



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

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying:
Circuit Court, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, Seat 1

1. Name: The Honorable Perry Hudson Gravely

Name that you are known by if different from above
(Example: A Nickname): None

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

Home Address: [REDACTED]

Business Address: P.O. Box 219, Pickens, SC 29671

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: (home): [REDACTED]
(office): (864) 898-5791
(cell): [REDACTED]

2. Date of Birth: [REDACTED] 1960
Place of Birth: Pickens, 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.
No.

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 March 19, 2009 to Kathryn Coleman Gravely. Retired

Previous marriage to Teresa Shealy (Gravely) Owen. Divorced on November 6, 2003, Thirteenth Circuit Family Court (Pickens County), State of South Carolina. Based on one year's separation. Perry Gravely was the moving party.

Children:

- (a) [REDACTED]
- (b) [REDACTED]
- (c) [REDACTED]
- (d) [REDACTED]

- 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) Wofford College (1979-83). Graduated May 1983. Bachelor of Arts.
 - (b) University of South Carolina School of Law (1983-86). Graduated May 1986. 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) Student Government Representative 1983-84;
 - (b) ABA Law School Division, Representative 1984-86
- 9. List the states in which you have been admitted to practice law and the year of each admission. Also list any states in which you took the bar exam but were never admitted to the practice of law. Please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.
 - (a) South Carolina. Admitted to practice on November 13, 1986.
Passed South Carolina Bar Exam on First attempt-July 1986.
- 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) Graduated law school, June, 1986.

(b) Leatherwood, Walker, Todd and Mann, P.A. Greenville, S.C. Associate (1986-1992). Practiced insurance defense litigation, family laws and general litigation in State Circuit Courts, Summary Courts and Federal Court. No administrative or financial management.

(c) Acker, Welmaker and Johnson, P.A., Pickens, S.C. Associate (1992-1993). Practiced in insurance defense litigation, family law, summary courts, general litigation, criminal defense, criminal prosecution for municipal courts, estate planning, estate litigation, real estate, business and corporate law. No administrative or financial management.

(d) Acker, Welmaker, Johnson and Gravely, P.A., Pickens, S.C. Partner (1993-1995). Practiced in insurance defense litigation, family law, summary courts, general litigation, criminal defense, criminal prosecution for municipal courts, estate planning, estate litigation, real estate, business and corporate law. Limited administrative and financial management. No management of trust accounts.

(e) The Gravely Law Firm, P.A., Pickens, S.C. Owner/Sole Practitioner (1995-2015). Practiced insurance defense litigation, family law, summary courts, general litigation, criminal defense, estate planning, estate litigation, real estate, business and corporate law. In charge of all administrative and financial management, including trust accounts.

(f) City of Pickens- Part-time Municipal Court Judge (2003-2015). Handled criminal matters before Municipal Court, bench trials, jury trials, bonds, warrants, preliminary hearings and matters related to these duties. No management of financial matters or trust account. Administrative management over staff and office.

(g) Circuit Court Judge, Thirteenth Circuit (2015-Present). No management of financial matters or trust account. Administrative management over staff and office.

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.
 - (a) Municipal Judge, City of Pickens from 2003-2015. Appointed Part-time. Limited jurisdiction for criminal matters.
 - (b) Appointed as Special Referee in numerous civil cases involving foreclosures, partition actions, property disputes and Estate Matters from 2005- 2015.
 - (c) Circuit Judge, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit. Elected 2015 to present. Unlimited jurisdiction.

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) Chemgard, Inc. v. Haynes, 2015-CP-23-03546. Order granting Preliminary Injunction. Issued on July 17, 2015.
 - (b) Van's Camp, LLC v. State of South Carolina, et.al. 2013-CP-23-06719. Order granting Summary Judgment in favor of Defendants. Issued on July 8, 2016.
 - (c) Rouse v. State, 2015-CP-23-0995. Order granting PCR filed on March 29, 2018 based on Motion to Reconsider after initially filing an Order of Dismissal. The South Carolina Court of Appeal denied Appellant's Petition for Writ of Certiorari as of February 17, 2021. Appellant Case No. 2018-000627.
 - (d) White v. Green, et.al. 2016-CP-37. Order granting easement from Non-Jury Trial. Issued April 23, 2018. Affirmed in unpublished opinion of S.C. Court of Appeals. (No. 2021-UP-083-Filed March 17, 2021.)
 - (e) Gilreath v. Lewis, et.al. 2017-CP-23-4367. Order for Sanctions. Issued June 12, 2018.
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 Circuit Courts. November 13, 1986.
 - (b) United States District Court, South Carolina District. December 23, 1986.
 - (c) United States Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit, January 15, 1988.
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 lectured at the South Carolina Solicitors' Association Annual Conference (September 21, 2015) in Myrtle Beach, S.C. on issues relating to criminal appeals on a panel with other Circuit Judges.
 - (b) I lectured at the S.C. Summary Court Judges Association Conference (May, 2016) in Hickory Knob State Park on the Ethical Dilemma of Dealing with Sovereign Citizens and other Difficult Parties.
 - (c) I lectured at the New Magistrates' Orientation School (July 29, 2016) in Columbia, S.C. on issues relating to jury trials, sanctions, jury charges and appeals in Criminal and Civil cases.
 - (d) I lectured at the S.C. Defense Trial Attorneys' Summer Meeting (July 30, 2016) in Asheville, N.C. on various topics relating to civil trials and motions.
 - (e) I lectured at the Magistrate and Municipal Court Meeting (August 24, 2018) in Liberty, S.C. on issues relating to bond requirements.

(f) I spoke at the S.C. Clerk's Conference (September 26, 2018) in Greenville, S.C. on topics relating to issues with e-filing, role as Chief Administrative Judge and State Opioid Litigation.

(g) I spoke at the State Probate Judges' Conference (October 9, 2018) in Clemson, S.C. on topics relating to ethics and applicable provisions of the Code of Judicial Conduct.

(h) I lectured at the Annual CLE by Greenville County Bar (February 8, 2019) in Greenville, S.C. on a panel with other judge on topics relating to criminal trials, scheduling and post-conviction relief.

(i) I spoke at the Virtual Upstate Summary Court Judges' Association (May 28, 2020) in Anderson, S.C. on a panel on Magistrate's Appeals in Circuit Court.

(j) I spoke on a panel at the Virtual Local Government Attorneys' Association Conference (November 20, 2020) in Columbia, S.C. on the future of court proceedings after COVID.

(k) I spoke on a panel with other judges at the Virtual Annual CLE by Greenville County Bar (February 5, 2021) on issues relating to Civil Court and e-filing.

(l) I was a guest lecturer for Dr. David Alvis' Virtual Constitutional Law Class at Wofford College on Significant Supreme Court Opinions. (April 28, 2020 and March 4, 2021)

(m) I have spoken to various classes and school groups at Local High Schools and Elementary Schools about law related topics and my role as a circuit judge on numerous occasions.

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

Attached are the Judicial Compliance Reports for the past five years.

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.)

Inapplicable. Several examples are listed in Answer to No. 19 above.

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, last available rating: AV-Preeminent.
26. List all bar associations and professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices you have held in such groups.
 (a) South Carolina Bar Association
 (b) Greenville County Bar Association
 (c) Pickens County Bar Association
 (d) American Bar Association
 (e) Wofford Legal Society
 (f) Haynsworth / Perry Chapter of the American Inns of Court
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.
 None.
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.
 Various odd jobs during high school and college including life guard, surveyor assistant, catering service, runner and law clerk at various law firms. (1978-1985).
31. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? Explain the nature of the business, your duties, and the term of your service.
 No.
32. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a "lobbyist," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a "lobbyist's principal," as defined by S.C.

Code § 2-17-10(14)? If so, give the dates of your employment or activity in such capacity and specify by whom you were directed or employed.

No.

33. Provide, **as a separate attachment**, a complete, current financial net worth statement that itemizes in detail:
- (a) the identity and value of all financial assets held, directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to, bank accounts, real estate, securities, trusts, investments, and other financial holdings; and
 - (b) the identity and amount of each liability owed, directly or indirectly, which is in excess of \$1,000, including, but not limited to, debts, mortgages, loans, and other financial obligations.

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

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

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

34. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? If so, give details. Also, proof of satisfaction of any liens or defaults must be submitted with your application package.
- No.

35. Since filing with the Commission your letter of intent to run for judicial office, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other thing of value as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(1) from a lobbyist or lobbyist's principal? If so, please specify the item or items you received, the date of receipt, and the lobbyist or lobbyist's principal involved.
- No.

36. Itemize (by amount, type, and date) all expenditures, other than those for travel and room and board, made by you, or on your behalf in furtherance of your candidacy for the position you seek. If you have spent over \$100, have you reported your expenditures to the House and Senate Ethics Committees?
- No campaign expenditures have been incurred.

37. List the recipient and amount of all contributions made by you, a member of your immediate family, or by a business with whom you are associated, to members of the General Assembly within the past four years.
- None.

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

No.

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

None.

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

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

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

Attach a copy of any contract or agreement.

None.

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

None.

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

Mutual funds held in following accounts:

Millennium Brokerage Account (8191-0974)	\$86,410.07
Millennium Brokerage Account (8299-3401)	\$ 2,496.53
Baird Financial Services Brokerage Account (3856-1064)	\$ 33,811.97
Baird Financial Services Brokerage Account (1030-3259)	\$168,423.33

Stock in Pickens Savings and Loan Association, Pickens, S.C. (950 Shares)

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.

No Criminal proceedings.

Civil Proceedings in which I have been named as a party:

(a) Peoples Bancorporation, Inc. v. Perry H. Gravely, et.al., 2009CP3901650. Filed September 10, 2009 to determine valuation of stock held by minority shareholders. Dismissed with settlement on March 22, 2011.

(b) Perry H. Gravely, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Elbert D. Fincher v. Rebecca F. Levy, et. al. Lis Pendens. 2009LP3900629. Filed on September 30, 2009. Initiated for Petition to Sell Real Estate in connection with Probate of estate. (Probate Estate Case Number: 2013-ES-39-00849). Resolved when property sold. Order closing estate filed on April 19, 2011.

(c) Perry H. Gravely, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Charles M. Thomas v. Donald Thomas, Jr. 2014LP3900193. Filed on June 26, 2014. Initiated for Petition to Sell Real Estate in connection with Probate of estate. (Probate Estate Case Number: 2008-ES-39-00322) Resolved when property sold. Order closing estate filed May 12, 2015.

(d) Regions Bank v. Karol L. Bailey, Perry H. Gravely, et.al. 2009CP3901231. Filed July 1, 2009. Plaintiff sought foreclosure against an Estate and I was inadvertently named as a party even though I was only the attorney for the Estate and had no interest in the property. The action was dismissed against me on July 20, 2009. (19 days after filing of Summons and Complaint)

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.

N/A.

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. At this time, I have not participated in any campaign activities for this position.

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) Lauren M. Murphy, [REDACTED]

(b) Michael S. Ralston [REDACTED]

(c) R. Murray Hughes, III, [REDACTED]

(d) Kenneth D. Acker, [REDACTED]

(e) Dr. Betty W. McDaniel, [REDACTED]

Original letters from these individuals have been provided to the Commission.

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 have a Facebook account under the name of Perry Gravely, but only use it for reviewing other posts and access to public information. I do not post anything on this platform and have selected all privacy settings so that others cannot see or post on my page. I may still have an inactive LinkedIn account. As a sitting judge, these platforms should not be used for publication of anything relating to cases, political opinions or any information which might appear to violate the Code of Judicial Conduct.

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) BSA Scout Troop 51-Scoutmaster

(b) Preservation of Southern Appalachian Music- Board Member, Secretary

- (c) Wofford Legal Society-organizer
- (d) Active Pickens Partnership-organizer
- (e) South Carolina Judicial Golf Invitational Classic- Board Member
- (f) Pickens County Historical Society, Member
- (g) Grace United Methodist Church, Pickens, S.C., Member

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.

As an attorney, I practiced law in many different areas, including criminal, civil and probate and handled matters in Magistrate's Court, Municipal Court, Federal Court, Probate Court, General Sessions, Common Pleas and various regulatory agencies. I represented individuals, businesses, Plaintiffs, Defendants, Government agencies and served as a part-time prosecutor in Municipal Court. I also served as a Municipal Judge (obviously not at the same time as serving as prosecutor.) My vast experience in many different areas of the law has helped prepare me for being a Circuit Judge. Because of these experiences, I am aware of the challenges presented by the Court system and the obstacles that parties and their attorneys must overcome to get their cases heard.

During the COVID Pandemic over the past 17 months, a portion of which I served as the Chief Administrative Judge for Civil for the Thirteenth Circuit, I have worked closely with the clerks' offices in Greenville and Pickens Counties to conduct hearings and address scheduling issues. Through our team effort and hard work, these counties are well positioned to move forward after the pandemic and have remained current on most civil matters involving Motions and Non-Jury hearings. Because of the numerous WebEx hearings held, Court Administration selected me to conduct a pilot program for the Virtual Courtroom which allowed the public to view Court proceedings and make it easier to schedule hearings. This procedure was ultimately adopted by the South Carolina Court Administration for the entire state. The Virtual Courtroom has been a great benefit for handling most matters before the Court.

As a Judge, I was appointed to handle the "Polar Express" State Grand Jury case involving a meth conspiracy throughout the upstate and at the time was the largest ever State Grand Jury case with 65 defendants. The Chief Justice has also appointed me to handle all South Carolina Opioid Litigation consisting of 46 different cases throughout the state and will be pending for many years to come. Both of these matters have provided me with invaluable experience in handling complex matters and quite frankly has made me a better judge.

My involvement in the community, as a Judge and lawyer, has allowed me to stay grounded even as I sit on the "lofty" bench and the experiences have helped me empathize with parties and the struggles they have to deal with on a daily basis.

One of my primary principles as a judge is to treat every party, lawyer, witness and Courtroom staff with respect and allow all parties the opportunity to be heard. It is important to give every party the opportunity to have a fair and impartial hearing on their cases regardless of his or her position or status in life. I believe that throughout my judicial career, I have followed these principles.

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 9th day of July, 2021.

(Notary Signature)

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