

JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE 2023

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Circuit Court, At-Large, Seat 8

1. Name: The Honorable Russell A. Blanchard IV

Mrs. Ms.

Name that you are known by if different from above

(Example: A Nickname): Russ

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

Home Address: [Redacted]

County of Residence: Orangeburg

Business Address: 1281 Russell Street, Orangeburg, SC 29115

E-Mail Address: [Redacted]

Telephone Number: (home): [Redacted]

(office): 803-534-5218 (cell): [Redacted]

2. Date of Birth: [Redacted] 1982
Place of Birth: Orangeburg, 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.

 (a) 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 - June 19, 2004

Spouse-Jennifer G. Blanchard

Occupation of Spouse-Financial Advisor at Commonwealth Financial Group

Never divorced, two children.

[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) University of South CarolinaAugust 2000- May 2004B.S. Business Administration, Finance
 - (b) University of South Carolina School of Law August 2004 – May 2007 JD
- 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) Real Property Probate and Trust Journal 2005-2007
- 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- 2007 I took 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) Attorney at Williams & Williams Attorneys at Law, LLC- November 2007 through present day. My practice involves personal injury, workers' compensation, real estate closings, deed transfers, family court, traffic court, general sessions, real estate litigation, probate court, drafting Estate planning paperwork, representing municipalities, and civil practice in circuit and magistrate court. I have had some involvement in the administrative and financial management of the firm. The administrative matters that I am involved in relate to the staff and paralegals that work directly with me. The financial management that I am involved in is making sure that best practices are followed for the money on cases that I am handling.
- (b) Municipal Judge for Allendale, South Carolina. 2019 through present. This is a part time position. I handle primarily traffic/criminal charges and preliminary hearings. I handle bond hearings when the other municipal judge is unable to do them.

Justices/judges applying for re-election to their <u>current</u> position may omit Questions 11–17. <u>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*.</u>

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.
- (c) 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.

Candidate for Circuit Court- I have handled criminal cases in Magistrate, Municipal, and Circuit Court since became an attorney in 2007. Two of the cases ended in jury trials, and the remaining cases ended in pleas or bench trials. The types of cases include traffic tickets, misdemeanor charges, and a wide range of felonies (for example- drug charges, domestic violence, financial crimes, murder, kidnapping, and breach of the peace of a high and aggravated nature). I have also represented clients in civil cases in Circuit Court and Magistrate Court throughout my career. I have handled evictions, quiet title actions, foreclosures, easement disputes, personal injury claims, contract disputes, and had at least two cases transferred from probate court to circuit court. In litigating these cases, I have dealt with a wide variety of motions on issues related to discovery, summary judgment. venue, and amendment of pleadings. The majority of the time I have represented plaintiffs, but there have been some cases where I represented defendants. All of my civil cases in Circuit Court were either settled, resolved by motion, or ended with a non-jury trial. I have not had a civil case go to jury trial in Circuit Court, but I have had sufficient experience litigating cases in various courts that I would be comfortable presiding over a trial. I have had civil cases go to jury trial in Magistrate Court. I appear in Circuit Court multiple times per month.

- 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: I have had one case in federal court in the past five years. It resolved after jury selection but prior to trial.
 - (b) state: I appear in state court about once a week.
- 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: 40%
 - (b) criminal: 20%
 - (c) domestic: 1%
 - (d) other: 39%
- 14. During the past five years

- (a) What percentage of your practice was in trial court, including cases that settled prior to trial? 60%
- (b) What number of cases went to trial and resulted in a verdict? 1%
- (c) What number of cases went to trial and resolved after the plaintiff's or State's case? 0% (Resolved may include settlement, plea, by Judge's order during a motion hearing, etc.
- (d) What number of your cases settled after a jury was selected but prior to opening statements? 1%

During the past five years, did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or cocounsel? Sole counsel.

For sitting judges seeking a judgeship different than your current position, During the five years prior to your election to the bench, what percentage of your practice was in trial court, including matters that settled prior to trial?

- 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) State v. Tawes- 2021GS380994. This case was significant because the State attempted to try Mr. Tawes three times (twice in Magistrate Court and once in General Sessions). The case ended when a jury in General Sessions found him not guilty of Breach of Peace of a High and Aggravated Nature and not guilty of Breach of the Peace.
 - (b) Mederos v. Pifer dba Pure Gold Gentleman's Club- 1423068- This case was significant because it was the first Workers' Compensation case that I tried as sole counsel, and it involved an uninsured employer. One of the major issues was whether Ms. Mederos was an independent contractor. A single commissioner agreed with us that she was not an independent contractor, and an appellate panel agreed.
 - (c) State v. Houser- This was my first general sessions jury trial, and I tried it as co-counsel with Charles H. Williams, III. Mr. Houser was charged with multiple felonies. We obtained a verdict of not-guilty on the murder charge, but Mr. Houser was found guilty of other charges.
 - (d) McCurry v. Robinson- 5:17-cv-03156-JMC. This was my first wrongful death case, and it was in Federal Court. It involved a tractor-trailer, an individual on a bicycle, and disputed liability. The case was resolved in mediation after jury selection but prior to trial.
 - (e) Jones v. Jamison- 2007-CP-38-883. When I took this case on, my client was in default, and I filed and successfully argued a Motion to Set Aside Default. This was one of the first motions I argued in Circuit Court, and it was against an attorney that had been practicing law longer than I had been alive. It taught me the importance or reading the rules, reading case law, and being prepared.
- 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) Riley v. Outlaw, Court of Appeals, 2016-001867, decided 1/4/2019
 - (b) Fairey v. Gillespie, Court of Appeals, 2021-000787, decided 5/31/2023
 - (c)

17.	List up to five criminal appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported. (a) None. (b) (c) (d) (e)
18.	Have you ever held judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the courts involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. Describe the jurisdiction of each of the courts and note any limitations on the jurisdiction of each court.
	(a) Municipal Judge for the Town of Allendale. 2019 through present day. I was appointed to this position. This court has limited jurisdiction over traffic tickets, misdemeanor criminal charges, bond hearings, and preliminary hearings.
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) I have not had to prepare any Orders or opinions as Municipal Judge for Allendale other than form orders related to bonds and discharges. (b) (c) (d) (e)
20.	List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice.

(d) (e)

(a) South Carolina, 2007;

course or lecture.

the past five years.

(a) None.

(b) US District Court for the District of SC, 2013; (c) US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, 2011.

21.

22.

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

Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from

Attached.

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

Attached.

- 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) I am not rated by any of these organizations.
- 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) American Bar Association
 - (c) South Carolina Association for Justice
 - (d) South Carolina Summary Court Judges Association
 - (e) Orangeburg 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.
 - (a) None.
- 28. For sitting or former judges, list all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or part-time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor.
 - (a) I have worked as an attorney at Williams & Williams Attorneys at Law, LLC, while serving as a Municipal Judge for the town of Allendale.

- 29. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates.
 - (a) 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.
 - (a) Woody's Pawn and Jewelry. 1996 2006. I worked here part time during high school, college, and law school. I was a salesclerk, jeweler, pawn broker, and worked in various other capacities for the business during my time there.
- 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.
 - (a) BBF Investments, LLC. I am the member/manager of this LLC which is owned by myself and my two siblings. The business currently owns a 22 foot inshore fishing boat which is used for personal (non-commercial) use.
- 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.
 - (a) No.
- 33. Provide, as a separate attachment, a complete, current financial net worth statement that itemizes in detail:
 - (a) the identity and value of all financial assets held, directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to, bank accounts, real estate, securities, trusts, investments, and other financial holdings; and
 - (b) the identity and amount of each liability owed, directly or indirectly, which is in excess of \$1,000, including, but not limited to, debts, mortgages, loans, and other financial obligations.

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

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

34. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for

bankruptcy? If so, give details. Also, proof of satisfaction of any liens or defaults must be submitted with your application package.

- (a) No to all of the above.
- 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.
 - (a) 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?
 - (a) 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. If you are a sitting judge, please include such contributions since your last screening.
 - (a) None by myself or my spouse.
 - (b) Williams & Williams Attorneys at Law, LLC, the firm I work for, has made the following contributions during that time frame:
 - a. J. Todd Rutherford- \$500.00
 - b. Ronnie A. Sabb- \$1,000.00
 - c. Gerald Malloy-\$1,000.00
 - d. Sandy Senn-\$1,000.00
- 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.
 - (a) 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.
 - (a) If I was elected as Circuit Court Judge, other attorneys that I have worked with at Williams & Williams Attorneys at Law, LLC, could have cases come before me. If this were to occur in my first term as a Judge, I would disclose the conflict to all parties

involved and recuse myself from the case. After an appropriate amount of time has passed, I would disclose the conflict to all parties, allow them to discuss the conflict outside of my presence, and give the parties an opportunity to request I recuse myself. At all times I would follow the requirements of the Judicial Cannons to deal with conflicts.

- 40. Describe any interest you or a member of your immediate family has in real property:
 - 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.

- (a) 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.
 - (a) 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) See attached account Statements.
- 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.
 - (a) No.
- 44. For sitting judges, have you used the services of your staff, for which you did not pay, while campaigning for this office?
 - (a) 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.
 - (a) Disregarding a stop sign- 1996. I was found not guilty.
- 46. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? If yes, explain.
 - (a) 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) I have never been sued by a client.
 - (b) I have served as Special Administrator of an Estate and been named as a Defendant in a lawsuit for the sole purpose of accepting service of the 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.
 - (a) I am covered by malpractice insurance.
 - (b) I have never been covered by a tail policy.
 - (c) Coverage of \$3,000,000.00 with a deductible of \$42,400.00.
- 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.
 - (a) No.
- 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.
 - (a) 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.
 - (a) No.
- 53. Are you familiar with the 48-hour rule, which prohibits a candidate from seeking pledges until after the draft report becomes final, which occurs on the day and time specified on the Commission's published screening schedule?
 - (a) 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.
 - (a) No.
- 55. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five (5) persons from whom you are providing references. Also, provide the Commission with <u>original letters</u> 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 <u>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.</u> Please <u>do not</u> 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) David R. Williams, Charlie H. Williams, III, and Virginia W. Williams. [Redacted]
 - (b) Rev. Ryan P. Tucker, First Baptist Church, [Redacted]

- (c) Glenn Walters, [Redacted]
- (d) Korey Williams, [Redacted]
- (e) Sarah A. Ford, [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?

- (a) Instagram- [Redacted]
- (b) Facebook- [Redacted]
- (c) Twitter- [Redacted]

I have not used Twitter in a very long time. My use of Instagram and Facebook is primarily related to following friends, family, and restaurants that I am interested in. My posts consist of pictures of food I have cooked, things my kids have done, or the occasional vacation photo. My use of these sites would not change much if I became a Circuit Court Judge. I would not use them in a way that would reflect negatively on the judiciary.

- 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 Baptist Church of Orangeburg. I served as a Deacon, including Deacon Chair and Deacon Vice-Chair. I have also served on the Missions Committee and Stewardship Committee.
 - (b) Catch the Vision International. I assisted in creating this non-profit, and I served on the Board of Directors. I am not currently on the Board.
 - (c) Rotary. I served as President in 2019. I am also a Paul Harris Fellow.
 - (d) Orangeburg Country Club.
- Provide any other information that may reflect positively or negatively on your candidacy, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for nomination for the position you seek. This information may include how your life experiences have affected or influenced the kind or type of judge you have been or plan to be.

I believe that my knowledge of the law, experience dealing with a wide variety of legal issues, ability to relate to people with different backgrounds and life experiences, and empathy for people gives me the necessary skill set to serve as a Circuit Court Judge. The only types of cases that I have not handled are income tax, social security, and employment law. In my 15 years of practicing as an attorney, I have helped clients or

other attorneys with a wide array of legal issues. While I have not tried a civil case before a jury in Circuit Court and only had two General Sessions cases go to jury trial, I have the necessary knowledge of procedural, evidentiary, and substantive law to preside over these types of cases as a Circuit Court Judge. I have litigated numerous cases in Circuit Court which resolved prior to a jury trial, and I have had cases resolved by bench trial before a Circuit Court Judge or Master-in-Equity. I have had civil and criminal cases go to jury trial in Magistrate Court, and I have served as sole counsel on numerous bench trials in Magistrate and Municipal Court. I have also presided over jury trials in Municipal Court in Allendale. All this experience makes me confident that I have the knowledge of the Rules of Evidence, Rules of Civil Procedure, and other rules needed to preside over trials in Circuit Court. When I become a Circuit Court Judge and am no longer in private practice, I will keep my knowledge sharp by continuing to study the rules while serving as a Judge.

My time spent working in Woody's Pawn and Jewelry prior to becoming an attorney gave me additional skills that I believe will be important when serving as a Circuit Court Judge. This job exposed me to people from all walks of life outside of the bubble that I grew up in. It helped me become a better listener which has served me in my job as an attorney and will serve me in my work as a Circuit Court Judge. I took this experience into my practice as a lawyer in a small town firm and used it to help in relating to my clients and the various people that were involved in the cases I handle.

My faith also plays an important role in my law practice and would play a role in how I handle my duties as a Circuit Court Judge. I believe that I am required to do all things in a manner that is pleasing to the Lord and that includes how I carry out my responsibilities at work. I strive to treat everyone with respect, kindness, grace, and truthfulness.

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	, 2023.

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