



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

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

1. Name: The Honorable Steven Coleman Kirven

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

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

Master-in-Equity for Anderson and Oconee Counties

Home Address: [REDACTED]

Business Address: Anderson County Courthouse, 100 South Main St., Anderson, SC 29624

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: (home): [REDACTED]
(office): 864 260-4052
(cell): [REDACTED]

2. Date of Birth: [REDACTED] 1950

Place of Birth: Sumter, SC

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 never served in the military.

6. Family Status:
(a) State whether you are single, married, widowed, divorced, or separated.

- (b) If married, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name and occupation.
- (c) If widowed, list the name(s) of spouse(s).
- (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.
- (e) State the names of your children and their ages. If your children are old enough to work, include the occupation of each child.

Family Status: Married on August 2, 1969 to Sandra Thompson
Never divorced, one child.

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) Presbyterian College, 1968-1971, B.S., (magna cum laude);
- (b) University of South Carolina School of Law, 1971-1973, 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) Part-time Law Clerk for Turner, Padgett, Graham & Laney, Columbia, SC, 1972-1974.

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.

South Carolina, 1974. Took bar examination one time and passed.

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) March, 1974-September, 1977. Associate, Watkins, Vandiver, Kirven, Long & Gable. After graduating from law school in December and completing the three day bar examination on the first Friday in March, I loaded a U-Haul truck to move my young family to Anderson over the weekend and reported for work with my father's firm, Watkins, Vandiver, Kirven, Long & Gable, on Monday morning. I was admitted to the

bar in May and embarked on my legal journey as an associate attorney with the Watkins Firm. As a young lawyer in a general practice firm with considerable insurance defense litigation I worked on a variety of cases, including real estate and commercial transactions and general litigation. During this time I was assigned to assist our local hospital system with their patient account litigation, a relationship which continued until I closed my practice to become a judge. I was fortunate in that one of the partners, Wilburn Gable, took me under his wing and taught me the ins and outs of trial work. I was able to work on cases involving premises liability, automobile accidents, contract disputes, products liability and a few intentional torts. These were mostly in our Circuit Courts, but with some in the U.S. District Court. I worked primarily as second chair to Bill Gable or others but in time did handle more cases on my own. One of my memorable early assignments was to assist a Mennonite dairy farmer through what was then a Chapter 11 Arrangement in U.S. Bankruptcy Court. The case lasted about two years during which I was able to negotiate with the creditors and have approved a plan for readjustment and payment of debts. Unfortunately, the farmer was unable to survive since he had no acreage for raising feed and a liquidation ensued. However, my client was able to move into the construction business specializing in construction of barns and was successful for many years. Hours of conversation with that gentleman gave me fascinating insight into the Mennonite culture and an appreciation of how hard life can be. As an associate I had very little, if any, involvement in administration or management of the firm and no supervision of the firm's trust account.

- (b) October, 1977-July, 2002. Partner, Watkins, Vandiver, Kirven, Gable & Gray. In late 1977 three attorneys left the firm. The Watkins Firm was reorganized and I became a junior partner, later progressing to senior partner over the following six or seven years. I continued a general practice including litigation, real estate, contract transactions and even handled a few divorces and one or two guilty pleas in General Sessions. During the 1980's and 1990's I also spent considerable time working with another partner representing a large, national casualty insurance company pursuing subrogation claims mostly in significant commercial and industrial building failures such as roof collapses and fire losses. These cases included negligence and warranty claims in the construction law area. They were pursued in several states and took me across the country at times for discovery depositions and expert consultation. Other litigation in which I worked included medical malpractice cases representing physicians and hospitals. During the late 1990's I began to handle consumer bankruptcy cases and continued doing so for several years. As a partner in the firm, I participated along with the other partners in administration and management of the firm and shared with them supervision of the trust account and financial matters.
- (c) August, 2002-December, 2008. Shareholder, McNair Law Firm, P.A. In August, 2002 the Watkins Firm was merged into the McNair Law Firm, P.A. in which I became a Shareholder. During this period I decreased my litigation practice and increased my transactional practice. Of particular interest was the representation of a developer in the creation and construction of a number of condominium projects in the upstate region. I spent considerable time assisting him acquire property, create the horizontal property regimes with preparation of Master Deeds and amendments and get the necessary financing in place. As a shareholder in the firm I had a voice in the overall management of the firm, but day to day administration and management was in the hands of the

Managing Shareholder and Unit Managers. I had no direct involvement with the financial management of the firm nor the trust account.

- (d) January, 2009-June, 2016. Steven C. Kirven, Attorney at Law. At the end of 2008 I resigned from the McNair Law Firm and opened my office as a sole practitioner. I continued a general practice including litigation and transactional matters. During this time I spent considerable time handling complex probate litigation. I also continued to represent a company which manufactures products for the automotive after-market and represented them in the negotiation and closing of a multi-million dollar sale of assets and the winding down of their corporate entities. My private practice was closed at the end of June, 2016, when I became Master-in-Equity. As a sole practitioner I was completely responsible for administration and management of my office including all financial matters and the trust account.
- (e) June 30, 2016- Present. Master-in-Equity for Anderson and Oconee Counties.

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:

- (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:
 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:
 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?

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)
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)

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)

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.

Master-in-Equity for Anderson and Oconee Counties, June 30, 2016 to Present. I was nominated by the legislative delegations of Anderson and Oconee Counties and appointed by Governor Nikki Haley on February 17, 2016 and then confirmed by the House and Senate of the South Carolina Legislature. By statute the Equity Court is a division of the Circuit Court and a Master-in-Equity possesses the same authority as a Circuit Judge sitting without a jury. Only matters referred by appropriate order are heard by the Master-in-Equity.

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) Deutsche Bank Nat. Trust Co., as Trustee v. Gibson, et al., CA No. 2016CP3700714, Order dated September 20, 2018 as to foreclosure and Order dated July 12, 2019 as to attorneys' fees and Rule 59, SCRPC motion. Plaintiff filed appeal to the South Carolina Court of Appeals (2019-001330) which was dismissed prior to opinion upon settlement by the parties;
- (b) Hammond v. Summerfield, CA No. 2017CP3700580, Order dated February 28, 2019 and e-filed March 1, 2019;
- (c) Land et al. v. Carostar Farms, LLC, et al., CA No. 2016CP3700618, Order dated April 12, 2019;
- (d) Agnew Family Limited Partnership, et al. v. Agnew, CA No. 2019CP0400657, Amended Order dated August 7, 2019;
- (e) Estate of McCall v. Eubanks, CA No. 2019CP0402698, Order dated December 1, 2020.

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) South Carolina, 1974;
- (b) U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina, 1974;
- (c) U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, 1974.

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) I was the Program Planner/Coordinator for the 2018 Master-in-Equity Bench Bar seminar. I arranged for and coordinated with the various presenters and S.C. Bar CLE staff and served as the Moderator at the seminar which was held in Columbia and broadcast to remote locations throughout the state;
 - (b) I taught several courses at Tri-County Technical College in the field of Business Law as adjunct professor in or about 1976 or 1977;
 - (c) I gave a one evening presentation on Wills and Estate Planning at the First Presbyterian Church, Anderson, S.C. in April 2010.
22. Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from the past five years.
- See attachment. Please note that prior to June 30, 2016 I was exempt pursuant to Rule 408 (2) (B), SCACR beginning with CLE year March 2009-February 2010.
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
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.
- Martindale-Hubbell: BV Distinguished (4.4 out of 5.0)
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, past member House of Delegates;
 - (b) Anderson County Bar Association, past President, 2001-2002.
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) Anderson City Council, Seat 2, 1978-1984. Elected to two terms, the first a two-year term and the second a four- year term;

(b) Anderson City Council, Seat 1, 1998-2016. Elected to five consecutive four-year terms. Resigned effective June 30, 2016 to assume position of Master-in-Equity for Anderson and Oconee Counties.

All required reports timely filed with the State Ethics Commission.

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. None
29. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates.

In early 1984 when my second term as Seat 2 representative on the Anderson City Council was set to expire on June 30, 1984, my wife and I commenced construction of a new home located outside of the Seat 2 boundaries thus disqualifying me from seeking re-election to that Seat. I undertook to run against the incumbent for an at-large seat in the April, 1984 city election and was unsuccessful.

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. None
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 sixty (60%) percent member of Eleven Hundred North Main, LLC which owns a lot and office building where my former law practice was located and which is now partially leased to a third party. (The other forty (40%) percent interest is owned by my wife).

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.)

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

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? To date I have spent approximately \$2.08 for postage, \$5.00 for paper and envelopes and \$4.86 for file folders for a total of \$12.94.
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 as to all.

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.

I own the following stocks in my personal name:

- (a) Alcon AG (ALC), 40 shs.;
- (b) Exxon Mobile Corp (XOM), 100 shs.;
- (c) Novartis AG (NVS), 200 shs.

There are also numerous stocks bonds and other securities held in my IRA account which is managed by an investment advisor. Copies of all of these accounts including my personal one are included in and attached to my Financial Statement.

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.

(a) In 1992 my marriage came under stress for a variety of reasons. In October, 1992, a divorce action was commenced in the Family Court. I was named as the defendant. Fortunately, my wife and I were able to reconcile in fairly short order and the action was dismissed in early 1993 prior to any hearings being held. We continue to be happily married and will soon celebrate our 52nd Anniversary;

(b) One of the few drawbacks to serving as a judge is that on occasion a disgruntled litigant decides to lash out at those he feels are aligned against him. I experienced that for the first time a couple of months ago when a pro se defendant in a foreclosure case which had been referred to me for disposition filed an action naming me and the foreclosure plaintiff's attorney as defendants. The gist of his allegations against me is that since I failed to rule as he desired in the foreclosure matter I became civilly liable to him. Through Anderson County I obtained representation by James Jolly of Logan & Jolly who has filed a motion to dismiss based on failure to state a cause of action and judicial immunity. That motion has not yet been heard. The case is Civil Action No. 2021 CP 04 00815.

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.

Throughout my legal career I was consistently covered by malpractice insurance. While an associate, partner and shareholder with law firms (from 1974-2008) the coverage was

provided by the firm. After I opened my office as a sole practitioner in January 2009 I obtained coverage.

I do not believe I have ever been covered by a tail policy unless that was a feature within the McNair Law Firm, P.A. policy which took effect after I resigned from that firm. When I closed my law practice to become a judge my carrier at that time provided some type of ongoing coverage based on my becoming a judge. I am not sure whether that would be classified as tail coverage.

In my final year of my private practice the coverage limits were \$1,000,000 for each claim, \$2,000,000 aggregate with a deductible of \$5,000 for each claim.

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 as to all.
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. None as to all.
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) Joseph T. Argo, CPA, Argo and Associates, [REDACTED]
 - (b) John Lummus, President and CEO, Upstate SC Alliance, [REDACTED]
 - (c) Linda P. McConnell, [REDACTED]
 - (d) Terence Roberts, Mayor, City of Anderson, [REDACTED]
 - (e) Richard A. Shirley, Clerk of Court for Anderson County, [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 currently have a Facebook page and a LinkedIn page both in my name. I am very passive in my use of both. I primarily use Facebook to keep up with my friends and family, but I almost never post to it. LinkedIn is mostly a networking device, which at this point, I seldom utilize.

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) First Presbyterian Church, past service as Trustee;
 - (b) Anderson Area Arts Center;
 - (c) South Carolina Bar Foundation, Justice Legacy;
 - (d) American Mensa Ltd.;
 - (e) Anderson University Board of Visitors Emeriti

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.

My parents both came from humble backgrounds. My father was the son of a rural mail carrier and grew up in the small town of Pinewood in Sumter County. Soon after his graduation from high school he entered the Army Air Corp and after training was in route to the European theater when World War II ended. He returned home and was able to attend USC undergraduate and law school on the GI Bill. He went on to become a successful attorney practicing in South Carolina from 1956 until shortly before his death in 1994. My mother was born in Oconee County the daughter of a small apple grower and grew up in and near Walhalla until her mother died when she was seven years old. She then went to live with her aunt, a widowed school teacher in Pinewood. Their example impressed upon me the value of hard work and determination and the fact that life sometimes takes unexpected, hard turns which must be weathered.

I have been extensively involved in my community for much of my adult life out of a sense of duty to positively contribute to my small world. This trait is shared by my brother, Butch Kirven, who is currently in his fifth four-year term as a member of Greenville County Council. This community involvement has impressed on me that the decisions I make have a direct impact on the lives of those around me and each decision must be carefully and thoughtfully made.

Throughout my legal career I received the most fulfillment when I felt the legal system had worked well and I was able to play a part in helping someone who truly needed help solve some type of problem. Whether it was helping a Mennonite dairy farmer through devastating financial difficulties or finding a solution to a bitter family battle over an estate which allowed at least the possibility of repair to the personal relationship or trying to help an elderly woman reclaim the title to her home which she felt she had been unfairly talked out of, I understood that these peoples' lives were impacted tremendously by these circumstances and their case was of huge importance to them. This view has served me well as a Master-in-Equity. I try to examine closely situations in which the "little guy" has been caught up in the system of large corporate machinery often through little or no fault of their own.

I believe that my lengthy and broad legal experience and these lessons I have learned in life continue to serve me well as a Master-in-Equity in presiding with knowledge, compassion and understanding while endeavoring to make our legal system fair and available to all who need it.

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: _____