



**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION  
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE  
2021**

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying:

1. Name: **MR. DOUGLAS MICHAEL ZAYICEK**

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

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

Home Address: [REDACTED]

Business Address: **THE BELLAMY LAW FIRM  
1000 29<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE NORTH  
MYRTLE BEACH, SC 29577**

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: (home): [REDACTED]  
(office): **843-448-2400**  
(cell): [REDACTED]

2. Date of Birth: [REDACTED] **1965**  
Place of Birth: **GLOVERSVILLE, NY**  
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. **NO.**

6. Family Status:  
(a) State whether you are single, married, widowed, divorced, or separated. **SINGLE**  
(b) If married, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name and occupation. **N/A**

- (c) If widowed, list the name(s) of spouse(s). N/A
- (d) If you have ever been divorced or are in the process of obtaining a divorce, state the date, name of the moving party, court, and grounds. N/A
- (e) State the names of your children and their ages. If your children are old enough to work, include the occupation of each child. NONE

- 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.

**UNDERGRADUATE: STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK-POTSDAM 1983-1987**

**B.A. COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**B.A. MATHEMATICS**

**LAW SCHOOL: UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1993-1996, 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.

**LAW SCHOOL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL            1995-1996**

**ENVIRONMENTAL LAW JOURNAL            1994-1996, ASSISTANT EDITOR  
IN CHIEF**

- 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.

**ADMITTED IN SOUTH CAROLINA, 1996**

**PASSED BAR FIRST TIME. HAVE NOT TAKEN ANY OTHER BAR EXAMS.**

- 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.

**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.***

**LAW CLERK, HON. JOHN L. BREEDEN, JR. (RET.), CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, 1996-1997**

**GENERAL LAW CLERK DUTIES INCLUDED DRAFTING OF ORDERS, REVIEW OF ORDERS SUBMITTED BY ATTORNEYS, SCHEDULING MATTERS, RESEARCHING VARIOUS LEGAL ISSUES FOR THE JUDGE. I ALSO CO-AUTHORED TWO MAGAZINE ARTICLES WITH JUDGE BREEDEN WHILE WORKING FOR HIM.**

**BELLAMY, RUTENBERG, COPELAND, EPPS, GRAVELY & BOWERS, P.A. (THE BELLAMY LAW FIRM) 1997-CURRENT, SHAREHOLDER**

**MY PRACTICE SINCE JOINING THE BELLAMY LAW FIRM HAS LARGELY BEEN DEVOTED TO FOUR MAIN AREAS: FORECLOSURES, REAL ESTATE LITIGATION, COLLECTION MATTERS, AND LANDLORD/TENANT MATTERS. HOWEVER, I ALSO HAVE ALSO DONE INSURANCE DEFENSE WORK, PERSONAL INJURY WORK, AND OTHER TYPES OF LITIGATION THROUGH THE YEARS. I HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS, WHICH RUNS THE DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS OF THE BELLAMY LAW FIRM, SINCE 2014. I AM ALSO THE PERSONNEL SHAREHOLDER, AND HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR OVER 50 EMPLOYEES.**

11. Please answer the following:
- (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.

**WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF A FEW ATTORNEYS IN THE COLUMBIA AREA WHO HAVE A STATE-WIDE MASS FORECLOSURE PRACTICE, I DO NOT BELIEVE ANYONE HAS APPEARED BEFORE THE HORRY COUNTY MASTER-IN-EQUITY MORE THAN ME IN THE LAST 20+ YEARS. AND I HAVE ALSO APPEARED BEFORE THE MASTERS/SPECIAL REFEREES IN SEVERAL OTHER COUNTIES INCLUDING GEORGETOWN, FLORENCE, CHARLESTON, BERKELEY, MARION, AND CLARENDON COUNTIES. DURING THAT TIME, I HAVE REPRESENTED SEVERAL BANKS, AND MANY PRIVATE LENDERS, IN MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE AND COLLECTION ACTIONS. I HAVE ALSO APPEARED BEFORE VARIOUS MASTERS-IN-EQUITY WITH REGARD TO QUIET TITLE ACTIONS, BOUNDARY DISPUTES, REAL PROPERTY DISPUTES, CONTRACT DISPUTES, AND MANY OTHER TYPES OF CIVIL ACTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN REFERRED TO THE MASTER-IN-EQUITY FOR TRIAL, OR ON APPEAL. THE ISSUES HAVE COVERED MANY LEGAL AREAS INCLUDING MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES, MORTGAGE REFORMATIONS, SUPPLEMENTAL PROCEEDINGS, DEBT COLLECTIONS, BREACH OF CONTRACT ACTIONS, BOUNDARY DISPUTES, QUIET TITLE ACTIONS (FOR TAX SALE DEEDS AND OTHERWISE), EARNEST MONEY DISPUTES, BUSINESS/ACCOUNTING DISPUTES, LEASE DISPUTES, SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE CASES, REAL ESTATE COMMISSION DISPUTES, AND EVEN AN APPEAL FROM THE SC BOARD OF REALTORS (CURRENTLY ON APPEAL BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA COURT OF APPEALS).**

**IN ADDITION, I HAVE DONE A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF WORK IN CIRCUIT COURT IN THE SAME COUNTIES. MANY OF THE COLLECTION AND BREACH OF CONTRACT ACTIONS I HAVE FILED IN THE LAST 15 YEARS HAVE REMAINED IN CIRCUIT COURT, AND I HAVE OBTAINED JUDGMENTS IN THAT COURT. IN MY FIRST 10 YEARS OF PRACTICE, I WORKED DIRECTLY WITH HOWELL V. "SKEETS" BELLAMY AND HENRIETTA GOLDING ON A NUMBER OF COMPLICATED CIVIL LITIGATION MATTERS, SOME OF WHICH ARE DISCUSSED IN GREATER DETAIL BELOW.**

**FURTHER, I HAVE HANDLED COUNTLESS LANDLORD/TENANT MATTERS IN MAGISTRATE COURT. I HAVE BEEN FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO REPRESENT MANY OF THE LARGE LANDLORDS IN THE AREA, INCLUDING BURROUGHS & CHAPIN, BAREFOOT LANDING, COASTAL GRAND MALL, MAGNOLIA MALL (FLORENCE), NORTHWOODS MALL (CHARLESTON), AND DOZENS OF OTHER STRIP MALLS, SHOPPING CENTERS, AND COMMERCIAL LANDLORDS.**

**OVERALL, I HAVE BEEN LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE A SOLID LEGAL BACKGROUND ON MANY AREAS OF CIVIL LITIGATION, AND APPELLATE PRACTICE, ALL OF WHICH, I FEEL, MAKE ME WELL SUITED FOR A JUDGESHIP.**

- (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: **10%**
  - (b) state: **90%**
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: **100%**
  - (b) criminal: **0%**
  - (c) domestic: **0%**
  - (d) other: **0%**
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: **10%**
  - (b) non-jury: **90%**

During the past five years, did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or co-counsel? **MOST OF MY WORK IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS HAS BEEN AS SOLE COUNSEL. BUT I SHARE AN ASSOCIATE WITH ANOTHER ATTORNEY, AND HAVE BEEN CO-COUNSEL WITH THAT ASSOCIATE ON MANY CASES.**

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) Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina v. City of North Myrtle Beach, 2000 WL 770141 (4th Cir. 2000), No. 99-2177, CA-97-3000-4-22. This matter involved the interpretation and application of the Catawba Indian Claims Settlement Act, and the Tribe's ability to operate bingo facilities. Although we were not successful, the matter was significant in terms of the Tribe being able to maintain itself economically.

(b) Wooten v. S.C. Coastal Council, 510 S.E.2d 716 (S.C. 1999). This was the first case I argued before the South Carolina Supreme Court. The fundamental issue involved whether the State obtains the right to land eroded via a natural disaster, or whether the property owner may reclaim property eroded via natural disaster, and the issues related thereto.

(c) City of Myrtle Beach v. Juel P. Corp. and Gay Dolphin, Inc., 543 S.E.2d 538 (S.C. 2001). This case involved a valuable rooftop billboard and the issues of abandonment, intent, nonconforming uses, and matters of statutory interpretation.

(d) Brewer v. Myrtle Beach Farms Company, Inc. d/b/a Myrtle Beach Pavilion Amusement Park, 2005-UP-508 (S.C. Ct. App.) This case involved an injury at the Pavilion Amusement Park, and the issues of proximate cause and assuming the risk of riding amusement park rides.

(e) Wachovia Bank of S.C. v. Thomasko, 529 S.E.2d 554 (S.C. Ct. App. 2000). This case involved an honest mistake made during a currency exchange from pesos to U.S. Dollars, and whether the customer is entitled to an unjust enrichment based on that mistake.

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. **THE FIVE CASES LISTED IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION 15 ABOVE ALL INVOLVED APPEALS, BUT BELOW ARE FIVE MORE:**

(a) Brenco v. S.C. Dept. of Transp., 609 S.E.2d 531 (S.C. Ct. App. 2005), *aff'd* 377 S.C. 124, 659 S.E.2d 167 (2008)

(b) Clear Channel Outdoor v. City of Myrtle Beach, 602 S.E.2d 76 (S.C. Ct. App. 2004)

(c) Patricia Grand Hotel, LLC v. MacGuire Enterprises, Inc., 372 S.C. 634, 643 S.E.2d 692 (S.C. App. 2007)

(d) Taxi Cabvertising, Inc. v. City of Myrtle Beach, 2002 WL 23165 (4th Cir. 2002)

(e) Pee Dee Stores, Inc. v. Doyle, 381 S.C. 234, 672 S.E.2d 799 (S.C. Ct. App. 2009)

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) NONE

(b)

(c)

- (d)
- (e)

- 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. **NO.**
- 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)
  - (b)
  - (c)
  - (d)
  - (e)
- 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.

<b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b>	<b>1996</b>
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA DISTRICT COURT</b>	<b>1997</b>
<b>UNITED STATES FOURTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS</b>	<b>1997</b>
<b>UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS</b>	<b>1998</b>
<b>UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT</b>	<b>2001</b>

- 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. **NO.**
- 22. Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from the past five years.

**ATTACHED.**

- 23. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
  - (a) **“Pursuing Payment under the Medicare as Secondary Payor Statute,”** Healthcare Financial Management Newsletter, December 1995
  - (b) **“The Use of Arbitration in Managed Care,”** Healthcare Financial Management Newsletter, May 1996
  - (c) **“Building a Better Guilty Plea,”** South Carolina Lawyer, January/February 1997
  - (d) **“False Light Invasion of Privacy-A New Tort in Town?,”** South Carolina Lawyer, July/August 1997

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.)

**ATTACHED ARE:**

**"Building a Better Guilty Plea," South Carolina Lawyer, January/February 1997**

**"False Light Invasion of Privacy-A New Tort in Town?," South Carolina Lawyer, July/August 1997**

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.

**TO MY KNOWLEDGE, I HAVE NEVER BEEN RATED BY ANY OF THOSE ORGANIZATIONS, OR ANY OTHER.**

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) **SC BAR**  
(b) **HORRY COUNTY BAR**
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. **NO.**
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. **N/A**
29. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates. **NO.**



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.

**PRIOR TO GOING TO LAW SCHOOL, I WAS A COMPUTER PROGRAMMER AND ANALYST FOR SEVERAL YEARS. AFTER GRADUATING COLLEGE, I WORKED FOR THE MITRE CORPORATION IN BEDFORD, MA FOR ABOUT TWO YEARS. THE MITRE CORPORATION IS A DEFENSE CONTRACTOR. WHILE THERE, I OBTAINED A SECRET CLEARANCE FROM THE US GOVERNMENT. I THEN MOVED TO COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA IN 1989 AND WORKED AT DST, INC. (DATA SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY) FOR APPROXIMATELY TWO YEARS, AND THEN THE DATABASE GROUP FOR APPROXIMATELY TWO YEARS, BEFORE GOING TO LAW SCHOOL.**

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.

**I AM A SHAREHOLDER AT THE BELLAMY LAW FIRM, AND A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS. THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS IS A SUBSET OF THE SHAREHOLDER GROUP, AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DAY-TO-DAY GOVERNANCE AND OPERATION OF THE LAW FIRM.**

**I AM ALSO IN CHARGE OF THE LAW FIRM PERSONNEL, WHICH TOTALS APPROXIMATELY 50 PEOPLE. IN THAT POSITION I DEAL WITH ALL PERSONNEL MATTERS, HIRING DECISIONS, ETC.**

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.**

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.

**NONE.**

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.

N/A

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.

N/A

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.

N/A

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

N/A

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. **I HAVE NOT BEEN PERSONALLY SUED, BUT MY LAW FIRM HAS BEEN A DEFENDANT IN TWO CIVIL ACTIONS TO MY KNOWLEDGE.**

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. **YES, THE BELLAMY LAW FIRM HAS HAD MALPRACTICE INSURANCE COVERING ITS ATTORNEYS, SINCE I JOINED IN 1997. OUR CURRENT POLICY PROVIDES \$10,000,000.00 IN COVERAGE, WITH A \$50,000.00 DEDUCTIBLE.**
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) **Hon. John L. Breeden, Jr. (Ret.)**

[REDACTED]

(b) **Hon J. Stanton Cross, Jr. (Ret.)**

[REDACTED]

(c) **Howell V. Bellamy, Jr.**

[REDACTED]

(d) **Robin M. Ciaccio, Esq.  
Robin M. Ciaccio, P.A.**

[REDACTED]

(e) **Elizabeth J. Saraniti, Esq.  
Moore, Johnson & Saraniti Law Firm, P.A.**

[REDACTED]

56. Are you active on or a member of a social media or Internet site such as, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, etc.? **I HAVE A LINKEDIN ACCOUNT BUT DO NOT USE IT. I HAVE NO OTHER ACTIVE SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE.**

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 DO NOT NOW USE ANY TYPE OF SOCIAL MEDIA FOR ANY PURPOSE WHATSOEVER, AND WOULD NOT DO SO IF SERVING IN A JUDICIAL CAPACITY.**

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) **Grand Strand Humane Society, Board of Directors**
  - (b) **Horry County Disabilities and Special Needs Waccamaw Regional Foundation Board of Directors**
  - (c) **Fee Dispute Resolutions Board**
  - (d) **Attorney to Assist Disciplinary Counsel**
  - (e) **Yerger/Seawell Best Article Award**
  - (f) **American Jurisprudence Award, Contracts**
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.

**I BELIEVE LIFE EXPERIENCES ARE IMPORTANT TO MAKING A PERSON WELL-ROUNDED. I WAS A DOUBLE MAJOR IN COLLEGE (COMPUTER SCIENCE & MATHEMATICS), AND WORKED FOR A DEFENSE CONTRACTOR JUST OUTSIDE OF BOSTON FOR 2 YEARS. WHILE THERE, I WAS INVOLVED IN CLASSIFIED PROJECTS FOR THE US MILITARY. AFTER TWO YEARS, I DECIDED TO MOVE TO COLUMBIA, SC, WHERE BOTH OF MY BROTHERS WERE LIVING. I WORKED FOR TWO DIFFERENT COMPANIES AS A COMPUTER PROGRAMMER, BEFORE DECIDING TO GO TO LAW SCHOOL.**

**AFTER LAW SCHOOL, I HAD THE HONOR AND PRIVILEGE OF BEING THE FIRST LAW CLERK FOR THE HON. JOHN L. BREEDEN, JR. (RET.). ANYONE WHO KNOWS JUDGE BREEDEN WILL ATTEST TO HOW KIND, GENEROUS, FUNNY, AND COMPASSIONATE HE IS. WATCHING AND LEARNING FROM HIM WAS INVALUABLE. IF I AM LUCKY ENOUGH TO EVER BE ELECTED TO THE BENCH, I WILL STRIVE EVERY DAY TO APPROACH THE POSITION AS HE DID.**

**AFTER CLERKING FOR JUDGE BREEDEN, I WAS HIRED BY THE BELLAMY LAW FIRM IN 1997, AND HAVE BEEN THERE SINCE. I HAD THE HONOR OF WORKING UNDER AND LEARNING FROM HOWELL V. BELLAMY, JR, AND HENRIETTA U. GOLDING, TWO OF THE FINEST TRIAL ATTORNEYS ANYWHERE. THEY TAUGHT ME HOW TO BE A LITIGATOR. WHILE THAT MENTALITY IS FAR DIFFERENT FROM BEING A JUDGE, THE SKILLS AND WORK ETHIC THEY TAUGHT ME ARE INVALUABLE.**

**I ALSO HAVE THE HONOR OF BEING A MEMBER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT COMMISSION ON LAWYER CONDUCT.**

**THAT COMMISSION, SUBJECT TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT'S REVIEW, IS THE FINAL DECISION MAKER ON ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE MATTERS IN SOUTH CAROLINA. IT IS AN HONOR TO BE SELECTED BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT TO BE A MEMBER OF THAT COMMISSION, AND HAVING A SAY IN HOW THE PRACTICE OF LAW SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN SOUTH CAROLINA. IRONICALLY, I REPLACED THE HONORABLE CYNTHIA GRAHAM HOWE ON THE COMMISSION, WHEN SHE WAS ELECTED TO BE THE HORRY COUNTY MASTER-IN-EQUITY. I AM NOW SEEKING TO BE HER SUCCESSOR AS THE HORRY COUNTY MASTER-IN-EQUITY.**

**I HAVE ALSO PROVIDED A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICES TO HORRY COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY. THAT WONDERFUL ORGANIZATION PROVIDES FAMILIES THE OPPORTUNITY AND DREAM OF HOME OWNERSHIP. IT HAS BEEN A PRIVILEGE TO HELP THEM PROVIDE THAT OPPORTUNITY TO ELIGIBLE FAMILIES.**

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Notary Signature)

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