina? Yes
Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? Yes

4. SCDL# or SCHD#: [REDACTED]
Voter Registration Number: [REDACTED]

5. Have you served in the military? If so, give the dates, branch of service, highest rank attained, serial number (if applicable), present status, and the character of your discharge or release. Please provide a copy of your DD214 concerning your discharge.

I have not served in the military.

6. Family Status: Married on September 14, 1985, to Renée Kinsey Culbertson. Never divorced, three children.



7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.

- (a) The Citadel 8/1977 – 5/1981 BA, History;
- (b) University of South Carolina School of Law 8/1981 – 5/1984 J.D.

8. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at law school. Give the years you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.

- (a) Elected representative of Legislative Council 1983-1984
- (b) Job Placement Committee 1983-1984
- (c) Student Bar Association 1981-1982; 1983-1984
- (d) Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity 1983-1984
- (e) Phi Delta Phi Social Committee 1983-1984
- (f) Karen Lee Scholarship Committee 1982

9. List the states in which you have been admitted to practice law and the year of each admission. Also list any states in which you took the bar exam but were never admitted to the practice of law. Please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.

- (a) South Carolina; admitted to the practice of law in 1984. The South Carolina Bar exam is the only bar exam I have ever taken. I took the South Carolina Bar exam once.

10. Describe chronologically, since graduation from law school, your legal experience. Please include a list of all positions held in which you worked in a legal capacity. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character changed over the years. Please also describe the extent to which you were involved with the administrative and financial management of each of these entities, including management of trust accounts.

- (a) From 1/14/1985 until 12/31/1988, I was an associate attorney with the law firm of Schneider and O'Donnell, P.A.. I maintained a general practice in all areas of law except tax law. I had limited administrative and financial management and no management of the trust accounts.

- (b) From 1/1/1989 until 12/31/1990, I was a junior partner with the law firm of Schneider and O'Donnell, P.A. The firm changed its name to O'Donnell and Culbertson,

P.A.. I maintained a general practice in all areas of law except tax law. I assumed some administrative and financial management of the firm, subject to approval from the senior partner. I had no management of the trust accounts.

(c) From 1/1985 until 4/1996, I served as Assistant Municipal Court Judge for the City of Georgetown, SC. I presided over criminal cases occurring in the city where the penalties for convictions were a fine of not more than \$500.00 and/or imprisonment of not more than 30 days. I also conducted preliminary hearings and set bond for defendants charged with General Sessions offenses, except for capital murder cases and charges with a penalty of life imprisonment.

(d) From 1/1/1991 until 6/30/2007, I was a sole-practicing attorney with the Law Office of Benjamin H. Culbertson, P.A. I maintained a general practice in all areas of law except bankruptcy, tax law and social security claims. I had total administrative and financial management of the firm and was solely responsible for management of all trust accounts.

(e) From 4/1996 until 6/30/2007, I served as Master-In-Equity for Georgetown County, SC. I presided over non-jury civil cases that were referred to me and had the same jurisdiction and authority as a Circuit Court Judge presiding over the case.

(f) From 7/2001 until 6/30/2007, I served as Special Circuit Court Judge under appointment from The Honorable Jean Toal, Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court. I had the same jurisdiction and authority as a Circuit Court Judge over matters pending in Georgetown County, except for presiding over trials in General Sessions Court.

(g) From 7/5/2007 to the present, I have been a circuit court judge, elected as resident circuit judge for the 15th judicial circuit, seat number 2.

Justices/judges applying for re-election to their current position may omit Questions 11–17. If you are a full-time judge seeking a judgeship different than your current position, Questions 11-17 should be answered based on your experience prior to serving on the bench.

11. Please answer the following: N/A – seeking re-election to my current position.

- (a) If you are a candidate for Family Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience within each of the following Family Court practice areas: divorce and equitable division of property, child custody, adoption, abuse and neglect, and juvenile justice. Include information about cases you have handled in each of these practice areas, or if you have not practiced in an area, describe how your background and procedural knowledge has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Family Court judge. Please also indicate the frequency of your appearances before a Family Court judge within the past five years.
- (b) If you are a candidate for Circuit Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience in criminal matters, including any cases handled over the past five

years, and include a brief description of the issues involved. Further, please provide a brief written description of your experience in civil matters, including any cases handled over the past five years, and include a brief description of the types of matters handled, issues involved, and procedural history. Please include information such as the primary areas in civil court in which you practice, and whether you represent plaintiffs or defendants, or both. You may go back further than five years if you feel it would assist the Commission with its assessment of your experience. If you lack experience in an area, describe how your background and procedural knowledge has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Circuit Court judge, or how you would compensate for your lack of experience in this area. Please also indicate the frequency of your appearances before a Circuit Court judge within the past five years.

- (c) If you are a candidate for Master-In-Equity, please provide a brief written description of your experience in the Master's court, including any cases handled over the past five years, and include a brief description of the issues involved. Please include the frequency of your appearances before a Master-In-Equity or a Circuit Court judge within the past five years.
- (d) If you are a candidate for Administrative Law Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience before an Administrative Law Judge, including any issues discussed and the frequency of your appearances before the Administrative Law or Circuit Court within the past five years.

12. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench?

- (a) federal:
- (b) state:

N/A – seeking re-election to my current position.

13. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, domestic, and other matters during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench?

- (a) civil:
- (b) criminal:
- (c) domestic:
- (d) other:

N/A – seeking re-election to my current position.

14. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the past five years or in 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:
- (b) non-jury:

During the past five years, did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or co-counsel?

N/A – seeking re-election to my current position.

15. List five of the most significant litigated matters you have personally handled in either trial or appellate court, or before a state or federal agency. Give citations if the cases were reported and describe why these matters were significant.

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)

N/A – seeking re-election to my current position.

16. List up to five civil appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision, and the citation if the case was reported.

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)

N/A – seeking re-election to my current position.

17. List up to five criminal appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported.

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)

N/A – seeking re-election to my current position.

18. Have you ever held judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the courts involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. Describe the jurisdiction of each of the courts and note any limitations on the jurisdiction of each court.

(a) From 1/1985 until 4/1996, I served as Assistant Municipal Court Judge for the City of Georgetown, SC. I was appointed by Georgetown City Council and I presided over criminal cases occurring in the city where the penalties for convictions were a fine of not more than \$500.00 and/or imprisonment of not more than 30 days. I also conducted preliminary hearings and set bond for defendants charged with General Sessions offenses, except for capital murder cases and charges with a penalty of life imprisonment.

(b) From 4/1996 until 6/30/2007, I served as Master-In-Equity for Georgetown County, SC. I was appointed by the Governor of South Carolina, with the advice and consent of the South Carolina General Assembly. I presided over non-jury civil cases that were referred to me and had the same jurisdiction and authority as a Circuit Court Judge presiding over the case.

(c) From 7/2001 until 6/30/2007, I served as Special Circuit Court Judge under appointment from The Honorable Jean Toal, Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court. I had the same jurisdiction and authority as a Circuit Court Judge over matters pending in Georgetown County, except for presiding over trials in General Sessions Court.

(d) From 7/5/2007 to the present, I have been a circuit court judge. I was elected on 5/23/2007 by the South Carolina General Assembly as resident circuit judge for the 15th judicial circuit, seat number 2. I was re-elected to the same position in 2009 and 2015.

19. If the answer to question 18 is yes, describe or list five of your most significant orders or opinions and give the citations if they were reported. Also, list citations to any appellate review of these orders or opinions.

(a) State v. Singleton, Opinion No. 5722 (S.C.App. 2020) – South Carolina Court of Appeals affirmed the denial of defendant's motion for directed verdict, holding that an individual could be convicted of obstruction of justice for lying to law enforcement.

(b) Palmer v. State, et al., 427 S.C. 36, 829 S.E.2d 255 (S.C.App. 2019) – South Carolina Court of Appeals affirmed Circuit Court's dismissal of plaintiff's complaint under Rule 12(b)(6), SCRCP, deciding the novel issue that no constitutional or civil remedy exists for a previous wrongful conviction.

(c) Repko v. County of Georgetown, 424 S.C. 494, 818 S.E.2d 743, (2018) – South Carolina Supreme Court reversed the South Carolina Court of Appeals and affirmed the Circuit Court's directed verdict that the county was immune from property owner's negligence action under the Tort Claims Act's exception for the failure to enforce any law, regulation, or written policy.

(d) State v. Anderson, 407 S.C. 278, 754 S.E.2d 905 (S.C.App. 2014) – In affirming the defendant's conviction for first degree burglary, the South Carolina Court of Appeals affirmed the Circuit Court's ruling that the State's failure to turn over to the defendant unmatched fingerprints obtained from the crime scene did not violate Brady v. Maryland, 373 U.S. 83, 83 S.Ct. 1194, 10 L.Ed.2d 215 (1963) since the State disclosed the existence of the fingerprints and defendant failed to show that obtaining the fingerprints would lead to exculpatory or impeachable evidence.

(e) Fabian v. Lindsay, et al., 410 S.C. 475, 765 S.E.2d 132 (2014) – South Carolina Supreme Court reversed the Circuit Court's dismissal of plaintiff's action pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6), SCRCP. As a matter of first impression, the Supreme Court ruled that beneficiaries of an existing will or estate planning document may recover as third-party beneficiaries against an attorney under legal malpractice or breach of contract theories notwithstanding the beneficiaries' lack of privity to the contract or attorney/client relationship.

20. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice.

(a) On 11/15/1984, I was admitted to practice law in all state courts for South Carolina.

21. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? If so, briefly describe each course or lecture.

(a) At the Horry County Family Court seminar on 12/09/2005, I gave a lecture on "Writing Domestic Orders.

(b) At the Tips From the Bench seminar on 2/15/2008, I gave a lecture on civil trials from a circuit judge's perspective.

22. Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from the past five years.

See attachment.

23. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.

None.

24. Please furnish as a separate attachment, two examples of legal articles, briefs, orders, or other legal writings for which you can claim sole or primary authorship. If you cannot claim sole authorship, please explain the extent to which you are the primary author, to include a description of the other authors and their contributions. The writing samples are for the Commission's use only and will not be published. (If you are a judge and are not seeking a different type of judgeship, this question is inapplicable.)

N/A – seeking re-election to my current position.

25. What is your rating or membership status, if any, by any legal rating organization; such as, Best Lawyers, Chambers, Legal 500, Martindale-Hubbell, Who's Who Legal, Super Lawyers, Million Dollar Advocates Forum, etc.? If you are currently a member of the judiciary, list your last available rating, if any.

I am currently a member of the judiciary. My last available rating from Martindale-Hubbell was BV.

26. List all bar associations and professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices you have held in such groups.

(a) South Carolina Bar Association – I have not held any offices.

(b) South Carolina Circuit Court Judges Association – I have not held any offices.

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. If not, were you ever subject to a penalty? If so, give details, including dates.

(a) From 2004 to 2006, I was chairman of the Georgetown Election Commission. I was not elected to this position but was appointed by City Council. During this time, I don't recall filing any report with the State Ethics Commission but, I was never subject to any penalty.

28. For sitting or former judges, list all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or part-time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor.

(a) From 1/14/1985 until 12/31/1990, I was an associate attorney and, then a partner with the law firm of Schneider and O'Donnell, P.A. I maintained a general practice in all areas of law except tax law. During this time, I also served as Assistant Municipal Court Judge for the City of Georgetown. I was appointed by Georgetown City Council and had jurisdiction over all criminal violations in the city with maximum penalties of 30 days in jail or \$500.00 fine.

(b) From 1/1/1991 until 6/30/2007, I was a sole practicing attorney with the firm of Benjamin H. Culbertson, P.A. I maintained a general practice in all areas except bankruptcy, tax law and social security claims. I also served as Assistant Municipal Court Judge (see above) until 1996. From 1996 until 2007, I served as Master-In-Equity for Georgetown County. I was appointed as Master-In-Equity by the governor with the advice and consent of the South Carolina General Assembly. As Master-In-Equity, I sat as a Circuit Court Judge on all civil matters assigned to me by the Circuit Court.

29. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates.

In 1998, I filed for Circuit Court Judge Resident Seat #2, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, which became vacant due to the retirement of Judge David Maring. I withdrew as a candidate when Judge Paula Thomas (who was an at-large judge) filed for the resident seat. When Judge Thomas was elected to the resident seat, I filed for her vacated at-large seat, as well as 2 other vacated at-large seats. Though I was found to be one of the three most qualified candidates in one of the at-large seat races, I withdrew voluntarily because Judge Buddy Nichols was the obvious candidate for election. On another occasion, I filed for an Administrative Law judgeship. Though I was found qualified by the JMSC, I was not one of the top three candidates.

30. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law, teaching of law, or holding judicial or other public office? If so, give details, including a description of your occupation, business, or profession, the dates of your employment, and the name of your business or employer.

No.

31. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? Explain the nature of the business, your duties, and the term of your service.

No.

32. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a "lobbyist," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a "lobbyist's principal," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(14)? If so, give the dates of your employment or activity in such capacity and specify by whom you were directed or employed.

No.

33. Provide, **as a separate attachment**, a complete, current financial net worth statement that itemizes in detail:

- (a) the identity and value of all financial assets held, directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to, bank accounts, real estate, securities, trusts, investments, and other financial holdings; and
- (b) the identity and amount of each liability owed, directly or indirectly, which is in excess of \$1,000, including, but not limited to, debts, mortgages, loans, and other financial obligations.

(A net worth statement form is provided with this questionnaire and you must use this format for submission of your financial statement.)

NOTE: The Commission may require written confirmation that financial obligations have been satisfied or that the parties have agreed upon a payment schedule.

A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission.

34. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? If so, give details. Also, proof of satisfaction of any liens or defaults must be submitted with your application package.

No.

35. Since filing with the Commission your letter of intent to run for judicial office, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other

thing of value as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(1) from a lobbyist or lobbyist's principal? If so, please specify the item or items you received, the date of receipt, and the lobbyist or lobbyist's principal involved.

No.

36. Itemize (by amount, type, and date) all expenditures, other than those for travel and room and board, made by you, or on your behalf in furtherance of your candidacy for the position you seek. If you have spent over \$100, have you reported your expenditures to the House and Senate Ethics Committees?

None.

37. List the recipient and amount of all contributions made by you, a member of your immediate family, or by a business with whom you are associated, to members of the General Assembly within the past four years.

None.

38. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? If so, please specify the amount, solicitor, donor, and date of the solicitation.

No.

39. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships you have, or have had in the past, that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position you seek or currently hold. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest.

None.

40. Describe any interest you or a member of your immediate family has in real property:
- (a) in which there is a potential conflict of interest with your involvement in a South Carolina state or local public agency;
 - (b) in which there have been public improvements of \$200 or more that adjoins property in which there have been public improvements of \$200 or more; or
 - (c) which was sold, leased, or rented to a state or local public agency in South Carolina.

List the interest you hold and the value and location of the property. Identify as applicable the:

- (a) nature of any potential conflict of interest;
- (b) nature and value of any public improvements; and
- (c) South Carolina state or local public agency which purchased or is leasing or renting such property.

Attach a copy of any contract or agreement.

None.

41. Identify any personal property interest you or a member of your immediate family sold, leased, or rented to a South Carolina state or local public agency. Identify the property, its amount or value, and the name of the agency. Attach a copy of any contract or agreement.

None.

42. For sitting judges, if you currently hold an interest in stock or other securities or have held such an interest, list each stock you currently own or owned during the prior calendar year. If you prefer, you may attach broker or account records containing the requested information instead of listing it here.

None.

43. For sitting judges, have you ever accepted anything of value from an attorney or litigant in a matter currently or previously before you or your court? If so, please give the details, including the name of the attorney or litigant and the thing of value you received.

No.

44. For sitting judges, have you used the services of your staff, for which you did not pay, while campaigning for this office?

No.

45. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation or for suspicion of violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance, or any other law, including another country's law? If so, give details but do not include traffic violations subject to a penalty of \$125 or less. You must include any and all arrests, including, but not limited to, offenses for driving under the influence or similar traffic offenses. Include all arrests that resulted in expungement, which will be redacted. If you have questions regarding whether to include an offense, please contact the Commission.

[All answers have been received and considered by the Commission, and as noted above, any expunged matters are redacted from the record.]

46. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? If yes, explain.

No.

47. Have you ever been sued by a client? Have you ever been a named party (personally or professionally) in or had a pecuniary interest in any civil or criminal proceedings? If so, give details, including, but not limited to, dates, and resolutions.

In 1993, I represented a husband in a divorce and custody case. After the case, both my client and I were sued by his ex-wife for alleged violation of the Omnibus Crime Bill. The ex-wife claimed that we had violated the statute by using wire-tapped phone conversations between her and her paramour during a motion hearing in the divorce trial. The trial court (in federal court) granted the ex-wife summary judgment but, on appeal to the U. S. District Court of Appeals, the appellate court reversed the summary judgment and granted summary judgment in favor of me.

On another occasion, a case for supplementary proceedings was referred to me as Special Referee. After the supplementary proceedings, the defendant filed a pro se lawsuit against the circuit court judge who referred the case to the former Master-In-Equity, the former Master-In-Equity, the plaintiff's attorney and me. The complaint alleged some type of civil rights violation. The case was summarily dismissed.

Sometime around 2007 or 2008, a petition to approve a minor settlement was filed against me, though I was never served with the pleadings. My insurance carrier settled the claim of a minor who was injured while riding as a passenger in a vehicle driven by my son (who was a permissive driver covered under my insurance at the time). The court approved the settlement. I never knew the terms of settlement.

48. If you are in private practice, are you covered by malpractice insurance and, if so, how long have you carried malpractice insurance? If applicable, have you ever been covered by a tail policy? If so, please explain when you were covered by a tail policy. Also, if applicable, indicate your coverage and deductible for your current malpractice policy.

Prior to being elected circuit court judge and while practicing law as an attorney, I carried malpractice insurance. Three years after my election as circuit court judge, I cancelled this insurance.

49. Have you ever, in South Carolina or any other jurisdiction, as a lawyer, judge, or other professional, been cautioned with or without a finding of misconduct, sanctioned, or disciplined for lawyer, judicial, or other professional misconduct or has any jurisdiction found that you committed any misconduct? If so, give the details and describe any final disposition. Include any and all confidential and public sanctions, disciplines, letters of caution, or findings of misconduct of any kind. Private or confidential dispositions will be redacted.

[Yes and no responses are redacted for all candidates unless there is a public discipline.]

50. Have you ever been investigated by the Department of Social Services? If so, give the details and the resolution. Has your name ever been enrolled on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect? If so, give the details.

No.

51. Have you directly or indirectly requested the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened, or have you been offered a conditional pledge of support by any legislator pending the outcome of your screening? Have you received the assurance of any public official or public employee that they will seek the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? If so, give details.

No.

52. Have you requested any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf before the final and formal screening report has been released? Describe the campaigning you have done for this election and include a list of those individuals you have asked to campaign on your behalf and, to the best of your knowledge, those who have campaigned for you on their own initiative.

No.

53. Are you familiar with the 48-hour rule, which prohibits a candidate from seeking pledges until after the draft report becomes final, which occurs on the day and time specified on the Commission's published screening schedule?

Yes.

54. Since submitting your letter of intent to become a candidate, have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted any member of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? If so, give details.

No.

55. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five (5) persons from whom you are providing references. Also, provide the Commission with **original letters** of recommendation from each person listed herein, including their signature (preferably in blue ink). **The Commission will not accept a photocopy or electronic submission of a letter of recommendation and failure to include all five (5) original letters of recommendation in your packet when you submit it will render your packet incomplete.** Please **do not** have references mail your reference letters to the Commission directly. *You must return the five (5) original letters of recommendation to the Commission with your application.*

- (a) Austin Beard, Manager
Anderson Brothers Bank



(b) Edward T. Kelley
c/o E.F. Hucks & Associates, Inc.

[REDACTED]

(c) I. Harby Moses, Jr.
c/o Coastal Structures Corporation

[REDACTED]

(d) Ramona P. Moree

[REDACTED]

(e) Elaine P. Langston

[REDACTED]

56. Are you active on or a member of a social media or Internet site such as, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, etc.?

If so, please list the account names for each account and the relevant platform.

How would your use of social media or other similar types of Internet sites be affected if you were serving in a judicial capacity?

I am a member of Instagram (account name bculbertsonj) and Snapchat (account name Ben Culbertson). I do not post anything on either of these accounts. I use them to view pictures and other posts by "friends." Since I do not post to these accounts, my use of social media has not and will not affect my service as a circuit court judge.

57. List all civic, charitable, educational, social, and fraternal organizations of which you are or have been a member during the past five years and include any offices held in such a group, and any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere.

- (a) The Citadel Alumni Association;
- (b) The Citadel Brigadier Club;
- (c) Georgetown Cotillion Club;
 - President (2000-2001);
 - Vice President (1999-2000);
 - Secretary/Treasurer (1998-1999);
 - Executive Committee (1995-1998);

- (d) Winyah Indigo Society;
- (e) Duncan Memorial United Methodist Church.

58. Provide any other information that may reflect positively or negatively on your candidacy, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for nomination for the position you seek. This information may include how your life experiences have affected or influenced the kind or type of judge you have been or plan to be.

For the past 35 years, I have served as a member of the judiciary in some capacity. I gradually progressed from Assistant Municipal Court Judge, to Master-In-Equity, to Special Circuit Court Judge and, now Circuit Court Judge. I have now served as a Circuit Court Judge for the past thirteen years. I was first elected to the circuit court bench in 2007, re-elected in 2009 and re-elected again in 2015. I am a resident of Georgetown County and now hold the seat to which I am seeking re-election. Since the creation of this judicial seat, it has been held by a Georgetown resident.

YOUR SIGNATURE WILL BE HELD TO CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ANY PROCEEDING BEFORE A GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE OR ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR CREDIT.

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

Signature: _____
Benjamin H. Culbertson

Sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 2020.

(Notary Signature)

(Notary Printed Name)
Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission Expires: _____