



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

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Family Court, Eighth Judicial Circuit,
Seat 2

1. Name: The Honorable Mindy W. Zimmerman

Name that you are known by if different from above

(Example: A Nickname):

Mindy Westbrook Zimmerman f/k/a Mindy Leigh Westbrook

Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge? If part-time, please note.

(Includes Municipal, Magistrate, Etc.)

Yes, Family Court, Eighth Judicial Circuit, Seat 2

Home Address:



Business Address:

(Mail to Post Office Box 755)

1309 College Street

Newberry, SC 29108

E-Mail Address:



Telephone Number:

(home):



(office):

(803) 321-2637

(cell):



2. Date of Birth: [REDACTED] 1980

Place of Birth: Spartanburg, 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.

None

6. Family Status: Married on October 15, 2006 to Donald Franklin Zimmerman.
Never divorced, no children
- (a) State whether you are single, married, widowed, divorced, or separated.
Married
- (b) If married, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name and occupation.
Married on October 15, 2006 to Donald Franklin Zimmerman, who is retired. He previously worked for 32 years at RR Donnelly and Sons, which is a printing company in Spartanburg, South Carolina.
- (c) If widowed, list the name(s) of spouse(s). NA
- (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. NA
- (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.
- (a) Spartanburg Technical College
1997/1998 School Year
Attended during Senior Year of High School for High/College School credit.
- (b) Wofford College Fall
1998 through Spring, 2001
Bachelor of Art – Major in English
- (c) Gardner-Webb University Fall
2002 through Summer, 2005
Master of Business Administration
- (d) Campbell University
Fall, 2003 through Spring, 2006
Juris Doctor
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) Completed both the Advocacy and Business Tracts prior to graduation
(b) Member of the Student Body Association all three years

- (c) Member of the American Bar Association all three years
 - (d) Case Summary Writer for Campbell Law Observer as 2L and 3L
 - (e) Octo-finalist in Intermural Moot Court Competition as 2L
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) Admitted in South Carolina since 2006. I have only taken the bar exam one time.
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) November, 2006 to February, 2009: Assistant Solicitor with the Eighth Judicial Circuit Solicitor's office prosecuting criminal cases in Laurens and Newberry Counties. For two years, I handled primarily narcotics offenses in both Laurens and Newberry. During my last year with the Solicitor's Office, I handled general crimes, magistrate court appeals, and docket management for Newberry County.
 - (b) February, 2009 through the fall of 2016: In February of 2009, along with my law partner, Benjamin L. Shealy, I formed Zimmerman and Shealy, LLC. We handled real estate transactions, mortgage closings, magistrate's trial work, criminal trial defense, civil trial work, domestic relations trial work, and estate and probate matters. In addition to maintaining my case load, I also supervised several associates and managed our firm's financial records.
 - (c) For the first year in private practice, I worked as a special prosecutor for the Eighth Judicial Circuit for the terms of General Sessions Court held in Newberry County. I also handled prosecution in juvenile cases in Newberry County during that time. After the end of this contract, I built a successful criminal defense practice.
 - (d) Our firm also represented the Department of Social Services on a contract basis off and on, and I have been involved in numerous cases of abuse and neglect of both children and vulnerable adults.
 - (e) In the fall of 2016, my law partner relocated out of state due to his wife work as a Lutheran Minister, resulting in need to dissolve our law firm. At the time, I was campaigning for my current judicial seat, thus an associate with our firm, W. Coleman Lawrimore, took over management of the firm. I continued the same case load in the same location, under the Lawrimore Law Firm. I worked in that capacity until I took this seat in March of 2017.

(f) March, 2017 to Present: Family Court, Eighth Judicial Circuit, Seat 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. Omitted as I am seeking re-election to my current position.
12. Omitted as I am seeking re-election to my current position.
13. Omitted as I am seeking re-election to my current position.
14. Omitted as I am seeking re-election to my current position.
15. Omitted as I am seeking re-election to my current position.
16. Omitted as I am seeking re-election to my current position.
17. Omitted as I am 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.

Yes, March, 2017 to Present: Family Court, Eighth Judicial Circuit, Seat 2. This is the same seat for which I now seek reelection.

In that capacity, I have had jurisdiction over matters involving domestic or family relationships. This includes cases concerning marriage, divorce, legal separation, custody, visitation rights, termination of parental rights, adoption, support, alimony, division of marital property, and change of name. In addition, I have jurisdiction to hearing juvenile delinquency matters.

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) Robert Jimenez v. Laurie Jimenez
Fourteenth Judicial Circuit, Beaufort County
2018-DR-07-647

This was a hotly contested fault-based divorce that included child custody and equitable apportionment of a significant marital estate. The final order is attached hereto as one of my writing samples. At the close of the evidence, I took the matter

under advisement so I could review large amounts of evidence, along with numerous pages of notes I had typed during the trial.

- (b) Hollyanne Elizabeth Aleo f/k/a Hollyanne E. Aniba v. Justin Aniba
Eighth Judicial Circuit, Greenwood County
2017-DR-24-709

In this particular case, both of the other resident judges in my circuit had conflicts, thus I saw this case through from beginning to end. The parties had previous litigation in Arizona, thus the case started with a jurisdiction hearing via telephone that included the parties, their attorneys, the presiding judge in Arizona, and me. After determining that South Carolina would accept jurisdiction, I dealt with parental alienation and other issues related to high conflict custody cases. I tried to formulate a plan to help these children have a positive relationship with both parents despite their personal difficulties and their geographical distance. The final order is attached hereto as one of my writing samples.

The following three cases were appealed, and all were affirmed; however, none of these cases were published:

- (c) SCDSS v. Fuller
Appellate Case No. 2020-001353
Unpublished Opinion No. 2021-UP-142
Mother appealed my order, which removed her children, found neglect, and created a placement plan. The Court of Appeals found "no meritorious issues warrant briefing. Accordingly, we affirm the family court's ruling and relieve Fuller's counsel."
- (d) SCDSS v. Shealy
Appellate Case No. 2020-000096
Unpublished Opinion No. 2020-UP-251
Mother appealed a judicial review order that allowed DSS to forego further services, place the child with a relative, and close its cases. The Court of Appeals found "no meritorious issues warrant briefing. Accordingly, we affirm the family court's ruling and relieve Mother's counsel."
- (e) SCDSS v. Green
Appellate Case No. 2019-002060
Unpublished Opinion No. 2020-UP-250
Father appealed my order which made two findings against him and allowed DSS to forego services. The Court of Appeals found "no meritorious issues warrant briefing. Accordingly, we affirm the family court's ruling and relieve Green's counsel."

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.

Admitted to practice in South Carolina courts, and have been since 2006.

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) Hooking Fees: An Analysis of the Rules for Winning or Defending Against Attorney Fee Awards in Family Court.
This was a one hour course recorded and offered online by the SC Bar
Taught May 15, 2015
 - (b) Family Court Case Law Update at the 2016 SC Solicitor's Association Annual Conference. This was a one hour lecture.
 - (c) Family Court: Temporary Hearings
This was a one hour course on preparing for and arguing at temporary hearings taught in person and sponsored by the Newberry County Bar.
June 7, 2017
 - (d) Preparing for Court: Attorney Fees
This was a similar course to Hooking Fees that was previously done for the SC Bar, but with updated case law and material. It was taught in person and sponsored by the Newberry County Bar. It was a one hour course.
July 14, 2017
 - (e) Preparing for Court: Using the GAL
This was a one hour course on how to communicate with the Guardian ad Litem and help use their investigation to best benefit your client. It was sponsored by the Newberry County Bar.
August 11, 2017
 - (f) Preparing for Court: Equitable Apportionment
This was a one hour course outlining the elements for equitable apportionment and how to best present your clients desired division of the marital estate. It was sponsored by the Newberry County Bar.
September 29, 2017
 - (g) Discovery in Family Court
This was a one hour course on use of the rules regarding discovery in Family Court, with a primary focus on cases involving South Carolina Department of Social Services.
September 29, 2017
 - (h) Preparing for Court: Support
This was a one hour course, sponsored by the Newberry County Bar, which gave advice on handling cases involving child support and spousal support.
October 6, 2017
 - (i) Eighth Circuit Tips from the Bench; What your Judges Want You to Know
This was a full day sponsored by the South Carolina Bar that involved various judges from different courts within our Judicial Circuit. I spoke for one hour about judicial pet peeves in Family Court.
November 3, 2017

- (j) Preparing for Court: Odd Issues in Family Court
This was a one hour course sponsored by the Newberry County Bar that talked about various unusual issues that come before the Family Court, such as minor abortions.
December 18, 2017
- (k) As Judges See It: Top Mistakes Attorneys Make in Family Court
This was a panel discussion. It was a full day (six hours) with numerous Family Court Judges answering questions for a moderator.
December 19, 2017
- (l) Lessons From the Bench
This was full day conference involving multiple judges from different courts in our Judicial Circuit. It was sponsored by the Newberry County Bar. I was the moderator of the course and I taught one hour on ethics.
July 3, 2018
- (m) Family Court Judges Conference
At the annual conference for the Family Court Judges, I was part of a panel of three judges that spoke on a new pilot program to assist juveniles who are involved with both the juvenile system and the abuse/neglect system simultaneously.
September 15, 2020
- (n) I am currently scheduled to speak at the SC Bar's Hot Tips From the Coolest Domestic Law Practitioners Course offered September 24, 2021. My topic is Amaze Your Audience: Tips to Help you Advocate, Awe the Bench and Avoid Annoying Judicial Pet Peeves.

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

See attached previously filed Compliance Reports for the years from 2015 to 2021, as provided by the Commission on CLE & Specialization, 950 Taylor Street, Suite 120, PO Box 2138, Columbia, SC 29202.

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.

- (a) Writing Sample 1 is the final order I drafted in the matter of Robert Jimenez v. Laurie Jimenez, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit, Beaufort County, Case Number 2018-DR-07-647.

(b) Writing Sample 2 is the final order I drafted in the matter of Hollyanne Elizabeth Aleo f/k/a Hollyanne E. Aniba v. Justin Aniba, Eighth Judicial Circuit, Greenwood County, Case Number 2017-DR-24-709.

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.

(a) Martindale-Hubbell rated Distinguished

(b) Avvo Rating 8.1

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

(b) Newberry 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.

I have never held any public office beyond my current seat. I have timely filed the ethics disclosures required by sitting judges.

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.

I was previously a candidate for At-Large Circuit Court Seat Number 9, during the Fall, 2014 Screening Process. I was determined to be Qualified, but not Nominated.

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.
- (a) In 2014 and 2015, I worked part time with Weight Watchers, for an average of approximately 5 hours per week. Although this was a paid position, it was an insignificant portion of my income, and was done for my health, as opposed to income.
 - (b) Prior to attending law school, I worked as a legal assistant for Richard H. Whelchel, and before that, for Michael Duncan.
 - (c) During college, I worked as a licensed real estate agent at Southers Real Estate and subsequently Prudential C. Dan Joyner and Young.
 - (d) Throughout high school, college, and graduate school, I had various part time jobs in retail and restaurants.

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.)

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?

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.

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.

(a) I have a retirement account with Edwards Jones. I have included statements in that regard with my Financial Statement.

(b) In addition, I have an account with Robinhood that has approximately \$200.00. In December of 2020, I opened a Robinhood account for myself and one for my husband. I put \$200.00 in each account. My husband and I have used as a friendly competition between the two of us, but not as a form of investing or saving money long term. I have included our most recent statements from Robinhood, for both my husband's account and my mine, with 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.

I was never sued by a client.

I was a named Defendant in Gary Thomas and Ferris Harvley v. SCDSS, et. al. filed in the United State District Court for the District of South Carolina. The action was dismissed prior to trial, and the Plaintiff's appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit which was likewise dismissed. The basis of this lawsuit was that I issued an order removing Ms. Harvley's children. I placed them into emergency protective custody. Mr. Thomas was Ms. Harvley's paramour, and he alleged that I should have placed the children in his custody.

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.

This question is not applicable, since I am no longer in private practice; however, I did maintain malpractice insurance during the entire time I was in private practice. That coverage was up to One Million Dollars per 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. I have neither sought nor received any promise or commitment from anyone regarding this election.

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.

I have not contacted any members of the General Assembly about this election or this screening cycle, and I have not asked anyone else to do so on my behalf. I have not done any campaigning for this election, and I do not have any knowledge of anyone else doing so for me.

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) George E. Franklin

[REDACTED]

(b) Lisa Bishop

[REDACTED]

(c) Dana Hollifield

[REDACTED]

(d) Ty Ransdel

[REDACTED]

(e) David Senn

[REDACTED]

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

I do have a Facebook page, but no other social media platforms.

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

My Facebook Account is under Mindy Leigh – I previously used Mindy Westbrook Zimmerman while I was in private practice; however, I changed to Mindy Leigh after taking the bench in order to avoid inappropriate contact with litigants.

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

After taking the bench, I changed my name to make it more difficult for others to locate me, and I employed all privacy protocols available. I unfriended any lawyers that appear before me and anyone else that might give the appearance of impropriety. I rarely post, and if I do I insure that the post would not reflect negatively upon my seat or the Court as a whole.

I use the platform to connect with friends and to participate in a regular prayer group. I previously used the platform to network with members of the General Assembly when I was running for my current seat. I have maintained Facebook friendships with those members as well.

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.

Prior to taking the bench, I was more involved in civic organizations, including the Newberry Business Alliance (Board Member from 2014-2017), Newberry Chamber of Commerce, South Carolina Jaycees. Since being elected, I have stepped back from this involvement in an effort to avoid potential conflicts. Newberry is a small town, and active involvement with these organizations puts me in contact with a great number of people who are likely to come to my courtroom.

Despite backing up from involvement, my husband and I both contribute to Mobile Meals, Goodwill, the Newberry County Animal Shelter, and various other charitable organizations.

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 divorced when I was young, so I understand the prospective of the children who are impacted by my decisions. I understand how easy it is for the child to get lost in litigation. By this, I mean that parents can so easily get distracted by their own emotional needs and financial struggles. This can sometime keep them from seeing the impact that the litigation has upon their children. As a Family Court Judge, I am charged with protecting the best interest of the children involved in the litigation. Of course, each

family's story is different, but I believe my personal experience gives me a unique understanding of why the Court must always keep a watchful eye towards the best interest of the child, even when others in the Courtroom lose that focus.

Both of my parents had only a high school education, and they worked entry level positions in manufacturing industries when I was a child. As I have grown, I have observed the impact of manual labor upon their minds and bodies. Throughout the years, my parents encouraged me to push myself and never shy away from opportunity. As a result, I worked multiple jobs and studied hard to achieve my educational goals. I obtained my bachelor's degree from Wofford in only three years. I completed the courses necessary for my master degree and law degree at two different universities, which were approximately three and half hours' drive apart, almost simultaneously. I face every day now, on the bench, with that same drive that pushed me throughout my education. I work hard, and I never shy away from a challenging case or an opportunity to improve the profession.

I watched my parents work hard every day, which taught me the value of earning what you have. I believe that my background helps me relate to the litigants before me, since many of them come from the same working-class environment. I understand the struggles that come with that. I remember watching my parents make hard decisions with money, and I know that courts must always maintain reasonable expectations. My roots will always keep me grounded.

I am driven, dedicated, and determined, because in my life, anything less is simply unacceptable. I face every element of my life with self-motivation; however, I have never been afraid to watch and learn from those around me. This has served me well since taking this position. We have some tremendously talented people on the Family Court Bench, and each brings a diverse perspective. I love the fellowship shared amongst my brothers and sisters on the bench. More than anything, I love to learn from them. I am excited to see the creative ways that they tackle unique problems. I enjoy the open exchange of ideas that we have. I feel my mind expand. I am a much better person for the last few years of sharing with them, and I know that another term will only help me grow in so many positive ways. I believe that my continued experience and evolution not only benefits me, but it also helps me better serve my community.

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 8th day of July, 2021.

(Notary Signature)

Jodi A. Hudnall

(Notary Printed Name)

Notary Public for South Carolina

My Commission Expires: May 17, 2023